



***** **CONTEST!! PRIZES!!** *****

The Galisteo Community Planning Committee is sponsoring a **CONTEST FOR ALL KIDS IN THE VILLAGE UP TO 18**. The challenge is to create a logo for the village of Galisteo.

The guidelines: Use 8 x 11" paper. The logo can be black/white or multicolored. "GALISTEO" must be used in the design. The theme is "When I think of Galisteo...." The rest is up to you.

Please submit works to 5-C La Otra Vanda (call Linda Rice beforehand at 466-4658). **DEADLINE: May 15**.

The Planning Committee will judge the contest. First place receives **\$50** and this logo may be used on publications, t-shirt, hats, etc. Second place receives **\$35**. Third place receives **\$20**. Honorable mention receives **\$5**. **GO FOR IT!**

GAFFORD AND CLAYTON TELL THEIR STORY

This conversation with Morgan Gafford and Peirce Clayton was recorded by El Puente on April 4; a follow-up phone call with Gafford on April 9 provided further details. Editorial additions are italicized. Due to limited space there has been editing for clarity, but quotations are verbatim to the best of the editor's transcription abilities.

What is quiet-titled by Gafford: *The c. five-acre lot off the north side of Otra Vanda and the one behind it, in front of the Light Institute office; bits and pieces along the creek north of the old bridge; "up the creek," says Gafford, "past the Galisteo Inn, past Snyders', and then the little acre in the bosque we call 'the island' because it's landlocked. I haven't got easement to it." Gafford's claim includes the old bridge and the County Road over it, east from Reinhold's at the western boundary of the Eaton/San Cristobal Grant stopping on the east bank of the Creek: "That was not my decision," he says. "It's not like I wanted to own all this, but Emilio Gonzales in the County Land Office said I was required to show ownership of all that land in order to claim the other parts."*

Quiet titled by Clayton: the triangle at the bottom of Avenida Vieja at NM 41; bits and pieces along the bosque south of the old bridge to the NM 41 bridge.

EL P: What are your plans for these lands?

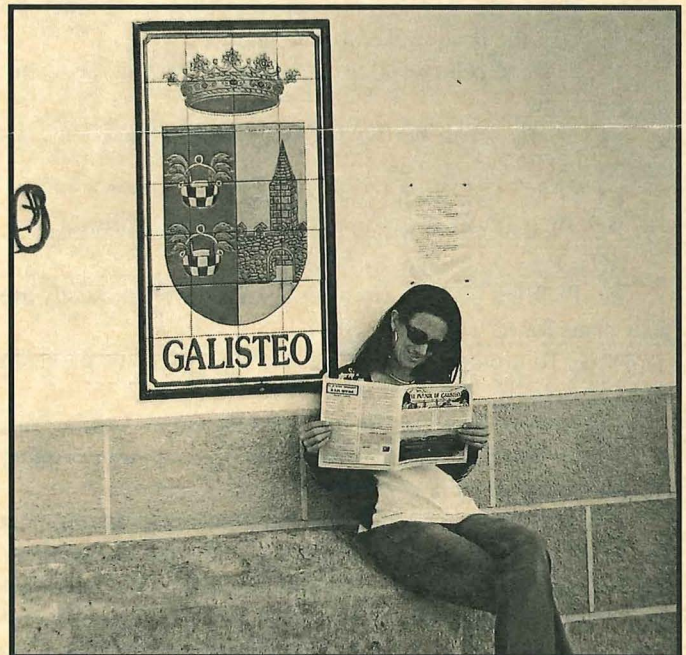
PC: The Bosque can't be owned by one person. It just can't. The community has to own the entire bosque...(Cont.p.2)

ATVs in GALISTEO: NOTICE FROM THE GCA

According to the Santa Fe County Sheriff's Department, ATVs (All Terrain Vehicles) are not permitted on any public roads in Santa Fe County. This would definitely include all of the roads in and around Galisteo. Additionally, a new ordinance has been passed making it an offense to operate All Terrain Vehicles on any publicly owned land in the County. ATVs have been seen riding on public, County, and State roads and destroying private land in Ranchitos and in the Bosque, where it was agreed by the community that there would be no motorized vehicles beyond the parking area near the bridge.

The Santa Fe County Sheriff has been notified that there is a problem in Galisteo with ATVs, and all residents are asked to **call 986-2460** if they observe violations of the law. Owners of private land which has been damaged can prosecute for damages and parents may be held accountable for the actions of their children. Thanks for your help!

- Galisteo Community Association Board



Linda Rice reads El Puente in Galisteo (Cáceres), Spain.

EL P: If it's privately owned and open, what's the problem?

MG: It can be fenced off at any time....This is a jigsaw puzzle in the 250-acre exception -- what's called the town site. But it's not a town site.... In 1907, Benjamin Pankey, then-owner of the San Cristobal or Eaton Grant, exempted parts of the grant that had already been built on by villagers east of the creek. When Buddy Branum bought San Cristobal in 1965, the area next to the village—the 1300-acre Cadillal-- was mostly common ground. The people were still using it...

Ranch foreman Harper McFarland drove Branum around to see his new ranch and when they got over near Galisteo, McFarland said these are not your horses and cows. And Branum, being a Texan, said, well just whose ranch is this? He called the State Land Commissioner, who told him, the way you handle that is you must fence off your property. Then they fenced off everything but the 250 acres. There wasn't a fence there till then..... When it was fenced, six members of the Ortiz y Pino family sued for the common land, 1300 acres. People had deeded over their lands to José Ortiz y Pino I--"the Last *Patrón*."There was a large out-of-court settlement to the Ortiz y Pinos in August 1972. Branum has all the documents in Texas....

PC: Throughout recent, maybe thirty-year history, people have deeded themselves land and claimed it and filed Quiet Title suits. So what we're doing is just what everyone else has done. What remains are just select little areas that have not been claimed.

MG: That's abandoned land. I've known about this since 1986, that there's parcels of land in the 250-acre exception that were abandoned that's up for grabs. [*Some of these "abandoned" fragments may result from surveyors drawing boundaries at fences instead of the traditional "middle of the river."*]

PC: People are moving in and getting deeds, either through adverse possession or claiming it for long enough. Most of the Bosque is privately owned but there's ten percent that there's no deed to it and that allows someone to claim it. And that's what we did. This is the first step in a series of stages -- a kind of a plan to make the bosque healthy and public.

EL P: We've been working on that as a community for about ten years now...

PC: That's great, but we're just trying to make sure it's healthy and this is our way...

EL P: Just how would you do that?

PC: First of all we would keep things clean down there....

MG: First you've got to show ownership.

EL P: What people here want to know is what exactly are your plans for it?

MG: To protect it. It's one of the most precious things in Santa Fe County.

EL P: Have you been to the Santa Fe Conservation Trust or the Earth Works Institute? [*These groups have been working in the area for years now.*]

PC: Months ago I got a newsletter and read up on Santa Fe Conservation Trust. We talked to a company, another non-profit, yesterday in Taos -- Amigos Bravos.... We're talking to everybody. But we've not talked too much to different organizations because first we have to own it and then we can get down to the hard work, to work with the community and put

together a plan....for twenty years, fifty years...We have found so much trash down there, there are cars and garbage dumps, a car with sticks over it. My eight-year-old son, we were walking down there, he found a rifle, a *gun*. I said don't touch that! He was scared... that was right under the bridge, someone probably just threw it off as they were driving past...These are some of the concerns I have.

EL P: What most people wonder is, since you don't live here (of course Morgan does), why are you so concerned? Why not just let us go ahead and do it without costing us a fortune?

PC: I'm sorry about that too. Well, someone has to own it to give it to the village.

MG: Pierce wants to be a part of it too....Is this the kind of society we're going to live in, that we get to choose who gets to live and own property in Galisteo?

PC: If I had a bunch of money and I bought it would I still be an outsider?

MG: If I own a portion of it, if there's an ATV down there, I'll prosecute to the extent of the law...

PC: I picture there being a field guide to the creek-- all the plants and animals...

EL P: You could have come to the Community Association and said let's talk about this...

PC: That was one of the first things we did... We went to the president right away before any of this even started and we said we want to explain what we're doing. This land needs to be community land; it needs to be public. But we were kicked out of there, out of his house.

MG: First thing he says is Morgan, I don't know what you're doing but I'm going to ...put a stop to it.... I said if my land is contested it's going to make my suit stronger...Then he gives an example of some real estate developer on the Pecos River that they don't know where he is now....That's a threat and Peirce reported that.

EL P: You could have written a letter to the community.

PC: We made a mistake. We should have been writing letters, keeping things current.

MG: I talked to another gentleman that lives down here I said I'm giving all my land in the bosque to the community. Why don't you do yours that way? Oh no, no. He's just going to give everybody an easement.... I told him that several times. You're asking why we didn't come forward, we have, I have.

EL P: The newsletter is where people get information. That's why I tried to talk to you a year ago.

PC: We got scared. Those people threatened us. Then we thought it wouldn't be legal, that if we talked to you we're going to get in trouble. They're gonna throw this thing out.

EL P: Are you going to build houses on the two actual lots?

MG: I don't know. I have no idea. I mean it changes daily. I want to reassure everybody that hopefully I can do it very tasteful, whatever it is ...so it can be an asset to the community.

PC: We'd like to publicly apologize for the confusion. We finally realized, why can't we just go meet with Lucy and go tell the story.

MG: We'd like to apologize to the community for... I don't know, I did try to communicate. And everybody that knows me personally knows my plans for the bosque. (*Cont.p.3*)

PC: We didn't think there would be too much expense. And then they told us what the depositions cost.... Well, the truth's coming out. Morgan was under oath, to tell the truth, tell the story. It's going to be community land....

MG: I like finding the truth of ownership of land. I just want to see the question of the land in the 250-acre exception settled.

[*If Gafford and Clayton win their suits, all the land in the 250-acre exception will be fully titled except for public roads on the east side of the village, including Avenida Vieja, La Otra Vanda and part of Via La Puente.*]

El Puente welcomes other versions of this longstanding land saga. Average time for Quiet Title settlement is two years.

GCA REPORT

Linda Braun, Secretary

Monday, March 20th was the first GCA meeting with the newly elected members. President Freddie Cárdenas invited Board members to share their ideas of what our roles and duties are, as well as our expectations for the coming year. In summary, responses included: listening to each other and community members, bringing in more community involvement and events, taking action, involving youth and families, delegating responsibilities, and inspiring more people to volunteer.

The Board then discussed issues that need to be addressed: better communication, assorted Community Center repairs/improvements, the use of ATVs on trails and in the Bosque, hosting more community events, playground improvements, volunteers, the Quiet Title issue, and flattening the ground for easier access in front of the mailboxes.

We then generated solutions to these issues and delegated responsibilities to enhance taking action on them.

To improve community-wide communication the Board will post an agenda for each upcoming meeting on the bulletin board on the Saturday prior to the meeting. Everyone is always welcome to attend GCA meetings. If you have an issue you'd like to present to the Board, you can do so during the Open Forum part of the meeting, from 7-7:30.

The Board planned a few community events: On Saturday, **May 6, 2-4PM at the Community Center, the GCA will host a family kite-flying afternoon.** Bring your homemade kites and we can probably count on some good wind to send them up! Those without kids are welcome to join the fun. In honor of Father's Day, the GCA will host a **pancake breakfast for Dads on Saturday June 17th.** Also starting up on Fridays in June will be some **story-time afternoons for kids** at the Center.

Annual Community Cleanup Day will be in May. Keep an eye out for date and time.

The GCA is also organizing for a community-wide **Flea Market** with a different twist. Rather than bringing items to a central location, everyone will set up at their own home. This will be sometime in August or September, with maps to participating homes. If you're interested, contact Maria Ortiz y Pino at 466-8930.

The Board also agreed to set up a phone tree to improve communication around community meetings and events, so don't

be surprised if you soon start to receive calls reminding you of what's coming up.

The next Board meeting will be **7PM Monday, April 17th.**

GALISTEO ROADS AND TRAFFIC

Thanks to the Galisteo Village Planning Committee and County Liaison Beth Mills, the residents of Galisteo were invited to participate in a dialogue with State and County representatives regarding our concerns about the paving of CR 42 and NM 41.

If you are interested in taking a proactive approach and being involved and in contact with the "powers that be" on Galisteo's road issues, please contact **Wendy Chase, 466-1004. or Denice Pruet, 466-3601.**

FEETS

Jan Saunders

Ever wonder how a bird remains on the perch long after it falls asleep? It's because the relaxed, flexed leg (when the bird sits or squats) closes the foot to hold fast to the perch. When the bird stands up, the flexor tendon in the foot relaxes, allowing it to fly. A raptor such as an Owl or Hawk extends his legs with open talons to strike his prey. As soon as he hits the target, the legs flex and the talons close to pierce vital organs and kill the prey.

A Duck's webbed feet make him a nearly effortless swimmer, and they come equipped with a specialized circulatory system (sort of like the recirculation heater in your home plumbing) that keeps the feet warm while Ducks sit around on icy ponds. Want to see some really weird swimming feet? Go to your bird book and check out the picture of an American Coot. His feet are lobed and sport a slime green color. Coots' feet are definitely not made for walking. Coots (like Grebes) are rarely seen on land.

Climbing birds like Nuthatches and Brown Creepers have backward-pointing toes that allow them to climb head first up or down the tree. An Osprey has reversible toes to help him hold onto slippery fish. Small birds like Chickadees and Titmice, which have long toes and claws, hold large sunflower seeds in their feet while they hammer them open with their sharp bills.

Both beaks and feet have evolved to serve the many needs of birds such as perching, grooming, climbing, carrying, tearing, grasping, fighting, killing, walking, running, hopping, swimming, caressing their mates in courtship rituals, and protecting their eggs. Each species' bill and feet are especially adapted to specific food-gathering behavior. Next time you're watching a new bird, paying special attention to the size, shape and color of the bill and feet will help you narrow down choices and make identification a "no-brainer."

PEDACITOS/BITS AND PIECES

The **Community Center Playground** funds were cut by the Governor, but funds for the **water system** remained intact.

A one-year anniversary mass for **Manuel Anaya** was held at the Galisteo church on April 2nd with a meal at the Community Center afterwards. He is missed.

Vista Clara is still interested in participating in the Community Land Use Plan; discussions continue. **Tom Ford** of Cerro Pelon Ranch has definitely committed to (*Cont. p.4*)

including the historic site of the 260-acre Galisteo Grant below the Hill in the planning boundaries.

Muriel Fariello wrote a strong letter to *The New Mexican* deploring an Eldorado subdivision's attempt to bypass the normal one-year waiting period before drilling a new well. "Outdoor watering is the major misuse of our water in this desert environment and should be substantially curtailed and perhaps banned altogether," she wrote. "Commissioners Mike Anaya and Jack Sullivan should be more than concerned about this situation, for they represent the people who live in the areas that would be most affected by yet another well pumping our precious water."

Sam Sloan wrote a letter to the editor asking that *The New Mexican* reinstate the printing of the votes cast by our representatives in Congress – a valuable public voting aid.

A **fatal automobile accident** took place late at night near Nizhoni in early April. The driver went through the fence and ended up so far off the road that he was not seen by possible passing cars and was dead by the time the GVFR arrived.

FROM GVFR: "NO BURN" STILL IN EFFECT

EL PUENTE SPONSOR TRICIA TUSA AND ROB CIVITELLO

GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

ADS ARE FREE, AND FOR GALISTEO RESIDENTS ONLY.
Contact: 14 Avenida Vieja or call 466-1276 by May 5th for next issue. PLEASE CALL TO CONTINUE ADS.

FREE

Horse manure from Linda Vista Stables. Call Maria, 466-8930.

FOR RENT

Historic home in heart of old village, 2 BR, 1B, \$1500 mo. 466-2111.

WANTED

Space to rent for storage and light workshop, approx. 1000-1200sq ft. Call Jim West, 818-209-8587.

FOR SALE

Kembucha—culture and method for making traditional Asian fermented tea. Tara, 466-2111. (For sale or trade.)

Anatolians: Turkish livestock guardian dogs. \$1000 + up, dep. on level of training. Tim, 577-6162; Wendy, 610-8326.

SERVICES

Saturday Art Classes, taught by Catherine Ferguson. Retablos and watercolors. 10-12AM or 2-4PM, starting May 20, \$150 for 6 weeks. Call 466-2765.

Factotum: Can I help with something? Tara, 466-2111.

One Room at a Time, Organize, Clear Clutter. Redecorate, Archive Memorabilia. Call Pamela Markoya, 466-9191.

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

Like things done right? Welding, flagstone, moss rock, fountains, plumbing, sprinkler, and drip systems plus Gopher Control. David Maestas, cell 670-8608 or 660-9715.

Photo & Design. www.richardshuff.com; 466-7723.

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. Richard, 466-7723.

Baby-sitting, petsitting and animal care, 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.

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

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

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

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.

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

Private Exercise Training and Power Circuit Classes with Ron Helman. Call 466-1919.

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

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

+++ EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO+++

Editor: Lucy R. Lippard. **Contributing Editors:** Linda Braun, Isabella Gonzales, Richard Griscom, Jan Saunders. **Distribution, Production, Photographer:** Richard Shuff. **EL PUENTE logo** by Cara Lee. **Printer:** Allegra. **Send letters, comments, suggestions, contributions to EL PUENTE, 14 Avenida Vieja, 466-1276. NEXT DEADLINE: MAY 5. TO BE A SPONSOR: make out check for \$75 to GCA, noting "for newsletter," and send to address above.**

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