

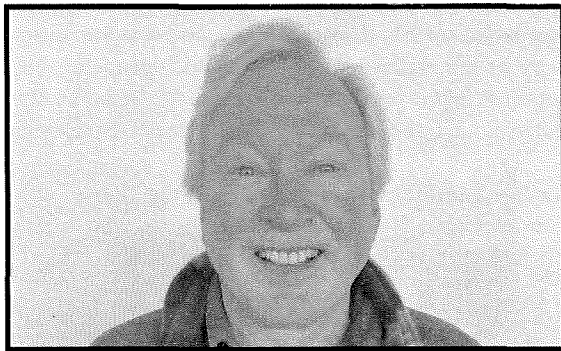


EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO

ISSUE #260/261

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2023

FAREWELL (BUT NOT GOODBYE) TO ROGER TAYLOR



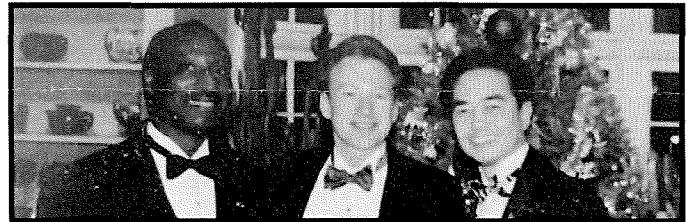
A gala pot-luck brunch, very well attended, sponsored by the GCA, was held on February 18th at the Community Center to send Roger off on his next adventure -- to Philadelphia and then, when Europe calms down, to Ireland. Roger was introduced by GCA President Ana Cárdenas. Alice Kruse read a Proclamation thanking him for the long list of groups he has worked with and often led:

“HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

On behalf of the citizens of Santa Fe County, the Santa Fe County Democratic Party, the 285 South Alliance, the Santa Fe Basin Water Association, the Turquoise Trail Regional Alliance, the Galisteo Community Association, La Sala de Galisteo Arts Center, and the Ranchitos de Galisteo Water Users Association, a fond farewell and good wishes...”

I could have added a few more local groups that benefitted from Roger’s good will and expertise. We first met him on the village Planning Committee. He has always been available for information and advice for this newsletter. He has run the Community email. His acquisition of major grants for the restoration of the bosque and other village issues, and his adroit handling of legal situations will be hard to replace.

Encomiums from the community followed, including his post-fire adoption of a dog who needed heart surgery. Roger said he has encouraged her to think in terms of golden poop to pay him back, but so far no luck. He told a story from his years as a Met Life executive where he recommended that the company stay away from real estate dealings with the Kushners and Trumps (long before they were entangled).



Greg Salustro contributed this photograph taken in Baltimore on New Years Eve, c. 1985, of his husband Wayland Wong, Roger, and good friend Dr. Robinson of Howard University. Wayland recalls: “As a young resident at Johns Hopkins I would spend early mornings at a nearby gym. One day I was pushing my weights a little hard and a young man, Roger Taylor, approached me and said “you need a spot?” beginning a friendship of over forty years. It also was my first encounter with Roger’s great attribute of jumping in and offering a hand in friendship and enthusiasm. “Many years later I purchased a home in Galisteo and invited Roger to come visit. That first morning he looked over the Basin and asked, ‘Is the house next door for sale?’ The rest, of course, is history.”

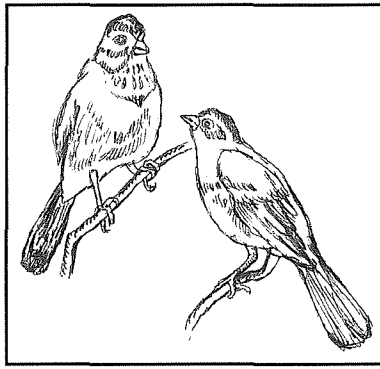
Now that Roger is leaving March 2, the rest of us are going to have to step up, attend more meetings, take more responsibility for our beloved community. Big shoes to fill.

AND TO KAI ...



On January 25th, *El Puente* received an email from Charlie Holloway (in Florida): “Poor Kai passed away suddenly yesterday on the way to the vet from dog-sitter. So sad to see him go, but lots of fond memories for sure. ‘Friend of all, stranger to none.’ The community mourns.”

Kai was a free spirit, joining passing walkers, tolerating other dogs, pleased to get treats, crossing the highway on his own to visit the other side and surviving all these years. He was a pied piper, leading canine neighbors along on his adventures, although not all of our pets are as streetwise as he was. RIP, dear Kai.



A REMARKABLE UNREMARKABLE BIRD

Jan Saunders, Drawing by Catherine Ferguson

Overall, the Canyon Towhee is about as plain brown as birds come. (Cornell Lab of Ornithology)

Obsessive and competitive, many avid birders watch Rare Bird Alerts on their computer that tell them where to go to score an exciting bird ID. High-tech birders will haunt the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's real-time radar maps to learn where birds are and in what direction they are flying. These avian addicts long to be first to file a report and add a coveted bird to their life list.

Rare Birds are the movie stars of the bird world that garner all the press and hype. I admit to doing my share of the "Rare Bird Scramble" as I risked bears and rattlesnakes to creep around for hours in the underbrush just to catch a glimpse of a tiny Mexican wren (whose name I no longer remember nor care about) that made headlines when it crossed the border into southern Arizona.

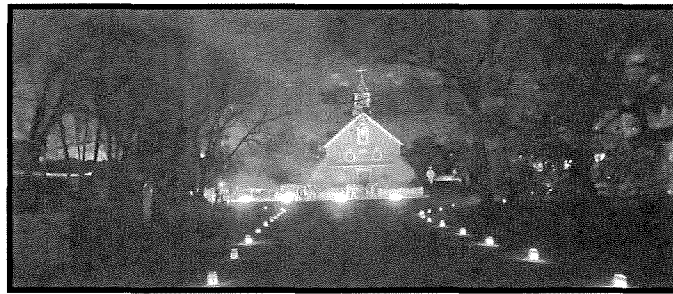
At the time it was important; but today, instead of driving miles and spending hours in the field, I prefer to focus on everyday Galisteo Basin birds like the Canyon Towhee, an under-the-radar cousin of the flashier Spotted and Green-tailed Towhee. More like a Cinderella sister and certainly not star quality, the Canyon Towhee never dresses for the palace ball. Based on my observation, the casual birder often takes the Canyon Towhee for granted calling it "just another sparrow". Today, I call it a *hidden jewel* that can be found right at your feet. No radar needed.

This chunky, smaller-than-a-Robin bird with rust undertail coverts and cap is a year-round resident in Galisteo that nests twice a summer in the piñon tree near your patio. Drably brown, but consistently charming and friendly, a Canyon Towhee's personality makes it an entertainment stand out. Honestly unassuming, it doesn't mind at all not having spots, wing bars, or a top knot. Always around, they are completely comfortable with my human goings on and not at all mindful of the dog. My resident Towhees, at least two pair, are fascinated by my patio, house, garage, barn, truck, and car. Leave a door open and they drop in for a look-see. Instead of flying, they run along the ground like small mammals through my patio, under the portal, and in and out of my house.

A delightful story from the late Galistean Bill Isaacs, Catherine's friend and bird expert: he laughed when on a cold winter morning he watched Canyon Towhees sliding down his icy car windshield...over and over again. Hardly unremarkable!

Until Canyon Towhees show up in Fairbanks, Alaska, they will never make the Rare Bird List. But now that they are on your radar, I have an idea you will soon enjoy watching their antics and appreciate their unremarkable specialness.

PEDACITOS/BITS AND PIECES



Christmas Eve Farolitos leading to the church and luminarias in front were set up by **John Benjamin**.

An obituary for **Benjamin C. Anaya** appeared in *The New Mexican* (2/9). Born in Galisteo, son of Tony and Juanita Anaya, he was **Teresa Vasquez's** brother. We send our sympathy.

Former Galistean **Annika Kaplan** writes to tell us: "Alex, Gilda, and I welcomed our new baby into the world just before noon on January 10th. Renata Ione Amend was born after about 36 hours of labor that was at times wild, peaceful, beautiful, excruciating, and everything in between. We're home now in an exhausted state, full of awe at the new little presence among us."

Kevan Saunders was mentioned in the "Paws" column in *The New Mexican* (2/16) for notifying a friend who then adopted a handsome gray gelding from the Horse Shelter in Cerrillos.

Liz Rose (aka E.P. Rose) writes that her latest book, *When Cows Wore Shoes*, is out and available at local bookstores or Amazon or directly from the author, who wrote from Delhi, India, but is home now. The book covers eleven summers in Spain during Franco's regime through the eyes of an English family. An interview is scheduled for KSFR's *The Last Word*.

Corey McGillicuddy, currently Ward 3D Chair of the Santa Fe County Democratic Party, has notified us that proposed boundary changes would merge us with rural parts of 3B, La Cienega. Ward Elections will take place on Feb. 26th. Maps and information are posted on the mailbox bulletin board. From Corey: "Anyone looking for a position in our ward is welcome to run for election at that zoom meeting 2/26. I will continue as Ward Chair unless someone else would like that opportunity. There is also a Vice Chair position."

Richard Fenker has produced a new book of lovely photos, *Galisteo: A Collection of Panoramas*, available from him.

Santa Fe County was recently named as the best place to live and work for moviemakers in 2023.

In January it was announced that the late unlamented Jeffrey Epstein was Santa Fe County's largest property-tax payer. Now the **Zorro Ranch** is for sale for \$18 million.

Our State Rep **Matthew McQueen** is in the paper often during this legislative session. He is introducing HB184 that would update appointments to the Fish & Game Commission

(which is in disarray). He is also supporting HB75 (2021) that stands up against medical corporations fleecing patients.

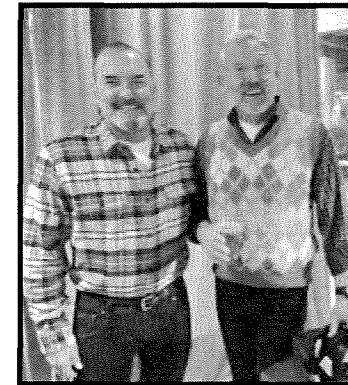
The *New Mexico Archaeology* newsletter (Nov. 2022), featured an account of a visit to the **Galisteo Pueblo and Las Madres** ("A Grand Day in Galisteo") where two stone axe heads and a shell pendant were discovered.

Joe Capello's story, "The Secret of the Smiling Rock Man," inspired by Pueblo Blanco and petroglyphs in the Basin, won awards in the Southwest Writers (second place in spiritual category) 2021, New Mexico Press Women 2022 (first place in short stories), and the National Federation of Press Women, 2022 (first place in short stories).

Jim Heath wrote a letter to *The New Mexican* (1/2) about the disputed Pecos Trail development (since approved) suggesting that a new vision for Santa Fe would involve less housing and more open spaces supported by non-profits, "such as my Heath Foundation."

GVFR NEWS

The Fire Department held its annual **holiday party** in January at Arable in Eldorado. A good time was had by all. Kevin Smith (with wife Cecile) and Scott Canning and, later, when he retires, Scott's partner Jeff Ruzich were welcomed as new and potential members. (Photos: **Alice Kruse**)



The New Year's Eve **Food Drive**, sponsored by the GVFR, benefited from our community's usual generosity. Corey McGillicuddy and Janet Pfeifer presided with Deborah Madison's help. The LED farolitos around the station stayed alight all night.

As you know, it is critical that our emergency responders locate the right address in a timely manner. Here is a link to the County's E-911 **rural addressing** division if your number sign is damaged or becoming illegible. It has FAQs and contact info. https://www.santafecountynm.gov/growth_management/e911. Contact GIS technician Mark Jurgens at 505-986-6347 or mjurgens@santafecountynm.gov.

In New Mexico, fire departments are rated by the **ISO (Insurance Services Office, Inc.)**, a subsidiary of Verisk Analytics) as a means to measure overall community emergency response readiness. ISO ratings, aka ISO fire ratings or PPC/Public Protection Classification ratings, range from 1 to 10 (the worst). Insurance companies vary in their uses but, in general, the lower the ISO rating, the smaller the homeowner's insurance premium tends to be. Homeowner and business

insurance premiums are based on the Fire Department ISO score, the risk factor of a business, the construction type of a residence as well as the defensibility [from wildfire] of the land surrounding both residences and businesses.

The ISO rating derives from the following breakdown: 50% for the quality of the fire department (especially its staffing and distance from homes); 40% for the water supply (quantity and availability); 10% for the 911 system (its computer-aided dispatch facilities and speed of response), and 5.5% for bonus points (community prevention and safety education, etc).

Galisteo's ISO rating is 5/5Y and ISO inspects us every five years.

HAVE YOU BEEN TO LAS GOLONDRINAS?

Deirdre Africa

I'm always out at Las Golondrinas selling my aprons at the summer festivals. (*El Puente* will publish the dates in May.) Galisteo readers should know more about a nearby treasure and that some locals will be vending there. It is a significant cultural landscape, historic ranch, and currently a living history museum. The newspaper has announced:

"For 50 years, El Rancho de las Golondrinas has been a New Mexico treasure. As of Dec. 5, the living museum is now on the National Register of Historic Places as a Historic District. It is also recognized on the State Register of Cultural Properties.

"It's an incredible affirmation of the work we do and, to receive this news during our 50th anniversary is very special for us and the people of New Mexico," said Daniel Goodman, museum director. "This has been a three-year project with the hard work put in by staff, the board and the people at Middle Tennessee State University, who donated their time in preparing the nomination."

Keeping in touch with our Cerrillos neighbors is also important. Save May 6 for the Turquoise Trail Pack Burro Race in the state park, starting at 10 AM with possible food and vendors on Main Street.

NM DOT MEETING

from Roger Taylor

On January 11, a public meeting was held by NMDOT with the Galisteo community to discuss safety concerns (speeding, large trucks, etc.) as well as plans for the last mile + of NM41 as it crosses through Galisteo. Attending were eight DOT representatives (including NMDOT Secretary Ricky Serna, NM41 Project Manager Patrick Martinez, and District Engineer Paul Brasher, two police officers (1 County, 1 State), our State Rep Matthew McQueen, and State Senator Liz Stefanics, as well as about 20 Galisteans.

The meeting began with a review of the NM41 redevelopment history (c. \$49 million spent so far): Phase 1 (replacing the bridges) and Phase 2 (from the bridges to Clark Hill) are complete at c. \$2 million per mile.

Phase 3 (from Galisteo to 285, c. \$4 million per mile) is underway as we know all too well. The upcoming Phase 4 (c. 1+ mile through the village center, c. \$1-2 million) will begin in 2 1/2 to 3 years. A consulting engineer will be brought in soon to begin design for Phase 4, which will include community input.

(cont. p.4)

There was a lot of polite interaction between community members and NMDOT, with many questions posed and suggestions made -- such as conducting a new speed analysis using different hours (5-8 AM, 4-7 PM) rather than the agreed but outdated 7-10 AM and 3-5 PM; exploring striped crossings with pedestrian and equestrian signs; a radar camera; and increasing police patrols. NMDOT agreed to check out additional signage; the police reps agreed to see if Officer Training funds could be used to increase patrols, and it was recommended that the GCA Board make a formal request to Secretary Serna to install a radar camera. He will send a summary of the meeting to the Galisteo Community Association for distribution.

It was also agreed that County Commissioner Bustamante should be invited to future meetings.

CHURCH TO REOPEN SOON

Jean Moya tells us that the Archdiocese is discussing the details of the re-opening of Nuestra Señora de los Remedios. Father Bill Sanchez has retired and been replaced by (a much younger) Father D.J. Segura from Santa Maria de la Paz. He will be here Feb. 22 to celebrate Ash Wednesday at 1:00, and again on Feb.26 to celebrate mass, at 1:00 again. At 2:00 he will meet with parishioners and anyone in the community who would like to share ideas on our needs, and the best to time to hold Sunday services. It would be helpful if a lot of people attended (Catholic or not) to demonstrate community enthusiasm for the re-opening.

We have parishioners from Galisteo, Stanley, Lamy, Eldorado and Santa Fe. Father Segura will also be providing services for Golden and Cerrillos.

FOR ALL YOU OUT-OF-TOWNERS RECEIVING EL PUENTE, PLEASE CONFIRM THAT YOU STILL WANT IT, AND IF SO, PLEASE SEND 10 STAMPS TO COVER A YEAR'S POSTAGE

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GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

ADS ARE FREE, AND FOR GALISTEO RESIDENTS ONLY. Next deadline, April 10th. PLEASE email flip14@centurylink.net TO UPDATE OR DELETE YOUR ADS.

FOR SALE

Quartermill Gallery, 10 Via La Puente. Open Weekends by appt. 505-466-2255. Estate pieces and Regional collectables.
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: call or email for aprons, napkins, and potholders: 505-670-5198, www.buttonboxaprons.com or orafricadeirdre@gmail.com.

SERVICES

Yard work, pet care, moving help and other jobs. \$15 per hour. Call or text Lanz Mackenzie (16 yrs old) 720-755-6674.

Radio Free Galisteo @ www.radiofreegalisteo.com Music and Information from the Galisteo Basin. Support the Station: <https://www.patreon.com/radiofreegalisteo>.

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

Exciting **Adventure Travel** around the world with professional wildlife photographers Jami Tarris and Theo Allofs of Wild Focus Expeditions. For more information: 466-3640 or www.wildfocusexpeditions.com. Come with Us!

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

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

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

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

Linda Vista Stables: I can take care of your local 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. 12:30. Sunday noon. \$12.00 per class pay pal or check options. Contact Mare at profundus@aol.com for the Zoom Room Link.

Yoga Zoom classes with Julia: Every Mon., Wed., and Fri. Gentle Yin, Vinyasa Flow and Yin Yang. Contact 505-466-1935 or julia.c.cairns@gmail.com for more information.

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

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

We build, repair coyote fences; haul trash; yard work, odd jobs. Fair prices, local references, Michael 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 via video Sundays, free on YouTube: 466-1975 thelight@lightinstitute.com

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