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## Roosevelt's New Deal 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Exhibit Opens in Portales

SANTA FE, NM – The National New Deal Association's traveling exhibit of New Mexico's photo-documented New Deal Treasures will make its last stop in the state in Portales, NM from September 19 through November 1st, 2008.

The opening reception for the exhibit, supported and sponsored by local organizations such as the Portales MainStreet Board and Portales Arts Council, will be held on Friday, September 19, 2008 from 1:00-5:00pm in the Roosevelt County Courthouse courtroom. Kathryn Flynn noted WPA author of New Deal: A 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition and Treasures on New Mexico Trails: Discover New Deal Art and Architecture will be the featured speaker at 2:00pm. This event is free to the public.

The New Mexico Economic Development Department (NMEDD), through its New Mexico MainStreet Program, borrowed the exhibit from the National New Deal Association late last year. The exhibit debuted in Silver City in December of last year, and was shown in Artesia and Raton before opening in Tucumcari.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal initiatives transformed the economic landscape of New Mexico. Its legacy of employing upwards of 40 percent of New Mexico's population during the Great Depression of the 1930s can be seen in public works, art, artisan and craft work in every region of the state. Under President Roosevelt's New Deal initiatives, the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) constructed roads, dams, parks, monuments, libraries, hospitals, post offices, firehouses, schools and municipal buildings across New Mexico.

"This is the last opportunity for New Mexican's to experience this amazing exhibit. We have been very privileged to host this exhibit this year, and many people have had the opportunity to share in this historical display. If you have not had a chance to visit the exhibit I strongly encourage you to do so now," said NMEDD Cabinet Secretary Fred Mondragón. "The WPA and the New Deal initiatives had a significant impact on our state and this remarkable exhibit provides a first hand look at the dynamic work that was created."

New Deal Treasures exhibition dates and locations are as follows:

- September 19-November 1, 2008 – Roosevelt County Courthouse, Portales, New Mexico

For more information visit [www.offtheroadnm.com](http://www.offtheroadnm.com).

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