



ISSUE #229

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019

## HEARTY HEALTHY HOLIDAYS TO ALL

### NANCY HELLE (1944 - 2019)



#### MOM

Caitlin Helle

My mother was born on August 16th, 1944, in Lakewood, Ohio. Breaking familial and societal bonds, she left the U.S. at age twenty, going to Ireland to work at a hunting stable. She sang in bars and taught English across Europe, travelled extensively in North Africa and the Middle East, and spent seventeen years in Jerusalem.

She was incredibly industrious and hard-working, a self-taught carpenter, leather worker, and talented gardener. She was quick-witted and gregarious, always willing to help a friend or neighbor. Never one to turn down an adventure or challenge, she whitewater rafted with her beloved sister and rode her horse from Saint Louis to Galisteo [with another former Galisteña, Linda Rice].

She is survived by sister Connie Mouradian, daughter Rebecca Hayes and grandson Liam, and daughter Caitlin Helle and granddaughter Alma Mendoza, as well as countless friends around the world. Even in dying Nancy kept her sense of humor. She said the thing she was looking forward to most was "not having to hear that bloated orange shitbag anymore."

**Los Pastores**, Sun. Dec. 8, 1:30, at La Sala after an 11:30 mass at the church and a traditional New Mexican potluck lunch at the Community Center at 12:30. (Side dishes are always welcome.)

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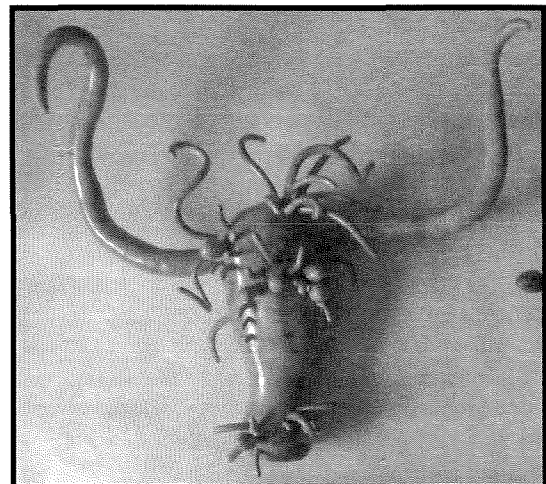
**It's that time of year again, to add to or update your listing in the GVFR's Galisteo Phone Directory!**

Send us your name, address, residence, and mailing address if it's different. Plus phones -- home, land, and cells for anyone at that address. Also, we list by the names of each spouse/partner, so list both of you. There is a section for home businesses: Send websites, names, phones etc. And if there are any typos in your info in the old directory, let us know .... just for fun!

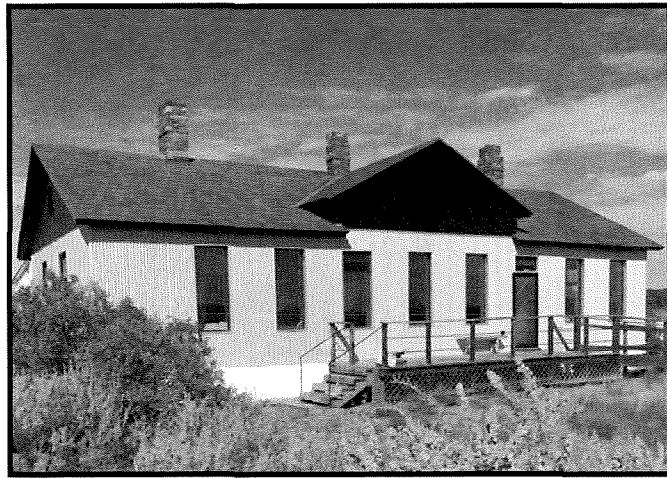
**Deadline for info is Dec 15th** to Cindy and Frank Lux at [forbeslux@aol.com](mailto:forbeslux@aol.com). The new directories will be mailed out in January.

#### STUDIO TOUR

The 32nd Annual Tour, according to La Sala's count, attracted 729 visitors, a few more on Sunday than Saturday. Twenty-nine artists and three food stops participated and many artists did very well, especially Deirdre Africa, who sold out her glorious aprons (see p.4).



One of Bill Huckaby's fantastic gourd critters.



## A NEW LIFE FOR FORMER LAMY DEPOT

Beau Lebeau

In the ten years I have lived in Galisteo, I was never aware of Doc Ferneau's house. Although I check the real estate listings regularly, I never saw it listed and there was no For Sale sign. When I got a call from my friend Muriel Fariello, I saw where it was, loved the views, and decided to make an offer. I thought they were willing to hold it for me for a week until I could get out to view it, but they wouldn't send me paperwork. So I called Galisteo broker Elayne Patton and asked her to represent me.

Of course it was in many times worse condition than the pictures showed. My friends wanted me to knock it down. What I found out is that it was an old yellow Atkinson, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad [Depot and later] "Section House" that was moved from Lamy in 1975 to its present site by Elmer "Doc" Ferneau, who lived there until his passing in 2018. [See *El Puente*, No.19, Nov. 1998, for Marie Ferneau's account of the history and the move.]

The Railroad reached Lamy in February, 1880. Until the 1920s, a train could only travel so far in a day; initially about 100 miles, then it doubled. Prior to electricity being available on a train, passengers and crew disembarked daily. The passengers would go to a hotel while the crew stayed in a Section House, which typically had a big room and an attached kitchen. It would also be used for storage. I measured a few pieces of lumber in the house, which were much larger than today's. It wasn't until 1924 that the first national lumber size standard was set.

The red tin shingles -- we found two samples in a drawer-- were of the classic "Gothic Arch" pattern common in the 1920s. The house had large interior beams and seemed to be supported by the outside frame, which meant we could make interior alterations without affecting its structural integrity. The floors were cedar and Antonio Chavez told me the exterior siding was redwood, resistant to both pests and fire. Two sections of the floor had been replaced, presumably so that big RR tie beams could be placed to lift the house to its new site in Galisteo.

Also good for a gut rehab, there was a crawlspace and an attic, which made it easier to replace/add plumbing and electricity; they both had to be totally replaced. And all the electrical and telephone lines were underground -- another positive.

There weren't many positives, to be sure. The house had a cesspool, so a new septic had to be installed; just a small

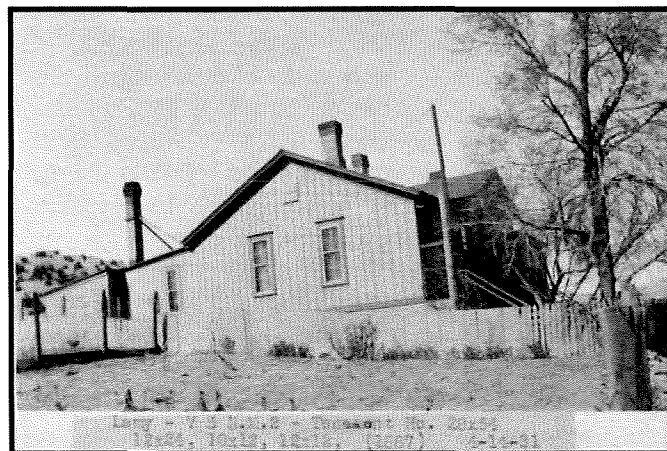
holding tank, so we added a 1700-gallon cistern, reworked the well, etc., etc. But the roof did not leak and we could keep the roof tiles, replacing only about five of them.

When I thought over what to do with the property, "industrial farmhouse" came to mind and I decided that would be the style, keeping as much and as true to what was there as possible but making the infrastructure all new, all modern. With my casita tenant Rod Forslund, an interior designer, we walked the house several times while I told him I'd like to end up with three bedrooms and two baths, minimal hallways, reusing as much material as possible. We came up with a plan and Rod measured and drew it up on the computer. This being my twenty-first rehab, I had AutoCAD but prefer the drafting kit my father gave me for high school graduation.

We started demolition on March 20th, first removing a non-structural wall so the kitchen was now open. We had the Bobcat remove all the trees and stumps that were choking the house and hiding the views. Walking the property I found the perfect beam to go where the wall came down; we only had to cut it 7" and it looked like it had been there forever.

On the outside, in keeping with our industrial farmhouse scheme, we placed rigid insulation over the redwood siding, which would have been too costly to restore and paint and needed insulation. Over that we have corrugated galvalume, which looks white from the road, is not reflective, and has minimal maintenance. We reconfigured the outside entrances. A workman fell through one of the landings and was shaken but not hurt. A deck open to the views was added. Everado used leftover rebar as sidebars on the railings in keeping with the spirit of the house and to keep costs down. The master bath was fitted with a deep whirlpool tub with a large window looking out on the Ortiz Mountains.

I worked with Everado Andujo as I had with a few other projects. On a gut rehab you can't really have a firm budget or timeline but it came in about 5% per square foot over my optimistic estimate and about four weeks longer than expected. We were able to price it for rental just a tad over my first analysis. My dream was to rent it to someone who would appreciate the views and the design. I am pleased to introduce our new neighbors: Geninne Zlatkis, an artist (see her work in the Georgia O'Keeffe museum store and online) and Manolo Benitez, an architect just completing a new studio in Galisteo for Jenny Stocker.



The building at Lamy, 1887, Courtesy of Geninne Zlatkis

## DOLLAR STORE OR NO DOLLAR STORE?

The Santa Fe County Planning Commission has supported the appeal of opponents to a proposed Dollar Store on the northeast side of US 285 near Eldorado. The land is owned by developer Joe Miller, who for decades has faced vehement opposition to his various projects. The store would be part of the first phase of his mixed-use development called Cimarron Village.

Edgar Catanach, a mail carrier who with his wife has owned a home near the project site for more than thirty years, filed the appeal after helping gather c. 1,200 petition signatures. "I'm not opposed to development," he said. "But I want responsible development, things that serve the community. If they had offered to put an organic market right there, that would have been fabulous." He has no problems with other parts of the master plan, which also includes park space and residential uses.

State Rep. Matthew McQueen was among those who spoke against the project. Noting the site's proximity to an I-25 interchange, he said, "People come off that ramp too fast. To introduce a bunch of cross traffic right there concerns me.... I pointed out to the commission that as a commuter I drive through that intersection at least twice a day, and we've had some really awful accidents in that corridor, including some fatalities.... I think there are safety issues to consider."

The next step for opponents will be to plead their case before the Board of County Commissioners.

(Adapted from an article by Howard Houghton in *The New Mexican*, 11/22.)

## PEDACITOS/BITS AND PIECES

**Thieves** broke a glass door and ransacked the Potter home on San Cristobal in Ranchitos on November 10th. Police are investigating. It looks like a professional job. This is a sad reminder that if you are away or have a second home here, you may want to consider a lighting and/or sound-programmed system so the home looks occupied, and you should have someone to check on it. Also, if you see unfamiliar vehicles, take down their make, model, and color, license plate, anything distinguishing - - just in case.

**Julia Moore** sang soprano in Faure's "Requiem" on Sunday, November 3, to benefit the Rio Grande Chapter of the National Wildlife Federation.

La Sala's handsome **new website**, including a section of oldies from *El Puente*, can be found at LaSalaDeGalisteo.org.

The GCA hosted the Fourth Annual **Eldorado 8th Grade Outing** in the bosque on Nov.1. The field trip for the school's science and environmental classes involves about sixty students with eight to ten adult chaperones. They break into groups adjacent to El Puente (the bridge) to conduct water samples, study local ecology, and learn about our bosque recovery efforts over the years. It was a pack-in and pack-out event with minimal disruption.

**Rudy Garcia**, our County Commissioner, has missed only one County Commission meeting but he is encountering a good deal of criticism for missing many School Board meetings after insisting he could responsibly fill both positions at once.

And two long-belated items from months ago: *The Magazine* (April 2019) published a piece on **Deborah Madison** in the New Mexico Women series and a lengthy cover feature on **Harmony Hammond**, who recently had a solo show at the prestigious White Cube in London. Both articles were by Jenn Shapland.

The **Epstein saga** continues with new accusers and news about his questionable financial dealings, some related to Zorro Ranch, where he purportedly hoped to "seed" the human race at a "Baby Ranch," according to *The New Mexican* (8/1).

**Michael Golino**, who is selling his Galisteo home, has developed mixed-use buildings at 934 Shoofly in the Baca District of the Santa Fe Railyard. He builds in the "rural industrial vernacular" style of the neighboring Greathouse Railyard Lofts.

**The Galisteo historic home tour** on Sept. 8th earned \$2206 for La Sala. Thanks to **Roger Taylor** for arranging it.

**Archaeologist Emily Brown** did a survey in the Bosque in 2016. "It wasn't, of course, an area with a very high potential for sites," she writes, "but we found some historic trash dumps, and so forth. The coolest thing was an old child's sled wedged in a tree north of the bridge." Has anyone noticed it?



(Photo: courtesy of the US Fish and Wildlife Service)

## PIPE DREAMS or PIPE NIGHTMARES

A frozen pipe burst can cost thousands of dollars for repair, mold, or water damage, and freezing weather is here early this year. Here are some recommended precautions: Keep temps around 60 degrees or above. Keep interior doors open. Disconnect water hoses. Buy a water leak alarm (not expensive at Home Depot).

If you turn on a faucet and water just trickles out you probably have a frozen pipe. If there's no leak yet, run warm water thru the pipe or wrap it with a towel soaked in hot water. Do not use a hair dryer or anything with an open flame that could damage the pipe or start a fire..

Call a plumber if you can't thaw the pipe, it's cracked or leaking, or it's in the wall or ceiling. Good luck!





Cocina de Mela waitresses Esperanza and Bernadette Wells, Lisa Griego, and Angela Montoya, with the artist in Deirdre Africa's aprons. (Photo: Alice Kruse)

## EL PUENTE SPONSORS: CINDY & FRANK LUX JOHN SHANNON

### GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

**ADS ARE FREE, AND FOR GALISTEO RESIDENTS ONLY. PLEASE CALL 466-1276 TO UPDATE OR DELETE YOUR ADS. Next deadline: Jan. 5th.**

#### FOR RENT

**Charming vacation casita** in the heart of Galisteo, available for rent by the night, week or month. Steve or Jean, 466-1544.  
**Vacation casita** for rent by the weekend, week, or month. 900 sq.ft., open floor plan, 1BR + bath. Call Roger Taylor, 466-3469.

#### FOR SALE

**Amanecer Gallery offers oil paintings** by Freddie Cárdenas and **micaceous pottery** by Anna Cárdenas, 505-466-8967.

**Talus Wind Heritage Meats.** Local New Mexico lamb and pork. Contact info@taluswindranch.com.

**Button Box Aprons** by Deirdre Africa of Rancho Bueno in Galisteo, for sale at the Santa Fe Railyard Artisans Market most Sundays 10-4. Check out [www.buttonboxaprons.com](http://www.buttonboxaprons.com) and call 505-670-5198 or email [deirdreafrica@msn.com](mailto:deirdreafrica@msn.com)

#### SERVICES

**Dave's Auto Repair:** restoring, minor repairs, painting. Local refs. Free estimates: David Montoya, 505-501-1991.

**Common sense, gentle dog-training:** house manners, management problem-solving at your home, and limited boarding. 20+ yrs. experience. Call Evelyn, 466-1875.

**Orchard Full-Service Catering:** Personal chef, experience with special needs and dietary issues. Corey McGillicuddy, 466-1831, [mcgillicuddycorey3@gmail.com](mailto:mcgillicuddycorey3@gmail.com).

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

**Welding, flagstone, moss rock, fountains, plumbing, sprinkler, drip systems, plus Gopher Control.** David Maestas, cell 670-8608 or 660-9715.

**Galisteo Yoga:** Mondays 3pm, Tuesdays 9:30am @Dorothy's 466-2339 stretching & breathing. Private & Group Sessions w/Ruby 466-1961 [ruby@rubyrenshaw.com](mailto:ruby@rubyrenshaw.com) Kundalini & free-movement based Fridays 10-11 am @ Galisteo Community Center w/Mare [profundus@aol.com](mailto:profundus@aol.com) slow flow & therapeutic end of Vinyasa & Ivengar.

**Linda Vista Stables:** Local horse owners: I can take care of your horses when you're away, in the comfort of their own barn. Call Maria, 466-8930

**Pet, House, and Garden Care.** Janet Pfeiffer, 399-9238.

**Yoga for Everybody:** Julia Cairns and Mary Horst run yoga classes at the Eldorado Community Center, Mon-Fri. All levels welcome! See [www.yogaforeverybody.com](http://www.yogaforeverybody.com) for more information. Julia: 466-3393.

**Grow Y'own hooped and covered raised beds** for year-round gardening! Ken 490-1849.

Preparing your garden for next year? Repairing erosion? **Aged compost and mulch** available at Goose Downs Farm north of the village. Free if you load, \$15 if we do: Tom, 670-7031.

**Intern will travel:** Need help during parties, snow shoveling, yard cleaning, housekeeping or pet sitting on Saturdays or Sundays? Call John Garcia at 505-310-3812.

**JVS will remove (live) rattlesnakes.** Call 466-1064.

**We build and repair coyote fences; haul trash; yard work & other odd jobs.** Fair prices, local references, Michael J. Anaya, 660-2275.

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

**Carpentry:** Custom closets, hand-carved tables, benches, gates, doors; also electrical work. Ted Montoya, 577-6004.

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

**Meditation and Knowings** class with Chris Griscom, Sundays at The Light Institute: 5-6:30 pm. Free to Galisteo residents. 466-1975.

**Book Writing and Marketing Services:** by Random House author with 20 yrs. experience. Also **Voice Training and Singing Lessons** for children, adults and **Angel Readings:** Connect with loved ones from the other side. Stella Togo, 714-433-6148; [www.stellatogo.com](http://www.stellatogo.com).

**Dentistry:** Specializing in Endodontics (Root Canals) Free telephone consultations: Dr. Bernie Gavron at 505-988-7356.

### +++EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO+++

Editor: Lucy R. Lippard. logo by Cara Lee. Printer: Allegra. All donations welcome. Comments, suggestions, contributions to EL PUENTE, 14 Avenida Vieja, 466-1276 or [flip14@centurylink.net](mailto:flip14@centurylink.net). NEXT DEADLINE: Jan. 5th. TO SPONSOR: Make out check for \$80-\$150 (or more!) to GCA, noting "for newsletter," and send to El Puente.

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