

Mon., MAY 17th: STUDIO TOUR 2004 START-UP MEETING: 7PM at Community Center. *Only* place to pick up your entry forms. For more info, call Barb Holloway at 466-2118.

MAY 19th: GCA BOARD MEETING (OPEN TO ALL)
Third Wednesday of each month; Community Center, 7PM.

MAY 20, JUNE 8, JULY 13th, County Courthouse, Grant Ave., Santa Fe. **HEARINGS** on Final Draft of 285 Corridor Plan.

Sat., MAY 22, 9-Noon; BOSQUE WALK with Rich Schrader and Steve Vroman from Earth Works Institute. Meet under the old bridge to learn about keeping our river healthy.

UPDATE ON THORNTON RANCH

On May 6th at the Community Center, Earth Works Institute hosted a large group (most were not from Galisteo) for a potluck and talk by Ted Harrison of Commonweal Conservancy --a spinoff from the Trust for Public Land where the project originated. He gave a detailed power point presentation on the next steps for the cluster development on Thornton Ranch. Mike Anaya, our County Commissioner, attended briefly to give his blessing to the project. The City of Santa Fe is also enthusiastic since the plan is being coordinated with the Community College District and the Rancho Viejo Partnership, as well as with State and Federal lands in the Galisteo Basin.

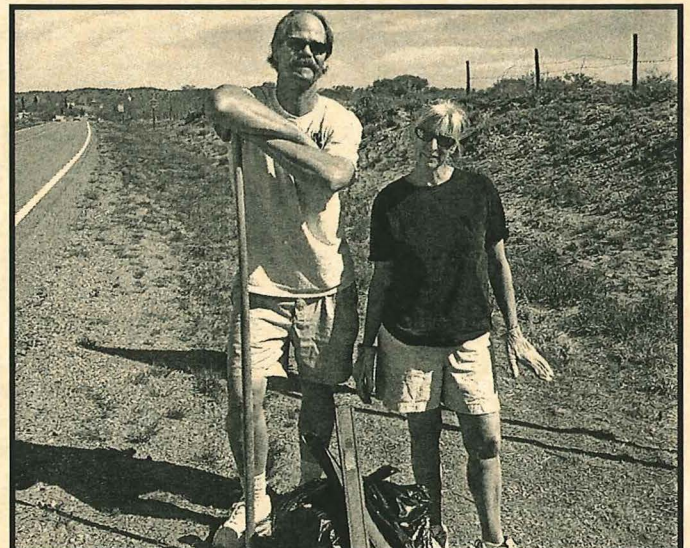
As reported in *El Puente* #71, the major development has been moved from south of County Rd. 42 to a little basin west of US 285, about half way between Lamy Hill and NM 41, north of the Lamy road. (There will still be five lots on the original site, far less than conventional development would have allowed, and the traffic impact on Galisteo will be minimal.) The "new village" of around 600 units will be larger than Lamy and Galisteo put together, and the four-lane 285 will easily cope with the traffic. The cluster will "anchor the central Galisteo Basin," preserving 12,000 acres of open space for total public access, including 22 miles of non-motorized trails all the way to the Railyard Park in Santa Fe, and a wildlife corridor that will (for some animals) be part of a planned preserve from Mexico to Canada.

Rural development usually happens piece by piece by uncoordinated piece, "death by 1000 cuts." In this case, the business-as-usual model would allow 18 miles of interior roads and houses scattered over the entire landscape. Instead, the project is envisioned as a model for conservationist covenants "to set a new example

of energy and water resource efficiency." There will be a 1% assessment fee for land stewardship and stream and grasslands restoration as well as a "village conservation program." (Perhaps the Traditional Community Land Use Plan will be able to create one of these for Galisteo?)

A "walkable community," it will potentially be connected to the Santa Fe Southern "trolley" or commuter rail, with a stop on Spur Ranch Road. Unrelated commercial development will be located over Lamy Hill, but the cluster does call for an environmentally focused charter school, a 14-room inn or B&B with restaurant and bar (which act as community-builders), a "funky, western" boarding stable (for anyone in the area), professional studios, a post office, library, and swimming pool.

Water, of course, is everyone's major concern. John Shoemaker (who did the Eldorado survey) is working on a geo-hydrological survey based on the possibility of three 1300' wells (deeper than others in the area and possibly tapping a different aquifer). Thornton Ranch is in two different hydrological zones: Homestead and Basin Fringe. Commonweal has to have a legal water budget that assumes conventional use, but they plan to use substantially less water. Harrison estimates water use at 115 acre feet instead of the 160 recommended by the County (at 1/4 acre foot per household) or 330 at the profligate 3 acre feet (Cont. p.2)



Charlie and Barb Holloway represent the GVFR and GCA Board-collaborators on the May 8th Community Cleanup. (Photo: Richard Shuff)

per household still legal statewide. Water rights are under negotiation from the McKee Estate, 6-8 miles away from the project. (Water rights can be transferred but must stay within the Galisteo Basin.)

Other issues explained were intricate analyses of the viewsheds – what can be seen from where (the project will be almost invisible from 285); diversity -- a mix of affordable “workforce housing,” and market-rate housing; and density, which would parallel Santa Fe’s East Side or South Capitol neighborhoods, except in rougher ground on the periphery where lots could be larger. No particular architectural style has been selected but Harrison showed a variety of efficient and often striking modern structures – some modular, or manufactured -- that could replace the timeworn Pueblo Revival and pitched roof regional patterns.

“It’s a grand vision,” said Harrison in conclusion. “But even if we only move incrementally forward, then it’s worth it... Ultimately, these things are all stories.” So far, this one is unfolding positively. And Galisteo plays a major role. Stay tuned and stay informed.

SPRING SIGHTINGS 2004

Jan Saunders

As I write this at the end of April, the Meadowlarks are sounding off and the Say’s Phoebes are trilling and nest-building. The repetitious rhapsody of the Northern Mockingbird is hard to ignore, and the Black-chinned Hummingbirds are dive-bombing all three of my feeders. Their elaborate aerial mating displays are driven by hormones and fueled by a sugar high. These little birds, with their amazing memories, will be expecting to find feeders where they found them last season. Please remember to fill your feeders and clean them often. Let me know what species you are seeing at your hummingbird feeders – I keep hearing Broad-tails, but haven’t seen one yet. The pugilistic Rufous will be along toward the end of summer after breeding season ends up north. During June and July, watch for the stunningly beautiful Calliope, the smallest bird in North America.

Kevan Saunders and Dianne and Vernon Wilson recently spotted an adult Bald Eagle flying high over the Basin. Toby Herbst reports a Purple Martin. Scott Diffrient has seen Eurasian collared doves near his house, a species that only recently expanded its range this far west, to include the Santa Fe area. They perch on the church’s high cross. Mourning Doves are cooing softly as they feed on cracked corn scattered under the Junipers and drink from my low birdbath. A pair of Scaled Quail often joins the doves.

Before the drought and back in the days of tall grasses and wildflowers, we routinely saw 30 to 40 Quail at a time. Now I’m lucky to see a single pair. Several people have reported seeing larger coveys where there is more ground cover. In the last few days, American Goldfinches have arrived to share the thistle feeder with their cousins the Lesser Goldfinch. The males of both species are now sporting their bright yellow breeding plumage.

As a general observation, I have to say that there are fewer bird numbers and species now than in the past 8 years—almost a Silent Spring. So...FEED THE BIRDS...and don’t forget the water. It could be a long, hot summer.

SANTA FE CONSERVATION TRUST ZEROES IN ON GALISTEO BASIN

The Santa Fe Conservation Trust (SFCT), led by Executive Director Cyrus Samii and Director of Land Conservation Jim Crain, aims to preserve 50,000 acres of land in the Galisteo Basin from over-development. The 10-year old group works all over Northern New Mexico through conservation easements. In the Basin they are concentrating at the moment on larger landowners, but encouraging everyone to participate. Crain warns that what we love about our properties today “may not be shared by future generations or owners.”

Landowners can prevent their land from becoming a subdivision after the land is sold or bequeathed to family members by specifying restrictions on land use and filing a legal document with a land trust. Some landowners grant a trails easement for specific non-motorized uses, formalizing traditional trails. Conservation easements provide tax benefits as well.

The SFCT works with the County, the Camino Real River Corridor Coalition, with Earth Works Institute (EWI) and other national land, conservation, and archaeological trusts. With EWI, they are compiling data and land-status maps on archaeological, faunal, floral, geological and hydrological factors in the Galisteo Basin. At present they have 11 imminent easements, some substantial, but until these are completed, only 880 acres of the Basin are protected. If you or someone you know is interested in exploring these options, call the SFCT at 989-7019. The lovely area east of Cerro Pelon is already on the market. What’s next?

RENAISSANCE (HEL)MAN

Barbara Cooper

Although sometimes it seems that there are as many opinions on any given subject as there are residents of Galisteo, one thing we can agree upon is that we are an interesting band of people. In fact, one of the great joys of living here is the chance to meet and know people with a wide variety of interests and talents.

In the four and a half years that Ron Helman has lived here, many of us have worked with him as a personal trainer. We have also heard his jazz ensemble at the Pink Adobe. Ron and his wife Pamela Markoya are both painters who have participated in Galisteo Studio Tours.

And now we learn that Ron is becoming a movie-maker. In the past couple of years he has studied digital programming at the Community College and through a Mac program called *imovie*. He has documented Galisteo with a film on the Rodeo, a resident’s special birthday party, and an overview of the village for a resident who is moving away. He is ready now to take private commissions for movies on DVD -- family histories, biographies and memoirs, or films of personal collections of artwork, jewelry and furnishings to be used for insurance purposes.

Lest we think music has been left behind, a new CD is soon to be released: “In the Shadows”—a collection of jazz standards performed by the Ron Helman Jazz Ensemble. The group plans a June concert at the Community Center. And we’d love to see that film of the Rodeo too!



PEDACITOS/BITS AND PIECES

Anna and Freddie Cárdenas celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary with a trip to Maui in early May.

Vicki Snyder was featured in the Eldorado section of *The New Mexican* (5/5/04) as a devoted potter who lives with Multiple Sclerosis. Told years ago that she would have to use a wheelchair for the rest of her life, she called up the spirit of Hazel (her Texas grandmother, who arrived there in a covered wagon) and proved the doctors wrong. She credits her family and her pottery: “Being a potter is very rewarding and therapeutic,” she said. “For anyone interested in breaking into this world of clay, I recommend just taking a class at the Community College or visiting Santa Fe Clay. Also, any aspiring potter can always get help from a local potter. They are the nicest people...they work with the earth...”

Judy Tuwaletsiwa is having a show of her paintings with sand and feather shafts at Lemmons Durham Contemporary Art in New York City. She and husband Phil, who live at Hopi, bought Roman’s house.

Steve Moya was pictured in *The New Mexican* (5/6/04) training for the Santa Fe Century Bike Race at the Genoveva Chavez Community Center: “He took up riding three years ago to lose weight and dropped 38 pounds.” (But he’s no lightweight as GVFR Fire Chief.)

Linda Braun, Managing Editor of the *Eldorado Sun*, recently published an article there on early detection of Breast Cancer: “Before There’s a Lump.” Breast thermography is a new option for the one in eight women who will develop breast cancer. Its early screening approach may be especially desirable for those with a history of breast cancer in the family, those who have been on artificial hormones and/or birth control pills, and those who have worked in chemically toxic environments.

In a story on Tom Ford’s resignation from Gucci/St. Laurent, the *New York Times Magazine* (3/14/04) quotes him: “On September 11, 2001 ... we received 42 calls from customers looking for the purple peasant blouses. The World Trade Center is going down, and women are calling a store for a blouse. The power of fashion can be a scary thing.”

FROM THE GCA BOARD MEETING, APRIL 7

Barbara Cooper, Secretary

* Kathleen Murphy will be the GCA’s representative to the 285 Coalition, with Ted Fleming as alternate. * It was voted to allow proxy ballots for future GCA elections. * Options for a memorial to Linda McKee were discussed, among them the establishment of a Memorial Fund or a rock shrine. * The second annual Chili Cook-Off will be held on Saturday, August 14th.

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

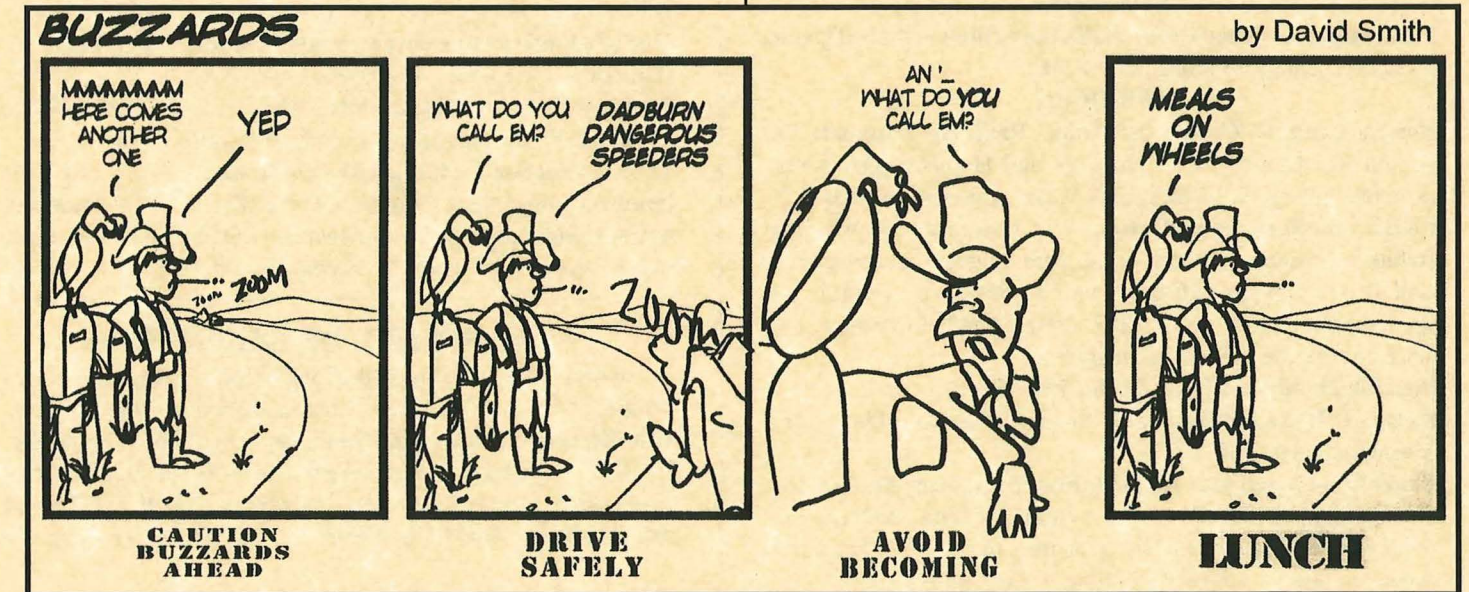
The GVFR will be standing by with the Rescue vehicle at the Century Bike Race on May 16th. Galisteo is where riders often give out after struggling through the winds around Stanley, or suffering from the altitude (for those from out of state). Chief Steve Moya will be one of the participants.

Shira Schuille passed her Firefighter One course and received the turquoise jacket to departmental applause.

Firefighters are preparing for the Wildland Fire Season with trainings and equipment. FIRE RESTRICTIONS have been delayed thanks to the welcome moisture in April, but they will begin soon. Be very careful anyway, all the time!

Those of us who live along the bosque must be especially cautious. Remember the “3 Rs of Defensible Space”: **Removal** of dead trees and flammable shrubs near the house; **Reduction** of branches and leaves and mowing dried grass; **Replacement** of less flammable plants with hazardous vegetation. Increase the moisture content. “Defensible Space” on a flat site or gentle slope is about 30 feet of distance from the house for grass and trees and 100 feet for shrubs. On slopes, the recommended distances increase.

Someone stole saddles and tack during the day from inside Johnny Anaya’s house last month. Keep an eye out!



BUCKS FOR BOOKS BASH

A gala event to benefit Vista Grande Library will take place on Saturday May 22nd, 6-9PM. The fundraiser, with a western theme, promises to be great fun, with music, food, and a live auction with auctioneer Paul Margetso. Local western authors will be celebrity guests. Tickets are \$75 per person. Auction items range from jewelry to Barb Siler photos to home items to Southwest Airline tickets.

We are looking for sponsors to underwrite the event. Contributors of \$100 and over will be listed in the program. Individuals may also buy tables for 8-10 people. If you have any questions, call Event Chair, Marilyn "Pete" Forbes at 466-1099.

EL PUENTE SPONSOR: FRANK HIRSCH

GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

ADS ARE FREE, AND FOR GALISTEO RESIDENTS ONLY. Contact: Box 77 (Rte. 41 at Avenida Vieja) or call 466-1276 by **June 5** for next issue. *PLEASE CALL TO CONTINUE OR TAKE OUT ADS.*

WANTED

Place to stay/rent for 3 summer months in Galisteo area; will take care of animals, gardens, etc. Priscilla Barton, 520-896-315.

Caretaker: Exercise of horses and other chores. Private apartment (rent \$100 per.mo.) Available June, Call Gene Cameron, 310-459-7711.

Old cowboy boots, any size, any shape: needed for a library fund raiser. Contact Pete Forbes, 466-1099.

FOR RENT

New house, 2 BR, 2 B, walled yard, dogs ok: \$1100 per mo. + utilities; furnished. Priscilla, 466-2255.

FOR SALE

First annual Galisteo Chili Challenge t-shirts – red and green, M, L, XL. Call Tom Morin, 466-2218.

SERVICES

Need a permit? Computer Aided Drafting Support: for Architects., Engineers, Contractors and Homeowners. 4 yrs. experience/local references. Call Adan Cárdenas, 466-8967.

FREE one-hour consultation with retired award-winning architect, inventor, cartoonist, and communications consultant. Call David Smith, 466-8686 or 550-5501, to schedule an appointment *in your space*. This offer is made to improve our place and for me to meet my neighbors.

Reliable Handyman, Call Kevin, 466-3559.

Remus's Remodeling – can do just about anything, very reasonable rates, 466-7285.

Ebay! Want to sell your items on Ebay? Antiques, Art, Jewelry, Cars, Vintage Collectables, etc. Almost anything you have will sell. I do everything from listing the item to shipping. I can also show you how to sell items on Ebay! Mark, 466-1267.

Eldorado Massage: call Karen Anderson, 577-2480.

Freshly Baked Bread and Rolls from Galisteo. To order, call Sabrina and Alex, 466-4331.

The Roadhouse Studio: Catering Parties, Fantasy or Fun. Ranch Gatherings, Family or Fine Dining, Call Dejon, 466-1267.

Tree Cutting & Trimming Service, Fence Building, Odd Jobs, call Mark, 466-1267.

Call **Beth** for **housesitting/ petcare/vet runs/odd jobs/studio assistance/party help/you name it...** in Galisteo, 470-7606.

Galisteo Caretaking Services: For the Chores You Ignore! short notice, small jobs, housesit, have truck. Richard, 466-7723.

Nick's Landscaping, Brush Removal, and Garbage Collection. Call 466-0530 or 470-5973.

Dave's Auto Repair: tune-ups, oil change, minor repairs, auto restoring, painting, local refs. Free estimates. David Montoya, 466-2097.

S. B. Lejo/ Sina Brush is taking special orders for original antique Mexican furniture. Call 577-4045.

Galisteo Woodworks: for your custom woodworking needs. Furniture and furniture repair. Antonio Chavez, 466-3601.

I will take **care of your pets**. I can also **watch children** when needed. (I am thirteen years old.) Simone Montoya, at 466-1518

Electrical Concepts: Residential/Commercial/Industrial. Hansi Mohn and Michael Anaya, 988-8853.

Native Bloom, Landscape design/maintenance. Linda, 466-4658.

Restore your old photo: We copy, repair, and reprint your favorite damaged or fading photos. Richard/Cara, 466-7723.

Linda Vista Stables: Beginner western riding for children and adults; 1-2 hr. trail rides; short-term boarding. 466-8930.

Carpentry: Custom closets, hand-carved tables, benches, gates, doors, 35 yrs. experience, local refs. Onesimo, 466-1430.

Common sense, gentle dog-training: house manners, management problem-solving at your home; also limited boarding. Twenty years experience. Call Evelyn, 466-1875.

Acupuncture, herbal medicine, feng shui, nutritional counseling, massage. Dr. Connie Fisher, 470-9314.

Ben Merrick (16 yrs old): occasional **babysitting** weekends and some evenings; 466-9040.

Passive Solar Builders: Locally owned general contractor since 1980. Quality home construction, renovations: 466-2118.

One of a kind sterling silver jewelry/ decorative art, wood/tin. Barbara & Joe Cooper, El Estudio, 466-0133.

Barbara Holloway Fine Handweaving: scarves, shawls, vests, jackets, handwoven of luxurious chenille. 466- 2118.

Private Exercise Training with Ron Helman, 35 yrs. exp. ALL levels welcome. Also **V ideo Services/Professional Shooting and Editing;** output to DVD; download samples and information on exercise at www.ronhelman.com; 466-1919.

+++ EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO+++

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