



ISSUE #79

NOVEMBER 2004

HOW GALISTEO VOTED

The village of Galisteo was humming on election day as several groups canvassed door-to-door. A lawyer from Maine was part of the legal team monitoring the election. There were no fights, no vandalism, no major mechanical screwups -- but as the results below show, there was plenty of disagreement. Looks like about 115 people voted in Galisteo, not all of them from the village, as the district includes Ojo de la Vaca, etc.

The returns below, posted at the Community Center when the polls were closed, probably offer a less accurate picture of our electoral makeup this year than most, given the heavy early voting and absentee ballots (not shown here). As usual, however, we are a picky lot, splitting our votes to smithereens.

Names in CAPITALS won the election. Unopposed candidates are not listed.

Straight party vote: Democrat 31, Republican 7, Libertarian 1.

President/Vice President: Kerry/Edwards: 88; Bush/Cheney 27;Badnarik/Campagna: 1.BUSH/CHENEY won.

U.S. Congress: Udall 96, Tucker 19. UDALL won.

Supreme Court: Chavez 89, Fuller 21. CHAVEZ won.

Court of Appeals: Vigil 88, Barber 23. VIGIL won.

State Senator: Griego 83, Lopez, 31.GRIEGO won.

PRC: Lujan 85, Gonzales 29. LUJAN won.

County Surveyor: Grace 66, Williamson, 30. GRACE won.

To retain Richard Bosson 59;opposed, 11.

To retain Roderick Kennedy 67, opposed 9.

Road Improvements: yes 61, no 40. YES.

Water Projects: yes 60, no 40. YES.

Fire Protection: yes 74, no 24. YES.

Constitutional Amendment 3 (runoff elections): yes 65, no 26. YES.

CA 4 (property tax exemption for all veterans) yes 45, no 50. YES.

CA 5 (Name change blind school): yes 68, no 25. YES.

Bond Question A (senior citizen facilities): yes 72, no 23. YES.

BQ B (college capital improvements): yes 60, no 34. YES.

BQ C (public libraries): yes 67, no 28. YES.

BQ D (kindergarten construction): yes 69, no 27. YES.

On right: SAAB STORY: On Oct. 28th windows were broken (by a pumpkin) in Chris Griscom's Saab, "for sale" in the Nizhoni driveway. At the south end of town, several mailboxes were vandalized. (Photo: C. Griscom) See p.3.

GCA MEETING: OCTOBER 20th

Barbara Cooper

The public forum portion of the meeting was devoted to a discussion of Morgan Gafford's plans to quit-claim properties along the Bosque which do not have a clear title. Community members attending were Joette Trofimuk, Florence Sohn, Muriel Fariello, Susan Shanklin, and David Snyder.

Cyrus Samii, director of the Santa Fe Conservation Trust, spoke on the chain of title, which is the problem here. We need to have a survey done of the entire property and then get legal advice on how to protect adjacent lands. The Bosque land is not developable and there would be a tax deduction in creating a conservation easement. First we need to research the validity of Morgan's claims and then decide how to counteract them.

After the public forum, the Board continued to discuss the Bosque issue and identified 30 property owners whose land is adjacent to that claimed by Morgan. We decided to have a meeting with those people on November 6 at 9:30AM (*see page 4*).

Our funds are low and we will organize a fund drive early in 2005. We will invite Shaun Sohn to the next Board meeting on Nov. 17 to discuss his interest in becoming a junior member of the Board.

Diane Wilson, representing the St. Joseph's Society, has asked us to waive the rental fee for the Community Center when they rent it for a fund-raiser. After discussion, we voted against this on the basis that such events must be open to everyone in the village and it must be so advertised in advance.



SNOW BIRDS

Jan Saunders

I've been asked to discuss the identification of the more common Galisteo winter feeder birds. Maybe this will help you sort out who's eating and drinking in your back yard this time of year.

I'll start with sparrows. Normally, I don't do sparrows. I'm saving them for my retirement when I have time to work out the identification of the more than 30 different species. However, I do have two easily identifiable favorites, the White Crowned and the Lark Sparrow, that I love to see pecking around on the ground under my feeder. The White Crowned sports a white and black striped crown, a pink, orange, or yellowish bill and a white throat. His upper parts are brown and his under parts are grayish. The immature has tan and buff head stripes with under parts more buff than gray. The Lark Sparrow's distinctive rust, black and white head pattern makes him a standout in any crowd. He also has a beautiful white breast with a dark "stick pin" spot in the middle. Watch for the white V on the tail feathers when he flies.

Most of our winter feeder birds are Dark-eyed Juncos. This year they arrived as usual with the first mountain snow flurries and will be gone to northern latitudes or higher up in the mountains by mid March. Dark-eyed Juncos are a Bargain Bird – with one species you get several flavors. The colors of the different sub-species are so varied you probably think you're seeing several different species. About 30 years ago the LUMPERS won out over the SPLITTERS and these little members of the Finch family were all placed in the same species. A quick glance at the Junco page in your bird book will help you with identification. Look for the Oregon with his black hood, the Gray-headed with his rufous back and the Pink-sided with cinnamon pink sides and a blue-gray hood. Although variable, most have conspicuous white outer tail feathers, which are easily seen when they flit from tree to ground. If you learn to spot a Junco by the flash of parallel white feathers on the outsides of the tail, it's easy to figure out the sub-species later.

House Finches are present at Galisteo feeders year round. Later in the winter the heads and breasts of the males begin to turn bright rosy-red as they prepare for the breeding season. If you are feeding Niger Thistle Seed, you will attract both American and lesser Goldfinches as well as Pine Siskins. [Ed note: *Though you must be patient as it can take them some time to find you!*]

The winter weather also brings sightings of Red-shafted Flickers and Downy, Hairy, and Ladder-backed Woodpeckers. Suet cakes (I included an easy recipe in a previous article) are relished by all woodpeckers as well as many other species. Red-winged Blackbirds usually arrive in winter/spring flocks of 10 to 30 at a time. The flash of their bright red shoulder patches always gives my heart a lift.

Just remember. Food and water will help many birds get through the winter. The number of New Mexico birds is DOWN for most species. Our backyard feeders and water baths are a key factor in their survival. PLEASE feed the birds!



FAMILY VALUES: A few members of the Montoya family crew helping at Cocina de Mela during the Studio Tour. (Photo: Richard Shuff)

PEDACITOS/BITS AND PIECES

Steve Moya is now the Assistant Chief of Administrative Support for the Santa Fe County Fire Department. Thankfully he remains our Chief too.

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On September first, **Bernard Pomerance** married **Rose Marie Morse** at the Lamy Chapel in Santa Fe.

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Seen at the Community Center during the Studio Tour (which was successful as usual): **Democratic Senator Jeff Bingaman and his wife.**

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On October 22, the **Joe M. Anaya Memorial Complex** at the New Mexico Department of Transportation General Office in Santa Fe was dedicated to a former Galisteño whose family remains prominent here.

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Letters to the Editor of *The New Mexican* in the last weeks of the elections were flying fast and furious from Galisteños: **Richard Griscom, Joette Trofimuk, Janice Felty Griscom, Sina Brush, and yours truly** all put their two cents worth in, and I may have missed some.

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Harmony Hammond's exhibition of powerful abstract paintings opened Oct. 30th and remains on view until Nov. 27th at Dwight Hackett Projects, 2879 All Trades Road, Santa Fe.

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Susan Rothenberg's exhibition of "Drawings 1974 -2004" at Sperone Westwater in New York City is up through Dec. 18th.

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In Tokyo on Oct. 21st, **Bruce Nauman** was presented with the Praemium Imperiale prize from the Japan Art Association, recognizing lifetime achievement in the arts and known as the Nobel Prize for the arts. The prize consisted of 15 million yen. Nauman's work ranges from public sculpture to drawing, video, film, and audio pieces.

A FORD IN OUR FUTURE

Tom Ford's new 416-page book documenting his 14 years at Gucci is titled, yes, *TOM FORD*. The well-known designer and owner of the former McKee/Cook Ranch southwest of Galisteo is busy planning his next career -- as a Hollywood director.

According to a *New York Times* article (Oct. 17): "Mr. Ford could leave his most enduring mark in New Mexico, where he owns 24,000 acres of mesa and ranchland outside of Santa Fe. He has commissioned the architect Tadao Ando to design three buildings of eight planned: a stable, a house and a mausoleum. He started thinking about a burial site after his beloved terrier John died. 'I'd like to bury him out there,' he said. 'I'd like to be buried out there.' He smiled. 'We might as well have Tadao Ando do a mausoleum.'

"Mr. Ando's design for the house is spectacular: a two-level house sitting atop a mesa with a huge adobe-like wall at one end and a reflecting pool that covers the main roof, with a glassed living room that appears to be floating on the water. The project is expected to take five years to complete. Meanwhile, Mr. Ford has planted orchards and a vineyard on the ranch, which has served as a set for movies like 'The Missing.' The area used as the set lies in a part of the landscape that is not visible from the rest of the ranch 'And from that place you see nothing that resembles the 20th century,' he said."



MORE TRICK THAN TREAT "Havoc has already begun [sic] Just remember this squash. Dangerous Crew" was scrawled on this pumpkin at the overturned Avenida Vieja/NM 41 mailboxes. (Photo: Richard Shuff)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Friends and neighbors,

On the night of Oct. 28th sometime after 11:30PM someone threw a large pumpkin into the front and side windows of my car and the Nizhoni van that were both parked at the entrance to the Nizhoni School. It was a sad occasion for me to feel the anger and disconnectedness of the ones who took out their unhappiness on someone else. I have lived in this town for almost 35 years and in my heart, I will NOT believe that this act of violence came from any of our households. Perhaps it came from someone on their way home through our village. I hope that we can remember that we are the best community anywhere, and that we are committed to supporting and protecting each other always.

With great love, **Chris Griscom.**

In the October 2004 issue of El Puente de Galisteo, you have chosen to quote an anonymous village land meeting participant referring to Morgan Gafford as a "clown." How responsible have you been to Mr. Gafford in doing so, and as a reader of the newsletter how does this serve him?

My experience with Morgan Gafford over many years as a friend and neighbor is that he is intelligent, witty, and most importantly kind-hearted and generous. Never have I thought of him as a "clown."
-- Gordon Bunker

WATER RIGHTS DOWN THE DEVELOPMENT DRAIN?

The Cerrillos-based Rural Conservation Alliance is trying to raise \$50,000 to oppose a water rights transfer from the former McKee Ranch to thousands of acres around I-25. If applicants (Pepler et al.) succeed, up to 80,000 gallons of water could be diverted from the rest of the Galisteo Basin (including our village plus Lamy and Cerrillos) to Buffalo Mountain and La Bajada Mesa. That's so much "paper water" --which may or may not exist on the ground -- that will not be available for domestic use in the eastern Basin.

The Pepler proposal is "questionably vague" according to the Alliance, citing multiple uses: "Subdivision, livestock, irrigation, agriculture and related purposes." Previous proposals by "related landowners" have included schemes to mine and flatten Buffalo Mountain and create a new city of 70,000 people. In addition, the area is threatened by an ongoing case in which Santa Fe County suspended the mining operations of Cerrillos Gravel Products for non-compliance. CGP is appealing to the NM Supreme Court.

You can send much-needed donations to the Rural Conservation Alliance, POB 361, Cerrillos, NM 87010.

SLOW DOWN!

A group of Galisteo citizens has made a concerted effort to get the State to do something about the cars and huge trucks speeding through Galisteo on NM 41. Dejon Malley, Mark Benigno, B  b   Givaudan, and others have worked with the GCA to write to David Martinez --District 5 Traffic Engineer in the New Mexico Department of Transportation. Their letter of October 24, 2004, accompanied by a petition signed by 94 Galisteos, requests changes in the speed limits and strict monitoring of the speed zone for six months, "until the commuters recognize and adhere to the change," citing dangers to children, churchgoers and home owners.

The letter also requests a meeting with the Transportation Department, more signs and "perhaps a flashing light in the near future." Citizens monitoring traffic at peak hours have found "not only consistently high speeds but also a dramatic increase" in traffic and "large vehicles such as double semis and gravel trucks." In the last decade "severe accidents have occurred.... Many of our animals have been hit just this past year by speeders. One of the horses unfortunately died. The person driving the car was a state worker who we have witnessed many times speeding through the village."

Our County Commissioner Mike Anaya has promised to look into the situation.

LANDOWNERS MEET ON QUIT CLAIMS

On Saturday Nov. 6 a lively but still inconclusive meeting was held with the 27 landowners who are affected by Morgan Gafford's series of quit claims along the bosque and elsewhere. Beth Mills and Grace Phillips from the County attended and answered questions from the local landowners.

A long discussion of Quit Claims and Quiet Title actions ended in the resolve to find out who owns all this land, a fact that so far has escaped us. New Mexico law is "unresolved" concerning ownership of waterways. The area quitclaimed by M. Gafford (given him by Buddy Branum) includes a piece of Clyde Peña's property as well as County Road 33 which runs east to the Singleton Ranch fence. Since the last meeting Morgan has also claimed Chris Griscom's vacant lot (in front of the Light Institute's office) north of the 4-acre lot previously claimed.

The County Assessor's Office has sent a letter to Morgan Gafford stating that in their opinion "Mr. Branum released any interest he may have in these lands to Mr. Henry E. Singleton and Caroline W. Singleton" by way of a Quitclaim Deed dated April 16, 1986. Will Mares has contacted the Singleton Ranch (which may own the 250-acre "exception" in question) and they are apparently interested in looking into it. When land is quiet titled (taken to court for a judge to decide), all neighbors and anyone else who may not agree that this land belongs to the claimer must be notified.

The burden of proof is now up to Morgan to produce a citation from the District Court that he claims will prove his case, though no one has been able to find or see it.

EL PUENTE SPONSOR:
BARBARA HILLIARD
And thanks to Dejon and Mark
for a contribution

GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

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

WANTED

Good homes for 5 lovely (neutered) cats. Call Sina, 577-4045.

FOR SALE

Small trailer, saddle, household furniture. Donna, 466-9296.

Complete professional photo digital equipment: 2 cameras, 2 computers, printer. Training available: Richard, 466-7723.

Computer scanner, good condition, Call Liz, 466-6003.

FOR RENT

One bedroom adobe apartment, 2 fireplaces. \$700 incl. utilities. Steve, 466-1544.

SERVICES

Firewood-Piñon. Buy from two guys in Galisteo. \$150 cord, split, delivered, stacked. Mark & Frank, 466-1267. Order Today. **Order your "Galisteo Gingerbread" House or Tee-pee** for the Holiday now. Dejon, 466-1267.

For baby-sitting, petsitting and animal care, call Mercedes, 466-7285.

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

Reliable Handyman, Call Kevin, 466-3559.

Tree Cutting & Trimming Service, Fence Building, Odd Jobs; E-Bay too! 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. 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.

"First Saturday" monthly all-day **workshop** at Light Institute; lunch at Inn. 466-1975 or 466-1458.

+++ EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO+++

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