

T•Museum Times

NEW MEXICO HISTORY MUSEUM | PALACE OF THE GOVERNORS | HISTORY LIBRARY | PHOTO ARCHIVES | PALACE PRESS | PORTAL PROGRAM



Quick—someone buy the last chocolate cupcake at dulce downtown. (Don't forget the lemon bars.)

Sweets, sandwiches and a luscious view

Feeling your blood-sugar level droop? Need a jolt of caffeine? Maybe a slice of quiche would hit the spot. dulce bakery & coffee (yes, the owners prefer lower-case letters), a hotspot off Cordova Road and Don Diego Avenue, have taken over the museum's Cowden Café with their latest venture, dulce downtown.

Owners Dennis Adkins and Kirk Barnett serve tempting arrays of fresh-baked pastries, along with sandwiches, fruit, and fresh-brewed coffee.

"Visitors get so involved with our exhibits that they can use a little sustenance to keep the fun and the learning going," museum Director Frances Levine said. "The second-floor terrace is an outdoor-dining treat in itself, and we're glad that visitors are once again using it."

The café had been closed since the first of the year, until Adkins and Barnett agreed to a five-month tryout in the space.

The café is open 8 AM to 3:30 PM Monday through Friday and is open to the non-museum-going public through the Washington Avenue doors. Drop by to support a local business and snag some lemon-ginger scones, bread pudding, and a scrumptious cheesecake.

The café is named for the Cowden family that ran the JAL Ranch in southeastern New Mexico from 1885 to 1915 and whose descendants are loyal supporters of the museum.



Take a Walk on the Wild (West) Side

Do you know how to braid a cinch? Twirl a rope with the ease of an old cowhand? Maybe you feel the need for a little boot-scooting. Come to the History Museum's Wild West Weekend for all that and more August 9–11. The history, cultural traditions, and artistry of cowboy life will take over the Palace Courtyard with live music, cowboy poets, and demonstrations by people who make some of the Southwest's best spurs, saddles and cowboy boots. You can even get a taste of Dutch-oven cookery from Bert Ancell, former

manager of the Bell Ranch.

Part of the *Cowboys Real and Imagined* exhibit, Wild West Weekend aims to give visitors (especially children) a hands-on connection to the cowboy way.

"We've seen in the exhibit how people click with another way of life when they hold a lariat, hear a cowboy singer, or try to rope a dummy calf," History Museum Director Fran Levine said. "This weekend is a chance to make even more of those connections and to experience the artistry that accompanies the practical tools of a cowboy's life."

The weekend kicks off at 6 PM Friday, August 9, in the History Museum auditorium with music historians Mark Lee Gardner and *continued ►*



Meet cowboy poet Mike Moutoux (top) and weaver Rebecca Morgan-Albertson at Wild West Weekend.

Calendar

MONDAY—SATURDAY

Historic Downtown Walking Tours 10:15 AM, Meet at the Blue Gate

Learn about the stories of Santa Fe from History Museum guides. \$10; children 16 and under free when with an adult. No tours on Saturdays during large events and markets.

SATURDAY, AUG. 3

23rd Annual Navajo Rug Auction 9 AM–2 PM, Palace Courtyard

Museum-quality rugs in styles that include Two Gray Hills, Ganados, Teec Nos Pos, Yeis, Pictorials, Wide Ruins, Storms, and Sandpainting are up for bids starting at 11 AM (preview 9–11 AM). A program of the Museum of New Mexico Foundation's Museum Shops benefitting education, acquisitions and other programs at the Santa Fe museums, historic sites and Office of Archaeological Studies. Free; bid card \$5.

SUNDAY, AUG. 4

"Pride in the Saddle in New Mexico: The Story of Gay Rodeo," 2 PM, Auditorium
Out West producer Gregory Hinton, photographers Blake Little and Herb Lotz, and Brian Helander, founder of the Gay & Lesbian Rodeo Heritage Foundation talk about the history of gay rodeo, part of *Cowboys Real and Imagined*. Free.

MONDAY, AUG. 5

Member Monday, 10 AM–noon, New Mexico History Museum and Museum of Art

An exclusive treat for Museum of New Mexico Foundation members, who can choose two of these tours:

- Get an insider's account of *Cowboys Real and Imagined* from Meredith Davidson, curator of 19th- and 20th-century Southwest collections, including tales about the Bell Ranch, which her great-grandfather once managed.
- Learn about the living history at the Palace Press along with letterpress printing techniques from printer James Bourland. Special keepsake included.
- Joe Traugott, curator of 20th-century art, walks you through 14,000 years of Native, Hispanic, and European American art in the Museum of Art exhibition *It's About Time* and highlights the significance of horse imagery in *Back in the Saddle*. Register online at museumfoundation.org.

Walk on the Wild (West) Side *continued*



Bert Ancell, former manager of the Bell Ranch, will whip up Dutch-oven specialties at Wild West Weekend. At right, a spur by Tom Schatzinger.



Rex Rideout. Using vintage instruments and historic playing styles, the duo will present a close approximation to what N. Howard "Jack" Thorp heard out on the range that inspired him to write the 1908 classic, *Songs of the Cowboys*. Linger after in the Meem Community Room, where the Palace Press will present its new reprint of the book. Buy a copy and get it signed by illustrator Ron Kil.

On Saturday and Sunday, some of the finest artisans practicing old-style techniques will set up shop to show how history still sings across the wide open spaces of New Mexico. Thanks to support from the New Mexico Humanities Council and our generous donors, all of the events are free.

WILD WEST WEEKEND SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Palace of the Governors Courtyard

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9

6 PM, Auditorium

Mark Lee Gardner and Rex Rideout on *Jack Thorp's Songs of the Cowboys*. Reception following in the Meem Community Room.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10

Daily demonstrations 10 AM–4 PM

Clint Mortenson, trophy buckle engraving.
Wes Mastic, leather carving & saddle making.
Rebecca Morgan-Albertson and Cybele Geidemann, rawhide/horsehair braiding & cinch making.
Deana McGuffin, boot making.
O'Farrell Hats, hat making.
Bert Ancell, Dutch-oven cooking by the former manager of the legendary Bell Ranch.
10–11 AM Rex Rideout and Mark Lee Gardner present a cowboy-music workshop for the whole family. You might learn how to play the harmonica—or even the bones.
10:30 AM, 11:30 AM, 1 PM, 2 PM Rociada, NM, brothers **Julio and Reynaldo Maestas** show off trick roping in front of the Palace Portal.
11–11:30 AM, 1:30–2 PM **Peggy Godfrey** performs cowboy poetry.
11:30 AM–1 PM **Rex, Mark, illustrator Ron Kil, and printer Tom Leech** will chat with visitors about the new Palace Press book, *Jack Thorp's Songs of the Cowboys*.
Noon–1:30 PM, 2:30–4 PM **The Buckaretttes** get you dancing with their western swing, eclectic selections from the 1940s and 1950s, and modern-day compositions.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11

Daily demonstrations 10 AM–4 PM

Stewart Williamson, silversmithing.
Tom Schatzinger, saddle making.
Rebecca Morgan-Albertson and Cybele Geidemann, rawhide/horsehair braiding & cinch making.
Deana McGuffin, boot making.
O'Farrell Hats, hat making.
Bert Ancell, Dutch-oven cooking.
10:30 AM, 11:30 AM, 1 PM, 2 PM **Julio and Reynaldo Maestas**, trick roping in front of the Palace Portal.
11–11:30 AM, 1:30–2 PM **Mike Moutoux** performs cowboy poetry.
Noon–1:30 PM, 2:30–4 PM **The Tumbleweeds** tune it up for some traditional country, western swing, and honky-tonk music. Dancing is welcomed. Make that urged. Grab your partner!





FRIDAY, AUG. 9

Cowboy music by Mark Lee Gardner and Rex Rideout, 6 PM, Auditorium

Music historians Gardner and Rideout perform and discuss the cowboy ballads collected by N. Howard “Jack” Thorp, who published the first book of cowboy songs at Estancia in 1908. Reception following in the Meem Community Room to celebrate the Palace Press’s new edition of *Jack Thorp’s Songs of the Cowboys*. Illustrator Ron Kil will be on hand to sign copies of this collector’s book, available for purchase.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, AUG. 10 AND 11

Wild West Weekend, 10 AM–4 PM, Palace Courtyard

See our cover story for details on what’s happening when, then put on your dancing shoes, grab the kids and head on over. Part of *Cowboys Real and Imagined*. Free.

DAILY, AUG. 11–18

Native Cinema Showcase, Times vary, Auditorium

See the latest long- and short-form films, documentaries and experimental media by indigenous directors, producers, writers, actors and cultural activists. One of the most popular events of Santa Fe Indian Market. Go to swaia.org for details. Free.

MONDAY, AUG. 12

Museum Guides meeting, 9:30 AM (coffee in Meem Room, 9 AM)

Meredith Davidson, curator of 19th- and 20th-century Southwest collections, will present an overview of the oral histories, songs and poems in *Cowboys Real and Imagined*, revealing new themes that can be incorporated into tours. Free.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 14

Los Compadres meeting, 3 PM, Classroom

All members are welcome for this regular meeting.



Assistant Collections Manager Pennie McBride (third from left) leads staffers in rolling up a 48-star flag, the final textile to be rehoused.

Collections Textiles Are Safe at Home

In June, Assistant Collections Manager Pennie McBride hit a major milestone, successfully rehousing the final object in the History Museum’s clothing, accessories and textile collection. It marked the end of a five-year effort that represented one of the primary reasons we needed to build a 92,000-square-foot museum: We needed a better place to store all our stuff.

McBride saved the biggest for last, pulling in a handful of staffers to help her unfold a 19 x 27’ 48-star U.S. flag and then carefully, with archival precision, reroll it onto a custom-ordered 20’ tube. (To find one that large, she had to go to a construction-materials firm and adapt something usually used for creating concrete pillars.)

In 2005, the Institute of Museum and Library Services awarded the museum a \$140,000 grant to rehouse the 3,406 items in the textiles collection—a group that ranges from wedding dresses to purses to rugs. The grant lasted until 2009, though work continued into this summer. The grant helped hire a textile conservator and train staff, volunteers and interns how to handle, treat and rehouse the objects.

First, the items had to be moved from the old Armory Building to the Halpin Building and then, in 2009, to the new museum. How big of a job was that? We’re talking along the lines of 296 shoes, 275 hats, 20 parasols, 47 floor coverings, 153 pieces of underwear, 67 fans, more than 1,000 hanging outfits, 32 U.S. flags of various starriness and more.

With the volunteers, McBride created padded hangers, cut and pieced together boxes, built mounts for hats and fans, stuffed shoes and boots, and entered every item’s details into a new database—all of it a build-up to one giant flag.

“Everything went according to plan,” McBride said. “We could have opened that flag and found an infestation or a tear, but it went very smoothly.”

Next up: Photographing all 3,406 pieces. But first, a moment of relief.

“It’s a good feeling,” McBride said. “With 10 volunteers, interns and a textiles conservator, it was a real team. For the last piece to be the largest one in the collection, that was great.”



**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY,
AUG. 17 AND 18
Portal Artisans Celebration
10 AM–5 PM, Palace Courtyard**

Take a break during the SWAIA Santa Fe Indian Market. Enjoy music, hand-crafted art, raffles, a Native specialties food booth, Sno-Cones, pickles, and traditional Indian dances. Free; enter through the Blue Gate.

**WEDNESDAY, AUG. 21
"The Santa Fe Ancients' Pennant Race
of the New Mexico Baseball League"
Noon, Meem Community Room**
Santa Fe author Jeff Laing delivers a Brainpower & Brownbags Lecture. Free.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 4
The Santa Fe Fiesta Lecture: "Diego de
Vargas's Two Families," 6 PM, Auditorium**



One was Spanish, one American. Between two continents, Vargas nurtured two families before he engineered the reconquest of Spain's northern colony. State Historian Rick Hendricks will explore those divided loyalties. Free to members of the Palace Guard, \$5 others, at the door. Seating limited.

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 8
Fiesta procession, 9:30 AM, Blue Gate**
The annual Solemn Procession begins in the Palace Courtyard and travels to the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi. Free.

**MONDAY, SEPT. 9
Museum Guides meeting, 9:30 AM
(coffee in Meem Room, 9 AM)**
Henrietta Christmas, a genealogical and historical researcher for over 30 years, will talk about "Early Mail in New Mexico," from the sparseness of delivery in the early colonial times to a more current view of the U.S. Postal Service. Free.

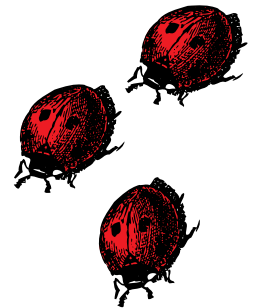
Our Little Ladybug Flies Away

If we seem a bit at loose ends these days, blame Carla Ortiz. The museum's administrative assistant and a Department of Cultural Affairs staffer for 23 years, she pretty much did everything except breathe for each of us. Since her retirement on June 28 (to spend more time with her family—what nerve!), the place just hasn't been the same.

A Santa Fe native, Carla began working for DCA as the assistant to the director of the Museum of New Mexico and secretary to the Board of Regents. In 2004, she transferred to the still-but-a-dream History Museum and the Palace of the Governors. A lover of ladybugs, she answered some questions on her way out the door.



Carla Ortiz (left) chats with Fran Levine during a farewell ice-cream social.



NMHM: How did you stand all of our craziness?

Carla: I'm just a calm person. When I'm under a lot of stress, I calm down. I've always had that—and I hope I always will.

NMHM: You did a wild range of things. Can you name a few?

Carla: Oversee all HR: hiring, firing, salary increases. Fill the Xerox machine and maintain its toner. Manage Fran's schedule. Pick up the mail. Distribute paychecks. I was events coordinator for first four years then again for the last year and a half. Training. Ordering supplies. Plant flowers in courtyard. ...

NMHM: What will you miss?

Carla: The staff.

NMHM: But we're crazy!

Carla: I love it. Everyone has their own unique personalities.

We miss Carla dearly. Before she left, we held a small ice-cream social in the conference room, hoping to lure her into staying on with her favorite flavor, pistachio. We each chipped in and gifted her with a fishing vacation, one of her favorite things to do with her husband, at least when she's not wrangling grandkids. And DCA Secretary Veronica Gonzales gave her a lifetime membership to the museum as a sign of how much we want to see her face again and again.

Buen viaje, Miss Carla!

THURSDAY, SEPT. 19

**"Constructing the Land of Enchantment: The Writings and Patronage of Henderson, Dodge Luhan, and Austin"
Noon, Meem Community Room**

Santa Fe author Lois Rudnick delivers a Brainpower & Brownbags Lecture. Free.



FRIDAY, SEPT. 20

Cowboy Movie Night: John Wayne and Robert Nott, 5:30 PM, Auditorium

Film critic and *Santa Fe New Mexican* journalist Robert Nott introduces a showing of John Wayne's *The Cowboys*, part of *Cowboys Real and Imagined*. Filmed at various locations in New Mexico, the 1972 movie is considered one of Wayne's greatest. Free.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 22

"From Vaqueros to Rancheros: Hispanic Heritage on the Range," 2 PM, Auditorium

Ranchers Virgil Trujillo of Abiquiu and Jerry and Johnny Varela of Pecos share stories of the Spanish roots of ranch life, with songs about the cowboy experience. Museum auditorium. Free with admission (Sundays free to NM residents).

SATURDAY, SEPT. 28

Palace Guard Field Trip, The Bosque Redondo Memorial at Fort Sumner Historical Site

Visit this memorial to the 1863–68 internment of more than 10,000 Navajo and Mescalero Apache prisoners. The tour will explore the policies leading to the establishment of the Bosque Redondo Reservation and provide insights into what the memorial means today to Navajo and Mescalero Apaches, and all Americans. For information and reservations, call 982-6366, ext. 102. \$70 for Palace Guard; \$75 guests.

FRIDAY–SUNDAY, SEPT. 27–29

8th Annual Palace Gem & Mineral Show, 9 AM–4:30 PM

Vendors display and sell authentic gems from around the globe in the Palace Courtyard. Go to nmhistorymuseum.org and click on "calendar" for special events. Free.



Peek into the museum's toy box and you'll find dolls, rolling cows, miniature playable pianos and more.

Toying with the Past

Sometimes, visitors to the museum's Collections Vault get that happy-and-glazed look of a kid in a toy store. Little do they know.

Tucked into boxes and lining 25 shelves are 451 toys, dolls, games, marbles, and other items of childhood amusement. Collections Technician Patrick Cruz recently completed a survey of them to update our records. He found toy guns from the early 1900s, a little porcelain kitty, a wind-up metal cow, cast-iron vehicles and a crude, handheld catapult.

A lovely little swan, ca. 1910–1920, may have been a forerunner to every kid's rubber duckie. A train-engine candy dispenser might have inspired no end of Avon collectibles. Doll-sized tea sets and toy soldiers, cowboys and Indians abound, along with models of the *USS New Mexico*.

"This is one of my favorites," Cruz said, pointing to a six-inch washing machine with a working crank and rollers. Another favorite: A tiny cast-iron stove with movable parts. "It reminds me of our full-sized Monarch stove."

Donors include the likes of Phyllis Harroun, E. Boyd, and Florence Hawley Ellis. (Hint, hint: We could use some modern-day donors willing to give up a favorite toy they managed to love without breaking.)

The doll collection includes porcelain dolls, bisque dolls, rag dolls, cornhusk dolls, and the queen of them all: Josefina Montoya, an American Girl doll.

"We have some volunteers who are like, 'Whoa, the American Girl,'" Cruz said.

Made by the aptly named Pleasant Company, American Girl dolls are a contemporary rage. Josefina was the first New Mexico-based doll in the company's oeuvre and sixth of its historical dolls. Created to represent 1824 New Mexico, she was given to the museum in 1997 by the maker, along with a selection of costumes, furniture, ristras, a caged chicken with eggs, tiny biscochitos (plus the silver tray to serve them on), a Pueblo pottery-style canteen, hankie, coin, sash, and carved-wood crate. Altogether, Josefina consumes two shelves in the vault, surrounded by our bounty of other toys.

And at night, after everyone goes home, they spring to life and play with one another, right?

"Wwwwwweelllll," a disbelieving Cruz drawled, "that's what people say."



We're in the Cream of the Crop

The New Mexico History Museum finds itself in heady company.

First, readers of the *Santa Fe Reporter* finally saw the light and moved us past the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum to claim the second-place spot in best museums. The Museum of International Folk Art once again claimed the top spot, giving us shoulder-to-shoulder placement with one our Department of Cultural Affairs sisters. (The headline on our ad in the Reporter's July 24 edition? "Sisters are so competitive.")



We got an even bigger huzzah when the September 2013 edition of *True West* magazine named us third-best western museum in the nation, behind the brand-new History Colorado Center and the recently renovated Buffalo Bill Museum in Cody, WY.

Of our favorite western museum, the magazine wrote:

"No remodeling here, but we have witnessed yet another fabulous year for a relatively new museum. *Telling New Mexico: Stories from Then and Now* is always a treat, but what really caught our attention was the temporary exhibit *Tall Tales of the Wild West: The Stories of Karl May*, which gave Germany's most famous Western writer plenty of American exposure."

Finally, the National Day of the Cowboy organization gave the museum one of its annual Cowboy Keeper Awards for "contributing significantly to the preservation of pioneer heritage and cowboy culture."

Thank you to the staffers, volunteers, donors, visitors, and cheerleaders who help keep us at the top of our game every day.



Charles Hannaford (left) helps Jemez Pueblo children learn how to throw an atlatl. Below, children relax on the Jemez Historic Site's pueblo ruins.

"Stories from the Land" Finds its Footing

Collaborating with Jemez Historic Site and the Jemez Pueblo Library, the New Mexico History Museum last month helped launch a new program focused on place-based learning. *Stories from the Land* kicked off with a week's worth of activities on the pueblo and at the historic site, where up to 30 children made connections to their elders and their roots.

Educator Melanie LaBorwit, who splits her time between our museum, the Museum of Art, and New Mexico Historic Sites, wrangled a variety of presenters and experiences for the children. Mornings began with special guest presentations and hands-on activities; afternoons were dedicated to quiet reflection and writing.

Emmett "Shkeme" Garcia (Tamaya) served as the writer-in-residence, sharing music and his gift of storytelling. With those talents, he taught the children how he adapted traditional stories to the written word and how to find your own writing voice. Jemez resident Isaac Toya came each day to teach about gourd rattles and help the boys make a ceremonial gourd rattle, the girls a gourd bowl. Chris Toya, a Jemez Pueblo tribal member and archaeologist who works as a cultural resources specialist for the pueblo, told the children about the background of Giusewatowa ("Place of Hot Springs"), the historic site's traditional name, and shared stories of other Jemez villages that were abandoned after the Spanish returned to the region in the late 17th century.

Arnold Herrera, a Cochiti drum maker, shared his techniques on building a proper drum, then sang a song that the children danced to with their new rattles. The week finished with a gathering of children and their friends and families, while Shkeme performed funny stories. "Some of the children shared stories, too," LaBorwit said.

On July 30, the children came to Santa Fe and toured the Museum of Art, where they learned how painters and sculptors tell stories. Afterward, Tom Leech and James Bourland helped them print covers and bind their books at the Palace Press.

LaBorwit aims to grow the program to other historic sites next summer and produce curricula that educators can use year-round.



Acquiring Minds

What's new in the collections vault?
Here's a peek at some of what we
received in May and June:

A book, *La Realidad de las Capitulaciones*,
and letters pertaining to **Christopher
Columbus**, initially given to the city
of Santa Fe by the city of Santa Fe
de la Vega in Spain.

Ladies' **undergarments**, vintage 1960s.

A 1908 vest-pocket, hammerless
Colt pistol.

Collection of
materials relating
to the Robertson
family in Raton, including
old **political campaign buttons**.



A **Valentino pantsuit** and shoes,
along with a **Lilly Pulitzer dress**.

Photographs of the 1913 **Battle of
Naco** in the Mexican Revolution.

Photographs
of **Elephant
Butte Dam**,
1911–1916.

**Furniture
and lamps**
from La Fonda
on the Plaza,
including some original Mary Colter
designs (ca. 1929).



A 1922 photograph of the
USS New Mexico officers and a
1906 photograph of the **Dawson
mining town**.



Welcome Aboard, Tay Balenovic and Seth McFarland

M meet two new faces on our administrative team. Tay Balenovic is events coordinator; Seth McFarland is operations manager.
NMHM: Tell us a bit about yourselves.

Tay: I was born in upper-state New York, raised in California, and moved to Santa Fe 10 years ago. In college I studied vocal performance and hospitality management. After moving to Santa Fe, I became a single mom and home-schooled my daughter, now 22, and further developed my event planning and business management skills.

Seth: I graduated from Eastern New Mexico University, after which I served as research librarian for the E.T. Seton Research Library. I have been director of both the Philmont Museums and the Unser Racing Museum, and recently served as the exhibits preparator for the National Museum of Nuclear Science and History.

I am working on a master's in Levantine archaeology in the Near East.

NMHM: Why did you want to work here?

Tay: I have been a member and vice president of the volunteer group Los Capitanes for the past eight years. I have a love for those who work here. With my arsenal of hospitality skills and event-planning experience, working here was the perfect fit.

Seth: I first became familiar with the History Museum in 2009 when I worked with David Witt on the exhibit *Wild At Heart: Ernest Thompson Seton*. Working for the History Museum has been a goal on mine because of the rich cultural history the museum protects and reflects to the world.

NMHM: Do you have a favorite place or artifact in the museum?

Tay: The Palace of the Governors fills me with joy every time I stroll through.

Seth: My favorite places are the Palace Press and the Fray Angélico Chávez History Library.

NMHM: What do you do when you're not here?

Tay: I write music, sleep in, dabble in acrylic and pastels, read tons of books, cook, love to walk/hike, spend time with my kiddo and sweetie, and breathe fresh mountain air.

Seth: I spend a lot of time in nature hiking, enjoying the peace and quiet, and photographing. I enjoy anything associated with art and history. I am usually drawing, carving, and painting.

NMHM: Red or green?

Tay: Definitely a green gal. (I'm not from around here, y'all.)

Seth: I always chose whichever is hotter or more flavorful.