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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28 1-4 PM

Green Holiday

Join us as we create a variety of crafts made from recycled materials: bottle-cap magnets, pendants, mobiles and more! Drop in at the **Museum Education Annex**, 123 Grant Avenue.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26 9:30-11:30AM

Show and Tell

Bring a treasured object to share. We'll talk about our treasures and then create still-life groupings to draw and paint.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23 9:30-11:30 AM

Coloring the Landscape

Start with photos of New Mexico landscapes to create a fantasy drawing using your imagination. Led by **Amy Paloranta**, MA Art Therapy, art educator, and artist.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23 9:30-11:30 AM

Skyscapes

The skies of northern New Mexico were more than a backdrop for Georgia O'Keeffe. We'll explore the skies immortalized in her paintings, and create our own O'Keeffe-inspired skyscapes. Led by **Jonathan Cohen**, arts educator.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Santa Fe Science Café for Young Thinkers talks are **free** for students ages 13-18, and their teachers and parents. Sponsored by: the Santa Fe Alliance for Science (sfafs.org), the Santa Fe Institute, Santa Fe Public Schools, the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum, and the New Mexico Public Education Department. Programs begin at the **Museum Education Annex**, 123 Grant Avenue. Reservations suggested: **505.946.1039** or online at okmuseum.org.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16 6 PM

What is Light? What Are Radio Waves?

Led by **Bruce Sherwood**, Professor of Physics, North Carolina State University [Retired]

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Heads Up! Asteroid Impacts on Earth

Led by **Catherine Plesko**, Los Alamos National Laboratory

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I Survived Sandy



The Lightning Rug, by Camryn and Joshua

“It’s your first hurricane!” my friend Marsha said over the phone, the Monday afternoon of Superstorm Sandy. The word “Congratulations!” reverberated between the lines. I had been in Maryland for about 10 days, helping my parents clean out their house in preparation for moving, when Sandy delayed my plans to return to Santa Fe.

Marsha lives in central Florida and has seen her share of nature’s follies, so I knew she wasn’t being flippant. “If you’ve got a good roof and you’re not in immediate danger, a hurricane is totally amazing,” she said, pausing to put the gist into words. “It reminds me that I’m just a leaf. A leaf in the wind.”

The devil is in the “ifs,” of course. All day the satellite maps had looked like a Van Gogh painting, clouds covering the entire Eastern Seaboard like a swirl of thick white paint. If all went as predicted, we weren’t in line for a direct hit, but with the strong winds and rain there was

no way to know if a tree would fall and break through the roof (as one did several years ago), or if the power would go out for several days or a week (as it did after this summer’s “derecho”). With elderly parents in a house where the heat, lights and kitchen appliances are all electric, those were no small “ifs.”

Down in the kitchen, my parents didn’t share Marsha’s existential zeal. Mom was all nervous energy, singing old songs at a volume matched only by her propensity for getting lyrics wrong. “*Chock Full of Nuts is a WONDERFUL coffee! WONDERFUL coffee! WONDERFUL coffee!*” she belted out as she checked flashlight batteries and filled water pitchers. “Should we cook the fish now in case the power goes out?” she asked. (Yes.) “Could we carry mattresses downstairs if we have to sleep in the basement?” (No.) Dad coped in his characteristic fashion: quietly, his eyes deep in thought and lips shut.

Continued on page 6

Tumbleweeds

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

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

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Contents

Imagination: the gift that keeps on giving. **Page 14**



Cold days, warm feelings: reflecting on love in winter **Page 16**

Children's online safety is a parents' responsibility. **Page 20**



Holidays, far from home. Fiestas, lejos de casa. **Pages 24 & 26**

Notes from Claudette: I Survived Sandy	4
Dear Tumbleweeds	7
Kids Draw: A Turkish Expedition in Art	8
Infants: Mouths of Babes	10
Preschool: Let's Pretend!	12
Holidays: Giving the Gift of Play	14
Spirit: What's Love Got to Do With It?	16
Art: Happy Hands	18
Techie Corner: OMG! TMI! DTR! WAPTD?!	20
Noisy Acorns: Full Stockings	22
Family Voices: My Home, Far from Home	24
Voces de la familia: Mi casa, lejos de casa	26
Community: Hometown Heroes Save the Day (For Now)	28
Briefs	29
Winter Fun! Directory	30
Kids' Page: Rock Crystals	31
Winter Calendar	32
Resources	45

ON THE COVER: Marc Plascencia plays with his son Jaedon, 4½, at the Santa Fe Children's Museum in November. Jaedon loves riding his scooter, skateboard and bike. Marc is stationed at Holloman Air Force Base in Alamogordo. Read more about the museum's emergency fund drive on page 28. Photo © Ana June.

ARTWORK IN THIS ISSUE is by Atalaya Elementary School art educator Nina Mastrangelo's kindergarten through sixth grade students. Read more about this project on page 8, and look for more work by these students on our website, www.sftumbleweeds.com.

Be a part of Tumbleweeds!

Spring 2013 Deadlines

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



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"I'll be coming down the mountain when I come!" Mom blasted as she sprinkled balsamic vinegar on the salad we ate for dinner with the salmon and rice she had prepared earlier in the day. After dinner we played cards together as the TV flashed images of waves surging Maryland's Eastern Shore and New Jersey's beach towns.

By the time I went to bed, the wind was howling in longer gusts than any I'd ever heard. The graceful fir trees along the driveway arched like kids doing the limbo. "Marsha's right," I thought, awed by nature's force (though for good measure I moved from the guest room into my old bedroom, because it has fewer trees on the periphery).

By Tuesday morning the trees were steady and the rain had slowed to a drizzle. I flicked the light switch in the bathroom and smiled. Electricity. No fallen trees. No broken windows or flooding. I went down to the kitchen to make tea. Dad followed right behind me, chipper and talkative, and I realized how frightened he must have been the day before. He keeps his cards close to the vest, my dad.

I went out to pick up the newspaper (wrapped in TWO plastic sleeves) off the front patio. Dad and I shared sections quietly until Mom woke up and turned on the TV. Seeing the flooded towns, collapsed homes, downed power lines and sea rescues, I appreciated the opportunity to ponder nature's fickle powers and ephemeral gifts with the comfort of a cup of tea and warm slippers; to be able to say, "I

survived Sandy. And all I got was this lousy column!"

And then to return to Santa Fe in time to see the seasons change — a bonus! My first day back, the shining yellow leaves of the apricot trees outside the

“By Tuesday morning the trees were steady and the rain had slowed to a drizzle. I flicked the light switch in the bathroom and smiled. Electricity.”

kitchen window joined my hubby and cat in welcoming me home.

Now Santa Fe prepares its descent into winter, and our writers in this issue offer ways to help families make the best of the cold months.

Rev. Talitha Arnold invites us to use the winter holidays — Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Valentine's Day, along with the big ones — as an opportunity to reflect on the warm gift of love.

Shari Cassutt, a new *Tumbleweeds* contributor

and retired SFPS kindergarten teacher, provides guidelines for holiday toys whose true gift is the chance to exercise creativity, imagination and cooperation.

Marisela Angulo, our calendar and directory editor, launches a new feature called Techie Corner, with an article in this issue addressing children's safety in social media.

Holidays can make us acutely aware of distances from far-away family members, as Anabella St. Peter, an Argentinean mom of twins, describes in both English and Spanish, in her article "My Home Far from Home / *Mi casa, lejos de casa.*"

Everyday life can be a superstorm for families living at or below the poverty level. The Food Depot's executive director Sherry Hooper writes about a program that you may not know of for families with infants and very young children, and tells us how we can help.

Wherever your home and family are in the year ahead, we wish you a sturdy roof over your heads, food in the fridge, joy and safety. *Tumbleweeds* will be there with you!



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Dear Tumbleweeds



Bee Rug, by Sirona, Aaliyah and Montana

BEE INSPIRED

One Sunday morning in September, my wife and I decided to have breakfast at the Flying Star and then drive up toward the ski basin and connect with nature and see the early color. I picked up a copy of *Tumbleweeds* and opened to Notes from Claudette ("The Queen Bee Is Dead! Long Live the Queen Bee," Fall 2012).

After just a few sentences I started reading aloud. I have to tell you that your story and your words moved and inspired us, and added to the magic of our Sunday together in Santa Fe.

My wife, Jan, is the coauthor of the international best-selling business book *Attracting Perfect Customers: The Power of Strategic Synchronicity*, and together Jan and I published *BEE-ing Attraction: What Love Has To Do With Business And Marketing*. BEE-ing is our play on the word being, because bees inspire us to do what seems impossible:

"According to all known laws of aviation, there is no way that a bee should be able to fly. Its wings are too small to get its fat little body off the ground. The bee, of course, flies anyway. Because the bees don't care what human's think is impossible." — *Bee Movie*.

We would love to know if there is an electronic version of your article that we could link on our BEE-ing Attraction Facebook page.

.....
- Alan Hickman, via email. www.beeingatraction.com

Tumbleweeds responds:

Yes! Visit our blog www.sftumbleweeds.com/blog.html.

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The Lightning Rug, by Camryn and Joshua

The notification I was hoping for arrived in early

May: an email from the Council on International Relations and the Turkish Cultural Foundation (TCF) telling me I was one of three Santa Fe teachers selected to go to Turkey this past summer as a guest of the TCF. Happily, I began preparing with weeks of research for the two-week trip.

The Turkish Cultural Foundation put together three overlapping tours, each with about 25 teachers from all over the United States, including two other teachers from Santa Fe: Andria Liesse, a language arts teacher at Capshaw Middle School, and Tracy Akers, who teaches history at Santa Fe High School, and myself. I teach art in kindergarten through grade 6 at Atalaya Elementary School.

TCF's aim was to give teachers the big-picture view of Turkey, past and present. We had an academic guide and were accompanied by two Turkish teachers. At each location we visited, we looked for inspiration we could bring back to our students and classes. As you can imagine, this was awe-inspiring!

Our phenomenal tour took us to as many natural, cultural and historic sites as could be fit into two weeks. We saw the Hagia Sophia, the Spice Market, Islamic and Turkish Arts Museum, Topkapi Palace and the Grand Bazaar in Istanbul, then went on to Gallipoli, Troy, Ephesus, Caravan Hostels in Konya, caves in Cappadocia and Museums in Ankara. We visited several artists in their workshops, strolled down streets and met with Turkish diplomats and representatives from NGOs.

My first productive inspiration of the trip turned out to be our visit to the nomadic rug workshop and market in Cappadocia. The basic design form of the rug, the multi-layering of the imagery and limited color palettes, made the perfect lesson for my students.

Back in my classroom, students viewed slides of Turkish rugs from different regions. We noted the similarities and differences, how each had a limited palette with a dark color, a light color and three or four middle colors. Another consis-

teny was the mirror symmetry inherent in the design and surrounding borders, the central area and the medallion in the middle. We discussed the use of symbols in our lives. A single symbol can have different meaning to different people. Drawing on the white board, students took turns turning their favorite animal or activity into an abstracted symbolic shape.

While I read from a list of topics, the students drew images and wrote notes about their favorite things: animals, vegetables or sports. From this visual collection, students created secret symbols that could represent their favorite things. Everyone created a limited palette of six colors. Then, using both theme and palette for selection, they were matched up with two other students to form a group that would design a rug together.

Students used templates to create outer and inner borders and set up their rug design. They sketched their design onto large poster boards with wax crayons and oil pastels, which provided a resist when they added another layer in watercolor.

During the creation of these posters, students learned about another culture and the art form of Turkish woven rugs. They studied and created their own symbols, learned how to develop a limited palette, and experimented with the effects of different media. They had the opportunity to collaborate and work as a team.

These completed rug design posters have been displayed around town at Atalaya Elementary School, in the Santa Fe Public Schools' central office at 610 Alta Vista Street and other locations, and now throughout this issue of *Tumbleweeds*, with more online at www.sftumbleweeds.com.

Nina Mastrangelo, an artist living with her family in Santa Fe, has taught art, media, architecture and science at Pre-K through graduate levels and served on many school committees and boards. This is her eighth year teaching elementary art in the Santa Fe Public Schools.



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MOUThS OF BABES

Food Depot collects supplies for our community's most vulnerable members
By Sherry Hooper

From the very beginning, a

baby needs vital nutrients to grow and develop into a healthy individual. Good nutrition, particularly in the first three years of life, is essential for establishing and maintaining a good foundation for a child's future physical and mental health, academic achievement and economic productivity. Unfortunately, food insecurity is an obstacle that threatens that critical foundation.

The Food Depot operates its Infant Support Project to provide vital supplies to our community's children. Families with infants often seek items not found in the customary stock in our food bank; they need formula, hygiene products, baby food and diapers. Since these products are rarely donated, the food bank started this program to purchase them. The Food Depot then distributes these items to families through emergency food pantries, shelters for battered families, youth programs and shelters for the homeless.

According to recent studies by the National Center for Children in Poverty, an astonishing 48 percent of infants and toddlers under the age of 3 live in low-income families, as defined by federal income guidelines, and 25 percent live in families classified as poor. Feeding America, the national food bank network, reports that 54 percent of client households with children under the age of 3 participate in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). More than 6 million infants and toddlers in the United States live in low-income families, half of them in poverty. Many of these families face multiple demographic and familial risks.

Economists estimate that child poverty costs the United States \$500 billion a year as a result of lost productivity in the labor force, health care costs and engagement in the criminal justice system. Each year, child poverty reduces productivity and economic output by about 1.3 percent of Gross Domestic Product.

In New Mexico, statistics relating to infant and

toddler poverty are even more startling, with 55 percent of infants and toddlers living in low-income families. Of these, 75 percent have at least one risk factor known to increase the chance of poor health, as well as negatively affecting school and developmental outcomes.

Economic hardship and other types of deprivation can have profound effects on children's development and their prospects for the future — and therefore on the nation as a whole. Low family income can impede children's cognitive development and their ability to learn. It can contribute to behavioral, social and emotional problems, and can cause and exacerbate

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Consider having a baby supply drive at your work, school or place of worship. Send out a flier announcing the drive and set out a box for collection. Make a donation. Monetary contributions are always welcome in support of this very important program. If you need help coordinating a baby supply drive or would like additional ideas on how you can help, contact The Food Depot at 505-471-1633 or go to www.thefooddepot.org.

bate poor child health as well. The children at greatest risk are those who experience economic hardship when they are young and those who experience severe and chronic hardship.

Feeding America's 2009 report entitled "Child Food Insecurity: The Economic Impact on our Nation" maintains that child hunger and food insecurity — lack of access to enough food to fully meet basic needs at all times — are especially harmful

during the first three years of life, because this is the sensitive period in which the foundation is being laid that will support human capital formation through the school years and on into adulthood. The kinds of nutrition, care, stimulation and love that children receive during these critical first three years of life determine the architecture of the brain and central nervous system, which form the basic foundation on which each child's future is constructed. Hungry children from birth to 3 years cannot learn as much, as fast or as well, because chronic under-nutrition harms their cognitive development during this critical period of rapid brain growth, actually changing the fundamental neurological architecture of the brain and central nervous system.

The downturn in the economy means that low-income families with babies need help more than ever. The Food Depot, in an effort to meet the needs of this fragile demographic, is asking the community for help making sure that all our children have the food and supplies they need for healthy development.

The Food Depot is committed to ending hunger in Northern New Mexico. As the food bank for nine Northern New Mexico counties, The Food Depot provides food to 120 not-for-profit agencies, including emergency food pantries, hot meal programs, homeless shelters, youth programs, senior centers, homes for the mentally disabled and shelters for battered persons. This service enables these agencies to stay focused on their primary missions, such as sheltering homeless families, providing hot meals to the homebound and offering life skills development to youth. The food bank distributes an average of 300,000 pounds of food and household products each month, providing more than 400,000 meals to people in need — the most vulnerable of our community — children, seniors, working families and those in ill health.

.....
Sherry Hooper is executive director of The Food Depot.



Fire & Ice Rug, by Zola and Fernanda

Holiday Help

Get involved in The Food Depot's mission to end hunger this holiday season simply by dropping your nonperishable food donation in any of the bins set up at the numerous collection sites throughout Santa Fe. Or, consider conducting your own food drive. The Food Depot will provide bins for easy donation collection, delivering the bins at the beginning of the drive and picking up the donations once the drive ends. Businesses can engage in hunger-relief efforts by holding a food drive among their employees and customers.

The Food Depot encourages donations of nonperishable food items such as canned vegetables and fruits, soups, dried beans, canned meats, pasta and rice, cranberry sauce, pumpkin, canned yams and stuffing mixes. Frozen turkeys and hams are also welcomed but must be dropped off at The Food Depot, 1222 Siler Road, Santa Fe.

Financial contributions to the food bank are critical as well. For every dollar donated, The

Food Depot can provide four meals to people in need. Go to www.thefooddepot.org to make a secure online donation or to find a convenient collection site.

Souper Bowl XIX

Mark your calendars for Souper Bowl XIX! This annual fundraiser to benefit The Food Depot, where finest local restaurants present their finest soups to community vote, will be Saturday, January 26 from noon to 2:30 p.m. at the Santa Fe Community Convention Center. *Tumbleweeds* is proud to serve as a Silver Sponsor of the Souper Bowl for the second time this year. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door for adults, and \$10 for children 6 to 12 years of age. Tickets sales begin January 7. Go to www.thefooddepot.org for more information. Silent auction items are also needed! Contact The Food Depot at 471-1633, ext. 10, if you would like to donate an item for the auction.



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LET'S PRETEND!

Be careful what you say and do. Little eyes are watching you. • By Judith Nasse

Photo by Ana June

José, a handyman, came to fix a cabinet and faucet in Ms. Julia's preschool. The children gathered around to watch him work with his hammer, wrench and screwdriver. Marcos, 18 months old, watched intently for a few minutes and then said, "Bang! Bang!" over and over. Next he walked to the shelf and picked up a little plastic hammer and screwdriver. He quickly learned the objects' names and for days afterward went around the preschool spotting screws and nails and "hammering and screwing" them in.

Was Marcos "just pretending," or was he learning a life skill by copying José? Young children do indeed learn plenty by copying the skills, mannerisms and speech of parents, teachers, older siblings and each other. Sometimes they even learn things we'd rather they *didn't*, like the time Grandpa came to visit and was talking on the phone to one of his farmhands. When Grandpa got off the phone, Freddie, age 2, picked the phone off its cradle and said, "Hello, %\$#xz&," eagerly repeating one of the swear words he'd heard Grandpa say.

What do we want to model to our young children? They absorb how we drive, how we cook, do laundry, work in the yard, go shopping and talk to people, especially children, like proverbial little sponges. Sometimes we can "read" a child's home life by the behaviors they exhibit in school. The first year Ms. Julia ever

taught, she heard a sing-song voice and turned. Four-year-old Kathy was sitting on the teacher's chair with a book, reading to her friends sitting in front of her. Annabelle could also be heard scolding Jay as she "cooked" in the house corner. Ms. Julia would bet that Annabelle's mother with 5 children did the same.

We live in a fast-paced world where we have little time to do things the ways our mothers and grandmothers, fathers and grandfathers did. Many of our preschoolers are rushed out the door to daycare at dawn, not to be picked up until evening. Then the overworked parent has to decide how to feed the hungry mouths in the car. She has little time to go home and model how to prepare a full meal, unless perhaps she made a casserole or soup on the weekend to last through part of the week.

This is especially fraught during the holiday season, when parents wonder how they can afford the holiday meal as well as the presents they want to buy for the children. This is on top of stress about how to have the time to prepare meals and to keep the cost of utilities down when the relatives come to visit.

What can a parent do to model good behavior and life skills in this fog of hurrying, worrying and harrying?

First of all, it might be most helpful to admit that it's not possible to do it all.

Make a vow not to subject yourself to all the pressures to do and buy too much in the holiday season. Instead, pick one special activity that you would like to bring out from your past to share with your children. Perhaps on the weekend, get out one of grandmother's recipes and prepare it with your children. Little Carole (now a mom with a grown child) prepared miniature empanadas with her Granny as a young girl. To this day Carole will make them once a year for her family. Her now-grown son recalls this tradition and will be sure to carry on the making of the empanadas when he has a family of his own.

Michaela's family has gone from the tradition when Grandmother made a complete holiday dinner with all the trimmings, served on best china plates, to a fun potluck where every member of the family brings a dish; even little 3-year-old Rick brings the

non-cook fudge he mixed. Maybe they still use the china, or perhaps they have switched to paper plates to ease the workload and have more time with one another. Anna likes to be the one to put the olives out in a dish. She's 4 now and very proud of her "making-dinner skills."

Each year the children in Ms. Julia's school make cranberry sauce. The cranberries are so much fun to wash in a big basin and then put in a pot with sugar and cinnamon. The cinnamon smells so good. They then take their share home in baby food jars. Smelling the different spices and naming them is a learning experience, something parents can share as they cook. Their young children learn about smells and learn new words at the same time as they see the ingredients go into the bowl or pot. They love sprinkling cinnamon sugar on their applesauce. They are cooking.

Yes, it takes a little longer in our already busy lives to let a child help roll out the empanada dough or to cut the bizchochitos into shapes and put them on the baking trays. It takes some patience and lots of supervision to teach a child how to drive in a nail with a child-sized real hammer. And yes, it takes awareness not to swear at other drivers on crowded streets. However, the rewards are priceless when we see our children become adults who cook great-grandmother's recipe or repair things in their own homes and behave politely with strangers. We are modeling lifetime skills for them.

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Judith Nasse runs a day care in Taos and is a writer and artist. Her book Millicent Rogers: A Life in Full, co-written with Art Bachrach and Nita Murphy, will be coming out this winter, published by ABQ Press.

APPLE EMPANADAS

(For very young children, have the ingredients prepared and ready for them to assemble.)
 Makes 8-10 empanadas

Dough

2 cups flour, plus extra flour for kneading
 2 tablespoons sugar
 ½ teaspoon salt
 ½ cup butter, lard or margarine

Instructions

- 1) Put flour in large mixing bowl and add salt and sugar. Stir.
- 2) Cut in butter with fork until mixture

Filling

5 medium apples peeled, cored and diced
 2 tablespoons lemon juice
 ½ cup raisins, soaked in water and drained
 ½ cup crushed walnuts (almonds or pecans can be substituted)
 1/3 cup raw honey
 1/3 cup sugar
 1½ teaspoon cinnamon
 ¼ teaspoon ginger
 pinch of ground cloves
 ½ teaspoon salt
 1/3 cup flour
 1/3 cup water

Instructions

- 1) Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
- 2) Mix all filling ingredients together in a mixing bowl.
- 3) Using a rolling pin, roll out half the chilled dough to a uniform ¼-inch

resembles coarse crumbs.

- 3) Gradually add cold water, mixing until soft dough is formed.
- 4) Turn dough onto lightly floured surface. Knead five minutes, adding flour as necessary to form an elastic dough ball.
- 5) Wrap dough in plastic and refrigerate at least one hour.
- 6) While dough is chilling, soak the ½ cup of raisins in one cup of water.

thickness.

- 4) Cut six- to eight-inch diameter round pieces from the dough (smaller if you want miniature empanadas). Use a plate, pot lid or a glass to cut around. Lay the rounds on a cookie sheet. Scoop approximately two to three tablespoons of filling onto half of each round of dough. Fold the other half of dough over filling and seal edges, crimping with a fork. Repeat with other half of dough. Cut one small vent hole in top of each empanada.
- 5) Bake on a cookie sheet for 25 minutes, then brush empanadas with glaze or sprinkle with cinnamon sugar (optional).
- 6) Increase temperature to 400 degrees and bake an additional 10 minutes.
- 7) Cool on wire racks.
- 8) Glaze with powdered sugar mixed with milk to consistency of cream (optional).

NEW MEXICAN TRADITIONAL BIZCHOCHITOS

(from Fayne Lutz, The Taos News)

Ingredients:

2 cups butter, lard or shortening (lard is most traditional)
 1 cup sugar
 1 teaspoon anise seed (Anise seed is traditional, though you can substitute with cinnamon)
 2 eggs, slightly beaten
 6 cups sifted flour
 3 teaspoons baking powder
 1 teaspoons salt
 ¼ cup water, orange juice, sweet wine or brandy
 ½ cup sugar mixed with 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon, for topping

Instructions:

- 1) Cream lard with sugar and anise seeds. Mix until fluffy.
- 2) Beat eggs and mix with lard mixture until fluffy once again.
- 3) Combine flour, baking powder and salt in a separate bowl.
- 4) Add to lard mixture and mix.
- 5) Add the liquid (water, orange juice, brandy or wine) and knead until well mixed.
- 6) Roll dough into ½-inch-thick pieces, then cut into squares, diamonds, rounds or use your favorite holiday cookie cutters.
- 7) Sprinkle with cinnamon-sugar mixture.
- 8) Bake at 350 degrees until browned, about 35 minutes. Makes 10 dozen cookies.

Giving the Gift of

Where have all the great toys gone? By Shari Cassutt

Photos by Ana June

Not too long ago I spent my first holiday season

with my boyfriend's family. As the "Almost Auntie" to his 6-year-old nephew, I was called upon to buy a holiday present for a child I had yet to meet. Drawing on my years of experience as both an early childhood educator and a parent of two now-grown children, I headed to the big box toy store with the perfect idea. What little boy doesn't want more Legos? As I cruised the aisles of building toys, however, it became apparent that simply buying more Legos wasn't an option, at least not that day, or at that store.

I could buy a Lego fire truck kit, a space station kit, a cowboy kit, or a racing car kit, but I couldn't simply buy plain Legos. Each set came with the required pieces and add-ons: horses, sails, fire helmets and, of course, detailed, illustrated, multi-step directions. Not wanting to have my present spurned with the off-handed, "Oh, I already have that one," and not knowing if this child was a pirate maniac, dinosaur maniac, or car maniac (and you know how wrong you can be if you get a pirate ship for a child who only loves construction equipment), I gave up on my original plan and searched the store for something else that would inspire his imagination and his creativity. I was in pursuit of a gift that embodied all the values I hold about what a great and excellent toy should be.

As I walked past rows of video games and learning tablets and collectibles and plastic replicas of movie characters with built-in story lines and one-trick ponies — toys like remote-controlled cars and puppies — I started to wonder what had happened to imaginative play. Was my Lego experience an isolated incident or indicative of something bigger?

Certainly there's something to be gained from following the directions. I spent 20 years as a kindergarten teacher, and we teachers are big on following directions (self-preservation, I think), but it seemed to me that the number of shelves dedicated to adult-conceived play experiences with built-in rules and goals had

proliferated in the years since my children were young, while the shelf space dedicated to true child-centered, open-ended, imaginative play had diminished.

It is hard to imagine childhood without play. The two are nearly synonymous. But the sad fact is that unstructured play is becoming a lost art. Dr. John Medina, developmental molecular biologist and author of *Brain Rules for Baby*, (Pear Press, 2011) reports that between 1981 and 1997 the amount of free time parents allowed their children dropped by 25 percent. I can only imagine how much that free time has diminished in the 15 years since.

Unfortunately, the erosion of playtime isn't just a problem at home. Play during the school day is also at risk. In 2009, Alliance for Childhood published *Crisis in The Kindergarten: Why Children Need to Play in School*, by Edward Miller and Joan Almon. The release of the study led to a flurry of articles in large media outlets such as The New York Times and The Boston Globe, but did little to alter practice in schools. In many kindergarten classrooms, here in Santa Fe as well as across the country, there are no easels for painting, no dress-up corners, no blocks, no housekeeping corner. If the tools of play happen to be in the room, perhaps crammed in a space between tables, textbooks, workbooks and computers, there is often little time in the busy schedule of reading, math, science and social studies instruction to use them.

In 2007 the American Academy of Pediatrics published an article outlining the role of play in the healthy development of children. The authors noted with concern that free time for play, daydreaming and self-directed activity is being pushed aside in response to families' "hurried lifestyle(s) as well as an increased focus on the fundamentals of academic preparation in lieu of a broader view of education." The National Institute of Health notes on their website another reason that quality playtime is suffering. According to their research, the average American child between the ages of 8 and 13 spends six hours a day in

front of one kind of screen or another.

Those who study children's play are becoming more and more convinced that dramatic play — the kind that often begins with the much loved words "Let's pretend" — is the vehicle for children to learn how the world works. Children's play is the national laboratory and think tank of the developing human being.

Child-centered play helps foster a set of higher skills that are known as "executive skills," or "executive function skills." Different writers and researchers have slightly different lists of executive skills, but they are all quite similar. The term refers to a human's ability to make connections, take appropriate risks, pay attention, communicate and negotiate, exhibit self-control and engage in self-directed learning. In other words, play leads to all the characteristics children and adults need to be successful and happy.

Great toys can be the agent of dramatic play. A great toy is not necessarily today's popular toy. It probably will *not* be the one that you stand in line for and pay too much for. It may not be the toy that has gone viral, that your child simply must have ... for maybe a month. A great toy takes on a life of its own. In the spirit of Margery Williams' *The Velveteen Rabbit*, you might say a great toy becomes real. It can be a bike named "Speedy" or a bat and a ball that instantly transports the holder to the seventh inning of the World Series.

The Earth Mother in me would like to say that most great toys are non-commercial, made of natural materials and handcrafted. Thirty years ago I sat with a group of new mothers in the basement of a church in Eastchester, New York, for a meeting of our weekly parenting group. When asked by the leader to look back on preconceived notions we had disavowed during our first year of parenting, one of the young mothers said that she *really* thought that her child would only play with wooden toys. We all laughed ruefully. We were so much wiser than we had been a year before. The thing about toys is that it's hard to predict what will become a great toy for any particular child.

Among the toys that populated our house, not the just the kids' bedrooms or the playroom but the entire house, were my daughter's extensive collection of purple ponies. Perhaps they weren't

all purple, but it seemed that way. Those doe-eyed, plastic ponies with shiny synthetic manes and tails in colors never found in nature, sporting glittery stars and rainbows on their flanks that might have been placed there by a cattle-rustlin' gang of tooth fairies, were about as far from the imagined wooden toys of my friend's ideal world as you could get. And if their appearance wasn't enough to rattle me right down to my toes, the purple ponies were featured in commercials and even starred in their own movie. But, in my daughter's hands the purple ponies became "real." When she played with them she entered a world of her own making. They were great toys.

A great toy, like great playtime, is one that is open-ended, has no right or wrong answer and encourages a child to create, to ask, "What if?" What if I line up all these ponies? Will they fit on the coffee table? What if I knock them off the table one-by-one, two-by-two? What if the ponies go to the moon, or to school, or to California? What if they dance in "The Nutcracker" with toilet paper tutus taped to their backs and withers?

That Christmas of the Lego, I did find a great toy. It was an oversized flying disk, nearly as large as a hula hoop, covered in stretchy material that both contributed to its aero-dynamic qualities and made a great trampoline for a ball, pinecone and little sister's doll. As soon as the mounds of presents were opened and the dinner plates were cleared, Zack, Dad and Uncle headed outside for an elaborate game of "Throw the Thing." Left behind were the flying helicopter that had already been broken, the Wii that still needed to be set up, and assorted other treasures. The three of them negotiated the rules of the game — who threw to whom, where was out of bounds, what was a fair catch. When 3-year-old Kate, barely taller than the aforemen-

tioned disk, came out to join the game, followed by Mom and Almost Auntie, the rules were modified. When the adults were done playing, "Throw the Thing" became a game for one, with new rules that Zack made up as he went along.

Every year as the winter holidays approach, grownup eyes glaze over from too many jingly toy commercials and glossy newspaper gift guides. We inevitably find ourselves searching for the most begged-for video games or electronic gizmos. But, we should all remember the lessons of the Flying Thing and those of our own childhood memories. Hopefully we won't forget the old standbys — blocks, balls, trucks and dolls — even if they're not top on the wish lists of our young ones. Maybe we'll even take a chance and be daring and creative. We'll wrap up boxes of sticky tape, paints and crayons. We'll find a yard or two of slinky, glittery fabric that can become a cape, a tablecloth, a blanket or the surface of the moon. We'll put them all in a nest of cardboard boxes of varying sizes, and we'll sit back in wonder as we watch the magic of a child's imagination take over.

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Shari Cassutt is a retired kindergarten teacher who taught in Santa Fe Public Schools for 20 years. She is now working as a freelance copywriter and recently completed training as a Positive Discipline facilitator, an approach to parenting that encourages self-discipline, responsibility and cooperation.



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What's Love Got to Do With It?

Winter offers time for reflection on that “splendored” feeling

By Rev. Talitha Arnold

“Love is a many-splendored thing,” affirms an old song. These months of December, January and February offer parents and children many opportunities to explore different kinds of love and the many ways to show love to people close to us as well as those we don't know. Despite the cold, winter offers abundant time to reflect on the warmth of love.

For Native Americans, winter is the time for storytelling that recalls the wisdom of the elders and their love for future generations. It's also the time for feast days and the remembrance of our connection to the Creator.

In December, Chanukah for Jews and Christmas for Christians are remembrances of God's love. The eight-day Festival of Lights reminds Jews how God's love shone for their ancestors even in the darkest times. Similarly, Christmas celebrates how, in the words of an old carol, “love came down,” and shone through the face of an infant born to a poor family living in the shadow of the Roman Empire.

The most obvious holiday based on love is, of course, Valentine's Day on February 14. Along with making cards for their families or friends, children can be encouraged to express love beyond their immediate circle. One way is to make sure that everyone in their class gets a valentine, not just their best friends. Another is to use the day to show love to people who are often forgotten in our community. At the church I serve, our Children's Choir goes to a local nursing home to sing on Valentine's Day. On the Sunday before, the children decorate heart cookies for the homeless guests at the Santa Fe Interfaith Winter Shelter and St. Elizabeth Shelter. Some years they have also made valentines for children at the family center of the New Mexico State Penitentiary whose parents, siblings or other family members are incarcerated.

One story about the origin of Valentine's Day offers an understanding of love that goes beyond romance. According to legend, Valentine was a Christian priest during the reign of Roman Emperor Claudius II in the third century. To strengthen his army, the emperor had ordered men to remain single so they could serve as soldiers. However, because of Jesus' teachings on nonviolence, early Christians refused to serve. Valentine secretly performed weddings in defiance of the emperor's orders so that the men could not be pressed into military service. When his actions were discovered, the emperor had him put to death.

We might not want to share the end of St. Valentine's story with young children,



The Ice Rug by Anna, Gunther, and Bluebird

but seeing his holiday as a link between love, working for peace and caring for others is certainly a possibility.

One of our most poignant opportunities to broaden the conversation about love comes in January, on the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. As a leader in the Civil Rights movement, Rev. Dr. King used the teaching of “Love your neighbor as yourself” as the basis for his call to end segregation and his work for peace. He drew not only upon his own Christian tradition, but affirmed that “Love your neighbor” is at the heart of every major faith teaching.

In his book *Stride Toward Freedom: The Montgomery Story*, Dr. King wrote, “Along the way of life, someone must have sense enough and courage and morality enough to cut off the chain of hate. This can only be done by projecting the ethic of love to the center of our lives.”

Throughout the Civil Rights movement, children and youth — along with many adults — demonstrated the courage and morality needed to cut the chain of hate. The story of 6-year-old Ruby Bridges, who walked through a gauntlet of angry demonstrators just to get to school, and who prayed for her tormentors every night, is a powerful example of that courage, morality and love.

Dr. King had studied the writings of Mahatma Gandhi and greatly admired Gandhi's teaching of nonviolent resistance. But he also knew that just the absence of violence was not enough. Love had to be at the core. Remembering the 1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott, he wrote, “From the beginning, a basic philosophy guided the movement ... referred to variously as nonviolent resistance, noncoop-

eration and passive resistance. But in the first days of the protest, none of these expressions was mentioned. The phrase most often heard was Christian love. It was the Sermon on the Mount, rather than a doctrine of passive resistance, that initially inspired the Negroes of Montgomery to dignified social action (and to protest with the creative weapon of love ... In other words, Christ furnished the spirit and motivation, while Gandhi furnished the method.”

Dr. King also distinguished between different kinds of love. “In speaking of love,” he affirmed, “we are not referring to some sentimental or affectionate emotion. It would be nonsense to urge (people) to love their oppressors in an affectionate sense. Love in this connection means understanding, redemptive good will for people. When we speak of loving those who oppose us, we refer to neither *eros* (sexual love) nor *philia* (brotherly love). Instead, we speak of a love which is expressed in the Greek word *agape*. *Agape* means the love of God operating in the human heart.”

Eros, *philia* and *agape* may be beyond the grasp of most children (and some adults!), but even young children can differentiate between the love they have for their family and the love they show to people they don't know.

Dr. King also underscored the power of *agape* love. “*Agape* is not a weak, passive love,” he continued. “It is love in action.... (It) means a recognition of the fact that all life is interrelated ... all are brothers and sisters.”

King's *agape*, “love in action,” meant that love is expressed not only in the individual care of one's neigh-

bor but also in changing laws and practices that harm or discriminate against others. Loving one's neighbor and working for social justice go hand in hand. As the dean of Union Theological School Dr. Serene Jones states, “Justice is love with legs. Justice is what love looks like when it takes social form.” (St. Valentine, secretly performing weddings to keep young men out of the Roman army, would have agreed.)

While the connection between love and justice may be too abstract for young children, older ones and youth certainly know what injustice looks and feels like. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s holiday is a time to help children not only to remember his dream of equality but also to think about how we can put our love into action in ways that move beyond charity to justice, i.e., “love with legs.”

This year in Santa Fe, the new “Stand Up for Kindness” program over the Martin Luther King weekend

will offer children, youth and adults a variety of ways to put legs on love. Sponsored by the public schools and the Interfaith Leadership Alliance, the program moves beyond an “anti-bully” message to one that empowers children, youth and adults to stand up, speak out and take action when they see someone being discriminated against, taunted or hurt by others. The weekend will include a variety of activities and events for all ages, including the opportunity to sign the “Stand Up for Kindness” pledge. The goal is 20,000 signers, and children can help lead the way.

Standing up for kindness, reaching out to those in need, showing care beyond one's own family and circle of friends — all are ways of making this winter a true “season of love.”

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Rev. Talitha Arnold is senior minister of The United Church of Santa Fe.

Be Blue for the River!

This Valentine's Day give your river a Valentine! The Santa Fe Watershed Association invites kids and the community to submit their own “Blue Heart Valentine.” Show your appreciation for the river by submitting a heart-shaped valentine of any size or material, just make sure it's blue in honor of the river! Include your name, phone number and email address at the back of your blue heart. Valentines will be displayed at events throughout the year. Drop off your creation by February 1 at the Santa Fe Watershed Association office, 1413 Second Street Suite #3, Santa Fe, and call 820-1696 or go to www.santafewatershed.org for more information.

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HAPPY HANDS

Squeezing the joy out of clay • By Ginny Zipperer

Sandbox. Mudpies. Play dough. Do you remember how much fun it was to make things out of something soft and wet? Have you watched your own children absorbed in shaping and smoothing, fashioning their personal expressions with their hands? Creative play is great no matter what media you use or how old you are. It is the process that is fun; the outcome is less important. The joy is in the willingness to *play*.

Embracing play during the creative process is the idea behind the Family Clay Play workshops, listed on the Santa Fe Creative Tourism website (see box). The site, set up by the city of Santa Fe Arts Commission, lists workshops for people visiting Santa Fe who want to have a participatory art experience while they are here.

I remembered a time, a while ago, when a friend's son and his family were visiting Santa Fe and she asked if I would host them at the Baca Street Studios and have them do some clay projects. Two young children and their parents came and had a great time playing for several hours. Clay play is a wonderful way for people to bond in a nonverbal activity. When a family comes in, the children are often the more self-assured ones, while the parents are a little more timid about what they want to do because they have that self-judging thing going on. That disappears quickly and soon everyone is engaged with the clay. Time slows down, stress evaporates and everyone is having fun.

Playing with clay permits the breaking of some rules that we usually live by. It's okay to get dirty. It's okay to smack the clay. You don't have to talk. It uses right-brain instead of left-brain thinking. You can be very physical with it without doing any damage. If you don't like what's happening, you can start over and nothing is lost. People who have had bad art experiences in their lives, or who are intimidated by other art forms, often find that they are more comfortable with clay because the experience of working with the clay is so

pleasurable and artistic skills aren't necessary. This is truly a "something for everyone" activity.

As an artist, I have taken advantage of the services SFCT offers and am greatly appreciative of what they do. Since the Creative Tourism website did not have many activities posted for children or families, I decided I wanted to offer Family Clay Play workshops to give families an opportunity to be creative together.

One family had just come from the Gulf of Mexico, where they had been involved in helping newly hatched baby turtles get safely to the water. The daughter decided she wanted to raise money for a Make-a-Wish Foundation child. To raise money, the family made seashell turtles from shells they collected on beaches they visited and sold the turtles for \$5.

Not all the families who do the workshop have young children. There was a mother who came with her adult daughter and the daughter's boyfriend. Another time it was a young man and his girlfriend.

The Clay Play session usually lasts an hour and a half or so. When everyone has made something, we go to the gallery and look at glazes. Each person picks out the glazes they would like to have put on their piece. The pieces have to dry first, of course, and be bisque-fired before they can be glazed. I suppose you could say there is a lesson here about delayed gratification, since it could be weeks before the family receives the finished pieces in the mail. Or, you could say that finding them in the mail after they return home is an opportunity to relive their time in Santa Fe and the fun they had making them.

Ginny Zipperer is a potter who offers Family Play Clay in the Baca Street Pottery studio, 730 Baca Street, Santa Fe. She can be reached by phone: 505-204-6236, or email: gzip1@juno.com.



THE HANDS-ON TOURIST

Directing visitors (and Santa Feans alike) to participatory art experiences

The mission of Santa Fe Creative Tourism (SFCT), a program of the Santa Fe Arts Commission, is to encourage people coming to Santa Fe to be more than observers when they visit.

Since Santa Fe has such a huge art community, a large part of SFCT's efforts have been directed toward connecting visitors with artists who want to provide the public with a variety of art experiences at all levels of expertise. The workshop offerings listed on SFCT's website fall under a rich variety of categories such as: assemblage collage and book arts; drawing and mixed media; encaustic and plein air painting; painting, pottery and sculpture; theatre, dance and music; traditional arts; and weaving and fiber arts. Although the majority of postings on the site relate to the arts, other offerings and opportunities include cooking classes, outdoor adventures and workshops and retreats focusing on spiritual, fitness and personal exploration, as well as developing virtual models and experiencing firsthand the principles of sacred geometry.

SFCT helps Santa Fe area artists generate business and enhance their presence in the local community and beyond, by working with them to develop offerings that are professional and appealing. Artists have opportunities to improve their business and promotional skills through SFCT's partners in the tourism industry, such as hotels and airlines, to develop travel packages that will appeal to people looking for an experiential travel adventure.

TRY THESE YOURSELF! Activities for the home or classroom

Mosaic Tiles

MATERIALS:

Clay, salt dough or any other clay-like material.

PROCEDURE:

Before you begin, take a look around the house or yard and find six or eight things that would make a good design when pressed in clay. The objects should not be too large. Test them by pressing them into the clay to see what the design will look like. Some things from around the house that give interesting patterns would be buttons, leaves, bark, lace and other fabrics with heavy textures. Kids could also make design elements by drawing a pattern on a piece of cardboard with a glue gun or liquid white glue. When the glue is dry and hard it will make a great impression on the clay.

1. Roll out a piece of clay to about a ¼" thickness and cut out a square at least 4" x 4", but not bigger than 8" x 8". Set it aside and cover with plastic so it doesn't dry out.
2. Roll out another piece of clay, about the same size and thickness. Cut this piece into smaller squares, about 1" x 1" in size.
3. Using the items you gather or create, press them into each 1" x 1" square to create a design on each square.

4. After all the squares have a design, stick the smaller squares onto the bigger square. If you are using real clay or salt dough, dampen the small square with a little water before pressing it onto the big square. You can use thin-rolled clay coils or "snakes" in between the rows of squares if you like, and these can be decorated also.

5. After all the squares are attached press the whole surface down lightly to make sure they are firmly attached. Run a small pointed tool (a pencil will do) along the joints of the squares to seal the joints. When they are finished, cover the tiles with plastic and dry them slowly so they don't separate as they dry. After the piece is completely dry, it can be painted with acrylic paints.



Courtesy photos

Alien Monsters

MATERIALS:

For this project you will also need clay or a clay-like material and a toilet paper, paper towel or other cardboard tube for each artist.

PROCEDURE:

1. Roll out slabs of clay about ¼" thick and wide enough to wrap around the cardboard tube. Seal the joint with a little water where the clay overlaps itself. Using a hair dryer, blow-dry the clay until it is slightly stiff and can be slipped off the tube to stand on its own. (Wrapping wax paper around the tube before putting the clay on it can help the clay come off easier.) Do not over-dry the clay tube. It should be dry enough to stand alone, but wet enough to hold an impression when you push it with your finger.

2. Using coils, balls and other clay bits, create an alien monster. Use a small, safe knife (such as a pumpkin-carving tool) to cut out eyes, mouths and other features. Affix to the surface of the tube. Add whatever features you can imagine an alien might have — many eyes? Two mouths? Tentacles? Feet? Wheels? Use a little water on each piece as necessary to ensure that it sticks to the tube. Be creative and make the aliens as scary or cute as you can!

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A parent's guide to social media and Internet safety
By Marisela Angulo

As a child of the 80s, raised

on technology, I imagine that it can be overwhelming for today's parents to teach their kids about Internet and social media safety. It's intuitive to assume that parents are the ones who teach their children how to perform new skills and make use of tools, but technology has turned that idea on its head. I grew up with technology that my parents couldn't begin to understand, and oftentimes they didn't know what else to do but trust me to do the "right" thing with it. For this article I have thought about the things that might have helped my parents guide me, even when "technically" I was much more savvy.

Online safety is no longer only a matter of strict browsing controls. Yes, it's advisable for parents to seek filtering software that blocks adult content and viruses. However, even the best filters can't stop certain inappropriate sites from surfacing, as the content may not yet have been "flagged" as inappropriate. There are also no filters smart enough to block inappropriate interactions between your kids and their social media contacts. Because of this, it becomes imperative to keep an open conversation with your kids about online and social media safety.

Parents should give kids an idea of what is acceptable and unacceptable behavior online, starting from their guidelines for acceptable behavior in day-to-day life. Computer safety also requires us to discuss issues of privacy and reputation. This includes helping kids to understand what things should stay private, as they decide what information to share with their contacts.

Setting some basic (or not so basic) ground rules will allow you to stay informed about your kids' online habits and help you provide guidance for their safety. Just as you wouldn't allow your child to go to a mixed-age event without supervision, you should recognize social media and the Internet as a real-world means of communication that should also be moderated.

The following are some ideas to help you get started with setting your own ground-rules for Internet and social media use:

- **Know their online friends.** If you know your kids' friends at school, your role in their social media use shouldn't be much different. You have a similar right and responsibility to know who your kids are "friending" and interacting with on social media sites. Make this an important part of your ground rules: you should have open access to their account so that you can browse through friends and make sure content they are sharing is appropriate.
- **Limit use.** Designate times and limits for use, just as you would for TV and video games. Social media shouldn't replace face-to-face interaction.
- **Pick a centralized location.** Allow them use of a computer or tablet only in a shared space in your home, such as the family room or kitchen, as opposed to privately in their rooms. Kids are less likely to engage in risky behavior if you are in the room or might walk through at any moment.
- **Block pop-ups.** Tell your child to block pop-up windows and to ask you when they're unsure about online

WHAT ARE PARENTS TO DO?!

ads. Kids are more likely to click on a colorful button that says, "You've won \$1,000 dollars, click here to redeem." These announcements and pop-up windows usually lead to viruses or inappropriate websites.

• **Beware what you share.** The issue of privacy online quickly becomes an issue of reputation. Advise your kids that with the widespread use of social media sites, our lives are being "recorded" online, and anything we say or post can easily be shared and copied. Parents should urge their children to think twice about what is appropriate to post in public platforms.

• **Don't believe everything you see.** Teach your kids that not everything they see online is true. A lot of information has not been verified, and many websites and blogs are filled with opinion presented as fact. The same principle applies to others' identities; not everyone is who they say they are. The Internet brings new meaning to "Don't talk to strangers," and parents have a key role in identifying risky behavior.

If you are coming to social media new as an adult, or even to the Internet, you are not alone! There are countless resources online and locally that can help you keep your kids safe. Look for free computer literacy classes offered at the Santa Fe Public Library, or sign up for a beginner course at the Santa Fe Community College. As a good parent, *your* responsibility is to make an effort to get familiar with new communication technologies that affect your children.

Finally, remember to model proper technology etiquette. Be a good example for your kids! Don't text and drive or check email — even at stoplights.

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Marisela Angulo is Tumbleweeds' calendar and directory editor, and the operations manager of the Institute for Spanish Arts. Look for her Techie Corner in upcoming issues of Tumbleweeds, and email info@sftumbleweeds.com with questions you'd like her to address.

Social Media Sites for Kids

What many parents don't know is that it's actually illegal for children under the age of 13 to be on social media sites like Facebook. Yes, illegal. The Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) prevents websites from collecting personal information about children who are under the age of 13 without their parents' permission. And although Facebook requires a member's date of birth, it is easy enough to adjust the birth year to make the cut. The concern about young children logging on to Facebook is not only a legal issue. We've all heard the horror stories. Children, innocent and unsuspecting, run the risk of connecting with online predators posing as other school-aged children.

The recent creation of social media sites for young children and preteens has addressed some of these concerns. Social media sites for younger members are designed with strict security controls. Some of the sites require the use of a webcam in order to verify that the member logging in is truly a child.

Some of the sites included below are strictly moderated for girls only, since girls become more social at a younger age than boys, and the gender separation can bring peace of mind to some parents. Most of the sites encourage parental involvement and content is closely monitored and controlled.

• **www.scufflepad.com:** A social network just for kids. Here kids can safely learn the basics of social media. Some of the restrictions include manual moderation of all uploaded photos and a selection of pre-approved words for status updates (no profanity allowed). The age range of members is 6 to 11 years. The site claims that some 10,000 kids have already joined.

• **www.everloop.com:** Safety is key on this social networking site designed for ages 8 to 13 (but open to children younger than 8 and up to age 15). Users are encouraged to friend only people they already know offline. Parental controls allow adults to receive notification of their kids' actions on the site.

• **www.sweethigh.com:** This is a school-themed social site just for girls ages 10 to 13, where they can interact with friends online, post photos and videos, and earn rewards. The site includes games and contests that encourage creativity and self-esteem.

There are many more social media sites for kids, even as young as preschool. Visit **www.commonsemmedia.org** to find a more complete listing and more information for parents. Common Sense Media is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing trustworthy information to families about media and technology.



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Local craftsfolk reach out to foster children
By Janice Quinn

Stockings

The sound of Bing Crosby crooning “I’ll be Home for Christmas” might trigger warm memories of happy family gatherings and bring a smile to your face, but this is not the case for many children who find themselves in foster care during the holidays. They are often far away from their parents and family, having left pets and friends behind.

Although they may be in loving homes provided by foster parents, young children separated from their families can find it very difficult to navigate the feelings of loss amid the chaotic cheer and excitement other children feel as Christmas approaches. A collaboration of Northern New Mexico nonprofit organizations — including volunteers, artists and neighbors from Espanola, Truchas, White Rock and Eldorado; teens from Abiquiu, El Rito, Gallina and Medanales; and the Children, Youth and Families Department — is working to make the holidays a little brighter for these special kids.

After retiring as executive director of CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) for the First Judicial District this summer, I was looking for different ways to help the children I had loved working with at CASA. I was also eager to return to the quilting I love, so I devised a plan: Make a personalized Christmas stocking for each of the children in foster care in Rio Arriba, Santa Fe and Los Alamos counties. I proposed this community project to fellow members of Quilters in the Valley, a newly formed quilting group hosted by the Espanola Valley Fiber Arts Center (EVFAC), and the plan began to take shape.

The idea sparked avid quilter Pat De Vries to help, due to her past experience as a foster parent in Virginia and Arizona. “I want the children to realize there are people outside their current situation who care about them,” De Vries said. “I hope they can carry the hope and peace of Christmas with them throughout the year.” She provided the pattern, bags of Christmas fabric scraps and expertise.

The dedicated quilters turned EVFAC into Santa’s workshop for a summer afternoon of group sewing and then continued making close to 100 stockings in their own homes. Nadina Barnes, a fiber artist, is embroidering the children’s first names on stocking cuffs, making each stocking a personalized gift the children can call their own for years to come.

Of course, empty stockings need to be filled! When I spoke with Leona Hill-

ary, program director of the Northern Youth Project, she and the NYP teens jumped at the chance to help other kids. “Northern Youth Project was created for teens by teens, with the mission of bettering the outcomes of rural northern New Mexico teens through art, agriculture, community service and leadership projects,” she explained. “Every year the teens hold a charity drive. This year they chose to focus their efforts on filling 100 stockings for children spending the holidays in foster care.”

These amazing teens are farmers, photographers, artists— and no strangers to community service. They are conducting gift drives at their schools and soliciting donations from individuals and local businesses to buy small gifts, wholesome snacks and gift cards for the stockings of older youth in foster care. The CASA office has donated small toys for the stockings and a \$50 gift card to purchase more goodies.

We will hold a “stuffing party” the first week in December to fill the stockings according to gender and age (infant through 18). The stockings will then be delivered to the Children, Youth and Families Department offices in Española and Santa Fe. Santa’s elves will be on hand to make sure each child receives his or her personalized (and bulging) stocking at the mid-December Christmas parties hosted by CYFD in Santa Fe and Española.

Besides being a lot of fun, this project has been a very rewarding way to see diverse groups of people of different ages, faiths and backgrounds come together and work hard for the most vulnerable in our community. Even though this is a Christmas Project, people from all faiths are contributing, including members of the Abiquiu Muslim community. Most of the women involved in this project also work for or volunteer with other organizations. We share the belief that responsibility for the welfare of the children in our communities belongs to us all. We have each put in many hours of work, stitching love and prayers for a brighter and safer future into each stocking. Envisioning the look of delight and surprise in the children’s eyes as they see their names on their own stockings is the best gift we could receive in return.

If you would like to make a donation to purchase gifts, snacks and gift cards to fill the stockings, please send a check (made out to Northern Youth Project



Courtesy photos

with "Stocking Project" in the memo line) to P.O. Box 1040, Abiquiu, NM 87510. You can also make a credit card or PayPal donation online at www.northernyouthproject.org, and please indicate that the donation is for the Stocking Project.

Look for receiving boxes made by the Northern Youth Project teens at any of the following locations and leave your donations during their regular business hours: Bode's General Store in Abiquiu; La Puerta School for the Arts, Sciences and Agriculture; the Medanales Post Office; El Rito Public Library; Pueblo de Abiquiu Library and Cultural Center; Boys and Girls Club del Norte's Abiquiu and Chimayo sites; Arroyo Seco Animal Hospital; Rising Moon Gallery in Abiquiu; Española YMCA Teen

Center, and Top LA Nails in Española.

Want to get involved in other ways? These organizations offer ways to directly provide support to youth in Northern New Mexico.

- **Boys & Girls Club del Norte:** Offers educational programs, arts, crafts, games and field trips to children, ages 6 to 13. www.bgcdelnorte.org.
- **CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) First Judicial District:** Trains volunteers to speak in court for the best interest of abused and neglected children. www.casafirst.org.
- **Espanola Valley Fiber Arts Center:** Provides the community with learning and teaching experiences in the fiber arts. www.EVFAC.org.
- **Habitat for Humanity:** Trains homeowners and

volunteers to build sustainable, energy-efficient and healthy housing. www.habitatvta.org.

- **Northern Youth Project:** Provides programs and activities for youth ages 12 to 21. www.northernyouthproject.org.

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Janice Quinn retired as Executive Director of CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), First Judicial District in June, after nine years of service on behalf of thousands of foster children. She is happily engaged in quilting, gardening, landscaping and tending her vineyard in Rio Chama where she lives with her husband Michael and their four-legged children.



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My Home, Far From Home

Raising a family across the world
from my birthplace

By Anabella St. Peter

Noises and sounds, smells, scents and tastes,

along with so many other little things, make our own culture unique. Chats and conversations, body language, facial and idiomatic expressions are so much a part of our customs and traditions that sometimes we do not really become aware of them until we move and begin our life anew in another land.

In July of 1999, I left my home city of Buenos Aires for New York City. I moved with my American husband, John, whom I had met in New York two years before on an educational experience in a museum, and he had moved to Argentina for a couple of years before we decided to move together to the United States. High humidity is present all year round in Buenos Aires (*"Lo que mata es la humedad!"* — "What kills you is the humidity" — is a very popular saying in Argentina), so it was not so hard to transition from a wintry month back home in Argentina to a very hot summer in New York City. I was ready for a change, and I knew that this move would be made easier by the fact that I was not moving alone, however in the beginning I encountered many challenges.

I began my first job, as the office manager of a very busy department at a college, soon after we arrived. I had a lot of responsibilities and knew little English, so I experienced several embarrassing situations. My English enabled me to function in a work setting and do well with basic tasks, but when it came to idiomatic expressions and slang, I felt out of the game. In my first week of work a friendly student asked me, "Are you homesick?" I answered her concern, "No, no, I'm not sick." When she clarified what she meant to say, I laughed with her, but deep inside I sensed that this journey was going to be a little bit hard.

I also remember the first time a student said, "Ma'am" on the phone. I thought that she was calling me "Mom," and I felt sorry for her. "Maybe, she's too overwhelmed with her student life, and she is confused?" I told myself. Sometimes I felt like a child, because I was learning so many new expressions and habits every day, except that since I had to absorb them all at once and quickly, I could not feel the excitement that a child feels while learning. Slowly, everything became easier, and later I was able to make fun of myself.

New York had so many foreigners that I often felt that I was just one more, and I began to develop a sense of belonging to that city. Although I missed my family, friends and traditions, I found it exciting to be in a new place, working and studying in another language, and meeting friends from all over the world.

The little differences continued to surprise me, however. Those cold, snowy winters, trying not to slide down the stairs of the subway carrying art supplies and materials in a heavy carry-on, were new to me because it does not snow in Buenos Aires. And white holidays? Everybody was very excited about this in New York, whereas for me it was a huge contrast. I grew up with holidays at the end of the school year, in the beginning of the summer,



The author at 8 years old, with her mother. Courtesy photos.

when everybody was talking about summer vacations, leaving the city and going to weekend houses and swimming pools. I would sometimes spend New Year's Eve in a bathing suit, cheering for the New Year in a pool. Those New Year's Eves were fun. We would have dinner with our family, and then it was time to go out with friends until the next morning. Summer dresses and sandals on a super warm night of December 31 was an easy way to feel light and excited about the New Year.

After a few years in the "city that does not sleep," working for dream museums and organizations, studying art history at night, going to shows and escaping from the city to the beach for a day, as well as after living through 9/11, my husband and I decided to leave New York and move to Santa Fe to raise a family. In New York, having a family would have been an odyssey, running up and down the subway stairs with a stroller and living in a tiny apartment. I was thrilled with the idea of living in Santa Fe and having children here, however some of my friends from Argentina criticized me for moving so far. "Two planes and 25 hours to travel to Argentina from New Mexico?! Think how hard it'll be for your family to visit you. What are you going to do when you decide to have kids?" A very good friend blurted out those questions to me before I left New York.

A year later, when my identical twin daughters were born, I understood perfectly what she wanted to address with her poignant questions that had annoyed me so much. I knew that despite all of the help, support and friendship that I had in Santa Fe, it would be a challenge to raise my daughters so far from my family in Argentina. My husband's family is in Michigan, which also felt so far for us, once we had kids.

Visits and frequent communication with my family have helped my daughters have a special connection to Argentina. So much so that they often say that when they grow up they are going to move there to find a boyfriend! Emma and Hannah love the Argentinian traditions and lifestyle, including the endless play-dates and late night schedules. They like the foods, the tall buildings, the noise and the aromas. They understand more and more about my heritage and feel attached to the people and places over there. They love the playgrounds, the theaters, museums and the friends and relatives "who always speak Spanish to us!" They like the thick Argentinean steaks (I am a vegetarian, so it is not my influence), the dulce de leche, the "facturas," our traditional pastries found in any local bakery. And of course, my family. They love their grandparents, their uncle, aunt and cousins and all of the relatives and close friends that we see on our visits. They enjoy the spontaneity that Argentineans have, without our need of always planning gatherings or activities far in advance. For example, when we



Emma's self-portrait saying goodbye to her grandparents.

go to a friend's house in Argentina around 6:30 in the evening to have a "merienda" — like tea time; dinner is always late over there — we end up staying at least until 9 p.m., often improvising a dinner right on the spot with whatever is there and adding some delivery of pizza and empanadas from a neighborhood place.

Yet even though those spontaneous gatherings filled with great food and laughs are a lot of fun, after being abroad for 13 years, I have to confess that I often feel out of place there. By now I am so used to our early dinners and local habits here in Santa Fe that the Argentinean routines feel awkward to me; however, I do not always feel that I belong here, either. A strange feeling, I have to say.

No matter how I feel, I realize that I greatly enjoy both the traditions of Argentina and my life here, far from home. When I prepare a huge Thanksgiving dinner with my husband, for instance, I realize that I have incorporated some sweet traditions from the United States, and it makes me feel so lucky to have two lands and two cultures. Although I still get my deodorant, talc powder and wool sweaters from Argentina whenever I have the chance, in addition to my haircuts, I have really gained so much by living in a different country. Living in the United States has opened up to me a new perspective. I feel that I can plan ahead easily and that my obsessive organizational skills are not so challenged here, whereas in Argentina things are more complicated and the

bureaucracy is often in my way. On the other hand, friendships here do not seem to last forever, whereas in Argentina most of your friendships, unless something really bad happens, could last for a lifetime. Each culture has its pros and cons, so once again it is interesting to have this double view and experience looking at life through two different lenses.

My daughters are becoming more aware of these two places that inhabit within me, and they are very sad when we leave Argentina, because they have to say goodbye for another year. At almost-7, they understand the notion of time. They understand perfectly that a year has 12 months and that we will not be able to return to Argentina for that long. It is heartbreaking to watch them cry for over 30 minutes at the airport, when I am also crying, after saying goodbye to their grandparents, who are crying, too.

Therefore, we do as much as we can so they have a constant connection with Argentina. They watch our family on Skype, we talk on the phone, and they send drawings pretty often. They also watch movies from Argentina, and they enjoy listening to the Argentinean accent. They talk about our family in Argentina constantly, and they ask me if Camilo and Miranda, their cousins from Argentina, are sleeping or awake, if it is early or late there, and so many other questions.



Emma and Hannah eating dulce de leche ice cream in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Living abroad has been a wonderful adventure. I still feel that I learn new things about this culture every month. Some things I love, while others still set me apart. I try to keep my own traditions and aspects of my culture alive, and now my daughters act as if they were ambassadors of my own country. It is very moving to see how they feel themselves a little Argentinean too!

.....
Anabella St. Peter creates fun and educational programs for children, families, teachers and older adults in New Mexico (see her directory listing for Fun Art for Children on page 30). She is also a local childcare coordinator with Cultural Care Au Pair, serving Santa Fe and Los Alamos.

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Reflexiones de una bonaerense en Santa Fe • Por Anabella St. Peter

Ruidos y sonidos, olores, perfumes y sabores, junto con muchas otras pequeñas cosas, hacen que nuestra propia cultura sea única. Las charlas y conversaciones, el lenguaje corporal y las expresiones faciales e idiomáticas son tan parte de nuestras costumbres y tradiciones que a veces no tomamos consciencia de ello hasta que nos mudamos y comenzamos una vida nueva en otro lugar.

En julio de 1999, dejé mi ciudad natal, Buenos Aires, para ir a Nueva York. Me mudé con mi esposo estadounidense, John, a quién había conocido en Nueva York dos años antes en una experiencia educativa de un museo y quién se había mudado a Argentina por un par de años, antes de decidir mudarnos juntos a Estados Unidos.

La alta humedad está presente en Buenos Aires todo el año. “Lo que mata es la humedad” es una expresión muy popular en Argentina, por lo tanto no me fue difícil la transición de un mes invernal en Argentina a un caluroso verano de Nueva York. Estaba lista para un cambio y sabía que esta mudanza iba a resultar un poco más fácil por el hecho de que no me estaba mudando sola, pero de todos modos en el comienzo encontré varios desafíos.

Muy pronto, luego de mi llegada, comencé mi primer trabajo como gerente de oficina en una universidad.

Tenía muchas responsabilidades y sabía poco inglés, entonces pasé por varias situaciones embarazosas. Mi inglés me permitía desarrollar distintas tareas básicas, pero en los momentos en que se presentaban expresiones idiomáticas y modismos, me sentía fuera del juego. En mi primera semana de trabajo, una estudiante muy amigable me preguntó: “Are you homesick?” (*home* quiere decir casa y *sick* es enfermo/a, pero las dos palabras juntas forman una expresión que quiere decir añorar el lugar de uno). Le contesté su inquietud: No, no estoy enferma. Cuando clarificó a lo que se refería, me reí con ella, pero bien adentro sentí que esta jornada iba a resultar un poquito dura.

También recuerdo la primera vez que otra estudiante me dijo por teléfono: “Ma’am” (que es una expresión breve de *Madam*). Pensé que me estaba diciendo “Mom” (mamá) y sentí lástima por ella. Quizás está muy sobrecargada con su vida de estudiante y se confundió-- me dije a mí misma. A veces, me sentía como una niña pequeña porque todos los días aprendía muchas expresiones y hábitos nuevos, con la excepción de que yo debía absorber todo junto y rápido. No podía

sentir la emoción que una niña siente en el proceso de aprendizaje. De a poco, todo fue resultando más fácil y más adelante pude reírme de mí misma.

En Nueva York había tantos extranjeros con lo cual, muy seguido, me sentía cómo una más y comencé a sentir que pertenecía a esa ciudad. Si bien por un lado extrañaba a mi familia, amigos y tradiciones, por el otro sentía entusiasmo por vivir en un lugar nuevo, poder trabajar y estudiar en otro idioma y hacer amistades con personas de todo el mundo.

Sin embargo, las pequeñas diferencias no paraban de sorprenderme. Esos inviernos fríos con nieve, tratando de no patinarme por las escaleras del metro, cargando materiales de arte en una gran maleta con rueditas bien pesada, me resultaba una nueva experiencia porque en Buenos Aires no nieva. Y “white holidays?” (Fiestas blancas: Navidad y año nuevo con nieve). Todo el mundo en Nueva York se veía tan entusiasmado, pero en cambio, para mí, era un gran contraste. Crecí celebrando esas fiestas al final del año lectivo, en el comienzo del verano cuando para todos el tema eran las vacaciones y la idea de dejar la ciudad y, para algunos, ir a sus casas de verano. A veces, celebraba la noche de fin de año en traje de baño, brindando en una alberca por el nuevo año. Esos fines de año eran divertidos. Solíamos cenar con nuestras familias y después salir con amigos hasta la mañana siguiente. Llevar puestos un vestido de verano y sandalias en una noche súper calurosa del 31 era realmente una forma fácil y relajada de recibir con entusiasmo el año nuevo.

Después de algunos años en “la ciudad que nunca duerme” (como la llaman a Nueva York) trabajando para museos soñados y otras organizaciones, estudiando historia del arte por las noches, yendo a shows y escapando de la ciudad a la playa por un día, así como también el haber vivido 9/11, mi marido y yo decidimos dejar Nueva York y mudarnos a Santa Fe para formar nuestra familia. El haber tenido hijos en Nueva York hubiera sido una odisea: arriba y abajo por las escaleras del metro con una carriola y viviendo en un pequeñísimo apartamento. Estaba entusiasmadísima con la idea de vivir en Santa Fe y tener niños aquí, pero algunas de mis amigas de Argentina me criticaron la idea de mudarme tan lejos. “¿Dos aviones y 25 horas de viaje de Argentina a Nuevo México? Piensa qué difícil será para tu familia el poder visitarte. ¿Qué es lo que vas a hacer cuando decidas tener hijos?”, me largó una de ellas antes que dejara Nueva York.

Un año más tarde, cuando mis gemelas nacieron, comprendí perfectamente lo que ella me quería explicar con esas preguntas que me habían molestado tanto. Sabía que a pesar de toda la ayuda, apoyo y amistades que tenía en Santa Fe, iba a resultar un desafío criar a



Arriba: Anabella, John, Emma y Hannah en McCall Pumpkin Patch, fiesta de las calabazas.



Abajo: Anabella a los 8 años de edad, con su hermano Mariano en la ciudad de Bariloche, Argentina.

mis hijas estando lejos de mi familia en Argentina. La familia de mi esposo está en Michigan y se sentía también bastante lejos cuándo tuvimos a nuestras hijas.

Los viajes, así como también una comunicación asidua con mi familia, han ayudado a que mis hijas establezcan una conexión especial con Argentina. Tal es así que bastante seguido dicen que ¡cuándo crezcan van a mudarse a Argentina a encontrar novio! Emma y Hannah adoran las tradiciones argentinas y el estilo de vida, incluso las visitas interminables con gente y los horarios tardíos de la noche. Les gustan las comidas, los altos edificios, el ruido y los aromas. Entienden más y más mis orígenes y se han encariñado con la gente y los lugares. Aman las plazas, los teatros, los museos y los amigos y parientes que como dicen ellas: ¡siempre nos hablan en español! Les gusta el corte de la carne gruesa argentina (yo soy vegetariana, así que no es mi influencia), el dulce de leche, las facturas — nuestros pasteles tradicionales que se encuentran en cualquier panadería local. Y, por supuesto, mi familia. Adoran a sus abuelos, a su tío, tía y primos y a todos los parientes y amigos cercanos que vemos en nuestros viajes. Disfrutan la espontaneidad de los argentinos pues no siempre es necesario planear encuentros o actividades con mucha anticipación. Por ejemplo, cuando vamos a la casa de una amiga en Argentina llegamos alrededor de las 6:30 de la tarde para tomar una merienda — la cena es siempre bien tarde allí — y nos terminamos quedando al menos hasta las 9 de la noche. Con frecuencia, a esa hora, improvisamos una cena con lo que haya en la casa, y agregamos un pedido de empanadas y pizza de algún lugar del barrio.

Si bien estos encuentros espontáneos llenos de

grandes comidas y risas son muy divertidos, tengo que confesar que muy seguido me siento fuera de lugar allí. Ya hace 13 años que vivo fuera del país. Ya hace tiempo que me acostumbré a las cenas tempranas y a los hábitos de Santa Fe. Entonces las rutinas de Argentina me parecen, por momentos, raras. No siempre siento que pertenezca aquí tampoco. Es un sentimiento extraño.

No obstante, disfruto plenamente de las dos tradiciones: la de Argentina y mi vida aquí lejos de mi hogar natal. Cuando preparo una enorme cena de Acción de Gracias con mi esposo, por ejemplo, me doy cuenta que he incorporado a mi vida algunas tradiciones especiales de Estados Unidos y me hace sentir muy afortunada el tener dos lugares y dos culturas. Aunque, cuando tengo la oportunidad, todavía me compro mi desodorante, talco y suéteres de lana en Argentina, como así también intento ir a la peluquería a cortarme el pelo allá. Realmente obtuve mucho al vivir en Estados Unidos. Por un lado, me abrió una nueva perspectiva. Siento que puedo planear fácilmente con anticipación y que mis capacidades obsesivas y organizativas no se ven tan desafiadas aquí, mientras que en Argentina las cosas suelen ser más complicadas de hacer y la burocracia habitualmente me estorba. Por otro lado, las amistades aquí no parecen durar para siempre, mientras que en Argentina casi todas las relaciones de amistad, sí no sucede nada verdaderamente malo, pueden durar toda una vida. Cada cultura tiene sus pros y sus contras, por lo tanto, una vez más, repito que es interesante tener esta experiencia de poder mirar a la vida desde dos lentes diferentes.

Mis hijas están cada vez más conscientes de los dos lugares que habitan dentro de mí y se ponen muy tristes

cuando debemos irnos de Argentina porque tienen que decir adiós hasta el próximo año. Ahora que tienen casi siete años de edad, entienden la noción de tiempo. Comprenden perfectamente que un año tiene 12 meses y que por mucho tiempo no van a poder retornar a Argentina. Se me rompe el corazón al verlas llorar por 30 minutos en el aeropuerto, cuando yo también estoy llorando, después de haber despedido a sus abuelos quienes también lloran.

Por lo tanto, hacemos todo lo que está a nuestro alcance para tener una conexión asidua con Argentina. Miran a la familia por Skype, hablamos por teléfono y, también bastante seguido, envían dibujos. Miran películas de Argentina y disfrutan al escuchar el acento argentino. Hablan constantemente sobre nuestra familia y me preguntan si Camilo y Miranda, sus primos de Argentina, están durmiendo o están despiertos, si es temprano o tarde allí y muchas otras preguntas.

El vivir en el extranjero ha sido una aventura maravillosa. Todavía siento que todos los meses, aprendo nuevas cosas sobre Estados Unidos. Algunas me encantan cuando otras todavía me hacen tomar distancia. Trato de mantener vivas mis tradiciones y distintos aspectos de mi cultura y ahora mis hijas actúan como si fueran embajadoras de mi propio país. ¡Es muy conmovedor ver cómo ellas también se sienten un poquito argentinas!

Anabella St. Peter crea programas divertidos y educativos para chicos, familias, maestros y personas mayores en Nuevo México (vean Fun Art for Children en la página 30). Ella es también una coordinadora local con Cultural Care Au Pair (LCC), en la zona de Santa Fe y Los Álamos.



Holiday Faire
Saturday, December 1st 10-3pm

Open House - K-12
Saturday, January 26th 10-Noon

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Heart Rug by Estrella Valdez and Saray Olivo

HOMETOWN HEROES SAVE THE DAY (FOR NOW)

Children's Museum funding campaign clears first hurdle
By Claudette E. Sutton

The Santa Fe Children's Museum's emergency

fundraising campaign, launched in September with the goal of raising \$200,000 by the end of the year, met its goal in November with the support of hundreds of community members and businesses. Hutton Broadcasting helped the museum raise the final \$75,000 with a multi-day Radio-A-Thon in November, broadcasting live from the museum and even camping out among its exhibits overnight until the target was reached.

"A lot of people have been asking, 'How did you get in this situation — what happened?'" said Julie DeFeo, the museum's director of marketing and community relations. "From the community's perspective, everything looked great — the museum was always crowded and families were having fun."

Behind the scenes, the museum suffered a loss of 68 percent of its outside funding from individuals, foundations and the government in the past two years, DeFeo explained. Grants are often dedicated for specific purposes, such as the museum's recent building expansion, and cannot be used for operating expenses. Turnover of high-level staff members further strained the museum's resources.

Community support for the Hometown Heroes emergency campaign was heartwarming to museum staff. Local business, including La Montanita Co-op, Verve Gallery and the Santa Fe Realtors Association, organized their own fund drives for the museum. Families and children stepped up, including four girls from El Dorado Elementary School who coordinated a bake sale at their school and raised \$316 in one day.

Another boy came in with his piggy bank and donated the contents: \$12.60.

"And yesterday we had two kids come in, a brother and sister," DeFeo said. "The girl gave her tooth fairy money, which was \$6, and her brother gave his

snow shoveling money, which was \$20. Those are the things that make it worthwhile. These things bring tears to my eyes.

"The \$200,000 allows us to keep our doors open to the beginning of next year," she added, "but we need to continue to work on fundraising. The second phase of the campaign is to develop a sustainable funding and business model."

To that end, the museum has established a Blue Ribbon Task Force of about 15 community and business leaders who will help create new strategies for its financial solvency. Museum representatives are in discussion with Mayor David Coss and Santa Fe City Council members about receiving operational funding from the city. Other plans include developing and strengthening the museum's board of trustees, and partnering in fundraising with other nonprofit organizations that serve children. The goal is for the museum to sustain its educational mission in a financially sustainable way, without compromising visitors' experience by cutting community services or charging for individual activities.

"We've kept the doors open, and we have a little bit of cushion to get us into the new year," DeFeo said, "but this is by no means meeting our full budget. We're hoping that people who have come forward and said 'the museum is very important to us and we don't want to lose you' will make us part of their annual giving plan, perhaps with a regular giving, maybe monthly donation."

If that's not feasible, consider becoming a regular volunteer at the museum, which has only eight paid staff members. In-kind donations of food, entertainment and other services for special events are also extremely helpful.

To find out more, go to www.santafechildrensmuseum.org and click "Hometown Heroes," or call 989-8359.

Parent Academy Wants Your Input

Heard the buzz about the Santa Fe Parent Academy? We are working towards designing the Academy right now, and we want to hear from parents!

The Parent Academy will not be housed in a single physical location but will be courses for parents offered all across the city.

We are at a critical point in our planning where we need YOUR feedback on what classes we should offer, what time they should be held and where the classes should take place. Our first step in gathering information about your interests is through our online Parent Academy Survey. Would you like classes on computer literacy? ESL? Exercise? Citizenship issues? Parent rights? Understanding the special education process? Please let us know. You can find the survey at www.k12insight.com/parentacademysurvey.html. Paper surveys are also available at school sites, or the school district main office, 610 Alta Vista (467-2000). There's no deadline; we'd love to hear from you at any time.

The survey is completely anonymous, and the gathered information will only be used to help the Parent Academy Planning Team make its recommendation to the District on what YOU, our parents and guardians, want out of the Parent Academy. Help us by going online and completing a survey today!

- Tita Gervers, Director, SFPS Office of Student Wellness

Santa Fe Students Win Global Award

Hooked on Books, a student-driven, citywide literacy campaign, has won the 2012 Global Call to Action Award, cosponsored by the Pearson Foundation and PeaceJam, an international nonprofit education program.

Hooked on Books began in 2011 as a project of students at Santa Fe School for the Arts & Sciences, a nonprofit Expeditionary Learning school for students in preschool to middle school. Inspired by a trip to India made possible by a Fund for Teachers grant, middle school students began organizing monthly reading contests in Santa Fe schools. The group evolved into Youth United, a citywide student committee, and worked with the City of Santa Fe and businesses to form a larger coalition called the New Mexico Alliance for Literacy, inspiring Mayor Coss to name 2012 the Year of the Book.

Twenty representatives of Youth United attended the annual PeaceJam Hero Awards Luncheon in Denver in November, to receive the grand prize award from 2011 Nobel Laureate Leymah Gbowee, a Liberian activist responsible for a women's peace movement that helped end the Liberian Civil War.

In addition, Hooked on Books has earned a daylong visit to their school by one of the Nobel Peace Laureates who serve on PeaceJam's Board, who will

help participating students develop new strategies and approaches for their campaign.

Hooked on Books offers student-designed contests and prizes that get kids excited about reading. Prizes include iPods, Kindles, bikes and trips. There are also free book swap shelves at the hospital, Department of Motor Vehicles, urgent care facilities and other places with waiting rooms often filled with parents and children. *Tumbleweeds* is the business sponsor of the bookshelf at Arroyo Chamiso Pediatric Center. The Pearson Foundation is donating 1,000 books for the bookshelves.

In the summer of 2012, Youth United ran a free intensive reading summer camp called Reading is Magic. Through game play and other innovative techniques, participating students on average increased their reading scores by one grade level after just two weeks of camp.

Hooked on Books' current contest, which runs to January 15, is to read a book and create a collage, then write a paragraph that explains the collage's connection to the book. Participants can win a limo ride to the movies with 10 friends, iPods, digital drawing pads, gift cards, bikes and Kindles. Visit nmallianceforliteracy.org for details or call 505-438-8585.

- Perli Cunanan, Executive Director, Santa Fe School for the Arts & Sciences

Employers Play Crucial Role in Child Support Programs

The New Mexico New Hires Directory, a division of the Office of Child Support Enforcement, is dedicated to helping children in New Mexico receive the child support to which they are legally entitled. Employers are pivotal partners in this goal.

State and federal laws require employers to report new and re-hired employees to the New Mexico New Hires Directory within 20 days of the date of hire. Prompt and consistent reporting quickly identifies employees, allowing the child support program to locate individuals and initiate income withholdings more efficiently. The timely receipt of new hire data also allows the state to cross-match this data against worker's compensation and unemployment claims, reducing unintended overpayments and fraudulent receipt of payments.

We invite every employer in New Mexico to be part of our goal to improve the lives of New Mexico's children. Report your new hires today!

To learn about reporting methods, including online reporting, please visit our website at www.NM-newhire.com, email DJimenez@policy-studies.com, or call (888) 878-1607.

- Danielle Jimenez, Outreach Representative, NMNHD

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-Leslie, Girls Inc. parent



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Winter Fun! Directory

ANOTHER BIRD OF SONG MUSIC LESSONS

Piano, voice and composition lessons for the young and the young at heart. Day, afternoon and evening lessons available. Have fun and develop skills. Angela Bivins, owner and music teacher. 123 W. Santa Fe Avenue #A. Call 310-3699, email anotherbirdofsong@gmail.com, or visit www.anotherbirdofsong.blogspot.com for more information.

ASPEN SANTA FE BALLET

The School of Aspen Santa Fe Ballet, under the direction of Gisela Genschow, offers year-round dance training, pre-ballet through professional, and is committed to providing the finest classical ballet training for ages 3 to adult. Classes include ballet, pre-ballet, creative dance (also available at the Eldorado and Southside satellites), jazz, tap and modern. Call 983-5591 for schedules and registration, or visit www.aspensantafeballet.com.

BELISAMA DANCE

Belisama Contemporary and Irish Dance offers a full program of dance in Modern, Jazz, Ballet and Irish. We have a new Creative Dance program for ages 4 to 7, and a Kick Start program for beginning teen dancers, offering a reassuring format in which dancers practice with their peers rather than much younger children or older adults. Our goal is to help each student develop his/her strengths as a dancer and as a unique individual. For more information and enrollment go to belisamadance.com or contact Adrienne at 670-2152.

CLOWNING FOR THE ROUGH AND TUMBLE

A class where high-spirited kids who love to have fun and romp wildly will learn body awareness, centering, rolling and falling, and physical control, Thursdays 3:30 to 5 p.m. Unicycle Classes, open sessions for kids and adults, Thursdays from 5:15 to 6:30 p.m. Ten-week sessions for both classes begin January 24. Unicycles available during classes and to rent between classes. Each class is \$150 for the series, or \$20 drop-in. Family rate available. Email sageland@me.com or call 505-570-9484.

DRAGONFLY ART STUDIO

After-school art classes for ages 6 to 16. Our art classes are designed to stimulate kids' imagination and creativity, while they have fun experimenting with a range of art mediums and materials. Each class meets one day per week. Limited space is available; registration required. Two-day Holiday Workshops, December 1 to 2 and 8 to 9. Spring session begins in January. For cost and details, visit dragonflyartstudioforkids.com or call Oceanna at 670-5019.

FACT AFTER-SCHOOL ART CLASSES

At Fine Arts for Children and Teens, children explore drawing, painting, sculpture, collage and printmaking. Youth learn vocabulary, history and skills in positive critique as they create their own works. Teen workshops, second Saturday of the month. Classes meet at FACT's ARTbarn, 1516 Pacheco Street. Snack and supplies included. Scholarships available. Register at www.factsantafe.org or call 992-2787.

FUN ART FOR CHILDREN

Activities for children at events. Fun Art for Children offers a unique way to make your next event special. We bring an interactive children's space with arts & crafts and movement activities to special events, birthday parties, schools, children's camps, weddings and resorts. Whether you are planning an event just for kids, a family event, or an event for adults with a children's space, our original activities are fun for everyone! Call Anabella St. Peter at 992-3261 or go to www.funartforchildren.com.

GENOVEVA CHAVEZ COMMUNITY CENTER SPORTS CAMPS

Basketball Shooting or Hockey Camp: Wednesday to Friday, December 26 to 28, 8:30 a.m. to noon, ages 8 to 12, \$40. Camps focus on proper shooting techniques, fundamentals and skills. Includes a presentation for parents. Multi-Sports Camp or Figure Skating Camp: Wednesday to Friday, January 2 to 4, 8:30 a.m. to noon, ages 6 to 12, \$40. Combo Camp: Participate in morning Sports Camp then join Day Camp for afternoon activities, \$125. Call Mona 955-4014 or Melissa 955-4005. www.chavezcenter.com.

GENOVEVA CHAVEZ COMMUNITY CENTER WINTER BREAK CAMPS

Kids need a place to go. Come to the Chavez Center: Fun, Educational and Safe. Three-day sessions, December 26 to 28 and/or January 2 to 4, 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., ages 6 to 12 (proof of age required for 6-year-olds). Cost is \$100 per session. Half-Day Morning Sports Camps \$40. Combo Camps \$125. Activities include outdoor snow play time, sports, swimming, ice-skating, arts & crafts, and game time. Parents must provide daily lunch and snack. Call Mona, 955-4014, or Melissa, 955-4005. www.chavezcenter.com.

GIRLS INC. AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

At Girls Incorporated, every girl has the right to be herself and express herself with originality and enthusiasm. Our after-school program meets at 301 Hillside Avenue, downtown. Girls participate in fun, hands-on activities in a safe, girl-centered environment. Pick-up from many schools. Science, sports, homework help, art and fun! From when the school day ends until 6 p.m. Sliding scale and tuition assistance available. Call 982-2042 or go to www.girlsincofsantafe.org.

MARIA BENITEZ INSTITUTE FOR SPANISH ARTS FLAMENCO CLASSES

Beginning flamenco dance classes are ongoing through the year. Intro classes for ages 5 to 7 with no experience; Level I classes (beginner) ages 8 to 12; Level II classes (intermediate), for ages 8 to 14, and Level III (advanced) –Flamenco's "Next Generation," open to anyone who can keep up! Youth flamenco guitar classes, ages 7 to 14. Adult introductory flamenco classes on Saturdays; no experience necessary. All classes meet at Larragoite Elementary School, 1604 Agua Fria. For more information: 467-3773, flamenco@maribenitez.com, or www.institutespanisharts.org.

MOVEMENT ARTS FOR EVERY BODY

Saturday morning dance classes for children, next door to the Farmer's Market. Creative Kids Move: 9:15 to 10 a.m. Creative Movements for Children, ages 2 to 6.; Barefoot Ballet for Beginners: 10 to 10:45 a.m. Ballet Technique for dancers ages 5 to 9. \$10 per class; some discounts available. Drop-ins and friends always welcome. Midwinter hiatus: No classes December 22 or 29. Classes are held at the Railyard Performance Center, 1611 Paseo de Peralta; Call or email Kathryn Mark at 699-3464, katelyn@newmexico.com.

MOVING PEOPLE DANCE THEATRE

Classes offered in beginning through professional levels, for ages 2 to adult, in Ballet, Jazz, Modern, Hip Hop, Tap, Composition, Contemporary, Creative Movement, Gyrokinesis and Breakdance. Located at 1583 Pacheco Street. Call 438-9180 or visit www.movingpeopledance.org for a detailed schedule.

PANDEMONIUM PRODUCTIONS MUSICAL THEATER AFTER-SCHOOL CLASSES

Pandemonium Productions presents its after-school musical theatre program for ages 7 to 17, January 23 to May 19. Students study acting, singing and dancing and perform in "Willy Wonka," one of the world's tastiest musicals, at the James A. Little Theatre. Rehearsals take place at El Museo Cultural, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 3:45 to 5:45 p.m. Tuition is \$695 if paid in advance, or \$710 with a payment plan. \$100 deposit required at registration. Space is limited; scholarships available. For more information, call 920-0704 or visit www.pandemoniumprod.org.

SANTA FE FAMILY YMCA AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

Santa Fe Family YMCA offers safe and fun onsite after-school childcare throughout the school year at Atalaya, Chaparral, and Piñon Elementary Schools. Preschool childcare is provided at the YMCA facility at 6600 Valentine Way. For childcare during the holiday season, the YMCA is taking names for its Winter Camp at the Zona del Sol Campus December 26, 27, 28 and 31, and January 2, 3 and 4, provided minimum enrollment is met. Please call 424-8077 for additional information or visit the YMCA website, www.ymcacnm.org.

SANTA FE PERFORMING ARTS

Send your child to the best theater program in town with 25 years of experience and a recipient of the 2012 Mayor's Award for Excellence in the Arts, Education and Community Outreach. The spring program includes "The Wizard of Oz" for ages 7 to 19. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 4 to 6 p.m. Program begins January 7. Performances will take place April 19, 20, 21, 26, 27 and 28. Scholarships are available. Call 982-7992 or email sabato@sfperformingarts.org or visit www.sfperformingarts.org and select the "classes" section.

SANTA FE PLAYHOUSE CHILDREN'S THEATRE PRODUCTIONS

After-school theatre classes begin February 12 for grades 3 to 9, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Everyone has a starring role due to our unique "swing casting" approach. Tuition is on a sliding scale, based upon ability to pay. Presented by Playhouse Children's Theatre Productions (a.k.a. Southwest Children's Theatre) at the Santa Fe Playhouse, 142 East De Vargas. Call 988-4262 for an enrollment packet and more information.

SANTA FE SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS & SCIENCE

Serving grades preschool through 8, Santa Fe School for the Arts & Sciences achieves academic excellence in an environment of respect, inclusion and diversity. After-school classes include Chess, Robotics, Stop-motion Animation, Hip Hop, Reading Help, Scooter Club, Video Game Design, Ceramics, Guitar, Rock Band, Percussion, Basketball, Piano, Voice, Soccer, Fashion Design, Creative Writing, Film Making, Homework Help and more. Open to children from all schools and homeschoolers. After-school tuition assistance and CYFD accepted. 5912 Jaguar Drive. Rayna Dineen 438-8585, santafeschool@aol.com.

SHAPESPACE STUDIO ART CLUB

A community art space for all ages. Kiddos Art Club, preschool to age 10, Mondays and Thursdays, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Teen Art Club, ages 12 to 19, Wednesdays, 2:45 to 4:30 p.m. Home School Art Club, Monday 12:40 to 2:40 p.m. All Ages Open Studio, Fridays 12:40 to 2:40 p.m. Adult classes, babies welcome, Wednesdays, 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. Drop-in or series rates. Located at Ms. Cohen's Homeschool Classroom, 10 West Traviesa de Camilo, off Rabbit Road. Call Shakti, 603-5225.

SKATEBOARD SCHOOL

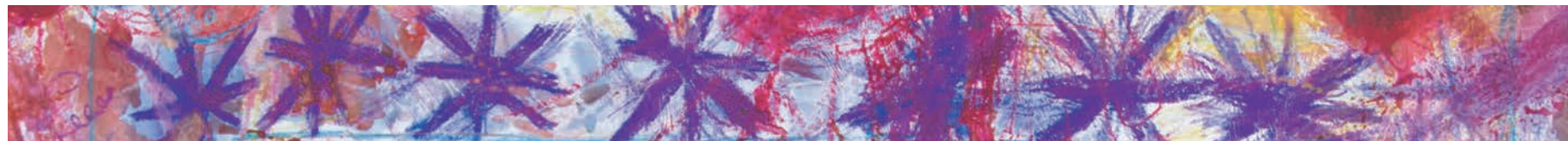
Indoor ramps for year-round fun; daily lessons for all abilities, ages 3 and up. Camps, clinics, parties, monthly events. Complete shop, short boards, long boards and safety gear. Curriculum includes learning the history of skateboarding, using our museum and video library. 825 Early Street #H. Call 474-0074 or go to www.SkateboardSafety.com.

SPANISH AFTER SCHOOL

Qué Viva El Español. We offer after-school Spanish classes Monday through Thursday for children age 2 to 12. Classes are \$16.23 per class for groups of four to five students and take place at 110 Sol y Lomas Drive. Adult classes are also offered. Call 467-8393 or visit www.quevivaesp.com.

TUMBLETOTS

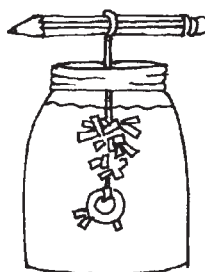
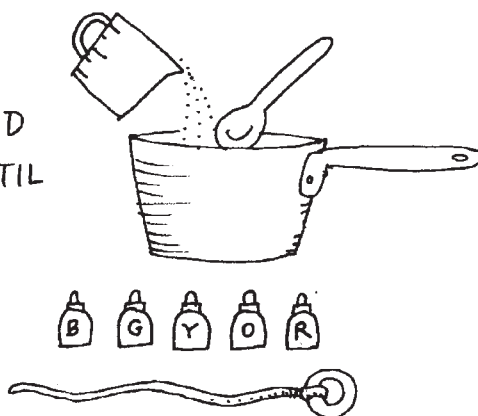
Tumbletots is a drop-in open gym time for ages birth to 4, where parents and children can play in a safe, clean environment, every Friday from 9 to 10 a.m. Cost is \$10 per family, including tax. Closed December 28. Tumbledown Gymnastics Studios, 3214 Calle Marie, Suite A. Call 473-0926 with questions, or go to www.tumbledownstudios.com.



Star Rug by Ashlee, Lilliana, and Leonard

ROCK CRYSTALS

- BRING 1 cup water TO A BOIL
- ADD $\frac{1}{2}$ cup epsom salt AND STIR 'TIL DISSOLVED
- CONTINUE TO ADD epsom salt ($\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ cup) UNTIL IT NO LONGER DISSOLVES WHEN STIRRED.
- ADD food coloring, IF YOU WISH, AND ALLOW THE MIXTURE TO COOL.
- TIE ONE END OF THE string TO THE WASHER
- TIE THE OTHER END AROUND the pencil SO THE WASHER WILL HANG ATLEAST ONE INCH ABOVE THE BOTTOM OF THE JAR.
- SET the pencil ACROSS THE RIM OF THE JAR
- POUR THE water & salt MIXTURE IN TO THE JAR
- OVER SEVERAL DAYS, WATCH THE JAR AND BREAK ANY CRUST THAT FORMS OVER THE TOP OF THE WATER.
- CRYSTALS WILL FORM ALONG THE STRING AS THE WATER EVAPORATES.
- ONCE FORMED, YOU CAN DISPLAY YOUR CRYSTALS IN A CLEAR, CLEAN JAR.



YOU WILL NEED

- 1 cup water
- 1 cup epsom salt
- food coloring
- measuring cup
- saucepan
- spoon
- pencil
- string (10"-12")
- metal washer

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Winter Calendar 2012 December

Be sure to check our online calendar at www.sftumbleweeds.com for events scheduled after we go to press!



Hunger Games Rug by Josh Rivera and Bella Brigit

DECEMBER

P Indicates an activity for Parents.

Events are free or included with admission unless otherwise noted.

P 1 SATURDAY, 8:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M. Birthing Again

A two-part class specially designed for parents who have given birth before, tailored to the needs of the participants. Second session meets December 8. \$125 per couple. The Birthing Tree Cooperative, 2047 Galisteo Street, 690-3492.

1 SATURDAY, 9 A.M.

Breakfast with St. Nicholas

Enjoy a pancake breakfast, make Christmas stockings for the guests of St. Elizabeth Shelter and meet the real St. Nick, who gave his wealth to the poor. Please bring a wrapped present for a child in need, marked with the age and gender. Open to all. United Church of Santa Fe, 1804 Arroyo Chamiso, 988-3295.

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

Book Donation Day

Donate used books and other materials on the first Saturday of each month. DVDs, CDs and books that are copyright 2005 or newer are welcome, as well as children's materials. Vista Grande Public Library, 14 Avenida Torreon, Eldorado, 466-7323.

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

Waldorf School Holiday Faire

Annual family event for children of all ages. Enjoy Waldorf traditions of storytelling, puppetry, theater performances by the Clan Tynker, games, music, holiday shopping, trees, wreaths and food. Admission and many activities are free of charge. 26 Puesta del Sol, 983-9727.

1 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Creativity Collaboration

Work by yourself and with others to make amazing pieces of art. Many projects will be used in the museum and at events. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

1 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Holiday Music by High Desert Harps

Under the direction of Linda Larkin, the ensemble of twelve harpists will perform familiar holiday tunes. Collected Works Bookstore, 202 Galisteo Street, 988-4226.

1 SATURDAY, 2 P.M.

"Peter Pan"

The Eldorado Children's Theatre and Teen Players put on John M. Barrie's classic. For the first time ever, they use the internationally renowned Flying by Floy aerial stunt system to fly around the stage. Tickets \$15. James A. Little Theater, 1060 Cerillos Road, 827-6760.

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

"The Nutcracker"

A Santa Fe tradition, presented by Aspen Santa Fe Ballet with a cast of more than 60 dancers, actors, circus artists and students, lavish sets and costumes. Tickets start at \$25. The Lensic Performing Arts Center, 211 W. San Francisco Street, 988-1234.

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

Dev's Design

Work with teen intern Dev as she explores stories, illustrations and our imaginations. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

1 SATURDAY, 4-7 P.M.

Happy Howlidays

Celebrate the holidays with your pets! Enjoy hors d'oeuvres while your best friends enjoy a "puppy buffet." Commemorate the event with paw print ornaments you both create, and take holiday photos in the photo booth. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Santa Fe Animal Shelter and Humane Society. Eldorado Hotel & Spa, 309 West San Francisco Street, 995-4502.

1 SATURDAY, 5:15-7 P.M.

The Twinkle Light Parade and Nob Hill Shop and Stroll

Celebrate the holidays with this annual parade, carolers, photos with Santa and traffic free shopping from noon to midnight. The parade steps off at 5:15 p.m. and heads west on Central Ave in Albuquerque. Visit cabq.gov for more information.

Winter Calendar 2012 December

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

River of Lights

Experience millions of glowing, sparkling lights and over 150 dazzling light displays, animated sculptures and synchronized music light show at New Mexico's largest walk-through holiday production. Adults \$8, children under 12 \$4, babies under three are free. ABQ BioPark Aquarium, 2601 Central Avenue, NW, Albuquerque, 505-848-7180.

1 SATURDAY, 7 P.M.

"The Pink Panther"

Presented by the Santa Fe Performing Arts Teen Ensemble. Tickets \$8. The Armory for the Arts Theater, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 984-1370.

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

"A Christmas Carol"

Experience this Charles Dickens classic in a new adaptation by Dr. John Hardy. One actor plays every single part in this lively and captivating adaptation of the well-known Christmas tale, a holiday delight for the whole family. Call for prices. The Filling Station, 1024 Fourth Street SW, Albuquerque, 505-797-7081.

2 SUNDAY, 11 A.M.-4 P.M.

Photos with Santa Claws

Pets and children of all ages are invited to have their photos taken with Santa Claus. Proceeds benefit the surgery fund of Felines & Friends New Mexico. PetSmart, 3561 Zafarano Drive, 316-2281.

2 SUNDAY, 1 AND 5 P.M.

"The Nutcracker"

The Lentic Performing Arts Center. See December 1 listing.

2 SUNDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Children's Holiday Craft Workshop

Santa Fe Botanical Garden's annual craft-making event for kids and fun for the whole family. Crafts, cookies and refreshments. Genoveva Chavez Community Center, 3221 Rodeo Road, 471-9103.

2 SUNDAY, 1-4 P.M.

Winter Traditions Holiday Celebration

Family celebration for all ages featuring storytelling, native dance and hands-on seasonal art activities. Free admission on Sundays for New Mexico residents with ID. Museum of Indian Arts & Culture, 710 Camino Lejo, 476-1250.

2 SUNDAY, 1:30-2:30 P.M.

Sunday Science

Conduct experiments with teen intern Mari as you investigate all things science. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

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

"A Christmas Carol"

The Filling Station, Albuquerque. See December 1 listing.

2 SUNDAY, 2 P.M.

"The Pink Panther"

The Armory for the Arts Theater. See December 1 listing.

P 3 MONDAY, 6 P.M.

Christus St. Vincent Hospital Tour

Follow the path of arriving at and getting admitted to the hospital during labor. The staff will answer common questions about hospital protocols and how you can make your experience as comfortable as possible. Sponsored by the Birthing Tree Cooperative. Christus St. Vincent Hospital, 455 Saint Michael's Drive, 690-3492.

4 TUESDAY, 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Indigo Play Day

Drop off your child for activities including song, movement, story time, crafts and more. Snacks provided. Children must be potty-trained. Reservation required. Ages 2 to 5. \$25 per child. Indigo Baby, DeVargas Center, 564 N. Guadalupe, 954-4000.

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

Preschool Story Time

Stories, rhymes, songs, crafts and more. Ages 2 to 5. La Farge Library, 1730 Llano Street, 955-4860.

4 TUESDAY, 1-2 P.M.

Art Club

An open studio art experience for preschoolers ages 2½ to 5. Young artists will rotate among stations of various art supplies and experience painting and drawing, printmaking, clay and sculpture, collaborative art and more. \$15 drop-in; \$48 for a four-class pass. Indigo Baby, DeVargas Center, 564 N. Guadalupe, 954-4000.

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

Boobs and Babies Breastfeeding Group

This monthly meeting is designed to educate and support women who are pregnant and/or breastfeeding. The Birthing Tree Cooperative, 2047 Galisteo Street, 690-3492.

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

Books & Babies

Enjoy books, songs and finger games. Ages 6 months to 2 years. Wednesdays at La Farge Library, 1730 Llano Street, 955-4860.

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

Preschool Story Time

Southside Library. See December 4 listing.

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

Toddler Tunes

Sing old favorites and learn new ones. Experiment with percussion instruments. Los Alamos Family Strengths Network, 1990 Diamond Drive, Los Alamos, 662-4515.

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

Recycling, Reusing, Recreating

Use recycled and scrap materials to create art and recreate old things into new. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

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

Story Time

Engaging books for the youngest listeners, rhyming poems, song and movement. Ages 6 months to 5 years. Collected Works Bookstore, 202 Galisteo Street, 988-4226.

5 WEDNESDAY, 2-4 P.M.

Holiday Eco Crafts

Kids in grades 1 to 6 are invited to make and wrap presents of natural and recycled materials for everyone on their list. \$15. Pajarito Environmental Education Center, 3540 Orange Street, Los Alamos, 505-662-0460.

5 WEDNESDAY, 6-8 P.M.

Holiday Nature Crafts

Bring the whole family to River of Lights and visit the Education Building to make beautiful gifts inspired by nature. Free with River of Lights admission: \$10 for adults, \$5 for ages 3 to 12. ABQ BioPark Botanic Garden, 2601 Central Avenue, NW, Albuquerque, 505-848-7180.

5 WEDNESDAY, 6:30 P.M.

Family Bedtime Stories

Children's librarian Walter Cook will select fun stories and hands-on activities for families. La Farge Library, 1730 Llano Street, 955-4860.

6 THURSDAY, 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Indigo Play Day

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Books & Babies

Thursdays at Southside Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, 955-2810. See December 5 listing.

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

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

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

Firefighter Story Time

Local firefighters will share a favorite book and a few fire safety tips. A fire truck will be onsite when possible. Firefighters will be on duty and may need to leave to take care of an emergency. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

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Winter Calendar 2012 December

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

After-School Reading Program
Weekly group for grades K through 4. Limited space; registration required. Vista Grande Public Library, 14 Avenida Torreon, Eldorado, 466-7323.

6 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.

Teen Book Club
Monthly group for ages 13 to 18. Books provided. Join and help decide what to read next. Southside Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, 955-2829.

6 THURSDAY 7-8 P.M.

December Special: 'Tis the Season'

Hear various theories of the Christmas Star, ranging from meteors and comets to exploding stars and conjunction of the planets. Arrive early; show begins promptly. Adults \$5; preteens and seniors \$3. Santa Fe Community College Planetarium, 6401 Richards Avenue, 428-1677.

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

"A Christmas Carol"
The Filling Station, Albuquerque. See December 1 listing.

7 FRIDAY, 9 A.M.-NOON

Preschool Prime Time
A special time for children under 5 to enjoy exhibits and hands-on activities. Today: Annie Rose, the Flower Fairy. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

7 FRIDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Preschool Story Time
Main Library. See December 4 listing.

7 FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Toddler and Parent Story Time
The program features stories and crafts for toddlers and their parents to enjoy together. Vista Grande Public Library, 14 Avenida Torreon, Eldorado, 466-7323.

7 FRIDAY, 2 P.M.

Friday Art Program
Children ages 5 to 12 are invited to attend and create art. All crafts are free and supplies are provided. Main Library, 145 Washington Avenue, 955-6783.

7 FRIDAY, 3:30-5 P.M.

First Friday Forts
Join other kids who like to build forts, to build, play and hang out in the new place you created. Parent supervision required. Pajarito Environmental Education Center, 3540 Orange Street, Los Alamos, 505-662-0460.

7 FRIDAY, 3:30-5:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio
Work with a local artist to explore the world of art, using everything from acrylics to pastel, watercolor to blocks and glue. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

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

Christmas at the Palace
Enjoy an evening of hot cider, live music and a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Claus in this Santa Fe annual holiday tradition. A free, family event. Palace of the Governors, 105 West Palace Avenue, 476-5100.

7 FRIDAY, 7 P.M.

"The Pink Panther"
The Armory for the Arts Theater. See December 1 listing.

7 FRIDAY, 7:30 P.M.

"Peter Pan"
James A. Little Theater. See December 1 listing.

7 FRIDAY, 8-9:30 P.M.

"A Christmas Carol"
The Filling Station, Albuquerque. See December 1 listing.

8 SATURDAY 8:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Birthing Again
The Birthing Tree Cooperative. See December 1 listing.

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

Regalos Holiday Fair
Shop for unique and affordable gifts, from over 30 local artist vendors and local entertainment. National Hispanic Cultural Center, 1701 Fourth St. SW, Albuquerque, (505) 766-6604.

8 SATURDAY, 11 A.M.-4 P.M.

Photos with Santa Claws
PetSmart. See December 2 listing.

8 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

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

8 SATURDAY, 2 P.M.

Family Animated Movie Matinee
Free light refreshments will be provided for moviegoers. Children under 10 must be accompanied by an individual 13 years of age or older. Southside Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, 955-2820.

8 SATURDAY, 2 P.M.

"Peter Pan"
James A. Little Theater. See December 1 listing.

8 SATURDAY, 2-4 P.M.

Creative Writing Group For Teens
Mentored by local author Alexandra Diaz. Vista Grande Public Library, 14 Avenida Torreon, Eldorado, 466-7323.

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

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

8 SATURDAY, 4 P.M.

2012 Holiday Ice Show: Let's Go to the Movies
The Santa Fe Skating Club's annual holiday show will have local skaters, Shayna Moellenberg and Jun-Hong Chen, performing to music from the movies. Ages 12 and up \$10, ages 2-11 \$6, under 2 free. Genoveva Chavez Community Center, 3221 West Rodeo Road, 795-9639.

8 SATURDAY, 5-7 P.M.

Lighting Ledoux
An annual event welcoming in the holiday season. Farolitos, luminarias, music, food and entertainment, a great way to explore the treasures located along one of Taos' most enchanting streets. Santa will arrive with presents for every child. Harwood Museum of Art, 238 Ledoux Street, Taos, (575) 758-9826.

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

Chuck Jones Gallery Holiday Party
Snuggle up with Bugs and friends, watch holiday movies and check out some really cool art. Casual food and drink included. Enter a raffle for an animation cell. Art contest winners will be announced and awesome prizes will be given. Proceeds benefit the Santa Fe Children's Museum. \$5 per person; \$20 per family. Chuck Jones Gallery, 135 W. Palace, 989-8359.

8 SATURDAY, 7 P.M.

"The Pink Panther"
The Armory for the Arts Theater. See December 1 listing.

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

"A Christmas Carol"
The Filling Station, Albuquerque. See December 1 listing.

9 SUNDAY, 11 A.M.-4 P.M.

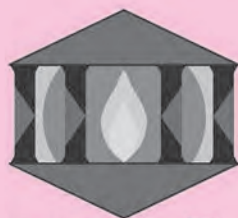
Photos with Santa Claws
PetSmart. See December 2 listing.

9 SUNDAY, 1 P.M.

2012 Holiday Ice Show: Let's Go to the Movies
Genoveva Chavez Community Center. See December 8 listing.

9 SUNDAY, 1-4 P.M.

The Histories of Chocolate, Mate y Más!
Celebrate winter as you enjoy this chocolate exhibition and tasting, music and painting. Free with museum admission. New Mexico



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Winter Calendar 2012 December

residents with ID free on Sundays, children under 17 always free. Museum of International Folk Art, 706 Camino Lejo, 476-1200.

9 SUNDAY, 1:30-2:30 P.M.

Sunday Science

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

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

"A Christmas Carol"

The Filling Station, Albuquerque. See December 1 listing.

9 SUNDAY, 2 P.M.

"The Pink Panther"

The Armory for the Arts Theater. See December 1 listing.

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

Make Your Own Holiday Gifts with Essential Oils

Learn about the healing properties of essential oils while making beautiful gifts! Each participant will take home three handmade gifts including bath salts, scented sprays and hand lotion. \$20 fee includes all materials. The Birthing Tree Resource Center, 2047 Galisteo Street. Space is limited; RSVP to Emily at 988-9977.

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

Las Posadas

Join Mary and Joseph in this reenactment of their search for lodging to give birth to baby Jesus. The procession ends at the Palace of the Governors courtyard with carols and refreshments. New Mexico History Museum, 113 Lincoln Avenue, 476-5200.

P 10 MONDAY, 6-8 P.M.

Breastfeeding Class

Class will cover the basics of breastfeeding in the first few hours, days and weeks of life. Partners welcome. Instructor: Aimee Putnam, IBCLC. \$45 per couple. The Birthing Tree Cooperative, 2047 Galisteo Street, 690-3492.

11 TUESDAY, 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Indigo Play Day

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Preschool Story Time

La Farge Library. See December 4 listing.

11 TUESDAY, 1-2 P.M.

Art Club

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

11 TUESDAY, 6:30-7:30 P.M.

Kids' Cardstacking Workshop

Half the fun of building a house of cards is knocking it down, which participants will get to do first-hand. Get a first look at Bryan Berg's new Cardstackers toy in this free hands-on workshop. For ages 8 and up. Moving People Dance Studios, 1583 Pacheco Street, 438-9180.

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

Books & Babies

La Farge Library. See December 5 listing.

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

Preschool Story Time

Southside Library. See December 4 listing.

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

Recycling, Reusing, Recreating

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

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

Gingerbread House Building

Toddler session. Supplies include graham crackers and decorating material for toddlers and house building kits for older participants. Children must be accompanied by an adult. \$10 per child. Los Alamos Family Strengths Network, 1990 Diamond Drive, Los Alamos, 662-4515.

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

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

12 WEDNESDAY, 1:30-3:30 P.M.

Gingerbread House Building

Children ages 4 to 12. \$20. Los Alamos Family Strengths Network. See December 12 listing.

12 WEDNESDAY, 6-8 P.M.

Holiday Nature Crafts

ABQ BioPark Botanic Garden. See December 5 listing.

P 12 WEDNESDAY, 6-8 P.M.

Natural Childbirth Class

This class is designed for couples who are interested in or curious about an un-medicated birth. \$45 per couple. The Birthing Tree Cooperative, 2047 Galisteo Street, 690-3492.

13 THURSDAY, 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Indigo Play Day

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Books & Babies

Thursdays at Southside Library. See December 6 listing.

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

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

P 13 THURSDAY, 1-2 P.M.

La Leche League Breastfeeding Meeting

Monthly meeting for all mothers interested in breastfeeding help or information. Indigo Baby, DeVargas Center, 564 N. Guadalupe, 466-2738.



The Horrible Rug by Alberto, Alyah and Natalia

13 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.

Librarian's Choice Teen Program

Librarians choose the activity, and the only way to find out is to show up! Ages 13 to 18. Southside Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, 955-2829.

13 THURSDAY, 6 P.M.

Santa Fe Holiday Concert

Community concert featuring young voices of the Santa Fe Opera. Christo Rey Church, 1120 Canyon Road, 986-5955.

13 THURSDAY, 8-9:30 P.M.

"A Christmas Carol"

The Filling Station, Albuquerque. See December 1 listing.

14 FRIDAY, 9 A.M.-NOON

Preschool Prime Time

Today: Smart Kids Club at 10:30 a.m. Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

14 FRIDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Main Library. See December 4 listing.

14 FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Toddler and Parent Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 7 listing.

14 FRIDAY, 2 P.M.

Friday Art Program

Main Library. See December 7 listing.

14 FRIDAY, 3:30-5:30 P.M.

Gingerbread House Building

Teen and adult Session. \$20. Los Alamos Family Strengths Network. See December 12 listing.

14 FRIDAY, 3:30-5:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

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

Winter Calendar 2012 December



The Ifal Tawer Rug by Elene Alarid and Lily Kohustian

14 FRIDAY, 6-7:30 P.M.

Toy Sale Fundraiser

Pre-sale night with special treasures. All proceeds will be used to support the museum's general operations. Donations of gently used toys are accepted prior to sale. Pre-sale admission: adults \$5. (Admission to Saturday's sale is free.) Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

14 FRIDAY, 7 P.M.

Family Movie Night

Enjoy a free movie and popcorn, every second Friday of the month. Please check with the library for movie title. Vista Grande Public Library, 14 Avenida Torreon, Eldorado, 466-7323.

14 FRIDAY, 7:30 P.M.

Rudolfo Anaya's "Farolitos of Christmas"

A special holiday coproduction by the Vortex and the National Hispanic Cultural Center directed by Valli Marie Rivera. Call for prices. National Hispanic Cultural Center, 1701 Fourth Street SW, Albuquerque, 505-724-4771.

14 FRIDAY, 8-10 P.M.

Mariachi Christmas

Mariachi Jalisciense del Valle joins Ballet Folklórico Paseo del Norte in this wonderful holiday tradition. Stomping feet, twirling dresses and lively violins fill the air as Mariachi Christmas returns in its 14th year. Call for prices. Popejoy Hall, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, 925-5858.

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

"A Christmas Carol"

The Filling Station, Albuquerque. See December 1 listing.

15 SATURDAY, 8:30 AND 11 A.M.

Lessons and Carols for All Ages

The United Church of Santa Fe, 1804 Arroyo Chamiso, 988-3295.

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

Toy Sale Fundraiser

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 14 listing.

15 SATURDAY, 10 A.M.-6 P.M.

Choo Choo Train Weekend

Two separate hobby train displays, including

a hands-on electric train demonstration where families can build dioramas and backdrops and set the trains en scene. Visitors from New Mexico's real train world will be on hand to share their talents and experience. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

15 SATURDAY, 11 A.M.

Rhythm and Rhymes

Featuring Fam Jam's Devi Borton. Bee Hive Kids Books, 328 Montezuma Avenue, 780-8051.

15 SATURDAY, 11 A.M.-4 P.M.

Photos with Santa Claws

PetSmart. See December 2 listing.

15 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Creativity Collaboration

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

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

Rudolfo Anaya's

"Farolitos of Christmas"

National Hispanic Cultural Center, Albuquerque. See December 14 listing.

15 SATURDAY, 3-5 P.M.

¡Olé! Institute for Spanish Arts

Winter Flamenco Recital

All ages of students at ISA will perform in this fun-filled event in the spirit of holiday cheer to celebrate the end of 2012 classes. Adults \$8; children and seniors \$3. Moving People Dance Studios, 1583 Pacheco Street. 505-467-3773.

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

Dev's Design

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

15 SATURDAY, 5:30-8:30 P.M.

Kid's Night Out

Children ages 4 and up get to spend some extra special time at the museum while parents get a few hours to themselves. Come in your jammies, make and enjoy tasty hot chocolate, watch the magical "Polar Express" and enjoy other special hands-on activities. Call to pre-register. \$25 per child. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359 x104.

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

"A Christmas Carol"

The Filling Station, Albuquerque. See December 1 listing.

16 SUNDAY, 11 A.M.-4 P.M.

Photos with Santa Claws

PetSmart. See December 2 listing.

16 SUNDAY, NOON-3 P.M.

Artisan's Gift Sale & Children's Craft Making

Local artisans will offer their quality, handcrafted goods and donate a portion of the proceeds to the Santa Fe Children's Museum. Shop for gift items while your

children learn craft skills and make gifts. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

16 SUNDAY, NOON-5 P.M.

Choo Choo Train Weekend

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 15 listing.

16 SUNDAY, 1-4 P.M.

Annual Holiday Open House

Open house of activities for children throughout the museum. The Baumann marionettes perform during a round-robin and the Santa Claus marionette makes an appearance to sit on your lap. Free admission. Please bring nonperishable food items for the Food Bank. New Mexico Museum of Art, 107 West Palace Avenue, 476-5072.

16 SUNDAY, 1:30-2:30 P.M.

Sunday Science

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

16 SUNDAY, 2 P.M.

Rudolfo Anaya's "Farolitos of Christmas"

National Hispanic Cultural Center, Albuquerque. See December 14 listing.

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

"A Christmas Carol"

The Filling Station, Albuquerque. See December 1 listing.

17 MONDAY, 7 P.M.

Santa Fe Association Free Concert

Free holiday concert for the community. The Lencic Performing Arts Center, 211 W. San Francisco Street, 988-1234.

18 TUESDAY, 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Indigo Play Day

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

18 TUESDAY, 1-2 P.M.

Art Club

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Recycling, Reusing, Recreating

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

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

Toddler Crafts

Diane's monthly crafts are a pleasure for kids and grown-ups. Today: Snowman Craft. Los Alamos Family Strengths Network, 1990 Diamond Drive, Los Alamos, 662-4515.

19 WEDNESDAY, 10:30 A.M.-8:30 P.M.

Eat at Piccolino, Support Vista Grande Public Library!

Piccolino Italian Restaurant's Eldorado location will donate a percentage of all sales today to the Vista Grande Public

Winter Calendar 2012-2013 December/January

Library, as part of the library's Restaurant Partners Program. Support the library and a locally-owned community business with a delicious meal! Piccolino, Agora Shopping Center, Eldorado, 466-1264.

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

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

19 WEDNESDAY, 1:30-3:30 P.M.

Gingerbread House Building

Children ages 4 to 12. \$20. Los Alamos Family Strengths Network. See December 12 listing.

20 THURSDAY, 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Indigo Play Day

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Books & Babies

Thursdays at Southside Library. See December 6 listing.

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

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

20 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.

Teen Anime Club

This club for ages 13 to 18 meets on the third and fourth Thursday of each month to watch and talk Anime. Southside Library, 6599 Jaguar Drive, 955-2829.

20 THURSDAY, 6:30 P.M.

"The Night Before Christmas"

PJs are welcome at Beehive's second annual reading of this Christmas classic! Bee Hive Kids Books, 328 Montezuma Avenue, 780-8051.

20 THURSDAY, 7-9 P.M.

Golden Dragon Acrobats

"Cirque Ziva"

Premiere Chinese acrobatic company represent the best of a tradition that began over 25 centuries ago in this fast-paced, technically innovative and beautiful show. Call for prices. The Lentic Performing Arts Center, 211 West San Francisco Street, 988-1234.

21 FRIDAY, 9 A.M.-NOON

Preschool Prime Time

Today: Music and Movement with Anabella. Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

21 FRIDAY, 3:30-5:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

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

21 FRIDAY, 6-8 P.M.

Winter Solstice Festival

Journey through the Earthworks gardens during this magical, longest night of the year. Follow the sound of drums, the soft

light of farolitos, the warmth of bonfires, the winding of the farolito labyrinth, the telling of old tales and the smell of warm snacks. \$6 per person. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

21 FRIDAY, 7-9 P.M.

Golden Dragon Acrobats

"Cirque Ziva"

The Lentic Performing Arts Center. See December 20 listing.

22 SATURDAY, 11 A.M.-3 P.M.

Artisan's Gift Sale & Children's Craft Making

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 16 listing.

22 SATURDAY, 1 P.M.

Golden Dragon Acrobats

"Cirque Ziva"

The Lentic Performing Arts Center. See December 20 listing.

22 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Creativity Collaboration

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

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

Dev's Design

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

22 SATURDAY, 7 P.M.

Golden Dragon Acrobats

"Cirque Ziva"

The Lentic Performing Arts Center. See December 20 listing.

23 SUNDAY, 1:30-2:30 P.M.

Sunday Science

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

24 MONDAY, 5 P.M.

Family Service

Christmas Eve service of carols and candles for all ages. Additional candlelight services at 7 and 11 p.m. The United Church of Santa Fe, 1804 Arroyo Chamiso, 988-3295.

24 MONDAY, 5-7 P.M.

Christmas Eve Concert

Emily Bear, an 11-year-old composer and virtuoso pianist, joins the Santa Fe Concert Association Orchestra in a concert featuring classical and jazz favorites and debuting some of Emily's own orchestral compositions. Call for prices. The Lentic Performing Arts Center, 211 West San Francisco Street, 988-1234.

24 MONDAY, 5-9 P.M.

Christmas Eve Canyon Road Farolito Walk

A hallowed holiday tradition in Santa Fe, the Canyon Road Farolito Walk on Christmas Eve brings out thousands of holiday revelers who stroll the famous street, admiring the displays of farolito lights, singing carols around luminarias

or bonfires and generally celebrating the holiday spirit. Dress warmly! Canyon Road.

26 WEDNESDAY, 10:30 A.M.-NOON

Recycling, Reusing, Recreating

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

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

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

26 WEDNESDAY TO 28 FRIDAY, 6:30-8 P.M.

Santa Fe Children's Museum

Holiday Performance Series

Join this annual tradition for local and visitor families alike to enjoy performances by local youth artists. Check www.santafechildrensmuseum.org for artist details. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

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

Books & Babies

Thursdays at Southside Library. See December 6 listing.

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

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

28 FRIDAY, 9 A.M.-NOON

Preschool Prime Time

Today: Francine's Creations. Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

28 FRIDAY, 1-4 P.M.

Green Holiday Family Program

Join us as we create a variety of crafts made of recycled materials. Bottle-cap magnets, pendants and mobiles will be among our creations. Georgia Museum Education Annex, 123 Grant Avenue, 946-1039

28 FRIDAY, 3:30-5:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

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

29 SATURDAY, 11 A.M.

Musical Story Time

All ages welcome. Bee Hive Kids Books, 328 Montezuma Avenue, 780-8051.

29 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Creativity Collaboration

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

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

Dev's Design

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

30 SUNDAY, 1:30-2:30 P.M.

Sunday Science

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

31 MONDAY, 5-7 P.M.

New Year's Eve Concert

The Santa Fe Concert Association and the Harlem String Quartet present a dynamic mix of old and new music to ring in the new year. The Lentic Performing Arts Center, 211 West San Francisco Street, 988-1234.

31 MONDAY, 6-7 P.M.

New Year's Eve Torchlight Parade and Fireworks

Ring in the New Year with a torchlight parade exhibition run that sparks a great winter fireworks display. Grab a mug of hot chocolate and enjoy the show. Angel Fire Resort Ski Area, North Angel Fire Road, Angel Fire, 800-633-7463.

JANUARY

P 2 WEDNESDAY, 10-11:30 A.M.

Boobs and Babies Breastfeeding Group

The Birthing Tree Cooperative. See December 5 listing.

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

Books & Babies

La Farge Library. See December 5 listing.

New Mexico Dancewear

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The largest selection of dance shoes for Ballet, Pointe Shoes, Jazz, Tap and Dance Sneakers in the state.

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Winter Calendar 2013 January

2 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Toddler Tunes

Los Alamos Family Strengths Network. See December 5 listing.

2 WEDNESDAY, 10:30 A.M.-NOON

Recycling, Reusing, Recreating

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

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

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

2 WEDNESDAY, 6:30 P.M.

Family Bedtime Stories

La Farge Library. See December 5 listing.

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

Books & Babies

Thursdays at Southside Library. See December 6 listing.

3 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

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

Firefighter Story Time

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

3 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.

Teen Book Club

Southside Library. See December 6 listing.

4 FRIDAY, 9 A.M.-NOON

Preschool Prime Time

Today: Annie Rose, the Flower Fairy. Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

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

Preschool Story Time

Main Library. See December 4 listing.

4 FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Toddler and Parent Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 7 listing.

4 FRIDAY, 3:30-5 P.M.

First Friday Forts

Pajarito Environmental Education Center. See December 7 listing.

4 FRIDAY, 3:30-5:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

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

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

Book Donation Day

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 1 listing.

5 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Creativity Collaboration

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

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

Dev's Design

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

6 SUNDAY, 11 A.M.

Home by Another Way

Children's Epiphany Pageant, The United Church of Santa Fe, 1804 Arroyo Chamiso, 988-3295.

6 SUNDAY, 1:30-2:30 P.M.

Sunday Science

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

7 MONDAY TO FEBRUARY 1

Give the Santa Fe River a Valentine

Kids are invited to make and submit a "Blue Heart Valentine" for the Santa Fe River this year. Blue hearts can be any size or material, just make sure they're blue! Valentines will be displayed at events throughout the year. Drop off by February 1 at the Santa Fe Watershed Association, 1413 Second Street, Suite #3, 820-1696.

8 TUESDAY, 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Indigo Play Day

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Preschool Story Time

La Farge Library. See December 4 listing.

8 TUESDAY, 1-2 P.M.

Art Club

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Books & Babies

La Farge Library. See December 5 listing.

9 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Southside Library. See December 4 listing.

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

Recycling, Reusing, Recreating

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

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

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

10 THURSDAY, 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Indigo Play Day

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Books & Babies

Thursdays at Southside Library. See December 6 listing.

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

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

P 10 THURSDAY, 1-2 P.M.

La Leche League Breastfeeding Meeting

Indigo Baby. See December 13 listing.

10 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.

Librarian's Choice Teen Program

Southside Library. See December 13 listing.

11 FRIDAY, 9 A.M.-NOON

Preschool Prime Time

Today: Smart Kids Club at 10:30 a.m. Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

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

Preschool Story Time

Main Library. See December 4 listing.

11 FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Toddler and Parent Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 7 listing.

11 FRIDAY, 3:30-5:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

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

11 FRIDAY, 7 P.M.

Family Movie Night

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 14 listing.

11 FRIDAY, 7-8 P.M.

Free Community Opera: Massenet's "Cinderella"

The Santa Fe Concert Association presents this family-friendly, one-hour, English production of Massenet's "Cinderella," featuring professional opera singers, young EPIK artists and a chamber orchestra. No tickets; first come first served. Scottish Rite Temple, 463 Paseo de Peralta, 984-8759.

12 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Creativity Collaboration

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

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Winter Calendar 2013 January

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

Dev's Design

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

12 SATURDAY, 7-8 P.M.

Free Community Opera: Massenet's "Cinderella"

Scottish Rite Temple. See January 11 listing.

13 SUNDAY, 1:30-2:30 P.M.

Sunday Science

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

15 TUESDAY, 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Indigo Play Day

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Preschool Story Time

La Farge Library. See December 4 listing.

15 TUESDAY, 1-2 P.M.

Art Club

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

16 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Southside Library. See December 4 listing.

16 WEDNESDAY, 10:30 A.M.-NOON

Recycling, Reusing, Recreating

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

16 WEDNESDAY, 10:30 A.M.-NOON

Toddler Crafts

Los Alamos Family Strengths Network. See December 19 listing.

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

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

17 THURSDAY, 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Indigo Play Day

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Books & Babies

Thursdays at Southside Library. See December 6 listing.

17 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

17 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.

Teen Anime Club

Southside Library. See December 20 listing.

18 FRIDAY, 9 A.M.-NOON

Preschool Prime Time

Today: Music and Movement with Anabella. Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

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

Preschool Story Time

Main Library. See December 4 listing.

18 FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Toddler and Parent Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 7 listing.

18 FRIDAY, 3:30-5:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

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

19 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Creativity Collaboration

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

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

Dev's Design

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

19 SATURDAY, 5:30-8:30 P.M.

Kid's Night Out

Tonight: Learn about film-making and animation through special hands-on activities. Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 15 listing.

20 SUNDAY, 1:30-2:30 P.M.

Sunday Science

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

20 SUNDAY, 2-3 P.M.

GranMary's Place Storytelling

Program dedicated to and celebrating the memory of Docent, Mary Sudbrink. Mary loved telling stories to children visiting the museum. Free admission on Sundays for New Mexico residents with ID. Museum of Indian Arts & Culture, 710 Camino Lejo, 476-1250.

22 TUESDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

School Closure Day Camp

A fun recreational day camp filled with games, sports, swimming, ice skating and arts & crafts. For ages 6 to 12. \$35. Genoveva Chavez Community Center, 3221 Rodeo Road. Call Mona 955-4014 or Melissa 955-4005.

22 TUESDAY, 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Indigo Play Day

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Preschool Story Time

La Farge Library. See December 4 listing.



Butterfly Rug by Amaris, Eva, and Finley

22 TUESDAY, 1-2 P.M.

Art Club

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

23 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Southside Library. See December 4 listing.

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

Recycling, Reusing, Recreating

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

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

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

24 THURSDAY, 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Indigo Play Day

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Books & Babies

Thursdays at Southside Library. See December 6 listing.

24 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

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

After School Reading Program

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 6 listing.

Winter Calendar 2013 January/February



Viking Elephants by Christian, Donna, and Nico

24 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.

Teen Anime Club

Southside Library. See December 20 listing.

25 FRIDAY, 9 A.M.-NOON

Preschool Prime Time

Today: Francine's Creations. Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

25 FRIDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Main Library. See December 4 listing.

25 FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Toddler and Parent Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 7 listing.

25 FRIDAY, 3:30-5:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

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

P 26 SATURDAY, 9:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

Mother Nature's Blue Print: Birth, Breastfeeding, Bonding and Beyond

This workshop by Anna Verwaal, based on the latest research in the hormonal physiology of childbirth, is a professional development workshop for birth professionals and important information for expectant couples. Cost: \$120. The Birthing Tree Cooperative, 2047 Galisteo Street, 690-3492.

26 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Creativity Collaboration

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

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

Dev's Design

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

27 SUNDAY, 1:30-2:30 P.M.

Sunday Science

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

29 TUESDAY, 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Indigo Play Day

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Preschool Story Time

La Farge Library. See December 4 listing.

29 TUESDAY, 1-2 P.M.

Art Club

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Preschool Story Time

Southside Library. See December 4 listing.

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

Recycling, Reusing, Recreating

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

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

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

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

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

31 THURSDAY, 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Indigo Play Day

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Books & Babies

Thursdays at Southside Library. See December 6 listing.

31 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

31 THURSDAY, 3-4:30 P.M.

After School Reading Program

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 6 listing.

FEBRUARY

1 FRIDAY

Call for Blue Valentines

Deadline for blue valentines to support the Santa Fe River. Santa Fe Watershed Association. See January 7 listing.

1 FRIDAY, 9 A.M.-NOON

Preschool Prime Time

Today: Annie Rose, the Flower Fairy. Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

1 FRIDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Preschool Story Time

Main Library. See December 4 listing.

1 FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Toddler and Parent Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 7 listing.

1 FRIDAY, 3:30-5:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

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

2 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Creativity Collaboration

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

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

Dev's Design

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

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

Sunday Science

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

5 TUESDAY, 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Indigo Play Day

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Preschool Story Time

La Farge Library. See December 4 listing.

5 TUESDAY, 1-2 P.M.

Art Club

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Boobs and Babies Breastfeeding Group

The Birthing Tree Cooperative. See December 5 listing.

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

Recycling, Reusing, Recreating

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

Winter Calendar 2013 February

6 WEDNESDAY, 10:30-11:15 A.M.

Toddler Tunes

Los Alamos Family Strengths. See December 5 listing.

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

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

6 WEDNESDAY, 6:30 P.M.

Family Bedtime Stories

La Farge Library. See December 5 listing.

7 THURSDAY, 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Indigo Play Day

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Books & Babies

Thursdays at Southside Library. See December 6 listing.

7 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

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

Firefighter Story Time

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

7 THURSDAY, 3-4:30 P.M.

After School Reading Program

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 6 listing.

7 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.

Teen Book Club

Southside Library. See December 6 listing.

8 FRIDAY, 9 A.M.-NOON

Preschool Prime Time

Today: Smart Kids Club at 10:30 a.m. Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

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

Preschool Story Time

Main Library. See December 4 listing.

8 FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Toddler and Parent Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 7 listing.

8 FRIDAY, 3:30-5 P.M.

First Friday Forts

Pajarito Environmental Education Center. See December 7 listing.

8 FRIDAY, 3:30-5:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

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

8 FRIDAY, 6:30 P.M.

"Lost on Broadway"

A Santa Fe School for the Arts and Sciences presentation performed by students ages 3-11. Tickets \$8; children 5 and under \$5. National Dance Institute Dance Barns, 1140 Alto Street. 438-8585.

8 FRIDAY, 7 P.M.

Family Movie Night

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 14 listing.

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

Book Donation Day

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 3 listing.

9 SATURDAY, 10 A.M.-NOON

Special Saturdays

Today: Gym Play at the YMCA. Program for children with developmental or physical special needs, providing fun activities. Enrollment is limited. FSN will determine children's eligibility for the program. Los Alamos Family Strengths Network, 1990 Diamond Drive, Los Alamos, 662-4515.

9 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Creativity Collaboration

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

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

Dev's Design

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

9 SATURDAY, 6:30 P.M.

"Lost on Broadway"

National Dance Institute Dance Barns. See February 8 listing.

10 SUNDAY, NOON-5 P.M.

Santa Fe Children's Museum's 24th Birthday Party

Celebrate the Santa Fe Children's Museum's birthday with live music, tasty cupcakes and many festivities. Santa Fe Children's Museum, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 989-8359.

10 SUNDAY, 1:30-2:30 P.M.

Sunday Science

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

12 TUESDAY, 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Indigo Play Day

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Preschool Story Time

La Farge Library. See December 4 listing.

12 TUESDAY, 1-2 P.M.

Art Club

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Recycling, Reusing, Recreating

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

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

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

14 THURSDAY, 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Indigo Play Day

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Books & Babies

Thursdays at Southside Library. See December 6 listing.

14 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

P 14 THURSDAY, 1-2 P.M.

La Leche League Breastfeeding Meeting

Indigo Baby. See December 13 listing.

FACT
FINE ARTS FOR CHILDREN & TEENS

AFTER SCHOOL ART PROGRAMS WITH FINE ARTS FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS!

at FACT's Zona del Sol Community Studio on the Southside of Santa Fe
(at the corner of Jaguar Dr. and Country Club Rd.)

- Tuesdays from 3:30-5:30 for ages 5 to 7
- Thursdays from 3:30-5:30 for ages 8 to 10
- Teen Workshops from 1-5pm the 2nd Saturday of each month

DRAWING, PAINTING, PRINTMAKING, SCULPTURE, COLLAGE

Tuition is Sliding Scale • Additional scholarships are available!

For info call us at 992-2787 or visit our website at www.factsantafe.org

14 THURSDAY, 3-4:30 P.M.

After School Reading Program

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 6 listing.

14 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.

Librarian's Choice Teen Program

Southside Library. See December 13 listing.

15 FRIDAY, 9 A.M.-NOON

Preschool Prime Time

Today: Music and Movement with Anabella. Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

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

Preschool Story Time

Main Library. See December 4 listing.

15 FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Toddler and Parent Story Time


Vista Grande Public Library. See December 7 listing.

15 FRIDAY, 3:30-5:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

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

Now Enrolling
Ages 2-6



Growing Up
Montessori, LLC

2638 Via Caballero Del Norte
Santa Fe, NM 87505

www.growingupmontessori.com
(505) 795-7256

Winter Calendar 2013 February



Madness Rug by Mikayla, Kalyna, and Isaiah

16 SATURDAY, 8:30 AND 11 A.M.

Mardi Gras Celebrations for all Ages

Enjoy Dixieland Jazz music. United Church of Santa Fe, 1804 Arroyo Chamiso, 988-3295.

16 SATURDAY, 10 A.M.

Love Your River Day

Support the Santa Fe River through this annual clean up event. Refreshments will be served. Location to be determined, check www.santafewatershed.org for details. Santa Fe Watershed Association, 820-1696.

16 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Creativity Collaboration

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

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

Dev's Design

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

16 SATURDAY, 5:30-8:30 P.M.

Kid's Night Out

Santa Fe Children's Museum. See January 19 listing.

17 SUNDAY, 1:30-2:30 P.M.

Sunday Science

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

17 SUNDAY, 2-3 P.M.

GranMary's Place Storytelling

Museum of Indian Arts & Culture. See January 20 listing.

18 MONDAY, 7:30 A.M.-5:30 P.M.

School Closure Day Camp

Genevva Chavez Community Center. See January 22 listing.

19 TUESDAY, 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Indigo Play Day

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Preschool Story Time

La Farge Library. See December 4 listing.

19 TUESDAY, 1-2 P.M.

Art Club

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Recycling, Reusing, Recreating

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

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

Toddler Crafts

Los Alamos Family Strengths Network. See December 19 listing.

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

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

21 THURSDAY, 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Indigo Play Day

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Books & Babies

Thursdays at Southside Library. See December 6 listing.

21 THURSDAY, 10:45-11:30 A.M.

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

21 THURSDAY, 3-4:30 P.M.

After School Reading Program

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 6 listing.

21 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.

Teen Anime Club

Southside Library. See December 20 listing.

Winter Calendar 2013 February/Ongoing

22 FRIDAY, 9 A.M.-NOON

Preschool Prime Time

Today: Francine's Creations. Santa Fe Children's Museum. See December 7 listing.

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

Preschool Story Time

Main Library. See December 4 listing.

22 FRIDAY, 11 A.M.-NOON

Toddler and Parent Story Time

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 7 listing.

22 FRIDAY, 3:30-5:30 P.M.

Open Art Studio

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

23 SATURDAY, 1-3 P.M.

Creativity Collaboration

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

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

Dev's Design

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

24 SUNDAY, 1:30-2:30 P.M.

Sunday Science

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

26 TUESDAY, 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Indigo Play Day

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Preschool Story Time

La Farge Library. See December 4 listing.

26 TUESDAY, 1-2 P.M.

Art Club

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Recycling, Reusing, Recreating

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

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

Story Time

Collected Works Bookstore. See December 5 listing.

28 THURSDAY, 9:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

Indigo Play Day

Indigo Baby. See December 4 listing.

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

Books & Babies

Thursdays at Southside Library. See December 6 listing.

28 THURSDAY, 3-4:30 P.M.

After School Reading Program

Vista Grande Public Library. See December 6 listing.

28 THURSDAY, 4:30-5:30 P.M.

Teen Anime Club

Southside Library. See December 20 listing.

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, BOTANIC GARDEN

Open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Closed December 25 and January 1. Admission options: Buy a ticket to Zoo only, Aquarium/Botanic Garden, or "BioPark Combo" for all three. Call for prices. Zoo: 903 Tenth Street. Botanic Garden and Aquarium: 2601 Central Avenue, NW, Albuquerque, (505) 764-6200, www.cabq.gov/biopark.

ABQ BIOPARK: TINGLEY BEACH

Fish, hike, relax or sail a model boat. Year-round, sunrise to sunset. No tickets needed. 1800 Tingley Drive, SW, Albuquerque. (505) 764-6200, 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. Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Closed December 25 and January 1. 1050 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe, 474-1670, www.bataanmuseum.com.

BIRTHING TREE RESOURCE CENTER

Birthing classes, childbirth classes, doula services, postpartum care, Mothering Magazine Lending Library and other services for families. 2047 Galisteo Road, Santa Fe, 690-3492, www.thebirthingtree.com.

BRADBURY SCIENCE MUSEUM

Displays, videos and interactive exhibits on the history of the atomic bomb and contemporary research conducted at the Los Alamos National Laboratory. Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday and Monday 1 to 5 p.m. Closed December 25 and January 1. Admission is free. 15th and Central Avenue, Los Alamos, (505) 667-4444, www.lanl.gov/museum.

CHALLENGER LEARNING CENTER NEW MEXICO

A nonprofit educational organization engaging young people in science, technology, engineering and math education. Interactive educational Space simulations for students in grades 5 to 12. Special programs for grades K through 4. Activities for all ages. Open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. with some evening activities. Call for prices and schedule; most activities require reservations. Located at the Unser Discovery Campus, 1776 Montaña

Road, NW, Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, (505) 248-1776, www.challengernm.org.

EL MUSEO CULTURAL

Events venue in the Railyard. FACT (Fine Arts for Children and Teens), in collaboration with Outside In, offers Youth with Promise art workshops for teens ages 13 to 18, Saturdays from 12 to 2 p.m. Community service credits are available for those who attend. 1615 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe, 992-0591, www.elmuseocultural.org.

EXPLORA

Family-oriented science center creating opportunities for discovery through interactive experiences in science, technology and art. Programs for toddlers to adults. Open Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday noon to 6 p.m. Closed December 25 and January 1. Ages 12 and up \$8; seniors \$5; children \$4; under 1 free. Children and toddlers must be accompanied by a paying adult. 1701 Mountain Road NW, Albuquerque, (505) 224-8300, www.explora.us.

GEORGIA O'KEEFFE MUSEUM

The largest single repository of O'Keeffe's work in the world. Exhibitions, education programs, family and youth programs. Open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Friday until 7 p.m. Closed December 25 and January 1. Adults \$12, New Mexico residents \$6; seniors and students over 18 with ID \$10; ages 18 and under free. Free first Friday of each month to NM residents from 5 to 7 p.m. 217 Johnson Street, Santa Fe, 946-1000, www.okeeffemuseum.org.

HARWOOD MUSEUM OF ART

Historic and contemporary art and culture of the Taos region. Open Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday noon to 5 p.m. Closed December 25 and January 1. Monthly Homeschoolers activities for two age groups and weekly Teen Art activities. Many family programs; call for program details. Adults \$10; seniors, students and AAA.M.mbers \$8; age 12 and under free. New Mexico residents admitted free on Sundays with proof of residence. 238 Ledoux Street, Taos, (575) 758-9826, www.harwoodmuseum.org.

INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN INDIAN ARTS MUSEUM

The National Collection of Contemporary Indian Art. Monday and Wednesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday noon to 5 p.m. Closed December 25 and January 1. Adults \$10; seniors, students with valid ID and New Mexico residents \$5; Native people, members and veterans free. New Mexico residents free on Sunday. Children 16 and under always free. 108 Cathedral Place, Santa Fe, 983-8900, www.iaia.edu.

INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

Line dances from Europe, the Balkans, Greece, the Middle East and Israel. All levels, beginners welcome, no partner needed. Sunday 6:30 to 10 p.m.; Tuesday 7 to 10 p.m., including holidays. \$5 per session (no charge first time). Oddfellows Hall, 1125 Cerrillos Road, Santa Fe, 501-5081.

LOS ALAMOS FAMILY STRENGTHS NETWORK


Providing education, support groups and activities to all types of families, parents, teens and children. Open Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., also for scheduled evening class times. School holidays, delays and closures observed. 1990 Diamond Drive, Los Alamos, (505) 662-4515, www.lafsn.org.

MUSEUM OF INDIAN ARTS AND CULTURE

Including The Roland Discovery Center: interactive exhibits, puzzles and games for the young and young at heart. Open Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed December 25 and January 1. General admission \$9; New Mexico residents \$6 daily and free on Sundays; New Mexico seniors with ID free on Wednesdays. Children 16 and under are always free. 710 Camino Lejo, Santa Fe, 476-1250, www.indianartsandculture.org.


MUSEUM OF INTERNATIONAL FOLK ART

Wide range of folk art displays from around the world. Museum open Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed December 25 and January 1. General admission \$9; New Mexico residents \$6 daily and free on Sundays; New Mexico seniors with ID free on Wednesdays. Children 16 and under are always free. 706 Camino Lejo, Santa Fe, 476-1200, www.internationalfolkart.org.



CAMINO de PAZ SCHOOL
Education for the Mind, Hands and Heart

A Montessori School for Grades 7-9



Camino de Paz is dedicated to meeting the specific needs of the young adolescent. During these critical years of rapid physical, social and developmental changes, the farm/school environment is the context in which students:

- ◆ Discover their passions, strengths and challenges;
- ◆ Engage the greater community;
- ◆ Think analytically and critically;
- ◆ Become ethical and caring citizens;
- ◆ Raise test scores through experiential learning.

Now enrolling grades 7 & 8

Camino de Paz School 505-231-2819
Santa Cruz, NM caminodepaz.net
patriciap@caminodepaz.net

Winter Calendar 2013 Ongoing

MUSEUM OF SPANISH COLONIAL ART

Special activities for families and children include "Possible Bags," an art activity bag; the MoSCA Treasure Hunt; puzzles, books, historical costumes and hands-on activities in the Youth Art and Activity Center. Docent tours at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Special tours for children and adults may be arranged by calling the Education Department at 982-2226, x122. Open Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed December 25 and January 1. General admission \$8; NM residents \$4. Children 16 and under are always free. 750 Camino Lejo on Museum Hill, 982-2226, www.spanishcolonialblog.org.

NEW MEXICO HISTORY MUSEUM

Explore history from the indigenous people through the Atomic Age, including the clash and melding of cultures. In addition to galleries, the museum features the Discovery Center, a gathering space for families to engage in hands-on, self-paced activities. Open Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Fridays until 8 p.m. General admission \$9; New Mexico residents \$6 daily and free on Sundays; New Mexico seniors with ID free on Wednesdays. Children 16 and under are always free. Free Friday evenings 5 to 8 p.m. Historical downtown tours Monday through Saturday 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. 113 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fe, 476-5200, www.nmhistory.org.

NEW MEXICO MUSEUM OF ART

Guided tours free with museum admission. Open Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Fridays until 8 p.m. Closed December 25 and January 1. General admission \$9; New Mexico residents \$6 daily and free on Sundays; New Mexico seniors with ID free on Wednesdays. Children 16 and under are always free. Free Friday evenings 5 to 8 p.m. 107 W. Palace Avenue, Santa Fe, 476-5072, www.nmartmuseum.org.

NEW MEXICO MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY AND SCIENCE

Various exhibits, Planetarium and movies at the giant-screen Lockheed-Martin DynaTheater. Open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. DynaTheater movies are shown hourly from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call for admission prices. 1801 Mountain Road, NW, Albuquerque, (505) 841-2800, www.naturalhistory.org.

PAJARITO ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER

Nature center and outdoor education programs that allow people of all ages to explore the rich natural and cultural heritage of the Pajarito Plateau. Open Tuesday through Friday, noon to 4 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Nature playtimes for toddlers and preschoolers every Monday (except holidays) from 10:30 a.m. to noon. After-school nature clubs for grades 1 to 6

on the first and second Tuesday of every month from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Middle School and High School Environment Clubs and many other activities, classes and summer camps. Registration required for most activities. 3540 Orange Street, Los Alamos. (505) 662-0460, www.pajaritoec.org.

PALACE OF THE GOVERNORS

Various exhibits from colonial New Mexico. Open Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Fridays until 8 p.m. General admission \$9; New Mexico residents \$6 daily and free on Sundays; New Mexico seniors with ID free on Wednesdays. Children 16 and under are always free. Free Friday evenings 5 to 8 p.m. 105 W. Palace Avenue, 476-5100, www.palaceofthegovernors.org.

RAILYARD ARTISAN MARKET

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

RANDALL DAVEY AUDUBON CENTER & SANCTUARY

Over 135 acres of striking landscapes and wildlife, bounded by the Santa Fe National Forest and Santa Fe River Watershed land. Trails and grounds are open daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nature Store is open daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Activities include guided bird walks and hikes, and tours of the Randall Davey home. 1800 Upper Canyon Road, Santa Fe, 983-4609, nmaudubon.org/randall-davey.

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 are open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day; visitor center open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission \$3 per vehicle. 2901 Candelaria, NW, Albuquerque, 505-344-7240, www.rgnc.org.

SANTA FE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Open Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday noon to 5 p.m. Climbing Wall: Friday 2 to 6 p.m., Saturday 2:30 to 6 p.m., Sunday 1:30 to 5 p.m. General admission \$9; NM residents with ID \$6; Sundays NM residents with ID \$2 and nonresidents \$5. Family memberships available. 1050 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe, 989-8359, www.santafefchildrensmuseum.org.

SANTA FE FARMERS' MARKET

Open every Saturday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Tuesdays in summer. The Railyard Artisans market is open every Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Santa Fe Farmers Market, 1607 Paseo de Peralta. 983-4098, www.santafefarmersmarket.com.

SANTA FE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Main Library, 145 Washington Avenue, 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., 955-6780. Oliver La Farge Branch, 1730 Llano Street, Monday through Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Thursday to

Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; closed Sundays, 955-4860. Southside Branch, 6599 Jaguar Drive, Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; closed Sunday, 955-2810. All libraries closed December 25 and January 1. www.santafelibrary.org.

THE PLANETARIUM AT SANTA FE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Entertaining and informative astronomical programs, ranging from scientific documentaries to science fiction stories filled with science facts to cultural programs including Native American and Chinese sky lore. Public programming February through December. Adults \$5; preteens and seniors \$3; SFCC students, employees and planetarium members free. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Regular programs are not suitable for children under 5 years old. Santa Fe Community College, 6401 Richards Avenue, Santa Fe, 428-1677, www.sfcc.edu/planetarium.

VISTA GRANDE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Open Tuesday through Friday, noon to 6 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Closed Sunday and Monday. Story times, family movie nights, summer reading programs and special events. 14 Avenida Torreon, Eldorado, 466-7323, www.vglibrary.org.

WAREHOUSE 21

Dance concerts, theater productions and other events and classes for youth under 21. 1614 Paseo de Peralta, 989-4423, www.warehouse21.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. Private, not-for-profit; no admission fee but donations welcome. Open Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday 1 to 5 p.m. 704 Camino Lejo, Santa Fe, 982-4636, www.wheelwright.org.

WILDLIFE WEST

Park and attraction dedicated to native wildlife and ecology. 122 acres, including a 1/3-acre pond. All animals are non-releasable, due to injury or some other factor that makes life in the wild impossible for them. Park includes an educational program and hosts concerts, festivals and other events. Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. or by appointment. Camping available. Adults \$7; seniors \$6; students \$4; children under 5 free. 87 North Frontage Road, Edgewood (just east of Albuquerque), (505) 281-7655 or (877) 981-9453, www.wildlifewest.org.

Please send us information about family events happening in March, April and May for our Spring 2013 Calendar. Send by email (preferred): calendar@sftumbleweeds.com; or mail: Tumbleweeds, 369 Montezuma #191, Santa Fe, NM 87501. Deadline: February 1.



Spring
into
Summer!

Every year, *Tumbleweeds'* Spring issue includes a Directory of Spring Break Programs and Summer Camps & Programs. Our Summer issue includes a Directory of Summer Camps & Programs. Fill **your** great program early with a listing in these vital family resources!

SPRING 2013

Display ad reservations:
February 1

Directory listings:
February 1 (*Spring Break Programs and Summer Camps & Programs*)

Display ad copy: February 8

Publication date: February 20

COST? Directory listings of up to 85 words are FREE for display advertisers, and \$50 for others. Spring/Summer Double-Shot Special: \$85.

How? Submit your listing by email (calendar@sftumbleweeds.com); mail (Tumbleweeds, 369 Montezuma Avenue #191, Santa Fe, NM 87501); or on our website (www.sftumbleweeds.com/directory-submissions).

QUESTIONS? Call 984-3171!

SUMMER 2013

Display ad reservations:
May 3

Directory listings:
May 3 (*Summer Camps & Programs*)

Display ad copy due: May 10

Publication Date: May 22

Resources



Minecraft Rug by Pia and Makie

RESOURCES

RESOURCES is a directory of services and events for children and families in the Santa Fe area. Rates: \$30, plus tax, up to 30 words, then \$1.10 per word; or \$100 prepaid for four issues (for first 30 words, then \$.95 per word). To place a listing, call 984-3171.

CLASSES

AMERICAN RED CROSS

Community CPR, Child & Infant CPR, First Aid, Babysitting and more. Call for class times and prices. 1213 Mercantile, Suite B, 424-1611.

BIRTHING TREE COOPERATIVE

Childbirth and parenting workshops to enhance your experience, build community and learn tools to improve connections with children. To register call 690-3492 or go to www.thebirthingtree.com.

CHRISTUS ST. VINCENT PRENATAL CLASSES

Continuous six-week classes on Prepared Childbirth. Childbirth Basics classes, first Saturday of each month; monthly Infant Touch and Massage classes. Doula services for couples who want extra support in the birth and postpartum period. Breastfeeding classes also available. Call 913-5793.

FAMILY AND CHILD THERAPISTS

PASTORAL COUNSELING CENTER

Counseling for children, adolescents and families; play and sand-tray therapy. Sliding fee scale. 1533 South St. Francis Drive, Suite E. 988-4131, ext. 116.

SANTA FE SUPPORTIVE THERAPY

Providing supportive psychotherapy to kids, teens, adults, couples and families. We use a client-centered, eclectic approach that integrates talk therapy with contemporary developments in therapeutic practice. www.SFSupportiveTherapy.com, 505-926-0906.

SKY CENTER

Offering free counseling for youth and their families during the school year, offered by Masters-level students trained in community-based counseling and licensed therapists. Call 473-6191 to schedule. On the campus of DeVargas Middle School.

SOUTHWESTERN COUNSELING CENTER

Low-cost counseling and art therapy for children, adults, individuals, couples, families and groups by supervised graduate students of Southwestern College. Call 471-8575.

GROUPS

ADOPTION SUPPORT GROUP

New Chapter is a support group for prospective and current adoptive families. Free monthly meetings on topics unique to adoptive families and the children's needs. Childcare and food provided. First Wednesdays, at Zia Financial Group in the La Tienda Center, Eldorado. Eileen Richardson, 577-8130.

BLUE STAR MOTHERS

For moms with sons and daughters serving in active military. No political or sectarian alliance. Supports troops, families and veterans. Santa Fe group meets third Saturday of every month at 10 a.m., Ponce de Leon Retirement Community Center, 640 Alta Vista Street. Call Frances Garcia, 471-0408.

GERARD'S HOUSE

Support groups for children, teens and families in grief. Call for schedule. 3204 C Mercantile Court, 424-1800, ext. 25.

MANY MOTHERS' CIRCLES

First Tuesdays from 1 to 3 p.m. Gathering for moms and babies, with presentations on parenting topics. Santa Fe Soul, 2905 E. Rodeo Park Drive, Santa Fe. Free. All are welcome, including pregnant moms. Offered by Many Mothers. Call 983-5984.

NEXT CHAPTER

Adoption support group. First Wednesday of every month from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Zia Financial Group in Eldorado. Education and support. Childcare and food provided. Contact Eileen, 577-8130.

POJOAQUE VALLEY PLAY GROUP AND MOTHERS' CIRCLE

A Waldorf-inspired group for sharing creativity, warmth and love, and for building a community of like-minded local families. Mothers' circle, playgroup, festivals. Call for details and location. 455-0514. <http://pojoaquevalleyplaygroup.blogspot.com>.

SERVICES

¡ADELANTE!

Families who do not have a home, or who share a home with another family because they cannot afford a place of their own, are eligible for services from Santa Fe Public Schools to help with school uniforms, school supplies, tutoring and other services. Services are free, confidential and open to all. Call 467-2571 or 467-2624.

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS

Kids are enjoying little moments, big magic with positive, caring adult mentors. Services are free. Se habla español. Call Big Brothers Big Sisters at 983-8360, toll free at (866) 983-8360, or go to www.bbbs.org/northernnm.

BIRTHING BEGINNINGS

Compassionate care for the childbearing year and beyond. Offering doula services, postpartum support, herbal consultations and birth art sessions. Danielle Simmons, CD, LMHC. www.BirthingBeginnings.com, (505) 795-3566.

BIRTHING TREE COOPERATIVE

Childbirth preparation classes, doula services and postpartum home support. Birthing professionals working to enhance the experience of pregnancy, birth and parenting. Call 690-3492 or go to www.thebirthingtree.com.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Immigration and Legalization Services, including citizenship classes, case management and legal assistance. 4985 Airport Road, 424-9789.

CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT AND DISABILITY INFORMATION NETWORK

Free information and referrals for all New Mexicans with disabilities. Bilingual services available. (800) 552-8195. <http://cdd.unm.edu/infonet>.

CHALLENGE NEW MEXICO

Provides services for children and adults with disabilities and their families. Therapeutic recreation and special events. Volunteer opportunities. Call 988-7621 or go to www.challengenewmexico.org.

CHILDREN'S MEDICAL SERVICES

CMS helps New Mexico residents from birth to 21 years, with medical care coordination, assistance with access to healthcare services, and pediatric specialty outreach clinics. CMS pays for

Resources



Colorful Rainbow Rug by Madeline Mai Raine Natalie

medical services for children and youth with chronic health conditions who are not Medicaid or SCHIP eligible and who meet CMS income eligibility. Diagnostic services available for all incomes. No fee. SF County Health Building, 605 Letrado Street, Suite C, 476-2603.

CRISIS RESPONSE OF SANTA FE

A 24/7 crisis counseling hotline for children, teens, and adults. Adult and youth counselors provide help by phone throughout New Mexico. Crisis management from substance abuse and mental health to personal problems; includes information and referral to other community resources. Call toll free (888) 920-6333, or locally 820-6333. National Suicide Prevention Hotline: (800) 273-TALK. Services are free of charge.

CHRISTUS ST. VINCENT HOSPITAL DOULA CARE SERVICES

Certified, trained doulas provide physical, emotional and informational support to a woman before and during birth and in the immediate postpartum period. 913-5793.

ESPERANZA SHELTER FOR BATTERED FAMILIES

A confidential shelter for victims of domestic violence and their dependents. Individual, group and child counseling, 24-hour crisis intervention, transportation, court advocacy, and systems advocacy. Case managers and advocacy services for victims. Crisis lines: local, 473-5200; Northern New Mexico, (800) 473-5220.

FREE IMMUNIZATIONS FOR UNINSURED CHILDREN

Call for appointment: Santa Fe Public Health Office, 605 Letrado Street, 476-2600; Espanola Valley Health Office, Lower San Pedro Road, 753-2794; Los Alamos Public Health Office, 662-4038.

HEALTHY FAMILIES FIRST "PRIMEROS PASOS"

Care coordination and home visiting program from pregnancy through child's third year of life. Provides information, resources and help for parents with new babies. Free. 476-2604 or 476-2649.

HEALTHY TOMORROWS MEDICAL VAN

Medical services for children and adults, including physicals, immunizations, gynecological exams, diagnosis and treatment of minor illnesses. Accepts Medicaid and private insurance, and has a sliding fee for the uninsured. Van visits Sweeney, Cesar Chavez and Ramirez Thomas Elementary Schools and Ortiz Middle School. Call 467-1575 for an appointment.

LA FAMILIA MEDICAL CENTER

Care for the whole family including prenatal, pediatric with vaccinations, health education, dental and behavioral health services. Financial assistance based on eligibility. Alto Street Clinic, 1035 Alto Street, 982-4425; Southside Clinic, 2145 Caja del Oro Grant Road, 438-3195; Health Care for the Homeless, 818 Camino Sierra Vista, 988-1742.

LA LUZ LIFELINK FAMILY SERVICES

Rental assistance to families in need, to prevent homelessness. Mental health treatment services also available. 2325 Cerrillos Road, 438-0010.

LAS CUMBRES

Santa Fe Community Infant Program: Infant mental health services for parents and babies. Providing counseling, emotional support, parenting and developmental guidance. Licensed Masters level therapists work with families in their homes or our office, to strengthen parents' relationship with their child and increase confidence as a parent. No fee. 955-0410.

MANY MOTHERS

Volunteer in-home care providers give practical, educational and emotional support to a new mother in the critical first six months after a baby is born. Call 983-5984.

NEW VISTAS

Support and education for families of children birth to 3 with or at risk for developmental delays or disabilities. Home visits, service coordination and developmental intervention. Bilingual. 1121 Alto Street. Call 988-3803.

ORTIZ MOUNTAIN HEALTH CENTER

Full primary health care for all ages, including prenatal care, and well- and sick-child care. Sliding scale, Medicaid, Medicare, insurance. 06-B Main Street, Cerrillos, NM. 471-6266.

PARENTS REACHING OUT

For families with children birth to age 21 with unique needs, offering support, encouragement, information and resources. (800) 524-5176.

PROJECT ANN

Free vision and dental services (including eye exams and glasses, dental cleanings, fillings and x-rays) for children up to and including age 19 that cannot afford these services. Call Mike Lopach, Project ANN office (Ayudando Nuestros Niños – Helping Our Children). Se habla español. 955-1209 or 955-1211.

SANTA FE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Early Childhood Training and Technical Assistance Program, 6401 Richards Avenue, 428-1354 or 428-1703. Child care information, training and support to parents and

providers, including the Warm Line (free telephone support for parents) at 428-1344 or toll-free (866) 209-6116; and Toy Lending Center, with over 2,000 toys to lend: Mondays 1-4 p.m., Wednesdays 1-5 p.m., second Wednesday of month 1-8 p.m., second Saturday 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 428-1612.

SANTA FE COUNTY MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH COUNCIL OFFICE

Free resource directory available for families with young children. 995-9527.

SANTAFECCHILDREN.COM

A comprehensive online resource for Santa Fe families. Get info on schools, summer and after-school programs, toy, book and clothing stores, kid-friendly restaurants, events calendar and much more! Rate and review listings too!

VILLA THERESE CATHOLIC CLINIC

Free well and sick medical services for children, including immunizations and medicine. New women's and children's dental clinic. Foot and eye exams for adults and children. Donation suggested. Call for appointment. 219 Cathedral Place, 983-8561.

YOUTH SHELTERS

The Clinical Services Center provides free therapy for children, teens and families. YS also provides emergency shelter, transitional living, and street outreach for homeless youth. All services are free. Main: 983-0586. 24-hour shelter: 438-0502.

VOLUNTEERS

CASA

Join 60 CASA volunteers (Court Appointed Special Advocates) who advocate for abused and neglected children in Santa Fe, Rio Arriba and Los Alamos counties, as well as providing mentoring for Santa Fe youth on probation. Make a permanent difference in the life of a foster child. No prior experience needed, but application required. Call 820-1500 or email info@casafirst.org. www.casafirst.org.

FOSTER A FUTURE

Abused and neglected children in custody need short or long term foster care or adoptive homes. Foster parents receive a monthly stipend and financial help with childcare. Foster and adoptive parent training takes place evenings and weekends and is free. New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department. 24 hours a day. (800) 432-2075.

MANY MOTHERS

Would you enjoy providing friendly mentoring and support to new mothers? Volunteers are needed a few flexible hours per week. Bilingual encouraged but not required. Call 983-5984.

SANTA FE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Adult and teen volunteers are needed to come in on a regular basis for two to four hours weekly. Help children interact with museum exhibits inside and outside. Assist visiting artists and scientists, work in the museum shop and belay on our climbing wall. Staff provides monthly orientation and training sessions for new volunteers. Call 989-8359, ext. 117, for more information.

WAKE UP WITH HONEY... on your dial!



The Big Show every weekday morning from 7am to 11am.

98.1 Radio Free Santa Fe will help make your mornings a little easier, and that trip a bit closer. Set your radio to KBAC each night, and wake up with Honey Harris and the Big Show -- *you'll have a chance to win all sorts of goodies.*



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Hutton Broadcasting 2502 Camino Entrada, Suite C Santa Fe, NM 87507 Phone: 505.471.1067

Free!

Pictures with Santa!

LOS ALAMOS
Betty Ehart Senior Center
1101 Bathtub Row
Saturday, December 1
7:00am-11:00am

WHITE ROCK
Thursday, December 6
3:00pm-5:00pm

ESPAÑOLA
Friday, December 7
3:00pm-5:00pm

SANTA FE
DeVargas North Branch
Thursday, December 20
3:00pm-5:00pm

Cordova Road Branch
Friday, December 14
3:00pm-5:00pm

Cerrillos Road Branch
Friday, December 21
3:00pm-5:00pm

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CREDIT UNION

SANTO NIÑO CATHOLIC SCHOOL



NEW ENROLLMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Our recently expanded Pre-Kindergarten program now accepts students as young as 3 years of age. We provide small class sizes, dynamic performing and fine art programs, and academic-based Catholic education for Pre-K through 6th grade.

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