



**Time to update, include, or delete your listing in our 2021 GALISTEO PHONE DIRECTORY**

This annual directory is sponsored by the Galisteo Volunteer Fire & Rescue Auxiliary. If you are new to Galisteo, or your listing needs updating, please contact Cindy Lux: forbestlux@aol.com. by December 1<sup>st</sup>. Include any landline and/or cell numbers as well as email addresses.

We list domestic partners together and separately so provide complete names. Have you added a studio or business phone or a new website? We have a Galisteo business section so you can reach the community. If your listing is OK as is, Great!

**Vendor Insert: Santa Fe & Regional**

We are also updating the insert listing Services and/or Vendors from the local, regional, or Santa Fe area. If you have done work on your homes this past year, perhaps you have an electrician, plumber, roofer, tech person, etc. you would like to recommend. Please send the name and contact info by Dec. 1st to Roger Taylor at clearskynm@gmail.com.

New directories will arrive by mail in January. Thanks and Stay Fire Safe! Donations \$75 and over get a snazzy t-shirt.!

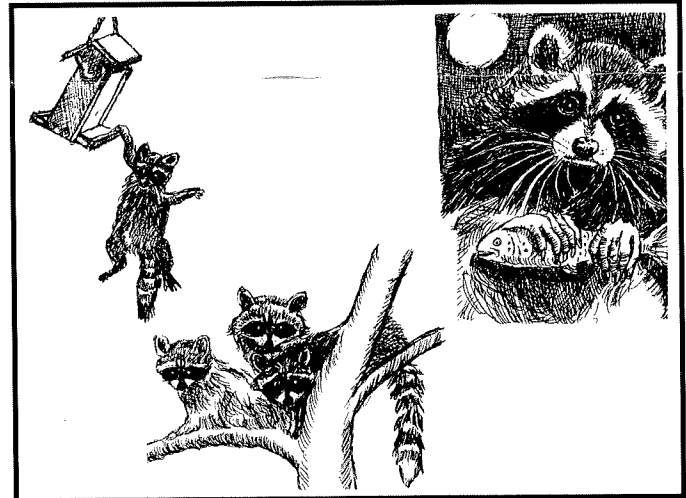
**COVID SCARE GETS WORSE**

As we write, there are nine Covid-19 cases in our zip code, 87540, which runs from the most southern part of El Dorado, through Lamy, Galisteo, and down toward Stanley, where there's little population, and over to Lone Butte. Hearsay has it that the first three cases were in Lamy, but not even the GVFR knows about the recent ones because it would be a HIPAA violation.

**MORE PLAYGROUND ACTION**



Ava D'Alessandro and Tana Morrow enjoying!



**BANDITS IN THE BOSQUE**

Jan Saunders, drawings by Catherine Ferguson

Glancing high up into the old cottonwood near the river, we saw the mother racoon hanging dead, half out of the nest hole, her three helpless babies clinging to the tree trunk next to her. Our rescue mission swung into action. A quick call to GVFR produced a ladder. My daughter Madge, shopping bag slung over her shoulder, climbed up above our heads, plucked three kitten-like babies off the tree, scooped three more out of the nest, dropped them all into the bag, and climbed safely to the ground. A foster care volunteer from Espanola Animal Hospital accepted the orphan racoons and our job was done.

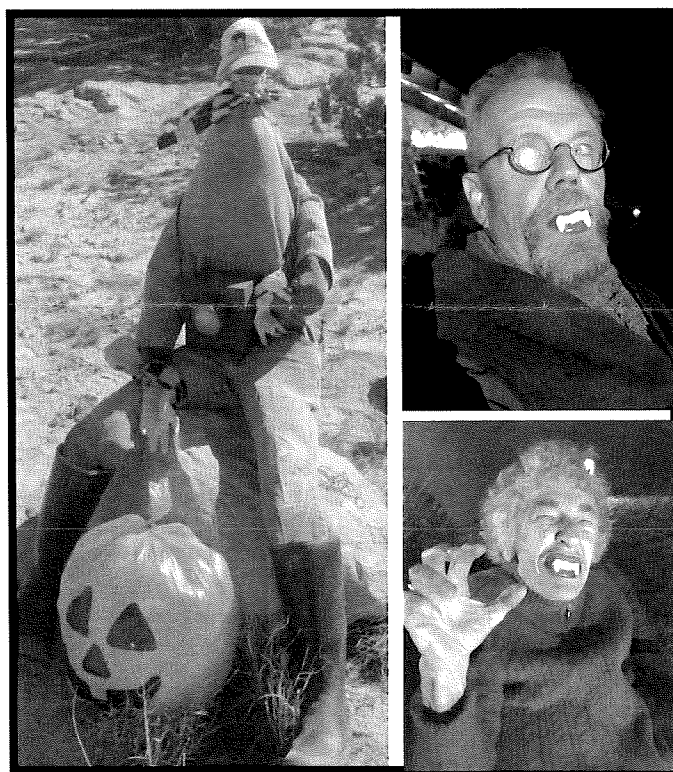
The back story revealed that the mother racoon, using her dexterous paws, jimmed open a bait box of rat poison, pilfered the contents, and returned to the nest to nurse her babies. Able to open ninety per cent of locks designed to stump human intruders and to identify food items caught in the wild by touch, super sensitive racoon "fingers," packed with nerve endings, are a force to be reckoned with. Enhancing these masked mammals' ability to "see" with their paws, a highly developed neuron-dense cerebral cortex interprets messages received through touch. Researchers believe that racoons' signature habit of dousing their food in water softens the pads on the ends of their "fingers" making their nimble forelimbs even more sensitive. When tested in the lab, racoon memory and puzzle-solving ability scores just below primates and well above cats and dogs. Our Bandits (Cont. p.2)

in the Bosque with a reputation for mischief are creative problem solvers capable of competing with Aesop's Crow.

The takeaway: racoons are smart. The equation: smart equals mischief and mischief equals trouble. Their black masks, ringed tails, and amusing antics are irresistible to humankind. Ra-Ra Raccoon Coats of the 1920s and Davey Crockett's Coonskin Cap are cultural icons. Calvin Coolidge kept his pet racoon Rebecca in the White House. The Beetles sang of "Rocky Raccoon" who "checked in to his room only to find Gideon's Bible." A recent blockbuster movie featured an animated "Rocket Raccoon" modeled after a real-life pet as a weapon-wielding member of the Super Hero Team Guardians of the Galaxy. (Not familiar with "Rocket Raccoon"? Ask your grandkids.)

In spite of their popularity, racoons as pets are on the *Do Not Recommend* list of wildlife experts. These capricious wild animals have a notorious sweet tooth guided by an acute sense of smell and will guzzle your hummingbird juice, trash seed feeders, and loot your candy stash with the stealth of a cat burglar. We learned the hard way while camping along the Canadian River near Tucumcari one hot July. After dropping our sleeping bags next to the food tent, we slept under the stars while a furtive band of masked marauders quietly unzipped the tent, opened plastic wrappers, ate the middle out of our loaf of bread and the creamy filling from an entire package of Oreo Cookies. Having cashed in their five-finger-discount, the racoons disappeared into the night, leaving mayhem and disappointment behind.

On the serious side, while not denying their "cuteness", racoons can transmit fatal (if not treated) rabies and are capable of killing my dog in short order. In today's time of Covid-19 caused by the transfer of zoonotic diseases, I would think twice about inviting a wild animal to share my home. If you are out at night and lucky enough to pick up their yellow-green eye-shine in your flashlight, best to maintain your social distance and leave the bandit to its mischief.



Galisteo Halloween: Dorothy Victor and Sam Sloan's Halloween Scarecrow. Local vampires raid the village.

## LITTLE JOE VS. THE WRINGER WASHER

Michaela Valencia de Sandoval

*This story is based on a memory shared by Joe Sandoval about his beloved sister, MaryLou Sandoval Baca. It is written as though MaryLou --17 years old at the time -- is telling the story.*

It is so quiet and peaceful early in the morning in our little village of Galisteo. The sun is barely peeking over the mountain so it is still cool this morning but soon it will be too hot to be outdoors. I have just finished hanging some towels and sheets on the clothesline. It's so nice outside that for just a minute I close my eyes and I can hear the birdsongs in the nearby trees, and the leaves moving ever so gently with the morning breeze. The sheets and towels are dancing on the clothesline, sending off a scent of lavender.

Mama and my sisters and brothers are in the kitchen eating breakfast. Daddy left early to open up the local general store. After breakfast, Mama went out to work in the garden, and my sisters, Stella (10 years old) and JoAnn (7), stayed in the house watching over my younger siblings (Fred, 2, Gloria, 4, and Joe, 5). When they are done eating, Fidel (15) and George (12) go outside to chop wood and haul in buckets of water from the well. Joe loves to hang out with Fidel and George. He wants to go out with them to chop wood but he knows he can't because he is too young and it is not safe.

Well, I better stop dreaming and get the next load of dirty clothes washed and ready to hang up. With seven kids in the house, and me, Mama and Daddy, there are always a lot of dirty clothes. I get more hot water from the stove and dump it into the washing machine, add a little more detergent and another load of dirty clothes, and then turn the machine on. I add more clear, cool water to the big silver washtub for rinsing. While that load is washing I go outside to fold the now dry sheets and towels.

Suddenly, I hear "ayúdame, ayúdame, por favor, MaryLou!" (help me, help me, please!) Oh no! That sounds like my little brother, Joe. What has he gotten into now! I drop the clothes into the basket and run into the washroom to find him crying. His arm is stuck in the rollers that ring out the wet clothes. "Aye, *Díos Mio* (Oh, my God), what am I going to do? How am I going to get his arm out? I'm so scared. What if his arm is broken? I start yelling for Mama. In the meantime, I remember that there is a latch that opens up the rollers, so I lift the latch and gently pull out Joe's arm. I wrap my arms around my little brother and hold him tight so he'll stop crying.

Within seconds, Mama runs in and pulls Joe into a hug while I tell her what happened. She tells Stella to get a cold, wet towel to wrap Joe's arm in to stop the swelling. Fidel and George come running into the house so fast that they almost trip over each other. They love their little brother Joe so much, and are always so protective of him. They feel so bad that he got hurt. They give Joe a big hug and then Mama tells them to run quickly to the store to get Daddy.

Daddy and Mama take Joe to Santa Fe because there are no doctors in Galisteo. Luckily, he only has bruises and swelling. No broken bones. The doctor laughed, saying, "in all my years I have never heard of someone getting their arm stuck in the rollers of a wringer washer."

When Mama and Daddy get home, they tell me, "*hijita, que suerte que tu sabías que hacer*" (daughter, it's a good thing you knew what to do). Joe says, "MaryLou is my hero forever!" Even now, at the age of 69, Joe remembers his big (Cont. p.3)

sister as his hero. Well, that was a crazy laundry day! A story to tell for years to come!

*Little Joe really lost the fight with the rollers of the wringer washer, and MaryLou really came to his rescue. Some of the story was made up to make it a little more interesting.*

## CAPTAIN JOHN SHANNON & THE GALISTEO BEE SANCTUARY

(excerpted from La Sala's "Buzzing Interview")

by Tessa Miller.)

*How long has the bee sanctuary been in Galisteo?*

JS: The "Bee Sanctuary" is really in its second year now. Last year we started with one hive, and we added another two because we caught a feral swarm of bees. It was quite an experience, we were very lucky. We had one swarm land in a tree right behind our hive so we were able to get them very easily. And then what happened was our hive actually swarmed and we caught that and made a third hive with it. So we were very fortunate. We sort of had an outer organic expansion of our existing bee stock.

*Okay, I wasn't aware that there were feral bees roaming around Galisteo!*

JS: Oh yeah, absolutely. They're out there. But this year has been very different. It hasn't been conducive to hives swarming. So we didn't see any this year, which you know, was a little disappointing. Because we would have loved to have caught some new ones, but no luck. But we're in our second year.

*So what was your inspiration for starting the sanctuary?*

JS: Oh, well, a couple of things. One, we have the hive right here on Denise Lynch's Quatermill Farm. So there was a beehive on the property I'm renting. This hive has been in Galisteo since around 2007. So these bees are long time Galisteo residents. The motivation was the hive, and we are really cognizant of how important pollinators are in regard to everything that we do. It's very important for food production in particular and with the die offs that we've been seeing of bee colonies, primarily due to the use of pesticides in everything, we decided to create an area where bees could thrive. And since we knew this hive had done really well here, and we're right by Galisteo Creek, and we have an orchard on the property, there's an orchard across the street, there's an orchard up the hill, so the bees have plenty of pollen and opportunities to get pollen and water. We just said, okay, let's set up here and cultivate this spot for them. Let's make this their little sanctuary....It's nice that I have the honey that I do, but it's really good that other people are going to do this, not just for the honey, but for the pollinators themselves.

*Do you know approximately how many bees you have? Is there any way to track that?*

JS Right now, we're at one hive. Two were abandoned. What I think happened was they ended up going over to our main hive, which is now a double stack hive. So it's essentially like two and a half hives itself. In that hive, I don't know, it's a large, large amount. An average hive can have anywhere from 10,000 to 60,000 bees in it, this one probably has more than that, and it's probably more like a 100,000....The queen in this hive is very active. We just checked her yesterday, she's laying around 2,000 eggs a day. It's going to start slowing down a little bit as we get into the winter and they're putting up honey and they're getting their larva set. It's not really a hibernation, but they've definitely slowed down during the winter.

Now one of the interesting things about the winter is that there are bees called heater bees that specifically are used within the hive to keep the hive and the rest of their hive mates warm. So they've adapted really well to being on Earth. They're amazing. They're amazing little creatures.

*More questions? See the La Sala website for full interview. Want some honey? Contact john@galisteobeesanctuary.com.*

## PEDACITOS/BITS AND PIECES

Corey McGillicuddy has received one of the Santa Fe Arts and Culture Department Cares Act COVID Safety Mini Grants for her *Social Distancing* photo project.

Julie Deery reports that she finished her 11.3-mile portion of The Great American Relay from Boston to the coast of California to benefit Cancer Research. Director Vince Varallo photographed her with fellow runner Agnes Frazier.



The proposed County Open Space around Mt. Chalchihuitl in the Cerrillos Hills has been canceled due to failure to reach an agreement on price with two private landowners.

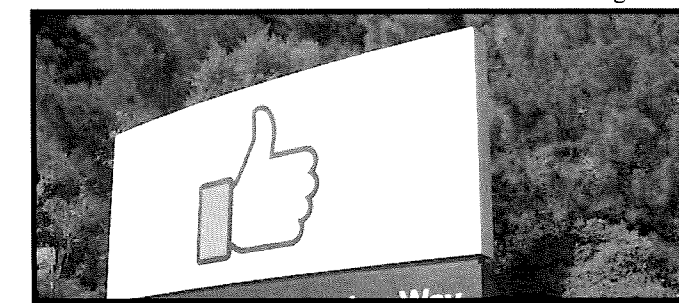
The recent wreck on CR42 of a pickup hauling something is the logical result of the all-too-common problem of speeding on that curvy road.

One of Ed Epping's vote signs for Axle Contemporary was blown up to a 6 x 12' banner on the Cloudcroft Building, Lena and Second Street.

Several Covid-19 infections at the film set of *The Harder They Fall* on the Cerro Pelon Ranch closed down production October 15<sup>th</sup>. But it soon started up again. Actors and crew are staying mainly in Albuquerque, less in Santa Fe, and not at all in Galisteo. (Ed. note: When I sit in my window seat around 5:00 PM, at least 100 cars and trucks dash by toward Santa Fe.) Now they are closed down again.

Although there were several bidders on the 3,250-acre Saddleback Ranch auction Oct.14, it did not sell. The owners are continuing to negotiate with five bidders. However the official new auction date has been postponed and will be determined in early 2021.

Democratic Party leaders Estelle Berger and Roger Taylor, were mentioned in *The New Mexican's* election coverage.



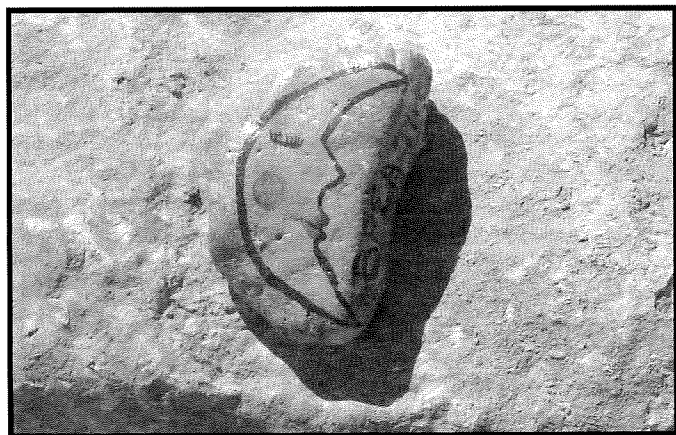
## YO! WHITE PICKUP! STOP PICKING UP!

To the owner of the white pickup who took wood chips from the playground in back of the Community Center: those piles of chips are intended for the completion of the playground under the swing set. They are not leftovers. We are waiting for additional budgeting in January to purchase more chips needed to complete the project. Please do not help yourself to Galisteo Community Association property. You are taking it from the kids

## FROM THE GCA: KEEP GALISTEO CLEAN

In years past when there were a number of vacant and unsold properties, it was not unusual for residents to dispose of construction materials (mostly dirt and concrete chunks) at certain locations where there were erosions or holes. However, in the past year these properties have been sold and are now privately owned, and the County has stepped up maintenance of its roads. In fact the County has removed much of this dumped debris and is now enforcing a \$1,000 fine for illegal dumping. Please bring your debris to the appropriate waste and recycling centers.

And speaking of "dumping," there have been a number of complaints in the village about people not cleaning up after dogs. We have narrow roads, dense housing clusters, and lots of walkers, which does argue for picking up poop. And please don't leave the bag on the side of the road.



Breath – An anonymous gift on Avenida Vieja.

## EL PUENTE SPONSOR: Leslie Gallery Dilworth

### GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

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

#### 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** (and napkins and potholders) by Deirdre Africa of Rancho Bueno: now you can shop online at [www.buttonboxaprons.com](http://www.buttonboxaprons.com)

### SERVICES

**Dave's Auto Repair:** restoring, minor repairs, painting. Local refs. Free estimates: David Montoya, 505-577-1720.

**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.

**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.

**Galisteo Yoga:** Virtual yoga with Mare! Zoom Yoga Weds at 12:30 and Sunday at noon. \$12.00 per class pay pal or check options. Contact Mare at [profundus@aol.com](mailto:profundus@aol.com) for the Zoom Room Link.

**Yoga classes Anywhere via Zoom with Julia Cairns and Mary Horst.** \$64 a month for unlimited classes (six a week) or drop-in for \$8. To sign up: Julia at 466-3393. More info at [www.eldoradoyogaforeverybody.com](http://www.eldoradoyogaforeverybody.com)

**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 & Knowings** with Chris Griscom will resume when public gatherings are allowed. Meanwhile, she is filming events and taking questions by email, plus free videos. For more information: 466-1975 or [thelight@lightinstitute.com](mailto:thelight@lightinstitute.com).

### +++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: December 5. TO SPONSOR: Make out check for \$80-\$150 (or more!) to GCA, noting "for newsletter," and send to *El Puente* (above).**