

A large flock of snow geese is captured in various stages of flight across a clear blue sky. Below them, a field of dry, golden-brown grass is dotted with more geese, some standing and others wading in a shallow, icy pool of water at the bottom of the frame. In the background, a line of trees with vibrant yellow and orange autumn foliage stands against the horizon.

The **Source** 2022

FREE

DISCOVERING SOCORRO COUNTY

An El Defensor Chieftain publication

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for reopening information!

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Karl G. Jansky

Very Large Array



Na | | Ra |

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on admission, hours of operation, and status updates.

NEW MEXICO TECH



U.S. News and World Report ranked New Mexico Tech No. 1 in New Mexico and in its Top 40 in its Best Values Schools among all universities nationwide.



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CNBC ranked New Mexico Tech No. 13 among Public Schools on its *Top 50 US Colleges That Pay Off the Most* list.



— COLLEGE SALARY REPORT —

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college factual

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New Mexico Tech ranks #1 nationally among the Top 50 U.S. public institutions of science and engineering in the percentage of students who go on to complete their doctorate.



College Consensus ranked New Mexico Tech in the Top 100 Best Public Colleges and Universities in the United States for 2019.



New Mexico Tech was named to the 20 Public Colleges with the Smartest Students in **Inc. Magazine**. Tech's students are ranked 18th among all public colleges nationally.

NM Tech is among the top 50 colleges in the nation, and number one in New Mexico, at graduating work-ready students. Nearly 90% of Tech students are employed 10 years after graduation, according to **Business Insider**.

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THE SOURCE 2022

A publication of
El Defensor Chieftain
Socorro, N.M.

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The Source 2022
is a publication of El Defensor Chief-
tain, 200 Winkler Street, Socorro,
N.M. 87801.
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El Defensor Chieftain
is a Media 9 Publication.



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welcome BIENVENIDOS!

Welcome to the heart and soul of New Mexico, Socorro County, where a rich history of ranching and the cowboy spirit coexist with cutting-edge 21st century technology. From the mountains to the desert to the Rio Grande valley, Socorro County is known statewide for its distinctive cultural attractions, unique bird watching opportunities, year-round outdoor recreation, world-class science and technology developments, and thriving art community. Our diverse landscape offers something for everyone.

The county seat is an affable community where newcomers are always welcome. People are never in too much of a hurry to stop and chat for a moment, and always have a smile and a wave. Many families date their ancestry back to the 1500s and some for only a few years but they all are willing to stop and talk about the area.

The city of Socorro boasts a charming plaza dating back to 1598 when Spanish explorers began settling the region, bringing a feature to the area rarely found in the world today.

Many community events are centered at the plaza, including the community music parties such as SocorroFest, car shows, the annual Christmas luminaria arts stroll, several parade routes and the Socorro County Farmers Market. Due to its quaint appeal and historical importance, Socorro's plaza has also been the backdrop for scenes in major motion pictures.

Socorro is also home to a modern rodeo and sports complex. With seating of 800, the rodeo arena expects a full schedule of events each year.

Flowing through the heart of Socorro County, the Rio Grande is the center of the agricultural community and also affords numerous opportunities for nature lovers to explore unique environments. Tens of thousands



of visitors come to see the two wildlife refuges in the county — many to attend the annual Festival of the Cranes at Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge. Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge also provides many birding and wildlife opportunities.

Hundreds more come to visit ruins of the 165-year-old Fort Craig, one of the most important Civil War-era Union forts in the West.

Socorro County is also the birthplace of the nuclear age, where the first atomic bomb was tested at the Trinity Site on the north end of White Sands Missile Range.

While much of the county is rural, it also plays host to one of the nation's premier research universities, New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology. The campus is also home

to the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources, where an extensive mineral museum attracts visitors from around the world. But science and technology are not the only draws to the New Mexico Tech campus; the 18-hole golf course attracts golfers of all levels.

Heading west down Highway 60 to Magdalena, one can explore everything from the history of mining and ranching to leading-edge scientific marvels.

Water Canyon in the Magdalena Mountains of Cibola National Forest provides picnic grounds and numerous hiking trails. The Village of Magdalena, once a cattle drive trailhead, celebrates its old west heritage every summer with Frontier Days.

A few more miles west on the Plains of San Agustin lies the impressive National Radio

Astronomy Observatory's Karl P. Jansky Very Large Array. The self-guided tour and gift shop is popular with visitors.

Socorro is a place to get away from the big city hustle yet still participate in a variety of community activities — everything is here. Whatever your mood, there is a place in the county to satisfy it.

Read more on the wonderful opportunities this region has to offer — for the newcomer and those who have been around awhile. Whether you feel like hiking in the mountains or sitting in a tavern talking to old-timers and listening to local music, we have it. It's a free and open county, uncrowded and friendly.

We offer this guide as a gateway to your Socorro adventure.



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Early Intervention

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Alberta Academy Day Care

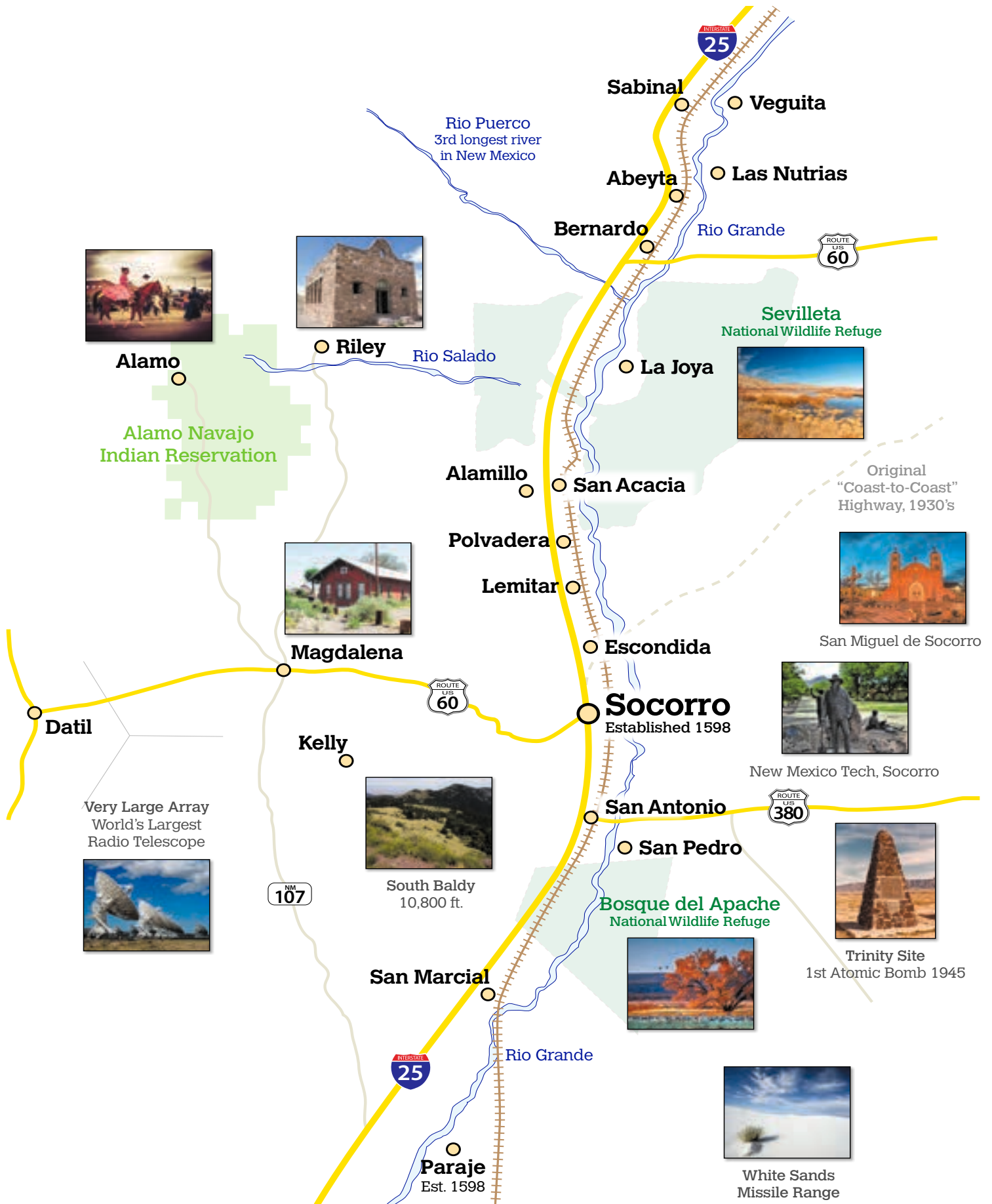
Early Pre-K: 3 years old | Pre-K: 4 years old

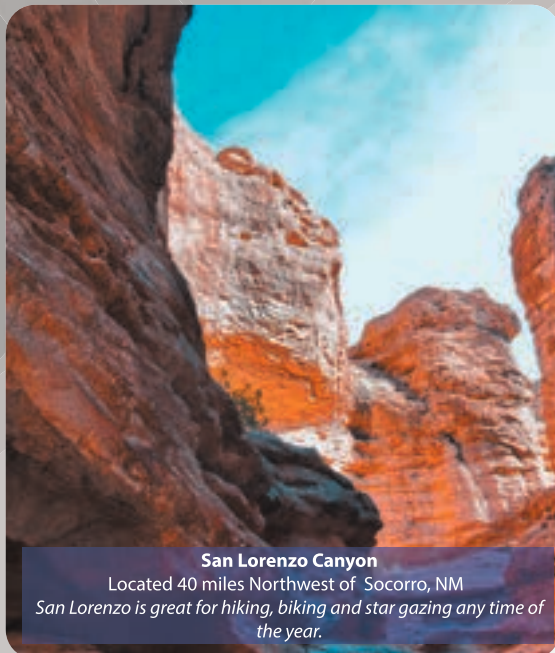
Our enthusiastic staff works to provide a safe, clean, and loving environment for children ages 2-5 years old. Children who qualify for any of the outpatient therapy services offered by Positive Outcomes Inc. (POI) can see their therapists at the AH.

Family Support Service

Nurturing Relationships & Empowering Families

county map





San Lorenzo Canyon

Located 40 miles Northwest of Socorro, NM
San Lorenzo is great for hiking, biking and star gazing any time of the year.

30th Annual 4th of July Celebration City of Socorro Rodeo & Sports Complex, Socorro NM

Monday July 4, 2022
1:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Socorro County Fair Socorro County Fairgrounds, Socorro NM

Wednesday August 31, 2022
- Sunday September 4, 2022
All Day

49ers Celebration New Mexico Tech, Socorro NM

Thursday October 13, 2022 -
Sunday October 16, 2022
All Day



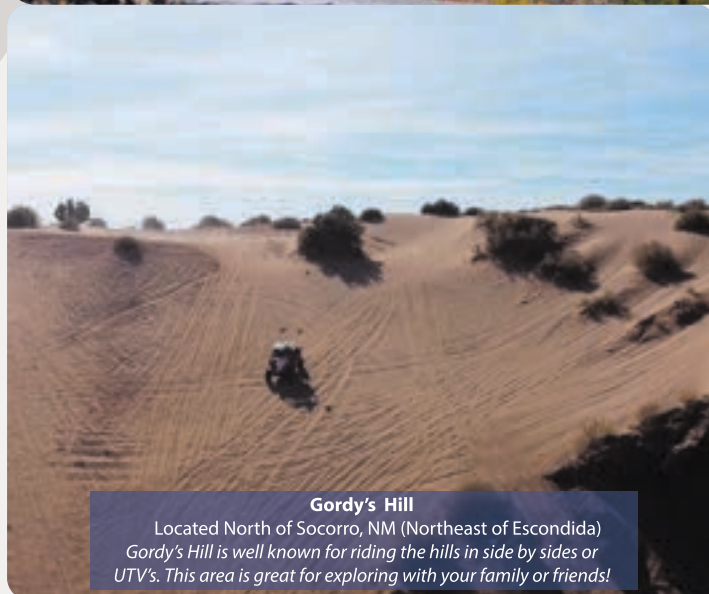
"M" Mountain

Located in Socorro, NM
Miner's mountain or "M" Mountain is a major landmark for Socorro. Once a year in the fall, locals will hike to the top of the mountain to repaint the "M".



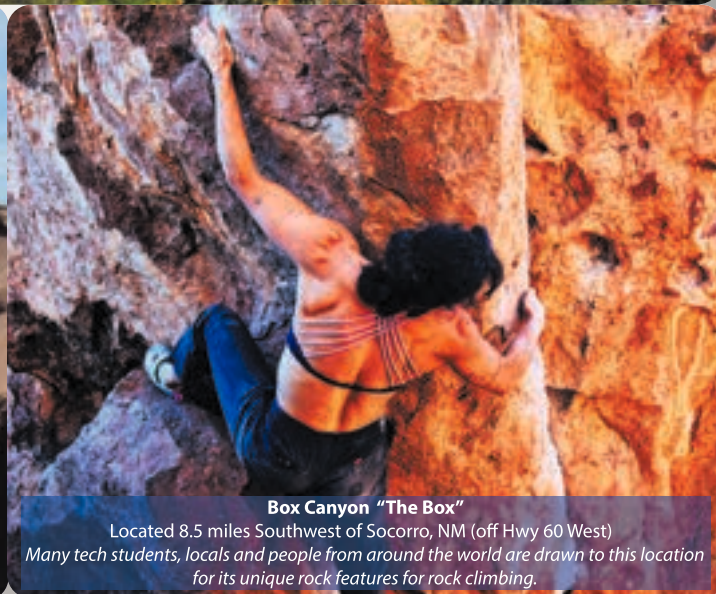
Water Canyon

Located 21 miles West of Socorro, NM
Water Canyon is great for camping and has beautiful scenery.



Gordy's Hill

Located North of Socorro, NM (Northeast of Escondida)
Gordy's Hill is well known for riding the hills in side by sides or UTV's. This area is great for exploring with your family or friends!



Box Canyon "The Box"

Located 8.5 miles Southwest of Socorro, NM (off Hwy 60 West)
Many tech students, locals and people from around the world are drawn to this location for its unique rock features for rock climbing.

HOW SOCORRO CAME TO BE

The history of the American Southwest can be traced back hundreds of years, and it was along the banks of the Rio Grande that the Piro Indians inhabited over 20 villages, or pueblos, between San Marcial and La Joya. But they weren't the only indigenous tribes to occupy the area. The Apache also inhabited much of the middle Rio Grande valley.

As the Spanish explorers in the mid-16th century began to make their way north from Mexico, they followed the Rio Grande and established El Camino Real — the Royal Road into “New Spain.” As a result, they were frequent visitors at the Piro villages.

Socorro got its name in 1598 from explorer Juan de Oñate, whose tired and

the valley, they found that the abandoned pueblos from Senecú to Sevilleta had been pillaged by the Apaches. For the next 100 years, there were few settlers in the area.

The resettlement of Socorro began in the early 1800s. In 1815, 21 families were given land grants to settle here.

Socorro flourished because of the fertile farmland and grazing along the river; however, occasional attacks by the Apaches remained a constant threat.

When New Mexico became a territory of the U.S. in 1848, the region saw some relief as the military established a series of forts for protection against the Apaches. In Socorro County, the Army established Fort Conrad in 1851, but found it indefensible

of warfare.

Socorro and the surrounding area boomed after the Civil War, thanks to mining strikes — lead and zinc in the Magdalena area and silver on Socorro Peak. The railroad arrived in 1882, fueled from the vast coal fields east of San Antonio.

Socorro, with its mines, mills and smelters, became the center of this diverse mining activity. In 1889, the government chose Socorro as the site for its new School of Mines (now New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, or New Mexico Tech for short), which opened in 1893. The glory days of mining are recalled each year in Socorro during the '49ers celebrations, events put on by the school to celebrate its early days and pay tribute to the area's mining history.

Livestock, ranching and agriculture have always been integral to the fabric of the area and those who call it home. Because the county contains two of the nation's most important wildlife refuges, nature plays a key role in Socorro as well.

The area's rich and varied history has spawned a number of annual celebrations that continue to grow in popularity, many of which can be found throughout this guide.

Socorro's Free State of Mind

This year marked the 69th anniversary of the “Free State of Socorro” — a movement, started by accident, that placed Socorro in the spotlight across the country. For a time, Socorro declared itself a free sovereign territory from the State of New Mexico. In 1953, District Judge Charles Fowler began an investigation that determined the city of Socorro had virtually no laws — he was quoted in the Socorro Chieftain, stating “city laws were indistinguishable from mere scraps of paper.”

A local attorney, Claron Waggoner, and his colleague, attorney Garnett Burkes, investigated Socorro's legal status. What they found was truly intriguing.

When the Spanish Empire fell, in 1821, all Spanish lands were converted to Mexican land grants. With statehood, the constitution provided that all Mexican land grants become part of the state of New Mexico.

Socorro was an exception. It seems the Spanish “Provincia de Socorro” land grant was never turned over to Mexican authorities and omitted from the 1848 annexation to the territory of New Mexico. Legally, Socorro



hungry men were given food and shelter by the Piros.

He renamed the Pilabo pueblo “Socorro,” which means “help” or “succor” in Spanish.

In the early 1600s, Franciscan friars built missions at Socorro, Senecú, near San Marcial, and Sevilleta, near La Joya.

In 1680, when the Pueblo Indians of northern New Mexico staged their revolt against the Spaniards, the people of Socorro and surrounding areas fled.

The Piros did not participate in the revolt and headed south to El Paso, Texas, with the Spanish troops and settlers.

When the Spaniards came back up

and relocated to the newly built Fort Craig in 1854.

The Civil War made its way into New Mexico and Socorro County. On Feb. 21, 1862, Union and Confederate forces engaged in a day-long battle south of Socorro near Fort Craig — known as the Battle of Valverde. On March 30, the Confederates met stiffer resistance and lost the Battle of Glorieta near Santa Fe, which forced their retreat from New Mexico back to Texas.

The Battle of Valverde is re-enacted every year in Socorro County, with hundreds of Civil War buffs in attendance both participating and watching the many demonstrations

remained a Spanish Land Grant.

Therefore, the two attorneys concluded Socorro County is not and never was a legal part of the state of New Mexico, and possibly not even the United States.

The next issue of the Socorro Chieftain announced these findings under the headline: "Socorro May Establish New Free State."

The editor at the time speculated this could mean Socorroans were due a full refund of federal and state taxes since 1912 statehood. Without taxes, there would be a dramatic drop in the prices of liquor, cigarettes and automobiles to boost Socorro's struggling economy.

He reasoned that with no taxes, Socorro would be a "free state" in which to live. The term "Free State of Socorro" quickly stuck as area newspapers picked up the story.

A phenomenon unique to Socorro was born. Over the following weeks, both newspapers in town — the Socorro Chieftain and the Spanish language *El Defensor* — published lengthy articles inciting the townspeople.

Letters supporting secession from across the country were also printed.

The people of Socorro had no intentions of seceding from the Union.

They agreed they were all Americans and wanted to remain Americans. The "Free State" referred to taxes, not U.S. citizenship, although it provided some long-awaited leverage.

All Socorro wanted to do was get the attention of lawmakers in Santa Fe; little tax

a citizen and travel the county's highways for free.

This got Santa Fe's attention. It also got the attention of the rest of the country, climaxing by a three-page feature article in *Life* magazine in June.

Almost overnight, Socorro went from an



money was being returned to the county.

Socorro gave a convincing impression of forming a sovereign republic by erecting a Port of Entry on U.S. 85 (now Interstate 25) and charging a quarter to pass through the county. Passports and citizenship certificates were printed. For a dollar you could become

obscure desert town to a tourist destination. The Free State of Socorro lasted into 1955.

The friendly people of Socorro County welcome you to our part of the world, whether you are here to enjoy the Land of Enchantment or the sovereign Free State of Socorro.



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LISTENING TO THE STARS

It's been watching the skies and listening to the stars for 41 years. The Very Large Array, 15 miles west of Magdalena, is one of, if not the world's most famous radio telescopes. The 27 giant dish antennas rising spectacularly from the high desert of the Plains of San Agustin is a premier tool for researchers from around the world who seek to advance our understanding of the universe.

Formally called The Karl G. Jansky Very Large Array, scientists have used the VLA to make landmark discoveries across the entire range of astronomical specialties, and its many scientific contributions are found throughout modern astronomy textbooks.

Construction on the VLA began in 1973 and was fully operational in 1980.

The VLA is an interferometer; this means that it operates by multiplying the data from each pair of telescopes together to form interference patterns. The structure of those interference patterns, and how they change with time as the earth rotates, reflect the structure of radio sources on the sky: we can take these patterns and use a mathematical technique called the Fourier transform to make maps.

The 230-ton antennas, as much as 13 miles distant from each other in its widest configuration, all work together as a single scientific instrument, able to make previously impossible discoveries. The VLA is helping scientists address some of the greatest challenges of 21st-Century astrophysics, including deciphering the origins of stars and planets, the formation of the earliest galaxies in the young Universe, and the still-unknown nature of Dark Matter and

Dark Energy.

Thousands of tourists from dozens of countries make the VLA a travel destination every year. Visitors can learn about the history, technology, and scientific accomplishments of the VLA and enjoy the spectacle of the antennas and facilities of this unique site that continues its decades-long service at the frontier of science, blazing new trails of human knowledge.

The VLA's modern Visitor Center features an award-winning film narrated by Jodie Foster, plus exhibits describing radio astronomy and the VLA. A self-guided walking-tour path features large, informative signs and takes you to the base of one of the giant dish antennas.

One of the informative exhibits is a "whisper gallery" made from two satellite dishes to demonstrate how they gather and amplify faint sound waves. The path also leads to a walk-through sundial that incorporates elements of radio astronomy and astronomical history. Leashed pets are welcome





VLA

from PAGE 12

along the walking tour path.

The scrubby, flat plateau is quiet except for the steady clunk-clunk-clunk of the antenna drive motors as they track the big dishes across the sky.

The only restriction at the Very Large Array is that you can't use any mobile devices while visiting. They're too noisy.

Admission is \$6 for adults; \$5 for over 65. 17-and-under is free.

The VLA is 45 miles west of Socorro on Highway 60. Signs mark the route to the Visitor Center. The VLA is open daily from 8:30 a.m. until sunset. The VLA Gift Shop is open from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. daily except on Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Eve.

For more information, call the VLA Visitor Center at (575) 835-7410, or visit www.nrao.edu.

Currently, to reduce the risk of exposure to the COVID-19 virus for both staff and visitors, the VLA is closed to the public until further notice.

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BOSQUE DEL APACHE



Close encounters of the bird kind” could be the motto of the 57,217-acre Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge, located just south of San Antonio. It’s said that Bosque del Apache is unique among the country’s wildlife refuges in that thousands of migratory fowl, from snow geese to sandhill cranes to the occasional eagle, can be seen and photographed by visitors without leaving their vehicles.

It’s because of those close encounters that more than 100,000 visitors flock to the sprawling refuge along with Sandhill cranes, the snow geese, ducks and other birds for events such as the annual Festival of the Cranes in November each year.

The first cranes are spotted on the refuge at the beginning of October, and the numbers steadily build.

The number of visitors also builds as the cranes arrive. The numbers peak with the Festival of the Cranes. But a large number of visitors are usually around during Thanksgiving weekend.

And birders can be found observing the cranes through the winter until they depart in early spring.

There are plenty of areas for visitors to view the birds from obser-

vation decks to ponds and fields that are accessible from the tour loops. Volunteers who are birding enthusiasts will be on hand on the decks to assist visitors with their viewing of the wildlife. Optic equipment is available on the decks for use during the festival.

Other wildlife

Birds are not the only wildlife visitors can see on the refuge. Elk and mule deer may also be seen, although the elk are a little shy, refuge officials say. Other wildlife includes bobcats, coyotes and turkeys. The Festival of the Cranes receives a lot of attention, but refuge officials like to point out that there is plenty to see and do on the refuge throughout the year, and not just when the cranes call the refuge home.

Auto Tour

- The tour loop is (approximately) 12 miles long, bisected by a two way road.
- The tour loop is open every day from one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset.
- Unpermitted access in closed areas. This includes walking, biking, or driving. Please observe

■ See **Bosque**, Page 15



John Larson | El Defensor Chieftain

The first cranes are spotted on the refuge at the beginning of October and the numbers steadily build.

Bosque

from PAGE 14

posted signs.

- Please drive carefully on gravel roads and stay on designated roads and turnouts.

- Auto Tour Loop roads are narrow, so pull over to allow others to pass safely.

- The speed limit is 25 mph.

- Restroom facilities are available on the auto tour loop, concurrently with hours the tour loop is open.

- Potable water is not available on the tour loop.

Trails

- All trails are open every day from one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset.

- Leashed pets are seasonally allowed on trails. During any time of the year, you may have your pet securely in your vehicle.

The refuge was created in 1939 and plays a valuable role in the local economy.



John Larson | El Defensor Chieftain

Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge is located just south of San Antonio. It's said the wildlife refuge is unique in that thousands of migratory fowl can be seen by visitors without leaving their vehicles.

Discover Magdalena

Trail's End and Gateway to the Stars

They don't make places like this anymore!

Explore, Eat, & Stay: hiking, horseback riding, cowboy roundups, rodeo, star parties, art tours, rock climbing, antiquing, rock hounding, hunting, historic train depot, Stockyard, Box Car Museum, Very Large Array, Magdalena Ridge Observatory, Kelly Mine, & Riley ghost town!

Magdalena Annual Events

Family Friendly events from Fiestas to Fly-ins! All Are Welcome

New Years Day Poetry – January

Trinity Site Tours at WSMR April & October

Where the first Atomic Bomb was tested on July 16, 1945

Magdalena Studio andGallery Tour – May

Museums, Galleries, Art, Food, Music

Santa Rita Catholic Church Festival, Riley NM – May

Mass 10am, lunch following

Frontier Festival – June

Frontier History comes alive with demos, talks, food & music

San Juan Bautista Catholic Church Fiesta, Kelly – June

Mass 10am, lunch, music

Old Timers' Reunion & Rodeo – July

Multicultural old west family rodeo at The Trails' End

Mary Magdalene Catholic Church Fiesta – July

Lunch, music, arts & crafts, and more

Kids Science Café Motorcycle Rally – August

Proceeds go to Kids Science Café

Pie Festival USA, Pie Town – Sept

All things Pie: Pie Fun Run, baking/eating contests, & more

Magdalena Municipal Airport Fall Fly-In – Sept

Aviation fun in the Magdalena Mountains

Enchanted Skies Star Party – Oct

Professional and amateur astronomers observe the universe. Workshops, demos, & more

Alamo Indian Days Celebration, Alamo – Oct

An adventure into Navajo culture including a parade & dance

Car & Quilt Show – Oct

Hot Rods & Warm Blankets on display!
Benefits Kids Science Café

Classic Car Show – Oct

Benefits our Kids' Science Cafe!

Halloween Trunk or Treat – Oct

Treats and games for all ages!

Honoring our Veterans – Nov

Flags & ceremony at the Magdalena Cemetery

Festival of the Cranes, San Antonio – Nov

Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge 5 day event

Holiday Decorating Contests – Dec

Holiday Craft Fair – Dec

Benefitting the Magdalena Old Timers' Reunion

Christmas Electric Light Parade & Santa Comes to Town – Dec

Magdalena Community Christmas Caroling and Potluck – Dec



See www.villageofmagdalena.com for events, maps, and Guide to Magdalena
Keep up with community happenings in the Magdalena, Datil, Pie Town and Quemado
area by signing up for emails at MagEBoard! Email to enroll: MagEboard@icloud.com

Paid for in part by Magdalena Lodger's Tax and Magdalena Chamber of Commerce

MAGDALENA: ARTS, ASTRONOMY, AND CULTURE

The combination of a growing art scene, astronomical events and western culture are making Magdalena a destination spot for visitors. Along with the scenic beauty of the Magdalena Mountains, several fine art galleries in this mountain village bring art lovers back every year.

From La Posada Art Gallery and Gifts on First Street to Hills Snyder's "kind of a small array" to Warehouse 110 on North Main, Blue Canyon Gallery on Highway 60, and Village Press Print Studio, which also hosts an espresso/cappuccino bar, at 500 First Street. In fact, 21 working artists make Magdalena their home.

The Annual Enchanted Skies Star Party, held over four days in October, attracts stargazers from around the country. One visiting astronomer was quoted as saying it has arguably one of the darkest sites in the continental US, as well as one of the driest.

The history of Magdalena, New Mexico, begins with the discovery of lead and zinc in the 1860s in the Magdalena Mountains all the way up to the present day with its growing reputation as a destination for amateur



astronomers seeking dark skies.

Serving both the ranching and mining industries, Magdalena was once a bustling Old West town in the most traditional sense. Saloons and hotels catered to the cowboys,

miners and frontier families that lived in the area. Cattle rustling, shootouts on Main Street and barroom brawls are part of the town's legendary history. In fact, WS Ranch manager Capt. William French relates that Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid once worked at least one cattle drive into Magdalena, saying they were two of most well-behaved cowboys he knew.

Nicknamed "Trail's End,"

Magdalena was the destination for cattle drives on the "Hoof Highway." The Stock Driveway was the route used by ranchers and cowboys to drive cattle and sheep from as far away as Springerville, Arizona, across the San Agustín Plains to the stockyards in Magdalena. The driveway was used annually from 1885 when a railroad spur was built connecting Magdalena to Socorro, and became a designated driveway by the Grazing Homestead Act of 1916. The cattle drive trail was 5 to 10 miles wide and extended about 125 miles west from Springerville. In 1971, truck and semis supplanted transport by train and the last cattle drive was in 1972.

Another branch of the trail extended from the famous WS Ranch in Alma and merged with the main trail at Datil. Cowboys could drive cattle about 10 miles a day, while herders moved their sheep about 5 miles a day, allowing them to graze along the way. Wells were drilled every 10 miles to accommodate the herds.

In 1919, as many as 150,000 sheep and 21,000 cattle used the trail to reach the stockyard. The original stockyards still stand intact on North Ash St. in Magdalena, although the railroad tracks have long since been removed.

But Magdalena also owes its origins to the mining industry. The ghost town of Kelly,



Discover MAGDALENA

MAGDALENA ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

Hosts of the Enchanted Skies Star Party
Local Events & Lectures
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www.enchantedskies.org/main/index.html

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Magdalena

from PAGE 17

three and a half miles south of Magdalena, was once the center of mining in the area, and boasted a population of 2,000, supported by the numerous mines in the Magdalena Mountains. The Kelly Mine, named after Andy Kelly when the town was not much more than a mining camp, was the most productive, and its headframe still stands.

Much of the town's history is preserved at the Box Car Museum, located at the loading dock of the restored Santa Fe Railroad depot, which now serves as the Magdalena Public Library. The museum collection holds photographs, memorabilia and artifacts donated by residents that tell the story of miners and cowboys, as well as the homesteaders and Navajo natives who settled the area.

Many of the town's historic buildings are still in use, either as private homes or businesses. Unfortunately, fire has claimed most of the hotels, bars and mercantiles that once lined the main thoroughfares.

Today, Magdalena is a quiet village of roughly 900 residents. Its history, galleries, dark skies and outdoor recreation opportunities make it a popular tourist destination.

There are several eateries from which to choose and overnight accommodations from two motels, as well as nicely furnished B&Bs.

There's plenty to see and do within easy driving distance of Magdalena.

The National Radio Astronomy Observatory's Very Large Array is just 19 miles west on U.S. 60. The Alamo Navajo Indian reservation is a half-hour drive north on Highway 169. There are numerous hiking trails and camping sites in the surrounding Cibola National Forest. Deer and elk hunters also are attracted to the area during hunting season. The Cibola National Forest Ranger Station on First Street has information and maps.

Magdalena celebrates its history as an Old West mining and cattle-shipping center with the Frontier Festival, held over two days in June. The event features two full days of historical exhibits, kids' games, horno baking, Dutch oven cooking and much more, including live music and a faux gunfight, Old West style. A highlight would naturally be a walk through Magdalena's past in the Box Car Museum, accessed from the original Santa Fe Railroad loading dock at the Magdalena Public Library.

For more information on Magdalena, visit www.magdalena-nm.com or www.villageofmagdalena.com.

GHOST TOWN OF KELLY

Although little remains of Kelly, New Mexico, three-and-a-half miles from Magdalena and 1,000 feet up, it was once a bustling mining town of 2,000 with schools, banks, grocery stores, saloons, churches, and a clinic. Outside of St. John the Baptist Church, which is the scene of a yearly reunion, all there is to see of the town now are a few stone foundations, stone walls and remnants of concrete sidewalks.

Evidence of mining operations still remains above the ghost town with the famous Traylor shaft headframe of the Kelly Mine still standing, with ruins of the refractory, boiler and assay building nearby. The operators of Kelly Mine were at least partly responsible for bringing the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad spur to Magdalena, so its ore could be brought to Socorro some 20 miles down by rail to be smelted.

People started flocking to the area in the early 1880s after lead, zinc, and silver were found in abundance on the slopes of the Magdalena Mountains. Ore taken from the many mine shafts was transferred by a special railed tram down to Magdalena where it was loaded onto cars of the AT&SF railway and delivered to smelters in Socorro.

By 1910, Kelly was one of the state's most active mining centers. The Tri-Bullion company was producing heavily, and an operator named C.T. Brown was said to be shipping about 2,500 tons of lead and zinc monthly from his lease.

The high spirits in Kelly were dampened in May, 1910, when a miner was entering Kelly Mine through the tunnel and a rock struck him on the head, causing a deep gash in the front of his skull. Rushed to an Albuquerque hospital by train, he died shortly after his arrival. This is significant in that over the years, from the 1890s into the 1950s, there were relatively few fatal accidents in the mines at Kelly. Far more perished in the coal mines of Carthage, southwest of Socorro, than the



hard rock mines at Kelly.

The June 25, 1910, edition of The Chieftain newspaper contained a summary of the activity at Kelly: "The old Kelly mine has produced enormous tonnage of carbonate ores ... the new Graphic Mill has been completed and running two weeks ... the Cook lease has also opened up a 4-foot shoot of lead and zinc carbonate ores ... the Tri-Bullion mill is running night and day ... the Grand Tower property is still making good production of sulphides and will be milled instead of shipped. Not a vacant house or idle man in camp at the present. Many new houses have been erected, but still insufficient to supply the demand."

By 1947 the rich ores played out and the population dropped to zero. Most of the wood frame houses and structures were dismantled and arduously moved the three miles down the hill to Magdalena.

The zinc carbonate Smithsonite, named after James Smithson, the founder of the Smithsonian Institution, was later mined from tailings piles by the Sherwin Williams paint company for its distinctive green color.

Concrete foundations of the Graphic Mill still exist where Hop Canyon Road splits with Kelly Road on the way up to the mining district.

LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Abeytas: North of Bernardo along the west banks of the Rio Grande, the small farming and ranching community of Abeytas has ties to the Belen Land Grant of 1740.

Alamillo: Alamillo lies north of Socorro, on the east side of I-25 across from San Acacia. In the early 17th century, Franciscans established the Santa Ana de Alamillo mission at the Piro Indian Pueblo there.

Bernardo: Bernardo is mainly thought of as the place where U.S. 60 intersects with I-25. Navajo and Apache horse thieves and later American ones, hid in the mountains to the west, known as Los Ladrones (The Thieves).

Escondida: Escondida, directly north of Socorro, boasts a recreational lake and a state police station, despite its small size.

Farley: Farley was a project of the onetime master at San Marcial, J.B. Farley. Workers quarried limestone, loaded it into wagons or rail cars, which were hauled to San Antonio and connected there to the AT&SF rail lines.

Las Nutrias: The Las Nutrias community exists on New Mexico 304 between U.S. 60 and Veguita. In 1765, 30 families settled in the area known then as San Gabriel de Las Nutrias.



SAN ANTONIO

A quiet farming and ranching community 10 miles south of Socorro, San Antonio, New Mexico is referred to by many as the gateway to the Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge and by others as the home of the world's greatest green chile cheeseburgers. Either way San Antonio has achieved certain renown worldwide.

Every fall, the arrival of hundreds of flocks of sand-hill cranes and thousands of snow geese to the wetlands of Bosque del Apache draws visitors from every continent for a week-long tribute to birds of every species.

To a great extent, San Antonio's economy rises and falls with the arrival and departure of the migrating birds and birders. It's a connection reflected in the names of some local businesses, such as the San Antonio Crane Mexican Restaurant and the Bosque Birdwatchers RV Park, or in

their seasonal operation, such as the Casa Blanca Bed and Breakfast which is only open from October to April.

San Antonio's most successful businesses have been open at least as long as the refuge, if not longer, and although they draw their fair share of eco-tourists, it's gastro-tourism that has really put them in the international map.

Since the 1940s, when J. Robert Oppenheimer and other physicists working on the Manhattan Project at the nearby Trinity Site on White Sands Proving Grounds stopped at the Owl Café for meals and a cold beer, San Antonio has been known as the go-to place for a world-class green chile cheeseburger. For decades, hungry travelers in the know have planned their itineraries to arrive at the Owl in San Antonio just in time for lunch or dinner. The Owl, along with The Buckhorn across the street, have consistently been rated as serving the best green chile

cheeseburgers in New Mexico, and highly ranked nationwide.

San Antonio is the birthplace of Conrad Hilton, one of New Mexico's earliest legislators and founder of the Hilton Hotel empire. His name can still be seen "C Hilton 1903"

carved on the wall of what was once the schoolhouse, since then a mechanic's garage, and now a barn.

Hilton's father managed the Harvey House in San Antonio and Hilton learned the hotel trade there.



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ALAMO

In a scenic valley surrounded by mountain vistas, 30 miles north of Magdalena is the Alamo Navajo reservation, a chapter of the Navajo Nation. The community encompasses 63,000 acres in the northwest corner of Socorro County, an area that provides spectacular views of mountains, rolling hills and slanted mesas. Bordered on the south by the Gallinas Mountains, the landscape is dotted with chamizal and cactus, juniper and piñon trees.

Today, roughly 2,000 residents live on the reservation and many of them carry on the traditions and language passed down from their ancestors.

Sheep can be spotted grazing in secluded sections of the countryside, even on the north side of "Unnecessary Ridge" — so named in a previous era when it blocked access to a trading post. Shepherd markers still stand atop some peaks. Hogans and sweat lodges used for purification rituals remain

scattered on parts of the reservation.

Other evidence of the past can be found in petroglyphs painted on rock bordering the Rio Salada. Fossils millions of years old are embedded in rock, and shark teeth have been found scattered over some of the land's flat, rocky floor.

Alamo's Navajo name is T'iis Tsoh, after a cottonwood tree that marked a spring where the Diné coming back from their exile at Fort Sumner were attracted by the flowing spring and protective isolation of the area. That small band settled here rather than keep walking all the way to the big rez.

The Alamo people hold a celebration of their culture and customs each October. Alamo Indian Days are typically held the weekend before Indigenous People's Day. There's a parade, Indian market, pow-wow, traditional Navajo singing and drumming and dancing, lots of comfort food, arts and crafts and the Miss Alamo Indian



Pageant.

Isolation is felt to be the main drawback on the reservation. This has impacted socioeconomic conditions of the reservation and created gaps between Alamo and the Navajo Nation capital of Window Rock, Arizona, 220 miles northeast. Currently 56 percent of the population lives below the poverty level.

Alamo is served by KABR, 1500 AM radio, which provides information and entertainment

in both English and Navajo.

As a chapter of the Navajo Nation, Alamo is governed much like a state. The elected chapter members conduct monthly meetings to keep residents informed. Residents have a forum to express their opinions to their Navajo Nation Council Delegate or to decide on matters concerning their chapter.

For more information on Alamo, call the Chapter House at 575-854-2686.

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POLVADERA

You'd be hard pressed to find a more historic community than tiny Polvadera. Along with Socorro and Luis Lopez, they are the oldest documented "New World" settlements in Socorro County, dating back to the 17th Century.

In 1680, all of the people in the Socorro region, both Spanish settlers and the Piro Indians, abandoned their homes and pueblos and fled to El Paso at the beginning of the Pueblo Revolt. Families from Belen and Tomé were the first pioneers to venture back into the region in the early 1800s. The Piros never returned and settled in the Las Cruces area.

As late as 1846, the farming community lost a large number of livestock when a raiding party of up to 100 Navajo attacked the town.

The San Lorenzo Land Grant, upon which Polvadera is built, came to an end in 1898.

Upon New Mexico's 1912 statehood, the private land ownerships were honored; the rest of the grant became state land. Years later, ownership of San Lorenzo Canyon was transferred to the Bureau of Land Management and land along the river given to the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District.

To this day, many of the descendants of pioneer families in Polvadera believe some of their land was stolen from them and cite the Treaties of Hidalgo and Guadalupe as evidence.

The region was known for grapes and wine, however constant floods down the Rio Grande periodically destroyed thousands of acres of good farmland and vineyards.

Polvadera, like neighboring Lemitar, always was hard hit since so much of the farmland was only a few feet above the river level. Although the people of Polvadera seemed to always bounce back with their wines following a flood, it was Prohibition in 1920 that brought a centuries old industry in the area to an end.

A recent claim to fame came in 2020, when Clint Eastwood

brought a film crew to Polvadera to shoot scenes for the major motion picture Cry Macho.

The name Polvadera comes from the Spanish word polvoriento or pulverdero meaning "dusty" or "pulverized dirt." It is also believed the name Polvadera may be based on the name of an old Piro Indian pueblo in the area of a similar sounding name, pulvidero.



Local

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La Joya: Spanish for "the jewel," the area just across the Rio Grande from I-25 Sevilleta Wildlife Refuge off-ramp. Piro Indians inhabited it before the Spaniards came.

Lemitar: Six miles north of Socorro, the village of Lemitar derives its name from lemita, the berried squashbush abundant in the area when it was settled in the 1820s and 1830s. Lemitar was established in 1831 and has been the home for families and farmers ever since.

Luis Lopez: Settled in 1667, the farming community of Luis Lopez is named after Captain Luis López, who had a hacienda on the east bank of the Rio Grande, and served as alcalde mayor of the Piro Pueblo of Senecu. Although it had been abandoned after the Pueblo Revolt of 1680, the village of Luis Lopez appears to have been founded by the early to mid 1830s. Today, the community of Luis Lopez consists of farms and a small suburb.

Sabinal: Heading north from Abeytas on N.M. 116, the tiny community of Sabinal is the last stop before crossing into Bosque and Valencia County. Don Fernando de la Concha, governor in the late 1790s, established the idea of an Indian reservation long before the United States introduced the concept. The farming and ranching town sites on the west bank of the Rio Grande.

San Acacia: The town of San Acacia lies east of Alamilla, between I-25 and the Rio Grande. In the area, a black basalt butte that was the landmark on the traditional route El Camino Real carries the same name.

San Marcial: On the east side of the Rio Grande between what is now the Bosque del Apache Wildlife Refuge and Fort Craig. The town was buried in a flood in 1929. Today, there are a few scattered residents of San Marcial.

San Pedro: About a mile east of San Antonio is the small town of San Pedro. Listed as a ghost town, a few residents still live there.

Vegueta: The small community is located in a hilly area east of the Rio Grande in the northernmost part of Socorro County. Originally part of the land grant of Casa Colorado (sometimes Colorado).

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OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

With its serene and captivating landscape Socorro, Magdalena, San Antonio and the surrounding areas are pristine for those interested in hiking, biking and climbing.

For the mountain biking enthusiast, trails like Hop Canyon No. 25, Socorro Single-track and the Chupadera Crossing Loop offer riders of all skill levels a chance to get out and test their biking skills.

Socorro County has at least 11 trails rated

backcountry.

Box Canyon

For the avid hiker or climber, Socorro County also offers several options. For those interested in rock climbing, Box Canyon located five miles west of Socorro on Highway 60 is a popular and scenic spot. The area offers primitive camping and parking and spots for RV's, and is free and open to the public year round. The small canyon offers novice and experienced climbers several lines on

group picnic shelter fee \$25; reservations required. From I-25, take exit 152 east and continue north 1.4 miles at the bend in the road.

San Lorenzo Canyon

Located 15 miles north of Socorro. San Lorenzo Canyon is a popular hiking, camping and biking destination. The wide channel narrows to a spectacular high-walled canyon. Interesting side canyons, some with springs, allow for plenty of riding and hiking opportunities.

The road eventually ends at a rock pour-off, and an easy scramble up that pour-off affords the hiker a scenic walk farther up the canyon that features a perennial spring that waters the sand below.

To access the canyon, take the west frontage road from the Lemitar exit (mile 156) on Interstate 25 and continue roughly five miles to a well maintained dirt road to access San Lorenzo Canyon via a dry, sandy track that nearly any vehicle can navigate in good weather.

Ladron Peak

Ladron Peak is a rugged, 9,200-foot high double peaked and isolated mountain west of Bernardo. The rough and long cross country rumble goes up a rocky and slippery terrain and is suitable for experienced, strong hikers.

The Ladrones Mountain Range is rumored to have been a hiding place for bandits, as ladron is the Spanish word for robber. These days the summit presents a true challenge for hikers, and those who elect to attempt the hike are encouraged to study the Ladron Peak seven

minute quadrangle map located at the U.S. Geological Survey site before heading out.

To access one of the hike's jump off points exit I-25 at Bernardo (mile 175) 30 miles north of Socorro. Proceed southwest on old Highway 85 from Kiva RV Park, then cross the bridge over Rio Puerco. Take County Road 12 west from the locked gate, and around 22 miles later take another left and proceed half a mile to the water tank.



anywhere from a blue square to a black diamond to cater to bikers from novice to skilled.

Overall the county is home to more than 200 miles of established trails that beckon lovers of the outdoors through mountain forests, river valleys, canyons and deserts. Even more options for non-motorized off-trail exploration abound in the Bureau of Land Management and National forest

both the east and west faces, and fauna like big horned sheep can offer those interested in photography surreal photographic opportunities.

Escondida Lake

This lake/park offers fishing and camping, RV hookups, tent sites, bathrooms and potable water year round. Full hook-up sites (sewer, water, electricity) are \$18. Non hook-up sites are \$10, tent camping \$6,

Adventure

from PAGE 24

From there the hike to the peak is a steep and rigid three miles.

Again, this trail is for the experienced hiker.

Polvadera Peak

A popular destination for Socorro hikers is the 7,200-foot high Polvadera Peak located on BLM land northwest of Lemitar. The summit provides a pristine 360-degree view of the surrounding landscape including the Rio Grande Valley and several nearby mountain ranges.

The shortest and most convenient route to the peak begins at a microwave tower visible from the Lemitar exit off I-25.

From there head north on the west frontage road past Durkin Diesel to a chain link gate with a yellow BLM sign. GO left through that gate onto a dirt road suitable for most high clearance two-wheel drive vehicles, and head north following the power line road. Unless you own a vehicle suited for strenuous off-road use park at the tower and proceed on foot up the arroyo and up an old jeep track to a ridge just east of the actual peak.

Strawberry Peak

This is an eight to 10 mile hike to the top of the 7,100-foot high reddish volcano plug located between Polvadera Peak and 'M' Mountain. It ends with an arduous run to the top, but the scenic view and eccentric new-age memorabilia at the summit make the effort more than worthwhile. The only public access is via the Socorro Singletrack bike trail which heads northwest from East Road.

San Mateo Mountains

The huge and sparsely used San Mateo Mountain portion of the Cibola National Forest is still a part of the Magdalena Ranger District. While there are plenty of off-trail hiking opportunities in the region, a popular choice is Trail No. 43, which leads hikers from Springtime Campground to the summit of San Mateo Peak at an elevation of more than 10,000 feet. The summit offers views of the surrounding ranges and valleys below.

Springtime Campground is accessible from I-25 south of Socorro from old Highway 85. and Forest Road 225.



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SEVILLETA

Home to more than 1,200 species of plants, 251 species of birds, 89 species of mammals, 15 species of amphibians and 51 species of reptiles, Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge is the largest wildlife refuge in New Mexico, encompassing 230,000 acres of northern Socorro County. And with over 8.5 miles of hikeable trails there is plenty of room for visitors to explore.

Trails range from a half-mile to 3.5 miles beginning at the visitor's center. Those new or familiar to the area will have a unique experience every time they visit. Hikers walking along the trail will also see different species of cactus in bloom.

Interpretive panels line the trails, providing visitors with information about the vegetation on the refuge.

There is also the refuge's portion of San Lorenzo Canyon. It's possible to see elk — and even bighorn sheep — among the animal life there.

Wetlands on the refuge provide the habitat for endangered and threatened species along the Rio Grande such as the Rio Grande Silvery Minnow, the Southwestern Willow Flycatcher and the Yellow-billed Cuckoo.

There are also other opportunities to tour other areas of the refuge — especially if you join the Amigos de la Sevilleta, the refuge's friends group. The Amigos de la Sevilleta hosts tours and events on the refuge during various times of the year. The events include horseback rides, bird and canyon hikes, as well as opportunities for star, meteor and moon gazing. Tours are also offered to non-Amigos members.

Among the events held at the refuge includes the annual Butterfly Count. The

refuge is one of only two places in New Mexico where butterfly counts have been performed.

Other standard events include the San Lorenzo Canyon Geological Journey, the Life Givings Waters Wetlands guided tours, Bird Discovery and small game hunting. Visit their website at www.fws.gov/refuge/sevilleta/ for more information on activities.

Take exit 169 off of Interstate 25. The visitor's center is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment with a guide.



HAMMEL MUSEUM

At one time, Socorro was known for producing the best beer in New Mexico. The old brewery building still stands at the corner of Vigil and Sixth streets, and now is the home of Socorro Historical Society and the Hammel Museum. The Hammel family's Illinois Brewing Company began operations in the second half of the 1880s.

Jacob Hammel emigrated from Munich, Bavaria in 1848. He was accompanied by his friend Eberhard Anheuser, who started a brewery in St. Louis. Jacob wanted to start his own brewery across the river in Illinois; the Illinois Brewing Company in Lebanon, Illinois. The Hammel family eventually headed west and re-established the Illinois Brewing Company in Socorro in the early 1880s.

The Hammel Museum started out as a beer garden and progressed into a successful brewery. A June 16, 1893, Chieftain newspaper article

said the brewery produced "the best beer made anywhere in New Mexico."

Over its years of operation, the brewery evolved into an ice plant and soda bottling plant after Prohibition shut down beer production in 1919.

Although electric refrigerators were introduced in the 1920s, the ice plant continued to prosper. The Hammel brothers introduced cola drinks and bottled products for Pepsi Cola and 7-Up, as well as such beverages as Nesbitt and Grapette sodas.

Prohibition was repealed in 1933, but the brewery never went back to the brewing business.

In 1986, Clarence Hammel donated the brewery to the Socorro County Historical Society. The Historical Society has preserved the brewery as a museum, making it a "must see" attraction for visitors.

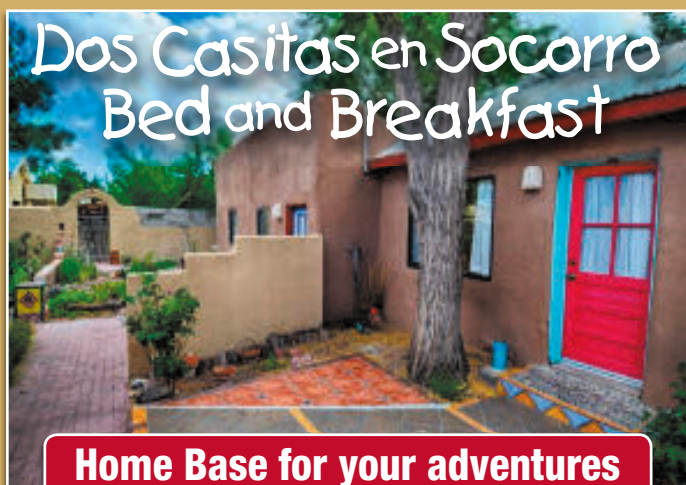
Eight rooms, each numbered, tell the history of the brewery that was a flourishing

business for nearly a century. From the main office, where Hammel conducted business, to the mash room where the beer was made, the museum is a remarkable piece of history.

The Hammel Museum has dedicated one of the rooms to an exhibit created by Jon Spargo and the Socorro Train Gang. The Train Gang has recreated the feel of a historic train depot and has numerous

artifacts and photos illustrating railroad history in Socorro County. In an upstairs room is an electric train layout with diverse landscapes and historical sites.

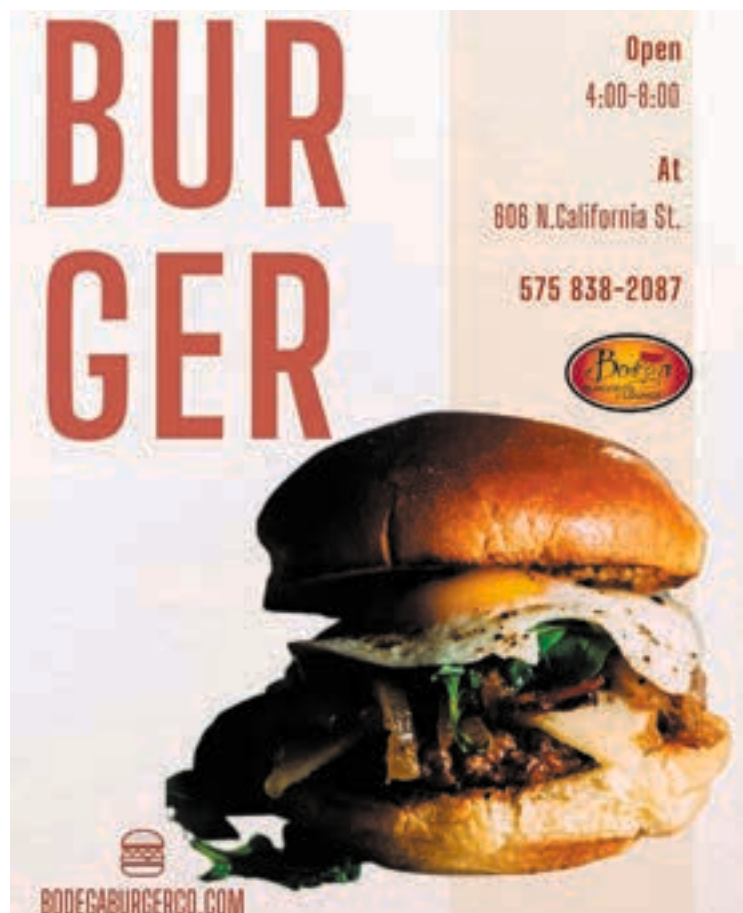
The museum is open the first Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information, contact the Socorro County Historical Society at 575-835-3183 or visit www.socorrohistory.org.



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MINERAL MUSEUM

Socorro has a treasure chest at the corner of Bullock Avenue and Leroy Place, but it's not filled with the likes of pearls or jewels or gold coins. The chest is, instead, a museum and the treasure is one of the most unique collections of rocks and minerals in the United States.

So rare is the collection it was given the honorary title "Coronado's Treasure Chest" by the New Mexico Cuarto-Centennial Commission in 1939. Gold, silver, and precious gems, the objects of the Conquistador's travels and travails, glitter on glass shelves next to other spectacular mineral forms.

The Mineral Museum in the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources' building on the New Mexico Tech campus is a rockhoulder's dream and features more than 15,000 specimens, with a special emphasis on minerals found in New Mexico.

Highlights include a collection of gold, silver and precious gems as well as excellent samples of the rare Smithsonite from the Kelly Mine at Magdalena and a stunning ultraviolet mineral exhibit.

Historic tools and equipment used in the mining industry throughout time are



displayed in the main gallery. Other exhibits include meteorites; fossils; thematic displays illustrating the mineral wealth from the Las Cruces, Silver City, Bingham, Magdalena, Golden, Dixon and Grants areas; and more.

Visitors may also purchase particular specimens. Proceeds from the sales are used to purchase new materials for the museum.

In addition to the display gallery, the Mineral Museum maintains a large reference collection for scientific research. Access to the reference collection can be arranged by contacting the museum curator, mineralogist Kelsey McNamara.

One of the museum's missions is to help members of the general public identify rocks and minerals.

"If you find an interesting rock, bring it to me. It's part of my job description," Director Virgil Lueth said. "The museum serves as an inspiration to people devoted to rockhounding."

The annual New Mexico Mineral Symposium is held each year in November. This annual forum held at the Macey Center is for both professionals and amateurs interested in mineralogy.

The Bureau of Geology is located at the corner of Bullock Ave. and Leroy Place. Open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call 575-835-5490 or visit geoinfo.nmt.edu/museum/.



TRINITY SITE

Ground zero of the first atomic bomb.

The Trinity Site, on what is now White Sands Missile Range in the southeastern portion of Socorro County, is where the nuclear age was born on July 16, 1945. That morning, at 5:29:45 a.m. Mountain War Time, the successful testing of the atomic bomb marked the beginning of the end of World War II.

From a list of eight potential test sites in California, Texas, New Mexico and Colorado, what was to become known as the Trinity Site in Socorro County was chosen. The area was already controlled by the government since it was part of the Alamogordo Bombing and Gunnery Range, which was established in 1942 as the U.S. Army's artillery and bombing practice area. The Chihuahuan Desert provided isolation for secrecy and safety, but was still only about 230 miles from the Manhattan Project's headquarters at Los Alamos.

The 51,500-acre area was declared a national historic landmark in 1975. The landmark includes ground zero where the bomb exploded; the base camp where scientists and support staff were housed; the remains of one of the tower columns; and the Schmidt/McDonald ranch house south of the site where the core of the bomb was assembled. In addition, one of the old instrumentation bunkers is still visible beside the road just west of ground zero.

The bomb had been three years in the making.

Although what had taken place at Trinity Site was not revealed until after the weapon was used against Japan, the explosion was felt 160 miles away and windows were broken out as far as 120 miles away. Army officials told the public that a munitions storage area had accidentally exploded at the Alamogordo Bombing Range. Many residents of nearby San Antonio and Socorro still remember that morning, when the ground shook and the sky turned red.

A monument and various artifacts associated with the test are available for viewing, such as a sample of Trinitite, a glass-like substance left behind when the sand fused together from the heat of the blast. Trinitite contains several radioactive elements and is an alpha and beta particle emitter.

Radiation levels at ground zero are low — only 10 times greater than the

region's natural background radiation, on average. A one-hour visit to the inner fenced area will result in a whole body exposure of one-half to one millirem. To put this in perspective, a U.S. adult receives an average of 360 millirems every year from natural and medical sources.

Trinity Site is open twice a year to the public for a walk-through visit, on the first Saturday of April and October. There is no admission fee for this event, and no reservations are required. Visitors must have a

REAL ID card, passport or military ID to enter.

From Socorro visitors can enter through White Sands Missile Range's Stallion Range Center, which is five miles south of Highway 380. The turnoff is 12 miles east of San Antonio. The Stallion gate will be open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visitors arriving at the gate between those hours will receive handouts and will be allowed to drive unescorted the 17 miles to Trinity Site. The road is paved and marked.



AGRICULTURE

From raising cattle on the prairies to growing alfalfa and chile along fertile river areas, agriculture in Socorro County continues much like it was in the days of the Old West when small farms and ranches dotted the Rio Grande.

Ranching consumes approximately 60 percent of the landmass in the county, with cattle production playing a big part. Beef production in the county dates back to the 1860s and many of those original families are still ranching on the same land.

Being the second largest county in the state of New Mexico, agriculture in Socorro is wide-ranging. Chile and alfalfa are two of the largest crops raised, along with a variety of others such as corn, sudan grass, oats and winter wheat rotated in and out. Socorro County farmers also produce both green and red chiles, including more than five varieties ranging from mild to extra hot.

Residents and visitors alike say there's nothing better than the smell of fresh green chile being roasted at local roadside produce stands in August and September. At least one chile roaster can be found at Socorro's Farmers Market in late summer.

There are also over a dozen dairies located at the northern end of the county.

The outdoor Farmers' Market season begins in mid-June and ends in late October. Vendors can be found selling their wares

every Tuesday, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., and every Saturday, from 8 a.m. until noon, on the Historic Plaza in Socorro.

The indoor Winter Market operates from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. every Saturday from November through February, at the Youth Center on Ake Street.

Satellite markets spring up from late July to late October in Magdalena and on the Alamo Navajo Reservation.



FORT CRAIG

For a glimpse into what it may have been like for a U.S. Cavalry soldier in the middle of the 19th century, a visit to the Fort Craig National Historic Site, 32 miles south of Socorro, may fill the bill. Named in honor of Mexican-American War casualty Captain Louis S. Craig, Fort Craig was established in 1854 and like other military outposts of its day was built to protect travel routes and settlements from Indian attacks. Fort Craig played a crucial role in Indian campaigns and in the settlement of the American frontier. Military excursions from Fort Craig pursued such notable Apache leaders as Geronimo, Victorio and Nana.

The location was chosen to guard both El Camino Real and the Jornada del Muerto, both of which were primary links between the Mexican port of Vera Cruz and cities of Albuquerque and Santa Fe.

Early on the fort was one of

the largest and most important frontier forts in the West. Set in the rugged beauty of Socorro County, it was one of the eight forts situated along the primary north-south road in the Rio Grande Valley.

The fort was home to Buffalo Soldiers of the 9th Cavalry and 38th and 125th Infantry, the predominantly Hispanic New Mexico Volunteers and New Mexico Militia, and household names like Kit Carson, Rafael Chacón and Captain Jack Crawford.

The fort is famous for the Civil War Battle of Valverde in 1862, the largest Civil War battle in New Mexico.

In 1885, with the Indian Wars essentially over, the fort was permanently closed. Nine years later it was sold at auction to the only bidder. It was later donated to the Archeological Conservancy and was transferred to the Bureau of Land Management in 1981, but nearly a century of looters, scavengers and nature have

taken their toll on the site.

What remains of the fort can be seen at the BLM-

managed site, off Exit 115 on Interstate 25.



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Corner of California & Winkler

SAN MIGUEL MISSION

Founded as a tiny mission by two Franciscan priests traveling with Don Juan Oñate in 1598, San Miguel Catholic Church could rightfully claim to be one of the oldest churches in the United States. Oñate was leading a caravan of Spanish soldiers and colonists up the Jornada del Muerto, which became known as El Camino Real.

The church - initially built over the mission's original foundation in 1615 - gave the city of Socorro its name after it was recognized by the Catholic Church as the Nuestra Senora del Socorro (Our Lady of Perpetual Help) mission. For the last 406 years it has been seen as the center of the community. The main body of the church, which is the part built between 1615 and 1626, seats about 250 people, although many more would attend services in the early 1880s when there were no pews and the people either stood or knelt on the floor. In 1853 another wing was built onto the church and this accommodates another 150.

The mission was abandoned during the Pueblo Revolt of 1680, and because of repeated Apache raids it was a few years before the church was restored, eventually being renamed to honor the Archangel St. Michael under miraculous circumstances.

The church's priest, Father John Anasiudu, refers to San Miguel

OLD SAN MIGUEL MISSION

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We strive to bring people closer to God



Church built between 1615-1621

403 El Camino Real
Socorro, NM 87801

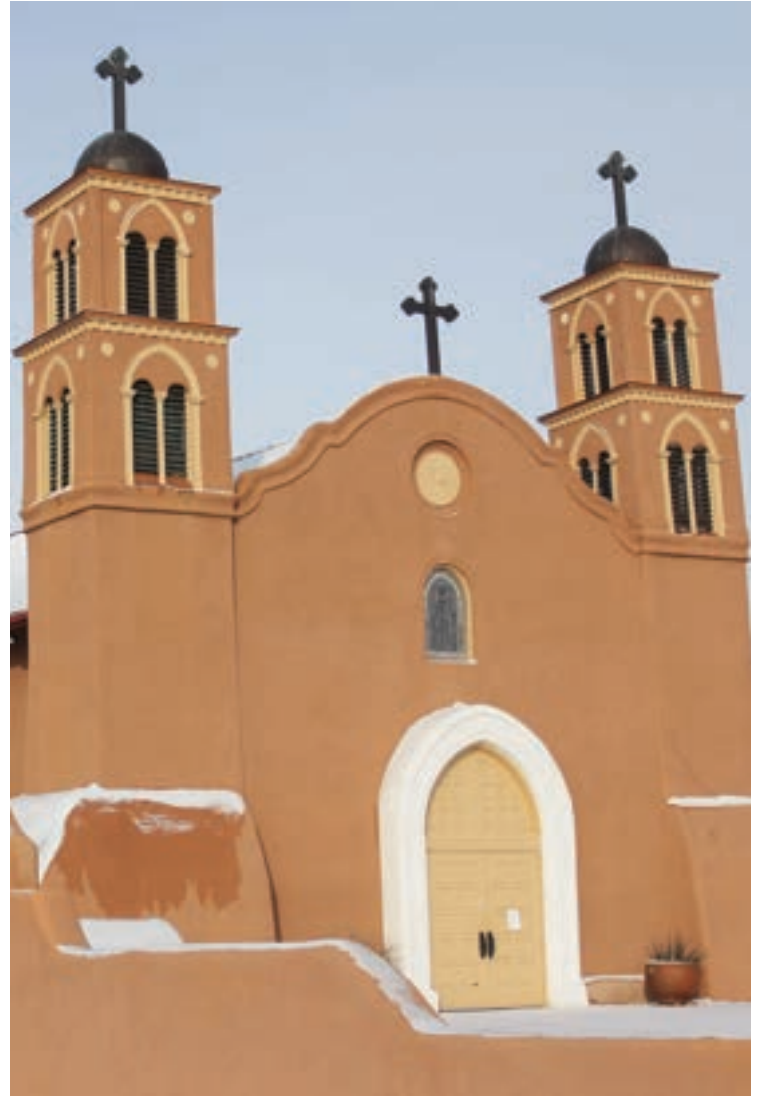
Phone: (575) 835-2891

Fax: (575) 835-1620

Email: smiguel@sdcc.org



www.sdcc.org/~smiguel/



Mission as the mother church of Socorro County, and it represents the faith and life of the Catholic Church.

Founded 421 years ago, San Miguel has 850 registered parishioners and oversees the area mission churches — Polvadera, San Antonio, Magdalena, Lemitar, Luis Lopez (the Mission of San Jose), Alamillo, Riley, Kelly, and the Newman Center on School of Mines Road near New Mexico Tech.

A three-day San Miguel Fiesta is held every fall to raise money to pay for the church's insurance.

SOCORRO COUNTY CHURCHES

Socorro

Calvary Chapel

802 Mitchell Ave
575-838-9535
<http://ccsocorro.com/>

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

1112 El Camino Real
575-835-0570

El Buen Pastor (Pentecostal)

1009 park St

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany

908 Leroy Pl
575-835-1818
<https://www.epiphany-net.org/>

Family Christian Center

1016 Fowler
575-835-0185
<http://www.fccsocorro.org/>

First Baptist Church

203 Spring St.
575-835-0041
<https://www.firstbaptistsocorro.com/>

First Presbyterian Church

304 McCutcheon
575-835-0942
<https://www.1stpressocorro.org/#home>

Hope Lutheran Church

908 Leroy Pl
605-949-1353

Jehovah's Witnesses

922 Ake Ave.
575-838-2049

Saint Paul United Methodist

1000 Goad St.
<http://spumc-socorro.org/>

San Miguel Catholic Church

403 El Camino Real
575-835-2891
<https://catholicmasstime.org/church/san-miguel/17124/>
including missions: San Lorenzo in Polvadera, San Antonio in Luis Lopez, La Sagrada Familia in Lemitar, San Jose in Luis Lopez, San Antonio in Alamillo

Socorro Baptist Church

1301 Fairgrounds Rd.
575-835-3306
<https://socorrobapti.wordpress.com>

Socorro Bilingual Church (Seventh Day Adventist)

218 Garfield
<https://socorrobilingualnm.adventistchurch.org/>

Socorro Church of Christ

1001 El Camino Real
(575) 838-7235
<https://socorrochurchofchrist.com/>

Socorro Unitarian Universalist

908 Leroy Pl
575-838-7114
<http://uuabq.com/branches/socorro/>

Magdalena

Community Church (Presbyterian)

Main St. and 4th St
575-854-2364

First Baptist

902 Kelly St.
575-854-2389

St. Mary Magdalene

204 Elm
<https://catholicmasstime.org/church/san-miguel/17124/>

San Antonio

Glory Bound Independent

Baptist Church
29 Pino St
575-518-8200
<https://www.facebook.com/Glory-Bound-independent-Baptist-Church-311404219275121/>

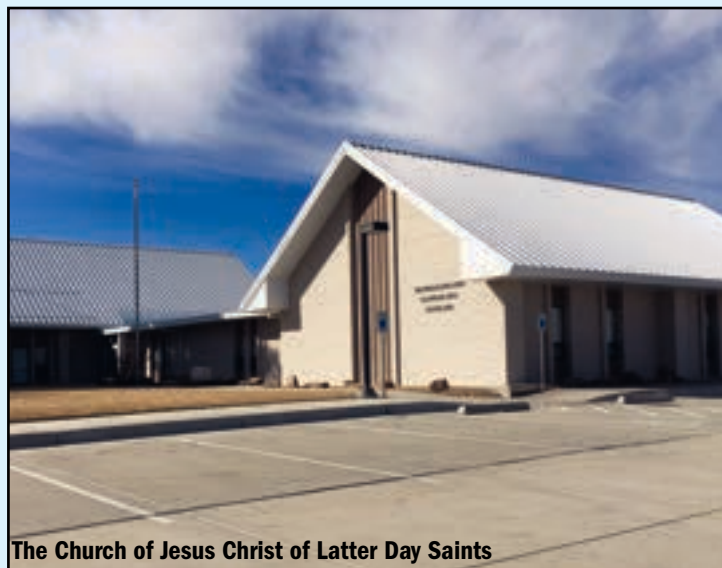
Veguita

Chihuahua Bible Chapel

505-550-4328
1 Carlos Martinez Rd
<https://www.chihuahuabiblechapel.com/>

San Juan Mission Church

1317 Hwy 304
<https://olslajoyanm.org/>



The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints



First Presbyterian Church



First Baptist Church

NEW MEXICO TECH

In 1889, Socorro was a mining boom town, wild, raucous, and, at a population of about 4,500, one of the largest towns in New Mexico. The Territorial Legislature, wanting to boost New Mexico's economy, decided to found a School of Mines to train young mining engineers, and Socorro was the ideal location.

Heralded as one of the premier research universities in the United States, New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology - referred to informally as New Mexico Tech - was founded as the New Mexico School of Mines. As the largest employer in the county, it is an important economic cornerstone to the area in addition to being a provider of world-class education.

With a student body around 2,000, graduate and undergraduate degrees are offered in biology, engineering, math, physics, astronomy, computer science, earth sciences, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering and more.

New Mexico Tech is well known among scientists, engineers and corporations, and that reputation gives Tech graduates an advantage in the job market, often with higher-paying salaries. A finding released by the U.S. Department of Education showed that four year graduates of the university earn an average salary higher than all other institutions of higher learning in New Mexico.

Sometimes referred to, in jest, as a "research institution with a university attached," the university has more than a dozen research divisions that allow for ground-breaking science to be conducted, rivaling research at much larger universities. New Mexico Tech has also been referred to as the "MIT of the Southwest."

The largest research division at New Mexico Tech is the Energetic Materials Research and Testing Center, which also conducts anti-terrorism training and land mine detection. Socorro residents are accustomed to earthshaking explosions and deep booms coming from the center's 40-square-mile field laboratory surrounding 'M' Mountain. EMRTC has the ability to conduct tests involving over 20,000 pounds of explosives. EMRTC has also been a favorite setting for the television series "Mythbusters," whose hosts and crew made several trips to Socorro.

The Magdalena Ridge Observatory and Interferometer on South Baldy Mountain in the Magdalena Mountains provide cutting edge astronomical research opportunities. Langmuir

■ See **Tech**, Page 35



PERFORMING ARTS SERIES

Deemed the “coolest” program in Socorro, New Mexico Tech’s Performing Arts Series brings the local community together and has something for everyone who is interested in music, theater, dance and more.

The dozen shows, as well as the five free concerts, are chosen each year with a little bit of everything in interest.

Shows are always a big hit in Socorro, with hundreds of people of all ages and from all backgrounds populating the audience. And because of the wide variety of performances, more and more people from the surrounding area - Los Lunas, Belen, Truth or Consequences and Bosque Farms - are attending shows.

The Performing Arts Series has been described as a jewel in the desert, and both performers and audience members agree that it brings in some of the best performance variety in the region.

PAS’s community involve-

ment includes a huge July 4 celebration with music, family activities and a spectacular fireworks display. New Mexico Tech also supports the PAS with the Presidential Chamber Music Series, hosted by violinist Willy Sucre who performs with string quartets, piano sextets and piano quartets.

PAS is partnered with the Socorro Consolidated School District, Magdalena Schools and Alamo Navajo School board to bring educational youth performances and workshops to all of the communities.

For those looking for entertainment before the show, Tech Club Macey is a social gathering opportunity held prior to each show with food and drinks for those who are 21 and older.



Tech

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Lightning Lab, also on South Baldy, is a world-class facility for studying thunderstorms and other atmospheric phenomena.

While education and research are top-notch at Tech, other opportunities for students and community members exist in abundance. The school has clubs and organizations catering to such interests as rock climbing, caving, off-road cycling, dancing, rugby, storm chasing and more.

The school’s rugby team ranks high nationally. New Mexico Tech Men’s rugby competed in the National Collegiate Rugby Final Four in 2021 and finished in the runner-up spot during the collegiate rugby championship game.

The Performing Arts Series at Tech brings musicians and artists from around the world to the Macey Center, where more than a dozen shows are performed each year for students and the public at large.

Tech’s year-round swimming pool and full-featured gym are available to students and faculty. The university’s outdoor facilities include a rock-climbing wall, tennis courts and intramural fields.

Tech also offers classes to the general public through its Community College program.



ON THE GREEN

The New Mexico Tech Golf Course has been named one of America's best Golf Destinations by Golf Digest, as well as one of the 10 best courses in the state of New Mexico.

Located just west of the Tech campus, the course is 18 holes with the front and back nine being separated by Canyon Drive. A driving range that can accommodate up to twenty golfers at a time is attached next to the clubhouse.

Known for its rolling hills and changes in elevation, the New Mexico Tech Golf Course is generally considered shorter by golf standards, allowing visiting players to work on their short and mid range game. But do not be mistaken, coming to play will require your full set of clubs with the variety of holes surrounding you.

Three of the 18 holes at New Mexico Tech are par fives. Starting on the front nine is a 457 yard challenge which is a full 100 yards shorter than the longest hole on No. 5. At a daunting 559 yards and its right dog-leg turn players must decide to play it safe by laying up or shoot for the stars over a treacherous patch of desert terrain.

The course measures in at 6,668 yards, is a par 72 in total, carries a 71.0 rating at a slope of 129 for gentlemen, and a 69.7 rating at a slope of 125 for ladies.

A nationally regarded golf challenge also resides at New Mexico





NEW MEXICO TECH
COMMUNITY EDUCATION

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 <p>Outdoor Recreation Beginning Rock Climbing Camping Bouldering Performance Climbing Backpacking Hiking</p>	 <p>Music and Lifestyle Piano Beginning Strings Vocal Studio Wine Tasting</p>

NMT Community Education has something for everyone!!

Tech. Known as the Elfego Baca Shootout, the course boasts a one hole par-15 throwdown that begins at the top of a hill next to "M" Mountain. Golfers begin by hitting off of a wooden platform at 7,284 feet above sea level and must make their way down to town while maintaining awareness of where their ball has landed.

Before or after your round the "M" Mountain Grill next to the pro shop is the perfect place to wind down and take in the afternoon sunset. Serving mostly American style foods, a variety of beers are available depending on your taste. Both indoor and covered outdoor seating is provided.

For more information, call 575-835-5335 or visit their website at www.nmtgolf.com.

New Mexico Tech Directory

Office of Admissions
575-835-5424
admission@nmt.edu

Center for Graduate Studies
575-835-5513
graduate@nmt.edu

Registrar's Office
575-835-5133
registrar@nmt.edu

Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources
<https://geoinfo.nmt.edu/>
575-835-5490

EMRTC (Energetic Materials Research and Testing Center)
<http://www.emrtc.nmt.edu/>
575-835-5312

Langmuir Laboratory
<http://langmuir.nmt.edu/>
575-835-5423

Etscorn Campus Observatory
<https://www.nmt.edu/research/organizations/eco.php>

Skeen Library
<https://www.nmt.edu/library/>
575-835-5614

Swim Center
<https://www.nmt.edu/physrec/pool.php>
575-835-5221

Gymnasium
<https://www.nmt.edu/physrec/>

Performing Arts Series (PAS)
<https://nmtpas.org/about/>
575-835-5688

NMT Golf Course
<https://www.nmt.edu/golf/>
#1 Canyon Road, Socorro
575-835-5335
nmtgolfcourse@gmail.com

Magdalena Ridge Observatory (MRO)
<http://www.mro.nmt.edu/>

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NEW MEXICO PETROLEUM RECOVERY RESEARCH CENTER
Dr. Robert Balch
Director
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email: robert.balch@nmt.edu

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801 Leroy Place
Socorro, NM 87801
Phone: 575-835-6581
Leslie Rosenthal, Continuing Education Coordinator: leslie.rosenthal@nmt.edu
<https://www.nmt.edu/ce/index.php>



Socorro County Government

Socorro County Commissioners

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575-835-0589 x1111
jgonzales@co.socorro.nm.us

District 2: Craig Secatero, Vice Chairman
575-517-6843
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District 3: Manuel Anaya,
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District 4: Glen Duggins
Voting Precincts 12, 18, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22,
23, 25
Phone: 575-835-0589 x1114
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glend@co.socorro.nm.us

District 5: Ray Martinez, Chairman
Voting Precinct 4, 5, 11, 13, 14
Phone: 575-835-0589 x1115
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rmartinez@co.socorro.nm.us

County Manager

Appointed by the Commission as the chief
executive officer of the County
Michael Hawkes
210 Park Street
575-835-0589

Jennifer Montoya
Executive Assistant to the Manager
575-835-0589 x1104

Socorro County Assessor (elected)

Julie Griego
200 Church Street
575-835-0714

Socorro County Clerk (elected)

Betty Saavedra
200 Church Street
575-835-0423 x2505

Socorro County Treasurer's Office (elected)

Rose Mary Rosas
200 Church Street
575-835-1701



Socorro County Community Alternatives Program & DWI Misdemeanor Compliance Office

jgonzalez@co.socorro.nm.us

El Camino Real Housing Authority

Mary Ann Chavez Lopez
301 Otero Avenue East
575-835-0196

Socorro City Government

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Lena Chavez
Administrative Assistant/Assistant City
Administrator
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Leopoldo (Polo) Pineda, Jr.
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Director, Grants Administrator
575-838-7524
ppineda@socorronm.gov

Donald Monette
City Treasurer/Administrator
575-838-7526

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Gail Tripp
198 Neal Ave (County Annex Building)
575-835-2029
grogers@co.socorro.nm.us

Jerry Wheeler
Emergency Coordinator
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jwheeler@co.socorro.nm.us

Elaine Briggs
GIS Specialist/Rural Addresser
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etorres@co.socorro.nm.us

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County Program Director
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emferr@nmsu.edu

Jose Gonzalez
Animal Control/Ordinance Officer
575-835-2029 x1207

Socorro Public Schools

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Michael Hargather
Pauline Jaramillo
Sharon Sessions
Tara Jaramillo

Administration

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Assistant Superintendent
Denise Cannon
(575) 838-3127
Executive Director of Personal
Kimberly D. Ortiz
(575) 838-3124

Schools

Socorro High School, 9-12
1200 Michigan Ave.
PO Box 1367, Socorro, NM 87801
(575)-835-0700
Principal Staci March

Sarracino Middle School
1425 El Camino Real Street
(575)-835-0283

Parkview Elementary, Pre-K-5
107 Francisco de Avondo, Socorro, NM
87801, 575-835-1086
Principal Laurie Ocampo
(575)-838-2541

Midway Elementary, K-5
9 Midway Rd., Polvadera, NM, 87828
(575)-835-1098
Head Teacher Julie Romero

San Antonio Elementary, K-5
Fourth St, San Antonio, NM, 87832
(575)-835-1758
Head Teacher JohnRay Dennis

Magdalena Public Schools

Magdalena Municipal School District
PO Box 24
201 Duggins, Magdalena, N.M., 87825
(575)-854-2241

Administration

Superintendent Dr. Glenn Haven

Board of Education

Lynn Major, president; Sharon Harris, vice president; Kayla Kersey, secretary; Kelby Stephens and Brett Bruton

Charter School

Cottonwood Valley Charter School K-8
201 Neel St. Socorro, NM 87801
(575) 838-2026
Principal Shannon Aguilar

Alamo Schools

Alamo Navajo School Board, Inc.
PO Box 5907, Alamo, NM 87825
(575)-854-2543

Directors

Raymond Apachito Sr., president; John Apachito Jr., vice president; directors, Steve Guerro, Charlotte Guerro

There also is an Early Childhood Center funded collaboratively with Head Start and Child Care Development Block Grants to serve children 0-5 years of age and their families.

SOCORRO'S



ART PLACE

Featuring Local Artisans: Paintings, Photography,
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Glass Ware, Wood Craft, Books,
El Camino Real Historic Trail Paraje,
Alamo Gallery & Gifts on FaceBook www.socorrocountyarts.com
Open Mon. 10-1; Wed., Thurs., Fri. 11:30-5:30; Sat. 11:30-2:30
1008 N. California St., Socorro, NM 87801, 575-835-ARTS



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Emergency number: 911
Non-emergency: 575-835-4222

Mike Winders, Chief
407 Center St



Socorro, New Mexico 87801
575-835-1883

Fire
Emergency number: 911
Non-emergency: 575-838-4764

Lawrence Baca, Chief
202 Fisher Street
Socorro, NM 87801
575-835-3969
575-838-4764
sfd@socorronm.gov

Recreation/Youth Center Director
CLOSED DUE TO COVID
575-838-7537

Rodeo Director
Mike Alderete
575-838-7517
tourism@socorronm.gov

Tourism Director
Josh McNeil
jmcneil@socorronm.gov
Socorro Heritage and Visitors Center
217 Fisher Avenue
Monday-Friday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
(575) 835-8927

**Library Board
(Six-Year Terms)**
Patrick Sylvester, President (2023)
William Stone, Vice-President (2024)
Penny Lommen (2024)
Donald Padilla (2024)

Magdalena Government

Village Hall
108 N. Main Street
<https://www.villageofmagdalena.com/home.html>
575-854-2261

Mayor Richard “ZW” Rumpf
Magdalena, NM 87825
575-854-2261
mayor@villageofmagdalena.com

Board of Trustees
James C. Nelson,
Mayor Pro-Tem
jcnelson@villageofmagdalena.com

Donna Dawson
ddawson@villageofmagdalena.com

Harvan Conrad
hconrad@villageofmagdalena.com

Clark Brown
cbrown@villageofmagdalena.com

Municipal Judge
Honorable Judge Simon Armijo
106 S. Main Street
Magdalena, NM 87825
575-854-2602

Marshal's Office
106 S. Main St
Magdalena, NM 87825

Non-emergency phone 575-854-2493

Volunteer Fire Department

700 First Street
575-854-3268 - Office
575-418-7348 - Chief Cody Kersey
575-517-7001 - Assistant
Chief Jim Nelson
Emergency 911

Water, Sewer/Waste Water Department

Village Hall
575-854-2561
utilities@villageofmagdalena.com
In case of an after-hours emergency please
call 575-517-6790

Alamo

The Alamo Navajo School Board is a non-profit Indian organization controlled by a five-member Board of Trustees elected under the election code of the Navajo Nation.

The School Board oversees the tribally controlled K-12 school, a contracted Clinic, a Head Start Program, Community Services, Wellness Center, radio station, Forestry program, Facilities, Transportation, and Administration.

ANSB employs over 250 people.

Administration: 575-854-2543
Clinic: 575-854-2626

New Mexico House of Representatives, District 49

Gail "Missy" Armstrong
Address: P.O. Box 326
Magdalena, NM 87825
Capitol Phone: (505) 986-4227
Capitol Room: 203A
Office Phone:
Home Phone: (505) 269-2364
Email: gail@gailfornewmexico.com

U.S. House New Mexico District 2

Yvette Herrell
Las Cruces Office
4440 Sonoma Ranch Blvd
Suite B
Las Cruces, NM 88011
Phone: (575) 323-6390

Washington DC Office
1305 Longworth House Of-
fice Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-2365
Fax: (202) 225-9599

U.S. Senate

Ben Ray Lujan
Washington, DC Office
498 Russell Senate Office
Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: 202-224-6621

Fax: 202-224-3370

Las Cruces Office
201 North Church Street
Suite 201B
Las Cruces, NM 88001

Martin Heinrich
Albuquerque Office
400 Gold Avenue SW, Ste. 1080
Albuquerque, N.M. 87102
p: (505) 346-6601
f: (505) 346-6780



City of Socorro Transportation Department



Hours of Service within City Limits:
Monday – Friday
8:45 am – 4:00 pm

SCHEDULE YOUR RIDE IN ADVANCE:
575-835-1501

www.socorronm.gov
click on "Public Transportation"



FARES

City Limits 50¢
Seniors, Students and Those with
Disabilities 25¢

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday – Friday
8:00 am – 12:00 noon &
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Closed Weekends and Holidays

**Purchase PASSES at the
Transportation Office**

RAIL RUNNER EXPRESS SHUTTLE FARES:

All Shuttle Rides – \$2.25
DISCOUNT PASSES:
10-Ride Pass – \$17.50
2-Ride Pass – \$ 3.50

**PLEASE HAVE EXACT CHANGE
DRIVERS DO NOT CARRY CASH**

201 Church Street | Socorro, New Mexico 87801

Socorro County by the Numbers

Location:

The county seat is Socorro: latitude 34°3'42"N, longitude 106°53'58"W.

Distance from Socorro to:

Albuquerque	76 miles
Santa Fe	139 miles
Las Cruces	146 miles
Reserve	129 miles
Truth or Consequences	73 miles
Silver City	160 miles
White Sands National Monument	148 miles
Carlsbad Caerns National Park	260 miles

Highways:

Interstate 25 runs north and south through Socorro. US Highway 60 runs east and west through Socorro. US 380 runs east from I-25 in San Antonio. State Highway 1 runs from Socorro south, paralleling I-25.

Elevation:

At Socorro, 4579 ft.
At Magdalena, 6572 ft.
At Alamo 6184 ft.



County Zip Codes:

(all unincorporated communities except Socorro and Magdalena)

87831 Alamillo	87823 Lemitar
87825 Alamo	87825 Magdalena
87832 Bingham	87828 Polvadera
87011 Claunch	87831 San Acacia
87028 La Joya & Contreras	87832 San Antonio
87062 Las Nutrias	87801 Socorro
	87062 Veguita

Employment in Socorro County

Civilian employed population 16 years and over	2,988
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining:	12
Construction:	59
Manufacturing:	112
Retail trade:	438
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities:	58
Information:	6
Finance and insurance, real estate and rental and leasing:	75
Professional, scientific and technical services:	223
Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services	43
Educational services	297
Health care and social assistance	924
Accommodation and food services	573
Other services, except public administration:	100

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019



Rodeo The Socorro County Rodeo and Sports Complex is a premier destination for local and national competition in New Mexico. The arena opened in 2017 and boasts a 39,000 square foot soft dirt area for competitors, with an estimated seating capacity of 1,500.



County Fair The Socorro County Fair is a Labor Day weekend tradition that includes professional rodeos, exhibits, music, games, judged art, quilting and canning. Don't miss the ever popular chainsaw competition.



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Quemado 773-4500	Magdalena 854-2854	Socorro 835-3535
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- Carry out
- Drive Thru



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**105 Bullock St.
Socorro, NM 87801**

(575) 835-0022



Community Arts Party The annual Community Arts Party is a free arts and crafts extravaganza organized by New Mexico Tech's Performing Arts Series. The 2022 event was conducted in February.



Striders and Riders A Socorro based community organization, Striders and Riders hosts running, biking and triathlon events in the area, like this Youth Splash and Dash in 2021. Website: stridersandrider.blogspot.com



Community Gardens Socorro County boasts three community gardens, two in the city of Socorro and one in Alamo. Along with making fresh produce locally available, the gardens have also hosted events on topics from mental health to beekeeping. Socorro's gardens are located at 905 Bullock Ave. and 1002 Ake Ave., while Alamo's garden is next to the running track behind the Wellness Center.



Fiber Arts Guild The Socorro Fiber Arts Guild celebrates crafting and handiwork of all types. Members sew, quilt, knit, crochet, spin and weave.

STAYING HEALTHY

Each of Socorro County's sizeable communities boasts its own health clinic: Magdalena, Alamo Navajo Reservation, and of course, Socorro.

Socorro County health services provide healthcare in a rural setting with big-city-standards. Nearly all of the area's medical needs can be met in the County.

Socorro General Hospital has a substantial number of physicians on staff whose specialties range from podiatry, obstetrics and rehabilitation services to mental health. Socorro County has more than a dozen physicians practicing here. Nurses, dentists, optometrists, chiropractors also are key elements in Socorro County healthcare.

Socorro General Hospital is the cornerstone to our local healthcare system. It is an accredited, modern, 24-bed Critical Access hospital that provides high-quality medical services to the Socorro

community and surrounding region. It includes a modern emergency department and a helicopter landing pad to allow rapid medical air transportation for high acuity cases. In addition the facility provides comprehensive outpatient and inpatient medical services, including traditional care such as surgery and obstetrics, diagnostic care such as MRIs and CAT scans, rehabilitation care such as respiratory therapy and physical therapy and preventive care such as osteoporosis imaging and hematology. It also offers home health care and hospice services and is staffed by highly qualified and caring professionals.

The hospital is the pride of the Socorro County community and includes a staff that works together to provide friendly, caring, high quality healthcare to all who pass through its doors. SGH is a non-profit affiliate of Presbyterian Healthcare Services based in Albuquerque, New Mexico.



YOMAMA'S GRILL

Monday - Friday
11AM-8:30PM

YOMAMASGRILL.COM

913 N. California St
Socorro, NM

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802 HWY 60, Magdalena, NM 87825

Text: 941-376-0910

Email: 802ARTWORKS@gmail.com

802Artworks-Gifts.com

Health Care

Socorro General Hospital
1202 Highway 60 West
PO Box 1009
Socorro, New Mexico 87801
575-835-1140
<https://socorro-general-hospital.phs.org/>

Alamo Health Services
PO Box 5907 Alamo, NM 87825
575.854.2543
<https://www.ansbi.org/divisions/health-services>

Bhasker Medical Clinic
200 Neel Ave
Socorro, NM 87801
(575) 835-2940

Magdalena Health Clinic
801 Tenth Street
Magdalena, New Mexico 87825
575-854-3162
<http://www.pmsnm.org/locations/magdalena-area-health-center>

Presbyterian Medical Group
1202 Highway 60 West, Building D
Socorro, NM 87801
(575) 838-4690
<https://www.phs.org/doctors-services/Pages/pmg-directory.aspx>

Socorro Community Health Center
1300 Enterprise Rd
(575) 835-4444
<http://www.pmsnm.org/locations/socorro-community-health-center>

Socorro Public Health Department
214 Neel Ave #4699
Socorro, NM 87801
Phone: (575) 835-4760

Acupuncture, Herbal Medicine
Desert Herbs
Jeanne Dixon
205B School of Mines Rd.
Socorro, New Mexico 87801
(575) 835-4787
<https://desertherbalsllc.com/>

Chiropractic
Goforth Chiropractic
826 Hwy 60, Socorro
575-835-9288

Counseling Services
Socorro Mental Health
1200 HWY 60 West
575-835-2444
<http://www.pmsnm.org/locations/socorro-mental-health>

Assisted Living
Country Living Residential Care
575.520.9909

<https://www.countrylivingresidentialcare.com/>

Nursing Home
Good Samaritan Society (post-acute rehab, Alzheimer's Unit, Hospice, nursing home)
1203 Hwy. 60 W., Socorro, NM 87801
(575) 418-6970
<https://www.good-sam.com/locations/socorro>

Hospice
Through Socorro General Hospital
575-835-8343

Good Samaritan Society (post-acute rehab, Alzheimer's Unit, Hospice, nursing home)
1203 Hwy. 60 W., Socorro, NM 87801
(575) 835-2724
<https://www.good-sam.com/locations/socorro>

Physical Therapy
Socorro General Hospital
575-835-8761

Positive Outcomes
1115 N California St.
Socorro, NM 87801
575.838.0800
<https://www.positiveoutcomestherapy.com/therapy.php>

Socorro Physical Therapy
911 N. California
575-838-1000
<http://socorrophysicaltherapy.com/>



Home is where your healthcare is.

- Family Medicine (children through adults)
- Infusion Services
- Women's Care (OB/GYN, Labor and Delivery)
- General Surgery
- Podiatry
- Audiology
- Behavioral Health
- Rehabilitation Services (Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy)
- Swing Bed Program (for patients who need additional therapy and/or nursing care before returning home)
- Radiology, Echocardiogram, Ultrasound and Lab Services
- Emergency Department
- Home Healthcare and Hospice

PRESBYTERIAN
Socorro General Hospital

1202 Highway 60 West
(575) 835-1140
[phs.org/socorro](https://www.phs.org/socorro)

A healthy community is a strong community.

- Educational Programs: Safe Sleep, Child Safety Seat and Parenting Education
- First Born Socorro and More
- Heritage Program for Senior Adults and Disabled Adults
- Infant Mental Health Services

PRESBYTERIAN
Socorro General Hospital

Community Based Programs
1202 Highway 60 West, Building B
(575) 835-8791
[phs.org/socorro](https://www.phs.org/socorro)

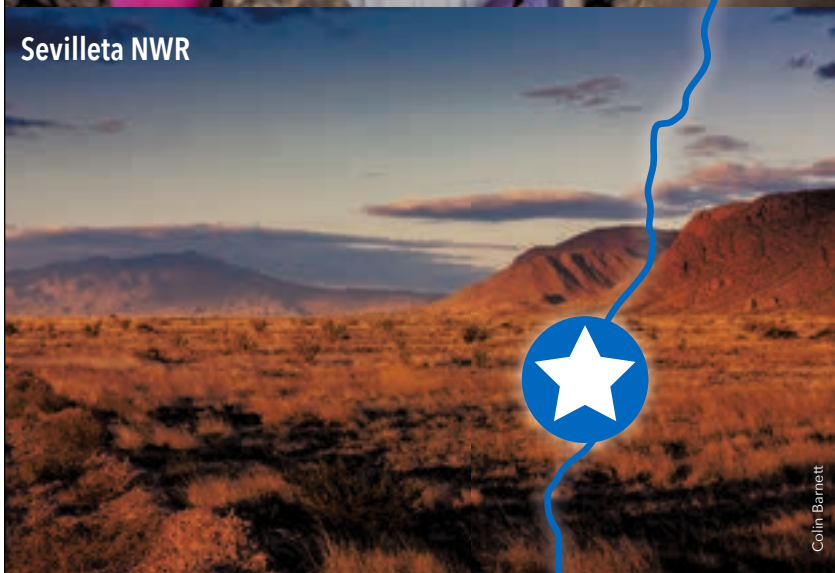
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Bill Rager

Sevilleta NWR



Colin Barnett

Bosque del Apache NWR



Douglas Maahs

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ValledeOro@fws.gov

www.fws.gov/refuge/valle_de_oro

www.friendsofvalledeoro.org

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Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge

I-25 exit 169

SevilletaNWR@fws.gov

www.fws.gov/refuge/sevilleta

www.amigosdelasevilleta.org

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Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge

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BosqueDelApacheNWR@fws.gov

www.fws.gov/refuge/bosque_del_apache

www.friendsofbosquedelapache.org



photo by Ian Parker

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photo by Douglas Maahs



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www.fws.gov/refuge/bosque_del_apache/

