

EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO

ISSUE #97

SEPTEMBER 2006

BULLETIN: MORGAN GAFFORD LAND CLAIM CASE DISMISSED (details next issue)

Sept. 16, 8-10AM. Free GCA Board-sponsored PANCAKE BREAKFAST at the Community Center.

Sept 23, GARAGE SALE TOUR, 9-1. Maps will be available that day.

Oct. 6, 2PM, HEARING FOR PEIRCE CLAYTON CLAIM to Bosque lands: Judge Jim Hall's court, Herrera Complex behind the Presbyterian Church on Grant St.

Oct. 21-22: GALISTEO STUDIO TOUR.

EDITORIAL:

GOODBYE RICHARD AND CARA

El Puente sadly wishes Richard Shuff and Cara Lee the best as they begin a new life in San Francisco. They've come full circle, living half a mile from the place they first met.

Richard and Cara were founding partners in the newsletter ten years ago, when Cara designed our handsome logo. Richard has been the official photographer and right hand, dealing with production and distribution while he and Cara helped with all the computer work and were in charge of the mailings. We already miss them sorely and thank them for their many contributions to the community.

The gap is almost filled, but let me know if you want to be on call for occasional newsletter chores. And while I'm at it, remember that we welcome photographs and writings on Galisteo life, people, and place. Any ideas? Call 466-1276.

RODEO DE GALISTEO 2006

Wayne King

The rodeo songs of the late country western singer Chris LeDoux rang out over the PA system as rodeo fans and participants gathered for the 35th annual Rodeo de Galisteo. At 1:30 the enthusiastic announcer, Tim Romero of Edgewood, presented the flag and rodeo royalty: three generations of Senas, led by Rudy and his two daughters, Audra Baca and Amy Rogers.

Bull riding was the first event with the bulls winning seven and the riders winning one. Following one after the other on both days were: tie-down calf roping, bareback bronc-busting, breakaway calf roping, children's mutton-busting, saddle bronc-

busting, barrel racing, steer riding, hide racing, calf scramble, more bull riding and, finally, team roping. Stock was provided by the Bucking H Rodeo Co.

Neither man nor beast was injured on Saturday and there were only a few minor rider injuries on Sunday. A very young barrel racer was propelled off his horse as it hesitated at the first barrel and a teenaged steer rider collided with a fence post. All were expertly dealt with by the Galisteo Fire and Rescue team: EMTs Jean and Steve Moya, Miguel and Estevan Padilla, Linda Anaya, and Mark Russell, with firefighters Frank Croft and Wayne King.

While mutton-busting is always entertaining because of the riders' youth (ages six and under), junior barrel racing is the most suspenseful, as excited horses and energetic riders rise to the challenge. Charging around the barrels with great speed and agility were Desiree Godenas and the Baca girls. Five-year old Emma Cameron, daughter of Eldorado veterinarian Andy Cameron, moved cautiously around the barrels to the applause of viewers, and a young Mr. Tapia exercised great control of his hesitating burro-sized mule (or maybe it was a burro).

The hide race offered some comic moments as passengers plowed through the dirt towed by riders on racing horses. One rider forgot to dally his rope around the saddle horn and got a nasty burn as the weight of his passenger took out (*Cont. p.2*)



Vonnie and Gene Cameron with their mounts at the Rodeo Parade (Photo Richard Shuff)

(*Rodeo cont*) the slack. Within only one team to go on Sunday's timed elimination round (the other eight teams were disqualified), winners had only to jog around the course to earn an easy and significant paycheck.

The 90-degree temperatures were not tempered this year by monsoon rains. But the bleachers were full and the line at the food stand was long. Celebrity attendees were anonymous and inconspicuous, though County Commissioner Mike Anaya was spotted near the bucking chutes on Saturday.

An overheard conversation between two old-timers revealed that Antonio Chavez has attended all thirty five rodeos and Charlie Holloway has attended at least thirty of them. How about an attendance buckle for them!

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Craig Moya has joined the "family business." He received his Firefighter I and other certificates in Las Cruces, where he attends NMSU and is majoring in fire management.

Ken Spicocchi's six-month probation period has ended and he is now a full-fledged member of the GVFR, bringing us the benefit of long experience as a volunteer firefighter.

Mark Russell was welcomed as a new member at the June business meeting. A Galisteo resident, he has been a member of the El Dorado Fire and Rescue, and already has an intermediate EMT certification and a Wildland Red Card.

New County regulations now cover firefighters and EMTs working for film companies in the District. Payment will go to the County which will pay individual GVFR members.

Chief Jean Moya was pictured with her good friend Smokey the Bear in the July *Connection*, the County's newsletter.

Burn restrictions have been lifted so permits are available from Chief Moya.

PEDACITOS/BITS AND PIECES

Madilynn Brook Moya, daughter of **Melissa and Brian Moya**, was christened on June 11. Her *madrina* and *padrino* are grandparents **Jean and Steve Moya**.

Deacon Tom Baca, a "parish-life coordinator" whose parish includes Cerrillos, Galisteo, and Golden, was featured in the *New Mexican* on June 12th. Baca covers church finances, arranges for baptisms, marriages and funerals, and delivers a homily once a month in these small communities that have no priest. He receives the same pay as a priest -- \$636 a month. "I thank God for having the most wonderful job in the world," he says.

Janice Felty's picture was in *Pasatiempo* June 9th as she watched a fellow singer toss an omelet on stage in the delightful operetta *Doctor Miracle* at El Museo.

The movie *No Country for Old Men* is wrapping up. **Shira Schwill** has been working on it

At Spanish Market, **Craig Moya** won the Bienvenidos Award for a newcomer to the adult category and **Matthew Moya** won a You Make Me Smile Award for a (funny) death cart. **Jean Anaya Moya** received an Honorable Mention in straw appliqué.

Muriel Fariello wrote an eloquently irate letter to the editor of the *New Mexican* (June 24) excoriating Congress for rejecting the minimum wage even as they gave themselves a pay hike: "Big

business has placed each of them in their pocket. Shame on the lot of them. Vote them out in November." And on July 9th, she fired one off inspired by the Al Gore movie, *An Inconvenient Truth*. "Just run and see it, and take the kids. It should be mandatory viewing for all students."

Zorro Ranch, overlooking the southern Galisteo Basin, was listed on the tax rolls as the "largest and highest-valued residence in the county," with 23,105 square feet under roof in the main house." It is appraised at a record \$16.6 million for structures alone (*New Mexican*, June 11). Owner **Jeffrey Epstein** was just arrested for allegedly having sex with five minors in Palm Beach. Gov. Richardson and other New Mexico politicians have returned or donated his contributions to their campaigns.

Charter School 37 (see EL PUENTE Dec.2005) has opened at the Indian School and hopes to move in around two years to the Village at the Galisteo Basin Preserve (Commonwealth Conservancy's Thornton Ranch project). Looking ahead, the Village will also provide "green burials."

On June 22 it was announced that several NM road projects would be delayed because the federal government is withholding nearly \$42 million in promised highway funds. Whether or not **NM 41** is on the delay list, we should be paying attention to this so we don't have any unpleasant surprises.

Galisteo figures for a couple of pages in Eldorado writer **Michael McGarrity's** police novel *Slow Kill* (though he says the river is the village's eastern boundary, makes the "old territorial style schoolhouse" a gallery, and gives us "several hundred people.") The village, he writes, "still retained the look and feel of a Spanish settlement. Tall cottonwoods spread thick branches over high adobe walls and dirt lanes wound past flat-roofed haciendas and veered away from the deep channel of the small river..." And he mentions the rodeo grounds, "where every summer working cowboys from the basin gathered for a weekend of friendly competition."

Robert J. Tórriz's *UFOs over Galisteo and Other Stories of New Mexico's History* (UNM Press, \$16.95) doesn't have much about Galisteo in it but it's a good read. The "UFO" was a "Chinese balloon" sighted over Lamy in 1880.

GCA REPORT

Linda Braun, Secretary

\$150,000 was received from the County for our water system upgrade. County water engineers met with the Water Board and will draft a contract for improving/expanding the system. Both parties must approve the final contract.

At the Open Forum on July 13th, Richard Griscom updated the Board on the Gafford (Sept.7)and Clayton (Oct.6) hearings. [Both will be reported in the next EL PUENTE]. The public is invited but only lawyers, claimants, and judge can speak.

Griscom also presented a petition to be presented to the County Commissioners urging them not to approve development that will affect our water supply. Lucy Lippard brought in two boxes of material for the archives and we all discussed the importance of maintaining this collection of our ongoing history.

On July 1 a meeting was held in Galisteo with the County about its infrastructure improvement program—a wish (*cont. p.3*)

list for communities. Properties to be improved must be owned or deeded to the County. Galisteo wishes for playground improvements. The request will be presented to the County Commissioners.

The senior center under construction in El Dorado will offer Meals on Wheels to homebound Galisteo seniors and serve lunches and other services at their new facility.

Kathleen Murphy and her merry campers have painted a great mural on a wood footing under the old bridge.

A GOLDFINCH SUMMER

Jan Saunders

Summer is the time to relax, release, and revel in the freedom of that long, lazy, lemonade-flavored day's promise. Mornings filled with sunshine, the smell of wild chocolate flowers, and the drone of Hummingbirds. Afternoons of welcome showers, cool shadows, and legendary thunderheads rising over Cerro Pelon. Against this background I was determined to find my Zen moment.

The operative word here is *determined*. Wanting desperately to get an early start on my search for summer peace, I settled on the portal for a cup of tea and a few moments of meditative morning bird watching intended to "quiet the mind." Staring into the middle distance, I easily slipped into planning all the summer things I wanted to check off my list for that day. I soon realized how peaceful I wasn't.

My mind was as frantic as the multitude of tiny Goldfinches clinging to the caged thistle sock hanging from the bird feeder tree. These little high-energy birds were engaged in what can only be described as a full-blown feeding frenzy. The cage, placed over the sock to keep out the numerous and therefore less desirable House Finches, was a perfect metaphor for the thoughts flapping around in my cluttered mind. Both were selectively filled with bright promises and hopefulness, and both were a swirling brainstorm of fluttering, pecking, chirping, chattering, never-still-for-a-moment, fully engaged entities on their own intense missions. Clearly this was not the path to peacefulness.

I remembered reading somewhere that the way to a peaceful mind was to "chop wood" and "haul water." Then and there I resolved to devote myself to the too-long-postponed task of sanding and refinishing the top of my fifty-year-old dining room table. I pictured myself rhythmically sanding by hand, back and forth, until the table top glowed like satin. I knew I had found the key to a perfect Zen moment.

Do I need to tell you that what I really found were mind-frazzling trips in tedious traffic searching for sandpaper and environmentally friendly finishes followed by painful nights rubbing my sore muscles with snake oil? This was exhausting work!

I am proud to say I did not give up. I doggedly kept at the task. Out of boredom one afternoon I switched on the TV and miraculously discovered my guru, my teacher, my savior. There smiling at me from the screen was *Oprah!* From four to five every afternoon Oprah and I sanded my table with joyous abandon. I was multitasking again and happy as a lark. My search for a peaceful mind was put back on the "to do" list. For now I was getting the job done. The table was beautiful, I was exhausted, and my Zen moment remained as elusive as ever.

Late that evening found me seated on the floor practicing Yoga and watching TV. What is wrong with this picture? In my defense I was tuned into the Bill Moyers PBS special on Faith and Reason, featuring an interview with Pima Chodren, author and Buddhist nun. As I watched and listened to their evenly paced and clearly grounded discussion of attaining enlightenment, I thought there must be hope here for me. During the pledge break I switched channels to Law and Order. Clearly there was no hope.

The next day while methodically hurrying from room to room getting my morning chores done, I consoled myself with the mantra that a peaceful Zen home is almost as good as a quiet mind. Just then, I glanced out into the patio. There, only a few inches away, perched in the vibrant purple of the Russian Sage, a single male Goldfinch was a shimmering image of velvet black and 24-carat gold cast by the morning sunlight. The flawlessly smooth contour feathers of his tiny body, the circle of his obsidian eye, the vitality and beauty of the wholeness of this moment stopped my mind.

There it was. When I least expected it, when I was least determined to find it, this Zen moment, pinned securely onto the fabric of eternity, had found me. The perfection rested like a smooth stone in the palm of my mind.

RYAN CAMPBELL TAYLOR, Dec. 27, 1981-June 20, 2006 Our deepest sympathy to Heidi and Ralph Tingle, whose son Ryan died in an accident in June. A celebration of his life was held August 30th in Santa Fe. A memorial fund will provide scholarships to the University of Denver for needy students from the Rocky Mountain region, with preference for those from Colorado and New Mexico. (Send donations to University of Denver, Dept. 585, Denver, CO. 80291-0585).

CHILI CHALLENGE

Freddie Cárdenas reports that the Annual Chili Challenge was again a success. There were a lot of people there and when it rained everyone crowded indoors and had a great time. The Margarita contest drew only one entry and the prizes were moved over to the chili cooks.

So there were six winners: 1) **Denice Pruett** 2) **Priscilla Garcia** 3) **Barbara Pfeiffer** 4) **Lawrence D'Allesandro** 5) **Tana Cárdenas** 6) **Tom Morin and daughter Anna**. Denice's crown was made by Amy Lynn. First and second place received dinner for two at the Galisteo Inn; third and fourth place received \$15 credits at the Wild Wild Wok; fifth and sixth got \$10 gift certificates from the Agora. The judges were Antonio Chavez, Nick Anaya, Maria Ortiz y Pino, Frank Hirsch and Mela Montoya.

**EL PUENTE SPONSOR
WENDY CHASE**

GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

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

FREE

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

FOR RENT

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

SERVICES

Saturday Art Classes for children and adults, Retablos and watercolors. 10-12AM or 2-4PM, weekdays or weekends, from May 20th. \$150 for 6 weeks. Catherine Ferguson. 466-2765.

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

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

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

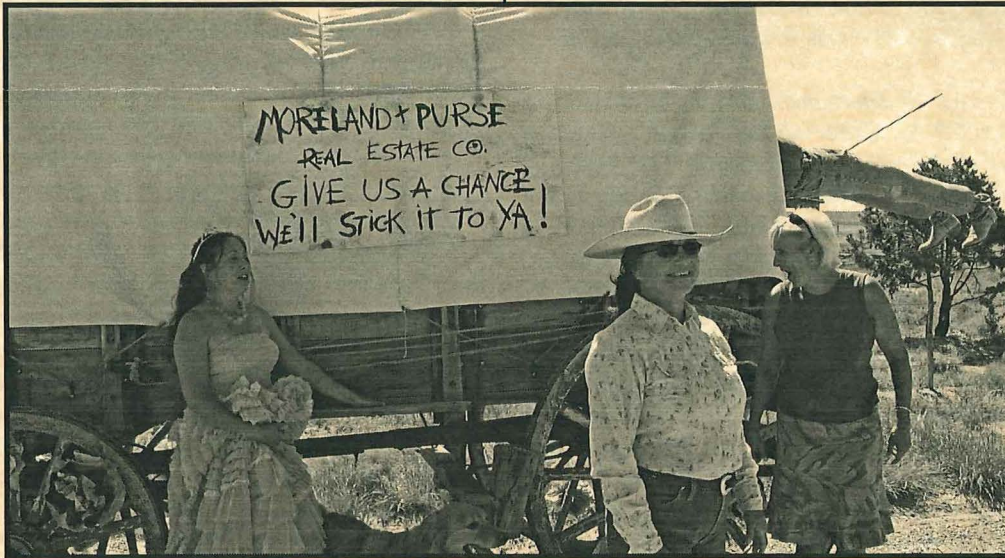
Dave's Auto Repair: tune-ups, oil change, restoring, minor repairs, restoring, painting. Local refs. Free estimates: David Montoya, 466-2097.

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

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

Rodeo float conceived and designed by Denice Pruett: La Reina Isabella Gonzales, Pruett, Barb Holloway. (Photo:Tom Morin).



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.

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

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.

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

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

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

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

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

+++ EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO+++

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

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