

EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO

ISSUE #14

APRIL 1998

LA CUARESMA from Anna Cárdenas

With Lent upon us I thought I'd remind our Catholic villagers of the coming events. Good Friday is April 10. It was and is customary among some of the village to share the lenten foods with one another. Those foods were prepared before 12 o'clock, served in small dishes, put on a tray, and the older children or adults would take them to their neighbors. The neighbor did the same. Some of the foods were: *chile con torta*, *arroz dulce*, *salmon*, *panocha*, and *sopa*. These were dishes handed down from mother to daughter.

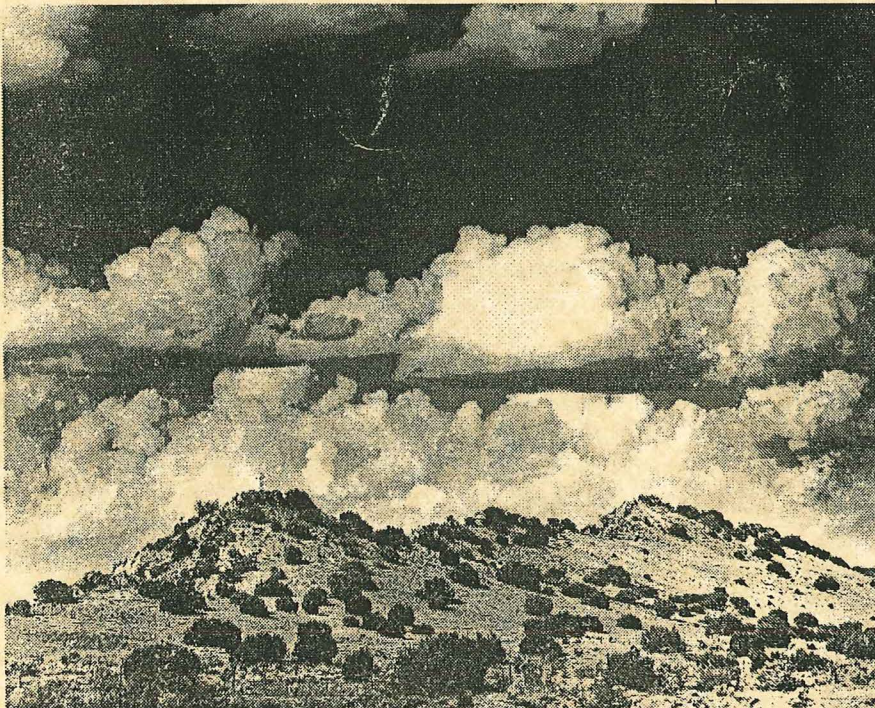
After lunch the people would join at the church to observe the three hours Christ hung on the cross. To announce the services the *matracas* (a wooden slate with attached wooden beads that hit against the wood to produce a rattling sound) would be used instead of ringing the bell. The Stations of the Cross, or *estaciones* would be prayed, followed by other prayers. Easter Sunday is April 12 and mass begins at 12 o'clock. *Feliz Dia de Pasqua a todos.*

CDRC APPROVES PRELIMINARY PLAN FOR EL TANQUE VIEJO

The County Development Review Committee meeting on March 26 at the County Courthouse was attended by several Galisteo residents. Asi Mohn and Mike Anaya stood as applicants for the El Tanque Viejo project, "in Galisteo Village within Section 36 Township 14N Range 9E (Commission District 5) a 3,500 square foot project on .0822 acres." Chairman Steve Moya recused himself from voting on his brother-in-law's proposal.

Anaya and Mohn stated that one third of the building would be for their business, Electrical Concepts, and two thirds would be rented out, perhaps as a gallery and coffee shop. Mike said the community seemed to think it would be a good place for people to stop for coffee before work, and "My sister needs a place to show her artwork."

The staff case planner was Development Review Specialist I Vicki Lopez. The Staff recommended approval subject to a number of conditions too long to list here in detail, including
(continued on p. 2)



GATEWAY TO GALISTEO (Photo: Nicholas Trofimuk, 1995). The cross on the Creston or hogback east of Route 41 was erected by José Ortiz y Pino and his brother John on Good Friday around 1955. The two young men made it as "a little sacrifice for Easter, a reminder of the Passion." They constructed it in two pieces on the family ranch (where Vista Clara is now) and it took them half a day to carry it up the hill and raise it.

Tanque (continued from p. 1)

standard regulations for driveway permit, master plan, underground utilities, dumpster fence, fire hydrant and other fire considerations. Among them: "The minimum water main size shall be 8" and shall be capable of providing 1000 (+) gallons per minute to the attached hydrant with a residual pressure of 20 PSI"; "fire licenses shall not be granted until the fire suppression sprinkler system and alarm system have been tested and approved by the Fire Marshal." And "Prior to final approval, the applicant must submit an approved Environment Department permit for a waste water system. The system shall serve the entire project and must reduce nitrogen per Article VII, Section 2.7."

The staff recommended that the proposed development be given 1.39 acre-feet of water per year which was approved by County hydrologist Jack Frost. The Galisteo Water Association was not consulted on the amount. Our domestic hookups allow for 169,000 gallons per year: 42.58 acre feet divided by 80 hookups. (The city of Santa Fe recommends 8,000 to 12,000 gallons per month, or 96,000-144,000 per year.)

The final condition for the Anaya-Mohn project states: "The water budget must be honored. A meter shall be installed with water use reported every 6 months, and any overuse shall be made up by conservation in the six months following over-consumption. Landscaping and water use must follow the County Terrain Management Requirements."

Richard Griscom asked whether this commercial approval established a precedent for other development in Galisteo. The reply was yes, (politically if not legally) but if a Community Land Use Plan were adopted to modify zoning, it would override this and other precedents.

The Anaya-Mohn project is scheduled to be heard for final approval by the Board of County Commissioners on April 14, 1998, 6PM. If you have questions, call Vicki Lopez at 986-6222.

FROM THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WATER ASSOCIATION

On Monday, March 16, at 7PM, the Galisteo Mutual Domestic Water Consumers' Association, Inc. held its annual meeting for members only (there are 57 members) at the Community Center. The following was submitted to EL PUENTE for public information by Gary Grimm, Secretary.

Members Present: Steve Moya, Gary Grimm, Michael D. Anaya, Lisa Griego, Moira Walden, Roman Attenberger, Antonio Chavez, Priscilla Hoback, Scott Diffrient, Barbara Cooper, Teresa Montoya, Rod Hall, Anna Cardenas, Onesimo Montoya, Anastacio Sandoval, Romona Scholder, Elayne Patton, Bobbi Anaya, and Barbara Holloway. (19 members total).

1. New Storage Tank Update:

*We have just recently received final approval from the County. The job should go out to bid within 30 days, and construction most likely will begin in early May. With the new tank, we will have 65,000 gallons of storage (15,000 in old tank and 50,000 in new one). The new tank will be made of plexiglas and will be able to be painted any color the membership chooses.

*New system will assist Fire Department with greater water supply and more fire hydrants, will give the Association more water storage, and it will ensure fewer breaks. *ISO rating is now down to 9 and we hope that when system is finished and inspected it could go as low as 7.

2. Frankie and Tacho Sandoval's Request for a Variance:

* Discussion began by looking at feasibility of leasing or selling a hook-up rather than granting a variance. Anna Cardenas made a motion to sell to Frankie Sandoval one hook-up that the Association now owns (sold back to us by Alvaro Lopez-Waterman), provided that Frankie submit a permit of approval to the board based on having received final inspection from state on having a legal septic system and leach line, showing that he is now in compliance with all state health codes regarding septic. Motion was approved by members present voting 10 in favor and 9 opposed. *Priscilla Hoback then made a motion to sell Frankie this hookup for \$500. Anna seconded this motion, which was approved unanimously by membership.

3. Mike Anaya's Proposed Commercial Plan:

* Mike explained that due to needing sufficient water pressure to operate a sprinkler system (Fire code requirement), he could not use his well to supply this new building. * Mike answered further questions of water usage, noting CDRC meeting on March 26. * Barbara Cooper moved to have Board consider the possibility of metering the 2 non-residential users (Chris Griscom and Mike Anaya) in order to determine and monitor their water usage. Motion was approved by the membership.

4. By-Law Change: *Anna moved that we propose to change Article III, paragraph H, to read: "Water hookups provided by the Association shall be used for domestic purposes only, unless special approval is given by a majority vote of a legal meeting (no fewer than 15 members present) of the general membership..." *Proposal approved. Letter will be sent out to general membership this week to vote on this issue.

[Nos. 5-6 not received].

7. Elections: *Mike Anaya moved to re-elect Steve Moya as President. *Steve Moya moved to re-elect Roman Attenberger as Foreman. *Moira moved to re-elect Lisa Griego to a 2-year term as Member of the Board. *Anna Cardenas moved to re-elect Teresa Montoya to a 2-year term as Alternate Board Member.

[All these motions were approved unanimously.]
Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The recent flap about Mike Anaya's proposed development of his Galisteo property — and water rights related to this development — illustrates one very simple thing: change is difficult. Folks like to believe that the way things are is the way they will remain. Those of us who have been around for several decades can testify to the fact that this is not the case — quite to the contrary! In delicate situations like this one, people are tempted to take sides — shall we support an issue? Shall we oppose it? Shall we ride the fence?

But will our stance, in the long run, make any difference? Change is inevitable, whether we support, oppose, or ignore it.

Wouldn't it be more practical to lay aside our differences in favor of a much more pressing need: the need to unite, as a community, behind a plan to embrace and prepare for positive change, to create for our children a future which ensures that they will enjoy the pleasures which brought us to Galisteo in the first place — clean air, plenty of space, the support of neighbors and friends in a peaceful and natural setting?

Far more critical than Mike Anaya's plan to switch the water hookup from his house to his proposed commercial building is the obvious threat that faces us all: Eldorado-type development headed this way.

How can we protect Galisteo from suburban sprawl? Can we work together to solve this potential problem? Can we accept the challenge, the responsibility to prepare for *this* change? There are solutions out there. People are already employing them in other small rural communities. Have we the determination, the patience, the faith in each other it will take to find *our* solutions? I hope so!

Valentine McKay-Riddell

It's too bad the membership of the Galisteo Water Association is not concerned about our water. They didn't come to the hearing about Mike Anaya's proposal for a commercial building.

Seems to me that Mike Anaya deceived the Board members about what he was going to build on his commercial building..

I talked to Moira Walden because I really wanted to know exactly why there are no more water hookups available and she plainly said there is no more water available. I asked if they knew that, why did they approve Mike Anaya the transfer of his hookup from his house to use it on his commercial building? She said it was hard to disapprove when both Steve Moya and Mike Anaya were there at the Board meeting. What does that picture tell you?

I always believed that we voted the Board members to represent the whole membership of the water association, not just one individual. What next? Moira admitted the Board had made a terrible mistake.

Mela Montoya

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mela and Onesimo were interviewed on the front page of the *Albuquerque Journal North* on March 24 concerning the Galisteo water situation. Steve Moya asked that we correct one item therein: The Galisteo Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association does not have a filter system.

I was excited when EL PUENTE started. I think a newspaper like this has the potential to create and even heal community. Unfortunately it has the power also to destroy community and hurt individuals. When I read "Open Letter to Steve Moya and Board Members..." [from Mela and Onesimo Montoya, in March] I was disappointed that this letter was printed without an equal simultaneous voice for the members of the Board.

When there is conflict like we have in Galisteo right now over this proposed zoning change, there are only a few possible outcomes: 1. One side wins, the other side loses. 2. Withdrawal (neither achieves goal) 3. Compromise (both sides give up something) 4. A solution where all needs and interests are met and

village harmony is enhanced. Which outcome does EL PUENTE want to support?

I have followed this zoning change request fairly closely. If Mike Anaya or Steve Moya have done anything unethical or illegal, I am not aware of it. Let them have a voice. This is not the way to thank these people for the services they have provided us. If our residents serve the community on boards, follow the rules they've been given and then are called publicly without warning into question, there will come a day when no one will serve. It felt to me that by only printing one side of the conflict and not allowing a simultaneous voice to the people whose integrity was being called into question, EL PUENTE may have inadvertently escalated an already difficult situation.

You can bet that one day there will be a restaurant (in addition to the Inn) in Galisteo. If there is only room for one, I prefer that it be in Mike Anaya's control, rather than in the control of some person we haven't even met yet.

Nancy Fischer

EL PUENTE REPLIES: I'm not sure Nancy read the February or the March issues. The Water Board was in fact given first say in March. The same with this April issue. This is what they chose to print. EL PUENTE has been in contact with Moira and Steve all along. And we print all Letters to the Editor that are received.

The newspaper exists so all sides can be heard. This is not inadvertent but intentional. Open discussion of controversy is healthier than false harmony and buried resentments.

EL PUENTE has never spoken against Mike Anaya's development and has in fact supported the coffee shop/gallery idea. We are interested in the water situation because it ultimately affects the entire community and not just the members of the water association. In the interest of harmony it is important for everyone in the community to be well informed and for all the facts to be out in the open.

THE GREENING OF GALISTEO

by Joe Cooper

Just three days after many wore green to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, Kaye Sandford gave a community party to announce plans for the ecological future of Vista Clara Ranch. Permaculture expert and Living Systems Designer Thomas Mack presented a visionary program for creating a thriving ecosystem where the soil and its dependents, animal and vegetable, will work in harmony with the human goals of physical and spiritual wholeness. Organic farmer Rob Roy (the man, not the cocktail) then described how this would provide a wide range of natural bounty, including fruits and vegetables, herbs and spices, small animals, poultry and fish.

Creating this Eden won't be easy, but with Kaye's commitment and the expertise and energy of her staff, it surely seems attainable. Tackling the challenge involves checking erosion and creating productive soil to replace what's blown or wasted away. Digging swales or shallow trenches along the land contours catches and holds the water as berms in between are planted with hardy native plants to anchor and enrich the soil. This makes it attractive for trees like Cottonwoods rather than the Salt Cedar (Tamarisk) and Russian Olive that have taken over.

The guiding principle is to make nature our ally by turning negatives into positives that work interactively. It is better to find constructive uses for pests rather than just getting rid of them. That way some creature you want to have around can eat, say, grasshoppers, turning them into a resource rather than a burden. That approach, repeated over and over with various plants, animals, birds, and insects, makes the program efficient.

All this takes water and the challenge is to save and re-use it to the fullest. Rain will be channelled from roofs and organized drainage into rock-lined ponds containing reeds to cleanse and preserve it. Systems to re-use "gray water" will mean drawing minimal water from the ground. Drought-tolerant plants will nurture and sustain each other as in the brother/sister relationship of the pinon and juniper. As the land heals, vegetables and herb gardens, orchards, beehives, small animals and poultry can thrive in interdependence.

Just as one hand washes the other, the various species will grow and thrive, giving and taking as nature intended. This will provide natural beauty as well as healthy foods and healing herbs for chefs Steven and Kirstin Jarrett to prepare and to use in teaching others. Vista Clara does not intend to keep all these benefits for themselves. Kaye has offered to share the expertise and energy of her advisors and staff with the entire community so that we all benefit. Supporting the project can help us extend the greening all over Galisteo. Call Kaye Sandford if you are interested (466-0597).

NEW! THE GCA REPORT

by Barbara Cooper, GCA Secretary

The new Board of the Galisteo Community Association held its first meeting on March 24. It was recommended and approved that major issues considered by the Board be written up regularly in a column in EL PUENTE. This will give us a much-needed opportunity to communicate with the community at large. All members will continue to receive the minutes of each Board meeting. This column by the Secretary will simply expand on the minutes and give a more detailed account of matters considered by the Board.

In our attempt to increase general communication and further broader-based community participation in events and issues of importance to us all, the Board decided that the first half hour of each Board meeting would be an open forum, encouraging anyone in town to come and speak about issues of importance to them. No written request will be required and you are all encouraged to share your concerns with us. With the exception of the **April meeting which will be Tuesday night, April 21 at 6:30 PM** in the Community Center, the meetings are generally held on the **third Wednesday of each month at 6:30.**

The newly formed Action Committee [formerly the Advisory Committee] will be headed by Wendy Monroe. This group will consist of members of the community who are willing to volunteer their services for special events or projects which Board members cannot undertake due to time and energy commitments. While we have several names of those willing to serve in this way, we could use a few more people to come and "fill the gaps." Call Wendy if you would like to help in this way. You may choose the time and project on which you would like to work and your help and advice will be greatly appreciated.

At the moment, we are in need of two people to organize our annual Flea Market on a Saturday morning in early June (date not yet determined). This involves publicizing the event, collecting booth fees, arranging for food and space for all participants. It is a great all-community event and we do need your help.

We would all like to thank Joette and Nick Trofimuk for their gift of a Sharp copier to the community.

BITS AND PIECES

We had promised a fuller report on the March Community meeting, but there wasn't room in this issue. Sorry. Read your minutes!

CORRECTION: We were given the wrong information on the paving of our end of County Road 42. The paving will begin at Route 41, as approved at the Community meeting months ago.

INVITATION: An exhibition called "Sniper's Nest: Art That Has Lived with Lucy R. Lippard" is opening on April 24 at the Museum of Fine Arts on the Plaza. All Galisteo community members are cordially invited to the reception (5:30-7:30). Lucy will give a lecture at the St. Francis Auditorium on April 30 at 6PM and the show will be up until Sept. 28.

NANCY HOLT EL PUENTE SPONSOR OF THE MONTH

GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

ADS ARE FREE, AND FOR GALISTEO RESIDENTS ONLY. Put your ads in Box 77 (Rte. 41 across the creek at Avenida Vieja) or call 466-1276 by **May 5** for next issue. Please call to have ads continue or not. **ONLY NEW ADS AND SERVICES CALLED IN ARE LISTED THIS MONTH BECAUSE OF SPACE CRUNCH.**

WANTED

Housemate wanted for old adobe in village of Galisteo. \$350 per month plus share of utilities. Call Margaret, 466-1196.

FOUND

Beaded key chain with car and other keys; Lady's watch and rings, in my driveway. Call Lucy, 466-1276. (What is it with my driveway?)

FOR RENT

Summer Rental (July 2-October 2): house in village, sleeps four, 2 baths, workroom, solar electricity (limited appliances), \$500 per month includes utilities. Call Lucy, 466-1276.

FOR SALE

Free: Organic horse manure/woodshavings, call Maria 466-8930.
Flowers for Your Garden! One-gallon containers of flax, gaillardia, echinacea purpurea, Mexican hat, Mexican primrose, New Mexican sunflower available for \$4.50. Supply limited, Janice, 466-3996.

SERVICES

Are you thinking about your garden yet? **Native Bloom Landscaping** does drip systems, installation, hardscaping, design, maintenance and consultation. Call Linda at 466-4658.

Part-time Caretaker for your property or animals, chores, barnwork, feeding, general upkeep, 3-15 hours a week. Call Richard, 466-7723.

+++ EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO+++

Editor: Lucy R. Lippard; **Production:** Richard Shuff; Freda Martinez of Insty-Prints, Santa Fe; **Contributing Editors:** Anna Cardenas, Barbara Cooper, Joe Cooper, Maria Padilla, Moira Walden, S. Monroe. **El Puente logo** by Cara Lee. **Please send letters, comments, suggestions, contributions to EL PUENTE, HC 75, Box 77, Galisteo NM 87540, or call 466-1276. NEXT DEADLINE: MAY 5.**