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OCTOBER 2018

# CHAPARRAL GUIDE

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2017 SIERRA COUNTY  
FAIR QUEEN  
MCKENSIE SPEERS



**SIERRA COUNTY**

# FAIR



**OCTOBER 3 THRU 8, 2018**



# 2018 SIERRA COUNTY FAIR



## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER 15

4:30 pm Livestock Entries Close.\* Including Horse Show. Fee & forms must be completed. Enter online at: <http://sierracountyfair.fairentry.com/>  
**Late entries accepted through Sept 25** with late entry fee of \$25 per entry. **NO ENTRIES ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DATE.**

### MONDAY & TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1 & 2

9 am-9 pm Buildings open for booth construction  
Construction must be done by Tuesday

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3

8 am - 3 pm Receive Department Exhibits  
(Home Science, Home Arts, Crafts, Ag. Produce, Arts, Decorative Arts, Ag Mechanics & 4H Projects)  
1 pm **ALL LIVESTOCK MUST BE ON GROUNDS**  
1:30 pm Livestock Exhibitors Meeting followed by Weigh-in & Classification of Market Animals: Lambs, Steers, Swine & Meat Goats  
3 pm Rabbit/Cavy Shows  
(will start with Cavy Show)  
5 pm Horse Show - Halter & In Hand Classes @ City Arena  
4 pm Exhibit Building closed - Judging of exhibits & booths

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4

8 am Exhibit Buildings Open  
8 am - 12 pm Flower Show Entries Accepted  
8 am County-Bred Barrow, Market Swine, Breeding Gilt, Showmanship  
11 am County Bred Goat, Market Meat Goat Show, Showmanship  
3 pm Poultry Show  
-Open Show first (8& Under & Cloverbud)  
-All others to immediately follow

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5

8 am Exhibit Buildings Open  
8 am County Bred Lamb, Market Lamb & Breeding Sheep Show, Showmanship  
1 pm Breeding & Pygmy Goat Show  
2 pm Rabbit Showmanship Contest  
5:30 pm Breeding Beef, County Bred Steer & Market Steer Show, Showmanship  
7 pm Close Exhibit Buildings  
7 pm Goat Roping in Old Sale Ring

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6

8 am Exhibit Buildings Open  
9 am Dog Show — Pet Show Following  
9:30 am PecWee Pig Show/Chicken Scramble  
10 am Senior Round Robin Showmanship  
11 am Set Up for Jr. Livestock Sale  
(MANDATORY FOR SALE EXHIBITORS)  
11 am Ranch Trail/Cow Competition @ Arena  
1 pm Cow Patty Bingo in Old Sale Ring  
1 pm Ranch Rodeo @ City Arena  
5 pm Buyers Dinner, Albert Lyon Event Center  
6 pm Close Exhibit Building  
6 pm Crowning of Fair Court @ Sale Ring  
6:30 pm JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SALE  
9 pm Dance immediately following sale in Event Center.

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

9 am Horse Show- Performance, & Speed Events @ Arena  
9 am Exhibit Buildings Open  
12 pm **RELEASE ALL EXHIBITS**  
(Indoor exhibits released between 12-3)  
12 pm Booth breakdown/removal

**STUDENT EXHIBITS ARE NOW LOCATED IN THE KID'S ZONE, AT THE QUONSET HUT AREA**

Contact the County Extension Office @  
**575-894-2375, Ext. 6** for more information





# It's Sierra County Fair Time!

HERALD Staff

This week, the time-honored events of the annual Sierra County Fair will get underway. This year, activity surrounding the Annual Sierra County Fair will begin Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 1 and 2, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. when the building will open for booth construction. For the public, activities will kick off Wednesday, Oct. 3, at 3 p.m., at the Sierra County Fairgrounds located on South Broadway with the Rabbit/Cavy Show. The horse show will follow at 5 p.m. in the City Arena with the Halter and In Hand Classes.

As the fair proceeds, youth exhibits vary widely from arts and crafts that clubs can complete in an afternoon to yearlong projects like raising, taming and training a 1,250-pound market steer. Most of the indoor home science projects are shorter projects, but some can take months to complete, like growing a pumpkin or designing and sewing an apron. 4-H and FFA kids will typically purchase their baby hogs, sheep and goats starting in April and care for them mornings, days and all hours of the night for five to six months.

The labor of their hard work will be shown off throughout the multi-day event.

There are several dozens of classes in which youth and adults can compete. Some of the more popular categories include photography, quilting, art, crafts, home-science, baking, the horse show, other large animals and plenty of small animals as well. Regardless of the project, youth are challenged to perfect their skills and put in long hours working with their animals.

Youth under the age of nine years are considered Clover Buds and generally can do anything older 4-H members can, except participate in the Livestock Auction. There are approximately nine clubs with more than 100 youth in Sierra County.

The projected cost to put on this popular event is hard to calculate in dollar and cents. For the most part, the fair is made possible by amazing donors, sponsors and a small army of volunteers.

The Junior Livestock Sale raises in the neighborhood of \$100,000 each year to help encourage youth to participate in animal projects and grow as responsible, hard working members of the community.

The support in itself is testament to the power of these projects and positive impact they make in the lives of those willing to put in the time.

The annual Sierra County Pickup Party raises about \$10,000 annually, which goes towards paying judging, facility upkeep, ribbons and other non-sponsored items.

The grounds are maintained and managed by the volunteer-comprised Sierra County Fair Board, and the actual property and buildings belong to Sierra County. Without the support of the county, it would be very difficult to make the fair happen.

The county fair is something the entire county can take pride in. After all, agriculture is all around us every day – from the foods we eat to the clothing we wear. The skills learned by the youth of Sierra County will be impressed upon them for a lifetime.

A full schedule for the Sierra County Fair is available elsewhere in this edition of the Chaparral Guide.

\*\*\*

# Sierra County Fair

The first Sierra County Fair was held in the auditorium of the Arrey School in 1940 and proved to be the beginning of one of the best county fairs in the state.

In 1948, the site for the fair was moved to Hot Springs, later TorC, and held in the auditorium of the school on 4th Street.

In 1948 the Sierra County Fair Association was formed and in 1950 they moved the fair to the community center building on Foch Street. Portable stalls were built to be used by the schools, clubs and businesses for displays. Some of them were free and some of them were sold for \$25. Tables were also built to display the produce, canning, sewing, crafts and other exhibits. The indoor displays in the fair were growing but the livestock and poultry exhibits were very few as there was no place to show them.

In 1959 an 80'x100' exhibition building and

See **HISTORY** on Page C4

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October 4, 5, 6 & 7



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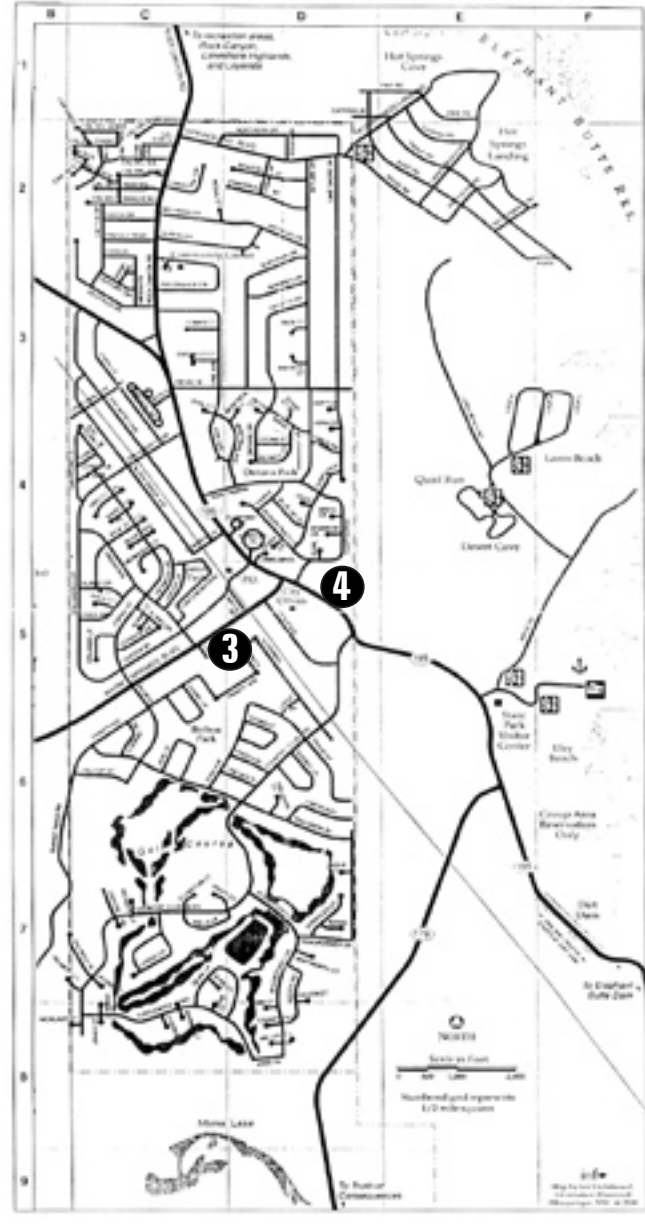
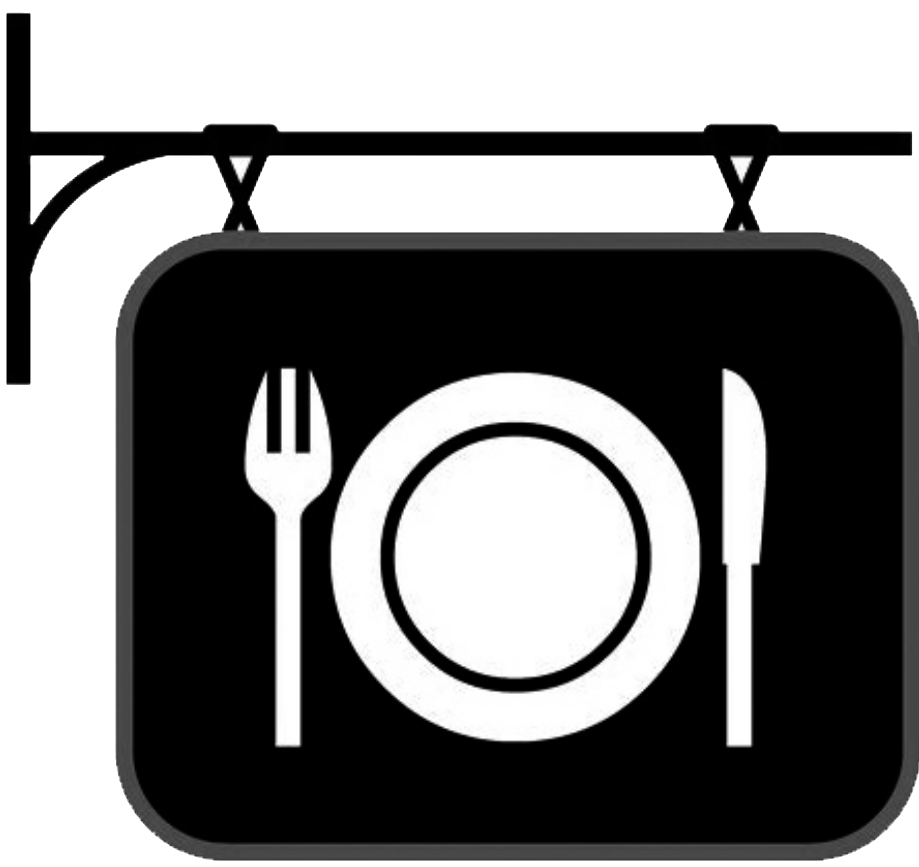
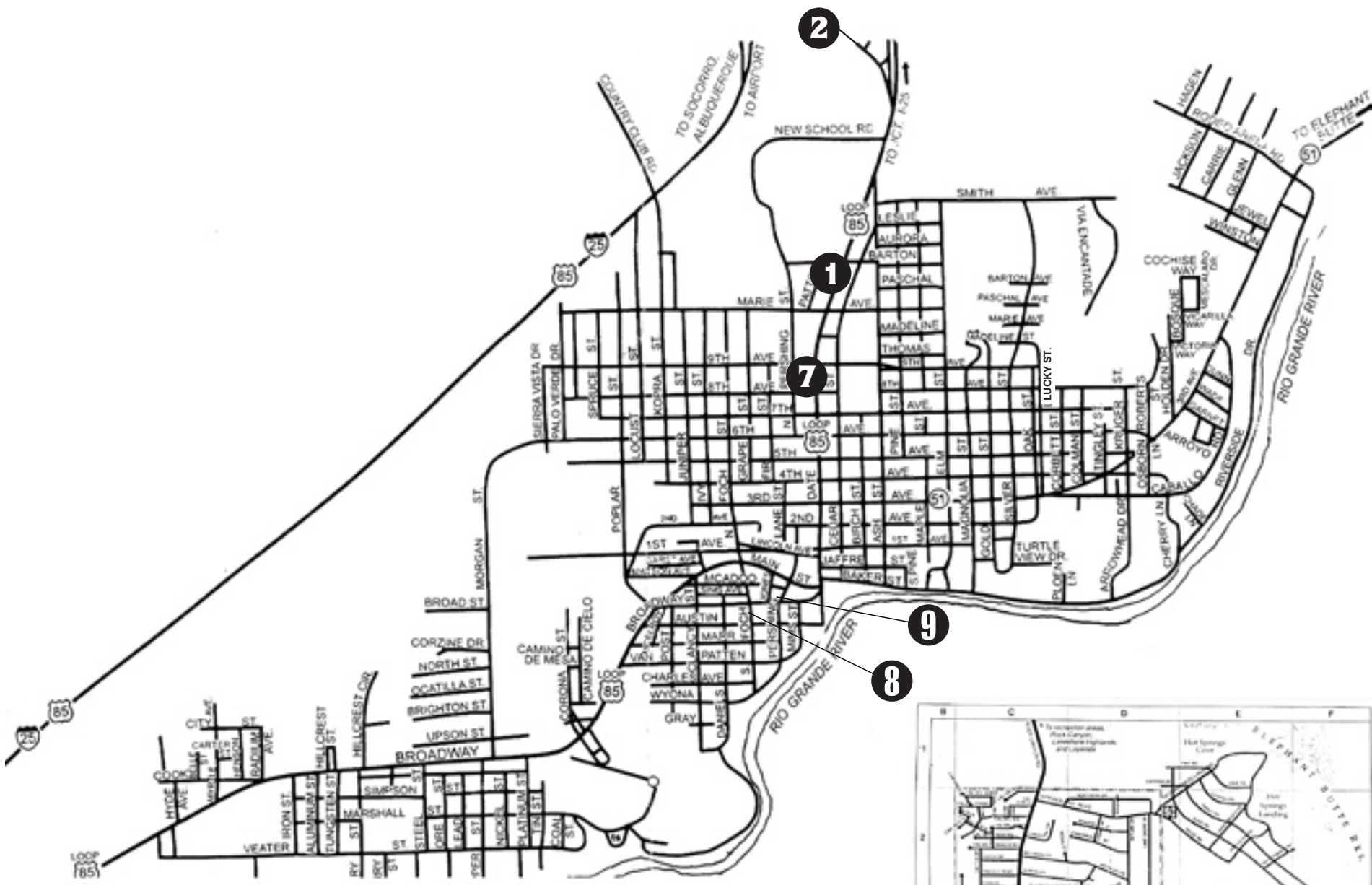
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HISTORY

Continued from Page C4

stretch of El Camino Real that passes through Dona Ana, Sierra and Socorro counties. This shortcut cut nearly a day off of travel time, but many travelers paid the price. The route was very desolate, with water holes spaced about 10 miles apart (about a day's ride) and often dried up. Under ideal conditions, it took more than a week to cross the Jornada, and travelers were vulnerable to hostile attack. According to Robert Julyan in his book "The Place Names of New Mexico," the individual to whom the journey of the dead man refers is Bernardo Gruber, a German trader who fled across the route in 1670. "From the discovery of his sundried corpse at a place later called El Aleman, ("the German"), the name Jornada del Muerto is believed to have evolved," Julyan writes. A ranch by the name of Aleman still exists today.

Rio Grande ("The Big River"), at 1,760 miles in length, it is the fifth longest river in North America and the 20th longest in the world. Originating in the San Juan Mountains of Colorado and rising as a clear, snow-fed mountain stream more than 12,000 feet above sea level, it pours through the Rocky Mountains of Colorado and descends across steppes and deserts as it winds its way to the Gulf of Mexico.

\*\*\*

Side Trips On  
The Geronimo Trail

There are many interesting things to see along the Geronimo Trail in Sierra County. A side trip to Engle takes visitors to the remains of the old railroad town, once a bustling shipping center of over 2,000 people that now has four buildings left. The Jornada del Muerto portion of the Camino Real del Tierra Adentro passed through here, and now Spaceport America is being constructed to the south.

Elephant Butte Lake, at the time of construction (1911 - 1916) was the largest man-made impounded body of water in the United States. It was built for flood control and irrigation purposes, and provides water for farm lands along the Rio Grande valley in New Mexico, Texas and Mexico. It is the only body of water under international boundary regulations. Elephant Butte Lake State Park is now the most popular state park in New Mexico, with an abundance of water sports available.

A trip along NM 52 will take you to interesting places like Cuchillo, Winston and Chloride. These historic old towns have many tales to tell, having once been a place where stage coaches stopped and mining towns boomed, which led in due course to saloon brawls and shoot-outs. The Pioneer Store Museum in Chloride is well worth a visit, looking much as it did when it closed as a general mercantile store in the 1920s.

Continuing on the pavement, take NM 59 all the way to the Beaverhead Forest Service work station, through tall pines and over the Continental Divide. Check with the Forest Service office on road conditions during the winter, as roads can become snow packed and impassible.

South of Truth or Consequences along NM 187, the drive takes you to Caballo Lake and then the farming communities along the river valley. Travelers along this picturesque route will see irrigated fields of onions, chili, sorghum, and other seasonal crops as well as many pecan orchards.

NM 152 will lead you into the Black Range Mountains and the mining towns of Hillsboro and Kingston. South of Hillsboro is the ghost town of Lake Valley, where the BLM has caretakers protecting the property. These towns were all major communities in the mining boom days of the 1880s and 1890s. Lake Valley had the richest vein of silver ever discovered. Hillsboro was the first county seat of Sierra County and the ruins of the original courthouse are still standing. At the height of the silver boom, Kingston was the largest city in the State of New Mexico, with a population of over 7,000 people during the mid-1890s.

Past Kingston is one of the most challenging and scenic drives in the world: Highway 152 twists and turns as it climbs more than 4,000 feet in nine miles. The view from the summit, Emory Pass Vista, is incomparable on a clear day, where the view shed is over 50 miles looking back toward Caballo Lake and the Caballo Mountains. If the weather is clear and you know where to look, you can see Elephant Butte Dam.

If you are in the area long enough and want to venture further afield, there are many other excursions you can take. The Camino Real International Heritage Center is between Truth or Consequences and Socorro, Fort Craig ruins are nearby, and the Bosque del Apache wildlife refuge is a must-see for birdwatchers during the winter. West of Magdalena, the Very Large Array radio telescope communicates with outer space, and has been used as a location site in several movies. To the west, the Gila Cliff Dwellings give you an insight into the life of the prehistoric

See **TRIPS** on Page C7



**TorC**  
*Continued from Page C6*  
people who lived in the mountains and farmed the valleys, raising corn, beans and squash. Between Hatch and Las Cruces are the ruins of Fort Selden, another site with interesting historic tidbits. East of Las Cruces, the White Sands National Monument has miles and miles of gypsum dunes that you can drive through. This also has been used as a location site in movies.  
Southwestern New Mexico is truly an enchanted part of the state.

\*\*\*

## History of the Healing Waters

By Carlos Padilla  
Mimbres Indians and then Warm Springs Apache took to the waters for the healing properties found in the natural hot mineral springs located in present day Truth or Consequences. Many believe the area’s first inhabitants considered the water sacred.  
The Apache’s sometimes deadly loathing for European and eastern pioneers kept the white man away from the area until after about 1900 when the United States Army cleared the way for settlement of the region.  
Its bee n said that the first bathtub was chipped out of stone by union soldiers stationed at Ft. McRae on what is currently Elephant Butte Lake.  
Documented in a diary of a U.S. military captain stationed at Ft. McRae was the soldiers bloody attempt at taking a bath in the mineral springs only seven miles south of his post. Apaches stormed the captain and his family while they were in the relaxing waters.  
In all, two servants, two soldiers, his wife and children were killed in the ambush. Ironically, the captain was spared to write the story only after having to walk nude and barefoot back to the fort with an arrow piercing his torso.  
Clearly, the Native Americans regarded the area where hot mineral water surfaced with great passion. This is, perhaps, further documented by Geronimo in his book, ‘Geronimo’s Story of His Life’, having spent a year with local Warm Springs Apache Chief Victorio. Geronimo noted the water and said it was the most peaceful time of his life. In fact, during most of the book, which chronicles his life on the run from Mexicans and eventually the United States Calvary, he continually remembers his time with Victorio and the Warm Springs Apache and wished he could return.  
As the mineral water became commercialized by settlers interested in building a town around the springs, it was discovered how many afflictions –such as rheumatoid arthritis, muscle pain and skin disorders, to name a few– the waters could treat. Hot Springs became a town synonymous with healing and hot baths. Healers came and opened up shops one at a time. Over 40 bathhouses accommodated visitors that would come to ‘take the water’.

The town was built around the springs and on top of the springs. Originally, travelers would come over the rugged desert on horseback to take the water. Eventually they came on the rail as trains would drop them off in Engle and shuttled them to Hot Springs.  
A much more serious element of healers serviced a large portion of visitors to Hot Springs and worked in conjunction with the hot mineral water. The renowned Magnolia Ellis, who’s specially constructed brick building remains a landmark in downtown TorC, was among the special group.  
The town was initially given the name ‘Palomas Hot Springs’ during the turn of the last century. Eventually, the name was shortened to simply ‘Hot Springs’.

During the construction and just after the completion of Elephant Butte Dam, workers with the Corps of Engineers from a settlement called Butte City, which was located under the dam and where workers lived, floated their homes down the Rio Grande to what is now downtown Truth or Consequences.  
Prior to the mass move, the downtown area was a vast, swampy marshland that stretched from what is now called Water Tank Hill to Tingley Hill, so named because of the location of the Carrie Tingley Hospital For Crippled Children.  
The hospital, now the New Mexico State Veterans’ Home, utilized the hot mineral water for its great healing abilities. In fact, the Veterans’ Home still uses the healing water in its aquatic therapy pool.  
The Corps of Engineers dug a flood control channel, thus diverting the Rio Grande, and filled the marsh with a great amount of fill dirt.  
Despite being covered with dirt, the water still found its way to the surface and bubbled up.  
It has been said by-doctors that every illness and every ailment can be traced to a mineral deficiency. With that in mind, it is easy to see why TorC’s water –with its 38 minerals– holds a very special healing ability.

\*\*\*

# Enjoy The Fair!

## October 4, 5, 6 & 7



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SAMANTHA  
CHRONICLES

By Samantha Gonzalez



Take it All Back Part 2

Ana walked back to the dressing room, feeling lighter than air. She had danced well and received a standing ovation from the audience. As she walked down the dimly lit hall, the other dancers, wearing white and black costumes, ran past her. They were laughing happily and talking amongst themselves about their performances. Feeling rather pleased with herself, Ana sat down softly in her chair and looked at her face in the mirror of the vanity. Sweat was running down her face and her makeup looked a little less perfect now. It was beautiful from afar, but flaky up close. Reaching up, she began to pull the bobby pins from her dark hair in an effort to free the diamond and feather headpiece of the white swan. Her hair cascaded down her back in

loose waves, now free from the tight bun. After a moment, she began to feel her feet aching. She hoisted her foot up onto the edge of the dresser and began to pull at the ribbons of her Pointe shoes. As she did, Ana caught sight of the white roses once more. After a moment of staring, she rested her head against her knees and softly touched the silk white petals of the closest rose. She sighed to herself, suddenly feeling small. She had loved Peter, but she didn't think he had loved her. After all, he didn't want anything to do with her dancing career. How could she forgive him for that? Throughout the performance, she had searched for his face in the crowd, but it had been too bright on the stage, she couldn't see him. "All right ladies," Maya spoke as she came into the dressing room. The other girls fell silent and stopped to listen, but Ana continued to get changed. "There are admirers waiting in the halls for certain people," she laughed. "When I call your name, it means you have a visitor." Ana shrugged and instead, began to wipe at her powder white face and red lipstick. "Ana, a Mr. Brentwood is here to see you? Peter Brentwood?" Maya announced. Ana frowned, she wasn't terribly surprised, he had sent her flowers, it was

only customary to stay and see her as well. "He's waiting in the hall," Maya said. I don't want to see him, Ana thought to herself. But then she thought about it longer. When will I ever see him again? Sighing, she nodded and stood up. As she stepped out into the hall, she searched the faces waiting eagerly, until she spotted him. It had been years, but she could still remember his outline, his figure and his smell. He always wore the same cologne, sweet and musky. He turned around to look at her, and their eyes met again after five long years apart. Peter walked forward and stared at her, she did the same. He looked different. He was taller, his hair was slicked back with gel, and he was wearing a nice black suit. He looked crisp and clean. He was much handsomer than Ana remembered. He smiled at her and she smiled back. "You're here," she said. "Yes," he smiled. "But you were never one for ballet," she said. "I was for you," he laughed. "I heard you were the lead and you were in town, and I just couldn't pass up the opportunity to see you once more." She smiled at him, feeling a small tinge of sadness as she studied his face. All the time they had wasted without each other. "It's good to see you," he said. "I always think of you. You are a hard person to catch nowadays. Being a big star and all."

"That's kind of you to say," Ana laughed. "Did you enjoy the show?"

"I did actually," he grinned. "With your permission, I'd like to treat you to dinner."

Ana thought about it for a moment, hesitating a moment before answering, "let me grab my coat."

And together they walked, talking like old friends, for they had never stopped loving each other.

\*\*\*

Last Call for Singers

Join the TorC Community Chorus. Winter fun singing 'White Christmas', 'Jingle Bell Rock' and many others. Singers meet on Sundays at 1:30 at St. Paul's Fellowship Hall, 409 Cedar St. Call Doris 575-740-1674 if you have any questions.

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# The Inimitable ‘Phoebe Hunt and the Gatherers’ To Open New PAS Season Sept. 28

**By Ronna Kalish**  
**NM Tech Performing Arts Series**  
SOCORRO – The only way to start is at the beginning, and the soulful singer and her headline musical posse are set to do just that, as the opening event for the new 2018 – 2019 New Mexico Tech Performing Arts Series (PAS) season.

Get ready, concert-goers – prepare for a fabulous ride right from the get-go, with Phoebe Hunt and the Gathers performing at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 28, at Macey Center on the NMT campus, in the season’s premier concert.

Prior, Tech Club Macey will host its first “Schmooze, Booze and Bites” from 6 to 7:30 p.m., featuring adult beverages and “succulent salad” lite bites, free to members, and \$10 for non-members (you can join at the door).

If you watched a music video of the singer, without prior knowledge about her or the hand-picked musicians who complement the swell and sway of Hunt’s voice and words, one might conjure up images of Joan Baez or Kate Bush, but also jazzy and a little bit down-home.

“Phoebe Hunt and the Gathers are more than a treat, they’re a feast for the ears, the heart and soul,” said PAS Director Ronna Kalish, about the talented singer and her troupe selected to open the new arts and entertainment series.

“Phoebe’s songs can’t be categorized by traditional styles,” Kalish said, adding that the singer’s kaleidoscopic childhood clearly influenced the music that swells, crashes and breathes through her soulful, plaintive voice. But her roots are definitely in Americana, country, gypsy jazz and swing.

For starters, her parents met at a yoga ashram in the Lower West Side of Manhattan in the 1970s,

where they spent seven years as disciples of Guru Swami Satchidananda, famous in America for having been opening speaker at the 1969 Woodstock Festival.

Her mother felt compelled to name her Shanti, Hindi for peace. However, to meet a previous commitment to name her Phoebe after the child’s paternal grandmother, she bore the name Shanti Phoebe Hunt, growing up as simply Phoebe, in deference to the grandmother.

From such roots, and following an epiphany at a retreat in India, Hunt remained in the country with her soulmate and musical partner, Dominick Leslie, mandolin and harmony vocals, and began to assemble a group.

In addition to Leslie, the Gathers include Roy Williams, guitar, harmony vocals; Jared Engel, upright bass; Sam Reider, accordion/keys; Nick Falk, percussion; Nat Smith, cello; Alex Hargraves, violin; and Stephanie Hunt and Jazz Mills on vocal harmonies.

The resultant music weaves exotic rhythms with clear tones of Americana, country and what is known as Texas-tinged swing.

In other words, it’s expansive, evocative and entertaining in its own right, but everyone will find in the music of Phoebe Hunt and the Gathers a little bit of themselves.

Take, for example, her album “Shanti’s Shadow” and the double sense of its title name, which, the artist explains, as everyone has a shadow-wide, “refers quite literally to the ego and the inescapable necessity of confronting it and claiming it as one’s own.”

Her music also reflects celestial images and lyrics, which filled her mind during daily 10-hour meditations, when she was supposed to be clearing it of all thoughts, during the retreat at the Vipassana center outside Kolhapur.

When the retreat ended and after meeting up with friends and fellow musicians to learn about Indian classical music, Hunt wrote the instrumental part of the song and incorporated her lyrics with the rhythmic and melodic concepts she was studying.

Hunt’s lyrics also explore doubt and regret, vulnerability, forgiveness – and a message of

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**PAS**  
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inclusion and openness on the album’s lead track, “Frolic with the Bees”: “Come, all the wild ones / Come, all the thieves / Come, all you furry feathered friends / Where we are headed, no one can harm you / Anyone can stay until the end.”


Her fiddling entwines itself with Leslie’s mandolin in an encounter that amplifies the song’s central premise of communion. “You in the flames there / Burn through the night now,” Hunt sings, as if sounding out a shamanic command to the music itself.

On an album that opens with the joyous “Frolic of the Bees,” it’s only fitting that the final track sum up the record’s major ideas. “I Really Love” opens with Hunt’s soft exhalation, and proceeds as a slow recitation of a few concrete joys that make life worth living:  
“I really love putting the phone down and spacing out for an hour / Feeling the water touching my brow in the shower / Hearing the sound of piano downstairs / Watching the smoke disappear into the air / And singing...”


“This is going to be a great concert, and I want to send out a special invitation to the new freshmen at New Mexico Tech, and to all students, to see what PAS has to offer,” said Kalish.  
“I want to let you all know that I just saw this band live at the Sisters Folk Festival in Oregon, and for me, they were hands-down, the best band I saw all weekend, heart-felt, impassioned, beautiful songs, delivered by amazing musicians. Don’t miss this, Socorro!” Kalish enthusiastically implores.  
Meanwhile, PAS patrons praised Kalish and her staff for putting together yet another smash season, no easy fete. “We are very grateful for the support we’ve received over the years, and continue to receive, and for all our volunteers,” she said. “Somehow, it all comes together.”  
Sponsors for Phoebe Hunt and the Gathers are Don and Rosie Tripp, Penny and Jim Lommen, Bob and Kathy Markwell, Joe and Shirley Coursey Bronze Memorial, Socorro Springs, KUNM, Desert Herbs and Comfort Inn.  
Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$16 for seniors and \$8 for youth 17 and under. New Mexico Tech students will be admitted free with their student ID at the door, or can pick up one ticket each at

the New Mexico Tech Bookstore.  
Tickets also can be purchased online at nmtpas.org, or at the following locations: New Mexico Tech Cashier (Fidel Center), Sofia’s Kitchen or the PAS office, call 835-5688 for directions.

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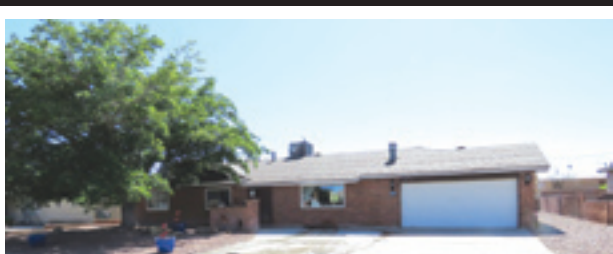




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