

EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO

ISSUE #274

SUMMER 2024

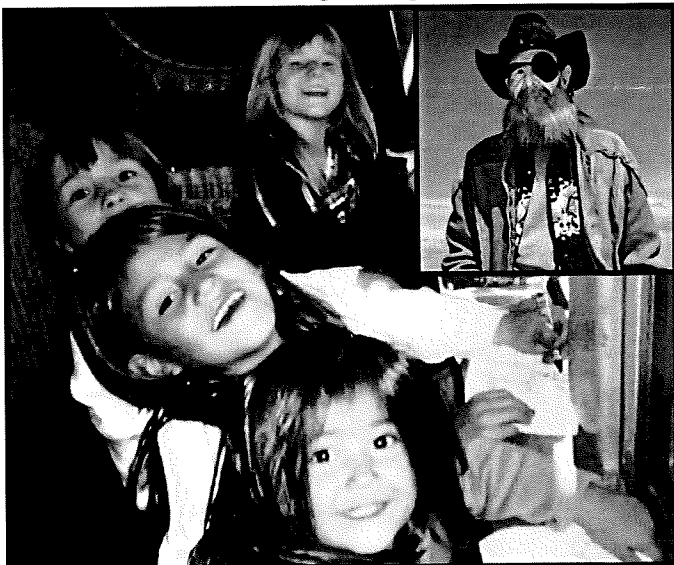
JULY 20-21: THE GALISTEO RODEO RETURNS AFTER A TEN YEAR HIATUS

Come one, come all! Saturday's parade starts at 11 AM at the Community Center. Rodeo Ground Events begin at 1:00 PM Saturday and Sunday.

The 42nd Rodeo is a memorial to founder Rudy Sena, who passed away in 2018. After the last rodeo (and Rudy's last), in 2013, the family wondered how much longer they could handle its growing success. Now his four granddaughters – Callie Rogers and Shelby, Sydney, and Sierra Baca – have stepped up.

Rodeo President Shelby says, "Last summer around rodeo time, the four of us were all talking and saying how it's been eleven years and how we're grown up now and can handle running it. We asked our moms [Rudy's daughters, Amy and Audra] what they thought. As long as they didn't have to do too much themselves, they promised to help us." Crews have been cleaning the rodeo grounds and relocating a few rattlesnakes. The four young women bring new energy to the army of volunteers from past years.

There will be food vendors and concession stand. Any contestant with money for the entry fee can ride. For more information contact: rodeodegalisteo@gmail.com.



Rudy Sena, and the RodeoGirls a while ago: top to bottom: Shelby Baca, Callie Rogers, Sydney Baca, Sierra Baca.

EL PUENTE GROWS UP?

In the almost twenty-eight years of *El Puente*, your editor has not solicited editorial help, though I am very grateful for the villagers who have supported it financially and contributed to the content. But now, just as old age begins to take its toll, Alex Finlayson (playwright, surfer, and very thorough researcher) has volunteered as a self-described "stringer," and she lives right next door. Welcome to a newly invigorated newsletter!

*

NOTICE: For members of the village water system: the numbers in the phone book for Ron C de Baca and Rudy Martinez are reversed. Rudy is our "operator" but Ron is our foreman and the one to contact for water breaks, low pressure, etc.

*

Correction: Last month's vulture story referred to them "peeing and defecating" -- embarrassingly inaccurate since birds have only one form of excrement – gooey white guano. And apparently we have both Turkey and Black Vultures in our flock. The former have a superior sense of smell, and the latter like to hang with the best. A.F.

PRESIDENTIAL PRIORITIES

Alex Finlayson

On March 30 GCA President Anna Cárdenas was happy to pass the torch to President-elect Jennifer Martin and resume her duties as grandmother, micaceous clay artist, and full-time Galisteo cultural ambassador.

One of the few descendants of old local families who continues to participate on community boards, when Anna stepped up in 2022 she had already been GCA President in 2015, and Board member many times over, including an honorary position as a teen: "I was asked by the Board if I would take it on because some of the issues we were going to have to deal with, I already knew the background on. It was a going to be a challenge because we were losing Roger Taylor, which was a really big thing."

One of the challenges was a long legal process to secure untitled Village lands in danger of land-grabbing. Thanks to Anna, the GCA now owns these ten acres (plus several plats), fully titled and filed with Santa Fe County. She also rallied a team of residents and family to install wifi in the (Cont. p.2)

Community Center. Now event participants can stream audio/visual content and make credit card sales, and the Election Board will continue operating the local polling station. Village meetings were arranged with County Commissioner Camilla Bustamante, the NM Film Office, and the Department of Transportation (NMDOT). Monthly breakfasts resumed. The first Winter Readings event hosted village authors reading from their works, and assorted music events popped up at the Community Center. Anna admits what she enjoyed most was “getting people together again after Covid”.

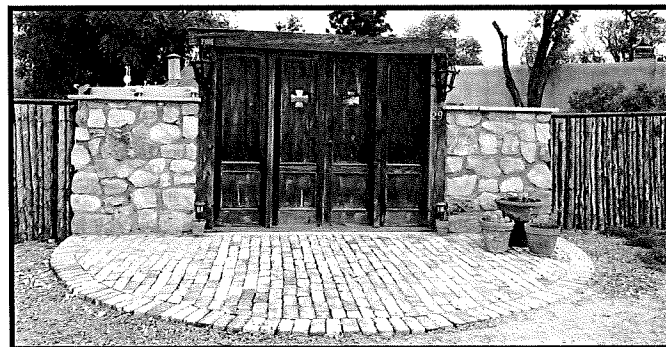
As the GCA careens into its fifty-first year, Anna has just a few words of advice for the new President: “Be patient. Listen. Try as much as you can to involve the community and to let them know what’s going on . . . but remember, you can’t please everyone.”

*

Like Anna, Jennifer didn’t hesitate to step up when asked to run for President. “Galisteo doesn’t have a mayor or township. The GCA, GVFR, and Water Board are what we have. It all works as long as you have community involvement.” Her first priority is addressing code violations from recent fire department inspections of the Community Center and roof damage from spring hailstorms. Highway 41 is a close second. As Board Secretary, Jennifer was already chair of the “Saving Galisteo” committee dedicated to highway issues including speeding, tanker truck traffic, and NMDOT upgrades. She has been helping residents seek financial redress for Phase Three road-related flooding and vibration damage and is working hard to prevent such disasters happening when Phase Four continues through the Village center. “We have a very special historical community that needs to be protected,” she says. “I’d like to focus on the weight limit so the tankers can’t come through here.” To tame speeders, village entry signs are being considered, and Wildlife Crossing signs are requested. No Jake Break signs have been installed, and soon a study on speed cameras will be supplied by the County. More media coverage is in the works.

The real heart of Jennifer’s agenda is “pulling the community together,” which she has practiced on the boards of many non-profits and as successful publisher of a family and community newspaper in Boulder, Colorado. Her favorite idea is the creation of service committees or “guilds” based on Galisteo talents and interests and open to all residents. Volunteers have signed up to coordinate and organize a Newcomers Welcome Guild, Fundraiser and Party Guild, and Gardens and Grounds Guild for the Community Center, with more ideas like Sunday Brunch Guild, and Help Your Neighbor Guild to come.

*



The GCA meets once a month. All residents of six months or more are members and invited to attend. GCA mission statement and bylaws can be found at www.galisteocommunity.org. 2024-25 GCA Board: Paul Davis, Sandy Duran, Kim Gilbreath, Rob King, Ann Nye, Greg Salustro, Ann Senuta, Caroline Hinkley (Alternate). Jennifer Martin can be reached at galisteovillage@gmail.com.



Jennifer and Anna (photo: Alex Finlayson)

GALISTEO ARTISTS SHOW AND ROUNDTABLE AT THE ZAGUAN

On June 7th, curator Dennison Smith introduced a lively panel of the four artists in the exhibition: Steve Davis, Shaun Gilmore, Rob King, Judy Tuwaletsiwa, and Janice Wall. Each artist spoke about their mostly abstract work (visible in the same room) in subtle relation to the landscape of the Galisteo Basin. Judy explained her use of glass to honor the bosque and the light. Janice spoke of texture and her translucent vellum prints. Steve riffed on walking, uphill and downhill, always in flux, the spaces between things. Shaun’s sculptural tangles and curtain were reminiscent of her past as a dancer, and referred to the importance of weather in the Basin. And Rob, who is Choctaw and a medical doctor, hung up his white coat to be an artist, using “wild clay” as a way of building kinship with this land.



The roundtable (Photo: Wayland Wong)

PEDACITOS/BITS AND PIECES

Maybe the new Spanish-style gates at the Moya residence were destined to be there. Jean Moya had always admired them at the former Reinhold house on La Vega. When a new owner moved in, the gates vanished. Then Jean spotted them on Craigslist. Now they’re permanently installed at her house with the help of husband Steve’s coyote fencing and brother Mike Anaya’s ironwork. (Cont. p.3)

Moya Gate (left)

*

Corey McGillicuddy, already a stalwart member of the GVFR, is now a Community Health Worker, certified by the NM Department of Health in early June. Corey also informs us that the Food Pantry in Eldorado will close June 30th, thanks to diminishing funds and potential loss of storage space. Short-term solutions proved unmanageable but discussion about moving the pantry to the Eldorado Senior Center and the County are encouraging. Corey has donated overflow from our annual food drives to the pantry. “I would like for people to see how big the need really is,” she says, “and that our once-a-year endeavor is but a drop in the ocean.”

*

In mid-June, Richard Fenker opened a show of his *Abstract Stone Works* in the Plaza Mercado building in Santa Fe. It will be up until Nov.1st.

*

Judy Tuwaletsiwa’s two-person show with Govinda San ‘Azad” at Pie Projects (924B Shoofly St.) opening July 20 and running until Aug. 17th.

*

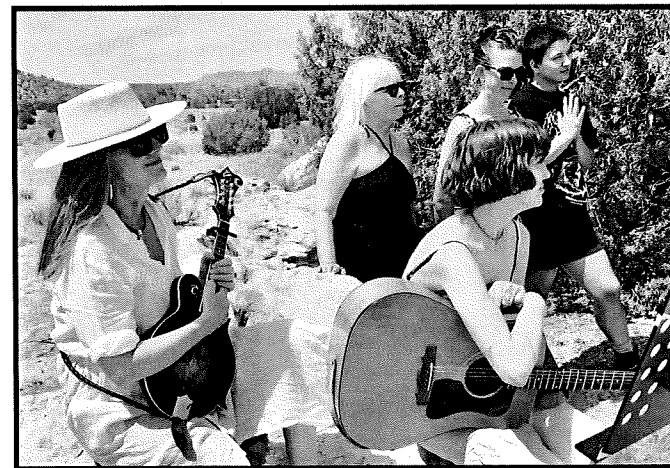
Sina Brush’s new book, *Man of Constant Sorrow: An American Memory* was launched at the Travel Bug in May. She describes it as “A story about my father and his family mystery, and the idea I would never know what caused him such noticeable grief, began in 1932 when two meddling fathers created a rumor still ricocheting in people’s lives 90 years.”

*

Trend celebrates 25 years with a hefty retrospective anthology that includes several Galisteo references. First, a look back from 2011 at “Fritz Scholder in Galisteo” includes a picture of him with his then-wife – a glamorous youthful Romona. The Native artist said that Galisteo “is as close to the land as an artist can get.” There is a 2012 essay on Agnes Martin, years after she left the village. Then there is the 2011-12 “Precisely Woody Gwyn,” noting that he first landed in Galisteo in 1976, and moved back with Dianna to their current home in 1997. Bruce Nauman and your editor are mentioned in other contexts.

*

An intimate memorial for Evelyn Gregory was held on June 8th at the home of Frank Bernardino and her ashes were spread among the rocks where she had lived for decades (now owned by Ted Alcorn and Cecily Campbell).



Linda Rice and daughter Grace Morris playing at Evelyn’s memorial.

THE VULTURE MESSENGER

Phillip and Judy Tuwaletsiwa

Judy, our dog, Soya, and I experienced something very unusual.

On our portal, I stretch my foot while holding on to a support post. Judy relates a story about a young man with whom she had lunch on her recent trip to Los Angeles. He told her about a ceremony in which he participated in a small mountain village in Peru. A shaman, using the drug San Pedro, led the healing ceremony. Another participant was a man from the village who had returned home after years in Lima where he had lost his way, becoming addicted to drugs and alcohol.

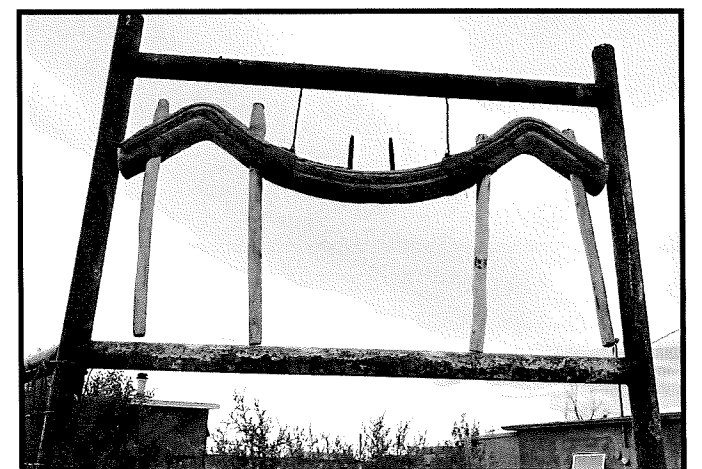
At one point in the ceremony, Judy’s friend saw this man’s arms as outstretched condor wings. But his wings had no flesh, only bones. At the end of each wing was a white feather tipped with brown. One feather pointed up; the other pointed down.

Listening, I continue stretching, facing south, staring vacantly at the entry to our property. As Judy finishes sharing her friend’s story, she opens the screen door to walk into our house. At that moment, a large bird flies through the open gate and comes directly at me. I think, “A raven.” Before I can react, it lands with a loud plop at my feet. I exclaim in surprise. Judy turns around. She later said that she thought a glistening black garbage bag had dropped from the sky. It takes a few seconds for us to realize a vulture, its feathers wet from an earlier rain, lay slumped at my feet.

I grab Soya’s collar although he seems completely unaware of the bird. Judy opens the screen door and ushers Soya into our house. We both stare as the rumped mass hisses. I wonder if it is hurt. Then I think it might be peeing or vomiting. But nothing comes out of its beak. A terrible stench fills the air.

The vulture shakes itself, stands, turns towards the gate, stretches its wings, flaps them, and flies away on the same path as it entered, leaving behind an incredibly foul-smelling pile of feces as we stand, feeling awe and disbelief.

In Pueblo and Hopi beliefs, vultures are powerful medicine birds because they purify. This one purified itself at our feet and left. Did he perform a ritual for us? I fail to grasp what really happened. The vulture, who feasts on the dead whose souls live in the Underworld, flew from the Upper World to the place where Upper and Lower Worlds merge, purified itself as we watched. (*Galisteo, New Mexico, 2016*)



More classy Galisteo: Antonio Chavez’s sculptural gate.

BURNING QUESTIONS

A new occasional series for Galisteans. You can be next!

ANGIE BEAUCHAMP

1. **Where were you born?** Winamac, Indiana.

2. **Who influenced you most growing up?** My school gym teacher had been a pitcher in the women's professional baseball league profiled in "A League of Their Own." She had me reading *Ms. Magazine* at eleven and showed me that there were other opportunities and possibilities outside of small-town Indiana

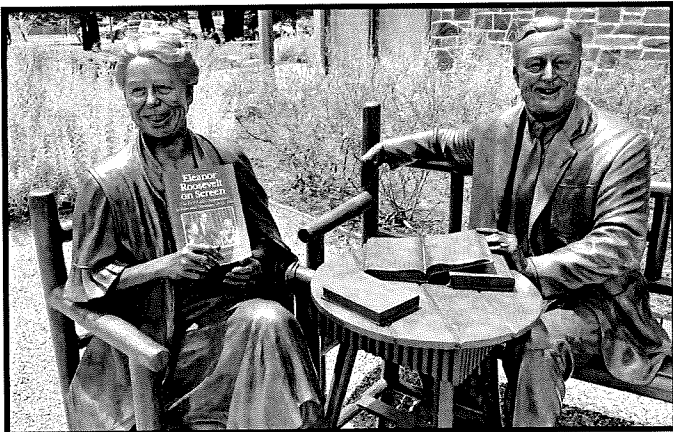
3. **Where do you find happiness?** Creating a cozy home with my spouse, Caroline, but also in a space that is intellectually stimulating and creative.

4. **What is something few people know about you?** I spent my college junior year abroad in Liberia, West Africa. My ex-boyfriend ran for President of Liberia a few years ago.

5. **How did you end up in Galisteo?** I met Caroline Hinkley at the University of New Mexico. She had recently moved to Galisteo from Boulder, Colorado, after visiting friend Lucy Lippard. I fell in love with Caroline and moved here in the summer of 2013.

6. **What is your most treasured possession?** My grandmother's cookie jar. She filled it with newspaper clippings about my basketball exploits in high school.

7. **Red, green, or Christmas?** Green.



Eleanor Roosevelt (and FDR) promoting Angie's book.

**EL PUENTE SPONSORS:
WAYLAND WONG
& GREG SALUSTRO**

GALISTEO CLASSIFIED:

ADS ARE FREE, AND FOR GALISTEO RESIDENTS ONLY. Next deadline, Sept. 20. 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.

Wild Focus Expeditions: Join us on exciting wildlife and/or cultural adventures around the world. Contact us: Visit www.wildfocusexpeditions.com, email: jami@wildfocusexpeditions.com or call 466.3640.

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 Paypal 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: Sept. 20. TO SPONSOR: Check for \$100-\$150 (or more!) TO GCA, noting "for newsletter," to above.