



ISSUE #240

DECEMBER 2020

FELIZ NAVIDAD AND A HAPPIER NEW YEAR

WHAT'S THAT IN DEBORAH'S POCKET?

An Onion in My Pocket: My Life with Vegetables, by Deborah Madison, aka "The Queen of Greens," came out on Nov. 10. On Nov. 12 she did a delightful zoom launch with Jamie McGrath Morris for Collected Works. *The Washington Post* called the book "a warm, bracingly honest memoir that also gives us an insider's look at the vegetarian movement." But don't expect any recipes! A featured review ran in *Pasatiempo* (11/13) and her many other appearances and links are on her website: deborahmadison.com.

Deborah describes her book as "a memoir of my life with food. There's much to say about the counterculture, about how vegetarian food deserved its bad press, then why -- and how -- it got so much better. Originally I wanted to call the book *My Vegetarian Problem*, but in the end that just became one chapter. And a very challenging chapter to write indeed!"

"I was raised in the Big Ag of Northern California by two very different parents. And despite its problems I've always loved California. I once tried to buy a walnut orchard there. So *An Onion in My Pocket* is also a story about place. From growing up in Davis to becoming a Zen student, to working at Chez Panisse, opening Greens, to writing books, going on book tours, witnessing the birth of food TV and farmers markets — even managing our farmers market in Santa Fe, the book is both personal and also the story of our changing American foodways. Our ideas change, our foods change, something like Covid-19 happens and suddenly everyone discovers vegetarian food. Me? I'm discovering meat, even though I generally prefer a plant-based diet.

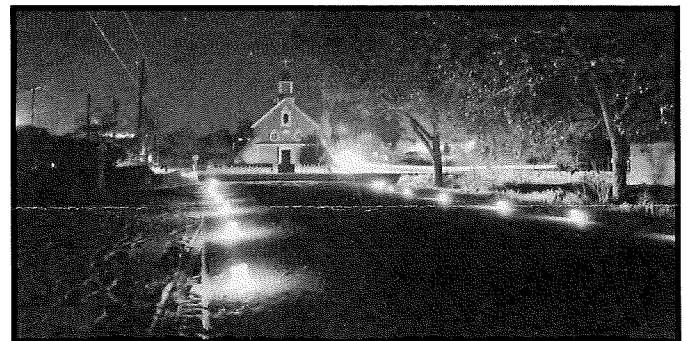
"I write about what I learned along this very long path, about Greens and the challenges I faced there, about Zen monastic life and the affect it had on my cooking (if any), about three significant breaks from the Zen Center before starting Greens, and, finally, what turned out to be the most important theme of the book: what matters when it comes to food. The last chapter, called "Nourishment," is a collection of meals I recall because of the kindness and generosity of the host, not because there was or wasn't meat on the plate. And those are qualities that matter a great deal to me. They probably matter to all of us."

GVFR PRESENTS AN EVENING OF REMEMBRANCE AND HOPE

Friday December 31st 5PM on...

Galisteo Volunteer Fire & Rescue will present a commemorative farolito walk and, at 6PM, a traditional ringing of the bells of Nuestra Señora de los Remedios. Community members are encouraged to send the **names of anyone they would like honored or remembered** to Corey McGillicuddy (466-1831 or mcgillicuddycorey3@gmail.com) by **December 23rd**. These will be written on farolitos placed at the church, continuing along Via La Puente, and across the bridge to La Otra Vanda.

The community is invited to walk (following COVID protocols, **masks and social distancing required**) or to drive slowly along the route. The farolitos will remain through the night. There will be a wheelbarrow at the church for donations of non-perishable food for our community pantry.



Photos: Billie Mitchell, Galisteo 2006

LOS TRES AMIGOS: BADGER, RAVEN, COYOTE

Jan Saunders, drawings by Catherine Ferguson

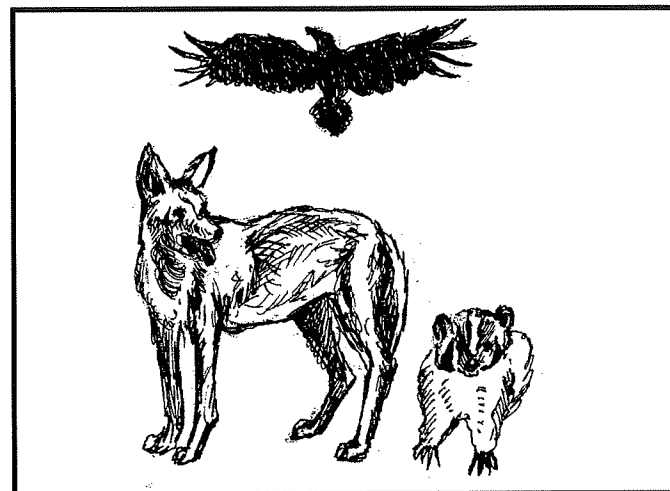
Several years ago, I spent many quality days in the Valles Caldera National Preserve volunteering for whatever jobs would get me through the gate. One cloudless summer morning while gazing across the Valle Grande at a herd of elk moms and their calves, I noticed a long-legged Coyote and a squat-bodied Badger hunting side by side through the lush grasses. A smart-eyed Raven perched nearby was watching the Coyote watching the Badger as each one waited for their share of a tasty ground squirrel. I was lucky that day to observe this mismatched threesome going about their serious business of cooperative hunting, trotting, waddling and hop-flying through the sunlit grassland like characters in a Disney movie.

That experience remained tucked away into memory until I recently came upon a Badger hit by a car near Saddleback Ranch. I stopped to have a closer look. Although fatal, the visible damage was minimal so I took time to admire the thick shaving-brush-bristle fur, the short strong legs, and a handsome face marked by a center “skunk” stripe ending in a sharply pointed nose.

Nocturnal Badgers are often diurnal hunters in the wide-open grasslands of our Galisteo Basin where human population is low. A Badger’s flat, low-slung body is a tightly designed digging machine configured with powerful legs, webbed feet ending in curved claws, and a second eyelid to keep out dirt. A pointed nose for poking into the smallest of burrows is equipped with a keen sense of smell able to sniff out rodents deep in the earth even under feet of snow. Strong jaws and sharp teeth clinch the deal. Just today I heard stories of three neighbors who have seen a Badger on their land and, understandably, not all are thrilled about their tenant. Considered ornery by all who know, a Badger is fiercely defiant and will hiss, growl, and “stink” when threatened. On the plus side, having a fierce carnivore like the Badger around may convince your annoying Pack Rats to pull up stakes and move to someone else’s property.

The Raven, a member of the Corvid Family, is the brainiac of the bird world, capable of modifying and using tools to obtain food. Bold, brash and thoroughly confident in his problem solving and food finding ability, the exceptionally “uncommon” Common Raven watches other animals hunt and then dines on the leftovers. Ravens plan for the future by caching food and demonstrate an understanding of cause and effect when they connect gun shots of hunters to the availability of a carcass to scavenge. They alert Coyote to Mountain Lion kills and then warn the scavenging Coyote before the big cat returns.

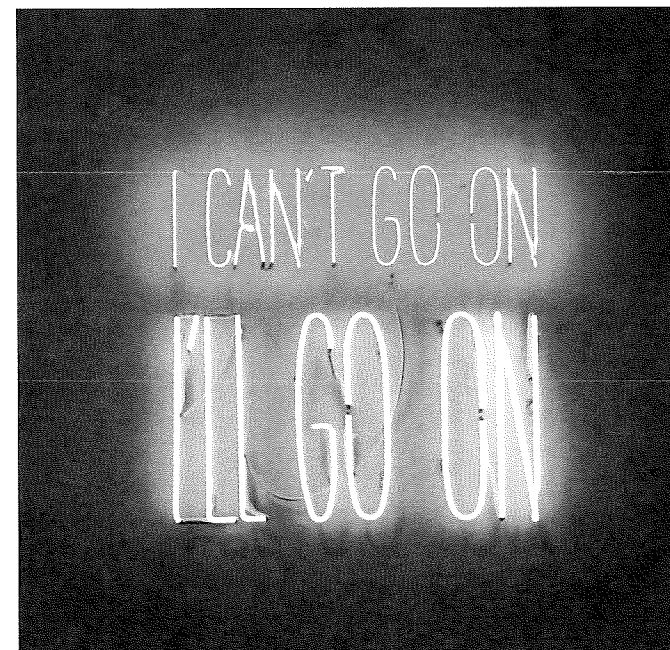
The Coyote, writes Mary Austin in her book *Land of Little Rain*, as he leaves his den to hunt, first looks up to read the “sky tracks” of Ravens that may lead him to active kills, carrion, and Badger activity. Frank Dobie in his *Voice of the Coyote* writes that all animals in Coyote’s world fall into three categories: “Those he eats, those that eat him, and those that help him find food.” An opportunistic carnivore, our intelligent, irascible Little Prairie Wolf will—in a pinch—eat anything from apples to juniper berries, but clearly, he chooses the Raven and the Badger as hunting partners to help catch his favorite food—MEAT!



Their partnership is the perfect combination of intelligence, stealth and muscle. While the Badger digs out prey hiding underground, Coyote chases down prey frightened above ground, the Raven swoops in now and then to snatch a morsel, and... Success!

Our threesome’s intentional partnership sharing different hunting styles is also a playful one driven by intelligence. Night cameras reveal a Coyote “play bowing” at a Badger enticing it to follow along on a hunt. Coyote and Raven enjoy playing “keep away” with a scrap of food and “cat and mouse” with a hapless ground dwelling critter. If animal intelligence is defined as the ability to adapt to their surroundings by learning to change their habits and behavior to meet their needs, it seems our Tres Amigos win the trifecta for survival. For our own survival during COVID-19 quarantine, I suggest wandering, wondering, and watching wildlife. See you on the trail.

“I had a little bird/Its name was Enza/I opened the window/and in flew Enza.”(A children’s rhyme from the 1918-1920 “Spanish” flu epidemic).



Neon sculpture by Alfredo Jaar.

PEDACITOS/BITS AND PIECES

The Eldorado transfer station has changed hours: Open 8-5 Tuesday thru Saturday, closed for lunch daily: noon to 1:00. Closed on Sundays and Mondays. San Marcos is open only Tuesday, Friday and Saturday.

After reading Michaela Valencia’s story in the last issue, **Mary Alice Anaya** called to say that as a child, her son Donald had gotten his arm passed through the **wringer**. He had to have surgery and still has the scar.

Laura Yeats curated an on-line Instagram exhibition of four Galisteñas: **Peggy Diggs, Caroline Hinkley, Linda Mortensen, and Janice Wall**. Laura is one of nine core artists who last spring formed Artico (Art in the Time of Corona). Instagram is their primary platform, where they promote their artwork and small businesses through virtual shows and pop-ups. In October they shifted to feature other New Mexico artists, each core member hosting a weeklong show on the Instagram account. Laura went first with *Galisteñas*, getting their work “out there” in a new way. “Art is essential,” says Laura, “especially in a pandemic.” See @artico.20 for ongoing programs.

Roger Taylor reports that we have had **less than 2% of annual precipitation**, where in a normal year we get 7-8%.

Woody Gwyn’s show, *The Earth, The Air, The Water*, has opened at LewAllen Galleries, 1613 Paseo de Peralta in the Railyard, through Jan. 23.

Dead rabbits that look perfectly healthy have been found in the Galisteo area recently. The NM Department of Game and Fish and the NM Livestock Board report that Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Virus type 2 (RHDV-2) has caused recent deaths of wild jackrabbits and cottontails, as well as of domestic rabbits. RHDV-2 is highly contagious among rabbits, but **not** known to be transmissible to humans or pets. It is from a different viral family from the corona virus and is not related to COVID-19. Report large numbers of dead wild rabbits to your local Conservation Officer or the Department Information Center at 888-248-6866. Do not handle rabbit or rodent corpses. Remove and bury with a shovel. Do not allow pets to feed on found carcasses; RHDV-2 is not a risk but other pathogens and parasites can affect them. Hunters should handle all harvested rabbits with caution. Wear gloves when field dressing and wash hands well afterward.



House of Ancestors, Jim Godman’s and Theresa Bohn’s antique store once based in La Tienda Anaya, has moved to a new location at 343 West Manhattan Ave. in the Railyard.

Julia Cairns has illustrated her twelfth children’s book, which comes out in January (available on Amazon or local bookshops). *Spirit of the Cheetah* is a coming-of-age story set in Somalia, by Karen Lynn Williams and Khadra Mohammed, published by World Wisdom Books.

FROM THE GVFR

At the December 1st business meeting of the GVFR the following officers were elected by acclamation: **Chief, Jean Anaya Moya; Assistant Chief, Craig Fulmer; EMT Captain, Alice Kruse; Fire Captain, Alex Amend.**

Given all the hard work by members to present the station in immaculate condition for the County’s inspection, it was a surprise to receive only a “fair” rating. Chief Moya questioned how we could improve and was told a mistake had been made. The condition was actually “good.” Of course!

Chief thanks Alice and Jerry Kruse for their work on the station garden and the new Piñon trees they donated and planted. A perfect holiday gift.

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Three wonderful volunteers leaving the GVFR with a combined total of 37 years of service from Chief Jean Anaya Moya and all the GVFR Family

For every ten that watch, only a few come forward to help. For seventeen years a unique and selfless couple -- **Cindy and Frank Lux** -- stepped up to help with Galisteo Volunteer Fire & Rescue. Frank was in charge of our 501-C3 as President and Treasurer, Cindy was our marketing agent, cook, and auxiliary in charge of all the fund raisers and the annual holiday dinner for the volunteers. As a team they are also responsible for our annual GVFR phone book. **Christopher Powell** completed the Fire Academy as a Firefighter and has been responding to calls for the last three years.

We thank you all for being tireless volunteers and setting an example for all of us. We appreciate you immensely and will forever be thankful for all you have given to Galisteo Fire & Rescue and your community. You will be missed.



From Corey McGillicuddy’s *Social Distancing Project*: right: MaryAnn Anaya and sons; left: Rod Hall (cropped).

MORE FROM LARRY ANAYA'S A CHANGE IN THE WIND (Galisteo c. 1660)

"The Indians of Galisteo were ecstatic, for Governor Bernardo Lopez de Mendizabel was allowing the pueblos to hold their ceremonial dances once again. The preparations went on for several days, as they wanted the celebration to be perfect. In the hearts of the natives, this dance would allow them to introduce the Spanish God to their ancient ones. Some of the Indians secretly hoped all the gods would get along once they had officially met.

"The Spaniards in the settlement close to the pueblo were also excited about the upcoming event...but they had also been told by their priests to stay away because the dance was ... in their eyes...evil. [One of the book's protagonists, Cristobal Anaya, is told by his wife they could be excommunicated for attending, but he replies 'Good, then we will not have to attend those boring sermons every Sunday.'] When they arrived they found they were not the only Spaniards in attendance. Among the eight hundred residents of the pueblo were several families who also ignored the priests' orders and had shown up to see the 'evil dances' for themselves."

(From *Un Cambio en el Viento/A Change in the Wind*, by Labriano Alfredo Chavez y Anaya, born in Galisteo in 1948.)

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

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Button Box Aprons by Deirdre Africa of Rancho Bueno: call or email if you are interested in aprons, napkins, and potholders. 505-670-5198, www.buttonboxaprons.com, deirdreafrica@msn.com

SERVICES

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

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

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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.

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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 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 466-1935. More info at 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.

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

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Meditation & Knowings with Chris Griscom via video on Sundays. Chris is now filming *Knowings* & taking questions by email, plus offering other free and helpful videos on YouTube. For more information: 466-1975 or 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. NEXT DEADLINE: January 5. TO SPONSOR: Make out check for \$80-\$150 (or more!) to GCA, noting "for newsletter," and send to *El Puente* (above).**

