



SANTA FE
Salad days

At *Vinaigrette*, the airy new bistro housed in an old adobe off Cerillos Road, 28-year-old owner (and disciple of food writer Michael Pollan) Erin Wade makes eating your vegetables fun. Her 10 classic and 12 original salads have names like Eat Your Peas (a mix of baby lettuce, green peas, sautéed mushrooms, and asiago cheese) and the Nutty Pear-fessor, a fresh take on the old pear-and-blue-cheese standby. Much of the produce is sourced from her 10-acre organic farm in nearby Nambé (meat is on the menu too). The restaurant gets hopping at lunch, so go for dinner if you prefer a quiet meal. \$\$; closed Sun; 505/820-9205.

—STEPHANIE PEARSON

Poolside reads

Three indie bookstores pump up your summer reading list

BENSON, AZ

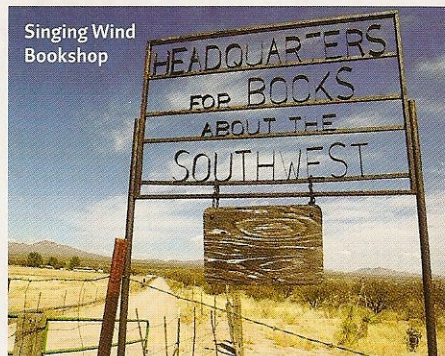
When you pull up next to a John Deere tractor and see an enormous steel sign reading HEADQUARTERS FOR BOOKS ABOUT THE SOUTHWEST, you know you're not at your average bookstore. Owner Winn Bundy, who operates the *Singing Wind Bookshop* from her sweeping Tucson-area cattle ranch, stocks titles that run the literary gamut. Browse her selection of memoirs, fiction, and local histories: Try Nancy Turner's *These Is My Words*, or *Mariachi for Gringos* by Gil Sperry. 520/586-2425. —TIM VANDERPOOL

TEMPE, AZ

The beloved bookseller *Changing Hands*, part of the Tempe scene since 1974, encourages you to linger over its shelves of novels, kids' books, and a wide selection of titles on politics, the environment, and social change. The little indie also attracts big names for signings—Jimmy Carter, Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton, and chef Anthony Bourdain have all wielded Sharpies for fans. Tip: Carry in java from the coffee shop next door. 480/730-0205. —NORA BURBA TRULSSON

ALBUQUERQUE

The latest novels, spicy memoirs, and local histories spill off the shelves at *Bookworks*, Albuquerque's super-stocked independent bookstore. The inventory can be daunting, but thoughtful staffers (devoted readers all) can guide you to a summer read that's just the ticket. We love the crafts cupboard, where a jumble of how-to books spurs creative serendipity: *Sock Monkey Dreams*, anyone? Note: Well-behaved dogs are welcome. 505/344-8139. —RONNI LUNDY



Don't miss

The **New Mexico History Museum**—Santa Fe's first new museum since the Georgia O'Keeffe debuted more than 10 years ago—is slated to open May 24, with interactive exhibits on the West. \$6 state residents, \$9 nonresidents; nmhistorymuseum.org