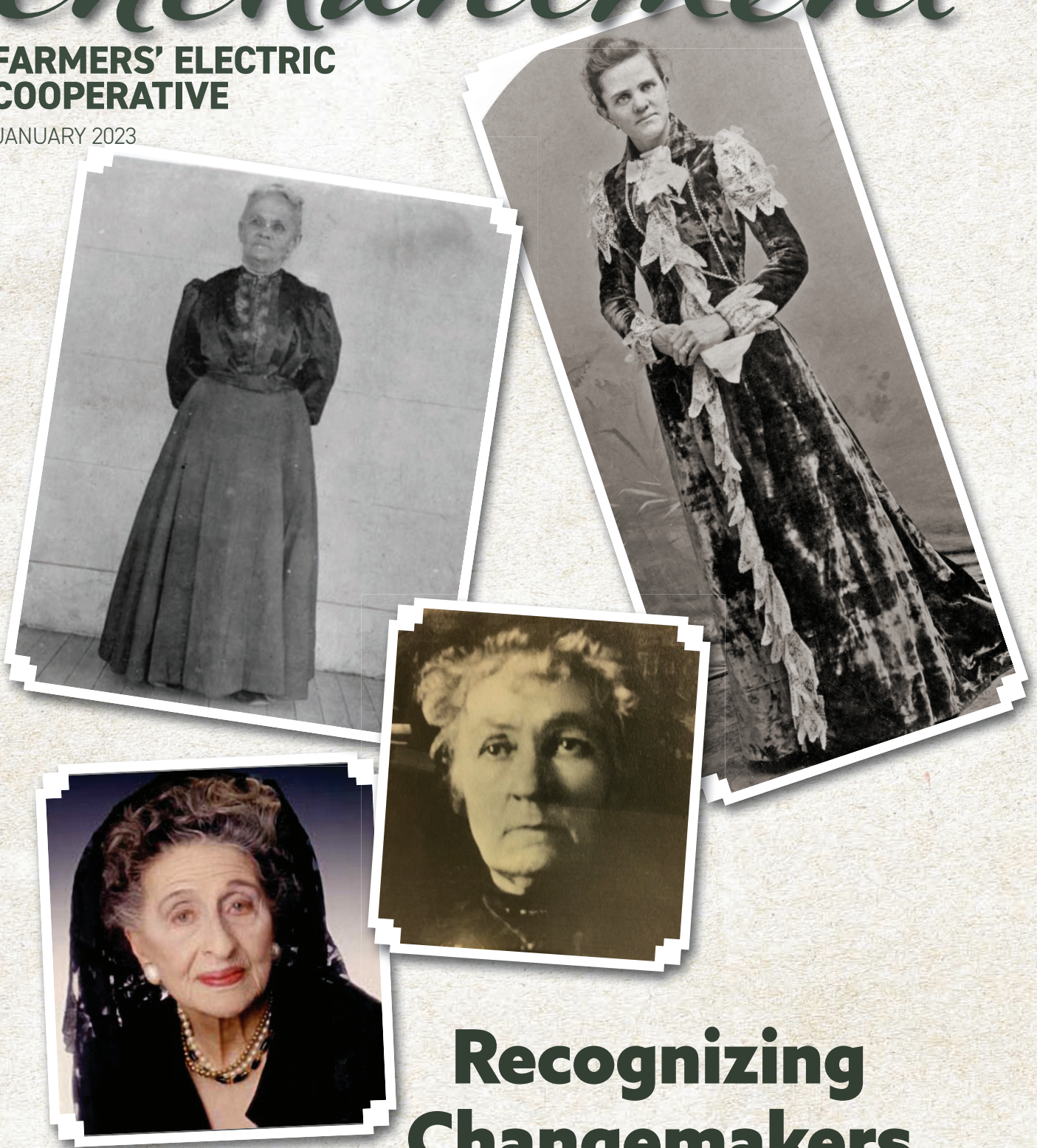


enchantment

The Voice of New Mexico's
Rural Electric Cooperatives

**FARMERS' ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE**

JANUARY 2023



Recognizing Changemakers

Roadside markers honor
New Mexico women **Page 12**

**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Yetta Kohn,
Sadie Creech Orchard, Sarah "Sally" Rooke,
María "Concha" Concepción Ortiz y Pino de
Kleven. PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE NEW MEXICO
HISTORIC WOMEN MARKER INITIATIVE. BACKGROUND
ADOBE STOCK PHOTO BY PALADIN1212**

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JANUARY 16, 2023

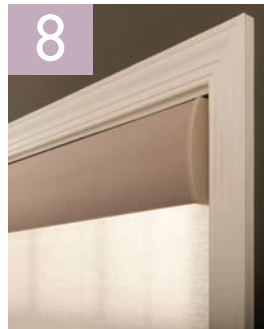
No School



January
2023

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Congratulations to Joe Montano with December's *enchantment!*

Southwestern Electric Cooperative member Joe Montano wins \$20!



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ASSOCIATION provides legislative and educational services to the cooperatives that are members of the association and deliver electric power to New Mexico's rural areas and small communities. The mission of the New Mexico Rural Electric Cooperative Association is to strengthen, support, unify and represent cooperative member interests at the local, state and national levels. Each cooperative has a representative on the association's board of directors, which controls the editorial content and advertising policy of *enchantment* through its Publications Committee.

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No. 1 New Year's Resolution: Save Energy

Many people view the new year as an opportunity to set and achieve goals. This year, set aside typical resolutions and focus on saving energy with these tips.

Invest in a Programmable Thermostat

Not only does a programmable thermostat save you upwards of 10% annually on your cooling and heating costs, but it gives you one less thing to think about at the end of the day. Set it to your schedule and avoid having to adjust the temperature when you leave or go to bed.

Look for the Energy Star Label

Your appliances and electronics account

for nearly 20% of your electric bill. When it's time to replace a product, look for Energy Star-certified items. In its lifetime, an Energy Star appliance could save you nearly \$750 in energy costs.

Use Energy-Saving Lightbulbs


If you were to replace just five of the most used lightbulbs in your home with Energy Star bulbs, you could save up to \$75 a year on your electric bill.

Cut Down on Water Heating

Water heating is a huge chunk of your electric bill. Consider setting your water heater no higher than 120 degrees and

installing low-flow showerheads to cut down on water heating costs.

Maintain Your Air Conditioner

Having a certified technician service your air conditioner annually will keep it working efficiently. Replacing air filters once a month is vital in ensuring your air conditioner works properly. 



Planets Passing in the Night

The New Year 2023 begins with Venus shining brightly in the southwestern sky during dusk. Our neighboring world began emerging out of the sunlight late last year and spends the next several months climbing ever higher into the evening sky in the west. Venus is highest during the spring months and disappears back into sunlight during July.

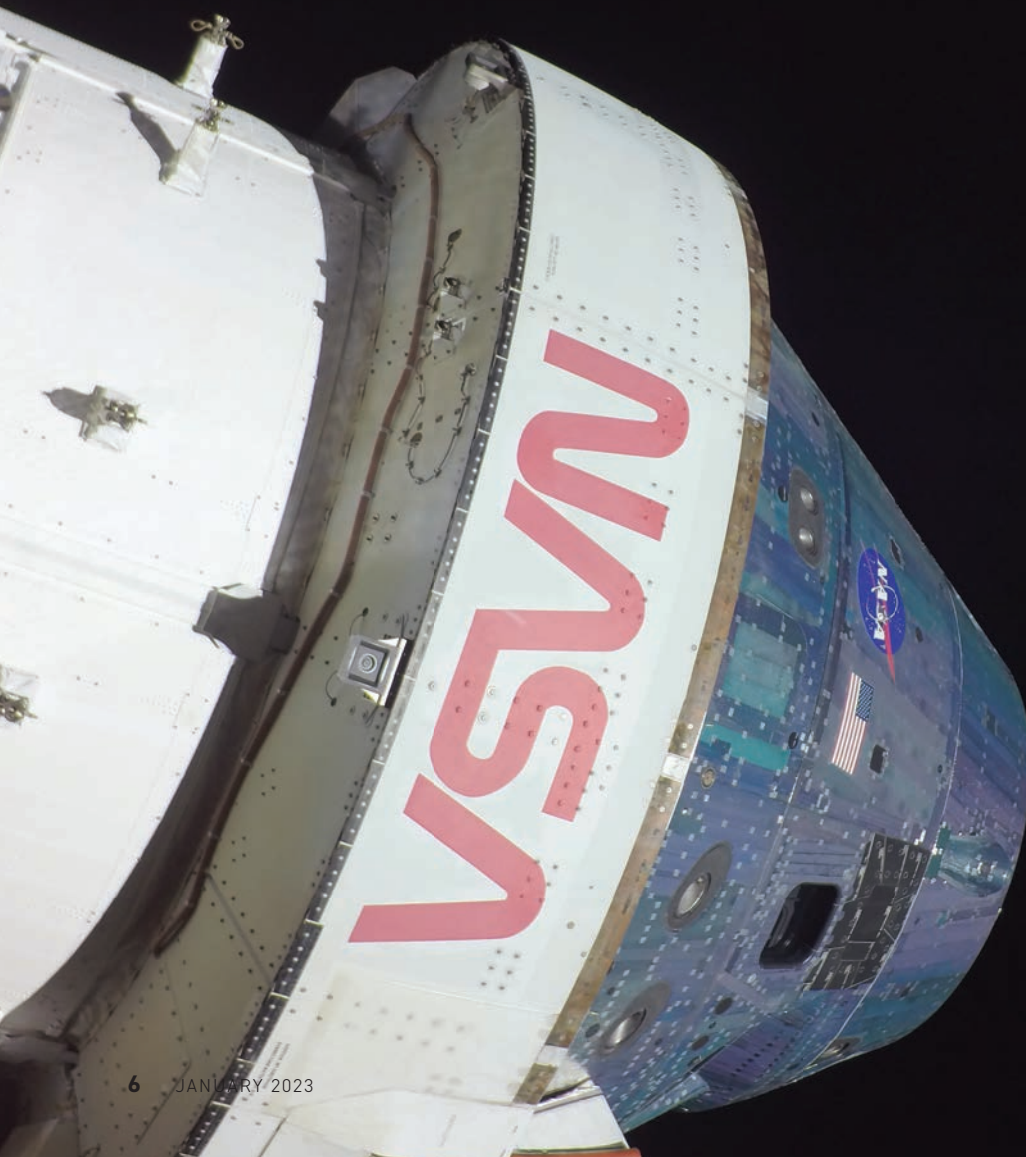
Our solar system's two largest worlds are also visible in the southwestern evening sky this month. Saturn is low in the southwest as darkness falls and starts disappearing into twilight by month's end. Before doing so, it has a close conjunction with the much brighter Venus on the evening of Sunday, January 22. Jupiter, meanwhile, follows along about three hours behind Saturn, and sets during mid- to late evening.

The Red Planet, Mars, was at opposition—directly opposite the sun in the sky—early last month, and remains a bright and prominent object in the sky during January. It is almost directly overhead during the early- to mid-evening hours and sets in the

west during mid-morning. Just as it did in December, the moon occults—or passes directly in front of—Mars on Monday, January 30. The event lasts from about 10 p.m. to 10:45 p.m.

The one remaining bright planet, Mercury, is also visible this month, being in the morning sky during the latter part of January. It is at its highest during the last week of the month, rising around the beginning of dawn.

It has been a while since we have had any kind of bright comet in the sky, but one discovered last March by the Zwicky Transient Facility survey program in California passes slightly south of the bowl of the Little Dipper on the evenings of January 26-28. During that time, the comet should be detectable with binoculars and—at least from dark rural sites—possibly visible with the unaided eye. The comet passes closest to Earth (26 million miles) in early February, but unfortunately, the bright moonlight then makes viewing it more difficult. 📷



The Orion capsule from NASA's Artemis 1 mission, with the moon and Earth in the background.
PHOTO COURTESY OF NASA



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Appliances That Work for You

Q: Are smart home technologies efficient? Will upgrading save me money?

A: You've probably heard the term smart home a lot in recent years. If you're curious what makes your house smart, how it can add efficiency and help you save, you have come to the right place.

SMART was originally an acronym for self-monitoring analysis and reporting technology. This refers to technology that can be programmed for automation or controlled remotely using Bluetooth or Wi-Fi from a cellphone app or online login. A smart home has automated control of appliances and systems, such as lighting and HVAC.

People automate their homes for several reasons, including convenience, energy efficiency and security.

Just because a product is smart, don't assume it's energy efficient. Added connectivity, lights and touchscreens can increase energy use. Always look for the Energy Star logo when shopping, which certifies the products meet standards for energy efficiency.

Energy savings typically come from automating the systems, devices and appliances in your home to use less energy or use energy when it costs less. Here are a few ways you can start implementing smart technology at home.

Whole House Upgrades

Because heating and cooling account for the most energy

use in a home, these systems are the best place to look for energy savings.

Smart thermostats offer features and functionality that can help you save energy and money without thinking about it, including learning temperature preferences and setting temperatures. Geofencing uses your cellphone location to adjust the temperature accordingly.

Smart thermostats also allow you to control the thermostat from anywhere with an internet connection. Features vary by product, so choose the one that's right for you.

Smart window coverings are available and increasing in popularity. They can help save energy in the winter and summer by operating based on the temperature of the room or a preset schedule.

Smart lighting can help you remotely control the lights in your home, based on occupancy or a preset schedule. Lighting can be paired with home security systems.

You can use smart outlets and power strips to control devices from outside the home or manage use based on load. For example, you can plug your computer and devices into a load-sensing power strip that turns off peripherals, such as monitors and printers, when your computer is not in use.

Living Room

Many people use Wi-Fi to stream TV programming. Smart TVs with built-in streaming functionality offer



A cellphone or tablet can control a host of household appliances while at home or on the road. Automation can help reduce your electric bill. ADOBE STOCK ART BY HQUALITY

the most efficient way to stream content. If your TV cannot connect to the internet for streaming, opt for a streaming media player, such as Roku or Apple TV. They use 15 times less energy than a gaming console to stream the same shows and movies.

Laundry

Smart washing machines can be scheduled for off-peak times, which is helpful if your electric rate is based on the time of day energy is used. Smart dryers shut off automatically when your clothes are dry.

Kitchen

There are many options for smart appliances in the heart of the home. Smart refrigerators

offer energy-saving features, such as notifications when the door is left open. Digital screens show the contents to keep you from opening the door.

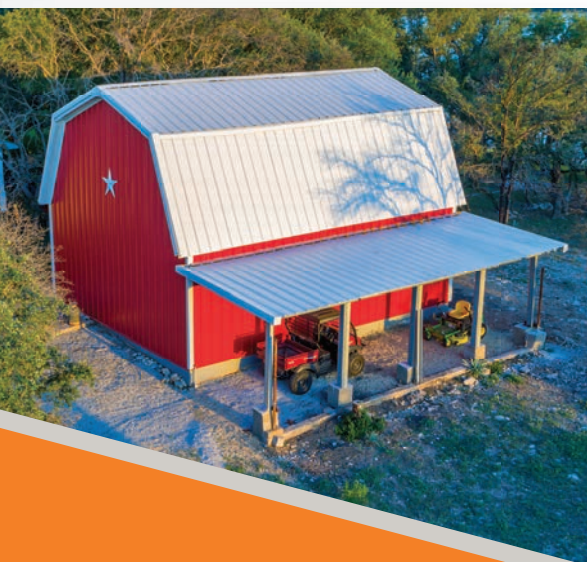
Smart ovens allow you to preheat when you are on your way home or check if you forgot to turn off the oven when you left home. Toasters, range hoods, microwaves and countertop ice makers are among the list of available smart kitchen gadgets.

More smart home technology is on the horizon, bringing more ways to operate the systems, devices and appliances in your home. Look for products that use the same smart home apps to make these new technologies easier to manage. 📱



Miranda Boutelle has more than 20 years of experience helping people save energy. She has worked on energy-efficiency projects from the Midwest to the West Coast. Today, Miranda is vice president of operations and customer engagement at Efficiency Services Group in Oregon, a cooperatively owned energy-efficiency company.

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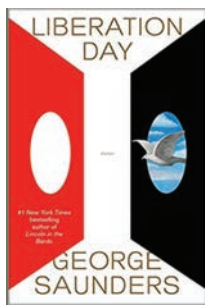
The Day It Snowed Tortillas / El Dia Que Nevaron Tortillas

For more than 40 years, American author Joe Hayes has had an enduring

reputation with young readers for his southwestern tales. My children consider Joe Hayes the most famous and amazing author to have ever taken up the profession. It's Joe Hayes they call for—time and time again—at night and on car rides.

A favorite is “The Day It Snowed Tortillas/El Dia Que Nevaron Tortillas.” It exemplifies Joe’s signature bilingual hilarity at the expense of archetypal characters of kings, peasants, fools and heroes.

By Joe Hayes,
Illustrations by Antonio Castro L.
Cinco Puntos Press



Liberation Day

New year, new resolution: Read more short stories!

A great place to start is with George Saunders, who Time magazine calls the “best short-story writer in English.”

With his latest collection freshly out on shelves, expect a variety of forays to dip into—Saunders is renowned for hilarious characters plucked from hoi polloi, subversive themes and haunting details.

“Liberation Day” includes nine short stories, and is his first publication since his debut full-length novel, “Lincoln in the Bardo,” won the Booker Prize.

By George Saunders
Random House



GIRL

“GIRL” is not unlike a fever dream: vivid, intense and mysterious.

In her fourth publication, accomplished poet Veronica Golos—co-editor of the

Taos Journal of International Poetry & Art and former poetry editor for the Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion—takes a vulnerable and bending approach to weave this collection of poetry into something larger than the individual parts, some of which have been awarded by the international Naji Naaman Honor Prize for Poetry.

By Veronica Golos
Three: A Taos Press
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Outfitted with a stopwatch, alarm, a.m./p.m. settings, and day, date and month complications, this timepiece stands out from the crowd. With its large face and handsome, masculine design, this watch is perfect for the back nine and the happy hour afterwards. Water-resistant up to 3 ATM, this timepiece won't wimp out if you have a run-in with a water hazard.

Other hybrid watches can sell for thousands of dollars, but because we've built more than 1 million watches, we know how to create real value. That's why we can offer this timepiece for just \$59! If you're not completely satisfied with this watch, return it for a full refund.

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Recognizing Changemakers

Roadside markers honor New Mexico women

By Jim Winnerman

Since 1935, New Mexico has recognized the history of our state by erecting brown, log-hewn roadside markers informing passersby of the people, geological features and historical events that have shaped the state.

In the late 1990s, three New Mexico women realized only one of the more than 500 markers was in recognition

of a woman. Determined to honor the remarkable women who are an integral part of our state's history, Patricia French, Beverly Duran and Alexis Girard established the New Mexico Historic Women Marker Initiative.

As members of the New Mexico chapter of the International Women's Forum—an organization that advocates for women in leadership positions—they decided to act. In 2005, they met with then-Gov. Bill Richardson, his wife, Barbara, and then-New Mexico Department of Transportation Secretary Rhonda Faught to advocate for the program.

During International Women's Day on March 8, 2006, Richardson signed legislation appropriating \$330,000 to create and install 64 historic markers recognizing notable New Mexico women. Additional funds were allocated in 2015.

Today, of the more than 650 markers, almost 100 are devoted to memorializing the courageous women who shaped New Mexico and its culture.

"Only deceased women of historical significance are honored with a marker," says Celia Foy Castillo, a member of the International Women's Forum-New Mexico Marker Steering Committee and former



ABOVE: From left, Beverly Duran, Barbara Richardson, Patricia French and Alexis Girard were instrumental in starting the New Mexico Historic Marker Initiative. **BACKGROUND:** Workers complete installation of the roadside marker honoring Cathay Williams. PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE NEW MEXICO HISTORIC WOMEN MARKER INITIATIVE



Court of Appeals Judge. “Women were nominated by the counties—often with public input—and by tribal governments.”

Chaired by Pat French, the selection committee was comprised of Department of Transportation representatives, the New Mexico Association of Counties, the New Mexico Commission on the Status of Women, the Historic Preservation Division of the Cultural Affairs Department, the New Mexico Chapter of the Women’s Forum and members of the public.

“They represented the widest multicultural diversity of New Mexico and included women from our pueblos, tribes and the Navajo Nation,” Celia says. “As a result, there is at least one marker in each of New Mexico’s 33 counties.”

While the signs themselves are limited by space for the information they contain, the Woman’s International Forum website, www.nmwomensforum.org, includes a lengthy history of each woman honored with a marker and a photo, if one exists.

Celia says the placement, building,

installation and maintenance of the signs is the responsibility of the New Mexico Department of Transportation.

Not all markers are along New Mexico highways. The markers for Justices Mary Coon Walters and Pamela B. Minzner are on the campus of the University of New Mexico.

Additional funds were allocated in 2022 by the New Mexico Legislature to expand recognition of the women honored in the marker program.


Using background information compiled about each nominee, the New Mexico chapter of the International Woman’s Forum is developing material to further educate the public about the histories of the women honored in the marker program.

The program will include permanent and traveling displays, a speaker’s bureau, and lesson plans for use in middle and high school programs.

“We want to continue to inspire and empower new generations of women and

The International Women’s Forum

The New Mexico chapter of the International Women’s Forum is affiliated with the International Women’s Forum. The IWF is comprised of 7,000 diverse and accomplished women from 33 nations on six continents. The organization supports a common mission of advancing women’s leadership across careers, cultures and continents. For more information, visit www.nmwomensforum.com

to educate everyone who travel our roads about the contributions women made in the history of our state,” Celia says. 



Historic Figures

These six women are among more than 100 highlighted by the New Mexico Historic Women Marker Initiative

By Jim Winnerman

Yetta Kohn

1843–1917
Quay County

Born in Bavaria and widowed in Las Vegas, New Mexico, Yetta ran the family store and raised four children alone. She later moved to La Cinta on the Canadian River where she opened another store, became the postmistress, started a bank and operated a ferry.

She eventually bought land that became the 4V Ranch, which expanded into the T-4 Cattle Co. Today, the 240,000-acre ranch is one of the largest in the United States, and it is still operated by her descendants.

Yetta's marker is along Historic Route 66 on West Tucumcari Boulevard and NM Highway 237 in Tucumcari at the Visitor Center.



Yetta Kohn

María 'Concha' Concepción Ortiz y Pino de Kleven

1910–2006
Torrance County

At age 26, Maria became the sixth generation of her family to serve in the New Mexico Legislature and the first female majority whip of a U.S. state legislature. During her lifetime, 19 New Mexico governors and six U.S. presidents, as well as countless state and national politicians.

Through her service on more than 60 local and national boards, she helped implement legislation for women's rights, bilingual education and people with disabilities, and championed the arts and Hispanic culture.

Although best known by her name "Concha," she became known as the "Grande Dame" of New Mexico because of her accomplishments.

The roadside marker is in Torrance County, U.S. Highway 285 at mile marker 254.6.



María "Concha" Concepción Ortiz y Pino de Kleven

Peggy Pond Church

1903–83
Los Alamos County

Author of the Southwest classic "The House at Otowi Bridge" and daughter of Los Alamos Ranch School founder Ashley Pond, Peggy was honored as "The First Lady of New Mexican Poetry." As she rode the Pajarito Plateau and camped beneath tall pines, she came to understand that New Mexico is "the land that wants to be said." She captured this in her sensitive poems.

Her marker is at the intersection of Trinity Drive (State Road 502) and 20th Street on Trinity Drive in Los Alamos County.

Cathay Williams

Around 1844–Death unknown
Luna County

Born into slavery, Cathay was freed in 1861 and worked as a cook for the Union Army during the Civil War.

When the war ended, she needed to find work. In 1866, she returned to the Army because it was the only thing she knew.

After a cursory medical exam and using the name Private William Cathay, she served with the Buffalo Soldiers at Fort Cummings and Fort Bayard until 1868, thus becoming the only documented woman to serve as an enlisted soldier in the regular U.S. Army during the 19th century. At the time, the government did not allow women to serve as soldiers.

Her marker is near Deming, New Mexico, in Luna County. The marker is on State Road 26 at milepost 10.2.

Sadie Creech Orchard

1860-1943

Sierra County

Arriving in 1886 in the silver mining boomtown of Kingston, Sadie is arguably the most colorful woman in New Mexico history. She opened brothels, worked as a prostitute, built and operated hotels and restaurants, and co-owned and drove for a regional stagecoach line. During World War I she tended to the less fortunate, and during the 1918 flu pandemic she nursed children and cared for the sick and dying. New Mexico writer Erna Fergusson wrote of her, "For a bad woman, Sadie was one of the best."

Her marker has been placed at the Southeast corner of NM Highway 152 and NM Highway 27 in Sierra County

Sarah "Sally" Rooke

1843-1908

Union County

At approximately midnight on August 26, 1908, while working as a telephone operator in Folsom, Sally received a call that a wall of water was cascading down the normally placid Dry Cimarron River toward town.

She died while frantically calling town residents from her switchboard warning of the impending danger, saving countless lives from the disaster that killed 17 people. Telephone operators across the country contributed 4,334 dimes to honor their colleague with a memorial.

Sally's marker is at the junction of NM Highways 325 and 456 in Union County. 📍



Sarah "Sally"
Rooke



Sadie Creech
Orchard

Looking for More?

For more information on the historic marker program:

- ▶ www.nmhistoricwomen.org
- ▶ www.nmhistoricpreservation.org/outreach/historic-women-marker-initiative.html

For a list of the women's markers:

- ▶ www.nmhistoricpreservation.org/assets/files/markers/Women_markers_by_county.pdf

For a map highlighting the location of each marker honoring a woman:

- ▶ www.nmhistoricwomen.org/women

For a list of all 650 historical markers:

- ▶ www.nmhistoricpreservation.org/assets/files/markers/2017%20-%20Historic%20Markers%20Database_web.pdf

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE NEW MEXICO HISTORIC WOMEN MARKER INITIATIVE. BACKGROUND ADOBE STOCK PHOTO BY PALADIN1212

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Board Meeting

The Board of Trustees meets at 9 a.m. the fourth Tuesday of the month in the Clovis cooperative boardroom.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



ADOBE STOCK PHOTO BY AERDSTOCK

Thinking About Going Solar?

Farmers' Electric Cooperative is your trusted energy adviser. If you are considering investing in solar, your first call should be to us.

Here are a few tips for you to consider:

- Before signing an agreement or contract, check with FEC rather than relying on what the contractor says. Solar contractors often work in several utility service territories and may not be familiar with FEC's interconnection policies and agreements, facilities minimums, rate structures, etc.

- Solar is not "off the grid." Unless you plan to disconnect from FEC, you will still receive a monthly bill.

- Solar panels only produce power when the sun is shining. If you want to power your home at other times, such as after dark, you need FEC or must invest in a battery storage system. Usually, this means an oversized system—with more solar panels than you really need—which could be cost prohibitive.

Additional considerations unique to your situation may include monthly energy consumption numbers, your roof's orientation to the path of the sun, roofing material and tax credits.

We are ready to assist you. Contact us to help you meet your environmental and financial goals.

Youth Tour Packets Available Now!

Plans are being made for the 2023 Government-in-Action Youth Tour on June 13-18, 2023.

Farmers' Electric Cooperative is searching for two high school juniors with leadership potential to represent their schools, communities and FEC in Washington, D.C.

While in Washington, students will meet with legislative leaders from New Mexico, and tour sites that are a part of the history and fabric of our nation.

Included on the itinerary are visits to the Smithsonian Institution, Arlington National Cemetery, Mount Vernon, the National Archives, the Library of Congress, the Holocaust Museum and more.

Youth Tour participants will be selected

through a contest consisting of multiple-choice questions, true or false questions and short-essay questions.

To be eligible, students must be the dependent of an active member of FEC, live within the FEC service area and submit a completed Youth Tour contest form.

Forms are available at www.fecnm.org, from your high school guidance counselor's office or by calling 575-762-4466.

Contest forms are due by January 15, 2023.

If you know of a high school junior who would be an outstanding representative for FEC and would be interested in the experience of a lifetime, let them know about this exciting opportunity.

The Power of Preparation

Reduce stress of emergencies by knowing what you need during an outage

By Anne Prince

With severe weather occurring more frequently, it makes sense to be prepared. During a prolonged power outage or other emergency, this means having enough food, water and supplies to last at least a few days.

Even at a modest level, preparation can help reduce stress and anxiety, and lessen the impact of an emergency.

Start with the basics.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency recommends these guidelines:

- Assemble a grab-and-go disaster kit. Include items such as nonperishable food, water (1 gallon per person, per day), diapers, batteries, flashlights, prescription medications, a first-aid kit, a battery-powered radio and phone chargers.

- Develop a plan for communicating with family and friends via text, social media, a person outside your area, etc.

- Have extra cash available. During a power outage, electronic card readers and cash machines may not work.

- Store your important documents—such as birth certificates and property deeds—in a safe place away from home; for example, a bank safe deposit box.

- Keep neighbors and co-workers apprised of your emergency plans.

- Fill your car with gas.

- Organize your supplies together in an easily accessible location family members know about.



Make preparations to keep you and your family safe during severe weather events.

PHOTO BY CHUCK UNDERWOOD

Caring for Vulnerable Family Members

Make sure older family members or those with special needs have enough medication and supplies for a few days.

If they don't live with you, arrange for a neighbor to check on them.

If severe weather is expected, consider having your relative stay with you, if feasible. Otherwise, call them daily.

If you have an infant or young children, make sure you have ample formula, diapers, medication and other supplies on hand to weather an outage lasting several days or more.

Keeping Four-Legged Family Members Safe

For families with pets, having a plan in place in the event of a prolonged outage or emergency will reduce worry and stress,

especially if you need to act quickly. Here are a few tips:

- Bring pets indoors at the first sign of a storm or other emergency. Pets can become disoriented and frightened during severe weather and may wander off during an emergency.

- Microchip your pet and ensure the contact information is up to date.

- Store pet medical records on a USB drive or in an easy-to-remember location.

- Create an emergency kit for pets. Include shelf-safe food, bottled water, medications and other supplies.

At Farmers' Electric Cooperative, we care about your safety.

Planning for an emergency today can give you more confidence to deal with severe weather and potential outages in the future.



Scholarship Applications Available Now

Farmers' Electric Cooperative will award scholarships again this year through the Farmers' Electric Education Foundation. Scholarship applications may be obtained from area high school guidance counselors or from cooperative office locations in Clovis, Fort Sumner and Santa Rosa. Scholarship applications also can be requested by calling the Clovis office at 575-762-4466 or by going to www.fecnm.org.

All cooperative members and their dependents are eligible to apply for these scholarships.

Don't delay! The deadline for applications is February 1, 2023.

Make an Emergency Plan for Your Pet



ADOBE STOCK PHOTO BY ALEXEI_TM

By Robin Howard

This story has a happy ending, so if you have pets, stay with me.

Several years ago, some friends celebrated their new status as empty nesters by taking off for the day on their motorcycle. They got up early, fed and walked their dogs, then hit the backroads for a leisurely cruise. They planned to be home in the late afternoon in time for their pups' evening meal and walk.

However, on the way back, they were in a serious accident. Both were taken to the hospital unconscious, and both had to have immediate emergency surgery. It was well into the next evening before either was awake or aware.

From their medical records, the hospital tracked down their daughter, who was in college on the West Coast. She headed home right away, but in the chaos, it didn't occur to her that the dogs were alone, in a rural area, with the nearest neighbor more than a quarter mile away.

By sheer luck, a neighbor stopped by their house the following day to borrow a ladder. They hadn't responded to his calls or texts, which was unusual.

When the neighbor knocked, he could tell the dogs inside were frantic. He couldn't shake the feeling that something was wrong. Later that day, he broke into the laundry room, crawled in and took the dogs home with him until he could make contact. By this time, the dogs had been alone for a day and a half.

When my friend returned to work and social life after a three-month stay in a rehab hospital, she came bearing gifts: bright red keychains and wallet cards that loudly proclaimed, "MY PET IS HOME ALONE." On the back, there was a space to write in the names and phone numbers of people who would take care of pets in an emergency.

She made sure anyone with a pet got one, and she made sure they kept it on them. This paid off 18 months later, when our mutual friends—a single woman and her daughter—were in a boating accident. An emergency room nurse immediately called the designated pet emergency contact listed on the card taped to the woman's driver's license.

Fortunately, all injuries were minor. Later that day, my friend and her daughter came home to a happy, fed, watered and walked pup.

When someone arrives at a hospital unconscious,

medical personnel look for emergency contacts in a wallet, phone or digital medical records. If someone arrives without an ID or phone—or they haven't designated contacts in medical records—the hospital may or may not notify the police.

If the police can find an address, they may track down relatives by going to the patient's house or knocking on neighbors' doors.

Medical personnel focus on treating people—and rightly so. Finding emergency contacts aren't their first priority. If you have a furry buddy at home who is depending on you, make sure emergency workers can quickly find out who to call.

Choose a Temporary Caregiver

The first step in setting up your pet emergency plan is to ask at least one person who lives nearby to be your pet emergency contact. You should trust this person enough to give them the key or code to your house. Having two or three neighbors or friends who can access your house in an emergency is even better.

Make Care Instructions Clear

Post pet care instructions in a conspicuous place, such as on the refrigerator, in the pantry, or wherever you store pet food and supplies. Care instructions should include when and how much to feed your pet and if they require medication. Include your veterinarian's phone number and any of your pet's essential needs or quirks.

If you have a longer-term caregiver—someone willing to take care of your pet for an extended time—include their contact information as well.

Print a Pet Emergency Contact Card

You can buy durable Pet Home Alone wallet cards or download a free template to print, but you can also make a notification card by writing "Help! Pet home alone" on a business card-size piece of paper, along with caregiver contact information.

Tape or rubber band it to the front of your ID. Make sure it's facing out if your wallet has a transparent ID window.

People with serious conditions frequently carry a medical alert key chain, and medical personnel know to look for it. Carrying a pet alert key chain can provide extra peace of mind.

Add Pet ICE Contacts

Smartphones have a feature that allows good Samaritans to see and call In Case of Emergency contacts you designate, even if your phone is locked.

For Android:

- Select the Groups tab.
- Select ICE – Emergency Contacts.
- Use the plus-sign icon to the right of Find Contacts to add an emergency contact.
- Select or add a new contact to the group.
- Change the contact's name to ICE Pet Caregiver and the person's name.
- All contacts in the group are available from the lock screen, so first responders or medical personnel can call them without unlocking your phone.

For iPhone:

- Open the Health app and tap Summary.
- Tap your profile picture.
- Tap Medical ID.
- Turn on Show When Locked and Share During Emergency Call.
- Enter pet emergency information under emergency contacts.
- Tap Done.

Cross-pollinate ICE Contacts

Your medical primary emergency contact listed in your medical records—your spouse or partner, children or parents, for example—may not be near enough or able to take care of your pet on short notice.

If you have different emergency contacts for you and your pets, make sure both have each other's phone numbers. In an emergency, it's essential someone nearby can reach your furry family quickly. 📞



Make your pet's care instructions clear, including details about their feeding routine.

ADOBE STOCK PHOTO BY 2002LUBAVA1981

New Year, Better Menu

'Tis the season of evaluating our food choices and exploring eating changes to encourage a healthier lifestyle. Many versions of eating plans exist, and our carbohydrate-counting friends are on the lookout for delicious recipes that will complement carb-wise menu options.

This month's recipes contain fewer than 30 grams of carbohydrates per moderately-sized serving and include ingredients that will work with a number of eating plans.

Slow-Cooker Chicken and Beans contains less than 10 grams of carbs per serving and also offers high fiber and low-fat protein. Slow cookers are a convenient method of preparing a

meal while taking care of other responsibilities.

Whole grains and fiber star in Date Bran Pecan Muffins—perfect for breakfast and out-the-door nutrition for students and adults alike.

Yogurt Rice Salad is not only delicious when first prepared—it is a great leftover. The dish features protein and healthy vegetables while providing antioxidant and whole-grain goodness.

Creating a healthy lifestyle is not a boring affair. It can be a delicious, satisfying and enjoyable pursuit. Bon appétit for new year health!



Sue Hutchison was born and raised a block from the freeway in Southern California. She had an early start with industrial, large-scale cooking before age 20. She's always been both a beach bum and at home in the kitchen, where she enjoys making new creations.

Slow Cooker Chicken and Beans

4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts
1 15-16 ounce can pinto beans with jalapenos

1 yellow onion, sliced
2 teaspoons oregano flakes
1 teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon pepper

Spray your slow cooker crock with olive oil cooking spray.

Place half of the onion slices in the bottom of the crock.

Rinse chicken, then toss it in oregano, salt and pepper, and arrange on top of onion slices.

Sprinkle unrinsed beans on top of the chicken. Cover with remaining onion slices.

Cover and set slow cooker on low heat. Cook for 5 to 6 hours.

When ready to serve, move the chicken to a serving platter, spooning onions and beans over chicken.



Date Bran Pecan Muffins

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 cup bran cereal (not flaked) | ¼ cup unsweetened applesauce |
| 2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice | 1 cup chopped dates |
| ½ teaspoon ground cloves | 2 teaspoons vanilla |
| ¼ cup brown sugar | 1 teaspoon baking powder |
| 1 cup skim milk | 1 cup whole-wheat flour |
| 1 egg, beaten | ¾ cup all-purpose flour |
| | 1 cup chopped pecans |

Preheat your oven to 350 F.

Line a 12-welled muffin tin with baking cups, and lightly spray the baking cups with butter-flavored cooking spray.

Combine cereal, pumpkin pie spice, cloves, brown sugar and milk in a large bowl. Stir and set aside for five minutes to let the cereal soften.

Stir in egg, applesauce, dates and vanilla.

In a separate bowl, mix flours and baking soda. Combine the flour mixture to the bran mixture, stirring until just mixed.

Stir in pecans, and spoon batter equally into the baking cups.

Bake for 20 to 25 minutes or until slightly browned and inserted toothpick comes out clean.

Remove muffins from the pan. Muffins can be stored at room temperature in airtight containers or frozen for later use.



Yogurt Rice Salad

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 cup instant brown rice, uncooked | 1 teaspoon minced garlic |
| 1¼ cup water | Salt/pepper to taste |
| 1 15-ounce can black beans, rinsed and drained | 1 Roma tomato, cored and thinly sliced |
| 1 10-ounce bag frozen corn, thawed | Dressing: |
| 3 teaspoons minced onion | ¼ cup nonfat Greek yogurt |
| 2-3 tablespoons finely chopped green chile | 3 ounces low-fat cream cheese, room temperature |
| ½ cup sliced multi-colored small peppers | ¼ cup light mayonnaise |
| | 1 teaspoon ground cumin |
| | ½ teaspoon pepper |

Cook the brown rice in water as directed, fluffing after cooking to loosen rice kernels.

In a large bowl, combine the cooked rice, beans, corn, onion, green chile, peppers, garlic, salt and pepper. Stir until well incorporated.

Chill overnight or a minimum of two hours.

For the dressing, mix yogurt and cream cheese together with a whisk. Whisk in the mayonnaise, and then stir in the cumin and pepper.

Toss the rice salad and dressing together just before serving. Place the rice salad in a serving dish and arrange sliced tomato along the edge.

Refrigerate any leftovers.



Survival of the Sharpest

When it's you against nature, there's only one tool you need: the tempered steel Stag Hunter from Stauer—now **ONLY \$79!**

That first crack of thunder sounded like a bomb just fell on Ramshorn Peak. Black clouds rolled in and the wind shook the trees. I had ventured off the trail on my own, gambled with the weather and now I was trapped in the forest. Miles from camp. Surrounded by wilderness and watching eyes. I knew that if I was going to make it through the night I needed to find shelter and build a fire... fast. As the first raindrops fell, I reached for my **Stag Hunter Knife**.

Forget about smartphones and GPS, because when it comes to taking on Mother Nature, there's only one tool you really need. Our stunning **Stag Hunter** is the ultimate sidekick for surviving and thriving in the great outdoors. Priced at \$149, the **Stag Hunter** can be yours today for an unbelievable **\$79!** Call now and we'll include a bonus leather sheath!

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Not shown actual size.



★★★★★
"This knife is beautiful!"

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★★★★★
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Years of work by innovative engineers have resulted in a scooter that's designed with seniors in mind. They created Electronic Stability Control (ESC) that makes it virtually impossible to tip over. If you try to turn too quickly, the scooter automatically slows down to prevent it from tipping over. The battery provides powerful energy at a fraction of the weight of most batteries. With its rugged yet lightweight aluminum frame, the *So Lite™ Scooter* is the most portable scooter ever—but it can hold up to 275 pounds—yet weighs only 40.8 pounds without the battery!



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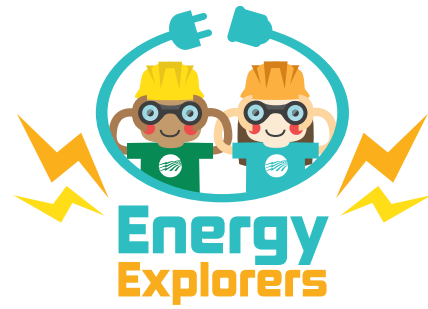
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PLEDGE TO SAVE ENERGY

It's a new year, and that means it's time to think about how you'll make a positive impact in 2023! You can help the planet by saving energy at home and at school. Take the pledge to save energy this year by completing the form below. Post it on your refrigerator or at school to remind others about easy ways to save energy and help our environment.



I Pledge to Save Energy

Name: _____

I pledge to do my part to save energy and help our planet. Every day, I'll do the following to save energy at home and/or at school.

My Daily Energy-Saving Plan:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

**Need some ideas to help you get started?
Here are a few easy ways you can save energy every day.**

- Turn off all lights when you leave a room.
- Unplug phone and other device chargers when they're not being used.
- Turn off running water while brushing your teeth.
- Remind family members to wash clothes in cold water.
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FENCE LAKE, 295 PINE HILL ROAD, MOTIVATED SELLER,

2-bedroom, 3-bathroom home on just over 60 acres, well, outbuildings, corrals, abundant wildlife and scenic views. Septic System Replaced in 2022. \$240,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000. Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

CANADIAN RIVER - WEST OF UTE LAKE. EAST OF QUAY ROAD AI.

Seven 40 acre (more or less) parcels with lake and mesalands views. One of the seven lots is west of Quay Road AI fronting Ute Lake. Call for appointment to show and pricing. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000. Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

DATIL, COYOTE TRAIL, BLUEBIRD ROAD AND SUGARLOAF TRAIL. SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN SUBDIVISION.

(SOLD, Lots 241, 268, 269, 270, 273). Choice of three remaining lots just over five acres each. \$14,500. per lot. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

DATIL, 0000 CRISWELL ROAD,

Forest Road 6A (East of Criswell Road) and 0000 Red Feather Tank Road (off Criswell Road, property east of Red Feather Tank Road). Vacant land. Starting at \$24,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

TUCUMCARI, 1120 S. SARATOGA, just over one acre fronting US 54 (Mountain Road). \$20,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

SANTA ROSA, 0000 WILL ROGERS DRIVE, PRICE REDUCED! 26 acres close to I-40 and old Route 66. Commercial potential. \$420,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

SANTA ROSA, 0000 NO SE ROAD, SALE PENDING, (East of Los Tornos Creek in Northeast corner of Hollywood Ranch Subdivision). 76 acres with great views of surrounding mesaland. \$1,500,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

SAN MARCIAL, 27A WINCHESTER ROAD, WILLOW SPRINGS RANCH SUBDIVISION. PRICE REDUCED! 432 acres in the foothills of the Chupadera Mountains. Close to I-25. \$324,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

SUMNER LAKE, 225 INDIAN PLACE, 3-bedroom, 2-bath home on 20 acres with incredible view of Pecos River Valley. Custom built. \$325,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

DATIL, 31 OLD HIGHWAY 60, 2-bedroom, 1-bath home on 1/2 acre. Potential for rental/hunting cabin, \$47,800. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

MILAGRO, 0000 PECOS SPUR, PORTRILLO CREEK RANCH SUBDIVISION, 164 acres. Wide open space for livestock and/or homesite. Close to I-40. \$94,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

SANTA ROSA, 1070 BAR Y ROAD, HOLLYWOOD RANCH SUBDIVISION, PRICE REDUCED! Three parcels (18, 19, 20) totaling just over 41 acres. Perimeter fencing and road. Water and electricity, \$200,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

CONCHAS, 631 CONCHAS DRIVE, MOTIVATED SELLER, 3-bedroom, 2-bath home with detached garage and 30 x 40 boat storage. All electric. \$198,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

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GLADSTONE, 4386 SPRINGER HIGHWAY (US 56-412), 3-bedroom, 2-bath home with 36 x 45 barn and two open livestock sheds/lean-tos. Two wells (one is solar). \$270,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

SAN ANTONIO, 1496 STATE ROAD 1, 3-bedroom, 2-bath home with detached garage on just over 11 irrigated acres, well and community water. \$305,000. Big Mesa Realty, 575-456-2000, Paul Stout, broker, NMREL 17843, 575-760-5461. www.bigmesarealty.com

CIMARRON COMPOUND, 636 E. 9TH STREET, 1,800 sq. ft. home, 2,000 sq. ft. shop and 1,040 sq. ft. office building/shop frontage. Versatile mixed use property facing HWY 64 in Cimarron. Shop was purposely built for working on semi-trucks. \$295,000. MLS 101154. O'Neill Land, LLC, 575-376-2341, Timothy O'Neill, broker, NMREL 15625, 575-447-2340. www.swranches.com

HARD TO COME BY, VERY PRIVATE 15.32 IMPROVED ACRES, 33 COUNTY ROAD B31A, RIBERA, NM, includes private well, electric and septic. Bordered on two sides by BLM and state land. Hunting opportunities for deer, elk and turkey abound. Amazing scenic views. Call Donna Padilla with Premier Cornerstone Realty at 505-235-2437 or 505-717-4077. E-mail - donnasellsnm@gmail.com

12.5 GLORIOUS ACRES IN THE LA CUEVA AREA IN THE JEMEZ MOUNTAINS, located behind a security gate with no public access so that you can enjoy the peace and quiet along with the stunning views of Wild-Cat Canyon and Redondo Peak. Electricity is on the property and there is an optional well share in place. \$149,000. Call Misty Stacy at Jemez Homes and Land at 505-269-4538 for more information.

FOR SALE BY OWNER - LOT #23, PINE VIEW SUBDIVISION, five miles west of Mayhill, utilities available. Call 575-636-5666 for more information.

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1989 MERCEDES BENZ 560SL, beautiful classic roadster, convertible top with separate hardtop and carrier included. Runs like a dream. Fully garaged, well taken care of and only 78,000 original miles. Pictures available. Call 575-937-0675, leave message, will respond.

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youth art

February Topic:
Happy Valentine's Day!
 Draw a card for your special valentine.

March Topic:
Your favorite music! Draw you and your family rocking out to your favorite tunes.

Send Your Drawing
 By mail: Youth Editor
 614 Don Gaspar Ave.
 Santa Fe, NM 87505
 By email:
 enchantment@nmelectric.coop

Deadline: Submit by the ninth, one month prior to publication.

Hooray!
 Winners get paid \$15

Have a Youth Art Topic?
 Email or mail to the addresses above, or call 505-982-4671.

5 items to include on the back of your drawing, otherwise YOU ARE DISQUALIFIED:

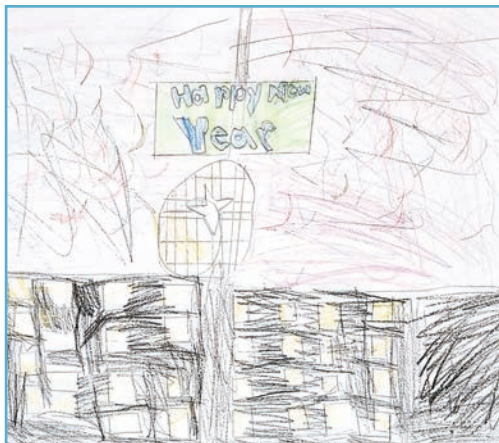
1. Name
2. Age
3. Mailing Address
4. Phone Number
5. Electric Co-op

DON'T FORGET THESE ITEMS!

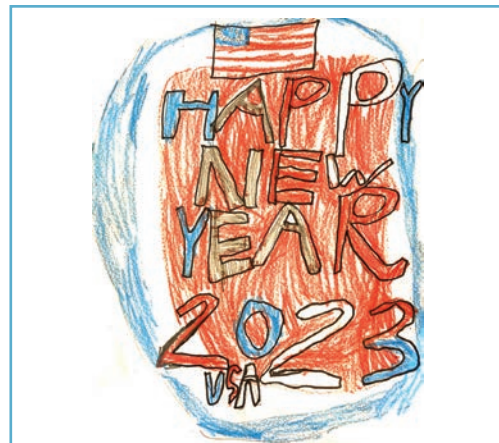
*Accepted artwork up to age 13.

Happy New Year! Congratulations to the Winners!

Emiliana Chavez • Age 8
Mora-San Miguel Electric Cooperative



Graham Strebeck • Age 7
Farmers' Electric Cooperative



Angelica Hamby • Age 10
Springer Electric Cooperative



Joshua Hibbard • Age 10
Otero County Electric Cooperative



Aviana Roybal • Age 7
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