

ELEPHANT BUTTE DAYS SEPTEMBER 9 - 11

2016 Elephant Days Set for Sept. 9-11

Butte will be held Sept. 9 - 11 with "Ribs, Rods & Rock 'n Roll."

Activities slated for the 3-day event include a hot rod rally, cruise on Butte Blvd., parade, barbeque rib cooking contest, rib eating contest, Elvis impersonator and a Elvis and Marilyn Monroe look-alike contest. There will be vendors, Tudy & the Silver Bullet Band will be performing, a beer garden and lots of fun.

Officials of the event are still looking for sponsors for the Rib Cookoff, since prize money cannot come from public funds. Donors can join the Platinum (\$5,000), Gold (\$2500) or

The annual celebration of the City of Elephant Silver (\$1500) level sponsorship which will offer different levels of advertising exposure and complimentary vendor booths.

There is also an event guide with ad space available. Prices start at \$25 for a quarter-page on up.

Some of the highlights set for opening day, Friday, Sept. 9, include Bud Sanders, Elvis Performer and a theatre performance "Lantern in The Wind" at the community center.

Saturday's highlight will be the parade set for 10 a.m. along with the rib-cooking and eating contests. Tudy & the Silver Bullet band will be performing from 6 to 10 p.m.



Sunday there will be a ceremony honoring 9/11 from 12 to 1 and for the closing, a raffle drawing will be held.



CAR SHOW - Last year's car show, at Elephant Butte Inn, had many older model 'antiques' on exhibit.

Friday, September 9, 2016 9am-2pm Vendor Check-in & Set up 4-9pm Vendors Open & Rod Rally 4-8pm DJ & Contests 7-7:30pm Look Alike Contest (Elvis & Marilyn Monroe) 7:30-9pm Bud Sanders, Elvis Performer 4pm Chef's Meeting for Cook-off Contestants (City Hall) 7pm Lantern in The Wind Theatre performance (at Community Center) 7-9pm Hot Rod Cruise on Butte Blvd. Saturday, September 10, 2016 7:30am Cook Off Check-In 9am-4pm Wood Carver Exhibit (City Hall Annex) 9am-9pm Vendors Open 10am Parade (line up at 9am) 12-5pm DJ, Rod Rally 2pm Encore Performance Lantern in The Wind (at Community Center) 3pm Rib Cook-off Judging 5pm Rib Eating Contest 6-10pm Tudy & the Silver Bullets Sunday, September 11, 2016 9am-2pm Vendors Open 12pm- Patriot Day 9/11 RemembranceCeremony 2pm Raffle Drawing & Closing



The HEAT IS ON IN Elephant Butte.

FRIDAY, SEPT 9

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SATURDAY, SEPT 10

9am–9pm	Arts & Crafts Fair
10am	Parade
Noon-5pm	DJ Music • Rod Rally
2pm	Theater Performance at Community Cente
3pm	Rib Cook Off Judging
5pm	Rib Eating Contest • Awards
5–9pm	Eat Ribs! (w/ticket purchase)
6–10pm	Tudy & the Silver Bullets

SUNDAY, SEPT 11

9am–2pm Arts & Crafts Fair Noon– 1pm 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony **Raffle Drawing** 2pm

FOR DETAILS: 575.744.4892 events@cityofelephantbutte.com

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PARADE -One of the highlights of Elephant Days is the parade held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, usually led by the Hot Springs High School JROTC color guard.



LOADS OF FUN - These young ladies are having a grand time at the carnival held during last year's Elephant Days celebration.





TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES

6,451 (2011 estimate census) people situated on the banks of the Rio Grande. It is well known for its hot mineral waters which some claim to have healing qualities. There are several bathhouses and spas where one may soak in the pools, whether to ease the pains of the body or simply to achieve complete relaxation. Many offer professional masseuses on duty and some also offer sweat baths.

Several festivals and events are held each year, which bring many visitors. The Ralph Edwards Fiesta, held the first weekend in May, is a celebration of the change of name of the town in 1950 from Hot Springs to Truth or Consequences in honor of the Ralph Edwards radio program. There is a parade, rodeo, and activities throughout the town. The New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers have a contest the last weekend in April, and the State Old time Fiddlers Championship competition is held the third weekend in October. Fiddlers from all over come and compete for prizes and trophies. The Sierra County Fair held in October, showcases the local 4-H projects, school projects, and adult home arts, crafts, sciences, and agriculture.

There are two museums, both worth a visit, as well as many stores, restaurants, motels and campgrounds, and souvenir shops. Geronimo Springs Museum has several rooms, each with a different theme of the history and culture of the local area. The Apache room has a life sized wax statue of Geronimo, plus interesting information on him and on many well known Apache leaders of the time. The Hispanic Heritage room focuses on the

Camino Real and the entrance of Spaniards who left their mark on the culture over the

Truth or Consequences is a community of about past 400 years. A chuck wagon draws your attention to the Ranch room, which has displays depicting the many facets of early ranching in the Southwest. The Wilson room focuses on the early history of Hot Springs, which became Truth or Consequences in 1950. The military room contains artifacts from the old forts located along the river for the protection of early settlers and travelers from raiding Indians. Skulls of both a mammoth and a mastodon which were found in the county highlight the fossil and mineral room.

> There is also a nice display of fluorescent rocks, as well as many minerals. The pottery room has one of the larger collections of Mimbres and Mogollon pottery dating from AD 200 to AD 1450, as well as a large collection of arrowheads and stone tools, effigies and other artifacts. An old miners log cabin was moved to the present site at the museum from the Gila National Forest and authentically restored to its original condition. The Ralph Edwards wing contains souvenirs and mementos from the life of the Hollywood producer/director. The Heritage See **TORC** on Page C5

SIERRA COUNTY **ARTS DIRECTORY**

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LOTS OF EXHIBITS - There are many exhibits and food stands scattered throughout the City of Elephant Butte during Elephant Days.



Truth or Consequences / Sierra County Restaurant & Dining Guide







TRUTH or CONSEQUENCES looking East down Broadway around 2003

TORC Continued fro mPage C3

room highlights the huge wall murals by Delmas Howe of the facets of the local culture: Indian, Spanish, Cowboy and Mexican. There are also bronze sculptures and intricate woodcarvings among other unusual artifacts. Admission is charged. The gift shop has a wide variety of southwest souvenirs and books on Southwestern New Mexico.

Ralph Edwards Park and Armijo Park have picnic facilities for enjoyable family outings, with picnic tables and playgrounds. Ralph Edwards Park also has a nature trail through some large volcanic rocks, which have holes in the stone where Indians ground their grain. A walk through the downtown area introduces

one too much of the depression era architecture of the 30's, and there are many unique shops to browse through.

There is a fine golf course, several community tennis courts, and a bowling alley for recreation. There is also a very active Senior Citizens center for the mature visitors.

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THIS IS TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES - Master of Ceremonies, Bob Hilton, introduces a crowd of TorC residents to the Truth or Consequences radio production back in 1951 when the town of Hot Springs changed its name to Truth or Consequences in honor of the Ralph Edwards' 10th Anniversary radio program.



Outstanding food & service in a pleasantly different atmosphere. Cocktail Lounge Drive-In Package Store

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Truth or Consequences & County Stats

Sierra County was organized in 1884 due, primarily, to the mining boom in the area at that time. Hillsboro was the county seat, again largely because it was in the middle of the mining activity of the period. The county seat was moved to Hot Springs (later renamed Truth or Consequences) in 1934.

Area: 4,231 square miles. Population: 12,961 (2002 census). Population Density: 3.1 persons/ square mile.

Average Rainfall: 11 inches per year. Average Humidity: Normally 10 to 15 percent; during July and August the humidity usually exceeds the average due to seasonal afternoon thundershowers. Average Temperatures: The average temperatures the year round are a high of 74 \circ Fahrenheit and a low of 46 \circ Fahrenheit. By month, the average temperatures are January 54 \circ /27 \circ , February 59 \circ /30 \circ , March 65 \circ /36 \circ , April 75 \circ /44 \circ , May 83 \circ /52 \circ , June 92 \circ /62 \circ , July 92 \circ /66 \circ , August 89 \circ /64 \circ , September 85 \circ / 58 \circ , October 75 \circ /47 \circ , November 62 \circ /35 \circ , and December 53 \circ /27 \circ .

Ethnic background of population (2002 census) is English 12%, French 4%, German 13%, Hispanic 26%, Irish 1%, Italian 1%, Native American 1%, Polish 1%, Scottish 2% and Mixed Heritage of 39%.

Truth or Consequences was chartered as Palomas Hot Springs in 1916. The name became Hot Springs sometime thereafter, but the exact date was not known. The city changed its name to Truth or Consequences in 1950 in honor of a popular radio/television show of the era.

Elevation: Truth or Consequences is located at 4,620 feet above sea level. The highest points in Sierra County are located in the Black range of the Gila National Forest, and are well above

See STATS on Page C7



Places to Visit in Sierra County

ENGLE

Engle was founded in 1879 as a station on the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad. It became a thriving cattle town and shipping point for ore from nearby mines. Construction of Elephant Butte Dam from 1911 to 1916 filled the town with people, but the population declined after the dam was completed.

Though few people remain, the town is the headquarters of the historic Armendaris Ranch. Engle is located 17 miles E. of Truth or

Consequences on NM 51.

CUCHILLO

Named a "Traditional Historic Community" in 2011, Cuchillo was settled during the Civil War. The town was named for a nearby creek and a local Apache chief, Cuchillo Negro (Black Knife).

Due to its location – midway between Chloride, Winston's mines and the railroad at Engle - Cuchillo flourished as a stage stop and trade center from the 1880s to the 1930s.

Charming original buildings survive, including San Jose Catholic Church, built in 1907.

HILLSBORO

Hillsboro was founded in 1877 when gold was discovered at the nearby mines. Despite Indian attacks, the town grew, becoming the county seat in 1884. Area mines produced more than \$6 million in gold and silver, and by 1907 the town had a population of 1,200.

LAKE VALLEY

Lake Valley New Mexico was named for ancient lakebeds nearby.

Lake Valley was founded in 1878 with the discovery of silver in the area, and was named for ancient lakebeds in the area. The town moved twice before settling at its present site when the Bridal Chamber Mine was discovered in 1882. The subterranean mine produced 2.5 million ounces of silver ore so pure it was shipped unsmelted to the U.S. Mint. A stage stop and railhead, Lake Valley grew to 4,000 people, with saloons, churches, newspapers, a school, stores, and hotels to serve them. Like the area's other gold and silver boomtowns, the devastating silver panic of 1893 wiped out the town, while a fire destroyed Main Street in 1895.

Lake Valley is a true ghost town.

KINGSTON

Kingstonwas founded when a rich lode of silver ore was discovered at the Solitaire Mine in 1882.

It quickly became the largest town in the territory, offering all of the trappings of civilization and culture, and was also one of the wildest in the Wild West. Numerous hotels played host to the likes of Mark Twain, Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, and Black Jack Ketchum. Stage lines served all major routes,

and the town supported twenty-three saloons, some of which advertised fresh oysters 24 hours a day! The town also had 14 grocery and general stores; a brewery; three newspapers; and an Opera House where the Lillian Russell Troupe once performed. Albert Bacon Fall and Ed Doheny of the Teapot Dome Scandal got their start in Kingston.

From those glory days, the old Assay Office and the remains of the Victorio Hotel have been renovated as private residences.

The Black Range Lodge, and the Percha Bank Museum remain a big part of Kingston.

MONTICELLO

Monticello was founded by ranchers and farmers in 1856 as Cañada Alamosa (Cottonwood Canyon).

CHAPARRAL GUIDE • SEPTEMER 2016 • PAGE 7 In 1881 its first postmaster, Aristide Bourguet,

renamed the town that was located not far from the headquarters for the Warm Springs Apache Agency.

Built in a square around a plaza in order to protect residents from attack, the town features old adobe homes that have been restored by new residents.

Mass is still said at historic San Ignacio Catholic Church, built in 1867, and the local cemetery has graves dating from the 1800s.

Monticello is known today for its proximity to the Monticello Box, as well as for its organic farms including Jardin del Alma.

WINSTON

First called Fairview, Winston was settled in 1881 by miners who found nearby Chloride "too

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10,000 feet.

Major Industries: Farming/Ranching, tourism and mining.

Major Attractions: Elephant Butte and Caballo Lake State Parks, Geronimo Springs Museum, natural hot mineral baths, historic mining communities, hunting/fishing and numerous small art galleries.

Major Special Events: Truth or Consequences Fiesta, Hillsboro Christmas in the Foothills, Hatch Chile Festival, Elephant Butte Balloon Regatta, Winston Fall Fiesta, Sierra County Fair, Elephant Butte Chili Cook off, New Mexico Old Time Fiddlers Association competitions, and numerous bass and fishing tournaments.

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VISIT

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rowdy." It had a school, bars, a newspaper, horse races, and featured plays and songfests at one of the local halls.

Miner, businessman, and future state legislator Frank H. Winston, who came to town in 1882, owned several businesses (including the Frank Winston Carriage House) and generously gave credit to customers in hard times. When he died in 1929, the town was renamed in his honor.

While Winston flourished until the silver panic of 1893, today only a few families remain.

Winston's home still stands, along with the 1890 schoolhouse, the old post office, and other historic buildings.

CHLORIDE

Chloride was developed in 1880, two years after Briton Harry Pye chanced upon silver ore, a discovery he initially kept secret.

Chloride, in its heyday, had nine saloons, a general store, a dry goods store, a millinery shop, a restaurant, a butcher shop, a candy store, a pharmacy, a Chinese laundry, a photography studio, a school, and two hotels. The Black Range newspaper was printed in Chloride from 1882 to 1896.

The demise of Chloride began with the Silver Panic of 1893 and was hastened by the presidential election of 1896, which resulted in a drastic decline in silver prices.

Today, many of Chloride's original structures still stand. The old Pioneer Store is a museum; next door the former Monte Cristo Saloon and Dance Hall houses a gift shop and gallery featuring work by local artists. Both are open seven days a week from 10am-4pm. A restaurant is open weekends (Thursday-Sunday 11am-6pm).

Among the many mines established near Chloride, the St. Cloud mine is still in operation, though not mining silver.





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