



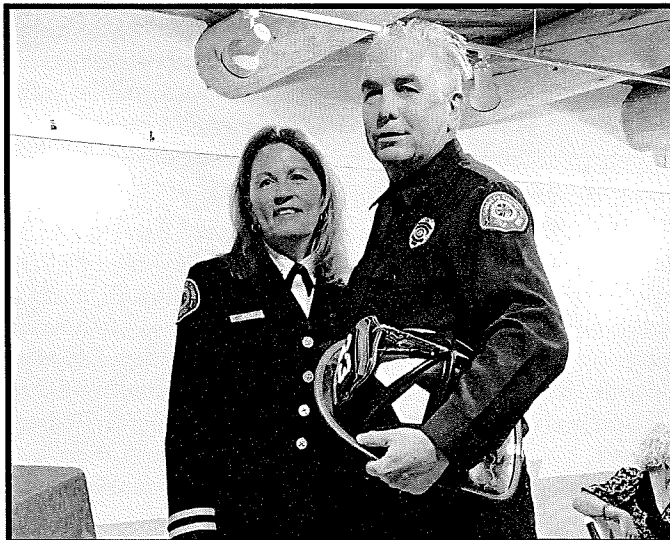
ISSUE #271

MARCH 2024

Editor's note: This is a catch-up issue because the last one was so full. So think all the way back to 2023...



Goats in Transit: Michelle Frumin and Jessica Spring made a long road trip from Tennessee to the Frumin ranch with contented critters in back.



Chief Jean and newest firefighter Paul Davis. (Photo: Alice Kruse).

GALISTEO READS (AND WRITES)

On February 11th, at the Community Center, eleven Galisteo writers read for ten minutes or so each, from old or new work. Organized by Julie Deery and Ann Nye, and MCed by Paul Davis, the event was well attended and the readings varied, ranging from poetry to politics to personal memoirs in various forms plus some visuals. A musical introduction was offered by by Lorraine Weiss on her sax. Participating writers were: Angie Beauchamp, Amelia Calsi, Paul Davis, Ed Epping, Catherine Ferguson, Lucy Lippard, Deborah Madison, Liz Rose, Dennison Smith and Phillip and Judy Tuwalitstiwa.



Angie Beauchamp reads from her recently published book Eleanor Roosevelt on Screen (Paul Davis at right. photo: Caroline Hinkley).

LAUGHING SPIDERS* Phillip and Judy Tuwaletstiwa

*And when the fight was over,
And when Old Glory raised,
Among the men who held it high,
Was the Indian, Ira Hayes.
Johnny Cash, The Ballad of Ira Hayes*

A red sky to the east, black asphalt ahead, brown sage and creosote left and right. The truck's tires whined, and the stock trailer rattled. Seth thought about what the woman in Socorro said to him when they woke up. "I have the Zackleys."

"My god! What's that?" "I have the Zackleys."

"My god! What's that?"

"My mouth tastes 'zactly like shit." (Cont.p.2)

They had been drinking all night. Now Seth was on his way north of Carrizozo to buy a bull.

As his truck topped a rise, Seth saw a man and a dog walking beside the road. "Indian. Apache," he thought.

The dog, tall and rangy, had some Airedale in him.

Seth pulled over and rolled down the window. "Toss the dog in back."

A few miles down the road, Seth spoke first.

"Rough looking dog."

"Yeah. I'm going to kill him."

"You have to take him for a ride first?"

"No. If I kill him, I'll have to get cleansed. I need someone else to do it."

"He looks like a decent dog to me. What's wrong with him?"

"Good for nothing. He won't herd. He won't chase coyotes. He would probably play with a rabbit. When I was away, someone came in and took my TV. I'm surprised he didn't go with them. Wish he had."

Seth said nothing. He knew how some Indians could be with dogs, and it was none of his business.

Pointing with his lips at the Semper Fi decal on the dash, the Apache asked, "You in the Corps?"

"Yeah. That was a lifetime ago."

"Not long enough. It's still chasing you around. You smell like a brewery. If your eyes were any more blood shot, you'd bleed to death."

"Maybe you'd rather walk."

The Apache said, "Naw, I was over there too. What were you doing?"

"Infantry, more or less."

The Apache remembered hearing about a tall New Mexican and a Navajo who were Marine snipers. He said, "Were you with a Diné called Big Hat?"

Seth studied the road ahead a little harder. After a minute, he answered, "Yeah, he was my spotter."

"I know about him. His cousin works at the Hon-Dah Casino, over near Pine Top. Big Hat got religion, didn't he. Went traditional."

"He's a good man."

"Those Navajo people sure talk funny. Let me off at the next crossroads. I can hump it from there."

When they stopped, the Apache climbed out and stood with the door open. "I'm a Medicine Man. I know things. You are going to get it right before the sun stands still this summer."

"Say, let me have the dog."

"I knew you were going to do that. You white people don't know Jack Shit. Bro, his name is 4-F."

The Apache left the door open and walked down the dirt road, never looking back. Seth lifted 4-F out of the truck bed and stood him in the front seat. The big dog stared ahead for the next few minutes, as Seth drove north. Then, he lay down and settled his head on Seth's knee.

A few days later, Seth finished his evening chores early. Sitting in his favorite chair, he eased out the cork on a bottle of George Dickel Select, muttering to 4-F, he said, "Well, at least I'm not a cheap drunk."

He drank for a couple of hours. As he started to doze off, he (remembered he hadn't opened the gate for the horses to get to the stock tank.

Seth lurched out into the drizzling cold rain with no jacket or hat, cursing himself for not remembering the gate, 4-F followed him.

Stumbling back to the house, the booze caught up with him. Seth blacked out, falling backwards into a shallow ditch.

In the grey light before sunrise, he came to, shivering violently as he struggled to catch his breath. 4-F lay on top of him, ice clinging to his fur. Seth struggled to stand up. Finally, he got to his feet and with 4-F beside him they limped back to the house. Seth tossed kindling onto the stove, wrapped. 4-F in a horse blanket and laid him in front of the fire.

Sitting beside him, stroking the dog's head, Seth said, "If it weren't for you, I'd be dead. I can't call you 4-F. Not anymore. You are The Good Samaritan. The Good Shepherd. That's it. That's your new name. Shep. I ain't a religious man, but, maybe Saint Ira sent you to me."

Two months later Seth's sister was dead. He and Shep had her little girl Amanda to raise.

* *Chapter 1 (Contemporary Book) of Laughing Spiders by Phillip and Judy Tuwaletsiwa, read by Phillip at Galisteo Reads. Judy read from another section and showed some of the visuals.*

SAVING GALISTEO

A revelatory video by KQRE Journalist Larry Barker on the Moriarty fuel depot showed Bill King, son of the former governor, playing innocent about selling Enterprise six million gallons of water permitted only for agricultural use. (Not mentioned was the fact that he also sold them the land.) Calling the lack of permit an "oversight," King's only punishment is no water to that well for a year, leaving 35 acres of cropland fallow on a huge ranch. No mention either of how much money he made off these sales.

The now official GCA subcommittee on NM41 -- GCA President Anna Cárdenas, committee leader Jennifer Martin, plus S. Duran, L. Gallery- Dilworth, L. Lippard, M. McQueen, G. Salustro, S. Shanklin and J. Tuwaletsiwa -- met on Feb,24 and discussed a number of design ideas for Phase 4, through the village center. We decided to put out our own design ideas before a public meeting (sometime in the future) so NMDOT would have to deal with our input, instead of vice versa. There has already been one accident at the useless medians which will supposedly be better marked at night. The intersection of 41 and 285 is complicated as the former is a state road and the latter federal (and 42 is County).

PEDACITOS/BITS & PIECES

Patrick McFarlin was one of the featured interviewees in *Santa Fe Magazine #10*. (no longer co-edited by John Miller, who has moved away). McFarlin has been renting Agnes Martin's former home to show his work. On Feb. 18th there was a crowded reception at which the artist spoke about his art, especially the *Portrait and Transcriptions* series, featuring portraits of a number of famous artists, including Martin, and convincing replicas of their art.

On Feb. 14th, Milan Simonich praised Matthew McQueen again (a valentine?) in the *New Mexican*, calling him "a softspoken diligent lawmaker [who] doesn't try to spin stories." Saddleback Ranch is now MEA's **Rising Circle Ranch**. (Cont.p.3)

CONTROVERSIAL SOLAR PROJECT:

PART 2

Paul Davis

Whatever the downsides of the project, they must be weighed against the alternatives and the status quo. Already, the neighboring communities pose substantial existing fire risks from, among other things, gas lines, power lines, grills, Tesla PowerWall battery storage, regular vehicles and just plain old residential living. Also note that the proposed location is relatively close to numerous County fire department facilities. Should the worst case scenario actually happen, responders will be on scene much, much faster than they could be in a more remote location. The two groups opposed to the proposal (have offered up some alternatives. These include "brownfield" sites, though nothing like 680 acres of such sites have been identified. State land is proposed, although only one other comparable project (in Otero Co.) exists at present. There has been a suggestion to aim for so-called "Smart Node Micro-grids", which are a more distributed way of doing solar generation and storage and have much to commend them. But it's hard to get close to "utility scale" storage with these designs, and they tend to be less efficient overall.

Finally, a counter-proposal has been offered for a county-level "Energy Park" near Clines Corners. It has some merits but would also require 36 miles of additional 115kV transmission line, land purchase, and a 3rd party to construct the facilities. Given the concern about the 2.5 mile power line proposed for the San Marcos location, this seems strange.

Finally, we should note that switching to renewable electricity generation will inevitably consume more land, no matter where it is located. We have to weigh this against the benefits of reduced greenhouse gas emissions and other pollution. It is worth noting that the BLM has recently proposed 22M acres of public land (size of Maine) that could be used for this purpose. Only 700k acres required to meet 100% clean electrical grid by 2035, up from 34k acres of generation on BLM Land at present.

Further information: AES (<https://www.aes.com/new-mexico/project/rancho-viejo-solar>) San Marcos Association (<https://thesanmarcosassociation.org/solar-power-santa-fe-county/>) Two groups opposed to the proposal (please note that neither have disclosed their funding and so while they may be nothing but area residents with genuine and sincere concerns, it is hard to be certain): New Mexicans for Responsible Renewable Energy (nmresponsible.com) Clean Energy Coalition for New Mexico (cleanenergycoalitionsfc.org).

GVFR NEWS

Correction: Janice Wall was honored at the GVFR dinner for 16 years of service as secretary, and then president, of GVFR's 501(c)3. And in addition, Ken Frumin was applauded for having responded to the most calls.

Alex Amend, formerly of the GVFR, now a member of the Dixon Fire Department, writes: "After the bad fires last year and the flooding that followed, we decided to turn station 1 here in Dixon into a more resilient emergency response center as folks in our district came to the station throughout these disasters looking for information and safety. And...it really only takes a strong spring wind to knock out the power here. Now we've got

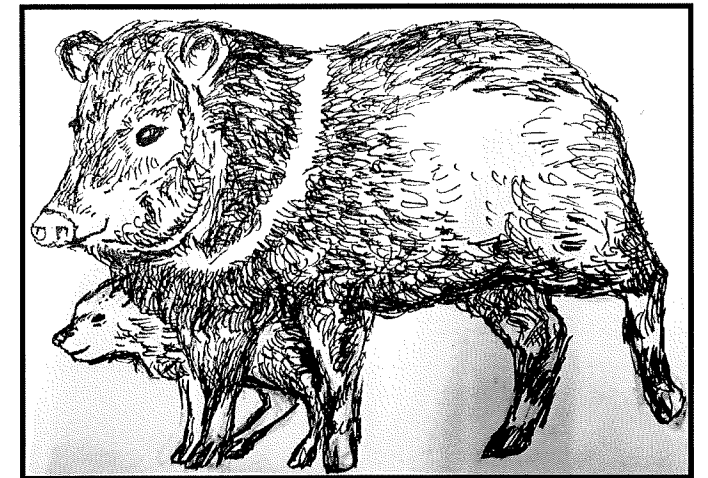
battery backup (enough for three days) and solar power that will run as long as the sun is shining." Amend was thanked by Dixon Chief Steve Jenison for spearheading the project.

HOW WE MET:

Alex Finlayson and Steve Riemer*

After some fun years in San Diego it was time to move on. I'd been a security guard at a fancy resort, a job that didn't interfere with my writing or surfing. The plan was to move to Texas near my parents and seal my fate as divorced single mother and dutiful daughter. Except for one thing: the cute chef at work I'd barely talked to and couldn't stop thinking about. Why not write him a note and include my phone number? My house was for sale. I was surfing my last waves. There was nothing to lose, and one last fling couldn't hurt. The day Chef Steve stopped by the security office to grab the kitchen department mail, he stood in front of me, leafed through the junk, came to my envelope, studied it, opened it, read it, reread it. The suspense almost killed me. Finally he smiled, and a date was made (Mojitos!) Then another. And another. Nineteen years later here we are, thanks to an impetuous handwritten note and the man who said yes.

*Ed note: This long-time feature belonged in the Feb. issue, but El Puente welcomes new How We Met any time.



PREVIEW OF COMING ATTRACTIONS?

Jan Saunders/ Catherine Ferguson

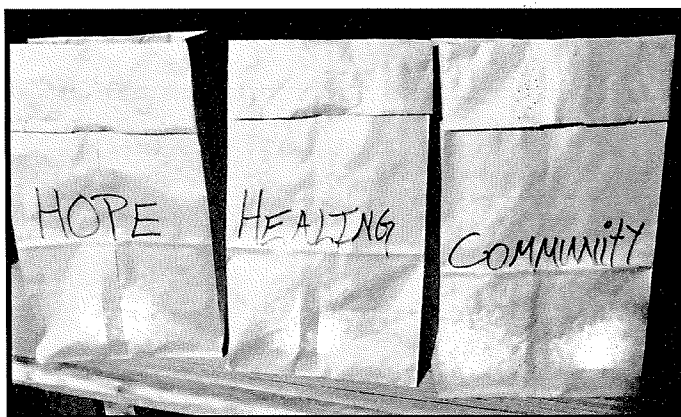
In the past year, two exciting animal visitors made headlines in New Mexico. Asha, the Mexican Gray Wolf, trotted (twice!) all the way from Arizona through our state within howling distance of the Galisteo Basin. Marty Moose ventured within a few feet of the Santa Fe Plaza, was removed by the NM Game and Fish, and promptly returned to stay in The Land of Enchantment. The times "they are a-changing" as they send us alerts to be on the lookout.

The most likely suspect for a surprise visit to the Galisteo Basin will be, in my humble guestimate, a Collared Peccary, also known as a Javelina, that will remind you of a pig but is more closely related to sheep, goats, and deer. As long-time residents of southern New Mexico, the rise in global temperature entices them to travel north. In July 2018, Javelina were reported in Eldorado, and seen in south Santa Fe running through the junipers in the snow. Scattered herds are frequently seen in (Cont. p.4)

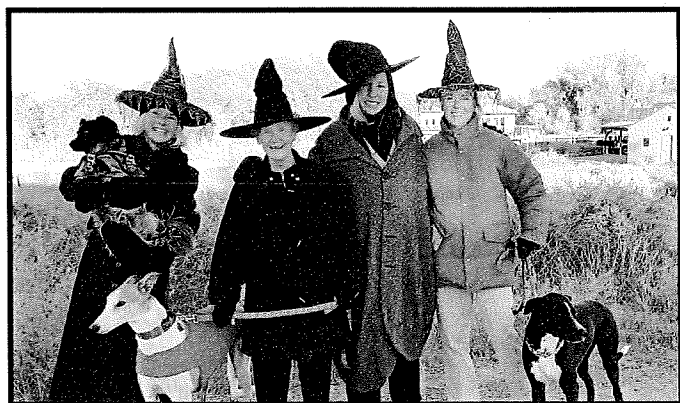
southern counties like Socorro, and state biologists report that Javelina have expanded their range in the last century*.

Like most migrating animals, the Javelina bring along their interesting and controversial habits. Only distantly related to Old-world pigs, Javelina are a medium-sized gray bristly-haired omnivore with a pig-like nose, short legs, small ears, no tail, poor eyesight, and a musky scent. The light-colored hair line over their shoulders creates the appearance of a collar. As they root for food, a herd can bring an untimely end to your vegetable or flower garden. Little Javelina pups are red and travel with the herd soon after birth. Although I admit I find them charming, they may become aggressive toward you and your pet in defense of their babies. Best to keep your distance and your dog on a leash. Once Javelina find their way into the Galisteo Basin, I have an idea they might very well opt for permanent residency.

**NOTE: New Mexico Department of Game and Fish lists Collared Peccary as a game animal with seasons and bag limits and asks the Public to document the location of Javelina sightings with photos. Send to NMDGF: One Wildlife Way, Santa Fe, NM 87507, C/O Wildlife Management.*



New Year's Eve Food Drive (Photo: Corey McGillicuddy)



Early Morning Walkers on Halloween

**EL PUENTE SPONSOR:
LAS MADRES RANCH**

GALISTEO CLASSIFIED

ADS ARE FREE, AND FOR GALISTEO RESIDENTS ONLY. Next deadline, April 5th. PLEASE email flip14@centurylink.net TO UPDATE OR DELETE YOUR AD.

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, napkins, and potholders by Deirdre Africa of Rancho Bueno: 505-670-5198, www.buttonboxaprons.com; africadeirdre@gmail.com.

SERVICES

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.

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 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, 505-470-0562; "text and I will call you back."

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

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:** April 5th. **TO SPONSOR:** Check for \$100-\$150 (or more!) **TO GCA,** noting "for newsletter," to above.