



ISSUE #281

APRIL 2025

EDITORIAL: ICE COLD

An apparent ICE arrest took place late afternoon on March 20th at the intersection of NM41 and Avenida Vieja. From his kitchen window, David Van Dyk saw a two-hour road block. Every vehicle was stopped by police. The same week he saw a very similar scene in Santa Fe with ICE arresting some of the men looking for work on Guadalupe/Alameda. But attempts to confirm the event here and to find the name and record of the person or persons detained were unsuccessful. Neither the Sheriff's office, Somos un Pueblo Unido, elected officials, or knowledgeable friends have been able to track down what happened/is happening when to who, here and around the state. And this is true across the country, along with heartbreaking illegal arrests.

Given that the migrant internment site is just down the road a piece in Estancia, Galisteo may see more such attacks on supposed criminals, many of whom are innocent migrants. If you see something suspicious, try to get a photo or take notes. Having protested *desaparecidos* in Central America in the 1980s, I am horrified to find similar kidnappings by masked men/women going on in New Mexico, and in our "Sanctuary City."



On March 18th, an 80mph wind gust (per the National Weather Service) slammed into Jerry and Alice Kruse's portal, ripping off half of the metal roof and sending it flying in two pieces. "The wind was so fierce that trees were horizontal to the ground, and the sound of the portal roof ripping off was extremely loud!"

EARTH DAY CLEANUP (AND MORE)

Saturday, April 26, 9am-11:30am. Meet at the Community Center for bags, gloves and safety vests. Breakfast and coffee available. We plan to clean again in October, before the **Studio Tour** – Oct. 11-12.

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May 4th, 2PM, GCC: Come hear State Rep **Matthew McQueen** and State Senator **Liz Stefanics** on the recent legislative session... and gobble down some ice cream!

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July 19-20th : The **Galisteo Rodeo** is coming back!

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If you are an artist who has resided in Galisteo for at least 3 months, have not previously participated in our **Studio Tour**, and would like to sign up: email Lesley Dyer (lesleycrewsdyer@gmail.com) or contact one of our GST committee members. If you are a returning artist, you are on our email list and will be sent information on important dates, details, and registration forms.

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To All New Residents: If you have not received your Welcome Kit, which includes a phone book, helpful safety messages and tips from our Volunteer Fire Department, and a history of the Village, please get in touch with Kim Gilbreath at 1kingilbreath@gmail.com. (831-869-8209) We will make sure you get one asap!

ANNUAL MEETINGS

March is meetings month. Both the Water Board and the Community Association barely reached their quorums (if only dogs counted!) Business proceeded with new volunteers and mostly good news.

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On March 20th the annual meeting of the Galisteo Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association took place at the GCC, President Steve Moya presiding. Treasurer John Watson-Jones reported that a lot has been spent on repairs the past year (\$13,000 for new pumphouse) but the GMDWCA is in good shape. He is in constant contact with our accountant, Ana Berry. The fiscal year is March to February. New state rules mean associations must report revenues and expenses every quarter. (Cont. p.2)

Higher water pressure is an issue, but there are lots of old pipes and too much pressure could blow them up, so increases are made a bit each year. (John Young said with a recent raise he had "the best shower we ever had.")

There are 95 official hookups, some not operative, and no delinquent accounts. (No one has ever been shut off.) Most of the reported leaks have been minor.

There have been three requests for new hookups but the **moratorium** is in place until Oct. 31, 2025. You can use a well or a community hookup, but not both.

The first **rate increase** since 2017 brings the monthly rate up from \$22 to \$29. This was necessary for increases in materials, labor and utilities. But compared to other nearby MDWCAs, this is still a bargain.

Antonio Chavez was applauded for his 25 years of service as foreman, a family tradition as his grandfather was the first. His replacement is paid more to cover the commute from Santa Fe.

Steve Moya is stepping down as President but will remain on the Board, as will **Antonio**. **Richard Patton** is retiring and was warmly thanked for his 35 years of service to the Water Association. **Ed Epping** is leaving town but will continue his work with the Google Drive.

New Board members were nominated and won by acclaim: **Scott Diffrient** (who served years ago and says he's "since matured"), **Craig Fulmer**, and **Greg Hart**, who was then elected (by the Board) President for a two-year term. He has been on the Eldorado Water Board since 2017 and will continue to serve on both. **Paul Davis** is now Vice President. **John Watson-Jones** continues as Treasurer and **Deirdre Africa** as Secretary.

On March 29th, Galisteo Community Association (GCA) President **Jennifer Martin** announced that a quorum was present (twenty Galisteo residents). She and outgoing board member **Ann Senuta** briefly outlined some of the accomplishments of the GCA over the past year and called elections for two openings on the Board: **Paul Davis's** term was up and **Ann Senuta** was retiring. Their many contributions were acknowledged and applauded.

Teresa Montoya and **Jackie Wilbur** were nominated and elected by voice vote and **Ann Nye** was re-elected as Treasurer -- all unanimously. There were no nominations for the alternative board position as **Caroline Hinkley** also retired. After the vote, Martin announced that GCA will hold quarterly meetings for all members. In the future, monthly Board meetings will be held during evening hours to provide easier access for working members and broader Board membership.

Thanks were given to **Paul Davis** for handling the community email; **Sandy Duran** for handling GCC rentals, and **Bonnie Bufkin** for coordinating volunteers. **Margaret Wrinkle** will be chairing the Green Team on issues in the bosque.

Santa Fe County has awarded our DOT committee a grant of \$20,000 to create road signs at either end of the village. Thanks are due to the persistent GCA committee and to our County Commissioner **Camilla Bustamante**.

Thanks also to **Anna Cárdenas** for signing up the GCA as an "Adopt A Highway" sponsor for CR 42 from the RR tracks into Galisteo, including Camino Los Angelitos and Camino San Cristobal in Ranchitos.



PREPARE FOR FIRE, JUST IN CASE

Alex Finlayson

Amid all your other things to worry about, fire season in New Mexico is now a year-long event. You can't prevent wildfires, says **Nort Phillips**, an El Dorado firefighter with over fifty years of wildfire experience, but you can reduce fire risk on your own property. He and GVFR Captain **Ken Frumin** were kind enough to visit us recently and offer some professional advice.

Nort explained that during a wildfire, firefighters mark every home with green, yellow or red flags. Green homes are defensible. Red homes aren't. If a house or driveway looks too dangerous or shows too many obstacles, firefighters may choose not to enter your property. The objective is a house that's fire-resistant but also visually fire-defensible.

It turns out we've got work to do: clearing of saltbush and grasses too near the house; tidying shrubs and raising their skirts 2 to 3 feet. Our trees are deciduous and naturally fire-resistant, thank goodness. Leaf debris has to go, and that means cleaning corners of our flat roof, gutters, and along the base of our wall and (very flammable) coyote fencing. We have to check the dryer vent on the roof and clear the brush along our driveway.

One simple tip we learned from **Nort** is to close the fireplace damper every spring and stuff newspaper or cardboard under it, which stops a downdraft from sucking embers into your home in the event of wildfire.

The most alarming thing **Nort** said is that he had actually noted our property when driving by on Highway 41. The fields east of the highway (ours and **Lucy's**) are full of old saltbush with dry, dead branches. Since fire is fanned by western winds, he imagined the brush carrying fire right up to our door steps. Clearcutting the saltbush will be a lifetime project, but nothing would please me more than to return our western fields to grassland.

Finally, we plan over cocktails to make an evacuation list and a "Go Bag." A short list of things we can't live without and might have to grab fast. We'll keep the list safe with our solar-powered radio left over from our Southern California earthquake kit. At the GVFR station you can pick up "Ready, Set, Go" -- a booklet full of fire-preparedness pointers and checklists. And **Nort Phillips** is happy to visit your home for fire risk evaluation. Call GVFR to schedule.

PEDACITOS/BITS AND PIECES

• **Ed Epping** and **Peggy Diggs** are moving into Santa Fe. They have been valued volunteers in Galisteo and will be greatly missed. We wish them and barking dog **Zeke** a happy new adventure.

Anna Cárdenas is showing her micaceous pottery at the Lapis Room Art Gallery and Gift Shop in Old Town Plaza, 303 Romero St, Albuquerque. She will also be working on a short film for New Mexico State Tourism.

Videos of ten **Studio Tour** participants are now on YouTube: @GalisteoArtsGalisteoStudioTour. The most viewed (in order from 35 to 18 times) were **Richard Fenker**, **Janice Wall**, **Wayland Wong**, and **Judy Tuwaletstiwa**. Plans to add other artists are in the works.

From April through the end of May, **Gwen Feisst** is showing her photographs at the Vista Grande Public Library in Eldorado. (Cont. p.3)

Denise Lynch's home, famous for former residents José Ortiz y Pino and her mother Priscilla Hoback, was featured in the *New Mexican's* February Real Estate Guide: "Historic Hacienda in Galisteo" (though some of the "facts" were questionable, such as attribution of the village name to the Greek for "beautiful!")

Galisteña **Elayne Patton**, realtor for Berkshire-Hathaway, has the last and best word about the hacienda: "It embodies the essence of old-world New Mexico. You can feel its history."

Richard Fenker announced on community email that he has closed both his studio/gallery space and the Museum of Light in downtown Santa Fe: "The museum had a seven-year run and thousands of folks (mostly visitors to Santa Fe) got to see it. I hope you were one of them."

The **vultures** are back, right on schedule, and have once again chosen Denise Lynch's willows as their community roost, although a few have chosen Romona Scholder's and Harmony Hammond's.

State Representative **Matthew McQueen** (inaccurately identified as Cerrillos-based in a January *New Mexican* article) has been all over the news, especially as a sponsor and longtime driving force behind a bipartisan bill to reform New Mexico Game and Fish and the State Game Commission that has been signed into law after years of negotiations. The bill broadens the agency's conservation responsibilities, increases angling and hunting fees, and brings a new and kinder name, New Mexico Department of Wildlife. In January, McQueen's losing challenger, Mayor Kenneth Brennan of Edgewood, marveled that his rival (Chair of the House Energy, Environment & Natural Resources Committee) received a donation from the New Mexico Gas Company despite his frequent opposition to the industry (*Santa Fe Reporter*, Jan.8).

The other local star these days has been **Brian Moya**, Chief of the Santa Fe Fire Department. He was quoted and interviewed nationally after the deaths of Gene Hackman and Betsy Arakawa. Before that he was on the *New Mexican's* "Conversation Different" hosted by Opinion Page Editor Inez Russell Gomez.

Robin Bulger, daughter of Galisteans **John Bulger and Julia Cairns**, was pictured and quoted in a lengthy *New Mexican* story (3/9) on presidential job cuts

Julie Deery and Jessica Spring have released *Sweet Remedy* -- an original four-song album available on Bandcamp.com. **Danny Duran** (D7 studios) recorded. **Paul Davis** (Ardour) did the mixing. Local musicians David Robinson, Martin Adair, Robert Coyle and Ozzwald Ozzington accompanied the stars.

A group of Galisteo grassland enthusiasts has booked a **private tour of native grasses** at the Santa Fe Botanical Garden June 29, 2PM], led by Linda Churchill. There are a few spaces left. Contact Alex at alxnm@proton.me.

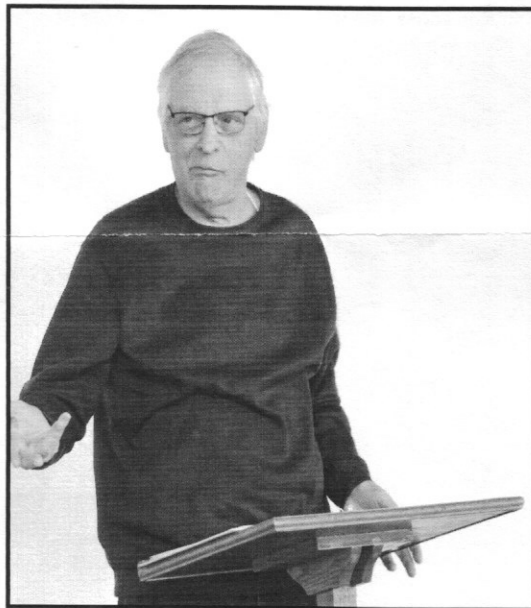
Bruce Nauman's first show in LA in thirty years is a selection of his early works when he lived in Pasadena. Not surprisingly it is a grand success. (*Ed.note: in the early 1960s I owned an early fiberglass Nauman... until my kid rode his tricycle over it and destroyed it.*)

At the **Project Squeaky Wheel/Pie Social** meeting on March 23rd, twelve residents wrote letters to the Governor's office requesting a truck weight limit on NM 41 to get tankers off our roads; and asking NMDOT District 5 to adjust speed limits and add appropriate signage. More pie socials will be scheduled in the future. For info, contact Jennifer Martin at galisteovillage@

gmail.com.

An exhibition of ceramics by **Rob King** (of Galisteo's Duende Gallery) is on display at the CCA Cinema Gallery until May 4th.

(Belatedly) **Joe Cappello's** ambivalent holiday greeting "It's hard to find the right words this holiday season" was in the *New Mexican* (12/22/24). He advised us to "continue searching for the right words...that move us forward as a people and bring us closer to a perfection worthy of our intellect and true nature." At the Galisteo Writers afternoon in February, he read a story about a Jersey mobster. Here he is getting in character. (**Photo: Lesley Dyer**)



MEA EXPANDS BY TWO HOMES

from Chip Conley

We wanted to let our neighbors know that MEA is applying, through the standard County administrative process, to subdivide four lots (a total of about 40 acres) on our Rising Circle Ranch. We intend to build two homes (for MEA alumni) and don't have plans to build the other two in the short-term.

As our water source, we will use one of our two deepest existing wells near the corner of highways 41 and 285, furthest from the village. The County subdivision approval will include water use restrictions of 0.25 acre feet per year of water use per lot. We're also working with GCA President Jennifer Martin to convene a working session with water consultant Jason Hall, the Chi Center, and the local Water Boards to talk about solutions to deal with the on-going drought.

MEA's ranch is 400 acres larger than the combined acreage of Galisteo village and Ranchitos, and we have just two homes and the two retreat centers on the property now. (Galisteo has approximately 100 homes). We currently have no plans to pursue any more intensive development. The only way we could do more than that in the next few years is to go through a public hearing process with a maximum number of additional homes being 22 beyond the two homes we currently have). If you have any questions, you're welcome to email me (chipconleysf@gmail.com) or our planning consultant Jennifer Jenkins (jennifer@jenkinsgavin.com.)

NEWS FROM THE GVFR

The GVFR welcomes two new members: **Lindsay Fuller** and **May Yen**.

On March 4, members gave a training session for several GCA Board members on the new **defibrillator** gifted by the Fire Department to the Community Association.

Put **September 13th** on your calendars for the annual GVFR Breakfast extravaganza.

Quite a few Galisteans made it out to the snowy but invigorating "Hands Off" protest at the Roundhouse on April 5th. Top l to r: Jim Faris with a Peggy Diggs sign, your editor, Sue Auderer, and John Watson-Jones; top left: Unidentified. (Photos: Angelica Heath)



EL PUENTE SPONSORS: DOROTHY VICTOR & SAM SLOAN

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

FOR SALE

Corey McGillicuddy's Soup Season is upon us. If you want my menus, please email 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.

SERVICES

Mare Tomaski, master bodyworker, biodynamic cranial sacral, KMI structural bodywork, trigger point work, Functional Medicine Certified Coach: profundus@aol.com. 508-788-0906. **Native Land Reparation Pledge Project:** give back 1% 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.

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.

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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.

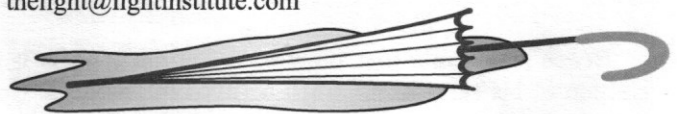
We build, repair coyote fences; haul trash; yard work, etc. Fair prices, local references, Michael Anaya, 660-2275.

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