



ISSUE #277

DECEMBER 2024

FELIZ NAVIDAD

JULIE DEERY'S GENERATIONS

Ann Senuta

Galisteo mosaic artist Julie Deery felt the coronavirus pandemic's isolation deeply. She had not lived long in New Mexico, and like so many others, she missed human connection. As the pandemic lessened and people began to carefully reemerge, she joined a conversation with Santa Fe Seniors on Bikes and Big Brothers Big Sisters Mountain Region about creating a community mural. On a bike ride along the Santa Fe Rail Trail, just north of Siringo Road, she saw the potential in a bleak concrete wall. Once she received permission from local neighbors whose backyards abutted it, the wall became Deery's frame for a community art project for people of all ages and cultures.

Titled *Generations*, Deery's project has grown figuratively and literally to inspire and connect Santa Feans and beautify an ignored entrance into the city. Now 130 feet long and 6 feet high, the nearly finished mural shows a rising sun over the Sangre de Cristos, a bird-filled blue sky, and a groundscape filled with thoughts, humor, and quotes. It delights dog walkers, runners, cyclists, and commuter and tourist passengers on the Rail Runner Express and SkyRailway. And, as she had hoped, the mural encompasses the wisdom of elders, the joy of children, and the creativity and effort of over 1,000 volunteers who have laid a piece of tile or glass, created a clay quote or figure, helped grout and polish tiles, set up the shade tent, offered donated materials or checks, or who have simply stopped by to admire the mural.

"I sat by your mural and read all these quotes, and I cried," one visitor said recently.

Deery has received no grants to do this project; it has been maintained over three years solely by private donations and her own funds. She uses primarily recycled materials and has worked three days a week, through the hottest summer days and cold mornings. Her vision and efforts to bring community art to a forgotten location in this City of Art are multi-faceted: to brighten the scenery for train commuters and tourists; to give opportunity to residents who may have never expressed themselves through art; and to build a community of creativity, beauty, and hope.

For further information: generations.equalarea.com.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

JINGLE & MINGLE : Sunday Dec. 29th, 4-6: Open House at the Community Center: drinks and hors d'oeuvres. Friends and family welcome! Hosted by the Galisteo Community Association.

5th ANNUAL GVFR FOOD DRIVE: New Year's Eve, Tuesday, Dec. 31. 4:30 – 6PM at the Fire Station. Please no expired or damaged items. More info: call Corey, 466-1831.

CORRECTIONS: the unnamed *brujo* in last month's studio tour article should have been called a *curandero*.



THE UNEXPECTED GOOSE

Jenn Chapin

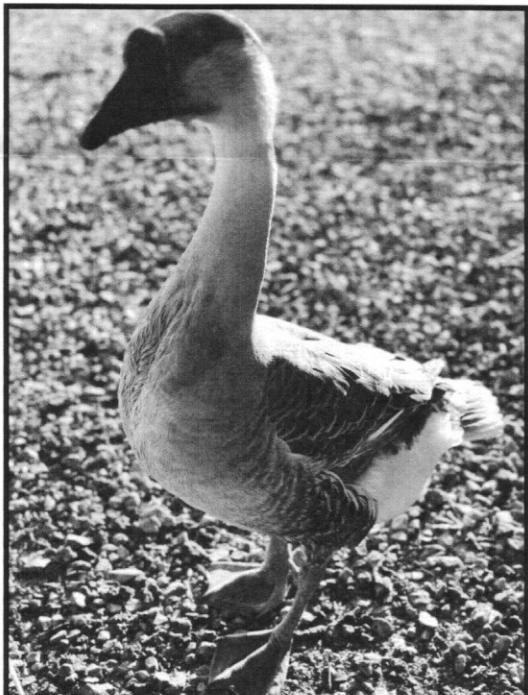
It has been four months now, so it is certainly time to confirm the rumors. There is indeed a goose in the village of Galisteo. Perhaps you have heard some honking and joyous beeps coming from the southwest side? Maybe you have even heard a story about a skinny goose who ran to the Iglesia Nuestra Señora de los Remedios one August night seeking directions to a safe place away from coyotes and others who would undoubtedly find a goose delicious.

I can confirm that on the night the little goose arrived at El Tanque Viejo she was given lodging in a spacious two-horse trailer, and dined on organic lettuce hearts and seedless watermelon. The goose respite was extended while calls were made and a “lost goose” community email was sent out, but also due to an infection that made it increasingly difficult for her to walk/stand. Despite this condition, the goose -- affectionately named Lupita -- was actually quite joyful and clearly comfortable with people.

Eventually, after dozens of “we don’t see geese” responses, an avian doctor was found who agreed to help. Lupita reluctantly rode all the way to Albuquerque and back in a pink rubber bucket. Thankfully after two rounds of amoxicillin, gabapentin, and an anti-inflammatory, she started to stand and then walk again.

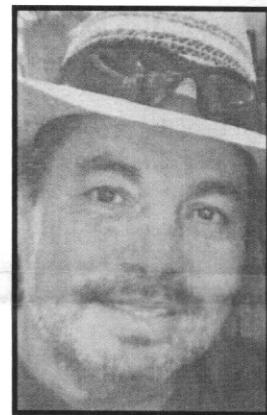
By this point feelings were caught all around. As no one was looking for her, we officially became goose people. Currently, Lupita is up to her recommended healthy weight and volunteers as an announcer of all the comings and goings, a dog supervisor by day, and at night she sleeps in her very own cozy pony trailer.

Shout Out to Lupita’s godparents Mike Anaya and Kevan Saunders, to Auntie Corey and Dr. Christina Cooper. We have been able to estimate Lupita’s age based on characteristics of her domestic breed, making her only three to four months old on the evening she stormed in the north gate of El Tanque Viejo, insistent on help. We may not know her origin story, but perhaps this tale of a tiny miracle is so much better?



Raymond Anaya (1964-2024)

The late Johnny Anaya’s son Raymond Anaya passed away in November at age 60, survived by his wife Susanne and children Feliciana, Raymond, and Roselyn; his mother Mary Frances Barela, and siblings Deborah, J.J. , and Phillip. A hardcore Minnesota Vikings fan, and a golfer who reveled in being a New Mexican cowboy, he served in the Marines . A funeral with military honors will be held in May at the Santa Fe National Cemetery.



GALISTEO GRASS JOURNAL: PART 2

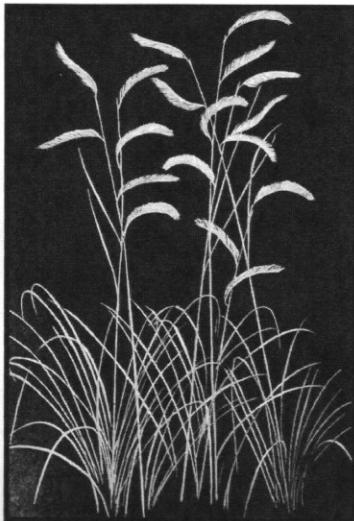
Alex Finlayson

Winter walks are a good time to notice the Grama sisters. Their distinctive seed heads make them easy to spot this time of year. Blue Grama is the one with curly tops like fuzzy eyebrows. Sideoats Grama looks exactly how it sounds, with small oat-like seed heads dangling down the stalk and appearing to grow only on one side. When found growing together, as they often do, you’ll see the subtle family likeness in size and bearing.

Blue Grama is our State Grass and grows in all thirty-three counties. It’s unbeatable grazing and valuable forage for wildlife. Native Americans used the seeds to make mush, and the Blackfeet predicted the weather based on the number of branches on one stalk. One branch meant mild winter, two a colder winter, and three a long severe winter. (I have not tried this.) To be clear, Blue Grama grass is not blue.

Sideoats Grama is the less gifted of the two. It’s the State Grass of Texas, which we won’t hold against it. Although taller and more erect than Blue Grama, Sideoats is not nearly so fine for grazing and fodder, although wild turkeys are said to be partial to it. It’s less drought-tolerant and pickier about soil. Cattlemen used to say that the presence of Sideoats Grama was just enough “to sell a range on.” However, in summer it has fairy-sized red, purple, and white flowers, and when the breeze is right, its tiny seed heads wave like yacht pennants.

Our resident grass chronicler, Catherine Ferguson, says there are four seasons of grass and something to see in all. In December the Gramas still seem vibrant, especially backlit by winter sun and traced by frost. Like the other grasses, their stalks eventually break too, and seeds will be sown. There’s a greater chance of surviving the birds and critters who depend on fallen grass seed if the seed heads can hang on until spring. However, research has shown that Grama dispersal is most effective when seeds are caught and carried in the fur of elk and bison — a romantic thought to dream on by the fire. (See picture p.3).



Blue Grama from *Pasture and Range Plants*, Phillips Petroleum Company, 1963.

STUDIO TOUR ... ONGOING

There was never a doubt there wouldn't be a second year of the Studio Tour in 1989, but a few lessons were learned. The date was moved from mid-November to October and expanded to two days. An umbrella organization, Galisteo Art Association, was created mainly because it was felt the Tour's bank account needed a proper name. Nick Trofimuk was tapped to create a poster. He came up with a simple black and white design featuring a Galisteo photograph. The subtle poster became so popular, the design stayed the same for fifteen years with only dates and photograph changing. Volunteers had to monitor the posters around Santa Fe, because people kept stealing them. Members also decided it was time for an official chairperson. Joette O'Connor and Barbara Holloway were among the first to take that role.

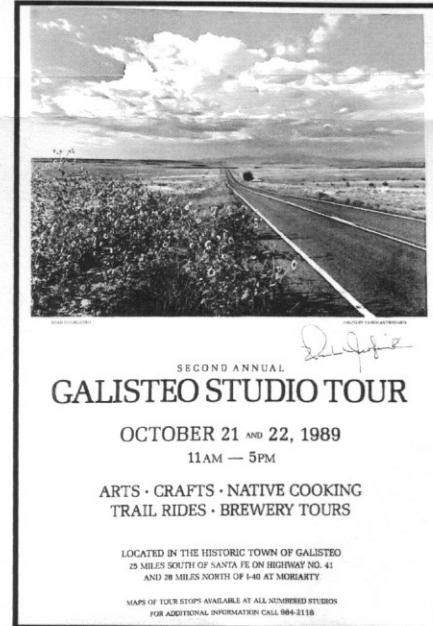
After the first Tour's success, *The New Mexican* devoted a half-page feature to it the second year -- both a catalogue of the artists and their work and a travelogue to the "sleepy village... with a pot of artist gold." The Flying M Ranch just north of town served "hand-crafted ale," on tap from the ranch's fledgling Santa Fe Brewing Company, which was touted as "an art in itself to beer connoisseurs." The Priscilla Hoback Gallery joined the Tour, and scenic horseback rides through the village were available. More than once that year, Barbara Holloway heard art snobs criticizing the Tour's eclectic nature.

By year three, an information table with a beach umbrella was set up next to the church. Rain or shine, volunteers (often village teenagers), handed out maps and gave directions. While working the table, Anna Cárdenas heard visitors ask where the "native cooking" was, as advertised on Tour posters. The following year she convinced her mom, Mela Montoya, to open a lunchroom in the Community Center. The entire family pitched in, including Anna's four sisters, some cousins, and her aunt Rosina "Tia Sopaipilla" Anaya, to help cook and serve. "Everything would sell out by 1 pm, and she would run home to cook more beans or throw together another pot of red chile," says Anna of her mother. La Cocina de Mela was a tour favorite for over twenty years, and today a commemorative wooden plaque hangs in the GCC kitchen.

At its heart, the Studio Tour is a history of horses, sopaipillas,

and ghosts. Hundreds of artists and dedicated volunteers have come and gone, none more important than founding members and artists Barbara and Joe Cooper, who, for decades, cheerfully did more than had to be done. (The 2021 Tour was dedicated to Barbara.) Mela's daughter and granddaughter, Geri and Linda Peña, carry on her legacy by selling traditional baked goods. (Geri too has been known to go home on a Saturday, after selling out, and bake all night for Sunday.)

These days, one Anaya family artist on the Tour is Governor's Award winner Jean Anaya Moya, whose celebrated retablos in straw appliquéd are both old Galisteo and new. Posters have been replaced by tee shirts, website, and social media. And the horse events—once as varied as dressage exhibitions, calf roping, and carriage rides—have vanished. What remains is the future of the Studio Tour, as it moves into its thirty-seventh year, and the energy of art, community, and change.



FROM THE GVFR

Officers were elected by acclamation at the December business meeting: **Chief Jean Anaya Moya; EMS Captain Alice Kruse; Fire Captain Ken Frumin; Lieutenant Kevin Smith.** Many thanks to all for keeping our community safe!

Congratulations (and details next month) on newly graduated firefighters **Ezra Sage, Kobe Jane, and Steve Riemer.**

Galisteo is now part of the Santa Fe County Fire Department's Eastern Region, along with Eldorado, Glorieta, and Hondo.

The New Mexican (Dec 8) ran a long feature, "Sounding the Alarm," about the shrinking ranks of volunteer firefighters "as rural areas face growing wildfire risk." (There have recently been two small fires in our area but so far we've been lucky.) The decline is attributed to an aging population and rising home prices. Santa Fe County now lists over 100 career firefighters and over 150 volunteers and is hoping to reach 200 volunteers by 2028. The article focused on Hondo Chief Clark Thomas, who has been a university professor, a photographer, and an investigator in the US Dept of Health and Human Services. Our own Chief of course is a renowned artist. So anybody can do it!

PEDACITOS/BITS AND PIECES

Chris Griscom is selling the 70 acres of land in front of The Light Institute to someone who is looking for a place to keep their horses, not for development. For information: thelight@lightinstitute.com or call 505-466-1975.

From the GCA: To anyone holding an event at the Community Center: please check the inventory of plastic flatware, cups, coffee cups, napkins and paper plates before purchasing new. In a recent reorganization of the kitchen, over 3000 plastic spoons were discovered and that's the tip of the iceberg. Also, a new dishwasher was installed in the GCC kitchen, a first. This will enable us to move away from disposables and toward greener events.

The **State of New Mexico** is blessed as the fourth-most biodiverse state in the country.



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GALISTEO CLASSIFIED:

ADS ARE FREE, AND FOR GALISTEO RESIDENTS ONLY. Next deadline, Jan. 5. PLEASE email flip14@centurylink.net TO UPDATE OR DELETE YOUR AD IN A TIMELY FASHION.

WANTED

Professor/writer, native New Mexican, looking for **small studio or house rental** over 2025 summer in Galisteo. No Airbnb for me. Please text me ("Angela") at 314 488 8810. Happy to provide references.

FOR SALE

Corey McGillicuddy's Soup Season is upon us. If you want my menus, please send your name and email to me at mcgillicuddycorey3@gmail.com.

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

Mare Tomaski, master bodyworker, biodynamic cranial sacral, KMI structural bodywork, trigger point work, Functional Medicine Certified Health Coach. Contact: profundus@aol.com / 508-788-0906.

Native Land Reparation Pledge Project: give back 1 percent of the sale of your home to indigenous people. Contact Mare at marenlrp@gmail.com

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.

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.

Yoga Zoom classes with Julia: Every Mon., Wed., and Fri. Gentle Yin, Vinyasa Flow and Yin Yang. Contact 505-670-5478 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, the second Sunday of each month, free on YouTube; for info contact thelight@lightinstitute.com

+++ EL PUENTE DE GALISTEO+++

Editor: Lucy R. Lippard. **Stringer:** Alex Finlayson. **Logo:** Cara Lee. **Printer:** Allegra. **Changes, comments, suggestions, contributions to:** El Puente, 14 Avenida Vieja, or flip14@centurylink.net. **NEXT DEADLINE: Jan. 5. TO SPONSOR:** Check for \$100-\$150 (or more!) TO GCA, noting "for newsletter," to above.

