Awards Show Rocks the House

Few states have as diverse a history as New Mexico, and this year HPD and the CPRC presented a series of awards that proved the point.

Retiring State Sen. John Pinto was presented the Lifetime Achievement award for working to enact legislation that helps protect millennia of Native American culture, and a minister and his wife from Portales were honored for preserving one of the seminal spots of early Rock 'n' Roll history. A radio host won for preserving community radio and the Spanish-and-Native influenced musical traditions of New Mexico, while several individuals and organizations took home awards for restoring the birthplace of the atomic age in Los Alamos.

Two members of the Fireballs, who recorded their No. 1 hit “Sugar Shack” at the Norman Petty Recording Studios in Clovis, where Buddy Holly and his Lubbock, Texas, band, the Crickets recorded all of their hits, capped off the ceremony. George Tomsco and Stan Lark preformed Holly’s “That'll Be the Day,” recorded 50 years ago at the Clovis studio, along with “Sugar Shack,” and several of the instrumentals they recorded in the late 1950s and early 1960s that feature guitar work now credited as a major influence of early Surf music.

Kenneth and Shirley Broad open the studio to about 500 people a year, many of them Europeans, who are fascinated with Holly's music and the early roots of American Rock 'n' Roll. The Broads say people have fainted when they see the original acetates on which the Crickets laid down their tracks, or spot the sofa where Holly napped during late-night sessions. They acquired the studio in 1992 after Norman Petty’s wife Violet Ann died. The Petty’s had toured the world as the Norman Petty Trio with Jack Vaughn, and recorded “Mood Indigo” and “Almost Paradise.”

“Norman could have lived anywhere in the world but he chose to stay in Clovis,” Broad said. “He was known more on the streets of New York in the music neighborhood, and in London, than he was on the streets of Clovis.”

Petty's father's garage was the trio’s first recording studio, but he soon bought his uncles’ grocery store and remodeled it into a recording studio where several years later Holly — rejected by Decca Records — showed up in search of a recording contract. Besides Holly, Texans Roy Orbison, Waylon Jennings and Buddy Knox recorded at the studio.

Archaeology Kicks on Route 66

Take an early fall, New Mexico road trip down the nation’s most famous highway stopping at a National Trust Historic Site Indian pueblo, side step to a World Heritage Site and drive by lava flows and cinder cones to spend time in “Lava City” — better known as Grants — at the fourteenth annual New Mexico Archaeology Fair.

Surrounded by and part of ancient and mid-century history, this boom-and bust town on Route 66 boasted one of the premier uranium mining districts in the world during the 1950s. Grants played host to many, travelers who stayed at motels and dined in restaurants built right up against the railroad tracks once the Mother Road turned the eyes of the nation’s travelers from rail to asphalt.

This year’s fair is held October 12 and 13 at City Hall Park on Santa Fe Avenue, which is historic Route 66, and across the street from the Mining Museum. The museum offers visitors the unusual experience of descending in an elevator to a series of manufactured “caverns” that house exhibits from the town's mining heyday.

This year, New Mexico State Archaeologist Glenna Dean, of HPD, is working with the Grants Chamber of Commerce, the museum and New Mexico Heritage Preservation Alliance to put on a fair that will appeal to local citizens, as well see Awards, page 7

see Fair, page 3
Reprieve for World Heritage Site

Cimarex Energy has decided not to pursue drilling two natural gas wells on state land within site of the Chaco Culture National Historical Park visitor center and one mile from Fajada Butte, the famed “sun dagger” site, where light and shadows tracked the cycles of the sun and moon for centuries.

In a statement, Cimarex said it would indefinitely postpone pursuit of natural gas leases on Sections 32 and 36 State Land Office lands because of concerns from environmentalists and preservationists over potential harm to what many regard as the ultimate Ancestral Puebloan site.

“We feel our resources are presently better spent in areas that minimize concerns regarding that area of Chaco Cultural National Historic Park,” said Mike Wolfe, Cimarex regional land manager.

SLO considered the leases because proceeds from energy and mineral leases on state lands fund public education. HPD was party to consultations among SLO, Cimarex and the National Park Service. HPD will continue to work with the New Mexico Congressional Delegation and the State Land Office to develop a zone that protects resources within and outside park boundaries and the World Heritage Site.

Preservationists from Kosovo Visit HPD and Monuments

HPD and State Monuments met with architects and preservationists visiting Santa Fe from Kosovo, May 25. HPD SiteWatch coordinator Phil Young said that just as artifacts are surreptitiously removed from Eastern European countries, so too are resources from New Mexico and the Southwest. The visitors explained that 800,000 artifacts were taken from their National museum, and asked for support in their efforts with UNESCO to return them.

State Monuments Director Ernesto Ortega and Richard Reyenga joined HPD’s Dedie Snow and Tom Drake, who organized the visit through the U.S. State Department.

Reburial Grounds Established Under New State Law

State Sen. John Pinto, D-Tohatchi, and State Rep. Roger Madalena, D-Jemez Pueblo, worked closely with HPD State Archaeologist Glennia Dean and Deputy Director Sam Cata to establish a reburial ground for human remains that are inadvertently discovered in the course of development and other activities.

The bill sets aside $150,000 for HPD and the Department of Indian Affairs to establish reburial grounds as an appropriate and respectful means of handling human remains and associated funereal objects from unmarked burials.

Already, Dean and Cata, who is HPD’s tribal liaison, are part of a working group with Indian Affairs and the Tribal-State Work Group on Repatriation and Sacred Places that will recommend rules for handling the remains and establish reburial procedure for those already housed in state collections.

Governor Richardson signed the reburial act in April, which also requires the state to consult with Indian nations, tribes and pueblos to ensure the protection of ancestral remains and items.
Funding for the nation’s SHPOs would increase to $45 million, a $10 million increase over the Bush administration’s proposal for next year, and $5 million more than initially recommended by a House committee, under a proposal by U.S. Rep. Ben Chandler, D-KY.

“The State Historic Preservation Offices are the backbone of our country’s historic preservation program,” Chandler said. “They are the first point of contact that individuals, local governments, nonprofits and federal and state agencies go to with questions regarding historic preservation and resources.”

Chandler’s proposal was approved in May by the House Appropriations Subcommittee, which initially recommended $40 million, and marked the first increase following years of flat funding.

“This is an unprecedented increase, much needed and richly deserved,” said Nancy Schamu, executive director of the National Council on State Historic Preservation Offices, in expressing gratitude on behalf of the nation’s 50 preservation offices and those headquartered in U.S. territories and the District of Columbia.

New Mexico SHPO Katherine Slick said HPD would receive an additional $160,000 in federal funds under Chandler’s proposal. A portion of it could be used to fund part of the $100,000 in grant requests HPD had to leave unfunded in 2007 since only $37,000 was available for requests.

“With Congressional support of Congressman Chandler’s proposal we could make substantial progress in developing a more complete picture of New Mexico’s past and how it fits into current economic and cultural trends,” she said.

Deputy SHPO Jan Biella said stepped-up oil-and-gas exploration in southeastern New Mexico presents an opportunity to develop cultural surveys focused on industry development, and the resulting settlements, towns and cities that were built to support it. HPD also would have additional funds for New Mexico’s eight CLGs.

Increases would benefit the nation’s Tribal Historic Preservation Offices with $6.5 million, a boost from the administration’s proposed $3.9 million. Three THPOs currently operate in New Mexico, and HPD is assisting five pueblos to gain the status.

Save America’s Treasures funding would increase by $10 million over the administration plan and Preserve America would remain at $10 million, as originally proposed.

Chandler is a member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on the Interior and the Environment, which has funding authority over the National Park Service’s Historic Preservation Fund. He is also a member of the Congressional Historic Preservation Caucus. Preservationists and others should contact the congressman’s office with their support: 202-225-2122.
Lifetime Achievement

State Senator John Pinto has served eight terms in the New Mexico Senate, and advanced legislation that improved technology on Indian lands and preserved tribal heritage, not only in his native Four Corners area but statewide. Pinto grew up in a family of shepherds, became a Navajo code talker in World War II, and has been active in nearly all aspects of Navajo Nation tribal government since 1950. He was elected to the McKinley County Board of Commissioners in 1972 and the State Senate in 1977 where he has served for 30 years.

“He is a living treasure of the Navajo Nation and the state,” said CPRC Vice-Chairperson Dr. Beth O’Leary. “He has been preserving the Navajo language for the world ever since he was a code talker during the war.”

Although Native peoples in New Mexico could not vote in the state until 1953—nationally, in 1965—more than 3,600 Indian men served in World War II, and Navajo tribe members took part in every U.S. Marines assault in the Pacific from 1942 to 1945. Senator Pinto was among the code talkers who used the Navajo language to scramble military messages in a way the Japanese never could decipher. Yet, back home the Navajo were denied the right to speak their language in Bureau of Indian Affairs boarding schools.

Senator Pinto not only worked to give the Navajo the right to vote, but was essential in awarding code talkers with the Silver Congressional Medal of Honor in 2001. He has worked on several projects to record the code talker’s history.

Heritage Organization

Kenneth and Shirley Broad received the award for curating the Norman Petty Recording Studios (please see cover story)

State Historian’s Award for Excellence in Heritage Scholarship

The New Mexico Historical Review has published articles of scholarly research on New Mexico and the Southwest for 81 years. Dr. Durwood Ball, editor since 2000; and Dr. John Porter Bloom, of Las Cruces, whose father, the late Lansing B. Bloom was one of the original editors of the publication, accepted awards in Santa Fe. Founded in 1926, the publication is one of the oldest and most distinguished regional journals in the western United States. The University of New Mexico Board of Regents controls the imprimatur of the New Mexico Historical Review and publishes the journal as a service to the citizens of New Mexico.

Archaeological Heritage

Fort Bliss, Directorate of the Environment for exemplary archaeology and research at the John Hendrick site, a pueblo village excavated on the military base. Receiving awards were Fort Bliss officials and archaeologists Vicki Hamilton, Brian Knight, Director Keith Londreth, Chris Lowry and Sue Stitton; and from Geo-Marine, Inc., of El Paso, Texas, Tim Graves, Myles Miller and Chad Burt. Archaeology and ensuing research was commended for being among the most thorough of the last two decades. It uncovered new information on the Jornada Mogollon culture in the face of military deadlines to train thousands of new troops on culturally sensitive land at Fort Bliss.

Architectural Heritage

The Historic Santa Fe Foundation for the restoration and stabilization of the Tudesqui House on East De Vargas St., in Santa Fe. Considered one of the oldest houses in the Capital City, it dates at least to 1841, when successful Italian businessman Roque Tudesqui owned it. Receiving awards were the foundation’s Elaine Bergman, Charles Coffman, Richard Martinez and Hope Curtis. The recent restoration is the foundation’s most ambitious projects to date. Beginning as an upgrade to mechanical systems and to conserve the windows, it soon included the entire interior and the repair of saturated adobe walls and termite-infested wood.

The restoration of the V-Site of the Manhattan Project in Los Alamos not only challenged notions of what should be preserved, but also how to go about it. V-Site is where the Trinity device and “Fat Man” bomb were assembled and later detonated over Nagasaki, an act credited with ending World War II and commencing the atomic age. At one time slated for

Heritage Preservation Awards

Heritage Publication

Ayer y Ahora, Yesterday and Today, a collection of oral histories from northern New Mexicans was published by Free River Press in 2006. The anthology documents a period of the state’s history when Spanish was more commonly spoken and cultural traditions, that until 50 or 60 years ago, were routinely practiced by Native Americans and Hispanics in the state. In recent years, some of those traditions are again being embraced, and chronicling them aids in their preservation. Awards were presented to Robert Wolf, of Decorah, Iowa, editor and director of Free River Press; Owen Lopez, of the McCune Charitable Foundation, of Santa Fe; Carmen Chavez-Lujan, of the Santa Fe Division of Senior Services, and Carmen Chavez-Lujan, of the Santa Cruz Senior Center.

Michael Brasher, of KANW-FM, public radio in Albuquerque. As general manager and the host of NPR affiliate KANW’s popular Saturday morning show that features New Mexico music often dedicated to listeners, Brasher has worked for 35 years to preserve community radio with authentic New Mexico flavor. He has developed programs such as “Aspectos Culturales,” which educates listeners about the state’s culture, and the more topical “Concerning New Mexico,” hosted by Jorja Armijo. KANW is the oldest FM radio station in New Mexico, and is operated by Albuquerque Public Schools.

Individual Achievement

John Fryar, a retired special agent with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, for the preservation of antiquities by leading the fight against black-market trade of Native American artifacts and cultural patrimony. Fryar, an enrolled member of Acoma Pueblo, has spent 30 years of his professional and personal life preserving New Mexico heritage. His work led to numerous indictments and convictions of looters, and he is especially noted as lead agent in Operation Breaklink, which recovered sacred objects stolen from the Acoma, Zuni and Hopi pueblos.

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Increased Funds Available for Preservation Work Starting this Summer

More than $175,000 in new funding for preservation becomes available through HPD this summer in loans and grants, and lays the groundwork for ongoing preservation funding in future years.

HPD received a $100,000, one-time legislative increase to complete loan applications during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, with the owners of eligible historic properties seeking to restore, rehabilitate and repair homes and commercial buildings. The loans have five-year terms, a fixed, 3-percent interest rate, and are made in conjunction with other lenders.

HPD’s loan specialist Dorothy Victor is contacting communities and past applicants who were unable to complete loans previously. HPD urges interested persons to contact her at 505-827-3992, or dorothy.victor@state.nm.us.

The increase was sponsored by Sen. Mary Jane Garcia, D-Doña Ana, who along with several legislators, took active interest in various preservation issues during the 2007 session.

“The 2007 legislative session was good to preservation with several initiatives passed by the Legislature and signed by Governor Bill Richardson that make available new funding for local preservation initiatives,” said State Historic Preservation Officer Katherine Slick, director of HPD.

New Loan Fund

More loans become available with the MainStreet Revolving Loan Act sponsored by Rep. Daniel Silva, D-Albuquerque. The act sees HPD and New Mexico MainStreet facilitate commercial loans in designated MainStreet communities. It is a permanent, revolving loan fund overseen by a review committee of HPD, CPRC, MainStreet, the Department of Finance and Administration, Friends of MainStreet and a citizen member appointed by Governor Richardson.

After loan criteria and a review panel are established, $50,000 will be available.

More Grants Available

A permanent $25,000 state preservation grant fund has been created thanks to Sen. Richard Martinez, D-Española. It greatly assists HPD in meeting the growing demand for community grants. HPD each year sets aside part of its National Park

Funds, page 7

Tax Credits

The top scientists working in New Mexico on the Manhattan Project gathered there to await results of the Trinity test blast in July 1945; a month earlier David Greenglass allegedly traded atomic secrets in one of its rooms eventually leading to his sister being condemned to the electric chair. The hotel’s owner and builder Conrad Hilton honeymooned there with his glamorous wife, Zsa Zsa Gabor, and they attracted a coterie of Hollywood stars to what was Albuquerque’s gathering place.

The old Albuquerque Hilton was the epicenter of social and Democratic political life in the Duke City. And, it is the last survivor of the city’s three great southwestern hotels along with being the first modern high-rise hotel erected in New Mexico. Its residential tower was built in the International style using a site plan that resembles a seminal piece of Modernist architecture, the Lever House in New York. But its two-story lobby, and ballroom, banquet room, shops, restaurants and bars are detailed in Spanish Pueblo and Territorial revival accents that ground it firmly to traditional New Mexico architecture and design traditions.

Renamed La Posada de Albuquerque when it first was rehabilitated in the mid-1980s using HPD-administered tax credits, new plans by current owner Gary Goodman would upgrade the hotel while preserving Hilton’s attention to southwestern details. His personal touch drew the likes of Jimmy Stewart, Roy Rogers and Dale Evans and Lucille Ball.

Goodman, of Goodman Realty, beams with pride when sharing historic photos that show surviving architectural details. The foyers and lobby still feature muralist
Historic Hilton as Downtown Hub on the Horizon
— Tom Drake

Lloyd Moylan’s depictions of Indian hoop dancers, settlers and cowboys; much of the original Spanish Colonial-style woodwork—some with Pueblo Deco detailing—survives. Goodman wants the hotel’s “Spanish roots” to show.

“This will be unique. There won’t be another one like this in the country,” he said.

The magnificent lobby’s two-story ceiling once was filled in with office space, but re-opened in the first tax credit project, another one like this in the country,” he said. Goodman wants the hotel’s “Spanish roots” to show.

“The rehabilitation hopes to be integral to revitalizing downtown Albuquerque, hence the high level of financial commitment from city government,” said HPD tax credit specialist Harvey Kaplan, of the city’s pledge of $8.9-million in Industrial Revenue Bonds to help finance it.

“The city is lucky to have a developer with the commitment and resources of Gary Goodman,” Kaplan said.

State tax credits are available to offset rehabilitation costs of up to $50,000 per project by 50 percent. In the case of the Hilton, exterior work to clean, patch and in places re-stucco the façade and paint it to match the 10-floor residential tower are eligible. Restoring a series of second-floor French doors and wood casement windows also qualify for state tax credits.

Completion is set for next year when Goodman plans to open the hotel and its 107 rooms for guests. Hotel staffing will include 108 full-time and 26 part-time jobs while construction will employ 82 people.

The hotel opened in 1939 as one of the original hotels built by Hilton, who was raised in Socorro and began his career with four small hotels in Texas. At the height of his career he owned such landmark hotels as the Waldorf Astoria and The Plaza in New York, Chicago’s Palmer House and the Sir Francis Drake in San Francisco.

Petty eventually moved productions to the Mesa Theater on Clovis’s Main Street, but it is the former grocery store turned studio that was restored by Petty’s widow “Vi” and Broad after she was contacted in 1986 by the BBC, which wanted to film part of a documentary on Holly at the old studio. Broad said they spent six months getting it ready, work that led to the tours he and his wife have conducted for nearly 20 years, largely for Holly fans from Germany, Australia and the United Kingdom.

The awards and reception held May 1 were the official beginning of Heritage Preservation Month, which this year honored the stewardship of New Mexico’s three World Heritage Sites. Chaco Culture National Historical Park and its outliers in Aztec and at Salmon Ruins, Taos Pueblo, and Carlsbad Caverns National Park are the three sites selected by UNESCO for their universal cultural and natural heritage. The stewards and managers of the three sites were corporate sponsors of this year’s poster, which ties the sites together, reflecting some of the landscapes and design elements traditional to New Mexico.

Communities embraced Preservation Month with approximately 69 events sponsored by 45 communities, organizations, parks and monuments, more than in any other year. Events were as far-reaching as special tours of Chacoan outliers in Aztec normally not available to the public to the Historic Santa Fe Foundation’s annual Mother’s Day tour of historic homes to re-enactments of life in Raton during its early coal mining history.

For a complete wrap-up of this year’s winners, see page 4.

Register coordinator John Murphey said will make it possible to develop old-time user’s oral history and illustrate it, perhaps with panels depicting community cultural traditions. They could be displayed at Acequia Chamita Commission headquarters, and possibly travel to other communities working to preserve their acequias.

Acequia de Chamita still irrigates corn, wheat and barley fields and community gardens. It is relatively unchanged except for modern headgates. The acequia made possible “the spread of civil and social ‘water democracy,’” the memorial states.
New Mexico Historic Preservation Division
Bataan Memorial Building
407 Galisteo Street, Suite 236
Santa Fe, NM  87501

July 13
Deadline for HPD to receive general permits and SHPO Directory applications for the August 10, CPRC meeting. Michelle Ensey: 505-827-4064.

July 14
US/ICOMOS holds a full-day board meeting in Santa Fe. Katherine Slick, 505-827-4044.

July 19
Deadline for project-specific permit applications for excavations and archaeological work is at noon for the August 10, CPRC meeting. Michelle Ensey, 505-827-4064.

July 27
Deadline for tax credit applications to arrive at HPD for the August 10, CPRC meeting. Robyn Powell, 827-4057; or Harvey Kaplan, 827-3971.

August 4
17th annual “Places with a Past” tour sponsored by Las Vegas Citizen’s Committee for Historic Preservation and the Santa Fe Trail Interpretive Center. Tour some of Las Vegas’s 900+ historic homes and buildings, Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.; docents at each venue. Tickets can be purchased day of event or in advance. Contact CCHP at 505-425-8803, or 127 Bridge St. Tour is $20 per person.

August 10
CPRC bi-monthly meeting in Room 311, Roundhouse, Santa Fe. Archaeological permits, Register nominations, tax credit applications and Official & Scenic Historic Markers. Contact: Deborah Davis, 505-827-6320.

August 11
Civil War and Indian Wars reenactments begin at 9 a.m. and run all day at historic Fort Stanton in Lincoln County. Tours of the German Internment Camp and historic stables. Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce: 505-257-7395 or www.fortstanton.com.

September 7
HPD deadline for general permits and SHPO Directory applications for October 5, CPRC meeting. Michelle Ensey: 505-827-4064.

September 13
Deadline for project-specific permit applications for excavations and archaeological work must be received at HPD by noon to be considered at the October 5, CPRC meeting. Contact: Michelle Ensey, 505-827-4064

September 19 - 21
Petroglyphs National Monument hosts a two day bi-national petroglyphs preservation workshop. Scholars, partners and the general public are invited to participate in field workshops at the site of one of the world’s largest collections of petroglyphs. Register at Spanish Colonial Research Center, 505-277-1370, or petr Superintendent@nps.gov.

September 22
Mesa Prieta Petroglyph Tour opens to the public at 9:30 p.m. and lasts 2.5 hours. Located in Lyden at Wells Petroglyph Preserve. Reservations through Suzie Frazier, Vecinos del Rio, 505-852-1351.

September 20 - 21
Green Strategies for Historic Building Rehabilitation will be presented in Santa Fe at the Udall Resource Center on Museum Hill. HPD and the National Preservation Institute offer a two-day seminar on building rehabs that meet or exceed environmental standards. Pilar Cannizzaro at 505-827-4054 or pilar.cannizzaro@state.nm.us for registration and other information.

September 21
Deadline for tax credit applications to arrive at HPD for the October 5, CPRC meeting. Robyn Powell, 827-4057; or Harvey Kaplan, 827-3971.

Commonly used abbreviations:
ARMS = Archaeological Records Management Section
CLG    = Certified Local Government
CPRC   = Cultural Properties Review Committee
DCA    = Department of Cultural Affairs
HPD    = Historic Preservation Division
NPS    = National Park Service
RPA    = Registered Professional Archaeologist
SHPO   = State Historic Preservation Officer

calendar
summer 2007