



# THE MOKI MESSENGER

NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN JUAN BASIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Chapter of Colorado Archaeological Society

September, 2010

## ***Mona Charles September Speaker***

Our speaker for the September Meeting of the SJBAS will be Mona Charles. The meeting will be held at Fort Lewis College at 7:00 p.m., September 9, at the Center for SW Studies, Lyceum. She will present "The Unique Cultural Landscape of Historic Fort Lewis. Mona's presentation will be in conjunction with the Four Corners Lecture Series.

Ms. Charles is the director of the FLC archaeological field school and instructor for field school and laboratory methods. She also shares a joint appointment with the Office of Community Services at Fort Lewis. Her extensive background in archaeology includes contract archaeology for government and private organizations, teaching, and public outreach. Ms. Charles has technical and managerial experience in the following areas: Geophysical prospecting, Total Station, GPS, and Theodolite mapping, ArcGIS, and computer database management. She has extensive skills in the areas of archaeological interpretation, laboratory analysis, report writing and production, large and small-scale inventory projects, large and small-scale testing projects, large and small-scale excavation projects, grant writing, teaching, and public outreach.

She has authored or co-authored over 30 archaeological reports and has presented her research nationally. Mona authored a chapter in *The Mesa Verde World Explorations in Ancestral Archaeology* in which she leans heavily on her field school research on the hunters, gatherers, and first farmers of the Mesa Verde region.

Ms. Charles has been conducting re-

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## **Gates of Ladore Rafting Trip to Benefit PBS**

By Jill Ward

Splish splash we were taking a bath on the Green River. On Friday August 20<sup>th</sup> through August 23<sup>rd</sup> seventeen hearty soles rafted down the Green River through Dinosaur National Monument. The trip was to benefit PBS and was led by none other than our prestigious President, Andy Gulliford. Group participants included 3 other members from SJBAS (Dick and Foxye Mason, and yours truly, Jill Ward). We had a total of 6 PhD's with us so we were a pretty esoteric group.

Andy gave several exciting lectures on the history of the area and Powell's expedition through the Gates of Ladore. We also learned a great deal about Butch Cassidy and his gang, the awesome Bassett sisters who were known for stealing cattle in the area, as well as some of the early river runners who had come through the canyon. Andy also talked to us about endangered species and the huge problem of the tamarisk trees that are taking over river shores

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search in the mountains in and around Southwest Colorado for over 20 years. Her research currently emphasizes the origins and nature of the Colorado Basketmakers from indigenous hunters and gatherers. This research involves examining archaeological, geological and paleo-environmental data to interpret the prehistory of the area around Durango. She is combining these data with Native American ethnographies, in particular those from the Puebloans, to help explain the movement of prehistoric populations in and out of the region.

More recently, Ms. Charles' interests have expanded to include historic archaeology. This new focus has come about mainly as a result of her work at the Old Fort Lewis Campus near Hesperus, Colorado. This 6300 acre reservation was the site of a frontier military post occupied from 1881 to 1892. After the fort was decommissioned, the land and buildings were used for an Indian Boarding School until 1910 when the land was transferred to the Colorado State Land Board with the provision that the land would be used for educational purposes.

Ms. Charles became interested in geophysical prospecting while she was in graduate school at the University of Nebraska. Today, Ms. Charles instructs students in the use of two complimentary geophysical instruments, the electrical resistance meter and the fluxgate gradiometer. She and her students have worked on such diverse projects as searching for historic military cemeteries in Southwest Colorado to validating historic trading posts near Tsalie, Arizona. Field school students are currently using these instruments to try and locate foundation footprints to historic buildings at the Old Fort Lewis.

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throughout the west. He told us about the big horned sheep (we saw several along the banks), and he literally produced a baby peregrine falcon "out of his hat".

We took a wonderful hike to some Freemont pictographs and cooled off in some cold but invigorating waterfalls. The area we explored has been inhabited at one time or another for somewhere between 7 and 8 thousand years. The area is characterized by magnificent red cliffs that tower above you sometimes up to 2,000 feet.

There are 3 major rapids along the way, the first one we encountered was Disaster Falls which is the only place along the Colorado river system where Powell actually lost a boat! We were fortunate enough to come out unscathed although one of our participants took an unexpected dip. Due to heavy rains that had occurred a few days before our launch, the river was red all the way until we reached its confluence with the Yampa River at Steamboat rock where we found clear warm waters in which to refresh our sandy somewhat disheveled bodies.

Our final day took us down a series of small rapids which made for good rafting, and we finally took out of the river at Split Mountain in Utah. Our illustrious President did the entire trip in a "duckie" and impressed us all with his skills in cutting through the rapids uneventfully no matter who was sitting in the front of his boat. Well done. Thanks, Andy for such a good trip and filled with lots of great memories.



## **PAAC is Back**

**October 29-31, "Prehistoric Ceramics Description & Analysis**, SW Center at FLC, register by contacting Elaine Viner at 970-382-2594, or [J\\_e\\_viner@frontier.net](mailto:J_e_viner@frontier.net), 220 Valley View Circle Durango, CO 81031. A check made out for \$12.00, payable to Colorado Historical Society, must be received, prior to class time to secure enrollment.

**November 12-15, "Perishable Materials Class"** in Cortez, (Fr. 6-9 p.m., Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5, Mon. 6-9 p.m., Calvin Denton Room, Empire Electric. To attend contact Terry Woodrow at 970-382-3099 or [twoodrow@ptsl.com](mailto:twoodrow@ptsl.com). There will be a discussion of recognition of perishables, cultural usage and alteration, and preservation, including artwork, basketry, sandals, leather, skins, fur and wood.

All fall **PAAC classes** are listed at [www.coloradohistory-oahp.org/programareas/paac](http://www.coloradohistory-oahp.org/programareas/paac).

# Nearby Activities of Interest

**HISATSINOM CHAPTER** Linda Wheelbarger will discuss her excavation of the Great Kiva at AB-Square Ranch in the Totah District, on September 7, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at Cortez Cultural Center. The San Juan College field school is currently investigating site LA 8619, the Point site, located in Farmington, NM. The Point site is a large terraced Anasazi BMIII-PIII habitation and apparent great house situated on an approximate 5-acre terrace remnant on the north face of the Shannon Bluffs about 80-100 feet above the San Juan River. The 2009 testing of the large depression revealed that a great kiva is present with Chaco Type II style masonry. The 2010 session will continue work at the great kiva.

**Report from CAS Quarterly Meeting held July 24-25 in Cortez.** Report by Robert Powell:

- (1) CAS is in good financial condition with 1172 members, a slight increase from last year. SJBAS has the largest number of members, 193, and the largest increase from the previous year, 14.
- (2) The raffle of the 11 x 14 painting "Penasco Blanco" will last until December.
- (3) There was a lengthy discussion of liability waiver forms. SJBAS' new waiver form needs to be reviewed by Tom Hoff.
- (4) After 22 years as the State Archeologist, Susan Collins will retire on October 1.
- (5) SJBAS has more trips than all other chapters combined.
- (6) The Boulder Chapter is trying to reorganize. The Fort Collins Chapter seems to be inactive.
- (7) The annual meeting will vote on holding only three CAS meetings per year, not four -- an annual meeting with talks on archeology and two (not three) business meetings, on the Front Range; one on the West Slope.
- (8) The Group toured the Mitchell Springs sites south of Cortez.

## **FOUR CORNERS LECTURE SERIES**

**The Story of Corn: From Teosinte to Ethanol**, Paul Ermigiotti, September 9, 7:00 p.m., Crow Canyon;

**Santa Clara Pottery Demonstration, Firing and Sale**, Jane Baca and Starr Tofoya, September 18, 3:00 p.m., CMA, MVNP;

**Dramatic Shifts in Landscape Use Associated with Ancestral Pueblo Depopulation of the Mesa Verde Region**, Kristin Kuckelman, October 7, 7:00 p.m., Crow Canyon;

**Learning from Looking: Revisiting Peirce Lewis and the Four Corners Landscape**, Pete McCormick, October 7, 7:00 p.m., FLC;

**The Archaeology of Range Creek**, Renee Barlow, October 15, 7:00 p.m., Cortez Culture Center.

**CAS annual meeting in Gunnison**; October 1-3;

**16th Mogollon Archaeology Conference, New Mexico State Univ., Las Cruces**, NM, Corbett Center Auditorium, October 14-16; Contact Lonnie C. Ludeman, 1828 Imperial Ridge, Las Cruces, NM 88011;

**68th Plains Anthropological Conference, Bismark, ND**; October 6-9;

**32nd Great Basin Anthropological Conference, Layton, UT**, October 2-3

# Volunteer Opportunities & Employment

**Cortez Cultural Center.** Call Deb Avery (970) 565-1151; deb.avery@cortezculturalcenter.org; (or visit [www.cortezculturalcenter.org](http://www.cortezculturalcenter.org);

**Chimney Rock Interpretive Association ("CRIA").** Email Helen Richardson, 1218HL1944@century.net or go to [www.chimneyrockco.org](http://www.chimneyrockco.org).

**Colorado Historical Society ("CHS").** Contact Kevin Black at [Kevin.Black@chs.state.co.us](mailto:Kevin.Black@chs.state.co.us).

**Center of SW Studies.** Gallery sitting hours are M-F, 1-4 p.m., Sat. 12-4 p.m. Contact Julie Tappley-Booth at 247-7456 to volunteer

**Mesa Verde** -- Visit [www.mesaverdevolunteers.org](http://www.mesaverdevolunteers.org), email Cheryl and Chuck Carson, volunteer coordinators, at [cccarson@aol.com](mailto:cccarson@aol.com), or phone at 259-2699

**Aztec Ruins National Monument** -- Call Tracy Bodnar, 505-334-6174, ext. 232, or [tracy\\_bodnar@nps.gov](mailto:tracy_bodnar@nps.gov).

**Employment Opportunity.** GS9/11 archaeologist in the Moab Field Office. Applicant must have 4 months experience in the region. Contact Leigh Grench, Archaeologist with the BLM - Moab Field Office at 435-259-2114 for more information.

## Exhibits



**EXHIBITS: National Museum of the American Indian,** New York, New York; Long-term, "A Song for the Horse Nation": the story of the horse's influence on American Indian tribes. (212) 514-3700, [www.americanindian.si.edu](http://www.americanindian.si.edu).

**Bowers Museum of Cultural Arts,** Santa Ana, CA. (Summ, *Am Arch*, Spring 2010) New exhibit "California Legacies" Missions and Ranchos (1768-1848)," 714-567-3600, [www.bowers.org](http://www.bowers.org). (Through December 31).

**Heard Museum,** Phoenix, AZ. (Summary, *Am Arch*, Spring 2010) Traveling exhibit "Arctic Spirit: Inuit Art from the Albrecht Collection," Artistic history of Canadian Inuits. 602-252-8848, [www.heard.org](http://www.heard.org). (Through January 20, 2011).

**Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.** (Summ, *Am Arch*, Sum 2010) New exhibit "Spying on the Past: Declassified Satellite Images and Archaeology" demonstrates how archaeologists recognize visible signs in these images and draw conclusions about the ancient world. Through December.

**San Diego Museum of Man.** (Summ, *Am Arch*, Sum 1010) "Gods & Gold: Ancient Treasures from Mexico to Peru," featuring the Museum's collections of Mexican, Central American, and South American archaeological objects. Through December 6.

**Arizona State Museum, U of Ariz, Tucson.** (Summary, *Am Arch*, Sum 1010) The remains of the Columbian mammoth, still with Clovis spearheads, excavated in 1951, are featured in "Ice Age Arizona: Preserving the Naco Mammoth." A 3-by-3-foot block provides the best evidence for the interaction of people with mammoths. First evidence of Clovis people uncovered in Arizona. Through October 15.

# SJBAS Upcoming Trips

**Jemez Mountains**, Sept 6-8, 3-day, 2-night car camping trip to visit sites east of the Jemez River. Walking shoes, hat, lots of cold water, three sack lunches, appropriate camping gear and weather-appropriate attire. Hikes are of unknown lengths, depending on road conditions. High clearance 4WD vehicle required. Leader: Richard Robinson, Robinson@frontier.net;

**Disappointment Valley**, Sept. 23-26, 4-day primitive cabin camping trip with BLM friends from Montrose. Bring appropriate camping gear and clothes and lots of water and cold drinks. High-clearance 4WD is recommended. Leaders: Peggy Morris, sipapu\_72@g.com and Dennis Lopez, 382-8688;

**Cedar Mesa and Hovenweep Area**, Oct. 8-10, 3-day, 2-night car camping trip to many settlement sites in the Cedar Mesa area with emphasis on shape and location of towers. Most can be seen with short walks from the car. Significant time at Hovenweep N.M. Limit of 20. Leaders: Richard Robinson, robinson@frontier.net and Bob Danielson, 385-1058;

**The Winslow, AZ Area**, Oct. 21-24, 4-day, 3-night motel trip to visit archaeological sites and petroglyph panels of significance to the Hopi people. High-clearance 4WD vehicles may be needed. Carpool options available. Leaders: Jim Mueller and Rhonda Raffo, 259-8870, rhondaandjim@msn.com.



## Other's Trips

### **Friends of Archaeology ("FOA"), Museum of NM Foundation, Office of Archaeological Studies**

September 18, Gallina Sites Field Trip, to sites between Coyote and Cuba, NM.

September 26, Chiles and Sherds, celebration of the archaeology and cuisine of NM, at Piedras Marcadas, in a bosque along the Rio Grande, Open Space Center, near Albuquerque. Explore archaeology of conflict in New Mexico. Small group tours of the site throughout the day, displays and demonstrations of 16th century archery and pottery, lunch and walks through the Center gardens;

October 8-10, Coronado Contact Sites and Zuni Field Trip;

October 30-31, Conflict in Modern Times - Trinity Site, with Alamogordo option.

See <http://www.museumfoundation.org/foa.html> for more details.

### **Tiffany Trip to Egypt** From Chicago Archeological Society

Dec. 28, 2010 thru Jan. 13, 2011. Tiffany is an educational non-profit organization that specializes in archeological trips. They have scheduled this trip to be led by archeologist Larry Conrad and an Egyptian guide. A complete itinerary is available with costs. Contact MexiMayan Academic Travel at 800-337-6394. There are 5 spaces left on the trip.

# SJBAS Trip Report

## Mining Mill Tour

By Beverly Stacy Dittmer & Gail Schulz

Early in the morning on a beautiful Saturday, August 21, our group met to begin our lovely journey up the mountains to Silverton. It was a good thing that we left really early because a few hours later just past Molas Pass a medical vehicle caught on fire. It had some radio-active material inside so the highway patrol closed the road for several hours while waiting for special HASMAT crews to arrive to make the burned vehicle safe again. Many people who had planned to go to Silverton that day to hear the Brass Band Concerts gave up, turned around, and went back home. We wouldn't have known about it at all except that Paul Dittmer decided after arriving in Silverton that he would not go any higher and spent the day in town. The blocked road was, of course, the talk of the town.

Anyway, our group after stopping at the camp ground at Maggie Gulch to set up a few tents began our educational experience by hearing a talk led by our leader, Dave McCrillis. Dave has many, many years of experience in mining and has worked and even owned mines and mills. He explained to us about the different minerals that might be found in the Silverton area. He taught us about the complete milling process. I was amazed at how many tons of ore it takes to mine out just an ounce or two of gold. We then set off up the road by Animas River in 4-wheel drive, high clearance vehicles to Animas Forks. Then we went up California Gulch and turned off on Placer Gulch to the Sound Democrat Mill. It was the perfect day to be in the mountains.

We enjoyed a nice picnic lunch.. Dave pointed out three mines above this mill. We were able to tour this fairly well preserved mill and to see actual crushers, shaker tables, and we could see the cables from the aerial tram that brought the ore into the mill. After we had thoroughly explored this mill, and Dave and Bob Danielson had answered our many, many questions, we drove on up over Picayene Pass (nearly 12,000 ft.) to another old small mill and mine, Treasure Mountain Mine.

That evening in Silverton most of the group ate a fine dinner in town and enjoyed the Brass Band Concert. After the concert we all went to Rosalie Phillip's condo for cheese and wine. It was a very nice ending to a great day.

On Sunday morning we drove to the Bagley Mill just past Animas Forks (we had driven right past this mill on Saturday). David had more great handouts, and we toured the building. He explained the milling processes here. They were completely different from the milling processes that we saw on Saturday. Bob Danielson added a lot of information for us also. We then started up Engineer Pass and turned off on the road that goes over to Hwy 550 south of Ouray, to visit the San Juan Chief Mill that is in the Mineral Point area. Again David and Bob explained a lot about how the mill worked, etc. We ran out of time and didn't get to the Mineral Point town site or the mountain with the distinctive quartz vein, which are in the area of the mill. We were lucky, however, rain didn't start until we drove out of Silverton on the way home. It had been a very interesting and informative tour.



# Archeology in the Southwest

## **Mesa Verde**

**New Mesa Verde Center.** (Summary, Hisatsinom Newsletter, August, 2010)

The National Park Service is moving toward a September groundbreaking ceremony for the new Mesa Verde National Park Visitor Center and Research Center ("MV Center").

**Acting Superintendent Nelligan Opens Mesa Verde to Back-Country Tours.**

Nelligan is excited about the new MV Center which will house the Park's collection of over 4,000,000 artifacts in a state of the art facility. Under his leadership, three new ranger-guided backcountry tours are open to Mug House (3-mile, 2-hour strenuous hike), Spring House (6-mile, 8-hour strenuous hike) and Wetherill Mesa (5-mile, 5-hour moderate hike). Tours are limited to 14 people. Tickets for Spring House and the Wetherill Mesa can be purchased online at [www.mesaverdeinstitute.org](http://www.mesaverdeinstitute.org), prior to arrival in the Park.

Mug House tickets can be purchased only at the Far View Visitor Center up to 48 hours in advance. Hikers to Spring House will also see Buzzard House, Teakettle House, Daniel's House and other sites perched in the sandstone recesses of Navajo and Wickiup Canyons. Lunch is included.

The Wetherill Mesa hike introduces the broad community landscape story of the Ancestral Pueblo people from earliest occupation in pithouses to the cliff dwellings, and the Wetherill Mesa Archeological Project ("WMAP"), jointly sponsored by the NPS and the National Geographic Society, 1958-1965, one of the largest archeological projects ever conducted in the US. Binoculars recommended for views of Kodak House and Double House. Lunch included.

The Mug House hike is along unpaved, uneven trail that descends 100 feet and includes one ladder, knotted rope, steep drop-offs, switchbacks, and scrambling over boulders. Mug House is named for the three mugs found tied together hanging on a peg inside one of its rooms. Mug House was also excavated during the WMAP.

The Mesa Verde Institute hosts 90-minute Cliff Palace Twilight Tours. These are beginning at 7:00 p.m. and are limited to 20 people, through Labor Day. Tickets can be purchased at the Far View Visitor Center. For more park information, visit [www.nps.gov/meve](http://www.nps.gov/meve).

Mesa Verde Institute was established in 2006 to offer visitors expanded and in-depth experience in MVNP. Through weeklong seminars, one day workshops, education hikes, lectures, and special programs, visitors of all ages can engage in enhanced educational and interpretive opportunities and gain a new, behind-the-scenes understanding of Mesa Verde and the Four Corners. In conjunction with the Mesa Verde Foundation, prominent artists recently had a day to paint plein air style at Long House. [http://www.gjsentinel.com/opinion/articles/acting\\_superintendent\\_opens\\_up](http://www.gjsentinel.com/opinion/articles/acting_superintendent_opens_up). See also Cortez Journal, April 27, 2010.

## **Melting Glacier Reveals Clovis Era Atlatl Dart.**

Craig Lee, University of Colorado, found ancient relics in recently melted ice patches. Lee's find is the oldest known atlatl dart in the Rocky Mountains. <http://tinyurl.com/atlatl1> - Discovery News

## **New Linguistic Studies Illuminate Migrations Across Bearing Sea Land Bridge.**

Research illuminating an ancient language connection between Asia and North America supports archaeological and genetic evidence that a Bering Strait land bridge once connected North America with Asia. The discovery is being endorsed by a growing list of scholars in the field of linguistics and other sciences. The work of Western Washington University linguistics professor Edward Vajda with the isolated Ket people of Central Siberia is revealing more examples of an ancient language connection with the language family of Na-Dene, which includes Tlingit, Gwich'in, Dena'ina, Koyukon, Navajo, Carrier, Hupa, Apache and about 45 other languages. <http://>

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# Archeology in the Southwest - Cont.

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[tinyurl.com/2vq982e](http://tinyurl.com/2vq982e) - Seattle Times

## **North America's First Peoples more Genetically Diverse than Thought, Mitochondrial Genome Analysis Reveals.**

The initial peopling of North America from Asia occurred approximately 15,000-18,000 years ago. However, estimations of the genetic diversity of the first settlers have remained inaccurate. A report published online, Genome Research, discusses the under estimation of the diversity of the first Americans, underscoring the importance of comprehensive sampling for accurate analysis of Mitochondrial DNA. <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2010/06/100628170926.htm>

**Mesa Verde Region and Crow Canyon to Share Pueblo Cultures Via Preserve America Grant.** Mesa Verde Country will boost its Indian Arts and Culture Festival by translating its Web site into many languages with an \$89,822 Preserve America grant in conjunction with Crow Canyon Archaeology Center. Durango Herald

## **Pueblitos Tell of Allegiances, Divides.** (Summary, Durango Herald, June 6, 2010)

In a 36-square-mile area, the Diné'tah of northwest NM built small defensive stone pueblitos, rarely larger than four to six rooms, perched on boulders, rock outcroppings and mesa edges. The buildings, dating from the early 1700s, represent fear of the Southwest slave trade in women and children. The area is the Holy Land for the Diné, the people we now know as Navajos. By the mid-1400s, ancestors of the Navajos had settled in Largo, Gobernador, San Rafael, La Jara, Frances, Munoz and other canyons, farming and hunting. Within Diné'tah is archaeological evidence of the earliest aspects of modern Navajo culture, including a ceremonial life of dances, chants and songs. Potsherds have been found from Zia, Santa Ana, Acoma and Zuni villages. In this area where San Juan and Rio Arriba counties meet, ancestors of the Navajo blended their traditions with Pueblo neighbors.

Early Navajos raided Spanish settlements for trade goods, sheep and slaves and were in turn raided by the Spanish. In 1680, Pueblo Indians revolted, pushing the Spanish out of NM. By 1715, the largest threat to the Diné'tah area were Ute and Comanche raiders carrying off Navajo women and children to become household servants and weavers in Hispanic households. Families built more than 200 defensive Pueblitos between 1680 and 1754 in a north-south arc 10 to 15 miles wide and 40 miles long, stretching from Navajo Reservoir south to Lybrook. A few pueblitos retain original plaster and distinctive handprints. A distinctive feature found is a Spanish-style hooded fireplace made of wood, a symbol of the cultural crosscurrents in the Diné'tah -- Spanish, Pueblo, Navajo, Ute, Comanche, Apache and even Kiowa.

## **Harris Cabin Used in 1900s by Ranchers Pasturing Cattle in Summer, Placed on La Plata County's Historic Register.** (Summary, Durango Herald, March 31, 2010)

The Harris cabin, located on the east fork of the Hermosa Creek drainage, was used from about 1910 until the early 1990s. The site includes a log cabin, tack room and corral. A geological survey map from the turn of the 20th century marks the spot around where the cabin stands as "old toll gate" between Rockwood and Rico.

## **Chimney Rock's Monument Status Quest Advances.** (Summary, Durango Herald)

A Senate panel okayed Sen. Bennet's bill to designate 4,700 acres of Chimney Rock Archaeo-

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# Archeology in the Southwest - Cont.

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logical Area as a national monument. If passed by both houses of Congress, the bill will give the Secretary of Agriculture the power to establish a management plan for the monument. The National Trust for Historic Preservation has helped spearhead the effort. The bill authorizes the building of a visitor's center, while allowing the recreational use of mountain bikes and vehicles. Native American tribes will retain access to the site for traditional uses. The bill now waits to be packaged together with several dozen other public-lands bills to be eligible for consideration by the full Senate after the August recess.

## **Famous Ranchos de Taos Church's New Coat of Mud Cements Bonds of Community.**

*(Summary, Denver Post, July 11, 2010)*

If it weren't for a two centuries old annual ritual, that has been kept alive by the close-knit community of Ranchos de Taos, it is likely the iconic church wouldn't be standing at all. Hundreds of parishioners gathered over two weeks to plaster the thick walls of the San Francisco de Asis Church with a fresh coat of mud. The church was constructed in the early 1800s by the families who lived in what was then a remote settlement a few miles from the Rio Grande and north of the crossroads of El Camino Real and the Santa Fe Trail.

## **Animas Museum Director Robert McDaniel, 60, Native Durangoan, Retires, Effective November 1, 2010, after 33 Years.**

*(Summary, Durango Herald, July 22, 2010)*

The museum gave McDaniel the opportunity to research, to write history and to help with acquisitions. He hopes to support the museum as a historian after November 1, on a volunteer basis. The museum, owned and operated by the La Plata County Historical Society, has 35,000 items in its permanent collection, including photos and maps, documents, mining and railroad artifacts and pots from Native American communities. The historical society will hire an interim director for 6 to 18 months. McDaniel attended Animas School, the building that now houses the museum, from 1956 to 1960.

## **Crow Canyon Archaeological Center Receives \$108,554 Grant from State Historical Fund**

*(Summary, Cortez Journal, August 17, 2010)*

This grant supports components of two ongoing Crow Canyon initiatives: the Pueblo Farming Project and the American Indian Student Education Project. Crow Canyon plans to incorporate educational products from both projects in the center's curriculum, make them available to Pueblo schools, and post them on the Crow Canyon website. The Pueblo Farming Project is a collaborative effort between Crow Canyon staff and traditional Pueblo farmers to better understand the farming practices Pueblo Indians in the Four Corners area might have used in ancient times. Crow Canyon staff and Pueblo farmers have been planting and harvesting experimental gardens at Crow Canyon's campus for several years. In addition, the grant supports Pueblo Farming Project researchers as they initiate a corn genetics study that will focus on finding genetic markers associated with the different strains of Pueblo corn. The grant also supports a component of the American Indian Student Education Project that involves the creation of three sets of lesson plans focusing on migration from the Mesa Verde area in the A.D. 1200s, the migrants' arrival in the northern Rio Grande Valley, and the Pueblo Revolt of 1680. Each set of lessons will include instruction for two grade levels.

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## Archeology in the Southwest - Cont.

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### **Park Service OKs Expansion of Historic Grand Canyon Railway Train to Three Trips a Day.**

*(Summary, Cortez Journal, September 24, 2009)*

An environmental assessment approved recently allows as many as 30 special trains a year for events and promotions. Those include sunset trips or the railway's Polar Express, a nighttime trip that treats passengers to hot chocolate, cookies, and a reading of the holiday tale. More than 200,000 passengers a year board 1950s-style rail cars pulled by a diesel locomotive from Williams, AZ, through the high desert and Ponderosa pines to the Grand Canyon's South Rim. Passengers have the option of staying overnight at the canyon and boarding the train the next morning. In the early 1900s, the railroad was the main mode of transportation to the Grand Canyon but now accounts for just six percent of the 4.5 million annual visitors to the South Rim. The Grand Canyon Railway ran the first trains to the South Rim in 1901, capitalizing on Americans' fascination with one of the world's greatest natural wonders. The operation ceased in the late 1960s and was reinstated in 1989 under a concession permit.



## Archeology from Afar

### **Children Found in N.C. Attic.** *(Summary, Daily Times, June 11, 2010)*

A 150-year-old photo shows a young black child named John, barefoot and wearing ragged clothes, perched on a barrel next to another unidentified young boy. Art historians believe it is an extremely rare Civil War-era photograph of children who were either slaves at the time or were recently emancipated, taken in the early 1860s, a testament to a dark part of American history. In April, the photo was found at a moving sale in Charlotte, accompanied by a document detailing the sale of John for \$1,150, not a small sum in 1854. What makes the picture an even more compelling find is that several art experts said it was created by the photography studio of Mathew Brady, a famous 19th-century photographer known for his portraits of historical figures such as President Abraham Lincoln and Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee.

### **Grants Program Created by Hillary Clinton at the National Trust for Historic Preservation Now Endangered by Budget Cuts.** *(Summary, Daily Sentinel, March 8, 2010)*

Without warning, the program that helped restore the original star-spangled banner, Rosa Parks' bus, President Lincoln's summer cottage in Washington and hundred of sites across the country is on the current administration's chopping block. The program has paid out nearly \$294 million over the past decade to more than 1,100 different sites and generated at least \$377 million more in matching funds. Administered by the National Park Service, the program's chief advocate is

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# Archeology from Afar - Cont.

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the nonprofit trust which helps coordinate applicants. Historic preservation advocates are in survival mode. They argue the program, with an annual \$30 million budget, has created more than 16,000 jobs across the country at a cost of about \$14,000 each. The federal stimulus package is creating jobs at a cost of \$248,000 each. The program, however, has become a favorite pot of money for members of Congress to fund pet projects through earmarks. Budget watchdogs have been critical of the earmarks and a related program started by the Bush administration, Preserve America, for lacking rigorous performance metrics and evaluation efforts. The Interior Department, facing a tight budget, wants to reclaim the program's \$30 million for priorities in national parks. The park service would still award \$500 million a year in local tax credits for historic preservation.

## **Torah that Survived Holocaust Finds Home.** (Summary, Daily Sentinel, September 19, 2009)

Rabbi Danny Marmorstein uses the Yiddish word "bashert" (meant to be) to describe how a Torah created in 19th-century Eastern Europe survived the Nazi regime in near-perfect condition and landed at his tiny synagogue. The 131-year-old Torah was believed to have been completed in 1878, the date of the inscription on its wooden handle. The handle also bears the name of the couple who donated it to their congregation in Moravske Budejovice, in what is now the Czech Republic. The scroll came to Miami after the synagogue's name was placed on a waiting list. It remains the property of the London organization, on indefinite loan to the temple.

## **Eisenhower Memorial to Include 80-foot Columns and Metal "Tapestries" of Photos Still needs \$80 Million to be Completed.** (Summary, Daily Times, March 26, 2010)

A commission overseeing the construction of the Eisenhower Memorial wants to have it finished by 2015. Architect Frank Gehry said the 13 columns, 12 feet in diameter and about 80 feet tall, were something he initially needed to hold up the tapestries, but they also created a "dignity for the site."

## **Salvagers Won Permission to Recover a World War II Navy Dive Bomber, SB2C-4 Helldiver, Resting on Bottom of San Diego's Lower Otay Reservoir for Over Six Decades.** (Summary, Daily Times, May 28, 2010)

The goal is to display the plane in the National Naval Aviation Museum in Florida. Since it is a drinking water reservoir, it will have to be shut down. Divers will have to dredge silt from around the aircraft to see whether it can be recovered. The Helldiver had taken off from an aircraft carrier and was on a training run when its engine failed and the pilot ditched on May 28, 1945. The pilot and gunner swam to shore, and the Navy decided to leave the bomber at the bottom of the lake.



San Juan Basin Archaeological Society  
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## San Juan Basin Archaeological Society

A Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society

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