

## A FREE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2020

# MIMBRES MESSENGER



The Society for American Archaeology Announces  
the winner of the Prestigious CRABTREE AWARD

*Marilyn Markel*

The prestigious CRABTREE AWARD is presented by the Society for American Archaeology (SSA) which honors the recipient for excellence in avocational archaeology. The award was established in 1985 and is named after Don Crabtree of Twin Falls, Idaho, who was known as the “dean of American flintknappers”, and for his “Crabtree’s Law.” He was mostly a self-educated archaeologist, but was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Idaho.

The CRABTREE AWARD is given out annually to an outstanding avocational archaeologist. Someone who has made significant contributions to advance understanding of local, regional, or national archaeology through excavation, research, publications, site or collections preservation, collaboration with the professional community, and public outreach. This describes Marilyn to a tee! No wonder she was selected as this year’s honoree.

The Society for American Archaeology has this to say about its 2020 recipient:

“Marilyn Markel has a deep passion for archaeology and has spearheaded efforts in the Mimbres Valley, New Mexico, to preserve archaeological sites and educate young people of all ages on the value of the archaeological past. She has made significant contributions to our understanding and preservation of Mimbres sites in New Mexico, through over 20 years of volunteer work on university

field school excavations, promotion of site protection through stewardship, transforming the local artifact-collecting community into an avocational/professional archaeological society, and educating schoolchildren about the value of archaeological heritage. Ms. Markel

has assisted archaeological field schools, preserved sites, published children’s books on archaeology, and created a center devoted to the preservation and interpretation of Mimbres archaeology through educational outreach. Marilyn Markel is highly deserving of the Crabtree Award for her exemplary service to enhancing the preservation and public appreciation of New Mexico’s archaeological past”.

Marilyn has devoted untold hours to develop regular open-air museum workshops for our area’s grade-school and high-school students; trained and supervised youth and adults to become vol-

unteer stewards of archaeological sites; and engaged in numerous archaeological excavations and scientific research. Marilyn acts as liaison between the GCAS, the Mimbres Culture Heritage Site, and the archaeologists and educators working in our region. She routinely offers tours to schools and the general public at the Mimbres Culture Heritage Site, and leads field trips to other archaeological sites throughout our area. An accomplished writer and public speaker, she has promoted the message of archaeological preservation to the general public at local events and as

Continued on Page 3—Award



“What a tremendous honor,” says Marilyn, “It’s kind of like getting the ‘Academy Award’ of archaeology.”

Marilyn poses with a “faux” award because the award ceremony was cancelled and her plaque has yet to be delivered by mail!

## VOLUNTEER STAFF

- Mary Willhite Editor, Production and Advertising
- Bonne Beavers, co-editor
- Marilyn Markel, Kathy Hill, and the "Bugman" Contributing Writers
- Grace Williams, Distribution & Printing
- RJ Nelson, Chief of Printing, Distribution and Billing
- This month's guest writers: Carilyn Alarid, Chris DeBolt, Mungo Griljalva, and Kathy Overholt

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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

By Mary Willhite



This *Messenger* is full of awards this month and I would like to add another—**The Good Neighbor Award**—to recognize our local heroes during this Pandemic.

One such person that deserved this award is our neighbor, Patricia de Naranjo. Patricia is no stranger to donating her time and volunteering. She volunteers for the AARP tax-aide service, the Roundup Lodge, the Commodities Programs in Mimbres and Santa Clara, and many other charitable causes. She recently received her SSP certification to work with the deaf and visually impaired.

Since the Pandemic started, she has been putting the stay-at-home order to good use. She has devoted countless hours to making hospital gowns, caps, and masks for the Gila Regional Medical Center.

She has also sewn and donated more than 450+ face masks to such organizations as the Santa Clara Police and Fire Departments, the Bayard and Santa Clara Housing Authorities, the Grant County Detention Center (which have to be replenished on a weekly basis), and many friends and neighbors. She has gone through four sewing machines which she has had to have repaired on a rotating basis. Even if you really like to sew, this is a LOT OF WORK!

We would like to thank Patricia for donating her time and energy to a great cause.

Many people in the Mimbres Valley have been doing lots of volunteer projects to help their neighbors during the Pandemic. **The *Messenger* would like to recognize these local HEROES.** If you know of a person who has been helping their friends and neighbors during this time, please let me know so we can honor them in future *Messengers* and give them the recognition and thanks that they deserve.

THANK YOU—THANK YOU—THANK YOU  
YOU GAVE GRANDLY  
By Kathy Overholt

On behalf of MVHAL, I would like to thank everyone who donated so generously to Give Grandly. We had our best year ever, with many new donors. There was one contribution made in the name of Anna Willhite, who was a great supporter of MVHAL and who is greatly missed. The money we raised will be put to use to buy food for the mobile food bank and fund other MVHAL projects, such as this newsletter, which are geared to enhancing the wellbeing of our community.

## ROUND-UP FOR THE ROUND UP LODGE

So many of us in Mimbres on occasion use the Roundup Lodge on Acklin Hill. If you have been there this year (though it is now closed due to Covid-19), you may have noticed the new heating/cooling unit. This required an electrical upgrade that has come at a great cost and has depleted the coffers of the lodge. Here is a reminder that in August, the Silver City Food Co-op is dedicating its monthly round-up to MVHAL for the Roundup Lodge. The Food Co-op is currently open and if you shop in August (or any time) be sure to round-up your purchase and support the non-profits in this county.

## City of Rocks Activity Answer

Go Here: Page Two.



Who do you see when you Look in a mirror? YOU!

You are the best and most important Protector of places like the City of Rocks State Park and other public lands.

(Don't forget to write you answer on Page 19)

Continued from Page 1 - Award

a monthly contributing author for the [Mimbres Messenger](#) area newsletter.

"What a tremendous honor." says Marilyn, "It's kind of like getting the 'Academy Award' of archaeology. But, I could never have achieved anything without everyone from the Mimbres Culture Heritage Site (MCHS) and the Grant County Archaeological Society and the many teachers, site stewards, and volunteers from other organizations who help with our education programs. And, I have been so lucky to have had opportunities to work with and learn from incredible Mimbres archaeologists, they are the best."

Marilyn lives in Mimbres and is the volunteer education coordinator at MCHS. Marilyn planned to attend the annual SAA conference to be held in Austin, Texas at the end of April to receive the award. The event was canceled. An awards presentation can be seen on YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BZHcRneVF-w>

What a great honor for the Mimbres Valley to have such a fine dedicated archaeologist living, working, and volunteering for our education and pleasure! We are sorry you had to miss the award ceremony for this well-deserved honor, but we are all applauding you virtually (like everything else these days)! Thanks, Marilyn.

### Another reason to be proud of Marilyn

Marilyn and her twin sister Carilyn have written a collection of Mimbres Children's Books. The fifth book in the series has just recently been published. *Thinks a Lot has Her Head in the Clouds* is their latest book in the series.

You can purchase a copy (or the entire series) at the Mimbres Culture Heritage Site gift shop or call Marilyn at 575-536-9337 or email her [mmarkelmimbres@gmail.com](mailto:mmarkelmimbres@gmail.com).

Marilyn might even autograph it for you!

## Mimbres Children Books

by Carilyn Alarid and Marilyn Markel



Call 575-536-9337 for info or [mmarkelmimbres@gmail.com](mailto:mmarkelmimbres@gmail.com)

## Grant County Extension 4-H/Ag Agent Receives Several Regional and State Awards for Creative Podcasts and Program Promotional Packages

Local Agent, Jessica Swapp-Massengill, researched "How to create", "edit" and "bring podcasts live" last fall. This effort was to bring more pertinent research and evidence based information to Extension audiences, particularly in Grant County, but has found followers around the state and around the world. The podcast submission title was "Mindy Turner, NMSU Extension/4-H Youth Specialist".



Jessica Swapp-Massengill

Jessica's podcast topics include: Cattle ranching, 4-H Youth Development, local agriculture organizations, weed management, NM chile production plus many more.

The podcasts may be found online at these addresses: Desktop- <https://nmsugrantes.buzzsprout.com/>, Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, Spotify, iHeart Radio and Stitcher.

Jessica was notified of this Regional Award by the Member Recognition Committee Chair for the National Association for Extension 4-H Youth Development Program, Cheryl Newberry:

"On behalf of the NAE4-HYDP Member Recognition Committee, let me say Congratulations! You were selected as a Western Regional winner for the Radio/Audio Program award. You will be recognized at the Regional Breakfast on Wednesday, October 21, in Boise, Idaho. Your entry has been forwarded on for National competition. It is a pleasure for this committee to witness the expertise and professionalism of our colleagues around the nation. Please know that your efforts are appreciated and recognized for the contribution you make to your clientele. Your efforts also build youth development in general and those of us who serve in its ranks as professionals. "

Additionally, Jessica was named NM State winner by the New Mexico Association of County Agriculture Agents in the Audio Division for her Podcast, as well as the State winner of the Program Promotional Package for a program promotional flyer. Her submissions were submitted to the national contest.

Continued on Page 18 - 4-H Awards



The editors of the Messenger are always asking for submission from our readers. One of our visitors to the Mimbres Valley has answered the call. I have found that visitors have a much sharper eye for details. Everything here is new to them, things that we take for granted being here everyday. Enjoy reading about one visitor's unique experience.

The author asks that you read his story with an open, inquisitive mind.

Hands from the Netherworld

## ***El Brujo***

### **(The Sorcerer)**

By Mungo Griljalva

"Come! Come! I've discovered something for you," with a gentle, firm whisper and outstretched thick black tipped fingers beckoning to his presence, I'm drawn to his voice. With both hands he pushes a purple crystal the size of a small apple in my direction. It screeches, "errrrrrr," across the cement pillar, raising the hairs in the back of my neck. He widely waves his hands as he speaks, as if conjuring up phantoms from the past.

"I've found this amethyst for you to guide and balance you on your journey," implores the tattooed Indian, his numerous gold rings shimmering in the afternoon sun. I take the stone. Admire it. Tell him it's my mother's birthstone. I ask, "How much do you want for it?"

"It's not mine to sell. I can only give it to the one who needs its power," he replies. I notice his thick fingers and grossly inflated black painted fingernails with sharpened tips resembling the claws of a wolf or bear.

"No, I can't take your precious stone. I can give you something for it." I tell him.

"It's yours. I want nothing from you. It's a gift from these enchanted lands. Take it with you on your journey. The power within it will point you to your destination," the brown Indian advises me.

I ask him his name and if he was born here in Silver City, New Mexico. "I'm Javier, a New Mexican Aztec *brujo*. I am native to these lands. My blood goes back in time before the Europeans came and stole our lands. I'm sixty percent Aztec, mostly from my father. I'm a traveler and discover things," he responds. Then starts a har-

dy laugh, ending in a coughing fit, which he covers with his enormous right hand.

I inquire about his gold rings. He informs me he made them from gold nuggets he found along the path running on the side of the river. I want to know how long the path is and if I can hike it. He says it extends for a great distance, "maybe twenty miles," and on the east side of the waterway there's a path to follow. "Walk slowly, with your head down and you will discover powerful stones and objects, maybe even gold, ha . . . ha . . . ha . . . !"

He wants to know if I'm aware of the El Dorado myth that drove the Spaniards mad with lust for gold in

the sixteenth century here in New Mexico. He relates the story of Coronado and his failed attempt to find the mythical Seven Cities of Gold of Cibola. He insists that after Coronado, other white men, Spaniards, came and discovered large quantities of gold in this area. They built underground mines and tunnels to hide their looting from the

king of Spain. They murdered each other in their madness for the precious ore.

The Indians killed the remaining survivors. He shares a secret with me. He tells me that El Dorado, a treasure of gold, is somewhere underneath our feet, buried and forgotten. But, every now and then, after heavy rains, gold nuggets are unearthed and washed down the river. The gold still remains,

undiscovered and cursed.

"I must go now. What's your name?" He asks. I tell him, "Mungo. Mungo de Grijalva." He slowly repeats my last name, "Grijalva. I have cousins that are Grijalva's. We're probably distant cousins." I utter, "probably." He hops on his bike, waves and shouts, "We'll meet again, cousin!" He rides away towards the blinding sun. He immediately fades from my vision as I squint and no longer see his figure. I'm left with confusion, questions, and a precious stone. To me, New Mexico remains a land of mysticism, spirituality, unexplained myths and legends, and metaphysical phenomenon.



## Lottie Deno - aka "Lotta Dinero" - Lady Gambler

A wild west legend, Lottie used her gifts of beauty, intelligence,  
and skill to survive in a man's world and still remain a Lady

By Mary Willhite

One of the best things about traveling in New Mexico is the rest areas. Yes, really! Not only are they usually very clean (as compared to other states), but they are often a wealth of information as most have plaques featuring a historical event or notable person in New Mexico's past.

At one of the rest areas between Deming and El Paso (I can't remember exactly which one) you can read a historical marker about Carlotta J. Thompkins, aka Mystic Maud, Poker Queen, Queen of Cards, Queen of the Pasteboards, and her most famous moniker, Lottie Deno. Lottie was a notorious gambler and supposedly the inspiration for the 1960's TV series "Gunsmoke's" Miss Kitty. The plaque was enough of a teaser that it made me want to go home and read more about Lottie Deno, which I am sure many of you in New Mexico have read about, but it was all new to me, and I thought others might enjoy the story.

Born in Kentucky in 1844, Carlotta Thompkins (there is still some debate whether that was her real name or not) was the privileged daughter of a wealthy tobacco plantation owner, racehorse breeder, and gambler. She was the apple of her father's eye and he took her with him to various gambling establishments where he taught her the finer points of gambling.

Carlotta attended the finest Episcopalian convent schools for girls, but it was her gambling education that would prove to be her savior

Carlotta's mother was ill and her father was killed in his first battle of the civil war, leaving Carlotta in charge of the estate and her siblings. Her mother's distant relatives did not deem it appropriate for a young woman to be running an estate and persuaded her mother to send her to Detroit, Michigan to live with relatives. Her mother agreed to send her in hopes she would find a rich husband. What she found was Johnny Golden, a gambling associate of her fathers, a Yankee, and of Jewish decent. This did not sit well with her family and they considered her an outcast during the time she was with Mr. Golden.



The redhead beauty Lottie Deno

With Johnny's help, Carlotta began her gambling career on the Ohio and Mississippi riverboats. She was one of the best gamblers of her time, which proved to be a necessity for her and her family's survival. Carlotta had just arrived in New Orleans when she learned of her mother's death and her younger sister's education became her primary concern. Her riverboat gambling enabled her to earn enough money to send her sister to private school.

Johnny was not as lucky at cards as Carlotta and he left her in 1863 and told her he would meet her in San Antonio, TX. However, the beautiful redhead was not alone. Carlotta's father owned a 7-foot slave, Mary Poindexter, who traveled with Carlotta as her nanny. She was very loyal and protective and kept her safe from any uninvited attention.

Legend has it that one irate union soldier accused Carlotta of cheating and was ready to strike her when Mary stepped in and threw the soldier overboard. After the word got around of the incident, everyone left Carlotta alone.

After Carlotta's sister graduated from a private school, the three of them moved to San Antonio, Texas. Nothing is known about what happened to her sister after San Antonio.

San Antonio's 24-hour gambling establishments were perfect for Carlotta. Owner of the University Club, Mr. Thurmond offered her a job as a house gambler, someone who would use saloon-provided money to gamble with. The professional card player would receive a percentage of the winners. She became known as the "Angel of San Antonio." Mr. Thurmond's son,

Frank, was smitten with Carlotta, and their relationship blossomed. Frank was part Cherokee and always carried a bowie knife. One night, a fellow gambler charged Frank which proved fatal for the other gambler. Even though the killing was in self-defense, the deceased's family put a bounty on Frank's head, so he left town leaving Carlotta behind promising that they would meet again.

San Antonio did not prove to be a good place for Carlotta. Her nanny, Mary, left and joined a roaming female gang. Johnny Golden reappeared causing her to lose her concentration and start losing. He also became very possessive claiming she was his wife. None of this set well with the independent Carlotta, and

Continued on Page 6 - Lottie

Continued from Page 5 - Lottie

she left San Antonio to go farther west in search of Frank.

Carlotta was so proficient at her craft that many found it difficult to believe that a "woman" could actually win enough pots to make a living without cheating. It remains unknown whether she ever cheated, but if she did, she was never caught. She was quite good at poker and faro, her favorite games. It was a series of winning hands that got her a new nickname. A drunken observer witnessed Carlotta's skill and exclaimed, "Honey, with winnings like them, you oughta call yourself Lotsa Dine-ro." That was when "Lottie Deno" was born and that was the name she used on the Texas census rolls.

Lottie soon became a legend of the West. Authors and songwriters wrote about her and artists painted pictures of the "lady gambler." Lottie worked her way across Texas and ended up in the rough and tumble town of Fort Griffin. She set up a regular game at the Bee Hive Saloon where she was treated like royalty by the men who frequented the establishment. However, the saloon's main attraction, at least for Lottie, was the bartender, Mike Fogerty, who was actually Frank Thurmond!

Lottie always conducted herself in a lady-like manner and did not allow drinking, smoking, or foul language at her table. She was always dressed in the latest Paris fashions which included her pistol she kept on her table.

Lottie was said to be a loner and lived like a hermit. This was probably because she was afraid someone would

make the connection between the bartender Mike and her past romantic interest. She and Frank would sneak off to other towns for their romantic liaisons. Townsfolk were curious about the beautiful redhead and tried to dig up some dirt on her. Her only transgression from being a respectable redhead beauty was she played poker at the Bee Hive Saloon.



Frank Thurmond - Lottie's husband

It was at the Bee Hive Saloon that Lottie met the legendary Doc Holiday who was a friend of Frank Thurmond. Doc was enamored with the redhead beauty and spent most of the time at her tables and was known to lose upward of \$3,000 at a sitting.

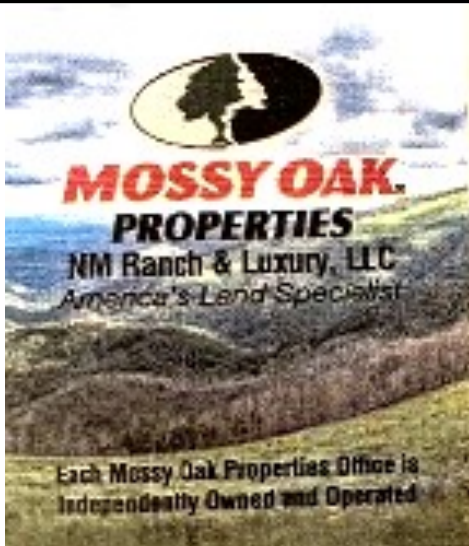
Not long after Lottie arrived in Fort Griffin, Johnny Golden caught up with her again. In a series of events, Johnny was shot and killed in front of her. In another instance, Lottie was caught in the middle of a gunfight between two gamblers. While others took cover, Lottie sat calmly gathering up her chips.

The Sheriff told her he had never seen anyone so composed during such violence. She looked him straight in the eyes and said "Obviously, Sheriff, you have never been a desperate woman."

In 1877, Lottie met up with Frank in the boomtown of Kingston, New Mexico and they went into business together. Miners were hungry for entertainment which Frank and Lottie provided in a small gambling room in the rear of their Victorio Hotel. Lottie also owned the Broadway Restaurant in Silver City and a liquor distribution business in Deming.

Frank and Lottie were married in Silver City in 1880 and

Continued on Page 7—Lottie



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input from the focus groups and surveys recently  
administered. Thank you for your input.**

Continued from Page 6 - Lottie

Lottie took the name of Charlotte Thurmond. Lottie continued to deal cards and Frank managed the saloons, restaurants, and the hotel they owned. The couple also acquired several silver mines. They were soon very wealthy and loaned out money to mining operations in exchange for a stake of the claims.

After another violent episode with Frank and his bowie knife (ruled a case of self-defense), Lottie had seen enough violence and the couple decided to give up gambling and become "respectable." They moved to Deming, New Mexico and settled there.

Both became upstanding citizens of the town. Frank was involved with mining and land sales and became a vice president of the Deming National Bank. Lottie adapted easily to becoming a wife and respected community leader. Lottie was involved in many civic organizations. She helped form a local association called the Golden Gossip Club. This social club still exists today and is made up primarily of wives of leading businessmen.

One of Lottie's proudest accomplishments was the establishment of the St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Deming where she taught Sunday school. Some of the altar clothes for the new church were made by Lottie herself. The parishioners might have been aghast to learn that the first \$40,000 of the building fund that Lottie donated was financed with poker winnings from a game with Doc Holiday.

Frank passed away from cancer in 1908 after having been with Lottie for more than 40 years. Lottie lived another 26 years after Frank's death. At the age of 89, Lottie passed away on February 9, 1934, and is buried next to her husband.

Resources:

[www.sweetheartsofthesouthwest.blogspot.com](http://www.sweetheartsofthesouthwest.blogspot.com)  
[www.Wikipedia](http://www.Wikipedia)  
[www.legendsofamerica.com/we-lottiedeno](http://www.legendsofamerica.com/we-lottiedeno)  
[www.heartsthroughhistory.com/blog](http://www.heartsthroughhistory.com/blog)  
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## Convergent Lady Beetle

By "The Bugman"

One of the insects you may encounter this Spring, typically sitting or wandering on plants, is the convergent lady beetle, a.k.a. ladybug. This lady beetle occurs throughout North and Central America, and parts of South America. The beetle is beneficial to mankind because it feeds on several plant pests including aphids, scales, thrips and other soft bodied insects. The lady beetles are voracious predators and can consume as many as 50 aphids in a day. Adults are oval shaped and about 1/4" long, with females a bit larger than males. The

convergent lady beetle is easily recognized by the bright red or orange forewings which usually have 12 black spots, 6 on each wing. However, the number of spots can vary and some individuals may have no spots. The head and prothorax (area directly behind the head) are

black. The prothorax is bordered by a white line and has two converging white lines, giving the beetle its common name.



The convergent lady beetles overwinter as adults in large congregations that may include thousands of individuals. A couple of years ago in February, my son climbed Cookes Peak and was amazed to find a large assemblage of convergent lady beetles at the summit. During this overwintering period, the beetles are in a state of diapause, a resting stage similar to hibernation in mammals. When in

diapause, the insects move very little and do not eat or reproduce. In the spring, the beetles leave the overwintering site and migrate to gardens, backyards, pastures, agricultural fields or any place they are likely to locate their prey. Once a female begins consuming prey insects, she is ready to copulate and begin laying eggs. Eggs are laid in groups of 10-30 on plants where prey are found. Once the eggs hatch, the larvae immediately begin searching for prey, and may even cannibalize their as yet to hatch brothers and sisters if other prey are not available. The life cycle from egg to adult takes about 3 weeks. When prey insects are not common, lady beetles will feed on pollen and nectar to keep them going, but females cannot lay eggs unless they have fed on other insects.

Convergent lady beetles are used commercially for biological control. Beetles are collected from large overwintering congregations in the Sierra Nevada Mountains of California and then refrigerated to keep them in diapause before shipping to customers across the USA. However, beetles released in the open field may quickly disperse, providing little control of the target pests in the fields where they were released. The beetles may be more effective in closed greenhouses where they are prevented from escaping.

So, if a lady beetle happens to land on you this summer, blow on it gently and wish it a safe journey home. It may just return the favor by visiting your garden and eating the aphids on your prized tomato plant!



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# COMMUNITY and COUNTY CALENDAR

Per the Governor's orders most everything that normally appears here each month has been cancelled until further notice. There are a few places that are still able to operate, (at least at this time) and they are listed below.

**ALBERTSONS - Wednesday, June 3 - First Wednesday of the month.** Seniors 55+ get 10% off. All day.

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS - Cancelled until further notice.** For more information call 515-313-4693 or 888-388-1802.

**COMMODITIES DISTRIBUTION - June 17 - (third Wednesday of every month) - 12 NOON to 2:00 pm - Roundup Lodge**  
Please bring a suitable box. Volunteers to help pack boxes are always needed.

**DESERT WEST AUCTION - THE BIG RED BARN - 3870 Hwy 35, Mimbres. Third Sunday of every month** Off Line and On Line  
Auction email: [desertwest@desertwestauction.com](mailto:desertwest@desertwestauction.com) web: [www.desertwestauction.com](http://www.desertwestauction.com) phone: 575-536-9353 On Line  
at [www.liveauctioneers.com](http://www.liveauctioneers.com) (We assume they can still hold their off-line auction)

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

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

**LaTIENDA - NEW HOURS** Store hours and Fuel Pumps are open 9:00 am to 4:00 pm LaTienda Restaurant Del Sol is still closed, but everyday between 12 noon and 1 pm you can pick up a daily special. There is only one entrée or soup per day. You can call to find out the daily special, or you can just drop by and take your changes—it is always delicious!

**MIMBRES VALLEY SENIOR CENTER - LUNCH DAILY - Monday - Friday NEW HOURS—LUNCH IS NOW AT 12 NOON** Reservations are requested one day in advance. See Page 16 for daily menu. 575-536-9990

## NEW PROCEEDURES

Until further notice, you may still get Senior Lunches at the Senior Center. The building will remain closed, but you may call in your order one day in advance and pick them up at the Center between 12 noon and 12:30 pm. Drive around to the back door and stay in your vehicle and they will bring your lunch to your vehicle.

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

**SILVER CITY MUSEUM GOES DIGITAL DURING LOCKDOWN** Virtual Storytime and lectures are being held via Zoom

The plan includes online lectures and a bedtime stories series. These can be found on the Museum's newly redesigned website, [www.silvercitymuseum.org](http://www.silvercitymuseum.org). Website visitors can also sign up for the email list to get links and reminders of upcoming events, and of course those who like or follow the Museum on Facebook will get updates, links, and fascinating tidbits. For more information, please contact the museum at (575) 538-5921 [education@silvercitymuseum.org](mailto:education@silvercitymuseum.org), or visit the museum's website: [www.silvercitymuseum.org](http://www.silvercitymuseum.org)

**Storytime, May 31st, 7pm:** Silver City Mayor Ken Ladner and Al Gamboa collaborate on a bilingual reading of *The Tortoise and the Jackrabbit* by Susan Howell and Illustrations by Jim Harris. Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82440002733>  
Meeting ID: 824 4000 2733

**Storytime, June 14th, 7 PM:** Joao Galera and Luis Felipe Feltrin will be reading *When Clay Sings* by Byrd Baylor. Clay objects created by the community for Galera's Community Art Installation will also be shown. Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82520354335>  
Meeting ID: 825 2035 4335

**Virtual Lecture, June 27 11am:** *Doctors, Midwives, and Quacks: Medicine in Silver City in the 1870's*, with Dr. Don Montoya. Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88648207408>  
Meeting ID: 886 4820 7408

**Storytime, June 28th, 7pm:** Laura Phelps reads *Little Roja Riding Hood* by Susan Middleton Elya Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86344485462>  
Meeting ID: 863 4448 5462

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

**WALGREENS - Tuesday, June 2 - (1st Tuesday of each month) - SENIOR DISCOUNT - 10% off of items not on sale.**

## STRANGE THINGS IN THE BLACK RANGE

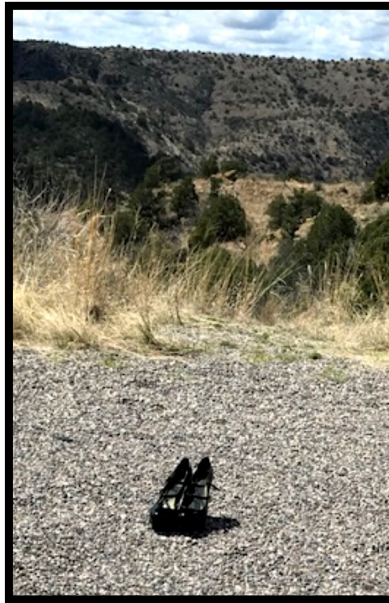
By Carilyn Alarid

I live in Rio Rancho, NM. One of my greatest joys is to get away from city life, drive to the Mimbres Valley, and visit my sister, Marilyn Markel, at her home on the Mimbres River. Getting there is another thing. Each trip I still have to decide if I want to drive through the Black Range and take the chance of getting carsick, or drive the long way to Deming and back up through the valley. Most of the time I choose the more scenic route over the mountain.

Recently I made that decision again, wanting to not only view the spectacular scenery, but maybe to glimpse some of the wildlife that suddenly emerge near the highway. In previous trips that has included, of course, the occasional deer, a multitude of chipmunks and squirrels scampering across the road, but the more exciting surprise for me, was seeing a small herd of javelina with their snouts in the air toddling along seemingly without a care. I always hope for just such a surprise sighting.

My last trip was not a disappointment. Armed with a bag of potato chips, which help alleviate the feeling of nausea while winding through those malicious 10 mph hairpin turns, I turned off I-25 and headed toward Hillsborough. The first anticipated landmark I looked for was the buffalo sign at the Ladder Ranch. Then I looked forward to the drive through the historic village of Hillsborough, followed closely by the awesome view of Percha Creek, one of my favorites. After I passed Kingston and entered the National Forest I saw two doe, luckily bounding across the road far enough ahead of me there was no chance of hitting them, but causing me to slow down, just in case there were more. Further on I had to slow down to a complete stop in the Lower Gallinas to wait for six turkeys to cross the highway. That was the last wildlife I saw the rest of the way through the pines. I was sure my sightings were over until I was between mile markers 23 and 22. Nearing the west National Forest sign I spotted something I never in my life would have expected.

I rounded a curve and the road widened for one of those graveled pull over areas at the side of the highway. I noticed a black dot in the middle of the area.



"What is that?" I asked myself, waiting for the small critter to move, or scamper away. It didn't. As I drove closer it began to look like shoes...or something. I slowed to a crawl as I approached, and passed that curious object realizing sure enough it was, indeed, a pair of shoes. I edged by and parked at the end of the gravel. I got out of my car with phone in hand ready to snap a shot of this very odd occurrence. There on the ground, in the middle of the gravel, sat a pair of the shiniest, new looking, black patent leather high heel spikes I had ever seen in my life! I cautiously looked around. Why would something like this be here? I took a couple of close ups, and a panoramic snapshot with the incredible overlook view in the background, as evidence in case I needed proof of these strange things.

As I returned to my car, the questions about these mysterious shoes flooded my mind. I looked round again, half expecting to see someone watching me. Was there someone up in the trees taking pictures of me, taking pictures of those spiky black heels? Was this evidence of a whole new animal, a close encounter of "wild" life kind? Was this some sort of social experiment; a Go Pro camera pointed to capture how many people would take notice, and stop. Would someone touch those shoes, or actually pick them up and take them to a new home? Were they left there after the unsuspecting wearer was beamed up by Scotty? Or thinking about Criminal Minds, was this a trophy left by some crazed killer on the loose? Probably not! But those shiny black stilettos in the middle of the forest were quit the mystery. They were not just tossed out of a moving vehicle. They were not left behind after exchanging them for a pair of hiking boots...umm...no trails close by. The shoes were 'staged'. Left there on purpose. Set side by side, close together, a pair. A real curiosity.

Continuing my drive, some of the scenery I normally enjoyed was passed by in a blur as I contemplated this mystery. I watched the mile markers so on my return trip I would know exactly where to look to see if those shoes were still there on my way back. I thought a lot about it all the rest of the way to Mimbres and it proved to be a fun topic of discussion when I got to my sister's house. I

Continued on Page 12 - Black Range





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Continued from Page 11 - Black Range

shared my photos as we hashed out the possible explanations for the existence of a lone pair of black patent leather stilettos in a place where none should exist.

Then I enjoyed a week of peace and quiet on the river, and a great visit with my sister and brother-in-law, not giving the shoes much thought until my trip home. As I approached mile marker 22, I anticipated seeing them again. Hoping they would be there. A new landmark I could expect to anticipate, evidence on my next trip that I had survived another drive across the mountain, up and down that tedious, but beautiful, winding road. But alas, they were gone. Another unsolved mystery. And more questions. I wondered if I would ever see anything like that again. Probably not. But from now on, whenever I go that way, I'm sure I will watch for mile marker 22, glance at the gravel as I pass, and think of those shiny black shoes, now a memory of a landmark, once spied, in one illusive moment in time on my way to Mimbres. To visit my sister.



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© Toni Rhoades

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Phone: **575.313.6203** • Hours: **Mon-Fri 9am-5pm**  
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**MIMBRES  
CULTURE**  
HERITAGE SITE

By Kathy Hill and  
Chris DeBolt



## ANOTHER COVID-19 CASUALTY



The Mimbres Culture  
Heritage Site  
is sorry to announce

The annual Hummingbird Festival held at the Mimbres Culture Heritage Site has been cancelled for July 25-26, 2020 due to the COVID-19 restrictions.

We are so fortunate to live where we do – in the beautiful Mimbres Valley. We are learning to recognize each other from our eyes over our masks and our distinctive ways of walking.

Even though the Mimbres Culture Heritage Museum is still closed until the governor says we can reopen, hopefully, we can open the doors soon. When we reopen, it will be with some restrictions. Visitors must wear a mask and we will limit the number of individuals inside the building. A donation of \$3 per person will help us maintain the site. Photos are allowed inside and out.

Our schedule will be Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 11 AM- 3 PM. We can open other times if we have special requests. Call Kathy at 307.640.3012 or 575.536.3161 or Bill at 575.536.3092 to arrange a special visit.

There will be two guided walking tours each month, the first Saturday and the third Saturday. The walking tour begins on the Gooch House porch and will travel the ½ mile outdoor trail through the Mattocks Ruin area. It finishes with museum and gift shop time. The trail is “easy” but best to wear comfortable walking shoes and be prepared for any kind of weather.

Our gift shop has a wonderful variety of items: hummingbird items, jewelry, handmade cards in the style of the valley, t-shirts, hats, post cards, old fashioned kids toys and candy, yard art, and items from local artisans. Our book collection covers the history of the valley from pre-historic times through the present.

The Granville Wood doctor’s office will be closed in June while a new roof is being put on the historic old house.

Our “Plants on the Porch” program enables you to pick a plant, leave a donation and take your plant home. The

donations will go towards new trail signage. Bring a lunch and enjoy sitting on the Gooch House porch while enjoying the garden and the hummingbirds who are busy at the feeders.

On the shady side of the garage is a picnic table and two dog “barking lots” where you can tether your dogs. Well behaved leashed dogs are welcome on the trail, but clean up after them, please.

We are looking forward to seeing our neighbors, friends old and new, soon.

We would like to thank the many people who supported us Giving Grandly. The telethon was well organized and interesting.

Come see us when we reopen! - Kathy Hill

## WE DID IT!!

Thanks to many individual donations over the past 3 years, event income and a generous Community Investment Foundation grant award of \$16,500 from Freeport MacMoran, we exceeded our goal of raising the money to replace the roof of the Dr. Granville Wood House at the site and we are so excited for the work to begin! This house is on the National Historic Register and without the work of this project and an interior remodel, could have deteriorated further and have been lost. We are, and history will be, forever grateful for all of the support shown and, we’ll do you proud!

The work will begin in the last week of May and probably last through the first week of June. The Dr.’s office will of course be closed during that time and we’ll let everyone know when it may be open again as part of the site tour. There will be tape around the work site so please be careful while visiting!

While the roof replacement is critical to the house’s future, we have more big plans underway to remodel the interior and move our research library from the museum ( Gooch) house to the Wood House parlor room, look into further development of the kitchen and bathroom areas, think about the upstairs bedrooms as being remodeled for use by field schools and more. We will keep you all in the proverbial loop as our work progresses so, in the midst of uncertainty and the world being turned upside down, this glimmer of light and hope brings many smiles!

For more information, please feel free to contact Chris DeBolt, IFWEF Treasurer 575-956-3225 - Chris DeBolt



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Worship at 11:00 am  
Wednesday Worship Services 6:00 pm

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### CATHOLIC SERVICES NEW HOURS

San Lorenzo Mission  
Every Sunday at 9:30 am

San Juan Mission  
Is CLOSED

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

### LOCAL CHURCHES

### MIMBRES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

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

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

Mimbres United Methodist Church  
has a box on Highway 35 in which  
people may put their prayer requests,  
anonymous or named. The prayer  
requests will be retrieved weekly and  
Pastor Janet and the congregation  
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Grades 1 through 6 will have good news  
club at the San Lorenzo Elementary  
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#### Youth Group

Grades 7 to 12 meet from 3 pm to 5 pm  
on Sundays at the Rio Mimbres Baptist  
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Phone: 575-536-9543  
29 Cactus Dr., Mimbres

# SENIOR CENTER MENU

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

## JUNE 2020

## MILK IS SERVED DAILY

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce	Chicken, Corn & Green Chile	Taco Salad	BBQ Pulled Pork	Tuna Salad Sandwich
Steamed Broccoli	Casserole	Spanish Rice	Peas & Carrots	Cucumber Salad
Tossed Salad	Pinto Beans	Squash	Tossed Salad	Graham Crackers
Breadstick	Spinach	Crackers	Dinner Roll	Mandarin Oranges
Applesauce Cake	Flour Tortilla	Orange	Lemon Pudding	
	Grapes			
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
Hot Dog	Green Chile Cheeseburger	Chicken Tetrazzini	Green Chile Stew	Turkey Sandwich
Baked Beans	Lettuce/Tomato/Onion/Pickle	Capri Blend Vegetables	Tossed Salad	Lettuce & Tomato
Sauerkraut	Buttered Peas & Carrots	Dinner Roll	Mexicorn	Baked Chips
Tossed Salad	Oven Fries	Sliced Pears	Flour Tortilla	Carrot Sticks w/ Ranch
Strawberries	Applesauce	Yogurt	Warm Cinnamon Apples	Orange
Ice Cream				
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
Bean Burrito	Chicken Sandwich	Hawaiian Pork	Cajun Baked Chicken	Sloppy Joe
Enchilada Style	Lettuce & Tomato	Steamed Rice	Rice Pilaf	Tossed Salad
Spanish Rice	Steamed Carrots	Green Beans w/ Onion	Carrots	Green Beans
Cucumber & Tomato Salad	Angel Food Cake	Slice Bread	Breadstick	French Fries
Peaches	Strawberries	Strawberries	Mandarin Oranges	Orange
		Vanilla Pudding		
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>29</b>
Chicken Wrap	Beef Tacos	Grilled Cheese Sandwich	Chicken Fajita	Dill Baked Fish
Tossed Salad	Lettuce & Tomato	Vegetable Soup	Lettuce & Tomato	Corn & Peppers
Peas & Carrots	Calabacitas w/ Green Chile	Tossed Salad	Pinto Beans	Breadstick
Cookie	Pinto Beans	Peaches	Cookie	Pears
	Fruit Cocktail			Yogurt
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>			<b>HMS Senior Centers</b>
BBQ Chicken	Red Chile Beef Enchiladas			Ena Mitchell 542-9414
Baked Beans	Lettuce & Tomato			Silver City 388-2545
Potato Salad	Broccoli			Santa Clara 537-5254
Dinner Roll	Pinto Beans			Gila 535-2888
Pineapple	Banana			Mimbres 536-9990
	Cookie			

**MENUS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE**

## NEW PROCEDURES

Until further notice, you may still get Senior Lunches at the Senior Center. The building will remain closed, but you may call in your order one day in advance and pick them up at the Center between 12 noon and 12:30 pm. Drive around to the back door and stay in your vehicle and they will bring your lunch to your vehicle. Donations of \$2 per lunch are appreciated, but not mandatory.

## SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES

Have all been cancelled until further notice.

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

## Kate Brown Pottery & Tile



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**COVID-19: THE DOCTORS ARE IN!  
A SPECIAL LUNCH AND LEARN  
JUNE 9, 12 - 1 PM ON ZOOM  
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**



**Dr. Tsering Sherpa** is an internist and infectious disease specialist who is working as a hospitalist at Gila Regional Medical Center.

**Dr. Jim Skee** is a general internist working in this community for nearly 40 years in private practice.

**Together they will answer questions and describe local capabilities in dealing with the Covid-19 Pandemic.**

- ◆ How does COVID-19 spread?
- ◆ What else should - or shouldn't - we be doing?
- ◆ What are our public institutions doing?
- ◆ Are there ways I can help in the community?
- ◆ Can I safely leave my house?
- ◆ What about testing?
- ◆ How risky is this?

**June 8th at 11:45 am** join us by visiting the WIKK website at **[www.will.community](http://www.will.community)**. Click on "News" for directions to join the presentation.

Not familiar with Zoom? Watch this video:  
[Joining a Zoom Call for the First Time: Fun and Easy Online Connection.](#)

Have a question that you would like the doctors to address?  
Submit them to **[communications@will.community](mailto:communications@will.community)**



## FOREST SERVICE NEWS

We know that outdoor recreation at the Gila National Forest is vital to our communities during the spring and summer and the forest service is working hard to reopen developed recreational facilities.

The sites that will be reopening are Iron Creek, Upper Gallinas, and Railroad Canyon Campgrounds on Silver City Ranger District, Dipping Vat and Aeroplane Mesa Campgrounds on Reserve Ranger District, the Kingston Campground on the Black Range Ranger District, and the Mogollon Box Day Use Area on Silver City Ranger District.

Also, the bathroom facilities at Snow Lake on Reserve Ranger District, and the bathroom facilities at the Emory Pass Vista on the Black Range Ranger District. The restrooms will be cleaned to the standard that we, as an agency, can achieve based on staffing and cleaning supplies. Please bring your own hand sanitizer as we will not be stocking that. Please consider your own health and sanitation as you use the restrooms. Take responsibility for keeping things clean. National Forests are your lands – enjoy and appreciate them!

Other recreation areas and campgrounds may not be immediately open and available for use. Recreation site closures may remain where mitigation measures that support federal, state, and local public health guidelines cannot be implemented. Shortage of personal protective equipment for employees, shortage of sanitizing products, and small spaces that force the congregation of large groups in violation of Center for Disease Control guidelines are some of the factors that may result in sites not opening immediately.

Dispose of your waste properly. 1) Pack it in/Pack it out. 2) Pack doggie cleanup bags to carry out your toilet paper and a larger trash bag to contain all of your trash to pack home. 3) Be like a cat and bury your waste. Bring a small trowel or shovel. 4) Bring a small container of water for handwashing/or hand sanitizer.

Law Enforcement will be out and actively monitoring usage, compliance, and social distancing guidelines. They can issue citation notices for failing to dispose of garbage, waste or sewage in the proper receptacles.

On April 15, 2020 the USDA's Forest Service Southwestern Region enacted a campfire ban. **The following is prohibited under the campfire restriction order:**

Igniting, building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, including charcoal grills, barbecues, coal and wood burning stoves.

Violating the campfire ban may result in an appearance in federal court, fines, and possible time in jail. Forest visitors will still be able to use pressurized liquid or gas devices (stoves, grills or lanterns) with shut-off valves, in an area at least three feet from any flammable materials.

Continued from Page 3 - 4-H Awards

The National Association of County Agriculture Agents named Jessica as the Western Regional Finalist in the Audio Recording Division for her podcast. She was also awarded the Western Regional Finalist in the Program Promotional Package Division for her program promotional flyer.

Jessica will be recognized during an awards luncheon to be held during the 2020 Annual Meeting/ Professional Improvement Conference, slated for September 29 – October 1, 2020 at Virginia Beach.

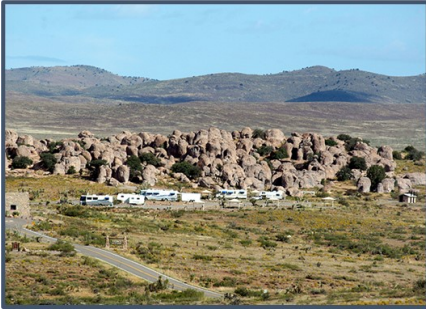
Jessica, holds a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Business & Economics from NMSU and Master of Science in Agricultural Leadership, Education, & Communications from Texas A&M University. She has served Grant County in her current position since May 2016.

**CONGRATULATIONS ON ALL OF YOUR AWARDS!!!**



## Conejo Mimbrenño Visits City of Rocks State Park

The 16th in our series highlighting New Mexico National Parks and Monuments  
By Marilyn Markel



Near the southern end of the Mimbres Valley, the City of Rocks became a state park in 1952. Towering rocks, shaped by wind and rain, look to some like a city with tall

stone buildings or giant dinosaur bones. These rocks, volcanic tuff, are ash blown from a volcano and date to over 34 million years ago. Beautiful landscape features like Cooke's Peak, Table Moun-



tain, and Taylor Mountain are all part of the Chihuahuan desert setting of the rock city. It's a place of imagination and wonder that all of us can enjoy and protect for future generations. Recently, ar-

chaeologists excavated a small Mimbres Indian site near the visitor's center. The ancient Mimbrenños undoubtedly thought the City of Rocks was a special place, just as we do today.

The City of Rocks State Park is now open for day use only between 7 am and 4 pm daily. There is no camping or fires. The Visitor Center is closed as are the toilets and showers. The only toilet facilities that are open, are the vault toilets. For more information, call 575-536-2800.

### City of Rocks Park Activity

**To crack the code:** In each pair of numbers below, the first number is the column number; the second number is the row number. Follow the column number and row number to where they intersect. Examples: 3/4 = N 2/5 = J.

Write the letters in the spaces below to reveal where to turn in the **Messenger**

**CODE:** 4/1 1/1 2/2 1/5 4/5 5/3 3/5

		R O W				
		1	2	3	4	5
C O L U M N	1	A	B	C	D	E
	2	F	G	H	I	J
	3	K	L	M	N	O
	4	P	Q	R	S	T
	5	U	V	W	X	YZ

GO HERE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Who is it? Write the answer below!

\_\_\_\_\_

**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

We're on the web

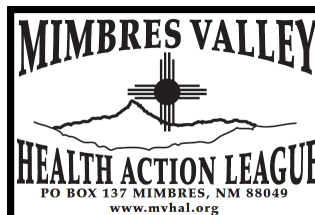
[www.mvhal.org](http://www.mvhal.org)

[www.mimbresharvestfest.com](http://www.mimbresharvestfest.com)

[www.blackrange.org](http://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



Mimbres Messenger

Farmers' Market

Harvest Festival

Commodities Distribution

The San Lorenzo Children's Garden

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

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17 - Noon to 2 pm**

**Commodities Pickup** - Roundup Lodge - Volunteers needed to pack food. Please bring suitable boxes.

## VOTE

If you want to safely vote during the pandemic, **Vote Absentee!** Every eligible voter should have received an application for an absentee ballot in the mail. Please fill it out and return it, or, go to [www.nmvote.org](http://www.nmvote.org) to request a ballot online. Alternately, call the Grant County Clerk at 575-574-0042.

If you prefer to vote in person, or didn't receive an absentee ballot, the County Clerk's office at 1400 Highway 180 East is open Monday through Friday, 8-5 and you can vote early. The Bayard Community Center at 290 Hurley Ave will be open starting Saturday May 16 from 9-6, Tuesday through Saturday.

On Election Day there are only four Voting Centers, the two listed above plus San Lorenzo Elementary School at 3655 Highway 35, and the County Fairgrounds in Cliff at 16 Arena Road.

Election Day is Tuesday, June 2nd, hours are 7 am and 7 pm

### GET INVOLVED!

Please Vote and do more than vote. **Volunteer** with your favorite candidate by signing up through a campaign website.



Looking for relief from arthritis, rheumatism, epilepsy, anxiety, depression, insomnia, autoimmune diseases, Crohn's, colitis, diabetes, glaucoma, IBD, MS, Parkinson's, PTSD, ADD, ADHD, addiction, alcoholism, chronic back and joint pain, or general inflammation?

**MEDTERRA** offers affordable, high quality, 99.6% pure CBD oil products (no THC): tinctures, capsules, cooling cream.

Made from organic, non-GMO hemp, grown in Kentucky under Dept. of Ag and third party tested.

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575-654-1480 & [stevedaniels@gilanet.com](mailto:stevedaniels@gilanet.com)