

Tumbleweeds

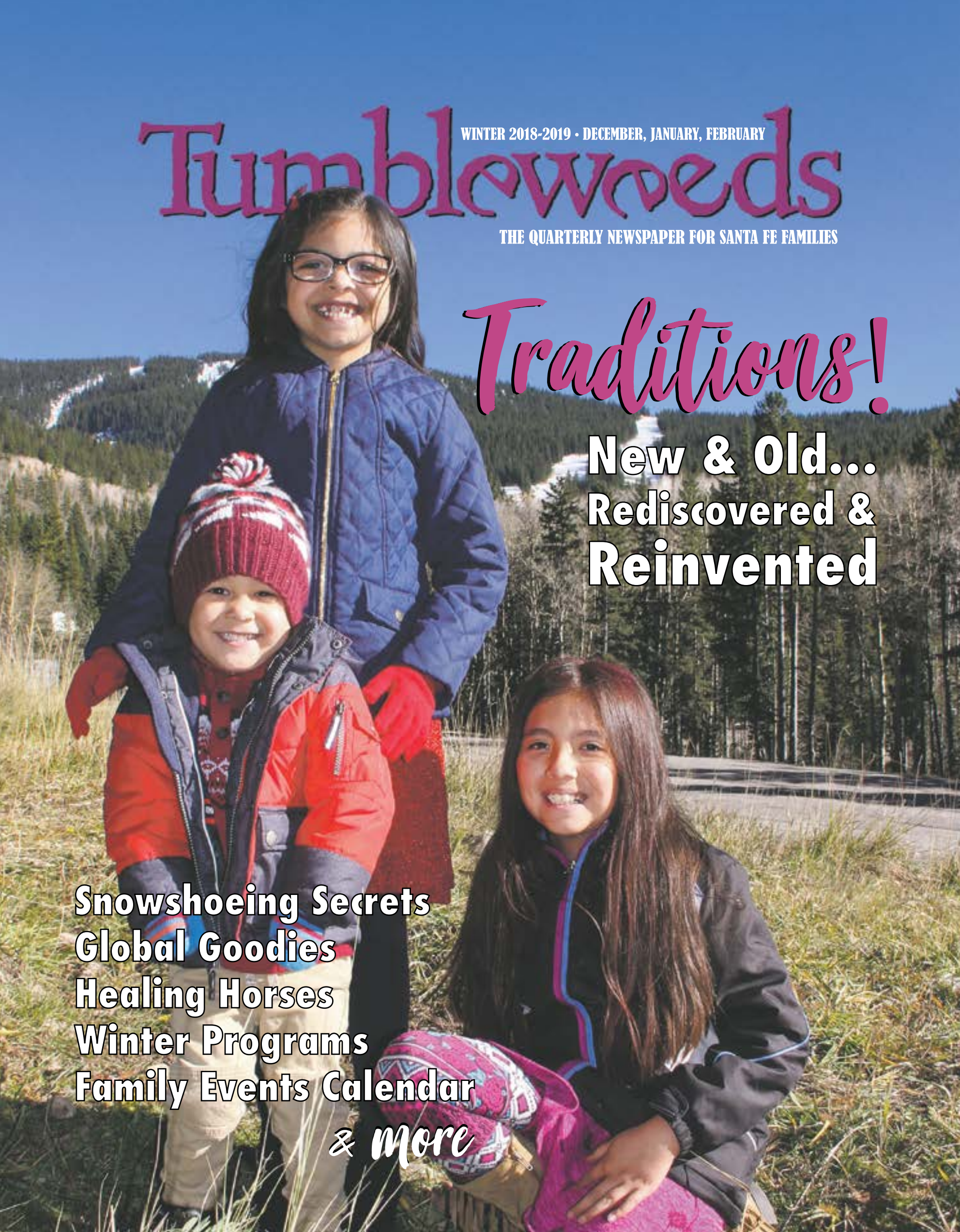
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Fifth Season

It's the end of harvest

season here in New Mexico. For several weeks I've been drying herbs and tomatoes, freezing apricots, canning grape jelly and tomatillo salsa. We've got several bags of roasted green chile at easy reach in the freezer. These goodies will provide some sustenance in the coming months, but more importantly, they're a kind of spiritual foot wedged against the door of winter gloom. They're an attempt to preserve hope and light, until the days start warming and lengthening again.

Harvesting, in a different sense, is also what I've been doing in this past season with my mother. As she rounded the corner towards her 90th birthday, I felt a stepped-up urge to snatch mementoes of her life while I could. I scribbled snippets of our conversations on index cards. I downloaded a phone call recording app, in an attempt to capture her Dr. Seussian shifts of thought, expressions of love, and the anecdotes she'd repeat sometimes even in a short call.

After Dad died this past winter, we moved Mom into an assisted living facility in August. Mom thrived there, meeting everyone, trying everything, in a down-to-earth "of course!" sort of way. I started calling her a 90-year-old social butterfly. The staff nicknamed her "Smiley." I often couldn't reach her in her room because she was taking a class or at a social event in the building.

"I was just watching a movie," she said one day when I caught her on her cell phone.

"Are you still in the theater?" I asked, preparing to remind her to leave the room before we started talking.

"No, I'm just walking out," she said, "but I'll close the door. There's just one other person in there anyway, some old man."

"He's probably telling his friends, 'There's just one other person in here, some old lady,'" I said.

"No," Mom said, without a trace of

irony, "there was an old lady in there before, but she already left." She didn't see herself as an old woman at 90, and I sure as hell wasn't going to call her one.

There's mundane stuff in those recordings too: chit-chat, accounts of what she had for dinner or how she



slept the night before, and the generic "no one is available" message on her answering machine. What came through was how she was approaching this new chapter in life — widowhood — with an enthusiasm that none of us could have anticipated, least of all her.

"I had a good life," she said often in the days and weeks after Dad died. "I was a lucky woman, let me tell you, I was one lucky woman."

A few months later I noticed she'd started talking about her life in present tense again. "I'm so happy here," she'd say. "You know, getting old is really pretty good!" — always with a nod to the future, a sense that she'd be seeing Dad again soon, but with an overarching appreciation of her life in the present.

Losing Dad made me so much more aware of the eventuality of losing Mom. So I collected these stories, these words, these feelings, like little petals and berries I might make something out of later, or preserve in the pages of a book, or just save in a jar. Perhaps they couldn't really protect me from the eventual winter of grief,

but maybe they'd help with another kind of sustenance.

One morning in early November, just after I woke up, I heard three voicemails that my brother had left in the middle of the night: Mom had a heart attack.

Just that afternoon, Mom called

to tell me about a bridge class at the senior center. "Some of these old people can't remember how to play anymore, but we let them play anyway," she said. We joked about that.

That evening, she had been dancing and singing, with her walker, all the way down the hall from her room to the dining room. One of the aides in the senior center tried to get her to slow down so she wouldn't fall.

"I can't help it!" Mom said. "I'm so happy!" That night her heart stopped and she died.

I could think for a long time about what this means. Did she have a deeper sense of awareness that she was going to be dying soon, and she was happy that she would be seeing

her beloved Mike again?

I don't know, I don't really need to know, but those memories of her last moments walking and dancing around on this planet are sweet. It was as if life had given her a fifth season, one not recorded in the almanac or calendar, an unexpected season with unpredicted fruits. I'm delighted she had a chance to live it, and that I was able to see her savor it.

Oh, don't these shorter, colder days sharpen our urge for connection with friends and family, and for rituals of light and hope! We have several exquisite articles in this issue on the theme of "Tradition" — rediscovered, reexamined, recreated, perhaps rejected.

Jocelyn Salaz, native of Cuba, New Mexico, shares memories of baking biscochitos and other treats with her grandma and family, and the priceless ways that family members support one another in hard times. You'll find it in English ("The Secret Ingredient") and in Spanish ("El ingrediente secreto"), translated by Flor de María Óliva.

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Tumbleweeds

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Tumbleweeds is a quarterly newspaper for all Santa Fe families and people who work with or care about children.

We welcome letters, artwork and articles from our readers on personal and professional experiences with children.

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ON THE COVER: Eleah Duran (age 9), brother Jonathan Noriega (age 3) and cousin Nevaeh Noriega-Lucero (age 8), of Santa Fe, are ready for snow. Eleah loves to draw, paint, dance and read. Jonathan loves to be outdoors and play with cars. Nevaeh loves science, art and books. Photo © Ana June 2018.

ARTWORK IN THIS ISSUE: Children at El Dorado Community School created punched-tin ornaments representing a variety of New Mexico scenes for the White House Christmas Tree, through Santa Fe Partners in Education's ArtWorks program. Look for more on our website, www.sftumbleweeds.com.

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Spring 2019 Deadlines

- Article Submissions: January 15
- Spring Break/Summer Camp Directory and Spring Calendar Listings: February 1
- Ad Reservations: February 1
- Ad Copy: February 8
- Publication Date: February 20



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Continued from page 4

Alicia Inez Guzmán, *Tumbleweeds'* assistant editor, also writes about the biscochito, New Mexico's beloved New Mexico state cookie, and the intercontinental journey of its key spice, anise ("Global Goodies"). Did a batch of her mother's cookies actually help Alicia pass her doctoral dissertation? Let's just say, I call her, "Dr. Biscochito."

Haley Loveless, board member of the Santa Fe Youth Symphony Association, describes the ways youth music concerts continue the age-old tradition of caroling ("In The Footsteps of Carolers").

Jennifer West of The Food Depot encourages developing a family tradition of giving and helping, at the annual Souper Bowl fundraiser (Feb. 2 at the Santa Fe Convention Center), or a host of other charitable opportunities throughout the year ("Serve it Up!").

New mom Lisa Moore plumbs how parenthood has changed her own sense of tradition, and its relevance in her present-day life ("Traditions Reborn").

Los Alamos-based writer and editor Natanya Civjan describes her journey of rediscovering and recombining traditions in a religiously and culturally-blended family, as her young children grow up ("A Picnic Basket of Faith").

Helen McDonald, director of La Casita Preschool, shares her gentle wisdom about navigating holidays with young children, in this season that can be so overloading to little bodies and minds ("Tending the Hearth").

Whitney Spivey, author of the new children's book *Goodnight, Los Alamos*, and a world snowshoe-



Cynthia Sutton, Sept. 2, 1928 – Nov. 2, 2018

Photo by Claudette Sutton

ing champion (yes, there is such a thing), passes down another sort of tradition to her twin daughters: her love of snowshoeing, and in a broader sense, love for the outdoors and athleticism ("Walking in a Winter Wonderland").

Also in this issue, you'll find Abby Bordner's suggestions for the five most important things you can do for your newborn baby, and Rev. Talitha Arnold's thoughts on helping children (and ourselves) through the dark seasons of the calendar and of our personal and social lives. You'll see: It's an exquisite issue.

For my part, I've been reconnecting with traditions of another inevitable, transformative aspect of life: grief. My Jewish heritage observes the ritual of shiva, an intensive mourning period in the days after the death of a loved one. It's a cleansing experi-

ence. Friends and family bring food, company, a caring ear or just a quiet presence. You may have similar rituals, from your faith tradition or other avenues. Every experience of grief, I've come to believe, is unique, but each one springs from a shared pool of feeling and understanding.

Several years ago, I dreamt I was on a trip to France, a place that has figured prominently in my dream journeys. Just as I got to my hotel room, I heard the phone ring. Even before I picked it, I knew it was my mother.

"She always knows how to reach me," I thought, rolling my eyes.

"Even on the other side of the world, Mom knows where I am."

And then, still in the dream, I thought, "That's not such a bad thing."

Mama, you always know how to reach me. I'll feel you in a beautiful flower, a cute kid I see on the street, a great meal, the color yellow. And I know how to reach you, too. I love you.

And to you, dear readers, I wish a joyous, safe and healthy season, in the presence of loved ones in body and heart. Keep reading, and keep in touch.



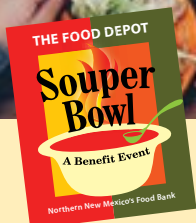
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The **5** Things Your Baby Needs Most from You

YOU are the most important person to your baby!

By Abby Bordner

You have a new baby! Amidst all the excitement and exhaustion, many new parents are understandably overwhelmed with information about caring for their newborn. It may seem like there are a million things to remember, and you don't want to get anything wrong.

In the first weeks and months of your baby's life, it's helpful to simplify. Delegate or delay any tasks that you can so you don't feel pulled in too many directions. Focus on your baby in the early months and, little by little, you'll be able to add in more activities, responsibilities and time to take care of yourself.

In this early stage, there is so much important brain development happening for your baby. The infant brain is absorbing experiences and making neural pathways that will last a lifetime. A newborn's highest priority is to be in relationship with their caregiver. In fact, their survival depends on it. So, they will be seeking affection, food, interaction and comfort.

A parent's brain is also making new connections. This is all brand new, and you are learning as you go. Be patient with yourself and keep trying! Notice when you're exhausted, frustrated or just need a break.

Ask for help and accept offers from friends and family. You don't have to do this all alone!

The good news is these five points are the most important things your baby needs. You can put everything else on hold — new gadgets, classes, items and tricks. Take a deep breath and focus on these, and you'll know your baby is getting everything they need.

1. Safety and Security

Newborns are 100 percent dependent on their parents. Your baby needs you to protect them. Newborns feel safe and secure when they are in your arms or held close to your body in a loving way. Skin-to-skin is ideal when possible; the proximity releases calming hormones in caregivers and babies. The calming effects of being held and nurtured maximize your baby's brain and body development while fostering attachment and bonding. Babies who grow up in homes free of substance use, neglect and violence develop emotional health and stronger relationships and do better in school.

Some parents worry about their first time out with the baby. Plan ahead! Accept invitations to places you'll feel comfortable even if you need to feed your baby or they are crying. Pack your diaper bag

thoughtfully, and don't forget an extra change of clothes, a few diapers, snack, water bottle and anything *you* might need. It can help to go with another adult while you manage the car seat, the diaper bag and other items you'll be carrying. Sometimes just a walk or hike outdoors feels wonderful. Invest in a great carrier and have your baby fastened to you as you walk. Physical activity and socializing can be a great way to refresh as a parent and build your confidence going out with a baby.

2. Feeding

Newborns need to be fed at least eight to 12 times in a 24-hour period. They require constant caloric intake and proper nutrition to support their rapid growth and brain development. If you have any concerns about feedings or your baby's weight gain, don't hesitate to meet with a lactation consultant (see below) or contact your health-care provider for support.

Breastmilk is the best food for a newborn. Made up of the perfect proteins, amino acids, carbohydrates and immune-boosting minerals, breastmilk will provide your baby with the perfect nutrition. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends a minimum of 12 months of breastfeeding, while slowly introducing solids as your baby shows signs of being ready, usually at around 6 months.

3. Hygiene

Newborns need frequent diaper changes to keep their delicate skin clean and dry. Bath time can be a time of making eye contact and listening to quiet music in a calm environment of gentle, loving care. When bathing a newborn, use a mild soap. Afterward, use a mild oil to moisturize the baby's skin and give a massage. Playing soothing music (for both baby and parent) and using a gentle oil (apricot, almond or coconut oils work well) will help set the scene for a relaxing time to touch and bond with your baby.

4. Touch

Newborns love gentle touch, rocking, cuddling and comfort. When your baby is skin-to-skin on your chest, she can regulate her breathing and temperature, which will allow her to sleep for longer periods of time. Giving your infant a massage, holding her, dressing her, changing her diaper and wearing her in a carrier are ways to comfort and engage in early "play" together. When newborns are held skin-to-skin, they often cry less and feed more easily. Carriers of all kinds make it easier for parents to hold their baby while they're walking, cleaning, resting or eating. Infant massage has been shown to help relax babies, ease fussiness or discomfort, and provide an important time for parents to get to know their babies. You can find videos and books to help guide you in learning about infant massage. Start with gentle touch and see what your baby likes!



Breastmilk provides the perfect nutrition for a newborn.

Courtesy photos

5. Bonding and Connection

Your newborn knows your voice and loves to hear it! Since week 18 or 20 of your pregnancy, your baby has been able to hear you, and by birth your baby already prefers your voice to others. Talking, telling stories and singing to your newborn promote interaction, while calming and comforting him. Reading to babies early on helps expose them to different rhythms and tones of their home language. Popular infant books are *Goodnight Moon*, *Brown Bear Brown Bear What do you See?* and *Guess How Much I Love You*. Your public library has many more. So, let your baby hear your voice! They're learning language.

Your baby loves your face! Newborns can see as far as 8 to 12 inches at birth, the perfect distance to gaze at your face while in your arms. When your baby sees your face, the stress hormone (cortisol) drops and the love hormone (oxytocin) rises just by seeing you.

Whatever you may hear about letting a baby "cry it out," when your baby cries, they *truly* need you. By responding to your baby's early cues for food, comfort and connection, you can reduce crying and upset. *It is impossible to spoil your baby!*



Babies feel safe to begin exploring the world around them when you hold them close to your body in a loving way.

Resources for parents and babies:

Friends, family, coworkers, faith groups and the following organizations are all sources of support. Reach out. If someone offers help, say yes!

- **Christus St. Vincent Health System:** Breastfeeding classes and lactation support. (505) 913-5793.
- **La Familia Medical Center:** Breast-pump rentals, breastfeeding education and support. Alto Street Clinic: (505) 982 4425. Southside: (505) 438 3195.
- **Las Cumbres Community Services:** Early intervention, infant and early childhood behavioral health programs, family support, home visiting and an Española-based Pre-K Therapeutic Preschool. (505) 955-0410.
- **Many Mothers:** Free home visits by volunteers to any family with a newborn, to provide help with basic household tasks, referrals and companionship. (505) 983-5984; www.manymothers.org.
- **Santa Fe Mommy Meet-Up Group:** Activities and friendship for all moms and dads of young children, primarily birth to age 5. www.meetup.com/santafemoms.
- **The Birthing Tree:** Doula care, childbirth preparation classes and a breastfeeding and postpartum recovery class. (505) 552-2454; www.thebirthing-tree.org.
- **United Way of Santa Fe County First Born Program:** Free home visits to families with a first child, throughout the first three years of the child's life, to help parents learn about child development, parenting, safety, nutrition and more. (505) 819-0137; www.uwsfc.org.
- **United Way of Santa Fe County Great Start Program:** Free postpartum home visits to support breastfeeding and maternal recovery, and to educate parents on newborn behavior and care. (505) 819-0137; www.uwsfc.org.

Abby Bordner, Vice President of Development for the United Way of Santa Fe County (www.uwsfc.org), also has her own training and consulting business for pregnancy, birth and early childhood (www.abbybordner.com).



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TENDING THE HEARTH

Cozy up with your family on cold winter days

By Helen McDonald

I feel blessed to know where I will be on the

last day of school before winter break each year: sitting on the floor at La Casita Preschool in a circle with my colleagues, a parent or two and several children, looking at a tray of candles brought from our homes that sits in the middle of our circle. The candles glow and shimmer in the dark room. We talk about the dark and sing songs about the light to celebrate the winter solstice and the gradual return of longer days and shorter nights. This is an opportunity to notice where we are in the season, and also in the school year. The children have grown so much, even in the three months since school started. We pause to savor the moment together.

During the winter months, many of us find ourselves spending more time inside with our young children. What will we do with these shorter, colder days? How do we want to spend our time as a family in this season? Just as children are going through developmental stages of growth, parents are too. As your child grows and develops, *you* are growing and developing in your abilities to parent your child. With this blossoming skill set comes new opportunity for tending the hearth — developing the traditions, practices and culture of your family, whatever they may be.

It is often hard to see the powerful potential of parenting while we are deep in the throes of it, but the early years of a child's life have such agency for teaching

us about ourselves, our family and being human. By tending the hearth, working collaboratively as a family to develop traditions and practices, we can help ground our children in their identities and give them a deeper sense of what home is. When we think of traditions, the big annual holidays might come to mind first, but the ways we shape our time together day to day are a very important aspect in establishing the framework of our family life.

One way to build identity as a family is to work together. Young children love to have jobs, and giving them a task, such as helping set the table, helping cook a meal or feeding the pets, can give them a sense of integrity and help them feel important. Siblings can gain a greater respect and tolerance for each other through collaborating in the home. In the classroom, working together fosters a culture of justice among the children, as they learn to take turns, cooperate and listen to each other's ideas. As teachers at La Casita, we see ourselves as co-constructors of knowledge with the children, and we value their opinions, ideas and contributions.

Winter encourages us to go inward, emotionally as well as physically. This can provide you with new opportunities to connect with your child and nourish the unique attachments within your family. Does your child like music? Make up a song and sing it to him. Maybe he wants to make up a song about you! Set up a "workstation" for your young children, near your desk, in the kitchen or in another place where you spend time. Stock it with paper, tape and scissors (which can be kept in a basket out of reach when they aren't being supervised, if needed) string and washable markers. Even unopened junk mail may be a treasure to them. This can provide a nice way to spend time together, in which you each do your own thing.

It is worth trying to go outside every day, but sometimes we just can't. Does your child need more big-body activities than the weather will allow outside? There are many ways to make staying inside fun and to release energy without damaging anyone's valuable china. What about giving your children a ball of string and letting them wrap it around furniture in a room where they can play? See if you and they can climb through the string maze together. Make a fort with pillows, blankets and tables, or put on some music and make an obstacle course to climb through. Older children might enjoy playing with a yoga ball. Can they



On the day before winter break, children at La Casita will be sitting in a circle, talking about the dark and singing about light.

Courtesy photos

bounce on all fours on the top of the ball? How many times? This takes lots of practice! What works for your child to get out energy, within limits and in a setting that also works for you?

In thinking about family activities, we might feel pressure to “do it all,” particularly during the holidays. With regards to young children, less is often more. We don’t have to take our 3-year-old to “The Nutcracker” just because she has never seen it; she may enjoy it more when she is a little older. We don’t have to take our 4-year-old on a two-hour shopping spree to pick out a present for Grandma; it is okay to do it for them and let them help you wrap. Imagining what a potential experience might be like for a child, rather than getting caught in your own visions of “how it should be,” can help avoid stressful situations. Stop and ask if this is something that a child this age can do successfully, and then if this is something *this* particular child will be able to do. And sometimes, despite making the very best judgment call we possibly can, it doesn’t turn out well. That is okay too.

At La Casita Preschool, we de-emphasize the commercial aspects of holidays. It can be overstimulating and overwhelming for young children to be exposed to holiday themes around the clock. We do make some handmade gifts with the children, such as bird seed pine cones and hand-dipped candles, but we intentionally keep preschool a place where they can relax and focus on the important work of early childhood, free from the strong consumer messages that are broadcast during the holidays.

At the end of our meeting with the children before the winter holiday break, we all blow out our tray of candles together. The first half of our school year is coming to a close, and we look forward to having

some time with family and coming back together in early January with new ideas and experiences to share. For many of our students, this will be the first winter holiday that they are old enough to remember and talk about at school. What experiences will they share? And what experiences will you treasure from this season with your child? May you connect with what it means to you to tend the hearth of your family, and may you have a sane and fulfilling winter holiday!

Helen McDonald is a co-director and teacher at La Casita Preschool, and the mother of three children who grew up in Santa Fe. La Casita, a Reggio Emilia-inspired parent cooperative child-development program, has been serving Santa Fe since 1971.



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A Picnic Basket of Faith

Intercontinental, interfaith family seeks to blend customs and beliefs

By Natanya Civjan

Almost as soon as I mentioned marriage

to friends and family, I began receiving a piece of well-meaning, yet anxiety-inducing, advice: Before you get married, decide how you want to raise your children. Traditions are an important way to align with your partner, these people said, and although kids were merely hypothetical at the time, knowing how to raise them was something we needed to consider.

The advice was valid, considering our union would be interfaith and intercultural. I was raised Jewish, while Juan was raised Catholic. I am from the U.S. and Juan is from Colombia.

When I was a child, I assumed that my future would be like what I'd known. I am from a military family whose degree of religious devoutness ranged depending on where we lived at the time, the temple where we felt most comfortable, or the rabbi assigned to the military base. However, our temple, and the community within, provided support when needed and a community wherever our lives took us.

We always celebrated the Jewish holidays. Rosh Hashanah was my favorite, but my memories of lighting the menorah on Hanukkah, opening the door for Elijah on Passover, and shaking the lulav on Purim are a few that bring me comfort and happiness. As well, I have funny memories of my dad's cringing reactions when my brother and I would beg to drive around looking at Christmas decorations after a Hanukkah celebration, or when I brought home a giant, six-foot-tall Christmas tree that I constructed in my art class in third grade. My dad was not against other traditions, but he wanted us to stick to our own and not be distracted by others.

As far back as I remember, our family of four dressed in our best clothes and attended religious services. My brother and I sat quietly for hours while we learned the stories of our ancestors. As we grew, we participated even more in this community through youth groups, camps and service activities. Our family traditions were based on the Jewish faith and were carried out as a group. When I moved away from home, I continued those traditions to some degree. I liked hearing the prayers and songs and found comfort in the surrounding community. For me, this has always brought me (and will always bring me) a sense of inner peace.

When I met Juan, very little changed at first with respect to my holiday routines. During some of the Jewish holidays, we would celebrate with friends. I continued to attend services on major holidays or occasional Friday evenings.

As for Juan, he was no longer religious when we met, but he craved family during Christmastime and would usually fly home. As I discovered during my first trip to Colombia, celebrations for Christmas and the New Year are also reunions with his many cousins, aunts, uncles, siblings, parents and grandparents. Holidays, in Juan's family, are a time for family, food and music.

So when we started planning our wedding, Juan and I were accustomed to celebrating what we wanted, when we wanted. Our life together was only starting to unfold. We had many interests in common — running, science, Frisbee, exploring the outdoors — and we enjoyed these together. Religion (or rather our differences in religious traditions) was never of much concern. We couldn't



imagine that this would change between the two of us. But what would happen if we had kids?

Honestly, I struggled with this question. In my mind, as ridiculous as this sounds, I imagined that once I had kids of my own, I would immediately revert back to my old self. I would start attending services regularly again, my kids would go to religious school, and we would celebrate all holidays together as a family. Juan and I would magically transform into the picture-perfect Jewish family (and we would be okay with that).

But after many conversations with Juan, and much self-reflection, I realized that what I had become and who Juan and I were together did not at all match the image that I always had of my family-to-be. Juan and I declared that we would be open-minded adults who exposed our children to all religions while teaching some traditions from our own families. I remember the judgments and outcry that came from family members and friends with this declaration. And even though I believed the words I was saying, I could not envision how this could actually work in practice.

And then the day came when we had children.

For the first five years, we continued as we had. We celebrated some of the Jewish holidays as they came around, and when possible we traveled to Colombia for Christmas. Juan and I have talked to our kids about how we were raised, what our traditions and religions are, and what others celebrate. We stressed the commonalities between religions.

But as our kids, now ages 8 and 6, have grown, we have needed to blend our traditions and find our community through other activities and in other ways. We have started to make our own traditions, which blur the lines between our religions and cultures. These new traditions define who we are as a family and provide a grounding point of our own, and they combine the traditions from our past. These have naturally evolved, especially as the kids have started asking questions and having ideas of their own.

So as the winter holiday season approaches, you will find us with a very special tradition of our own. With bulging stomachs from Thanksgiving dinner, followed by potato latkes for Hanukkah, we will gear up for our tree hunt in the Jemez Mountains where we cut down our very own "holiday tree." We will pack a picnic basket full of breads, cheeses, pâtés and aguapanela (a drink from Colombia). With axe in hand, we will find a spot that is dense with pines. If we have snow this year, we will have snowball fights and make snow angels before hiking into the forest in search of our perfect tree. It may be full of branches or somewhat straggly, but it will definitely look wonderful in our home. We will eat our picnic lunch before tying the tree to the roof of our car and returning to Los Alamos. We will decorate our tree with blue, white, red and green lights, and our growing collection of ornaments that remind us of special family moments. These ornaments consist of those handmade at school by the kids and those that we have gathered through our travels and experiences together. For example, we made our newest set of ornaments — hammered tin with pictures of *golondrinas* (swallows) — this year at the Renaissance Faire at El Rancho de las Golondrinas. Our tree hunt is a tradition that we started after moving to New Mexico and that we look forward to every year. Everything about our tree hunt is meaningful and, more importantly, ours.

Natanya Civjan is a writer and editor for Los Alamos National Laboratory. She and her husband, Juan, are the parents of Oliver, age 6, and Ana, age 8.



From a holiday tree hunt to tin ornaments to a snow llama to snow angels, the author's family has adopted traditions that reflect their diverse pasts and evolving interests. The children made these punched-tin ornaments at El Rancho de las Golondrinas this fall; look for Jone Hallmark's version on our Kids' Page, p. 33.



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Serve It Up!

Making holiday meals a reality for everyone

By Jennifer West

What is your favorite part of the holiday season?

Is it the Canyon Road farolito walk, or a ceremonial dance at one of the Pueblos? Maybe your family builds a gingerbread house together, or reads a favorite story on Christmas Eve.

For some families, it's sitting down to a meal with every comfort food one can think of: turkey (maybe with a side of red chile), stuffing, collard greens, pecan pie. Days of cooking are a labor of love, with friends and family coming together to prepare a meal with enough food to sustain everyone and leftovers for the entire weekend.

For others, an abundance of goodies at the table is *not* a reality. The holiday season may bring additional challenges to people who already face obstacles in making ends meet year-round. The Food Depot and its corps of staff, donors and volunteers can help.

The types of food that The Food Depot, northern New Mexico's food bank, distributes to its partner nonprofit agencies depends heavily on donations from community organizations, private businesses that host food drives, and individuals who are committed to ending hunger. From frozen turkeys to fresh cranberries, The Food Depot is able to provide food in a timely manner throughout nine New Mexico counties to those who need it most: working families, individuals with health challenges, seniors and children.

Food is so much more than a basic physical necessity. It is built into our traditions and emotions. It feeds our body and soul, and nourishes everything we do. When asked what to donate for a food drive, I often respond with a question: "Well, what kind of food would you like to sit down to dinner with?" To this, the person usually smiles. I imagine that I've triggered a memory of a favorite food, or perhaps a tradition, that makes their heart smile.

If you're wondering how to make a difference in what a struggling family sits down to this holiday season, consider these food donation and volunteer options:

- **Host a food drive at your business, school or civic organization.** Contact Dot at dgreene@thefooddepot.org to schedule a donation barrel drop-off at your location. Donate a frozen turkey or other perishable holiday foods directly at The Food Depot, 1222-A Siler Road, Santa Fe, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- **Volunteer at The Food Depot or another nonprofit.** The Independent Sector values a volunteer hour at \$24.14. Without volunteers, The Food Depot simply could not have distributed more than 6 million pounds of food in 2017. Beginning in January we will be seeking volunteers for our new "Kids Kitchen" — a joint venture with the United Way of Santa Fe to feed local children through the programs of several organizations.

- **Be an advocate.** What is advocacy? It's a variety of activities, including sharing information with friends, family and community members about something you are passionate about. Share information from The Food Depot's printed newsletter, social media posts or this *Tumbleweeds* article, to educate your circle of friends and family about hunger as a prominent issue that touches every single community in New Mexico.

Our state currently ranks last nationwide in child well-being, according to the Annie E. Casey Foundation's most recent Kids Count Data Book, with one in four children not having regular access to enough food. Working families, seniors and individuals battle with hunger as well; one in six adults struggles to keep food on their table.

Whether you choose to donate, volunteer or advocate for The Food Depot, you can have a direct impact not only during the holiday season but year-round. Help your neighbor make their traditions extra special this season, or keep their pantries full throughout the year. Learn more at thefooddepot.org.

Jennifer West is the community engagement coordinator at The Food Depot, the food bank serving nine counties in northern New Mexico: Santa Fe, Harding, Colfax, Taos, Los Alamos, Rio Arriba, San Miguel, Union and Mora.

Got a Noisy Acorn? This column promotes volunteering, advocacy and legislative efforts to enhance the well-being of children and families. Call 984-3171 or email info@sftumbleweeds.com with your story ideas.



Students from the Santa Fe Waldorf School (left) and a family of Food Depot volunteers (right) show that many hands make light work.

Building a Giving Tradition



The Souper Bowl fundraiser, celebrating its 25th anniversary this year on Feb. 2 at the Santa Fe Convention Center, is a tasty way to help hungry New Mexicans.

While nonprofits greatly appreciate volunteers at any season, many are overwhelmed with the increase of offers during the winter holidays. Why not set a plan now to bring family and friends together during the spring or summer, when nonprofits are in need of more assistance and volunteers come out in fewer numbers — a new tradition! Contact volunteer@thefooddepot.org to schedule a shift.

As you plan your holiday gift-giving, consider that The Food Depot is able to provide four meals with every dollar donated. How? The Food Depot purchases foods in bulk at a substantial discount, and it also “rescues” unsold but edible food in large quantities for which it pays only freight and logistics costs. These purchases, along with items donated from grocery stores, food drives and individual donors, allow every dollar to be stretched to its fullest potential. Join us for #GivingTuesday — an international day of giving in response to and balance the consumption of Black Friday and Cyber Monday — on Nov. 27 on The Food Depot’s social media channels. Or go to thefooddepot.org to donate any day of the year.

Don’t forget the tastiest way of giving: the 25th annual Souper Bowl, coming to the Santa Fe Community Convention Center on Feb. 2, noon to 2:30 p.m., a favorite way to spend a winter Saturday afternoon. After all, where else you can sample 25 incredible soups and also support those who don’t have enough to eat? Early bird ticket, available from Dec. 1 to Jan. 2, are \$25 for adults, and \$5 for children ages 6 to 12. From Jan. 3 until noon Feb. 1, tickets will be \$35 for adults, and \$10 for children 6 to 12. New this year for the 25th anniversary: purchase a \$75 VIP ticket for admission at 11 a.m.

Volunteers get in free! If you would like to help at this year’s Souper Bowl, either on your own, with your family or with a group, please call Sarah Carter, volunteer coordinator, at 471-1633 x 115, or email volunteer@thefooddepot.org. To join Souper Bowl 25 as a sponsor, email Jill Dixon at jdixon@thefooddepot.org by Dec. 12.



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In the Footsteps of Carolers

Student music performances make holidays come alive

By Haley Lovelace

When we think of holiday traditions we might imagine certain

foods, like Aunt Edith's special Jello, or customs, like decorating the house with lights and candles. There is one tradition that many of us may be old enough to remember, but that we're hard pressed to find anyone doing today: caroling.

When imagining carolers, we might think of ladies and gentlemen in turn-of-the-century garb going from house to house to regale the neighbors with beautiful arrangements of traditional pieces in exchange for hot cider and cookies. If anyone attempts this now, they're more likely to find a surprised neighbor standing in the doorway in comfy pants with nothing prepared to offer in return, while Netflix plays in the background.

Music has been a central part of most every culture, especially around holidays. We may have lost caroling as a yearly tradition, now that those timeless songs are easily found on Pandora. The element that gets lost in today's electronic version is the togetherness, the friendship, the joy of sharing music with others, and in turn the joy of hearing something beautiful. This all still exists, but I believe it's taken a form that too few are recognizing: youth and children's music concerts.

When I say that, even I, who teach music for a living, hear honking saxophones and screeching violins in my head. Please believe me when I say that the music education in Santa Fe is excellent, and I am so pleased and proud when I see how many programs are in place to give our children the best opportunities and experiences possible. Children from any walk of life and any school are eligible for one, if not many, opportunities to play an instrument in any genre: classical, mariachi or jazz. Between the public schools music classes, Santa Fe Pro Musica mentorships, Dream Big (a collaboration between Santa Fe Public Schools and Performance Santa Fe providing low-cost private instrumental lessons to students who wouldn't be able to afford full-price lessons) and the diverse programs of the Santa Fe Youth Symphony Association, these children do not honk or screech.

As a teacher, I'm well aware that December is full of recitals, concerts and public performances, the culmination of the students' preparation. There are often so many school functions at that time of year that I hear them spoken of as just "the next item on the calendar." We might not take the time to slow down and recognize them for their potential if they are not a professional performance. Yet youth concerts bring extended family and friends together to appreciate art that is hard-earned, and to delight in each other's accomplishments. They bring a new sound to the ears of strangers walking by in a mall and perhaps inspire a pleasant reminiscence or a spark of interest. You may need to buy a ticket to hear some of Santa Fe's excellent youth performances, but no cider or cookies are necessary.

For the last few years I've taken my 5-year-old to as many as I could, and she relished them all. She knew none of the performers, but she felt part of the experience and the family. I will never forget the time she heard a trio play Pachelbel's Canon when she was 2 and sat silently with tears streaming down her face because, "It was so boo-i-ful." This year she is old enough to participate in one of the concerts put on by the Santa Fe Youth Symphony Association through their Elementary Strings program. If you'd like to see this concert, or any of the other SFYSA performances, please join us the weekend of Dec. 1. For the full concert schedule, please check the *Tumbleweeds* calendar in this issue or visit the SFYSA website at www.sfyasa.org.

So this year, I encourage you to seek out what's going on around Santa Fe and to take in some of the most beautiful music you'll hear this season. Perhaps it will become a new tradition for your family, either playing or listening!

Happy Holidays!

Haley Lovelace is the associate elementary strings director for the Santa Fe Youth Symphony Association, teaches the SFYSA Elementary Strings cello class at Carlos Gilbert Elementary, mentors with Dream Big at Mandela International Magnet School and Capital High School, and maintains a private studio in Santa Fe.

Top and bottom: Students in SFYSA's Elementary Strings program; photo by Artotems Co. Middle: Intermezzo String Orchestra; photo by Elizabeth Young.



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NM PED School Grading Report Card 2018 **Final Grade 2018**
A
Overall Score 81.96

Nm School For The Arts
 District: Nm School For Arts
 Grade Range: 9-12 Code: 509001

Current Standing Possible Points This School Earned

Are students performing on grade level? Did they improve more or less than expected?	18.03	30	B
School Improvement Is the school as a whole making academic progress?	6.31	10	C
Improvement of Higher-Performing Students Are higher-performing students improving more or less than expected?	6.35	10	B
Improvement of Lowest-Performing Students Are the lowest-performing students improving more or less than expected?	9.34	10	B
Opportunity to Learn Do students and families believe their school is a good place to attend and learn?	7.01	8	B
Graduation Are students graduating high school, and is the graduation rate improving?	16.35	17	A
College and Career Readiness Are students participating in college and career readiness opportunities? Are they demonstrating success?	14.10	15	A

Bonus Points
 Schools can earn points for reducing truancy, promoting extracurricular activities, engaging families, and using technology. + 4.67

This School's History
 Note for Families: If your student is enrolled in a school that has earned two "F" grades in the last four years, state law allows you to transfer your child to a school with a higher grade. Please call (505)-827-6909 to learn more. For information about other schools in your community, please visit the School Grading web page at <http://aae.ped.state.nm.us/SchoolGrading.html>.

New Mexico School Grading 2018 Page 2 of 6 Nm School For The Arts

Final Points

High Schools	
75.0 to 100.0	A
65.0 to 74.9	B
50.0 to 64.9	C
35.0 to 49.9	D
0.0 to 34.9	F

High schools earn a final grade based on these ranges, which were set in 2012.

Tests
 School Grading draws on student performance from these state assessments:

Assessment	Grades
PARCC	Mathematics, Reading 3-11
SBA	Reading 3-11
NMAPA	Mathematics, Reading 3-11
DIBELS	Early Literacy KN-2
IStation	Early Literacy KN-2

Details of Each Grade Indicator

Current Standing
 Knowing how many students are proficient is a measure of the school's overall success. Current Standing uses up to three years of student performance to provide a broader picture of school achievement. Current Standing also includes a measure of student growth (Value-Added Modeling) that looks at school size, student mobility, and prior student performance.

Indicator	All Students	Gender		Race / Ethnicity					Econ Disadv	Students with Disabilities	English Language Learners	
		F	M	White	Afr Amer	Hispanic	Asian	Am Indian				
Reading	Proficient (%)	76	81	68	87	-	59	-	64	71	64	-
	Points Proficiency	7.62										
	Points Student Growth	2.66										
Math	Proficient (%)	35	29	44	41	-	30	-	-	32	≤20	-
	Points Proficiency	3.54										
	Points Student Growth	4.21										

Proficiencies Over Time
 Students are performing on grade level with Proficient or Advanced scores.

Year	Math	Reading
2016	40	88
2017	41	79
2018	35	76

New Mexico School Grading 2018 Page 2 of 6 Nm School For The Arts

School Improvement
 School growth (Value-Added Modeling) compares overall student performance from year to year and considers the progress of all students whether or not they are proficient.

Growth Index Points	Reading	Math
	0.02	0.69
	2.54	3.77

Growth can be negative or positive. When it is positive, the school performed better than was expected when compared to other schools with the same size, mobility, and prior student performance.

Student Growth
 Every student's prior test scores are used to estimate how they should have performed this year. Their academic growth is considered within two groups, the lowest-performing 25% of students and the higher-performing students (75%).

Above Zero This group performed higher than expected.
Near Zero This group performed as expected based on their academic history.
Below Zero This group performed below expectations, and students are falling behind when compared to their peers.

School Overall	Student Groups										
	F	M	White	Afr American	Hispanic	Asian	Am Indian	Econ Disadv	Students with Disabilities	English Language Learners	
Reading Growth	Higher-Performing Points	0.02	0.34	0.44	0.36	-	0.32	-	-0.03	0.33	-
	Points	2.54									
	Lowest-Performing Points	1.60	0.54	0.23	0.53	-	0.37	-	0.34	-	-
Math Growth	Higher-Performing Points	0.71	0.14	-0.01	0.07	-	0.09	-	0.15	-	-
	Points	3.80									
	Lowest-Performing Points	1.19	-0.07	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Growth Over Time

Growth	Reading			Math		
	Lowest-Performing	Higher-Performing	Overall	Lowest-Performing	Higher-Performing	Overall
Greater than Expected	2.17	1.92	1.92	1.3	1.19	1.19
Lower than Expected	0.51	0.02	0.02	0.89	0.71	0.71

New Mexico School Grading 2018 Page 3 of 6 Nm School For The Arts

Opportunity to Learn
 Opportunity to Learn is a reflection of the environments schools provide for student learning.

Student Attendance	All Students	Gender		Race / Ethnicity					Students with Disabilities	English Language Learners	
		F	M	White	Afr Amer	Hispanic	Asian	Am Indian			
Average (%)	94	94	95	95	-	94	-	94	92	94	-
Points	2.97										

Surveys
 Students answer survey questions on topics such as classroom teaching and expectations of students. The survey contains 10 questions with answers from 0 (Never) to 5 (Always) for a maximum score of 50. For students in grades KN-2, a parent or family member completes the survey.

Score (Average)	36.38
Points	4.04
Number of Surveys	347

Graduation
 Students are expected to graduate in four years. Each year the school is expected to increase the number of on-time graduates.

Cohort	All Students	Gender		Race / Ethnicity					Students with Disabilities	English Language Learners		
		F	M	White	Afr Amer	Hispanic	Asian	Am Indian				
Cohort of 2017 - 4-Year Rates	Graduation (%)	96	93	-	97	-	94	-	-	92	86	30
	Points	7.70										
Cohort of 2016 - 5-Year Rates	Graduation (%)	95	96	95	94	-	96	-	-	93	83	-
	Points	2.86										
Cohort of 2015 - 6-Year Rates	Graduation (%)	89	97	74	90	-	85	-	-	97	62	-
	Points	1.79										

Growth in 4-Year Rates
 Growth takes into account three years of graduation rates.

Growth Index	0.38
Points	4.00

New Mexico School Grading 2018 Page 4 of 6 Nm School For The Arts

College and Career Readiness (CCR)
 High school students are expected to participate in at least one college or career readiness program:
 1) College entrance exams (Accuplacer, ACT, ACT Aspire, Compass, PLAN, PSAT, SAT, or SAT Subject Test)
 2) Evidence that the student can pass a college-level course (Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, or IB)
 3) Eligibility for an industry-recognized certification (Career Technical Education).
 Points are given separately for students' participation and for their success in achieving targets.

Program	All Students	Gender		Race / Ethnicity					Students with Disabilities	English Language Learners	
		F	M	White	Afr Amer	Hispanic	Asian	Am Indian			
Participation (% of Cohort)	≥ 95	≥ 90	≥ 90	≥ 90	-	≥ 90	-	-	≥ 80	-	-
Participation Points	4.90										
Success (% of Participants)	≥ 92	≥ 90	81	≥ 90	-	81	-	-	≥ 80	-	-
Success Points	9.20										

Percentage of School's Cohort of 2017 Participating in Each CCR Opportunity

Opportunity	All Students	F	M	White	Afr Amer	Hispanic	Asian	Am Indian	Econ Disadv	Students with Disabilities	English Language Learners
Accuplacer	≤ 55	≤ 10	≤ 10	≤ 10	-	≤ 20	-	-	≤ 20	-	-
ACT	≥ 85	≥ 90	79	84	-	≥ 80	-	-	67	-	-
ACT ASPIRE	≤ 55	≤ 10	≤ 10	≤ 10	-	≤ 20	-	-	≤ 20	-	-
Advanced Placement	≤ 5	≤ 10	≤ 10	≤ 10	-	≤ 20	-	-	≤ 20	-	-
Career Technical Education	≥ 41	≥ 42	47	43	-	≥ 42	-	-	42	-	-
Compass	≤ 55	≤ 10	≤ 10	≤ 10	-	≤ 20	-	-	≤ 20	-	-
Dual Credit	35	41	27	34	-	41	-	-	47	-	-
International Baccalaureate	≤ 5	≤ 10	≤ 10	≤ 10	-	≤ 20	-	-	≤ 20	-	-
PLAN	≤ 55	≤ 10	≤ 10	≤ 10	-	≤ 20	-	-	≤ 20	-	-
PSAT	≥ 23	≥ 20	≥ 20	≥ 20	-	≥ 20	-	-	≥ 20	-	-
SAM School Supplemental	≤ 55	≤ 10	≤ 10	≤ 10	-	≤ 20	-	-	≤ 20	-	-
SAT	44	57	26	54	-	25	-	-	39	-	-
SAT Subject Test	≤ 55	≤ 10	≤ 10	≤ 10	-	≤ 20	-	-	≤ 20	-	-

Bonus Points
 Schools can earn points for reducing truancy, promoting extracurricular activities, engaging families, and using technology.

Student and Parent Engagement Truancy Improvement
 Extracurricular Activities Using Technology

Participation
 All enrolled students must take the yearly state tests. If a school tests less than 95% of their students, the school's letter grade is reduced by one grade.

Reading (%)	100
Math (%)	97

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Additional Information

School History
 Student performance over time can show the success of interventions and school reform. Students who score Proficient or Advanced are considered to be performing at grade level.

Indicator	All Students	Gender		Race / Ethnicity					Students with Disabilities	English Language Learners		
		F	M	White	Afr Amer	Hispanic	Asian	Am Indian				
Reading Proficiency	2018 (%)	76	81	68	87	-	59	-	64	71	64	-
	2017 (%)	79	80	79	85	-	67	-	-	73	79	-
	2016 (%)	88	91	79	91	-	81	-	-	80	67	-
Math Proficiency	2018 (%)	35	29	44	41	-	30	-	-	32	≤20	-
	2017 (%)	41	38	48	46	-	32	-	-	21	23	-
	2016 (%)	40	41	40	44	-	30	-	-	30	27	-

Notes
 School grading calculations and procedures are described fully in the School Grading Technical Guide posted on the PED's website at <http://aae.ped.state.nm.us/SchoolGradingLinks/1718/Technical Assistance for Educators/Technical Guide 2018.pdf>. This guide provides definitions and decision rules for each indicator, including growth. In addition, the guide details how the state benchmark of C was established.

For Student Growth, separate procedures are used for the school overall and for the student groups. Therefore, the values for student groups will not sum to the total shown under school overall.

For high schools that do not have members of 4-year, 5-year, or 6-year graduation cohorts, the scale is abbreviated, and letter grades are adjusted to account for the school's remaining non-cohort indicators.

A dash is used to protect student confidentiality as required by state and federal law when there are fewer than 10 students in a group.

Schools that administered tests by computer received bonus points based on the number of students participating.

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GLOBAL GOODIES

An intercontinental spice feels right at home in New Mexico

By Alicia Inez Guzmán

I moved back to New Mexico from Rochester,

New York, in 2015 to finish my dissertation in my home state. After all, I was writing about New Mexico and its histories of land use, and it only felt right that I conclude the undertaking surrounded by the place that occupied me for so long. When I finally finished it and was ready for my defense, I bought a ticket back to the East Coast. My mom, a *norteña* whose roots are in Truchas, made me a batch of biscochitos for my trip. I packed them in my carry-on, hoping that I wouldn't get flagged (I was once stopped for having a bag of dried red chile), or worse, that the cookies would crumble en route. Fortune smiled on me that day and they made it mostly intact, save for a few hapless fragments. When I opened the tin at my defense, the scent of anís (anise) and cinnamon wafted out. Before the session even began, everyone had at least one, if not more. Needless to say, I passed and, one month later, received my Ph.D.

Three years down the road, we still joke at home that the biscochitos were the reason. Never mind the seven years I spent researching and writing. It was the cookie. But it wasn't just any old version. It was, specifically, my mom's version, one that she inherited and adapted from her mom.

We still have the yellowed index card with the original biscochito recipe written in my grandmother's handwriting, a filigree-like script that begins on one side and carries onto the next. My mom describes that recipe as "older than dirt." It may have been the same one my great-grandmother and her sister used, but no one knows for sure. All my mom can say is that she remembers them baking biscochitos all those years ago in a wood stove. Even though my mom pulls that aged index card out as a guide every time she begins the baking process, she has, over time, made two key changes: She uses brandy (instead of milk, water or lemon juice) and quadruples the amount of anís by adding a combination of crushed seeds and anís extract to the dough. Indeed, there is an understanding in our household: a biscochito is a vessel for anís, and that flavor should hold pride of place.

While there is a belief that northern New Mexico has remained

largely isolated from the so-called outside, our food culture tells a different story, and the biscochito is the perfect study. In fact, anís, the spice we prize above all in our family's biscochitos, tells of long histories of trade and intercultural exchange across the New and Old Worlds. Anís, native to the Levant, or the eastern Mediterranean, made its way into ancient Greece and eventually Rome by the fourth century B.C.E. Even Pliny wrote a couple of lines about the spice's popularity in his own era.

Three centuries ago, anís arrived in the Americas with Spanish missionaries as a cultivated herb. It eventually naturalized in the arid climates of northern Mexico and Baja California and began growing wild, much as it had done in deserts a world away.

Our biscochitos are indebted to a well-known Spanish Christmas cookie called mantecados, named so because of their rich, buttery flavor. And like their New World progeny, mantecados also contain anís. But even those are a riff on earlier Berber, Phoenician and Arab recipes that filtered into the Iberian Peninsula. In my family, we don't necessarily think about how anís has traveled across oceans and time into our own baked goods, but anís connects much of the world in cookies with similar taste profiles, whether they be the biscottis of Italy, the bredeles of Alsace Lorraine, or the Peruvian rosquitas de manteca. Our Pueblo neighbors have partaken in and adapted biscochitos, too, into thicker, cake-like confections. Biscochitos, while a prized tradition in New Mexico (they are even the state's official cookie), are a cookie of the world.

My mom's version is thin — "sandy" as she likes to describe them — mostly because the texture is so fine that hers tend to dissolve in your mouth, leaving a warm anís aftertaste. She first whips the lard, sugar, brandy and crushed anís together with a hand mixer and separately mixes the eggs and anís extract. Then all the wet ingredients come together and are added to the dry ingredients. The trick in getting the right texture, my mom tells me, is in mixing the dough by hand. Their warmth, the *viejitas* would say, is transferred into the dough, helping to melt the lard (or vegetable shortening) into the mixture. This takes a bit of strength since the dough is dense, but the added benefit is that your hands get moisturized in the process of the





kneading. Once rolled out and cut into scalloped rounds, stars and diamonds, we dust the cookies in a mixture of cinnamon and sugar. No one measures, because we have a way of eyeballing the combination based on color. My mom, who rolls old school, doesn't even set a timer once the cookies sheets go into the oven. Her nose tells her when they are ready. The first ones out of the oven are always the most satisfying.

I hate to admit this, but when I was growing up I didn't really like biscochitos. As I've grown older and traveled across the Americas and Europe, I

have developed a deep appreciation for them. The flavor, to me, is beautiful and complex, yet the cookie seems so simple. I now know that the secret lies in the anís, the age-old spice that makes our version of them especially rich.

And while biscochitos are mostly only available during the holidays, endlessly multiplying at every local bakery and restaurant, in our household we make them for all occasions, including dissertation defenses. When I had arrived at my own defense in early April, fighting off a cold, I felt like I was taking a tiny piece of New Mexico

with me. In a way, the biscochitos I brought to the table that morning encapsulated the theme of the writing I had done about the complex histories of exchange that came with colonization. Who knew that they could be such ciphers? Still, when I eat them, I do so without much analysis. In the end, I am convinced my mom's recipe is the best.

Alicia Inez Guzmán, Tumbleweeds' assistant editor, is a writer and editor from Truchas. She holds a Ph.D. in Visual and Cultural Studies from the University of Rochester, NY.



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Traditions Reborn

A mother's first child elicits a reexamination of old family rituals

By Lisa Moore

I am a child of the 80s. Growing up in the suburbs

of Pittsburgh, my siblings and I drew with chalk on the sidewalks, played tag and rode bikes on our dead-end street until the fireflies came out in the evening. We waited for the school bus under the large pine tree at the top of the hill and carried brown-bag lunches with sandwiches and apples (never Fruit Roll-Ups!).

Easter was chocolate eggs and the scent of lilies at church. Halloween was crunching leaves, homemade costumes and plastic jack-o-lantern baskets for trick-or-treating. Thanksgiving was cousin chaos and a turkey cooking in the oven all day; it was grandmothers racing to see who got to the dishes first after dinner. Christmas was new plaid pajamas (the one and only gift we could open

on Christmas Eve), and the exact number of presents for all siblings. New Year's was a fictitious holiday, really, since we were never awake at midnight.

In the decades since I left home, I've had led a more or less single lifestyle. Until recently. In June, at the age of 39, I gave birth to my first child, Rosie. As I spend hour upon hour and day after day with my daughter, so many things from my own childhood come back to me, just sort of bubbling up as we move through our time together. They are not only thoughts and memories, but also sensations, feelings and even actions that surface without my intention. They are rhymes, forms of play and ways of being that I have resumed unconsciously within the context of being a mother.



Courtesy photos

I find myself singing the songs my mother sung to me, and remembering the impromptu games my sister and I used to play with our father that became our “thing.” We’d pretend we were little birds as we tucked behind my father’s bent legs while he lay on his side on the couch watching football.

I find myself talking to Rosie in ways that only my grandfather spoke to me, thinking: “That was Pap-Pap!” I’ll hear myself say, “She’s such a doll-baby,” which is a term that I have only ever heard my grandmother use. I’ll begin to sing children’s songs that surface in my memory, which I have to piece together as I sing aloud. Often I have to sing each line several times before the next line comes back to me, but they are there nonetheless!

Re-entering family life now from such a different vantage point, after such a long time away from my own childhood in Pittsburgh, I am struck by the nuances of tradition that are innately infused in our daily interactions. It’s as if they were waiting in dormancy to be passed down to the next generation.

It’s such an incredible thing to witness.

Settling into our new roles as parents, my husband and I now see ourselves and our daughter within the context of all the families that have come before us, all the families around the world

at this time, as well as all the families to come. It’s both humbling and mind-blowing.

The beauty is that a Saturday morning pancake breakfast, hectic as it might be, takes on so much meaning. Within this context, every moment of family life is a sacred part of our shared heritage.

Where I had jumped on the bandwagon of believing that American consumer society was devoid of tradition or culture, over time I began to see the beauty in *all* ways of living, including the ones I had

deemed lesser because of their familiarity. I have since come to believe that human life is fundamentally steeped in tradition.

Perhaps I’ve been too quick to judge my own upbringing. Perhaps I don’t have to grasp at ways of making my life rich and meaningful. Maybe I just need to root down into myself and uncover the traditions that are already a part of me, my daily interactions. Tradition in this sense is interwoven in life, and this is what we will pass down to our daughter, in large, intentional ways and tiny, spontaneous, effortless ways.

Rosie’s birth has given me an entrance into this deeper sense of tradition. She has given me a sense of belonging that I wouldn’t have said was missing in my life, but which sure feels wonderful now that I have it. I would go as far as to say that I now feel human in a new way, strange as that may sound, part of a tradition of togetherness and devotion. It is a gift my daughter has given me, which will become her gift to share in the future. It is the true essence and purpose of tradition: the irreducible unity of humanity.



The nuances of Lisa Moore’s family traditions seemed to be waiting in dormancy until the birth of her daughter, Rosie, in July.

.....
A resident of Santa Fe, Lisa Moore is the author of the award-winning book, *Grace Leads, I Follow*, *Poems of Trauma and Transformation*, as well as a choral vocalist and adaptive yoga teacher.

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The Secret Ingredient

No one makes biscochitos quite like
Grandma Celia

By Jocelyn Salaz

My family's Christmas Baking Day grew out of another event: the annual *Rosario de Nochebuena* (Christmas Eve Rosary) at my maternal grandparents' house in the Cubita barrio of Cuba, New Mexico.

From the time I was very young and into my early adulthood, we would arrive to a noisy throng of aunts, uncles and cousins declaring "Mis Chrismes!" My curious eyes and eager taste buds anticipated the kitchen table featuring mysterious mounds of goodies hidden beneath white dishtowels.

After hugs and perhaps introductions to the newest members of the family, a hush would fall over the room. As the flames of the five large wooden luminarias began to glow outside, my father's voice rang out with the first recitations of the rosary as he read from a small book of old prayers. In the solemn silence following the last "amen," lines of relatives on their knees would form before my grandfather Telesfor and grandmother Celia to receive their *bendición*.

As the lines dwindled, whispering turned into a low hum until finally the food was uncovered, revealing chips and dips, festive orange slices floating in a large crystal punch bowl of Kool-Aid, ribbon candy and, most importantly, my grandmother's seasonal treats: biscochitos, pastelitos and chile rellenos.

I don't remember how old I was when my mother, Teresita, began our annual Christmas Baking Day, but I do remember the wonder of the sweet aroma of vanilla filling the air and my anticipation for the first batch of yummy Christmas-shaped cookies to come out of the oven. My mother used a sugar cookie recipe from the red-and-white checkered binder of her *Better Homes and Gardens* cookbook (which even then was falling apart).

For years we had only five cookie cutter shapes — Santa Claus, a Christmas tree, snowman, bell and star — but endless possibilities for decorating. My twin sister, Jenny, and I had the patience from a very young age to decorate each cookie slightly differently. We quickly learned color theory from mixing drops of food coloring into different bowls of frosting. Pastel flower sprinkles made perfect puff balls at the end of Santa's hat, patterned scarves for snowmen, and tiny stars that decorated the night sky of the manger scenes that covered the large surface of star-shaped cookies. Tiny, multicolored candies were used for faces, dark purple eyes, carrot noses for snowmen, and Santa's rosy button nose. We always selected a few of the most beautifully decorated cookies to lay beside my grandmother's biscochitos on Christmas Eve.

My mother never tried to emulate my grandma Celia's biscochitos. Grandma didn't measure ingredients. Slim, wrinkled hands would haphazardly toss ingredients into a large bowl and out would come a unique, wonderful taste that's never been replicated. My mother sticks with *Better Homes and Gardens'* sugar cookie recipe and my niece, Leticia, knows just how her grandma (my mother) likes them, closer in appearance to biscochitos; as a child, she was in charge of sprinkling the cinnamon and sugar mixture atop the last batches of cookies that went into the oven. No frosting decorations for these ones.

Cut into tiny squares of sweet comfort, Grandma's pastelito (Spanish for tiny pie) recipe is one my mother tried to reconstruct with the help of my aunt after my grandmother passed away in 2001. According to my mother and aunt, Grandma made the crust sweet as a cookie — unlike most pastelitos in the region, which are typically thinly spread out and baked in cookie tins, then sliced into small squares — and was more generous than most with her prune filling. After my

grandmother died, my parents moved into the house in Cubita to care for my grandfather, and it became very important to my mother to bake pastelitos now that she occupied my grandmother's sacred space.

Somewhere along the way, Jenny lost interest in the intricate details of frosted cookies, becoming my mother's apprentice in baking pastelitos. Her role now is to carefully record ingredients and measurements on an index card, making adjustments based on taste and texture. As my mother tends to the simmering prune mixture atop the stove, my sister kneads the masa of the crust. After the thick filling is poured atop one crust and sandwiched beneath the next crust, my sister uses a thin knife to carve the design of a tree that my grandmother used to make on the surface right before she puts it in the oven.

My oldest sister, Judy, was the latest to join baking day. After Grandma died, she realized that she didn't want certain special traditions to fade, especially as she raised children of her own. She and my mother now make chile rellenos, continuing my grandma's quirky recipe.

It's worth mentioning here that the chile rellenos our family makes are unlike the well-known recipe: a pepper stuffed with cheese and coated with egg. The differences are in the process and ingredients. The night before baking day, my mother puts a

roast beef in the crock-pot to cook and soften. The next day, Judy pulls out Grandma's old-fashioned, heavy metal meat grinder from the cabinet under the kitchen sink, trying to remember how she put it together the year before. Inevitably she assembles it incorrectly and the first bunch of ingredients comes out of the wrong end. She laughs, takes it apart and reassembles. My mother thinks there must be some new gadget that works more efficiently, but Judy insists that it *is* technologically advanced, concluding that no other gadget would work as well. She sends all the ingredients through the reassembled meat grinder again: beef, onions, garlic and green chili. As she adds the mixture to a large bowl, she takes a few bites every so often to make sure that there is the right balance of flavors. While Judy forms the meat into small balls, my mother prepares the egg coating; first she beats the egg whites until they stiffen and peak like a merengue, then she adds the yolk. Each relleno is coated in the egg mixture and deep-fried by my mother on the stove. Rellenos may be small, but they are definitely big in flavor.

Last December, I drove to Cuba for Christmas from my apartment in Albuquerque with a heavy heart. Our family suffered an unexpected loss a couple of days before that had left us reeling with sadness. I was also feeling the first symptoms of an oncoming

cold. As I made my way across the landscape, with bags packed for a two-week holiday and work in my art studio in Cuba, the mild nasal congestion of the morning was morphing into a cough, sore throat and achy body. Upon arriving in Cuba, I found my parents nursing similar symptoms.

Baking was out of the question. It was one of those times when all your expectations for the storybook Christmas are dashed. But there were those small rays of hope that quiet, strong love brings to a family in need. My twin sister and her daughter arrived on the planned day of baking dressed in colorful leggings paired with ugly Christmas sweaters and tentative smiles, carrying frosted sugar cookies they had made together the day before. My brother and his wife spent Christmas day with us, and somehow we put together a decent Christmas meal.

Finally, in the early days of January, Judy, the one who suffered the brunt of our loss, announced that she would come to my mother's house the next day to make rellenos. When she and my niece Leticia arrived, I put on my apron, pulled out some snowmen and snowflake cookie cutters and got to work with some winter baking. The tradition continued.

Originally from Cuba, New Mexico, Jocelyn Salaz works as an artist and elementary art teacher in Rio Rancho.

Photos by Jocelyn Salaz



Left: Teresita, the author's mother, carries on Grandma Celia's baking day tradition. Above: Luminarias are lit at the beginning of the annual Rosario de la Nochebuena.

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El ingrediente secreto

Nadie hace bizcochitos como la abuelita Celia

Por Jocelyn Salaz • Traducción por Flor de María Oliva

El día de hornear de Navidad de mi familia vino de otro evento: el rosario anual de Nochebuena en la casa de mis abuelos maternos en el barrio Cubita de Cuba, Nuevo México.

Desde pequeña hasta el principio de mi vida adulta llegábamos para encontrar un bullicioso grupo de tías, tíos y primos que decían: “¡Mis Chrismes!” Mis curiosos ojos y ansiosas papilas gustativas anticipaban la mesa de la cocina con sus misteriosos montones de manjares escondidos debajo de las blancas servilletas de cocina. Después de los abrazos y talvez presentaciones a los nuevos miembros de la familia, se hacía un silencio en el cuarto. Al empezar a resplandecer las llamas de cinco grandes luminarias afuera, la voz de mi padre resonaba con las primeras recitaciones del rosario que leía de un pequeño libro de oraciones antiguas. En el solemne silencio que seguía el último “amén”, filas de parientes arrodillados se iban formando frente a mi abuelo Telesfor y abuela Celia para recibir sus bendiciones.

Al ir desapareciendo las filas, los susurros se convertían en un suave murmullo hasta que finalmente la comida se descubría, dejando ver totopos y salsas, rodajas de naranja flotando en Kool-Aid en una ponchera grande de cristal, listones de caramelo y, lo más importante, los antojitos de la temporada de mi abuela: bizcochitos, pastelitos y chiles rellenos.

No me acuerdo cuántos años tenía cuando mi madre, Teresita, empezó nuestro día de hornear de Navidad anual; pero sí me acuerdo del prodigio del dulce aroma de la vainilla que llenaba el aire y mi anticipación de la primera horneada de deliciosas galletitas

con formas de motivos navideños que salía del horno. Mi madre usaba una receta de galletas de azúcar del libro de cocina con cuadritos rojos y blancos de Better Homes and Gardens, que desde entonces ya se estaba desbaratando. Por años sólo tuvimos cinco moldes de galletas — un Santa Claus, un árbol de Navidad, un muñeco de nieve, una campana y una estrella — pero infinidad de posibilidades para decorar. Desde muy jóvenes, mi hermana gemela, Jenny, y yo teníamos la paciencia para decorar cada galletita ligeramente diferente. Rápidamente aprendimos la teoría del color de mezclar gotas de colorantes de alimentos en diferentes recipientes de glaseado. Gránulos de flores de colores pastel hacían perfectas borlas en la punta del sombrero de Santa, decoraciones de bufandas para los muñecos de nieve y estrellitas que embellecían el cielo en las representaciones del pesebre que cubrían las superficies grandes de

las galletas en forma de estrella. Usábamos dulcitos multicolores para las caras, ojos morado oscuro, narices de zanahoria para los muñecos de nieve y un botón rosa de nariz de Santa. Siempre seleccionábamos unas cuantas de las galletas mejor decoradas para poner al lado de los bizcochitos de mi abuela en Nochebuena.

Mi madre nunca trató de copiar los bizcochitos de la abuelita Celia. Abuelita no medía los ingredientes. Manos arrugadas y delgadas echaban al tanteo los ingredientes en un tazón grande y de allí salía un maravilloso y único sabor que jamás ha sido replicado. Mi madre sigue la receta de las galletas de azúcar de Better Homes and Gardens y mi sobrina, Leticia, sabe cómo le gusta a su abuela (mi madre), más como



La familia de la autora sentada a la mesa después del rosario de Nochebuena.

los bizcochitos en apariencia; de chiquita ella estaba encargada de rociarles la mezcla de canela y azúcar encima antes de hornearlos. Nada de decoraciones glaseadas para estos.

Cortados en diminutos cuadritos de dulce consuelo, mi madre trató de reconstruir con la ayuda de mi tía la receta del pastelito de Abuelita después su muerte en el 2001. De acuerdo con mi madre y tía, Abuelita hacía la masa de la tarta dulce como galleta — al contrario de la mayoría de pastelitos en la región, los cuales son típicamente delgaditos, se hornean en bandejas de galletas y luego se cortan en

cuadros pequeños — y era más generosa que la mayoría con su relleno de ciruelas. Después de que murió mi abuela, mis padres se mudaron a la casa en Cubita para cuidar a mi abuelo y para mi madre se hizo muy importante hornear pastelitos ahora que ella ocupaba el espacio sagrado de mi abuela.

En algún momento, Jenny perdió el interés en los detalles de las galletas decoradas y se convirtió en aprendiz de mi madre para preparar pastelitos. Su papel ahora es llevar en un fichero un récord cuidadoso de los ingredientes y medidas, haciendo ajustes con base en el sabor y la textura. Mientras mi madre atiende el cocimiento a fuego lento de la mezcla de ciruelas en la estufa, mi hermana amasa la masa de la tarta. Después de echar el espeso relleno sobre la primer capa de masa y ponerle la segunda capa encima, mi hermana usa un cuchillo fino para diseñar un árbol en la superficie, como lo acostumbraba mi abuela antes de meterlo en el horno.

Mi hermana mayor, Judy, fue la última en incorporarse al día de hornear. Después de que falleció Abuelita, Judy se dio cuenta de que no quería que ciertas tradiciones especiales desaparecieran, especialmente porque estaba criando a sus propios hijos. Ahora, junto con mi madre, hacen chiles rellenos siguiendo la receta de abuelita. Vale mencionar aquí que los chiles rellenos de nuestra familia no son como los de la conocida receta: un chile relleno con queso y cubierto con huevo. Las diferencias están en el proceso y los ingredientes. La noche antes del día de hornear, mi madre pone carne asada a suavizar en la olla de cocimiento lento. El siguiente día, Judy saca de por debajo del gabinete de la cocina la antigua máquina de moler carne de abuelita y trata de recordar cómo la armó el año anterior. Inevitablemente la arma incorrectamente y la primera mezcla de ingredientes sale por el lado equivocado. Se ríe, la desarma y la vuelve a armar. Mi madre piensa que debe de haber un utensilio nuevo que sea más eficiente, pero Judy insiste con que es tecnológicamente avanzada y termina por decir que ningún otro aparato funcionaría tan bien. Pasa todos los ingredientes por la máquina reensamblada: la carne, cebollas, ajo y chile verde. Pone la mezcla en un tazón grande y la va probando para asegurar que los sabores están balanceados. Mientras Judy hace bolitas de carne con la mezcla, mi madre bate el huevo. Primero bate las claras hasta que parecen merengue y luego agrega la yema. Cada chile relleno es envuelto en huevo y mi madre lo fríe en la estufa. Los rellenos pueden ser pequeños, pero definitivamente de un gran sabor.

El año pasado en diciembre fui de Albuquerque a Cuba con el corazón adolorido. Nuestra familia tuvo una inesperada pérdida unos días antes que nos dejó tambaleantes con tristeza. También me sentía con los primeros síntomas de un resfriado. A lo largo del recorrido, con equipaje para dos semanas de feriado y trabajo en mi estudio de arte en Cuba, la ligera congestión nasal de la mañana se estaba transformando en tos, ardor de garganta y cuerpo adolorido. Al llegar a Cuba, encontré a mis padres con síntomas semejantes. Hornear no sería posible. Fue una de esas ocasiones cuando todas las expectativas para una



La familia reza frente al altar de Navidad, bajo el árbol de Navidad.

Navidad de película se truncan. Sin embargo, había esos rayitos de esperanza que la quietud y el gran amor llevan a una familia necesitada. Mi hermana gemela y su hija llegaron el día planeado para hornear luciendo coloridas medias con feos suéteres navideños, sonrisas tentativas y traían galletas de azúcar glaseadas. Mi hermano y su esposa pasaron el día con nosotros y como pudimos preparamos una comida de Navidad decente. Finalmente, a principios de enero, Judy, la que sufrió

la peor parte de nuestra pérdida, anunció que llegaría a la casa de mi madre el próximo día para hacer rellenos. Cuando llegaron con mi sobrina Leticia, me puse un delantal, saqué los moldes de muñeco y copo de nieve para hacer galletas y puse manos a la obra. La tradición continuó.

Originaria de Cuba, Nuevo México, Jocelyn Salaz trabaja como artista y maestra de arte de primaria en Río Rancho.

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Walking in a Winter Wonderland

Snowshoeing is the season's most accessible sport, for the whole family

By Whitney Spivey

When I tell someone that I prefer snowshoeing

to skiing, I usually get a look that translates to, "What a weirdo." When I tell people I placed seventh at the snowshoe racing world championships in 2016, they look at me a little more respectfully.

Fast-forward more than two years and two kids, though, and my fitness isn't quite good enough to represent the United States again this winter. Instead, I plan to show my girls — 19-month-old identical twins — how to enjoy snowshoeing as much as I do. This doesn't mean teaching them to go fast (that will come later, if they're interested), but rather to simply enjoy being outside in nature during cold, snowy weather.

Why Snowshoe?

Modern snowshoes are light and fast, because they are made with materials that won't weigh you down and won't alter your stride. Snowshoeing is easy to learn — if you can walk, you can snowshoe — and has little risk of injury. It's also affordable; assuming you already own good cold-weather gear, the only expense is purchasing or renting snowshoes. And because snowshoes are the only gear you need, minimal prep is required for any snowshoeing adventure. Just slip them on and go — no helmet, goggles or lift tickets required.

Best of all, you can snowshoe just about anywhere there's decent snow — up mountains, through canyons, in national parks or simply to your neighbor's house for a cup of hot chocolate.

Snowshoe with Babies and Toddlers

My girls aren't old enough to snowshoe themselves, but that's okay. My husband and I will bundle them up in down buntings, hats and gloves; throw them in their Osprey carriers; and hit the trails with our adult snowshoes on. The idea is simply to show the girls that mom and dad like to snowshoe and that snowshoeing lets us explore lovely mountain trails on foot, even in winter conditions.

If the idea of carrying a baby in a backpack and trudging through snow makes you uncomfortable or simply tired, another option is to pull your kids behind you on some type of sled. Tie a rope around your waist that attaches to a pulk (Nordic toboggan), or go a little more upscale with a convertible bike trailer that swaps wheels for skis and is towed using poles attached to a padded hip harness.

Many sporting goods stores, such as REI and Alpine Sports in Santa Fe, sell and rent adult snowshoes. Snowshoes can also often be rented at Nordic centers or ski areas. The Aquatic Center in Los Alamos also rents snowshoes.

Snowshoe with Kids 4 and Older

Folks with kids 4 and up should consider buying kid-sized snowshoes for their little ones. Adjustable bindings mean they'll last for years — not just a season — so the \$50-or-so you'll spend on them will go a long way as your kid continues to grow.

Photo by Brenda Fleming

L.L. Bean, Tubbs and Louis Garneau each make high-quality kids' snowshoes that are easy for little hands to get on and off and easy for little bodies to stay upright in.

Where to Go

Start off by picking a mellow, snow-covered trail. The most popular places around Santa Fe are summer's popular hiking trails, such as the Chamisa or Aspen Vista trails off Hyde Park Road. For an adventure farther afield, head to the Valles Caldera National Preserve (VCNP) in the Jemez Mountains or the Enchanted Forest Cross-Country Ski and Snowshoe Area (EFXC) in Red River. Most Nordic ski areas are also open to snowshoers, although snowshoers should be careful to stay off of cross-country ski tracks.

What to Wear

Dress little snowshoers in clothes they'd normally wear for winter hiking or playing in the snow, but keep in mind that snowshoeing is hard work and causes kids to heat up quickly. Opt for layers that can come off easily. Wool socks will keep little feet warm, and winterized boots will keep feet dry. Gloves or mittens are great for hands; slip a long-lasting hand-warmer inside for extra warmth. Ear bands or hats help retain warmth; hats with brims have the added benefit of sun protection. Sunblock and lip balm also protect skin, and sunglasses shield eyes from bright snow. Trekking poles are optional but can help with balance on tricky terrain.

Remember to Eat and Drink

Snowshoeing burns more calories than normal hiking, so pack a snack for your adventure, and treat yourself to a hot chocolate afterward. If you'll be snowshoeing for a long time, bring along a water bottle in an insulated container, and keep some fluids stashed in the car to rehydrate afterward.

Get Involved and Inspired

If your kid really takes to snowshoeing, there are plenty of local events that you can support as a participant or a spectator. The Santa Fe Snowshoe Classic takes place each January at the Big Tesuque campground and is a good opportunity to test your endurance over about four kilometers of rolling terrain. The Chama Chile Ski Classic over Martin Luther King Jr. weekend is another great event that brings all kinds of winter sports enthusiasts together for races. Also keep an eye on the VCNP and EFXC calendars for more casual snowshoe activities.

Have Fun!

Unlike skiing, snowshoeing allows you to explore a winter wonderland as slowly and methodically as you'd like. Distance and speed don't matter. Just focus on being outside as a family. Look for animal tracks, make silly sounds, and throw snowballs. Take a moment to listen for birds, watch for deer, or let snowflakes fall on your tongue.

We're (hopefully!) in for a lot of snow this winter, so start planning your snowshoeing adventures now!

Whitney Spivey is the author of Goodnight, Los Alamos, a new children's book that takes readers on a bedtime adventure through historic and scenic Los Alamos, New Mexico (and yes, it mentions snowshoeing!). Email goodnightlosalamos@gmail.com for details.



Photo by Kelly Parker



Photo by Brenda Fleming

Left page: Young snowshoers make tracks on the Pajarito Nordic Ski Trails in Los Alamos. Its designated snowshoe routes are great for family outings.

This page left: Is snowshoeing more fun with painted faces? Daphne and Donna Fleming think so. This page right: The author and her husband, Mike Cleveland, carry their twin daughters during a snowshoe adventure in Colorado.

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LIGHT DAWNS ON a WEARY WORLD

Helping our children (and ourselves) through a season of darkness

By Rev. Talitha Arnold

An old Jewish proverb begins with a rabbi asking

his students: “How do we know when the night is over and the day has arrived?” The students, the proverb continues, ponder the rabbi’s question with questions of their own. When will that day arrive? When will the dawn bring light?

These are our questions too as the winter nights grow longer and the days shorter. Faced with the encroaching darkness of this season, we create rituals of light. Whether they are the fires of the winter solstice or the candles on the Advent wreath, the lights of the Hanukkah menorah or the farolitos of northern New Mexico, these rituals keep hope alive in dark times. In the dead of winter, they help us remember that light will come again.

Whether it’s winter or not, I think we need such reminders now more than ever. In our country and around the world, we seem to be in a season of prolonged darkness. The shadows of violence, war and poverty stretch around the globe, and the very planet itself is threatened by climate change. The political and cultural rhetoric of our time only deepens the darkness and divisiveness among us. How do we — and our children — find our way through this shadowed time?

A first step, I believe, is to recognize we still have choices. We can stare at the shadows and be overcome by our fear of the darkness, or in the words of the African-American spiritual, we can let our “little light shine, let it shine, let it shine.” And we can help our children learn to choose the same.

A second step is to recognize that choosing the light over the darkness is not easy. It takes deep-rooted hope and enormous courage. The enslaved African-Americans who first sang “This Little Light of Mine” certainly knew that. It

would have been far easier to curse the darkness and give up. They didn’t. Nor did their great-great-grandchildren as they walked through gauntlets of police dogs during the Civil Rights marches. Knocked down by water cannons, still they rose, still singing, “This little light of mine, I’m going to let it shine.” We continue to see this courage in the leaders of the Black Lives Matter movement and the protesters at Standing Rock Sioux Reservation.

But how do we cultivate such courage and hope? How do we keep the light shining through the darkness, and how do we help our children do the same?

One way is to share the stories of those who had the courage to bear the light in other times of darkness. These stories might come from our faith communities.

In my tradition, Christianity, the Christmas story is about people whose courage gave birth to the light in the darkness: Mary’s courage to bring a child into the world under the shadow of the Roman Empire; Joseph’s courage to love that child as though it were his own flesh and blood, and to protect both the child and his mother from the maniacal King Herod. Other faiths have other stories of courage and triumph.

Oftentimes, the “light-bearers of courage” are everyday people, including children and youth. As a middle-school student at the end of the Civil Rights movement, I watched TV news stories of kids my own age standing up to hatred and violence, sometimes by marching, sometimes simply by going to school. I couldn’t imagine the courage it took, but I know they gave me courage to stand up for what was right, to offer my own light in the negativity of my world.

In our current time, there are a lot of “light-bearers” — many of whom are no older than our own children. Malala, the young Pakistani girl who was



shot by the Taliban on her way home from school, has become an advocate for girls' education all around the world. The students of Stoneman Douglas High School are leading the movement to end gun violence. Your children probably know many other such stories.

Let your children know the "light-bearers" in your life. Tell them of the people who have inspired you. Whether their names are inscribed in the history books or only on your heart, share the stories of the people whose courage gives you courage and whose light continues to shine through your life and in this world.

Listen to your children's stories. Who has helped them be strong? At the dinner table, or when you're tucking them into bed, ask who they saw as a "light-bearer" that day.

Perhaps someone on the playground stood up for another child. Maybe a teacher offered special help. Identifying those who let their "little light shine" strengthens our light. Remind your children (and yourself) that lots of "little lights" together can overcome a lot of darkness.

Share the "light-stories" Creation tells. Go outdoors with your kids at night to look at the moon and millions of stars. See the lights that have traveled thousands of years through the depths of space to reach us. Wonder and beauty help push back the tunnel vision that come with fear. Millions of stars

Let us Light candles this season:
 candles of joy despite all sadness,
 candles of hope where despair keeps watch,
 candles of courage for fears ever present,
 candles of peace for tempest-tossed days,
 candles of grace to ease heavy burdens,
 candles of love to inspire all my living,
 candles that will burn all the year long.

- Howard Thurman, African-American theologian and civil rights leader

and hundreds of light-years can put life, and our current darkness, into perspective.

Finally, trust in the dawn. As New England musician Gordon Bok sings, "The world is always turning toward the morning."

But when *does* the morning come? The rabbi's students were eager to respond to the question. One answered: "Rabbi, it's when you can see a house in the distance and determine if that's your house or your neighbor's."

Another responded: "Night is over and day arrives when you can see an animal in the field and determine if it belongs to you or to your neighbor."


A third offered: "It's when you can see a flower in the garden and distinguish its color."

"No, no, no," thundered the rabbi. "Why must you see only in separations, only in distinctions, only in disjunctions? No. Night is over and day arrives

when you look into the face of the person beside you and you can see that she is your sister, he is your brother, that you belong to each other, that you are one. Then, and only then, will you know that night has ended and day has arrived."

May that light shine through our lives in this season and all seasons.

Rev. Talitha Arnold has been the Senior Minister for the United Church of Santa Fe since 1987.



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HEALING HORSES

Nestled just beyond the Santa Fe Airport, behind the HIPICO

Santa Fe equestrian event center, you will find a stable of horses whose lives are dedicated to helping children and adults with special needs at the New Mexico Center for Therapeutic Riding (NMCTR).

NMCTR's herd of eight active and two retired therapy horses each have a different body shape, size and previous discipline to provide all participants the best opportunity to accomplish their physical and emotional goals. The special bond created between the horse and the rider makes these accomplishments possible.

NMCTR is a member of the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship, or PATH International, the governing body for equine-related therapies and activities. Since its founding in 2006, it has provided services to over 150 adults and children through several programs:

The **Therapeutic Horseback Riding Program** provides instruction in riding and horsemanship with the goal of expanding the cognitive, physical, emotional and social skills and well-being of individuals with special needs, including Down Syndrome, traumatic brain injury, multiple sclerosis, autism, developmental delays, cerebral palsy, Parkinson's and others. Students of all ages and abilities learn to ride as independently as possible and gain self-confidence through individual lessons taught by a PATH International Certified Instructor.

The **School Outreach Program** provides therapeutic riding lessons for students from participating Santa Fe schools: Nino Otero Community School, Aspen Community Magnet School, El Dorado Community School, and New Mexico School for the Deaf. Instructors coordinate with the teachers to develop a lesson plan each week that incorporates classroom learning. This partnership is funded by a Rotary Club of Santa Fe Pancakes on the Plaza grant.

The **Self-Mastery Program** provides an equine-assisted learning program for at-risk youth experiencing PTSD, substance abuse, suicidal thoughts or teen pregnancy. The NMCTR instructor and a certified youth counselor practice a curriculum of un-mounted activities with horses, to help the student practice emotional self-regulation, energy management and physical awareness. This program is funded by the Santa Fe Children and Youth Commission. The recently-developed Self-Mastery Program hopes to partner with community agencies such as The Sky Center of the New Mexico Suicide Prevention Project, Youth Shelters & Family Services, the Santa Fe Juvenile Probation & Probation Office, and foster care agencies.

The **High School Intern Program** accepts students from The Masters Program Early College Charter High School and Santa Fe Prep, who offer services in the School Outreach Program, horse care, fundraising, barn maintenance, and horse exercising and training. Each teen is given class credits based on their attendance and participation.

The benefits of therapeutic riding are becoming widely recognized. Teachers, parents and medical professionals find that it enhances physical development, emotional and social growth, cognitive stimulation and life skills. Physically, it enhances fine and gross motor skills, improves balance and builds muscle strength. Emotionally, it increases self-discipline, trust and patience, and provides opportunities to overcome fear. Cognitively, it promotes problem-solving skills, strengthens task-sequencing ability, and enhances verbal and non-verbal communication.

How can you participate? If you would like your dependent with special needs to enroll in a NMCTR program, or you would like to enroll yourself, the first step is to fill out a rider application packet. This packet requests information about the prospective participant, including a rider goal sheet, medical history, emergency contacts and release forms.

How can you help? Volunteers are always welcome to help instructors work with participants and to care for the horses. Donations of funds, goods and services keep the program going and expanding. Sponsor a horse to fund expenses and allow for the provision of quality care.

To get involved, please contact the New Mexico Center for Therapeutic Riding, at 471-2000, or go to www.nmctr.org.

— Ashley Armijo is the director of the New Mexico Center for Therapeutic Riding.

ART & LEADERSHIP PROGRAM CELEBRATES 20 YEARS

As 2018 ends, the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum's education team reflects on a milestone — the 20th anniversary of its flagship Art & Leadership Program.

The Art & Leadership Program for Girls, established in 1998, and the Program for Boys, founded in 2002, together comprise a summer program that serves as many as 175 Santa Fe County youth annually. For two decades, the team has nurtured promising students, ages 10 to 14, who have developed their creative talents and grown into community leaders.

Participants cultivate diverse art and performance skills as they engage in activities that develop literacy, problem solving, critical thinking and emotional resilience. With the guidance of arts education professionals, as well as high school and college interns, students learn life skills and set goals in a safe, supportive environment. Many of the interns are also alumni.

One of this year's college interns, Diego Romero, had been a student in the program. "The Art and Leadership Program taught me that I have the capacity to lead, not just in life as a student, but in life as an adult as well," he said. "The program is incredibly important, as its main function is to teach students how to become well-rounded individuals. It does so through art."

Students are selected not from an open enrollment but by nomination from Santa Fe Public Schools art teachers. Art teachers at every Santa Fe Public School elementary school receive a nomination packet in January to submit six students from their school's fifth or sixth grade. Teachers look for students who have a deep passion for the arts, and who they think would benefit from interacting with like-minded peers. They return their nomination forms in March, and the

O'Keeffe education team notifies the students shortly after. The program accepts all nominated children who are able to participate. To minimize barriers for participation, it is free to all students.

Mary Olson, art teacher at Wood Gormley Elementary School, has nominated students for over a decade. "This program changes lives, and I have seen this each year," she said. "Many participants have gone on to be leaders in high school and college. The experience builds the confidence to trust in oneself and to uncover the creative and expressive aspects of one's personality and abilities."

Each day begins with prompts that range from fun and silly to serious and introspective. Afterwards, interns lead movement activities, such as theater games or yoga. Afternoons consist of discussions of issues such as setting boundaries, peer pressure and confidence. The daily projects take many forms: art lessons, field trips, visits to the O'Keeffe Museum, and team challenges that help build trust and strong relationships. Visiting artists also facilitate hands-on projects and provide career insights. The summer culminates in an exhibition at the O'Keeffe Museum Annex, in which students share their artwork with their families and the community.

Are you an alumna or alumnus of the Art and Leadership Program? The Georgia O'Keeffe Museum would love to hear from you! Get in touch at contact@okeeffemuseum.org.

— Shannon Bay, Education Program Manager of the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum.



SANTA FE YMCA EXPANDS PROGRAMS, AGES SERVED

The Santa Fe Family YMCA opened its newest facility on Oct. 15, representing "a major step in increasing our services to the community," said Michele Lowrance, the YMCA's associate executive director.

The Santa Fe YMCA began serving Santa Fe in 1988, with after-school programs at several public elementary schools. In 2006, it opened its Early Childhood Learning Center at 6600 Valentine Way, serving up to 58 children, ages 3 to 5.

The newly-constructed facility at 6537 Airport Road allows the Y to greatly expand the number and ages of children it serves. Through the two sites, it now expects to serve over 150 children with a variety of programs, and to introduce several traditional YMCA teen and adult programs that it was unable to offer previously.

The new 6,200 square-foot site, designed by the architecture and design firm of Dekker/Perich/Sabatini, includes an early childhood learning center with two classrooms capable of serving up to 48 children.

A multipurpose room will provide the community with a variety of YMCA programs for all ages, including on-site after-school programs, summer day camps and out-of-school-time day camp for up to 45 children ages 6 to 13. A variety of activities will be provided during the day for adults, including the Silver Sneakers fitness program for seniors. The multipurpose room and a conference room sponsored by Los Alamos National Bank may be reserved for private functions in the evening and on weekends whenever YMCA programs are not being offered.

Outdoors, the facility is surrounded by a 3400-square-foot playground and a half-court basketball court.

For more information, including arranging a visit, enrolling your child, or reserving the multipurpose room or conference room, please call (505) 424-8077.

— Randy Lowrance, Chief Volunteer Officer of the Santa Fe Family YMCA.

WHO'S OUR NEXT COVER KID?

Tumbleweeds is always looking for cover models! If you live in northern New Mexico and want us to consider your kid or kids for a cover, email us!

info@sftumbleweeds.com

The advertisement features a photograph of a young girl with long blonde hair smiling and holding a young boy who is laughing. The background is a textured, grey surface. The text is overlaid on a blue and green background.

Winter Program Directory

After-School Programs & Winter Break Camps

AFTER-SCHOOL TENNIS

After-school tennis programs are now underway at the Santa Fe Tennis and Swim Club. Program offers one, two and three-day a week group lessons for ages 6 and up, and individual lessons. Located at our beautiful facility in the Museum Hill neighborhood, at 1755 Camino Corrales. Call (505) 988-4100, email club@santafetennis.net, or visit www.santafetennis.net for more information.

BELISAMA IRISH DANCE

Belisama Irish Dance offers classes for the whole family to enjoy. Performance opportunities in the community, local competition and fun choreography classes. Ages 5 and up. Santa Fe and Los Alamos locations. Call Adrienne Bellis, director, (505) 670-2152, or go to www.belisamadance.com.

DANCE STATION KIDS' CLASSES

Kids partner dance class. Ballroom, Latin and swing, for children ages 6 to 10. Ongoing, Sundays, 10:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., at Dance Station, 947 W. Alameda in New Solana Shopping Center. \$12 drop-in, or \$40 for the month. Give your child the gift of dance! Call (505) 989-9788, or email: info@dancestationusa.com.

DRAGONFLY ART STUDIO

Our fine art classes, for ages 5 to 16, stimulate kids' imagination and creativity while they have fun experimenting with a range of art mediums. After-school art classes meet once a week from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. and end with a student art show. We also offer School Closure Art Days, Art Birthday Parties, adult and kid sewing and printmaking workshops, and holiday workshops where kids can create unique, handmade gifts. For details, please visit dragonflyartsf.com or call Oceanna at (505) 670-5019.

DYSLEXIA THERAPY

Dyslexia therapy can help you or your child improve reading, spelling and composition. Orton-Gillingham-based program really works! Internationally-certified therapist with years of experience. Call Barbara Calaway, (512) 699-7965, or email barbaracalaway@gmail.com.

ETIQUETTE SCHOOL OF SANTA FE

Tis' the season to polish the silver and polish the dining skills. Your young ones will impress with their manners at the table this holiday. This fun and engaging class includes a three-course meal and discussion about holiday traditions, conversation starters, expressing gratitude and more. Come dressed in your finest party wear. Parents are welcome to join. Nov. 18 or Dec. 9 at 3:30 p.m. for age 7 through 17. \$60 plus tax. RSVP (505) 988-2070, visit etiquettesantafe.com, or our Facebook page.

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Don't wait! Your child can be caught up before teacher

conferences in October. Bob's mom says, "You have nothing to lose and your child has everything to gain with Floy's No-Risk Guarantee." Stop reading and homework struggles now with her unique reading improvement course. See 2017 Santa Fe Students Record Breaking Improvement Results, check out the Poor Readers Symptoms List and What Parents Say. No more endless tutoring! Go to www.FloyGregg.com and schedule your complimentary parent consultation.

NEW MEXICO FENCING

New Mexico Fencing Foundation is Santa Fe's only full-time facility dedicated to fencing. The club offers a relaxed, supportive environment that builds the skills that make a successful youth fencer — whether training to be a recreational athlete or an international competitor. Classes and private coaching are available for youth and teen fencers. Equipment is provided for beginning classes. 1306 Clark Road, Santa Fe. For more information, contact nmfencing@gmail.com, or register at www.nmfencing.org.

PANDEMONIUM PRODUCTIONS' MUSICAL THEATER CAMP

Musical theater program for ages 7 to 17, Jan. 16 through May 12, 2019 for "Shrek: The Musical," full of all-new songs, great dancing and breathtaking scenery. Students study acting, singing and dancing and perform at the James A. Little Theater. Rehearsals at El Museo de Cultural, Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuition is \$695 if paid in advance, \$710 paid throughout the six-week program. \$100 tuition deposit. Call (505) 920-0704 or visit www.pandemoniumprod.org.

RIO RAPIDS NORTHERN SOCCER CLUB

Get in the game and play soccer this spring with Santa Fe's largest soccer league! Practices begin March 25 and the eight-week season starts April 6. Development and Academy leagues for ages 3 (2015) to 14 (2004). Practices in Eldorado and Santa Fe and games are at The Downs at Santa Fe. Visit northernsc.org or call (505) 982-0878.

SANTA FE CLIMBING CENTER

After-school classes for ages 5 to 12 emphasize fun and games while introducing your child to climbing with a qualified instructor. Monday and Wednesday 3:30 to 5 p.m., ages 5 to 10. Tuesday 3:30 to 5 p.m., ages 9 to 12. Thursday 3:30 to 5 p.m., ages 7 to 10. Saturday 10 to 11:30 a.m., ages 5 to 12. Recreational Team: Wednesday and Friday 4 to 6 p.m. Competitive Team: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. 3008 Cielo Court, Santa Fe. Call (505) 986-8944 or visit www.climbsantafe.com.

SANTA FE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM WINTER BREAK CAMPS

Week-Long Art Camp, "Return of the Art Bots," for ages 6 to 12, Dec. 17 to 21, \$265/week. One-Day STEAM Camps, ages 6 to 12, Dec. 26, 27, 28, Jan. 2, 3, 4, \$60/day. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, (505) 989-8359.

SANTA FE FAMILY YMCA

After-school programs provide a fun, safe learning environment, designed to capture the attention of every child. Children can build on literacy, math, science, art, health and wellness, and social skills. YMCA staff will help your

child with homework, encourage them to be active and give them the tools to build lasting friendships. We provide ample opportunities for your child to discover, grow and flourish. Out-of-School Winter Day Camp, Dec. 17 to 21 (\$130) and Dec. 26 to 28 (\$78). Call (505) 595-1515 or visit www.ymcacnm.org.

SANTA FE YOUTH SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION

Music instruction and performance opportunities for youth in orchestra, mariachi and jazz. The Elementary Strings program offers after-school viola, violin and cello instruction at various schools throughout the city. Auditions for Orchestra, Mariachi and Jazz in January, May and August. For details call (505) 672-5565 x 202, email janet@sfsya.org, or visit www.sfsya.org.

SKATEBOARD SCHOOL

Indoor ramps for year-round fun! After-school and home school programs are now underway. Sessions and lessons for all abilities, ages 3 and up. Skateboards and gear provided to get started, with a complete shop specializing in safety gear. Curriculum includes skateboard homework and exploring the history of skateboarding using our museum and video library. Birthdays, parents' nights out and monthly events. 825 Early Street #H. For more information, call (505) 474-0074, or visit www.skateboardsafety.com.

THE SCHOOL OF ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

Learn in a supportive environment that fosters confidence, technique and artistry. Classes for children ages 3 and up in creative dance, ballet, jazz, folklórico, modern and more. Performance opportunities. Call (505) 983-5591. Enroll online at www.aspensantafeballet.com.

UNITED WAY OF SANTA FE COUNTY PARENTING CLASSES

Free parenting workshops and classes, including the Triple P Positive Parenting Program. Workshops and classes provide valuable information and invaluable opportunities for parents and children to meet and interact with other families. For more information, email familysupport@uwsfc.org or call (505) 819-5484.

WALDORF PARENT AND TOT CLASSES

Weekly classes conducted by early childhood specialist Patty Hatch delight children and caregivers alike. Mindful observation practices deepen the caregiver's intuitive understanding of their child's needs and abilities and cultivate a joyful ease in parenting. Two sessions of Morning Glory Play Garden, for toddlers 12 to 30 months, with their grown-up parents and caregivers. Classes begin at the end of February. Santa Fe Waldorf School, 26 Puesta del Sol, (505) 983-9727. For more information: www.santafewaldorf.org/parents-and-tots/.

WISE FOOL NEW MEXICO WINTER CIRCUS CAMP

Your child will love the marvelous variety of circus arts training, positive physical expression, trust and team-building as they learn to walk on stilts, clown, juggle, fly on the trapeze and fabrics, and more! For students in grades two to six, ages 7 to 13. No experience necessary. Winter Camp runs Dec. 17 to 21, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., with before and after-care options. \$260. Tuition assistance available. Classes take place at the Wise Fool Studio, 1131-B Siler Road, Santa Fe, NM 87507, (505) 992-2588.

Get Ready for Spring Break & Summer Camp!

List your program in the Spring Break & Summer Camp and Program Directory in our Spring & Summer Issues!

Questions? Call 984-3171 or info@sftumbleweeds.com

Listings are free for display advertisers and \$60 plus tax for others. Double-Shot Special: List your program in the Spring and Summer issues for just \$100 plus tax.

Submit a description of up to 85 words by email: calendar@sftumbleweeds.com

Or use the easy click-and-send form on our website, www.sftumbleweeds.com.

Deadline for sending directory listings and reserving display ads is February 1 for our Spring 2019 (March, April, May) issue.

Publication date is February 20.

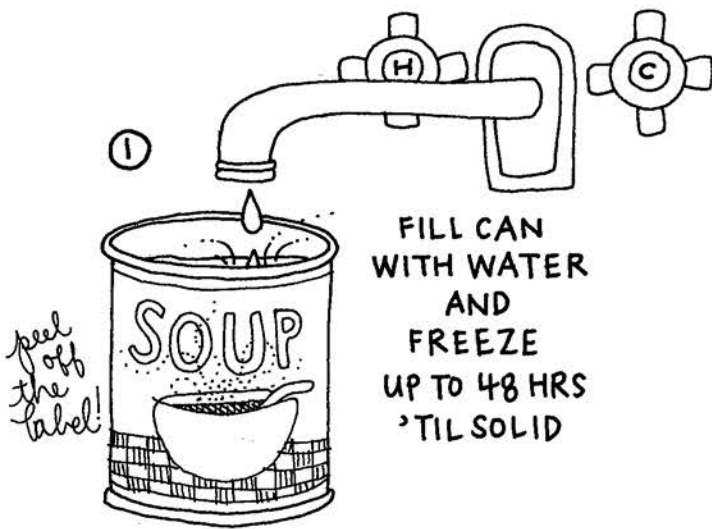


PUNCHED TIN lantern

by Jone Hallmark

YOU WILL NEED:

- a metal can (smooth sides work best)
- a hammer and assorted nails
- paper and pencil or crayons...tape
- water and a towel
- a votive candle



1
FILL CAN
WITH WATER
AND
FREEZE
UP TO 48 HRS
'TIL SOLID

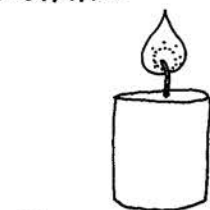
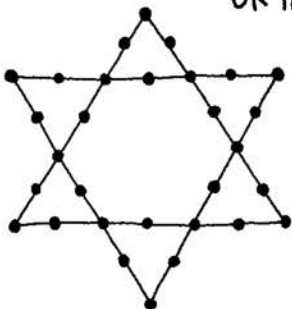


- 2
- MEASURE PAPER TO FIT AROUND YOUR CAN
 - DRAW YOUR DESIGN ON PAPER
 - TAPE THE PAPER TO THE CAN AS A GUIDE WHEN PUNCHING YOUR DESIGN

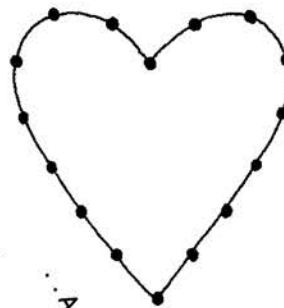
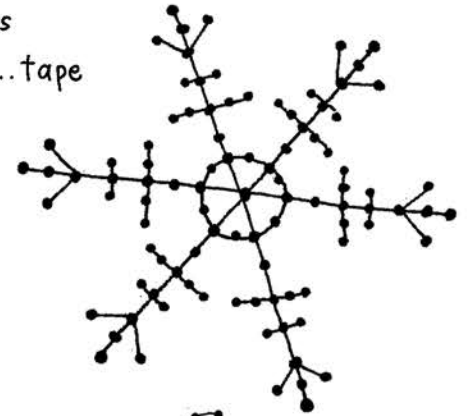


- 3 FOLD A TOWEL TO CUSHION YOUR CAN WHILE YOU PUNCH YOUR DESIGN WITH HAMMER AND NAILS...

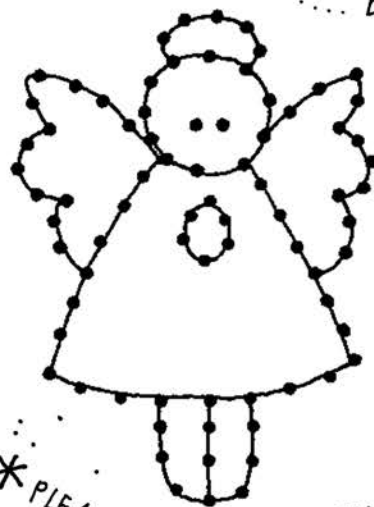
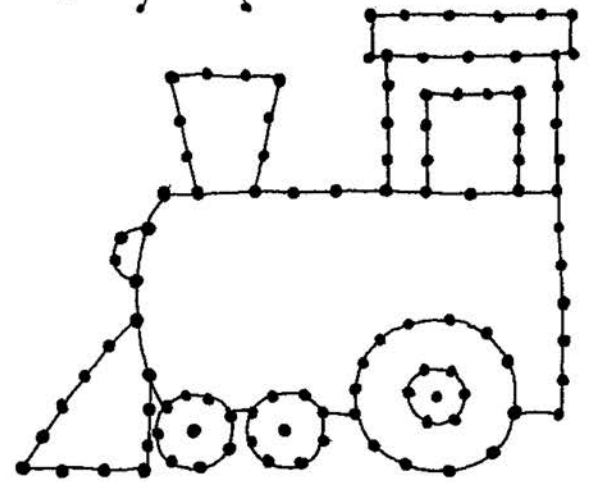
- 4 LET THE ICE MELT OUTSIDE OR IN THE SINK...



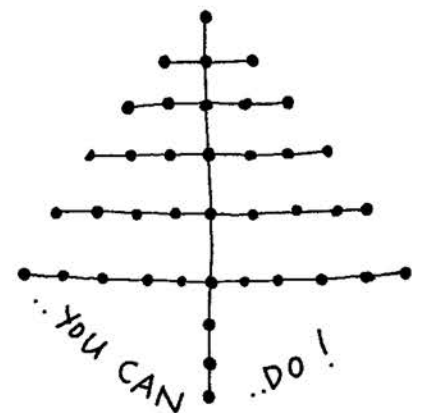
- 5 PLACE A CANDLE INSIDE YOUR LANTERN



...A FEW IDEAS FOR...



...DESIGNS...



...YOU CAN ...DO!

* PLEASE BE VERY CAREFUL WHEN USING SHARP OBJECTS LIKE NAILS AND PUSH PINS... IF YOU GO SLOWLY... YOU WILL REALLY ENJOY WATCHING THE LIGHT SPARKLE THRU YOUR DESIGN...

Winter 2018-2019 Calendar – December



Events are free, or included in the price of museum admission, unless otherwise noted. Remember to check our website, www.sftumbleweeds.com/calendar, for events scheduled after we go to press.

DECEMBER

1 SATURDAY, 10 A.M.-NOON

Model Trains

Members of the Santa Fe Model Railroad Club host activities and do demonstrations with the train sets at the museum. Free with admission. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, (505) 989-8359.

1 SATURDAY, 10 A.M.-3 P.M.

Holiday Faire

Games, crafts, artisan market and performers. Admission and parking are free; tickets for specific events and activities are \$1 each. Santa Fe Waldorf School, 26 Puesta del Sol, (505) 983-9727.

1 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Science Saturdays

Scientists and STEM instructors visit the museum to conduct experiments, explorations and demonstrations. Free with admission. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, (505) 989-8359.

1 SATURDAY, 3-4:30 P.M.

Winter Concert Series: Elementary Strings & Prelude String Orchestra

Santa Fe Youth Symphony Association student performance. Adults \$15; kids 5 and under free. One ticket provides admission to entire winter concert series. James A Little Theater, 1060 Cerrillos Road. (505) 672-5565 ext. 202. www.sfysa.org/tickets.

1 SATURDAY TO 30 SUNDAY 6-9:30 P.M.

River of Lights

Enjoy the magic of millions of twinkling lights and dazzling holiday displays at New Mexico's largest walk-through light show, nightly through Dec. 30 (closed Dec. 24 and 25). Age 13 and over, \$12; ages 3 to 12, \$6; ages 3 and under are free. ABQ BioPark Zoo, 903 Tenth Street SW, Albuquerque, (505) 768-2000

2 SUNDAY, 9 A.M.-5 P.M.

Free Entry at the Museum of Natural History

On the first Sunday of every month, admission is free to all New Mexico residents. Bring an ID or proof of residence. New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science, 1801 Mountain Road NW, Albuquerque, (505) 841-2800.

2 SUNDAY, 10 A.M.-5 P.M.

Free First Sundays

Admission is free on the first Sunday of every month to New Mexico residents with ID to the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, Museum of International Folk Art, New Mexico History Museum and the New Mexico Museum of Art. Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, 710 Camino Lejo; Museum of International Folk Art, 706 Camino Lejo; New Mexico History Museum, 113 Lincoln Avenue; and the New Mexico Museum of Art, 107 West Palace Avenue.

2 SUNDAY, 1 AND 3:30 P.M.

Winter Concert Series: Orchestra Concerts

Performance by top three orchestra ensembles of the Santa Fe Youth Symphony Association. Adults \$15; kids 5 and under free. One ticket provides admission to entire winter concert series. James A Little Theater, 1060 Cerrillos Road. (505) 672-5565 ext. 202. www.sfysa.org/tickets.

2 SUNDAY, 3 P.M. TO 10 MONDAY, 5 P.M.

Chanukah on the Plaza

Public menorah lighting, with latkes, donuts, hot drinks and local entertainment, sponsored by Santa Fe Jewish Center - Chabad. The menorah will be lit at 5 p.m. through Dec. 10 (except 4 p.m. on Friday Dec. 7) with an additional candle each night.

2 SUNDAY, 3:30-4 P.M.

Meet Cornelius

Come say hello to beloved corn snake Cornelius and watch him eat his weekly dinner. Please be aware that Cornelius will not be able to come out when he is shedding or not feeling well. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, (505) 989-8359.

2 SUNDAY, 6-7:30 P.M.

Winter Concert Series: Mariachi

Santa Fe Youth Symphony Association Mariachi Garibaldi and Mariachi Estrella student performance. Adults \$15; kids 5 and under free. One ticket provides admission to entire winter concert series. James A Little Theater, 1060 Cerrillos Road. (505) 672-5565 ext. 202. www.sfysa.org/tickets.

3 MONDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Nature Playtimes

Join local families for fun, hands-on activities, hikes, games and stories in nature. Free. Los Alamos Nature Center, 2600 Canyon Road, Los Alamos, (505) 662-0460.

3 MONDAY, 10:30-11:30 A.M.

Monday Storytimes

Stories, songs and lots of fun. All ages welcome. Bee Hive Books, 328 Montezuma Avenue, (505) 780-8051.

4 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Books, songs and finger games for ages 6 months to 2 years. Main Library, 145 Washington Avenue, (505) 955-6837.

4 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Stories, rhymes and crafts for ages 2 to 5. Oliver La Farge Branch Library, 1730 Llano Street, (505) 955-4863.

4 TUESDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Story Time

A special time for younger children, toddlers to preschool, to experience the joys of books and the library. Vista Grande Public Library, 14 Avenida Torreon, Eldorado, (505) 466-7323.

4 TUESDAY, 4-4:30 P.M.

Bilingual Books and Babies

Books, songs and finger games for ages 6 months to 2 years. Oliver La Farge Branch Library, 1730 Llano Street, (505) 955-4860.

5 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.

Wee Wednesdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum opens an hour early with a special exploration, activities and story time for young children. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, (505) 989-8359 ext.103.

5 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Bilingual Books and Babies

Books, songs and finger games for ages 6 months to 2 years. Main Library, 145 Washington Avenue, (505) 955-6837.

5 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Books, songs and finger games for ages 6 months to 2 years. Oliver La Farge Branch Library, 1730 Llano Street, (505) 955-4863.

5 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Stories, rhymes and crafts for ages 2 to 5. Southside Branch Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, (505) 955-2828.

5 WEDNESDAY, 4-4:30 P.M.

Bilingual Books and Babies

Books, songs and finger games for ages 6 months to 2 years. Southside Branch Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, (505) 955-2828.

5 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-6:45 P.M.

Children's Chess Club

Learn the art of playing chess. Main Library, 145 Washington Avenue, (505) 955-6837.

6 THURSDAY, 10 A.M.-NOON

Seeds and Sprouts

Hands-on gardening and nature craft projects in the Earthworks Garden (weather permitting). Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, (505) 989-8359.

Winter 2018-2019 Calendar – December

6 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.

Books & Babies

Books, songs and finger games for ages 6 months to 2. Southside Branch Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, (505) 955-2828.

6 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Stories, rhymes and crafts for ages 2 to 5. Main Library, 145 Washington Avenue, (505) 955-6837.

6 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.

Thursdays Are Yours

Extended hours and free admission for children under the age of 16. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, (505) 989-8359.

7 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Friday Afternoon Art

Make gifts for friends and family. Southside Branch Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, (505) 955-2828.

7 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

Explore a variety of artistic processes with special guests and hands-on activities. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, (505) 989-8359 ext. 115.

7 FRIDAY, 3-4 P.M.

Nature Up Close: Reptiles

Pet a snake, or ask a member of our critter team questions about animal exhibits. Los Alamos Nature Center, 2600 Canyon Road, Los Alamos, (505) 663-0406.

7 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.

All Ages Chess

All ages (including adults) and skill levels welcome. Players under 12 need parental permission. Free. Vista Grande Public Library, 14 Avenida Torreon, Eldorado, (505) 466-7323.

7 FRIDAY, 5-7 P.M.

First Friday Art Activity

Create drawings while exploring the use of color in modern artwork. All ages welcome. Free with museum admission. Georgia O'Keeffe Museum, 217 Johnson Street, (505) 946-1000.

7 FRIDAY, 5:30-8:30 P.M.

Christmas at the Palace

An evening of hot cider, cookies, live music, piñatas, craft-making activities, a chance to operate an antique printing press, and a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Claus. Palace of the Governors, 105 W. Palace Avenue, (505) 476-5200.

7 FRIDAY, 6 AND 7 P.M.

First Friday Fractals

An award-winning full-dome planetarium show that takes viewers on a tour of the fractals in nature and zooms through infinitely complex mathematical fractals. Featuring original music, the show is educational and entertaining, for audiences 3 and up. Two showings, with separate admission: Adults \$10, seniors \$7, children (ages 3 to 12) \$5. New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science, 1801 Mountain Road NW, Albuquerque, (505) 841-2800.

7 FRIDAY, 8 AND 9 P.M.

Fractals Rock!

Zoom into the infinite world of fractals in this dramatic and beautiful live fractal show. Accompanied by original music in surround sound, this is similar to the Friday Fractals show but with "less talk more rock." Two showings,

with separate admission: Adults \$10, seniors \$7, children (ages 3 to 12) \$5. New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science, 1801 Mountain Road NW, Albuquerque, (505) 841-2800.

8 SATURDAY, 7-11 A.M.

Breakfast with Santa

Enjoy breakfast and meet Santa Claus. An event of Los Alamos Winter Fest. Kiwanis of Los Alamos at Betty Ehart Senior Center, 3900 Trinity Drive, (505) 662-8920.

8 SATURDAY, 9-10 A.M.

St. Nicholas Breakfast

Share a pancake breakfast, make Christmas stockings for local shelters, and meet the real St. Nicholas. The United Church of Santa Fe, 1804 Arroyo Chamiso, (505) 988-3295.

8 SATURDAY, 10 A.M.-NOON

Model Trains

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

8 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Science Saturdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

8 SATURDAY, 6-9:30 P.M.

Holiday Light Parade

Part of Los Alamos Winter Fest, this Candyland-themed parade will glide down Central Avenue. Central Avenue, Los Alamos.

9 SUNDAY, NOON-1:30 P.M.

Latke Lunch & Arts

Celebrate Hanukkah with homemade potato pancakes, live entertainment, and a sale of artworks. \$12 for adults, \$8 for children under 12, free for kids under 3 (maximum \$36 per family). Temple Beth Shalom, 205 E. Barcelona Road, (505) 982-1376.

9 SUNDAY, 3:30-4 P.M.

Meet Cornelius

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 2 listing.

9 SUNDAY, 5:30-7 P.M.

Las Posadas de Santa Fe

Reenactment of Mary and Joseph's search for an inn. Eventually everyone gains admission at the Palace of the Governors Courtyard. Palace of the Governors, 105 W. Palace Avenue, (505) 476-5100.

10 MONDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Nature Playtimes

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 3 listing.

10 MONDAY, 10:30-11:30 A.M.

Monday Storytimes

Bee Hive Books. See December 3 listing.

11 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Main Library. See December 4 listing.

11 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 4 listing.

11 TUESDAY, 4-4:30 P.M.

Bilingual Books and Babies

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 4 listing.

12 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.

Wee Wednesdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 5 listing.

12 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Bilingual Books and Babies

Main Library. See December 5 listing.

12 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

12 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Southside Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

12 WEDNESDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 4 listing.

12 WEDNESDAY, 4-4:30 P.M.

Bilingual Books and Babies

Southside Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

12 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-6:45 P.M.

Children's Chess Club

Main Library. See December 5 listing.

13 THURSDAY, 10 A.M.-NOON

Seeds and Sprouts

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 6 listing.

13 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.

Books & Babies

Southside Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

13 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Main Library. See December 6 listing.

13 THURSDAY, 1-2 P.M.

La Leche League

Support and information for all mothers and mothers-to-be who are interested in breastfeeding. Children are always welcome. Indigo Baby, 185 Paseo de Peralta, (505) 466-2738.

13 THURSDAY, 4-6:30 P.M.

Thursdays Are Yours

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 6 listing.

14 FRIDAY DECEMBER TO 3 THURSDAY, JANUARY, 10 A.M.-6 P.M.


Winter Reading Program

Win prizes for reading books over the winter break. For ages up to 12. Open registration from December 14 to January 3. Main Library, 145 Washington Avenue, Santa Fe; Oliver La Farge Branch Library, 1730 Llano Street, Santa Fe; Southside Branch Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, Santa Fe.

14 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.



Gentle Shepherd Preschool
(est. 1989)
Pre-Kindergarten Program
(ages 3-5)
7:30AM - 12:30PM
(after care available until 3PM)
Monday - Thursday Classes

Highlights:

- Nurturing Environment
- Play and Exploration
- Literacy, Music, Art
- Outside Classroom
- Christian Emphasis

505-983-9838
209 East Barcelona Road
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Santa Fe Family Wellness Center
2504 Camino Entrada
Santa Fe, NM

Primary Care and Behavioral Health

Accepting New Patients
Medical Walk-ins Welcome
505-471-5006



PMS
PRESBYTERIAN MEDICAL SERVICES

Our purpose is you.

pmsnm.org




Winter 2018-2019 Calendar – December

14 FRIDAY, 3-4 P.M.

Nature Up Close: Reptiles

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 7 listing.

14 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.

All Ages Chess

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 7 listing.

14 FRIDAY TO 31 MONDAY, 5-8 P.M.

GLOW Winter Lights Event, Cosmic Nights

GLOW features thousands of lights aglow throughout the Botanical Garden. General admission, \$10, seniors, \$9. Kids 12 and under are free. Includes holiday music, delicious food and drink, and holiday shopping. Santa Fe Botanical Garden at Museum Hill, 715 Camino Lejo, (505) 471-9103.

14 FRIDAY, 5:30-7:30 P.M.

Christmas Caroling for all Ages

Meet at United Church before going to El Castillo Santa Fe Retirement Community to sing to our elders. The United Church of Santa Fe, 1804 Arroyo Chamiso, (505) 988-3295.

15 SATURDAY, 9:30-11:30 A.M.

Family Program: Ornaments

A morning of ornament making inspired by the artwork of Georgia O'Keeffe. Children ages 4 to 12 and their grownups are invited to learn, create and have fun together. Georgia O'Keeffe Museum, 217 Johnson Street, (505) 946-1000.

15 SATURDAY, 11 A.M.-1 P.M.

Model Trains

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

15 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Science Saturdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

15 SATURDAY, 1-4 P.M.

Holiday Family Program

A morning making personal holiday crafts inspired by the artwork of Georgia O'Keeffe. Children ages 4 to 12 and their grownups are invited to learn, create and have fun together. Georgia O'Keeffe Museum, 217 Johnson Street, (505) 946-1000.

15 SATURDAY, 2 AND 7:30 P.M.

The Nutcracker

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet puts a whimsical twist on this classic story, with a cast of over 60 performers including local children and professional dancers. Tickets from \$36 to \$94. Lensic Performing Arts Center, 211 W. San Francisco Street, (505) 988-1234.

16 SUNDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

All Loveliness Reborn

Lessons and carols for all ages with the childrens and youth choir. United Church of Santa Fe, 1804 Arroyo Chamiso, (505) 988-3295.

16 SUNDAY, NOON-4 P.M.

Holiday Open House

Puppet plays, puppet making, photos with Santa, refreshment and music. New Mexico Museum of Art, 107 West Palace Avenue, (505) 476-5072.

16 SUNDAY, 1 AND 5 P.M.

The Nutcracker

Lensic Performing Arts Center. See December 15 listing.

16 SUNDAY, 1-4 P.M.

Exhibition Opening: A Gathering of Voices

Make ceramic candle holders, listening to jazz and eating refreshments. Museum of International Folk Art, 706 Camino Lejo, (505) 476-1200.

16 SUNDAY, 2-4 P.M.

Polar Express Story Time

Enjoy a bilingual story time featuring the popular holiday tale "The Polar Express" complete with steamy hot chocolate. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, (505) 989-8359.

16 SUNDAY, 3:30-4 P.M.

Meet Cornelius

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 2 listing.

17 MONDAY DECEMBER TO 2 WEDNESDAY, JANUARY, 7 A.M.-5 P.M.

SFPS Closure

District-wide closure of all Santa Fe Public Schools for winter break.

17 MONDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Nature Playtimes

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 3 listing.

17 MONDAY, 10:30-11:30 A.M.

Monday Storytimes

Bee Hive Books. See December 3 listing.

18 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Main Library. See December 4 listing.

18 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 4 listing.

18 TUESDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 4 listing.

18 TUESDAY, 4-4:30 P.M.

Bilingual Books and Babies

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 4 listing.

19 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.

Wee Wednesdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 5 listing.

19 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Bilingual Books and Babies

Main Library. See December 5 listing.

19 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

19 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Southside Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

19 WEDNESDAY, 4-4:30 P.M.

Bilingual Books and Babies

Southside Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

19 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-6:45 P.M.

Children's Chess Club

Main Library. See December 5 listing.



20 THURSDAY, 10 A.M.-NOON

Seeds and Sprouts

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 6 listing.

20 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.

Books & Babies

Southside Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

20 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Main Library. See December 6 listing.

21 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Friday Afternoon Art

Make gingerbread houses for friends and family. Southside Branch Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, (505) 955-2828.

21 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

21 FRIDAY, 3-4 P.M.

Nature Up Close: Reptiles

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 7 listing.

21 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.

All Ages Chess

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 7 listing.

21 FRIDAY, 6-8 P.M.

Winter Solstice

Enjoy an annual tradition of lighting bonfires and eating biscochitos as the Museum celebrates the Winter Solstice. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, (505) 989-8359.

22 SATURDAY, 11 A.M.-1 P.M.

Model Trains

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

22 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Science Saturdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

23 SUNDAY, 3:30-4 P.M.

Meet Cornelius

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 2 listing.

24 MONDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Nature Playtimes

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 3 listing.

24 MONDAY, 10:30-11:30 A.M.

Monday Storytimes

Bee Hive Books. See December 3 listing.

25 TUESDAY, 10 A.M.-5 P.M.

Museum Closures

Museum closures in observance of Christmas:

Winter 2018-2019 Calendar – December/January

Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, Museum of International Folk Art, New Mexico History Museum, New Mexico Museum of Art, New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science, Santa Fe Children's Museum.

26 WEDNESDAY, 9:30 A.M.-3:30 P.M.

One-Day STEAM Camp

Learn about science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM) and have fun in the process. Ages 6 to 12. \$60. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, (505) 989-8359.

26 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-6:45 P.M.

Children's Chess Club

Main Library. See December 5 listing.

27 THURSDAY, 9:30 A.M.-3:30 P.M.

One-Day STEAM Camp

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 26 listing.

27 THURSDAY, 10 A.M.-NOON

Seeds and Sprouts

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 6 listing.

28 FRIDAY, 9:30 A.M.-3:30 P.M.

One-Day STEAM Camp

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 26 listing.

28 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

28 FRIDAY, 3-4 P.M.

Nature Up Close: Reptiles

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 7 listing.

28 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.

All Ages Chess

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 7 listing.

29 SATURDAY, 11 A.M.-1 P.M.

Model Trains

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

29 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Science Saturdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

31 MONDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Nature Playtimes

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 3 listing.

31 MONDAY, 10:30-11:30 A.M.

Monday Storytimes

Bee Hive Books. See December 3 listing.

31 MONDAY, 5-8 P.M.

Kids' New Year's Eve Party

New Year's themed children's activities, flower petal drop and live music. Midnight celebrated at 7 p.m. Members \$8, nonmembers \$10, children 12 and under free, available at santafebotanicalgarden.org. Santa Fe Botanical Garden, 715 Camino Lejo, (505) 471-9103.

JANUARY

2 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.

Wee Wednesdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 5 listing.

2 WEDNESDAY, 9:30 A.M.-3:30 P.M.

One-Day STEAM Camp

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 26 listing.

2 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-6:45 P.M.

Children's Chess Club

Main Library. See December 5 listing.

3 THURSDAY, 9:30 A.M.-3:30 P.M.

One-Day STEAM Camp

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 26 listing.

3 THURSDAY, 10 A.M.-NOON

Seeds and Sprouts

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 6 listing.

4 FRIDAY, 9:30 A.M.-3:30 P.M.

One-Day STEAM Camp

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 26 listing.

4 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

4 FRIDAY, 3-4 P.M.

Nature Up Close: Reptiles

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 7 listing.

4 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.

All Ages Chess

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 7 listing.

4 FRIDAY, 5-7 P.M.

First Friday Art Activity

Georgia O'Keeffe Museum. See December 7 listing.

4 FRIDAY, 6 AND 7 P.M.

First Friday Fractals

New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science. See December 7 listing.

4 FRIDAY, 8 AND 9 P.M.

Fractals Rock!

New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science. See December 7 listing.

5 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Science Saturdays

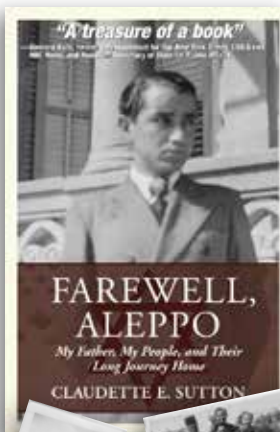
Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

6 SUNDAY, 9 A.M.-5 P.M.

Free Entry at the Museum of Natural History

New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science. See December 2 listing.

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Winter 2018-2019 Calendar – January

6 SUNDAY, 10 A.M.-5 P.M.

Free First Sundays

Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, Museum of International Folk Art, New Mexico History Museum and the New Mexico Museum of Art. See December 2 listing.

6 SUNDAY, 3:30-4 P.M.

Meet Cornelius

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 2 listing.

7 MONDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Nature Playtimes

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 3 listing.

7 MONDAY, 10:30-11:30 A.M.

Monday Storytimes

Bee Hive Books. See December 3 listing.

8 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Main Library. See December 4 listing.

8 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 4 listing.

8 TUESDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 4 listing.

9 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.

Wee Wednesdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 5 listing.

9 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

9 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Southside Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

9 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-6:45 P.M.

Children's Chess Club

Main Library. See December 5 listing.

10 THURSDAY, 10 A.M.-NOON

Seeds and Sprouts

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 6 listing.

10 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.

Books & Babies

Southside Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

10 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Main Library. See December 6 listing.

10 THURSDAY, 1-2 P.M.

La Leche League

Indigo Baby. See December 13 listing.

11 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

11 FRIDAY, 3-4 P.M.

Nature Up Close: Reptiles

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 7 listing.

11 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.

All Ages Chess

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 7 listing.

11 FRIDAY, 7-9 P.M.

Family Movie Night

Free showing of a family film on our big screen. Popcorn and juice included. Call for title and



rating. Vista Grande Public Library, 14 Avenida Torreon, Eldorado, (505) 466-7323.

12 SATURDAY, 10:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Little Earth School Tour

Parents tour Little Earth classrooms and explore curriculum, including experiential curriculum which includes art, music, Spanish, yoga, environmental and multicultural studies and emphasizing respect for self and others. Register at littleearthschool.org Little Earth School, 321 West Zia Road.

12 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Science Saturdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

13 SUNDAY, 3:30-4 P.M.

Meet Cornelius

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 2 listing.

14 MONDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Nature Playtimes

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 3 listing.

14 MONDAY, 10:30-11:30 A.M.

Monday Storytimes

Bee Hive Books. See December 3 listing.

15 TUESDAY, 9-10 A.M.

School Day Tour

School day tour for parents. Register at littleearthschool.org. Little Earth School, 321 West Zia Road.

15 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Main Library. See December 4 listing.

15 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 4 listing.

15 TUESDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 4 listing.

15 TUESDAY, 3:30 PM-4:30 PM

School Age Craft

Cool craft activity for ages 6 to 12. Main Library, 145 Washington Avenue, (505) 955-6780.

18 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

18 FRIDAY, 3-4 P.M.

Nature Up Close: Reptiles

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 7 listing.

18 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.

All Ages Chess

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 7 listing.

19 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Science Saturdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

20 SUNDAY, 10 A.M.-NOON

Sensory Friendly Morning

A special morning for our friends with sensory sensitivity. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, (505) 989-8359.

20 SUNDAY, 3:30-4 P.M.

Meet Cornelius

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 2 listing.

21 MONDAY, ALL DAY

Santa Fe Public Schools Closure

All Santa Fe Public Schools are closed in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

21 MONDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Nature Playtimes

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 3 listing.

21 MONDAY, 10:30-11:30 A.M.

Monday Storytimes

Bee Hive Books. See December 3 listing.

21 MONDAY, NOON-1 P.M.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Observance

Observance of the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., suitable for all ages, sponsored by the NAACP. Roundhouse, 490 Old Santa Fe Trail, (505) 652-2403.

22 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Main Library. See December 4 listing.

22 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 4 listing.

22 TUESDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 4 listing.

23 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.

Wee Wednesdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 5 listing.

23 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

23 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Southside Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

Winter 2018-2019 Calendar – January/February

23 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-6:45 P.M.

Children's Chess Club

Main Library. See December 5 listing.

24 THURSDAY, 10 A.M.-NOON

Seeds and Sprouts

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 6 listing.

24 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.

Books & Babies

Southside Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

24 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Main Library. See December 6 listing.

25 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

25 FRIDAY, 3-4 P.M.

Nature Up Close: Reptiles

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 7 listing.

25 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.

All Ages Chess

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 7 listing.

26 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Science Saturdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

27 SUNDAY, NOON-2:30 P.M.

Souper Bowl XXV

Local businesses sponsor The Food Depot's annual soup-tasting fundraiser, and restaurants donate their staff time and talent — plus hundreds of gallons of soup. Proceeds provide food for northern New Mexico's most vulnerable communities. Adults, \$35, kids 6 to 12, \$10. Santa Fe Convention Center, 201 W. Marcy Street, (800) 777-2489.

27 SUNDAY, 3:30-4 P.M.

Meet Cornelius

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 2 listing.

28 MONDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Nature Playtimes

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 3 listing.

28 MONDAY, 10:30-11:30 A.M.

Monday Storytimes

Bee Hive Books. See December 3 listing.

29 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Main Library. See December 4 listing.

29 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 4 listing.

29 TUESDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 4 listing.

30 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.

Wee Wednesdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 5 listing.

30 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

30 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Southside Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

30 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-6:45 P.M.

Children's Chess Club

Main Library. See December 5 listing.

31 THURSDAY, 10 A.M.-NOON

Seeds and Sprouts

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 6 listing.

31 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.

Books & Babies

Southside Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

31 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Main Library. See December 6 listing.

FEBRUARY

1 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

1 FRIDAY, 3-4 P.M.

Nature Up Close: Reptiles

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 7 listing.

1 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.

All Ages Chess

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 7 listing.

1 FRIDAY, 6 AND 7 P.M.

First Friday Fractals

New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science. See December 7 listing.

1 FRIDAY, 8 AND 9 P.M.

Fractals Rock!

New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science. See December 7 listing.

2 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Science Saturdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

3 SUNDAY, 9 A.M.-5 P.M.

Free Entry at the Museum of Natural History

New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science. See December 2 listing.

3 SUNDAY, 10 A.M.-5 P.M.

Free First Sundays

Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, Museum of International Folk Art, New Mexico History Museum and the New Mexico Museum of Art. See December 2 listing.

3 SUNDAY, 3:30-4 P.M.

Meet Cornelius

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 2 listing.

4 MONDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Nature Playtimes

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 3 listing.

4 MONDAY, 10:30-11:30 A.M.

Monday Storytimes

Bee Hive Books. See December 3 listing.

5 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Main Library. See December 4 listing.

5 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 4 listing.

5 TUESDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 4 listing.

6 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.

Wee Wednesdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 5 listing.

6 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

6 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Southside Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

6 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-6:45 P.M.

Children's Chess Club

Main Library. See December 5 listing.

7 THURSDAY, 10 A.M.-NOON

Seeds and Sprouts

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 6 listing.

7 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.

Books & Babies

Southside Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

7 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Main Library. See December 6 listing.

8 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

8 FRIDAY, 3-4 P.M.

Nature Up Close: Reptiles

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 7 listing.

8 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.

All Ages Chess

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 7 listing.

8 FRIDAY, 5-7 P.M.

Love Bugs

Learn about insects with fun, hands-on activities. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, (505) 989-8359.

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Auditions on January 6 & 7

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Winter 2018-2019 Calendar – February

8 FRIDAY, 7-9 P.M.

Family Movie Night

Vista Grande Public Library. See January 11 listing.

9 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Science Saturdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

10 SUNDAY, 3:30-4 P.M.

Meet Cornelius

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 2 listing.

11 MONDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Nature Playtimes

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 3 listing.

11 MONDAY, 10:30-11:30 A.M.

Monday Storytimes

Bee Hive Books. See December 3 listing.

12 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Main Library. See December 4 listing.

12 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Preschool Storytime Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 4 listing.

12 TUESDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 4 listing.

13 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.

Wee Wednesdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 5 listing.

13 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

13 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Southside Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

13 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-6:45 P.M.

Children's Chess Club

Main Library. See December 5 listing.

14 THURSDAY, 10 A.M.-NOON

Seeds and Sprouts

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 6 listing.

14 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.

Books & Babies

Southside Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

14 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Main Library. See December 6 listing.

14 THURSDAY, 1-2 P.M.

La Leche League

Indigo Baby. See December 13 listing.

15 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

15 FRIDAY, 3-4 P.M.

Nature Up Close: Reptiles

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 7 listing.



15 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.

All Ages Chess

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 7 listing.

16 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Science Saturdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

17 SUNDAY, 3:30-4 P.M.

Meet Cornelius

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 2 listing.

18 MONDAY, ALL DAY

Santa Fe Public School Closure

All Santa Fe Public Schools are closed today in observance of Presidents' Day.

18 MONDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Nature Playtimes

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 3 listing.

18 MONDAY, 10:30-11:30 A.M.

Monday Storytimes

Bee Hive Books. See December 3 listing.

19 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Main Library. See December 4 listing.

19 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 4 listing.

19 TUESDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 4 listing.

19 TUESDAY, 3:30 PM-4:30 PM

School Age Craft

Southside Branch Library. See January 15 listing.

20 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.

Wee Wednesdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 5 listing.

20 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

20 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Southside Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

20 WEDNESDAY, 3:30 PM-4:30 PM

School Age Craft

Main Library. See January 15 listing.

20 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-6:45 P.M.

Children's Chess Club

Main Library. See December 5 listing.

21 THURSDAY, 10 A.M.-NOON

Seeds and Sprouts

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 6 listing.

21 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.

Books & Babies

Southside Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

21 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Main Library. See December 6 listing.

21 THURSDAY, 3:30 PM-4:30 PM

School Age Craft

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See January 15 listing.

22 FRIDAY, 2:30-4:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

22 FRIDAY, 3-4 P.M.

Nature Up Close: Reptiles

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 7 listing.

22 FRIDAY, 3-5 P.M.

All Ages Chess

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 7 listing.

23 SATURDAY, 10:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Little Earth School Tour

Little Earth School. See January 12 listing.

23 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Science Saturdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 1 listing.

24 SUNDAY, 3:30-4 P.M.

Meet Cornelius

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 2 listing.

25 MONDAY, 10-11 A.M.

Nature Playtimes

Los Alamos Nature Center. See December 3 listing.

25 MONDAY, 10:30-11:30 A.M.

Monday Storytimes

Bee Hive Books. See December 3 listing.

26 TUESDAY, 9-10 A.M.

School Day Tour

Little Earth School. See January 15 listing.

26 TUESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Main Library. See December 4 listing.

26 TUESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 4 listing.

26 TUESDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 4 listing.

27 WEDNESDAY, 9-11 A.M.

Wee Wednesdays

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 5 listing.

27 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11 A.M.

Books & Babies

Oliver La Farge Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

27 WEDNESDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Southside Branch Library. See December 5 listing.

27 WEDNESDAY, 5:45-6:45 P.M.

Children's Chess Club

Main Library. See December 5 listing.

28 THURSDAY, 10 A.M.-NOON

Seeds and Sprouts

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 6 listing.

28 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:15 A.M.

Books & Babies

Southside Branch Library. See December 6 listing.

28 THURSDAY, 11-11:45 A.M.

Preschool Storytime

Main Library. See December 6 listing.

Winter 2018-2019 Calendar – Ongoing Events

ONGOING EVENTS

Museums, cultural centers and other nonprofit organizations within an easy drive of Santa Fe offering exhibits, programming and activities for families.

ABQ BIOPARK: ZOO, AQUARIUM AND BOTANIC GARDEN

Open daily 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission options: Buy a ticket to Zoo only, Aquarium/Botanic Garden, or "BioPark Combo" for all three. Call for prices. Zoo, 903 Tenth Street, Albuquerque; Botanic Garden and Aquarium, 2601 Central Avenue NW, Albuquerque. (505) 768-2000, www.cabq.gov/biopark.

ABQ BIOPARK: TINGLEY BEACH

Fish, hike, relax or sail a model boat. Open daily year-round from sunrise to sunset. Free. 1800 Tingley Drive SW, Albuquerque. (505) 768-2000, www.cabq.gov/biopark.

BATAAN MEMORIAL MUSEUM

Artifacts from the Bataan Death March, Medal of Honor ribbons and biographies. Private tours available; call to arrange. Open Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 1050 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe. (505) 474-1670, www.bataanmuseum.com.

BRADBURY SCIENCE MUSEUM

Displays, videos and interactive exhibits on the history of the atomic bomb and contemporary research conducted at Los Alamos National Laboratory. Open Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday and Monday 1 to 5 p.m. 1350 Central Avenue, Los Alamos. (505) 667-4444, www.lanl.gov/museum.

EL MUSEO CULTURAL DE SANTA FE

Nonprofit organization that preserves, protects and promotes the Hispano art, culture and traditions of northern New Mexico. Popular venue for classes and community events. Open Tuesday through Saturday 1 to 5 p.m. Call or visit website to view calendar for upcoming events. 555 Camino de la Familia, in the Santa Fe Railyard. (505) 992-0591, www.elmuseocultural.org.

EL RANCHO DE LAS GOLONDRINAS

Living history museum located on 200 acres just south of Santa Fe, dedicated to the history, heritage and culture of 18th and 19th century New Mexico. The museum is closed during the winter months but is open by appointment for docent-led tour in April, May and October, and open to the public Wednesday through Sunday, June 1 through October 1, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Adults \$6; seniors and ages 13 to 17 \$4; under 12 free; prices for special events vary. 334 Los Pinos Road, Santa Fe. (505) 471-2261, www.golondrinas.org.

EXPLORA

Family-oriented science center creating opportunities for discovery through interactive experiences in science, technology and art for all ages. Children and toddlers must be accompanied by a paying adult. Open Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday noon to 6 p.m. Ages 12 and up \$8; seniors, students and military with ID \$5; ages 1 to 11 \$4; under age 1 free. 1701 Mountain Road NW, Albuquerque. (505) 224-8300, www.explora.us.

GEORGIA O'KEEFFE MUSEUM

Dedicated to the Georgia O'Keeffe's life, art, and role in the history of American Modernism. Revolving exhibitions, education programs, family and youth programs. Open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. General admission \$13; New Mexico residents with ID free on the first Friday of the month; seniors and students over 18 with ID \$11; ages 17 and under free. 217 Johnson Street, Santa Fe. (505) 946-1000, www.okeeffemuseum.org.

HARWOOD MUSEUM OF ART

University of New Mexico-affiliated collection of historic and contemporary art and culture of northern New Mexico. Many family activities and events. Open Wednesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday noon to 5 p.m. Adults \$10; seniors, students and AAA members \$8; ages 18 and under free; free to Taos County residents on Sundays with proof of residence. 238 Ledoux Street, Taos. (575) 758-9826, www.harwoodmuseum.org.

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY NATIVE ARTS

The country's premier museum of contemporary Native arts, with 7,500 artworks across media created in 1962 or later. Open Monday and Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday noon to 5 p.m. Adults \$10; seniors, students and New Mexico residents with ID \$5; Native people, veterans and their families, and under age 17 free; New Mexico residents free on Sunday. 108 Cathedral Place, Santa Fe. (505) 983-8900, www.icaia.edu/museum.

LEONORA CURTIN WETLAND PRESERVE

Adjacent to El Rancho de Las Golondrinas south of Santa Fe, this 35-acre nature preserve of the Santa Fe Botanical Garden hosts a diversity of plants and wildlife, trails with numbered interpretive markers, a pond and docents to answer questions. Open May through October, Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Early opening at 7:30 a.m. on every third Saturday with \$5 early entrance fee. Donation. (505) 471-9103. www.santafebotanicalgarden.org/visit-us/leonora-curtin-wetland-preserve.

MEOW WOLF

Meow Wolf's House of Eternal Return is a unique immersive art experience based on non-linear storytelling and exploration through strange, but familiar, realms. Sunday to Thursday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; closed Tuesday. Summer hours, open every day at 9 a.m. (except Tuesdays). Adults \$25; children \$19; seniors \$22; free to children under 3. New Mexico residents: Adults \$22; Children \$17; senior/military, \$20. 1352 Rufina Circle, Santa Fe, (505) 780-4458. www.meowwolf.com

MUSEUM OF INDIAN ARTS AND CULTURE

Stories of peoples indigenous to the Southwest, including displays from prehistory through contemporary art. Open Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. General admission \$12; New Mexico residents \$7 daily and free on the first Sunday of every month; New Mexico seniors with ID free on Wednesdays; New Mexico students with an ID, \$7; ages 16 and under free. Museum Hill, 710 Camino Lejo, Santa Fe. (505) 476-1250, www.indianartsandculture.org.

MUSEUM OF INTERNATIONAL FOLK ART

Wide range of folk art displays, including long and short-term exhibitions, from around the world. Open Monday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Adults and seniors, \$12;

New Mexico residents: adults and seniors, \$7; students, \$6 daily and free on the first Sunday of every month; New Mexico seniors with ID free on Wednesdays; ages 16 and under free. Museum Hill, 706 Camino Lejo, Santa Fe. (505) 476-1204, www.internationalfolkart.org.

MUSEUM OF SPANISH COLONIAL ART

The only museum in the country dedicated to the art of the Spanish colonial era. Special activities for families and children include a Costume Corner and Youth Art and Activity Center. Summer schedule (May 6-October 29), open seven days a week, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Winter schedule, open Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. General admission \$10; free to New Mexico residents on Sundays; ages 16 and under free. Museum Hill, 750 Camino Lejo, Santa Fe. (505) 982-2226, www.spanishcolonial.org/museum.

NEW MEXICO HISTORY MUSEUM AND PALACE OF THE GOVERNORS

Explore New Mexico history from the pre-Columbian era through the Atomic Age, including the clash and melding of the regions' cultures. Features the Discovery Center for hands-on, self-paced family activities. Open Monday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Fridays until 8 p.m. General admission \$12; New Mexico residents \$7 daily and free on the first Sunday of every month; under age 16 free; New Mexico seniors with ID free on Wednesdays; free Friday evenings 5 to 8 p.m. 113 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fe. (505) 476-5200, www.nmhistory.org.

NEW MEXICO MUSEUM OF ART

Guided tours free with museum admission. Drop in and draw during regular museum hours (front desk provides sketchbooks and pencils). Open Monday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. General admission \$12; New Mexico residents \$7 daily and free on the first Sunday of every month; under age 16 free; New Mexico seniors with ID free on Wednesdays; free Friday evenings 5 to 8 p.m. 107 West Palace Avenue, Santa Fe. (505) 476-5041, www.nmartmuseum.org.

NEW MEXICO MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY AND SCIENCE

Exhibits on the history of Earth, Planetarium and movies at the giant-screen Lockheed-Martin Dyna Theater. Open Wednesday to Monday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Museum admission: Adults \$8; seniors \$7 and free Wednesdays; ages 3 to 12 years \$5; free to New Mexico residents with ID on the first Sunday of every month. Separate admission fees for DynaTheater and Planetarium. 1801 Mountain Road NW, Albuquerque. (505) 841-2800, www.nmnaturalhistory.org.

PAJARITO ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER

Nature center and outdoor education programs provide opportunities for people of all ages to explore the rich natural and cultural heritage of the Pajarito Plateau. Preschool and homeschool discovery programs, nature clubs, middle school and high school environmental clubs and many other activities. Registration required for most



Think New Mexico is a results-oriented think tank whose mission is to improve the quality of life for all New Mexicans.

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www.thinknewmexico.org.

Winter 2018-2019 Calendar – Ongoing Events



activities. Open Monday, Wednesday and Friday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Tuesday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; closed Thursdays. Free. 2600 Canyon Road, Los Alamos. (505) 662-0460, www.peecnature.org.

RAILYARD ARTISAN MARKET

Local artists and craftspeople, farmers, ranchers and food artisans, musicians, refreshments and entertainment, in the heart of the Santa Fe Railyard. Open Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Santa Fe Farmers Market, 1607 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe. (505) 983-4098, www.artmarketsantafe.com.

RALPH T. COE CENTER FOR THE ARTS

A collection of nearly 2000 objects from Africa, Oceania, Asia and North America. Get a personal, behind-the-scenes tour, converse with the curators, and handle one-of-a-kind objects. Open every first Friday of the month, from 1 to 4 p.m., and for private tours upon request. Admission is free. 1590 B Pacheco Street, Santa Fe. (505) 983-6372. www.coeartscenter.org/index.html.

RANDALL DAVEY AUDUBON CENTER AND SANCTUARY

Over 135 acres of striking landscapes and wildlife, bounded by the Santa Fe National Forest and Santa Fe River Watershed land. Activities include guided bird walks and hikes, and tours of the Randall Davey home. Trails and gardens open Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. 1800 Upper Canyon Road, Santa Fe. (505) 983-4609, www.nm.audubon.org/and-davey-audubon-center-sanctuary.

www.nm.audubon.org/and-davey-audubon-center-sanctuary.

RIO GRANDE NATURE CENTER STATE PARK

270 acres of woods, meadows and farmland flourishing with native grasses, wildflowers, willows and cottonwoods, just outside of Albuquerque. Gates open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily; visitor center open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission \$5 per vehicle. 2901 Candelaria NW, Albuquerque. (505) 344-7240, www.rgnc.org.

SANTA FE BOTANICAL GARDEN AT MUSEUM HILL

Eleven acres of gardens that celebrate, cultivate and conserve the botanical heritage and biodiversity of our region. November through March, the garden is open Thursday through Sunday, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., adults \$7; seniors and military \$6; students and youth \$5; children 12 and under free. April through October, open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Adults \$10; New Mexico residents, \$9; seniors and military \$8; students and youth \$7; children under 12 free. Members always free. Museum Hill, 715 Camino Lejo, Santa Fe. (505) 471-9103, www.santafebotanicalgarden.org.

SANTA FE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

A learning laboratory with exhibits and programs designed to cultivate habits of inquiry. Wednesday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday noon to 5 p.m. General admission \$7.50; children ages 16 and under \$5; free for children under age

1. Children under 16 free Thursdays after 4 p.m. Family memberships available. 1050 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe. (505) 989-8359, www.santafefchildrensmuseum.org.

SANTA FE FARMERS MARKET

Over 150 active vendors selling hundreds of agricultural products, with locations in the Railyard and on the Southside. Railyard Farmers Market open Saturday and Tuesday, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. June to September and from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. October through May. 1607 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe. Southside Farmers Market open Tuesday 3 to 6:30 p.m. from July through September, outside Santa Fe Place Mall near J.C. Penney, 4250 Cerrillos Road, Santa Fe. (505) 983-4098, www.santafefarmersmarket.com.

SANTA FE MOMMY MEETUP GROUP

For all moms (and dads!) who delight in having fun with their children, primarily ages 0 to 5 years old. Mommy Meetup offers play dates, parents' events, charity and educational events, and an online discussion board. \$16 annual dues. www.meetup.com/santafemoms.

SANTA FE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Main Library, 145 Washington Avenue, open Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.; 955-6781. Oliver La Farge Branch, 1730 Llano Street, open Monday through Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Thursday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; closed Sundays;

955-4862. Southside Branch, 6599 Jaguar Drive, open Monday through Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday 1 to 5 p.m. (505) 955-2820. www.santafelibrary.org.

VISTA GRANDE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Story times, family movie nights, reading programs and special events. Open Tuesday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Wednesday through Friday, noon to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 14 Avenida Torreon, Eldorado. (505) 466-7323, www.vglib.org.

WHEELWRIGHT MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN

Contemporary and historic Native American art with an emphasis on the Southwest. Talks, seminars, meet-the-artist receptions and many other events. General admission, \$8. Open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 704 Camino Lejo, Santa Fe. (505) 982-4636, www.wheelwright.org.

Please send us information about family events happening in March, April and May for our Spring 2019 family events calendar. Email to calendar@sftumbleweeds.com. Deadline: Feb. 1.

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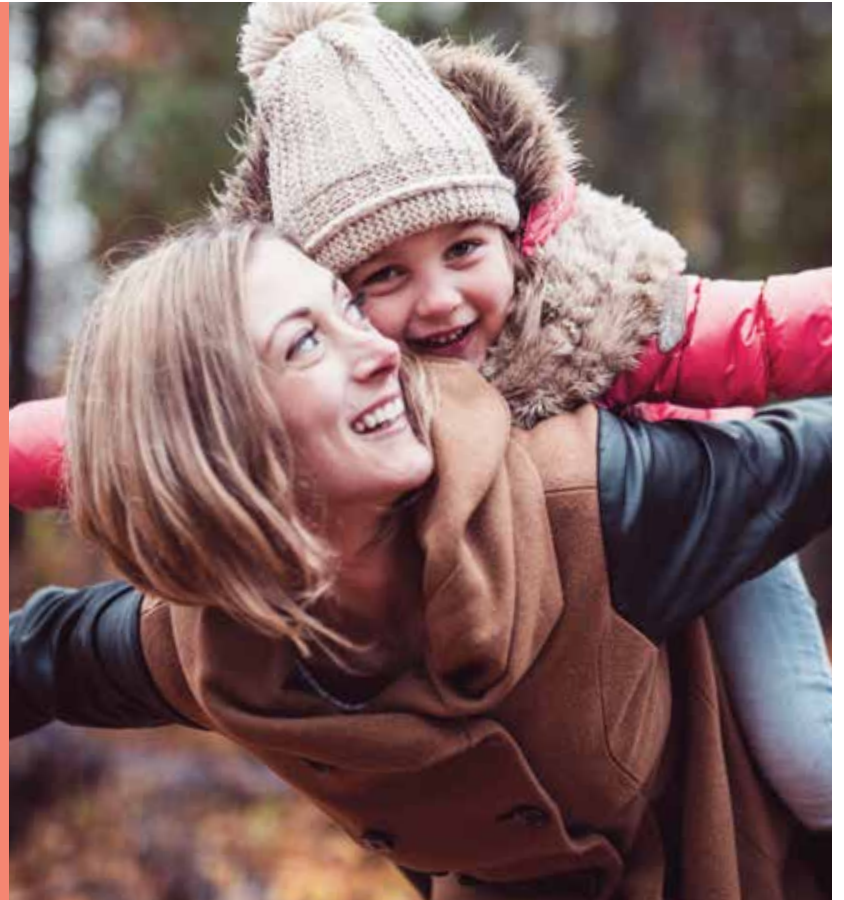
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