

FRANK MARTIN SANDOVAL

June 19, 1967 - April 25, 2023

From Stella Maestas

Our beloved Frank was called from this earth to be with our Lord on April 25. He was just 55 years old. We are still in shock, and heartbroken. He is survived by his wife Sadie Sandoval, a sister, Theresa Montoya and husband Sam, brothers and sisters in law plus many other relatives, uncles, aunts, cousins, nieces, and nephews. He was preceded in death by his two sons, Frankie and Joseph Sandoval. Frank suffered a stroke two years ago, and was recovering. We were all encouraged at how well he was doing and are so grateful to our Lord who gave us two more years with him and must have a different plan for him in heaven.

Frank was loved by so many. He had numerous friends and, family. Frank had many talents. You might say he was a jack of all trades. I don't think there were many trades that Frank didn't have some knowledge about. He was constantly repairing something, or rebuilding an engine. During the summer, Frank grew an awesome garden where he harvested wonderful vegetables. He had the same green thumb with his house plants, or the trees he planted.

He loved music, especially country music. You would often hear his music playing while he worked in his garage. Frank enjoyed the outdoors, and loved to go camping, fishing, and hunting. On the mountain he was very happy. He would catch fish and smoke them. I had the privilege to enjoy those fish, and to eat the meat that he cooked underground. I guess if you wanted to learn about living off the land, Frank was your man.

Frank had a way of making a difficult situation or task much easier by his humor. For those who worked or went fishing or hunting with him the day was much more enjoyable because he made it fun. There was much more to Frank's personality. He had a way with children, they seemed to warm up to him easily. He was always making them laugh, and playing with them. I know that my grandchildren loved Uncle Frank. We will all miss him dearly, and will never forget him.

Frank has a very special place in my heart, he was always helping me when I needed his help. He was many things to many people. A husband, father, brother, uncle, nephew, and a friend. We will miss his smile, and witty friendly humor. I will miss when he said, "Hi, my big tall auntie." I will never hear this again, except in my memory. Through tears and aching hearts, we say goodbye to Frank until we see him again.

FILM PRODUCTION: WHAT RIGHTS DO WE HAVE?

GCA President Ana Cárdenas invited Jennifer LaBar-Tapia, Executive Director of the Santa Fe Film Office (she is the office, no staff), to an April 19th GCA meeting at the Community Center to answer the questions "What do we have to put up with? What rights do we have?" LaBar-Tapia's office covers both Santa Fe County and the city, overseeing all filming in our area.

The community had plenty of questions about the hardships endured on La Otra Vanda and Avenida Vieja during the last filming. She confirmed that our problems are shared by all the little NM communities. The latest movie is being made by Amazon on San Cristobal and will be accessed from US 285 rather than through the village. It has been agreed that the filmmakers will not be able to use the "cabin" set that is accessible only from the village.

Permits go to the Sheriff and the Public Works Department. If production trucks are speeding, LaBar-Tapia will contact the sheriff for us. Although they pay for repairs, damage to roads by film production has been a major issue. It is questionable whether La Otra Vanda even meets the weight limits for some of these vehicles, given vulnerable culverts and water pipes under the road. (Board member Paul Davis said it wasn't just the weight

limit but the amount of traffic.) Cameras and speed bumps were discussed but both have drawbacks -- difficulty in identifying vehicles and obstacles for emergency vehicles, respectively. GCA Board member Sandy Duran noted that the problem is development in the community. One villager had an altercation with someone building a movie set here. *LaBar-Tapia said that all permits go through her office and we have every right to say no.* That was good to hear, but we need to be well informed before we decide.

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Also present at the meeting was our County Commissioner, Camilla Bustamante, who spoke of her commitment to "inreach" rather than "outreach" to inform and connect communities. (She also has connections to Galisteo, as she is related to the Anayas and Ortiz y Pinos.)

The conversation moved to the Highway 41 construction, which was originally purported to be finished last December and appears nowhere near completion today. *El Puente* contacted NMDOT and received the following from Sally Reeves, District 5 Assistant District Engineer for Construction: "The notice to proceed for the project [was dated] November 29, 2021. It was awarded with 60 days of ramp-up time and 340 working days for contract time. The contractor is currently on time and scheduled to be substantially complete this November, weather permitting. There will be 2 lanes and a bike path. The medians that you see are actually traffic calming devices to slow traffic before it gets to Galisteo."

We responded that the medians are much too far away to be at all effective in calming traffic for the village.

GCA ELECTIONS REDUX

On March 27th, the briefly postponed annual meeting of the Galisteo Community Association took place with a healthy quorum. President Anna Cárdenas thanked departing Board members Stella Maestas, Vernon Anaya, Jessica Spring and Bjarne Sletteland. Vice President Greg Boardman and Secretary Deirdre Africa remain in place. The four open posts on the GCA Board were filled after ballots were counted: Treasurer, Ann Nye; Board members Sandy Duran, Jennifer Martin, and David van Dyk, plus alternate David Smith.

Among recent improvements announced were the Pickleball addition to the basketball court, Internet at the GCC, and pending legal settlement on quit claims. The county will install a shade structure to protect park equipment from sun damage. An additional picnic table plus shade structures will be installed so adults accompanying the kids will have a place to sit. There will be ADA parking as required by the County Election Bureau.

GCA plans to bring back Saturday Coffees once a month (the first came up on May 13th), events by our local musicians, and a flea market. Stay tuned....

GVFR NEWS

The New Mexican recently (4/29) ran an article on the decreasing number of volunteer firefighters confronted by Santa Fe County's fourteen fire districts. At its height there were some 400 volunteers and today there are only 112. Chief Jacob Black said that between 1983 and 2020 the national decline was over 200,000. The major obstacle is the c. 180 hours of training required. He recommends recruiting high school students who are told that a four-year degree is the only path forward, when,

as firefighters, they could make six figures and not be in debt. Captain Kyle Jaffa, who came up from the volunteer ranks, said that young people across the nation are not being supported and departments are struggling with how to attract them to community service.

Our tiny village's admirable GVFR has been dealing with this for years now. So far so good, though it is always a bit precarious. Whenever it seems no one will come to replace those who have left town or retired, we are saved by wonderful new volunteers. **Kevin Smith** and **Ken Frumin** just finished the District Fire Academy. **Scott Canning** will attend the Community College to become a Basic Emergency Medical Tech. **Paul Davis** will be attending the Fire Academy to become a Firefighter in the fall. Chief Jean Moya reminds us that "we welcome anyone who is interested to joining our team." **And don't forget: the annual GVFR breakfast will be September 9th at 9AM.**



The newest, youngest, and cutest member of the GVFR team, courtesy of Ken and Michelle Frumin. Monkey, a Mini-Nubian baby goat, attended the last business meeting, where he was bottle fed by members.

THE CONFETTI TREE

Michaela Valencia

It's midnight. I'm nice and comfortable under my blankets. I close my eyes and listen to the pitter-patter on my rooftop. Is that rain, or are there fairies dancing on the roof in the moonlight? It is so comforting that I close my eyes and just relax. Then all of a sudden the sky lights up and there's a big loud bang! The rain has changed from a pitter-patter to a banging on the roof and against the windows. Well, unfortunately, if there were fairies on the rooftop before, they must have decided not to continue their dance. They probably scampered away for safety, as just a few minutes later there's lightning in the sky and the thunder that gets louder and louder and shakes the windows. I crawl even deeper under my blankets. Finally, the storm subsides and I fall into a deep sleep.

When I wake up in the morning it's drizzling, a soft gentle rain. Sitting in my dining room, I watch as the clouds move and the sun peaks through, and then in a blink of an eye I see bright yellow, green, red, purple and blue sparkles on a corner tree. A slight breeze moves the branches resulting in a kaleidoscope of colors. Like sparkling confetti! What can be causing the beautiful array of color? Normally the little tree has milk chocolate-colored, itchy-bitsy leaves shaped like seashells. It has weathered strong winds, snowstorms and hard rainstorms.

The clouds dancing in the sky, briefly covering the sun, then allowing it to peek through again is what is creating all these amazing colors. But how? Suddenly I realize that the sun

shining on the itchy-bitsy leaves, moistened with raindrops, is the magic that has turned the tree into what I now call my "Confetti Tree." What a wonder!! Remember, after a rainstorm, be on the lookout for your own Confetti Tree!

PLUTONIUM PASSAGES

On April 4th, a Town Hall meeting was called by Santa Fe County Commission Chair Anna Hansen at the Convention Center in Santa Fe. At issue was widespread concern about the disposition of surplus plutonium to be shipped from the Texas Plantex Plant to LANL and then back east to the Savannah River Site in South Carolina and then back west to WIPP, in over 25,000 shipments. This would mean a major impact to our roads, public health and safety, and emergency preparedness and response (often by volunteer fire departments like the GVFR). On the hot seats were Jill Hruby, National Nuclear Security Administration Administrator, and Ike White, Senior advisor for Emergency Management in the Department of Energy.

The place was packed with worried citizens and experts from our impressive local watchdog groups. (Activist artist Bobbe Besold strolled the hall wearing a skull mask and holding a skull sign.) The first speaker was Archbishop Wester, who delivered a rousing opposition to the global nuclear arms race spending \$1.7 trillion on nuclear development, which could be used for lots of cleanup jobs. He hoped to make us "a gateway to global nuke disarmament. St. Francis would want no less."

Cindy Wheeler of the 285 Corridor noted that *no new waste was intended for WIPP after 2024*. DOE has broken this promise and refuses to do a comprehensive environmental impact, even though ten states and two interstate highways are involved. (Hruby replied that environmental impact research will start this fall). The 2014 accident at WIPP had limits; the new plan has none to deal with human error. White said they had had 16 million miles of shipping without an accident.

Other informed speakers raised issues such as the life span of plutonium pits (at least a century) and changes in pit designs. Could the U.S. return to testing? Hruby replied that we can't nail down pit lifetimes and thanks to covid supply chains and short staffing, they have trouble meeting schedules. It's all still in design stage.

Several speakers noted leaks and a hexavalent chromium plume that could affect aquifers, especially in nearby San Ildefonso Pueblo. Kathy Sanchez from Tewa Women United said their genetic pool and reproductive health, plus trees and wildlife, were in peril. Another speaker said an accident with this powdered plutonium could make a whole pueblo or city uninhabitable. Another activist fingered the clear connection between WIPP and LANL expansion, recalling that the same issues had been raised since 1989. A Nuke Watch member noted that the Pajarito Plateau was a bad place for a dump as it is in a seismic zone.

When time was up, only a small fraction of the 195 people signed up to speak had been heard. Hansen concluded that this was not a one-off meeting.

REMINDER

June 3rd and 4th, 10-4: Los Golondrinas Spring Festival, including Galisteñas Deirdre Africa, Michelle Frumin, Cecile Smith, and Jessica Spring.

LA SALA/STUDIO TOUR MERGE

The boards of Galisteo Arts Association (Studio Tour) and La Sala de Galisteo have merged into Galisteo Arts. Members serving a one-year term are Greg Boardman, Lesley Dyer, Shaun Gilmore, Jerry Kruse, Ann Nye, Greg Salustro (President), Suzi Shanklin, Dennison Smith, and Wayland Wong.

At an upcoming meeting Galisteo Arts will decide with the GCA whether a new arts building next to the Community Center is feasible, and if there are the resources to build it -- within the community and through grants and underwriting.



Ward 3D Chair Corey McGillicuddy (center) between Ward 3D members Linda Tratechaud, and Galisteo Pat Capello at the Democratic Party Santa Fe County elections (3/26).

PEDACITOS/BITS AND PIECES

On April 19th, **Dr. John Bulger**, Terrestrial Recovery Coordinator, gave a talk at the Randall Davey Audubon Center and Sanctuary titled the "White-tailed Ptarmigan in New Mexico: A Retrospective," with an overview of the bird's life history, habitat needs and distribution, as well as recent recovery efforts.

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On May 8th, at 6PM **Patrick McFarlin** launched and signed his new book *Critical Art Theory: Paint Your Masterpiece* at Collected Works. It offers an illustrated theory that wasting art materials can open doors for a mysterious invader, which "may take over the whole show and paint your masterpiece for you." Knowing Patrick's sense of humor, expect surprises.

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Bruce Nauman's *Center of the Universe*, an installation of a concrete tower and four tunnels, installed on the UNM campus in the 1980s, was featured in the Jan./Feb. issue of *New Mexico Magazine*. Nauman will have a solo show at SITE Santa Fe that opens on June 2nd. It is his first solo show in New Mexico, where he has lived for decades. About time! See SITE's website for accompanying programs, including an August 26th concert by Meredith Monk.

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Also currently at SITE until July 31 is *Going With the Flow: Art, Actions, and Western Waters*, co-curated by Brandee Caoba and **your editor**. The three southwestern artists and two collectives exhibit work in the galleries as well as beyond, with public art and performances at various sites around Santa Fe including one further afield in Mora on June 24th, the Dia de San Juan.

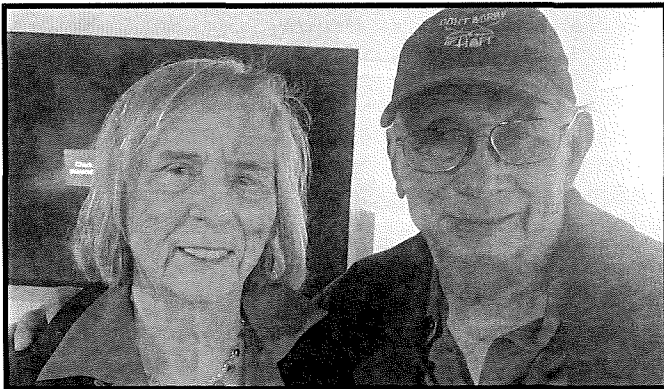
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On Earth Day, April 22, Galisteo's **Annual Spring Cleanup** began at the mailboxes with breakfast provided by John and Tanya Young. One villager on a recent walk listed items found

along the east side of Highway 41: 3 beer cans, a beer bottle, 2 plastic water bottles, a plastic vodka bottle, a plastic cup, a goopy ice cream container, a greasy fast-food bag, a foil burrito wrapper, 2 face masks, a piece of folded metal, a 3" bolt, and the carcass of a gorgeous young bobcat, left to disintegrate.

CHACO'S "DUALITIES"

On April 21st, Galisteo Arts presented a delightful (and crowded) evening with Chaco scholars Anna Sofaer of the Solstice Project and our own Phillip Tuwaletsiwa, both of whom have researched Chaco Canyon on site for decades. Anna was long dismissed by Southwest archaeologists as "just an artist," despite her ground-breaking discoveries on the now famous Sun Dagger (in which a line of light cuts two spiral petroglyphs on Fajada Butte on the summer solstice) and the astronomical alignments of Chaco's buildings. She has made two films on the subject, with a third in the works, all narrated by Robert Redford. Tuwaletsiwa, former Deputy Director of the national Geodetic Survey, teamed up with Sofaer in the early days because he knew she was onto something (and he trusted artists), bringing an invaluable indigenous perspective to this innovative project that continues to expand our views of Chaco.



EL PUENTE SPONSORS: Peggy Diggs and Ed Epping

GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

ADS ARE FREE, AND FOR GALISTEO RESIDENTS ONLY. Next deadline, June 15th. 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 rafricadeirdre@gmail.com.

SERVICES

Responsible, caring **house-sitter available for the warmer months**. Has been in Galisteo for many summers. Excellent local references. Priscilla: 520-896-3315.

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.

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.

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Meditation & Knowings with Chris Griscom via video Sundays, free on YouTube: 466-1975 thelight@lightinstitute.com

+++EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO+++

Editor: Lucy R. Lippard. **Logo**: Cara Lee. **Printer**: Allegra. **Changes, comments, suggestions, contributions to: El Puente, 14 Avenida Vieja, or flip14@centurylink.net. NEXT DEADLINE: June 15th. TO SPONSOR: Check for \$90-\$150 (or more!) made out to the GCA noting "for newsletter," to address above. MANY THANKS TO THOSE FORMER RESIDENTS WHO HAVE SENT STAMPS.**