LOOKING DOWN THE TRACK - Grandfather Ben Chavez watches Star Condon make a fun run as the summer activities continue at the Red River Ski & Summer Area.

August 13, International Left Handers Day:
Shake on it?
(See page 13)

HUMMER REPORT
Are the hummers playing tag around the feeders?
Morton Becheffler
Beautiful Red River

The New Mexico Tourism Department (NMTD) has awarded $778,700 to 37 communities through the New Mexico Clean and Beautiful Grant Program for FY21 to help local governments develop and sustain programs that curb litter, reduce blight, and support beautification, recycling, and education initiatives.

Recipients include municipal, county and tribal governments who pledge to Keep New Mexico True through environmental stewardship.

“Our outdoor spaces are incredibly valuable outlets as people look for ways to recreate while social distancing,” said Cabinet Secretary Jen Paul Schroer. “This grant program empowers communities and equips them with resources they need to Keep New Mexico True for residents and visitors alike.”

Recipients in Northern New Mexico include the Town of Red River, Village of Angel Fire and the Village of Cimarron.

In addition, NMTD teamed up with the Department of Transportation, Department of Game and Fish, and New Mexico State Parks for a Keep New Mexico True campaign to encourage residents to preserve the beauty and cleanliness of our public lands by eliminating litter. The campaign launched in June and will run through Labor Day.

Keep New Mexico True

New Mexico has always been known for its natural beauty and magnificent landscapes. In order to preserve New Mexico’s beauty, it is up to all of us to act as stewards of this land. As you get out and enjoy New Mexico’s abundance of incredible outdoor spaces, remember not to litter and to do your part to keep our outdoor spaces beautiful for future generations of New Mexicans.

Trash is not only unsightly, but it is also damaging to nature and wildlife. Always put your refuse in the appropriate recycling bin, trash can, or dumpster—or take it with you to properly dispose of it at home.

(Courtesy Keep New Mexico True)

Reading Fun Extended

Due to in-person school at the Red River Valley Charter School not starting this month, the Red River Public Library is extending the “Imagine Your Story” reading program through the first week of September. The program has been a success with 17 local kids participating last Thursday, the biggest week for the reading program.

Special thanks to the following for their donations of prizes and supplies for the program; the Candy Crate, Der Markt, the Emporium Gift Shop and Lil’ Willie’s, Fagan’s Guided Fly Fishing, Friends of the Red River Library, Red River Brewing Co, Red River RV Park, Red River Ski Area, and Marla Neuwirth.

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Contact Librarian Holly Fagan at the Library for information.

Oops

The photo on page 3 - Texas BBQ At Brewing Company - in the August 6 edition of the Miner showed two men cutting BBQ in kitchen of the Brewing Company. The gentleman in the foreground is Xavier Maestas, while Tom Shirey is the tall man in the mask.

Our apologies to Xavier for omitting his name from the article.

Harold

Former Red River Mayor and long-time Red River resident Harold Young died last week while on a trip to the Dakotas.

The Miner will have more info as it becomes available.

With four weeks added to the program, the Library is looking for other local businesses that would like to donate a small prize for the weekly raffles. The participating kids are given a raffle ticket for every day that they read (or are read to) and for every book they finish. During the first 5 weeks of the program, popular prizes have included $10 gift cards (ie Amazon, Candy Crate), youth size t-shirts, gift certificates for sweet treats and desserts at local restaurants, small toys, and books.

Contact Librarian Holly Fagan at the Library for information.
Meet RR Deputy Brian Garcia

If the man in the photo above looks familiar, it might be that you’ve seen him around Red River.

“There it is,” he says, “I kind of grew up here!”

Deputy Brian Garcia joined the Red River Marshal’s Office last May. A native of Questa NM - “born and raised” - he attended grade school in Red River and has spent many hours in town. His Father Adrian Garcia was Public Works Director “for about seventeen years” for the Town of Red River and his mother Ruby served as clerk in Town Hall so elementary school in Red River was “a natural.”

After graduating from Questa High School, he worked as a truck driver for about 5 years. A talented musician, he played professionally beginning in high school with several bands, including The Young Guns and fronted his own country band known as Brian Garcia and Most Wanted.

An ad in the paper for a job at the Taos Pueblo led to Brian attending the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Artesia, NM.

“That was through the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The guys I attended the academy with were from all over the country, different tribes.” He adds that the Academy also trains Border Patrol and Federal Air Marshals.

He spent time working with Taos PD and worked as an investigator for the District Attorney’s Office for the Eighth Judicial District of New Mexico, which includes the counties of Taos, Colfax and Union. He enjoyed the work, especially the traveling aspects of the job.

“I want to help people, be a voice for people who are in need. That remains the bottom line for most law enforcement. One of the things I like up here is the chance to get out and talk to people. Community Policing is a big thing these days and earning the trust of the community. Building that trust is important.”

THIS & THAT

A CURMUDGEON’S DAY:
WHAT IS TIME TO AN ANT?

#1. Do ants sleep?
If so, do they take short naps or do they nod off for extended periods of time?
Do they sleep at night or during the day?
Do they possess circadian rhythms and, if so, what happens when Daylight Saving time goes into affect?
Is there any effect of the DST transition upon an individual ant and does it affect the entire colony?
Is the effect minimal or major? Can ants lose track of time?
Do ants know what day it is? How long is an ant day?
When ants seem to be milling about, are they really involved in tactical maneuvers or are they simply wandering, killing time until their purpose for the day becomes clear?
Ants are hard workers. Do they take vacations and, if so, do they actually go somewhere different or do they just hang around in a different part of the colony, occasionally venturing to the surface to catch a few rays and just relax?
How far can an ant walk in a single day? How much ground can they cover in an hour?
Do ants drink water and, if so, how much water can they drink in a day?
Can ants get dehydrated?
Are ants the key to a genuine understanding of transmigration of the soul or is the concept laughable to the majority of a colony?
Do ants have a sense of humor?
Last but not least, how many ants does it take to unscrew a light bulb?

#2. What happened to the moths?
They’re gone.
When the summer began, the TV stations in Albuquerque were eager to tell the world that the moths were everywhere.
According to them the winged creatures were in abundance in every corner of the state and they were right: Red River was no exception in early June.
Turn on the lights? Moths. Walk through the yard? Moths. Try to have dinner on the front porch by candlelight? Moths.
Within weeks, however, the infestation disappeared. Suddenly there were no moths to be seen, no moths to serve as dinner chow for the variety of neighborhood birds who are always on the lookout for a tasty moth treat.

Did the moths all fly away or were they all devoured?
Did they turn on each other and become cannibal moths?
Where did they go?

#3. There is a bear in my neighborhood. There were recent Facebook photos of a blond bear with a black head, then there was a report in the wee hours of the morning that my neighbor had a blond bear peeking in the window.
A reminder is in order to locals and tourists alike: if you empty trash into a dumpster, be sure to use the chain that keeps the lid from being opened by a bear.
Secure the lid. Lock it down. Please.

#4. Speaking of lockdown insanity: When did professional marble racing become a televised sport?
Marbles: they are racing marbles down a track. It’s like the soap box derby only with marbles!
I didn’t watch long enough to see if there was a big cash prize.
Best not to know.

At least the owner of the marble doesn’t have to splint the winnings with a marble “driver.”
Or do they?
Treasure The Forest, Don’t Trash It!

The Town of Red River is surrounded by the Kit Carson National Forest, one of five National forests located in the state of New Mexico.

According to the Forest Service, “The National forests are America’s Great Outdoors, here to serve the American people at work and play. The Forest Service’s ‘mixed use’ policy allows for its use for recreation, grazing, and resource extraction.”

Some of the finest mountain scenery in the Southwest is found in the 1.5 million acres covered by the Carson National forest. Elevations rise from 6,000 to 13,161 feet at Wheeler Peak, the highest in New Mexico.

The objective of the Forest Service is to maintain that natural beauty. The Carson National Forest offers unlimited recreational opportunities in any season. The magnificent mountain scenery and cool summer temperatures lure vacationers to enjoy the peace and quiet, for fishing, hunting, camping and hiking.

Winter activities include skiing, snowshoeing and snowmobiling. Some recreation areas have undergone new and exciting renovations to make the National Forest lands accessible to all. Plans are being implemented to make additional recreation areas accessible.

The Pandemic of 2020 resulted in the closing of many popular trails. As a result, the Carson saw a significant increase in the usage of dispersed, or undeveloped, campsites. The use of the forest was therapeutic for thousands of people who needed to seek some solace in nature after the home isolation of several months.

One of the unfortunate side effects of this welcome use of the forest is the problem of trash. It seems that too many people use the forest like they use everything else in modern America, without thought and with little, if any, respect.

Most overnight facilities on the Carson National Forest (NF) are open. Most campgrounds have full amenities provided. However, the Carson is designating some areas to be self-contained camping only. Self-contained camping means you need to pack out everything.

The message from the Carson is clear: Pack It In, Pack It Out! If anyone chooses to camp in the Carson NF at a campground identified as self-contained, they will need to pack out everything they pack in, to include human waste, all trash bags full of trash, all dog/animal waste. Anything that did not originate in the Forest will need to be taken back out of the Forest.

P.S. Contrary to the beliefs of some visitors to the high country, the Carson National Forest is not named after Tonight Show host Johnny Carson. The Carson Forest is named for Christopher “Kit” Carson, frontiersman and scout.
FOOD FOR THOUGHT

SESAME GARLIC PORK TENDERLOIN

This is an unbelievably easy and tasty recipe for the slow cooker. I serve mine over rice with a fruit salad.

INGREDIENTS:
1 bottle Sesame-Ginger marinade **see notes
1 pkg pork tenderloin
¼ cup chicken stock***note

DIRECTIONS:
Remove silverskin from both tenderloins (this is for pork tenderloin, not pork loin).
Put into slow cooker.
Pour 2/3 bottle of marinade and stock over all.
Cook on low/medium for about three hours.
Now here you have a choice. It will be done, depending on the size of the tenderloins, in about three hours. You can then take it out and and slice it OR you can let it cook another hour or so and shred it.
Another choice... taste it and if you want a stronger flavor, add the rest of the marinate.
Either sliced or shredded, put on top of rice with a little of the juices.

NOTE: At my grocery the brand of marinade is their house brand, Signature, but there are other brands.

I've made this three times. The recipe, as given to me, did not call for chicken stock. First time I thought the sauce was too strong...too acidic...too something. The second time I added ½ cup water...better, but tasted, let’s say, watered down. The third time I used the chicken stock. Better. And I like it shredded, but it’s prettier if you slice it. I also put some finely chopped parsley over it to relieve the “brown-ness”.

Questions or comments? Contact me at ann.haskinson1@gmail.com

Alyce Lindberg Densow

“Hate and fear – what are they? The absence of love and faith.” – Rudolfo Anaya, one of our greatest New Mexican authors (30 novels, children’s books, articles, etc), and professor emeritus at NMU-Albuquerque

“We believe in the capacity for goodness and the expectation of greatness.” – Mantra of PBS-TV, New Mexico

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Our day is filled with heat at this time of year. It commands our attention and makes our work harder. As we toil, we daydream not about love or success, but things as mundane as shade and a cool drink.

But though the oppressive heat weighs on our brains and taxes our bodies, it is the price we pay for being allowed to spend time outdoors…and it has its singular consolation: our summer evenings.

When the sun goes down in summer, it’s romantic enough to hug a cactus.

The recipe is simple; keep the earth warm, but just bring out the stars and a soft breeze that cools the skin. Mix this with a fulmination of little night varmint sounds of peeping and chirping and croaking. And guitars. Whether we play them ourselves or just turn on the radio, it is a setting that is perfect for guitars. Villalobos, Fernando Sor, Tarrega, Randy Travis, Doc Watson, Steve Cormier.

We sit in brick-paved patios with something cool and someone sweet and relax and talk about dreams, because on evenings like this, anything is possible. On nights like this, it’s difficult to decide whether remembering evenings like this in the past is better than anticipating those to come. All we really know is that it sure is nice to be here right now.

Tonight I’m going to see if I can remember all the words to “Little Joe the Wrangler” and find out if my guitar is still in tune.

By Slim Randles
CHECK IT OUT AT RED RIVER LIBRARY

Tom Clancy Firing Point
Mike Maden

Jack Ryan, Jr. is out to avenge the murder of an old friend, but the vein of evil he’s tapped into may run too deep for him to handle in the latest entry in the series.

While on vacation in Barcelona, Jack Ryan, Jr. is surprised to run into an old friend at a small café. A first, Renee Moore seems surprised to see Jack, but then she just seems irritated and distracted. After making plans to meet later, Jack leaves, only to miss the opportunity to ever speak to Renee again, as the café is destroyed minutes later by a suicide bomber. A desperate Jack plunges back into the ruins to save his friend, but it’s too late. As she dies in his arms, the ruins to save his friend, but it’s too late. As she dies in his arms, she utters one word, “Sammler.”

Near Dark
Brad Thor

The world’s largest bounty has just been placed upon America’s top spy. His only hope for survival is to outwit, outrun, and outlast his enemies long enough to get to the truth.

But for Scot Harvath to accomplish his most dangerous mission ever—one that has already claimed the lives of the people closest to him, including his new wife—he’s going to need help—a lot of it.

Not knowing whom he can trust, Harvath finds an unlikely ally in Norwegian intelligence operative Sølvi Kolstad. Just as smart, just as deadly, and just as determined, she not only has the skills, but also the broken, troubled past to match Harvath’s own.

Wild Bill also fell in love—multiple times—before marrying the true love of his life, Agnes Lake, the impresario of a traveling circus. He would be buried however, next to fabled frontier woman Calamity Jane.

Even before his death, Wild Bill became a legend, with fiction sometimes supplanting fact in the stories that surfaced. Once, in a bar in Nebraska, he was confronted by four men, three of whom he killed in the ensuing gunfight. A famous Harper’s Magazine article credited Hickok with slaying 10 men that day; by the 1870s, his career-long kill count was up to 100.

The legend of Wild Bill has only grown since his death in 1876, when cowardly Jack McCall famously put a bullet through the back of his head during a card game. Bestselling author Tom Clavin has sifted through years of stories that surfaced. Once, in a bar in Nebraska, he was confronted by four men, three of whom he killed in the ensuing gunfight. A famous Harper’s Magazine article credited Hickok with slaying 10 men that day; by the 1870s, his career-long kill count was up to 100.

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WORSHIP SERVICES

Cross Christian Fellowship Standing in the Gap
The Way Coffee - 201 W. Main St
Non-Denominational Church
Sundays 10 am
Pastor Chris Torres - 505-600-5859

Faith Mountain Fellowship Church
Corner of River St. & Copper King Trail
Tuesday – children’s church at 6:00 pm
Wednesday – youth classes 7:00 pm
Sunday services – 10:30 am.
Pastor Ed Hampton - 754-6653

First Baptist Church of Red River
103 High Cost Trail
Sunday Worship Service
10:30 am
Pastor: Joe Phillips - 754-2882

St. Edwin’s Catholic Church
North End of Silver Bell Trail
Sunday Obligation Mass
Saturday 6 pm
Rev. Andrew Ifele - 586-0470

Fellowship of the Parks
One mile north of stoplight in Questa
Worship - 11 am - Pastor - Shon Diaz

Questa Church of Christ
Two miles north of stoplight on 522
Worship Services - 10:15 am

St. Mel’s Catholic Church
200 N. Willow Creek Dr., Eagle Nest
Sunday Obligation Mass on Saturday 4:00 pm

LIBRARY HOURS

Tuesday: 9:30-5:00 (Lunch: 12:00-1:00)
Wednesday: 9:30-5:00 (Lunch: 12:00-1:00)
Thursday: 4:00-8:00
Friday: 9:30-5:00 (Lunch: 12:00-1:00)
Saturday: 9:30-5:00 (Lunch: 12:00-1:00)
Sunday: Closed
Monday: Closed

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HELP WANTED
Red River Brewing Company and Distillery is now hiring for all positions: hosts, servers, bussers, bartenders, cooks, and dishwashers.
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DORIS, HAROLD & GENE YOUNG

Photo courtesy Red River Historical Society - Young Collection

OUT OF THE PAST - 1961