



,ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT RELEASE: September 2011  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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[www.mimbresarts.org](http://www.mimbresarts.org)

## **Pickamania! Festival Welcomes Partner Events, Workshops, Band Scramble, Pickin' in the Park, Raffles and More over September 9, 10, 11, 2011.**

### **Friday Night, September 9**

*Pickamania! Festival Weekend, supported by WESTAF (Western States Arts Federation), National Endowment for the Arts, and New Mexico Arts, kicks off on Friday night, September 9* with The Honey Gitters at the Buckhorn Opera House in Pinos Altos. The Honey Gitters, an alternative country, bluegrass and good old-fashioned rock and roll band will bring their unique sound to Grant County. Classified as Pop/Rock/Americana with a twang of banjo and plugged in roots music, this four man band has a dedicated following and large fan base. Get in the mood and get ready to kick off Silver City's free music festival with the Honey Gitters. Ticket are \$10 and can be purchased in the Mimbres Region Arts Council offices, by calling the office, or online at [www.mimbresarts.org](http://www.mimbresarts.org)

### **Saturday Morning, September 10**

#### ***Bike Fun Rides for all level of Bicyclists***

For specific information and registration email [gilamonsterbikes@yahoo.com](mailto:gilamonsterbikes@yahoo.com)

### **Saturday, September 10**

Pickamania! Festival features opening act Baxtalo Beng with AlmaZazz! at 12 noon. Various performances run through 7:15pm, closing with headliners, The Savoy Family Cajun Band from Louisiana.

### **Saturday Evening at 7:30pm**

#### ***Pickin' in the Park***

A fun addition to the Pickamania! Festival is an opportunity for all musicians to "Pick in the Park" following the event's headliner, Savoy Family Cajun Band, Saturday evening from 7:30-11:00 p.m. Bring your chair and your instrument and hook up with other musicians for an impromptu jam session and let the inspiration and fun begin.

### **Sunday morning, September 11 in Gough Park**

***"Honoring Our Heroes" September 11th Patriot Day Remembrance Tenth Anniversary sponsored by the American Legion.*** On Sunday morning, September 11th, a Remembrance Observance will be held in Silver City at Gough Park from 9 am to 10 am.

For more information contact program leaders: James E. (Jim) Zawacki or Frank Donohue, Honorary Chairmen.

### **Saturday, September 10 and Sunday, September 11 mornings –**

***Performer workshops open to the public,*** will be held in the Mimbres Region Arts Council's offices at 1201 Pope Street, in the Wells Fargo Building. Pre-registration is required by calling or visiting the office or registering online. The fee is \$20.00 per workshop.

**Saturday morning, September 10 from 10 – 11:30 a.m.,** traditional fiddler, Eileen Sullivan, is offering "Introduction to Traditional Irish Music". No previous experience with Irish music is required. This introductory workshop is open to anyone playing any instrument and will include information on a variety of topics including style, rhythm, tune structure, and the acquisition of traditional repertoire. Participants will learn one or two lively tunes by ear. The format of the class is relaxed and participatory. Workshop participants are encouraged to bring a recording device.

Eileen Sullivan is a graduate of the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music and has years of violin and fiddle teaching experience. She has been playing fiddle and traditional dance music for over a decade.

**Sunday morning, September 11 from 10 – 11:30 a.m.**

The Savoy Family Band, renowned for preserving and performing traditional Cajun Music will be hosting a workshop titled *"The Evolution of Cajun Music"* The workshop will be a musical journey from the birth of Cajun music to present day featuring fiddles, accordion, triangle and guitar. Band members will talk about how the music changed as it evolved in Southwest Louisiana and the socio-economic events that brought about those changes.

The Savoy Family Cajun Band plays honed down, hard-core Cajun music laced with an earthy sensuality. In their hands, the old tunes have been revived and returned to new life .The band is renowned in their field and as authorities on Cajun roots music. They were recently featured on HBO's hit program Treme, about life in New Orleans, and on numerous National Public Radio programs.

**Sunday, September 11**

***Band Scramble***

If you're a musician or want to be a musician, here's your chance to be on stage during Pickamania! We'll give you a chance to be part of a band and play on stage before the festival crowd. Bands will be formed via random draw according to instrument and will have a brief time to put together a crowd pleasing performance. **(PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A TIME CHANGE)** Sign up for the Band Scramble begins Saturday and runs until 1:00pm on Sunday at the arts council booth in Gough Park. Bands will be posted @ 2:00pm, giving performers time to practice together from 2-2:35 pm. All bands will report to the stage at that time and the Scramble will begin promptly at 2:45pm. Cost to participate is \$10.00/person. For further information, please contact the Mimbres Region Arts Council at 538-2505 or visit us at [www.mimbresarts.org](http://www.mimbresarts.org).

**Pickamania! to feature exceptional RAFFLE items.**

Bill Bussmann, master luthier of Old Wave Mandolins has donated an exquisite, hand crafted mandolin valued at \$2,600 for this year's festival raffle to benefit the return of Pickamania!. This **Old Wave** mandolin is meticulously handcrafted by Bussmann who "altered" his first Kay guitar in 1964, strung up his first mandolin in 1990, and apprenticed with master fiddle maker R.L. Crawford between 1992-1993. Check [mimbresarts.org](http://mimbresarts.org) for a detailed description of the instrument. Old Wave Mandolins, Bill Bussmann, Luthier is located in Caballo NM. [bussmann@zianet.com](mailto:bussmann@zianet.com)

**For Banjo lovers, Brandon Perrault of Perrault Music Co. in Silver City has donated a Johnson Planetary 5-string, JB 110 Banjo valued at \$450.**

A highly-regard local musician, Brandon has been a long-time supporter of the Arts Council.

Raffle Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased in the MRAC office, by phone, or online at [www.mimbresarts.org](http://www.mimbresarts.org).

**Both instruments can be seen at the MRAC office until the festival when they will be featured at the arts council booth in Gough Park.**

**New this year!**

Paul Leetmae of Lawley Toyota and Lawley Ford is pleased to add to the Pickamania! excitement by offering a lucky individual a chance to win a free iPad 2. Registration for the Lawley Toyota iPad2 is online only. To register to win iPad2 just follow the links on the [www.mimbresarts.org](http://www.mimbresarts.org) website to the Lawley Toyota online form. The drawing will take place at 4:15 pm on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. Must be present in Gough Park to win. To register, you must be at least 18 years of age.

**PARTNER EVENT:**

**The Red Hot Children's Fiesta** : A fun children's fiesta with lots of games, crafts, and good times for families! Everything is FREE! The Fiesta is set for **Saturday, September 10, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** at WNMU Old James Stadium, E Street between 12th & College.

For more information on the Red Hot Children's Fiesta call 575-388-1198ext. 10 or email [kmilligan@grmc.org](mailto:kmilligan@grmc.org).

Contact the MRAC office at 575-538-2505 or go to [www.mimbresarst.org](http://www.mimbresarst.org) for more information.

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