

# HISTORY LESSONS

# KEEP ON BOOKIN

**Old Fort Bliss** — Building 5054, corner of Pershing and Pleasanton Roads, Fort Bliss. The Old West days of the “Soldiers of the Pass” are relived through replicas of the original adobe fort buildings and military artifacts of the Magoffinsville Post, 1854 to 1868. Hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Admission is free. Information: 568-4518 or 588-8482 or on Facebook at Old Fort Bliss.

**El Paso History Radio Show** — The show runs 10:05 a.m. to noon Saturdays on KTSM AM 690 (and streamed at KTSMRadio.com). Documentary filmmaker Jackson Polk hosts the show with reenactor and historian Melissa Sargent. Details of each upcoming show, plus podcasts of previous programs, are at EPHistory.com. Information: 833-8700.

**El Paso Mission Trail Visitor Center** — El Paso Mission Trail Association’s center supporting the three historic churches in the Mission Valley — Ysleta Mission, Socorro Mission and San Elizario Chapel — is at 6095 Alameda (at Zaragoza). Hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Admission is free. Information 790-0661, 851-9997 or visitelpasomissiontrail.com.

**Los Portales Museum and Visitor Center** — 1521 San Elizario Road. The museum is operated by the San Elizario Genealogy and Historical Society, and is housed in an 1850s Territorial-style building across from the San Elizario church. It offers gifts, family trees, historical artifacts as well as information on the “First Thanksgiving” and the Salt War of 1877. Hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 4 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free. Information: 851-1682.

**San Elizario Veterans Museum and Memorial Walk** — The museum, operated and managed by the non-profit San Elizario

Veterans Committee of the San Elizario Genealogy and Historical Society, is at 1501-B Main Street in San Elizario. Hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free. Information: Ann Lara, 345-3741 or Ray Borrego, 383-8529.

**Fort Bayard tours** — Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society host walking tours of the historic fort each Saturday in December, from 9:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. Fort Bayard National Historic Landmark is six miles east of Silver City, N.M. off U.S. 180. at the 1910 Commanding Officer’s Quarter and museum (House 26). Tour takes about 90 minutes. Admission is free, but donations appreciated. Information, group tours: (575) 956-3294, (575) 574-8779, or (575) 388-4862.

Fort Bayard served as an army post from 1866 to 1899 and army tuberculosis hospital from 1899 to 1920. The Society will also be involved in the Santa Clara Tamale Fiesta Saturday, **Dec. 2**, with the Lighted Christmas Parade at 6 p.m.

**Fort Selden State Monument** — The monument, 1280 Fort Selden Road in Radium Springs, 13 miles north of Las Cruces, is open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Monday (closed Tuesday). Admission is \$3; (ages 16 and under free). Sunday admission for New Mexico residents is \$1. Information: (575) 526-8911 or nmmonuments.org.

The annual Las Noches del Las Luminarias is 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday, **Dec. 9**, with hundreds of luminarias, cocoa and activities. Admission is free.

Fort Selden was a 19th century adobe fort established to protect early settlers. The monument seeks to preserve the remaining ruins and has a visitor’s center with exhibits of military life at the post. From Las Cruces, take I-25 north to Exit 19.

**Tumblewords Project** — The writing workshops are 12:45 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Saturdays at the Memorial Park Public Library meeting room, 3200 Copper. Workshops are free; donations for the presenter are encouraged. The group is open to all writers in a non-critique, non-caustic forum. No workshops Dec. 23 or Dec. 30. Information: 328-5484 (Donna Snyder), 566-1034 (library), tumblewordsproject@yahoo.com or on Facebook.

- **Dec. 2:** “Implication” with Kit Wren. Wren has been a participant in the Tumblewords Project since he was 12 years old.
- **Dec. 9:** “Writing in Light” with Lucy Hopple. Hopple performed in Yo Soy Teatro, as Herlinda Wong Chew with the Wise Latinas organization. Santa Lucia, whose feast day is Dec. 13, is the patron saint of sight.
- **Dec. 16:** “Writing for the Dark Times” with Donna Snyder. Snyder founded the Tumblewords Project weekly writing workshops in 1995. She has several published collections of poetry.

**‘The Gift of Story’** — Author Denise Chavez will host a short story workshop 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, **Dec. 9**, at Casa Camino Real, 314 S. Tornillo in Las Cruces. Writers of all ages and backgrounds are invited to bring a story idea or two or three or an actual story to work on, as well as photos and mementoes that in turn, can be gifted to others. Cost: \$75. Information: Denise Chávez at Casa Camino Real, (575) 523-3988 or comezon09@comcast.net.

Chávez’s short story, “Big Calzones,” has become a loved Christmas staple and is replayed yearly on Latino USA.

**Reading Art Book Club** — The book club of the Las Cruces Museum of Art, 491 N. Main, meets at 2:30 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month in the Museum of Nature and Science classroom next door. Meetings are free and open to the public; participants do not need to have read the book. Information: (575) 541-2217, sabdon@las-cruces.org or las-cruces.org/museums.

The **Dec. 13** book is “Broad Strokes: 15 Women Who Made Art and Made History” by Bridget Quinn.

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**Victorian Sci-Fi Book and Tea Club** — The book club devoted to Victorian era science fiction meets at 2 p.m. Saturday, **Dec. 16**, at Magoffin Home State Historic Site, 1120 Magoffin, to discuss “The Book of Dreams and Ghosts” by Andrew Lang. Victorian era or steampunk dress encouraged, but not required. Cost: \$5. Information: 533-5147, visitmagoffin-home.com or Facebook.

**El Paso Writers’ League** — The league meets 2 to 4 p.m. the second Saturday of the month at the Dorris Van Doren Regional Branch Library, 551 E. Redd Road. Admission is free. Information: elpasowritersleague@gmail.com or on Facebook at ElPasoWritersLeague.

**LGBT book group** — The bimonthly book group meets on odd-numbered month. Open to all GLBT and GLBT-friendly people interested in book discussions. Includes potluck supper. Information: 566-5549, 861-2909 or 471-9396 or on Facebook at ElPasoGLBTBookGroup.

**Barnes and Noble Saturday story-times** — El Paso’s East Side and West Side, and the Las Cruces Mesilla Valley Mall locations all offer Saturday storytimes. See individual listings for times.

- **Dec. 2:** How the Grinch Stole Christmas
- **Dec. 9:** Olaf’s Frozen Adventure Big Golden Book
- **Dec. 16:** River Rose and the Magical Christmas
- **Dec. 23:** Santa’s Magic Key
- **Dec. 30:** The Story of Ferdinand.

**Barnes & Noble (East Side)** — The Fountains at Farah, 8889 Gateway West, Suite 120. Information: 590-1932.

Polar Express pajama storytime is 7 p.m. Friday, **Dec. 1**.

Children’s storytime is 11 a.m. every Saturday.

**Barnes & Noble (West Side)** — 705 Sunland Park. Information: 581-5353.

Polar Express pajama storytime is 7 p.m. Friday, **Dec. 1**, with stories, activities and raffle.

Author Jan Brett will sign copies of her new children’s book “The Mermaid” at 5 p.m. Wednesday, **Dec. 6**.

Children’s storytimes are 10 a.m. Fridays and 11 a.m. Saturdays.

**Barnes & Noble (Las Cruces)** — 700 S. Telshor in Mesilla Valley Mall. Information: (575) 522-4499.

Children’s storytimes are 10 a.m. Fridays, and 11 a.m. Saturdays.

## THE FORUM BALLROOM

# NEW YEAR’S EVE DANCE

Five Hours of Dancing 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.  
Music provided by **Tejas Band**

Hall Decorated in New Year’s Theme

- Door Prizes
- Free Beer & Set-ups
- Free Menudo
- Free Party Favors

**\$50 per person**  
**Sunday Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017**

**3800 Mattox** (Hawkins & Montana) **598-4220**

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