



ISSUE #138

OCTOBER 2010

GALISTEO STUDIO TOUR 2010

OCTOBER 16-17, 10-5. 32 STOPS, 40 ARTISTS!!

Come out and get a look at all the different kinds of art made by your neighbors in their studios. Enjoy a day strolling around our beautiful community. Wander through the village, over the Creek, or take a quick drive up the hill to Ranchitos for even more art stops. This year's poster art is provided by our wonderful Ranchitos photographer Sam Sloan (see p.3).

We hope to have lots of shoppers, strollers, and just plain curious types both days. There will be three porta-potties located along the tour and plenty of parking at the Church, Community Center, and tour-stop driveways.

We ask our visitors to limit themselves to the indicated stops, but we ask for your patience if their curiosity gets the better of them and they wander off designated paths.

Check out all the art, info, and local sponsors that make this weekend possible on line at Galisteostudiotour.org.

Thanks to you all from the GST Steering Committee: Cindy Lux, Barbara Seiler, Barbara Holloway, Amy Lynn, Barb King and Janice Wall.

Answer to last month's "What Nobody Knows About Us": **FRANK LUX** was voted "loveliest legs" by his high school graduation class (see p.4).

NEXT: Who had one grandmother who was a Flamenco dancer and another who was a midwife?

IT'S TIME AGAIN

FOR EL PUENTE TO BEG FOR STAMP MONEY.

Last year two generous donors provided the whole \$660 that it takes for the paper to go thru the Post Office for a year at current postage prices. (Ah, for the days of just dropping them into unlocked mailboxes on the way home from the printer...) Of course we'd love a repeat of last year but such generous souls are rare. Perhaps there are 7 people out there who could donate \$100 each? Or 14 at \$50? Individual monthly sponsors pay for printing; GCA pays for paper. We'll just see how it unfolds (so to speak), but please help if you are able.



Mela in her youth (photo: courtesy of the Montoya family)

Mela Carlota Montoya, 1929-2010

Mela Montoya passed away at her home in Galisteo on Sept. 14, at the age of 81. She leaves behind her husband of 60 years, Onesimo Montoya and nine children, (one daughter preceded her in death), five of whom -- Anna, Dave, Ted, Lisa, and Priscilla-- live in Galisteo. There are 19 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren, as well as numerous relatives and friends, including sister-in-law Mary Alice Anaya.

Mela was one of the nine children of Cresencio and Catalina Anaya and granddaughter of José Antonio and Natividad Anaya, who owned a vast sheep ranch in the Thornton Ranch area, where Mela spent childhood summers. She attended school in Galisteo and High School in Stanley, where she was the Valedictorian of her class. Her children wondered at her report cards; the lowest grade was a B. She married Onesimo in 1950.

Mela was Galisteo's first female, and last Postmaster, presiding judge for County elections for many years, President and member of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Society and a devoted member of Nuestra Señora de los Remedios, where her funeral services were held on Sept. 20. ("I remember Mom (Cont. p.2)

and Tia Rosina would wash the floors of this church on their knees," recalled her daughter Angie at the funeral. "She was very proud of her heritage and was an excellent example of why you should be involved in your community."

Mela was also a member of the Galisteo Water Users Association and served on the Board of the Galisteo Community Association. Since 1987 she has participated in the Studio Tour and was famous for the red chile at her Cocina de Mela in the Community Center. She won the Galisteo Chile Challenge two years in a row, as well as being a judge another year. Her children and grandchildren say they "could always smell the tortillas all the way from the school bus stop and would stop to visit Grandma on the way home."

"Besides cooking and baking," said her daughters, "Mom loved to read and sing, especially while my Dad played his guitar. She loved to go camping with the family, watch her *novelas* and go to the Casino. She could embroider, quilt, knit and sew and passed it down to her children and grandchildren. She also worked outside the home for many years. She was an amazing lady."

Those of us who knew Mela for her generosity, her feisty spirit, and her long service to the community would echo that praise.

The Montoya family sends their thanks for all the kind letters, cards, food and gifts.

PEDACITOS/BITS AND PIECES

Walter Howerton from Austin, Texas wrote to *The New Mexican* (9/28) to let us know that Galisteo's **Susan Rothenberg** is being claimed by Texas. A piece by critic Robert Pincus-Witten on artforum.com says Susan has been "long settled in Galisteo, Texas...absorbed by the small wonders of Texan domestic life, as well as by the state's vast landscape." Bad enough we've got a Texas-born-and-financed gubernatorial candidate, but this is the last straw!

Split Estate, the influential film about "fracking" inspired in part by Tecton's invasion of the Galisteo Basin, won an Emmy for "outstanding Individual Achievement" in documentary research. West Basin resident Debra Anderson is the producer and director.

Jean Moya, newly elected President of the Santa Fe County Chief's Association, introduced herself in the September issue of The County Fire Department's newsletter, *The Connection*. Jean is an EMS and a Firefighter as well as our own Chief. She has been serving the Santa Fe County Fire Department since 1992, and is committed to "help initiate changes that need to take place."

Patrick McFarlin's portrait of artist Wally Hedrick from his show at Launchpad graced the cover of *Pasatiempo* (9/30).

Governor Richardson is suggesting an expansion to the **Cerrillos Hills State Park** by acquisition of the Ortiz Mountain Ranch to accommodate wild horse herds. Nice idea, but it has been pointed out that the Nevada herd, being thinned by the BLM, needs an average of 850 acres per horse. At that rate, the 5000 acre Cerrillos expansion would only accommodate six horses. Another estimate (including "mountain meadows") is 280 acres per head, which would bring it up to 18, but it is doubtful if that would be sustainable in our harsh environment.

It's **Green Chile** time and **Deborah Madison** comes out for the small chiles of Northern New Mexico, with their big flavor, as opposed to the larger, more handsome, but less tasty ones from the South.

Tomas R. Chavez (b. 1913) passed away on July 18th. In his youth, according to his obituary, he was a "'real' cowboy working in the Ojo de la Vaca/Galisteo area."

Thanks to the community e-mail, Rancho Cerro Pelon found its **lost cow!**

Santa Fe County is now selling bulk **water for one cent per gallon**, which could be a boon for those of us who haul water and pay many times that, but also impossible unless we have access to a tanker truck.

Correction on the rodeo death: Kenny McOsker was living in Edgewood, not Belen. His father said that his epitaph would be a quote from country singer Chris LeDoux: "Better 8 seconds in the arena than a life in the stands."

BUSINESS/WATER UPDATES

Tim Willms is wading through the last bits of red tape for the transformation of the **former Tienda Anaya**, having endured much expense and endless bureaucratic roadblocks. He will move into his office in the old garage soon and is now reviewing his options: "Onward and upward!" He would welcome "strategic input" from the community and thanks everyone for their support and guidance so far: You can email him (tim@taluswindsranch.com), if you have some ideas or would like to get involved.

Kaye Sandford of **Vista Clara Ranch Resort** spent 2009 working with European investors on the resort expansion. But thanks to the economic crash, they pulled out of the contract. She is not giving up, but is "just hanging in, probably for two or three years, until the economy improves."

Muriel Fariello reports that **El Dorado** received approval for additional **water rights** but they were greatly reduced from their original request. Also they are directed to stop pumping the Lamy wells over time, which directly affects Galisteo. The Office of the State Engineer (OSE) has given them the go-ahead to drill the new well away from our water source. The terms of the agreement are laid out in 100 pages, but in a nutshell – El Dorado water protests will continue each time they request a permit for a new well.

After two years of meetings with members of the Galisteo Community, **Ted Harrison of the Commonweal Conservancy** has decided not to move forward with the contract for monitoring the effects of his cluster village at the Galisteo Basin Preserve on Galisteo Village's water supply. A year ago negotiations seemed ready to be successfully concluded, after much hard work by all concerned, including a hired hydrologist. However new members joined the open Galisteo committee, new issues were raised, new lawyers brought in, and the contract stalled. Now the OSE will hold meetings shortly on Commonweal's request to transfer 28.5 acre feet of water from west of the development. Galisteo's Mutual Domestic Water System will take part in these discussions.

*

EL PUENTE would like to know what Galisteans are doing in terms of alternative energy and water solutions. How many of us are "off the grid"? Supplement the grid with solar or wind? Have rainwater catchment systems, gray water re-use, or any other ingenious solutions? Let's learn from each other.

RETHINKING NM41

The September 14th meeting on the NM 41 Corridor Study, led by Dave Pennington, was well attended both by Galisteo residents and a slew of DOT employees. It seemed that a concerted effort was being made to listen to the community and our concerns.

The area under consideration is broken down into 1) the "rural segments" -- Clark Hill to the Rodeo Grounds, to the south and Goose Downs/Vista Clara to 285 to the north; "transition zones" -- 3/4 mile from Rodeo Grounds to the Galisteo Bridge and 1/4 mile north of La Vega, with the "Community Core" in between,

The objectives in the rural segment are to lower nine sharp vertical curves, add shoulders, and lengthen the climbing lane at Clark Hill. To the north, only added shoulders are planned. Since the last meeting, the width of the rural shoulders/bicycle lanes have been decreased from 8' to 6'. Ranchers want underground livestock crossings.

In the transition zones at each end of the Community Core the focus is on traffic calming and the replacement or rehabilitation of the San Cristobal and Galisteo bridges. To encourage slower traffic, narrow roads, lower posted speeds, and additional radar were suggested, along with roundabouts or 17' medians in the center of the road. (Roundabouts were not recommended here because they can be dangerous with gas/oil trucks and don't blend well with the Historic District.)

In downtown Galisteo, one option was for a 2' concrete curb plus two 11' lanes, with whatever color we want; the 26' road would still look narrow. Second option: a 28' road with 4' shoulders plus 6' walkways of crusher fine (crushed gravel that is too fine for base course; this made some of us wonder about air quality and carcinogenic dust, given concerns about the material laid on Via La Puente.) There could be weathered steel guard rails and a textured pedestrian crossing at the church.



Photos by Sam Sloan from the 2010 Studio Tour Poster.

The original plans for the San Cristobal bridge have been found; they reveal that the timber for the bridge piers was supposed to be treated, but was not. This means that the piers are probably rotting as they are exposed to both water and air. Really high water could scour the bed and the bridge would collapse. ("I wouldn't drive across that bridge in heavy rains," said one official.) The conclusion is that San Cristobal bridge must be totally replaced and will be monitored in the meantime. During reconstruction it would be limited to local and emergency traffic.

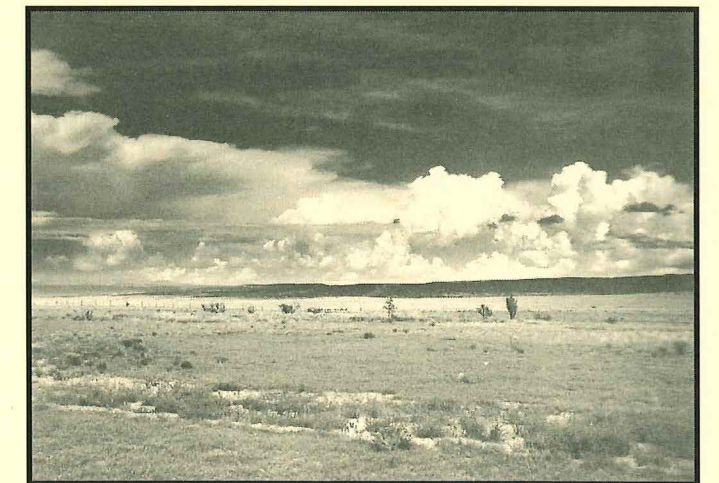
The hopefully workable and by far the best option for the Galisteo bridge is to replace the damaged deck and railing but salvage from the girders or piers on down. If one lane could be done at a time, one-way traffic could continue without building a third temporary span. Tests must be done to see if this will work. Trucks would be prohibited during construction.

The second option for the Galisteo bridge is to build a second bridge, using the old one for pedestrians, or just fencing it off. (This sounds horrible!) If the bridge needs rebuilding it would look the same but it would be longer (not much wider). Wetland surveys will be completed when the decision is made.

Both bridges were designed for 15 tons. Seventy years later they are carrying up to 50 tons. But we were assured that the real problem was not that the bridges couldn't hold the trucks (live loads) but that the bridges (dead loads) might not be able to hold themselves up.

Endangered species must also be taken into consideration. Wildlife advocate Theresa Seamster noted at the meeting that there are over twenty "focal species" in the area, and that beneath bridges are migration corridors. Only "small" archaeological sites would be affected.

Actual construction on the bridges would not begin until 2012. More meetings and negotiations will be held in the interim. Send in your comments or call Dave Pennington, who can be really helpful. I, for one, am trying to convince them that the Community Core includes those of us living on Avenida Vieja east of the creek and south of the bridge, and that the southern "transition" area should end at the triangle below Avenida Vieja, thus respecting the boundaries of the Historic District. 2012 is breathing down our necks. A lot of work is yet to be done.





The lovely legs, somewhat damaged from a Sonora bike trip.

EL PUENTE SPONSOR JOHN YOUNG

GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

ADS ARE FREE, AND FOR GALISTEO RESIDENTS ONLY. PLEASE CALL 466-1276 TO UPDATE, CHANGE, OR DELETE YOUR ADS. Next deadline: November 2nd. SERVICES

Pet and housesitting, watering plants, feeding animals, etc. Call Linda Jones, 466-6624.

Carpentry: Custom closets, hand-carved tables, benches, gates, doors; also electrical work. Ted Montoya, 466-1430 (messages).

We build and repair coyote fences; haul trash; do yard work & other odd jobs. Fair prices, local references, Michael Anaya, 660-8920.

Dragon Lady: Full Service Catering, Corey McGillicuddy, 660-1236.

Archival matting, reframing, thirty years experience. Sina Brush, 577-4045.

Massage in the comfort of your own home. Cathy Crelling, 490-2285.

Barbara King Pottery: functional and decorative, handcrafted with a variety of glazes on white stoneware. 466-3219.

Yoga: Enliven your body, refresh your mind! Small group classes and private sessions. Linda Braun, 466-8488.

Rocky Mountain Handyman. Can do anything! Call Mark Lyons, 629-9323.

Reliable home and yard care when you're away: mail collection, watering, security, etc. References available. Linda Braun, 466-8488.

Remodelling, additions in adobe and frame, mud plaster, stonework, metal lathe plaster, flagstone and building maintenance, Sina Brush, 577-4045.

Computer tutor/personal assistant. Contact Paige, 466-1002. **MacTech Support and Tutoring,** photo digitizing and organizing, and Photoshop lessons: Tom Martinelli, 466-1020.

Beth is available for **petsittings in Galisteo,** 470-7606.

Need a pet sitter or house sitter? I will do short or long-term care, occasional overnights, reasonable rates, refs. available. For info, call Maria, 466-8930.

White Dog Cyclery: Certified bicycle maintenance/repair. Your family bicycle service. All bikes, repairs. Call Frank, 466-2121.

Saturday Art Classes for children and adults, Retablos and watercolors. 10-12AM or 2-4PM, weekdays or weekends. Catherine Ferguson, 466-2765.

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

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

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

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

Need a permit? Computer Aided Drafting Support for architects, engineers, contractors etc. 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.

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

Nick Contreras: Landscaping, Brush Removal, Trash hauling, appliance pickup, move in, move out. Call 920-2521.

Manual Therapy incorporating modalities such as Roling, Thai massage, Shiatsu, Trigger Point therapy, and more. \$50 per hour for a limited time. Cloud Hall, 670-7771, or 466-3375.

+++ EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO+++

Editor: Lucy R. Lippard. **Contributors:** Richard Griscom, Jan Saunders, Tom Martinelli. **EL PUENTE logo** by Cara Lee. **Printer:** Allegra. **Send letters, comments, suggestions, contributions to EL PUENTE, 14 Avenida Vieja, 466-1276. NEXT DEADLINE: NOV. 2. TO BE A SPONSOR: make out check to GCA for \$75, note "for newsletter," send to address above.**

El Puente de Galisteo
14 Avenida Vieja
Galisteo NM 87540