

For immediate release:

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The Silver City Museum Society Thanks the PNM Resources Foundation for \$20,000 PowerUp Grant to Fund Courtyard Renovations

The Silver City Museum Society has received funding through the PNM Fund's PowerUp Grant in the amount of \$20,000. The grant will be used on renovations for the museum's courtyard, set to begin April 21. The Silver City Museum Society has also received a donation of \$1,658.64 from Mr. Boardwalk to fund courtyard renovations. The courtyard will remain closed off during this time, but the museum will continue to remain open and accessible through its front entrance. Renovations will include the re-leveling of the courtyard, installation of a wooden walkway, an interpretive panel about the Ailman House, and container gardens.

The Silver City Museum Courtyard will undergo renovations from April 21st through July 1st. During this time, the Community Youth Building Program will assist in courtyard renovations and removal of the brick pavers. The courtyard will be re-leveled with soil and planted with new grass seed. The original pavers will be replaced with a roll-out wooden walkway, provided by Mr. Boardwalk.

The courtyard will re-open in time for the Silver City Museum's annual 4th of July Ice Cream Social. "This year's Ice Cream Social will mark the Silver City Museum's 50th Anniversary," Museum Director Carmen Vendelin remarks. "This project will make our celebration all the more special. We are very grateful to PNM." Following that will be the installation of two container gardens in collaboration with the Volunteer Center's high school summer internship program, "Rooted Youth Growing Change," which will feature plants and vegetation native to the area.

The Museum was originally awarded the grant in 2015 and will now use the funds to correct safety hazards in the courtyard.

"The PNM Grant Committee and Tim Price have been extremely gracious in allowing us to re-allocate the grant money where it is very pressingly needed," says Museum Educator, Andie Portillo. "Downtown Silver City has so few green and outdoor spaces, and the pavers are a serious trip hazard to visitors. Having a safer and enhanced courtyard can serve as a pleasant and accessible community space for everyone."

With renovations set to begin quickly, the Silver City Museum's annual Children's Day—June 16—will be postponed to a future date. And the courtyard will be unavailable for rent until early July.

Please watch for a special grand re-opening announcement in August.

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The Silver City Museum creates opportunities for residents and visitors to explore, understand, and celebrate the rich and diverse cultural heritage of southwestern New Mexico by collecting, preserving, researching, and interpreting the region's unique history. For more information, please contact the museum at (575) 538-5921, education@silvercitymuseum.org, or go to the museum's website.

www.silvercitymuseum.org.

PNM Resources Foundation

PNM Resources Foundation is dedicated to improving the quality of life in the communities served by the subsidiaries of PNM Resources. The Foundation seeks opportunities for engaged philanthropy through a focus on education, environmental awareness and education, economic vitality and employee engagement. Since 1983, the PNM Resources Foundation has helped improve the quality of life in New Mexico by supporting nonprofit organizations. In 1983, PNM shareholders created the PNM Foundation as a separate, nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation governed by a board of trustees comprised of PNM employees. No customer funds are part of the PNM Resources Foundation endowment.