

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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News Release

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Maggie's Birthday Party at Living Desert Zoo and Gardens State Park

Carlsbad, NM – Maggie, Living Desert Zoo and Gardens' black bear, is turning nine years old and everyone is invited to her birthday party on Saturday, January 18, from 1-4 p.m.!

"Maggie was brought to Living Desert Zoo and Gardens State Park when she was just five months old after being orphaned," said Interpretive Ranger Kathryn Law. "Where does the time go? She's going to be nine years old already!"

General Curator Holly Payne started Maggie on her artistic career shortly after her arrival as a behavioral enrichment activity and to give the young bear something to do. Maggie paints with her feet and her artwork is on sale at the zoo.

Maggie's Birthday Party is full with fun!

- Guess Maggie's weight for a chance to win a painting by the famous bear.
- General Curator Holly Payne will present a program about Maggie's history at 1 p.m.
- Children's crafts and face painting will take place from 1-3 p.m.
- Listen to "Maggie's First Birthday" at 2:30 p.m. - a children's story written and illustrated by former docent coordinator Susan Young.
- Watch Maggie unwrap her edible birthday gifts at 3:30 p.m.

All visitor center activities are free. To see Maggie, regular zoo admission fees apply. Children six and under are free; \$3 for children 7-12 years old; and for people 13 and older, the cost is \$5. Maggie t-shirts are also for sale.

Conditions are Right for Adventure at a New Mexico State Park!

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The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and renewable energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies.

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