



Questa Del Rio News

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NORTE GOES
TO D.C.

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BANNER
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QUESTA • RED RIVER • CERRO • COSTILLA • AMALIA • LAMA • SAN CRISTOBAL

New Mexico 2019 Legislative Focus

By MARK GALLEGOS
AND NICHOLAS MAESTAS

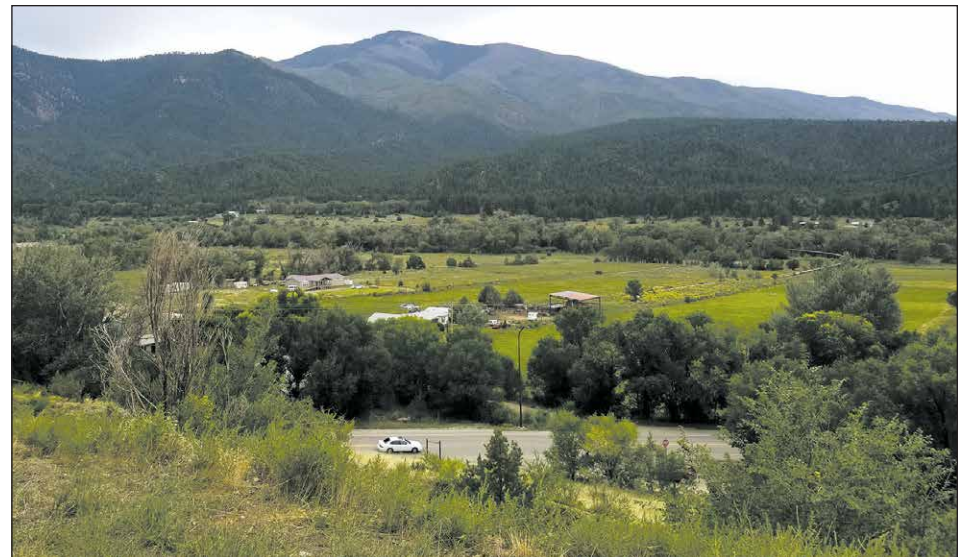
This will be an exciting year for the Village of Questa in Taos County. Questa is located on the north side of the Enchanted Circle and is one of the first communities that visitors see as they enter New Mexico from Colorado along NM-522. Questa is surrounded by breathtaking views from Wheeler Peak (highest point in New Mexico) to the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument and the confluence of the Red River and the Rio Grande, to name just a few. The Village is at an elevation of 7,500 feet and has a population of about 1,700. Questa was the bedroom community for the once thriving and very profitable Molybdenum mine just 6 miles east until it closed its doors in 2014. Since its incorporation as a municipality in 1964, the Village has continued to improve its infrastructure to fulfill its mission "To deliver quality and efficient services that enhance the quality of life for the citizens of the Village of Questa." In recent years, since the closure of the mine, Gross Receipts Tax (GRT)

collections have decreased.

We appreciate when State Legislators work together to adequately fund state agencies. These agencies provide project funding to local governments for much needed infrastructure. The Village of Questa has used a number of these awards to improve our utility infrastructure, buildings, and roads for our residents and to create job opportunities for businesses.

Here are a few recent highlights:

1. The Department of Finance and Administration awarded funding to expand and improve water and sewer lines throughout the Village.
2. NM Department of Transportation awarded funding to repair local roads in the Village to reduce unnecessary wear and tear on vehicles from potholes created by the weather extremes we experience locally.
3. NM Economic Development Department provided funding through LEDA for a new manufacturing business to locate in Questa and provided Main-street funding through its Frontier Community Program.
4. Capital Outlay funding was used to purchase First Responder Units for public safety.
5. NM Environment Department awarded a River Stewardship Grant and helped the Village improve fish habitat along the Red River leading to increase the population of the native Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout.
6. Infrastructure is vital to the stability



View of the Village of Questa, from the Senior Center, looking south.

and growth of this community. With the closure of the Mine operation in 2014, the Village began its transition from a mining town and is in a position to redefine itself and diversify its economy. Fishing, recreation, tourism, agriculture, and the arts bring people and revenue to our beautiful area. The

LEGISLATIVE FOCUS continued Page 20

Positive Thoughts For March

March is National Women's History Month. Women and their importance in establishing the United States of America, as well as their ongoing role in keeping America great, is celebrated throughout the whole month of March. Last November forty-two women were elected to Congress and took their oaths of office in January.

Hats off to them and to the record number of voters in that election nation-

wide! Let's celebrate March with Women's History Month and also Irish-American Heritage Month!

March 1st offers a day to unplug. Really? Yes! Remember to unplug the TV along with the computer, the smart phone, and bluetooth.

National Day of Unplugging is the day to unplug yourself. Take the Unplug Challenge! (see article on page 15 for more information).

In March, we are encouraged to Hug a GI, celebrate and feast before fasting (Fat Tuesday before Ash Wednesday), to have a nap the day after the time changes to Daylight Savings Time, and to help a stranger (Good Samaritan Day).

International Day of Happiness is this month and being celebrated by the Vida Del Norte Coalition that day in schools. March is the time to learn about butterflies, to appreciate manatees and weeds,

and to honor those who served, are still missing in action or died in the Vietnam War.

Do you know anyone with Multiple Sclerosis, a Brain Injury, or kidney disease? March is the month to raise Awareness of these issues. Oh, and, March 21st is the first day of Spring. Now, that's a positive thought!

See Dates to Remember on Page 23 for all the above and more.

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**MARCH 1-5
MARDI GRAS IN THE
MOUNTAINS CONTINUES
IN RED RIVER**

Questa Del Rio News

NOTICIAS QUESTA DEL RIO

Questa Del Rio News
Noticias Questa Del Rio

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PO Box 1072
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Questa, NM 87556
(575) 586-2149

OUR MISSION
To Inform, Inspire, Connect and Unite the Greater Questa Community.
NUESTRO OBJETIVO
Es informar, inspirar, contactar, y unir a toda la comunidad de Questa.

PLEASE SEND ALL COMMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS
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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Questa Del Rio News gets applause for being “positive news” which is one thing our readers appreciate about us. If bad things happen in our community, we may hear about it from our neighbors, and we may get it from daily or weekly papers or see it on the evening news or online. By the time our monthly paper rolls around, the bad news is old news and, meanwhile, there are good local people doing amazing things that are making a difference, stories that may otherwise go unnoticed.

Recently we became part of the Solutions Journalism Network, which has added a new dimension to how we present our news. As a community newspaper, we strive to bring our readers together, so that we are on the same page, so to speak. Every person, community, and country have their problems; with honest and truthful reporting focused on solving those problems, our paper can bring light, understanding, and even solutions to some of the issues we face. We are here to make the world a better place, one community at a time.

Our job is to share what is happening locally about individuals and organizations that work toward solutions. Even though it is easier to live without problems, it takes courage and will power to eliminate them and to do things differently. We are here to enCOURAGE our readers to look closely at some of the issues that we face and empower them to take actions to make things right. We may report on what doesn’t work, but only if we can offer insight into why. If we write about what is working in our communities, we want to do so in a way that is useful for others.

Bringing it home to the Enchanted Circle, we feel that our readers connect with our message and our hope is that they are inspired toward even more connectivity and engagement with our communities. Our intent is to inspire action and a belief that we can affect posi-

tive change and make a difference right here at home. In a time when political discourse is more polarized than ever before, it is easy to get caught up in hate and fear and the whole drama of blaming the other side or fighting against something, rather than for something. We know, and hopefully our leaders will soon figure out, that we need to work together to make this a better world, starting with our own little communities. By offering solutions our newspaper can—as they say in the Solutions Journalism Network—connect problems with possibilities.

Thanks for your part in helping our communities thrive.

LOU McCALL AND THE TEAM AT
QUESTA DEL RIO NEWS

When done well, the stories provide valuable insights about how communities may more effectively tackle serious problems. We know from experience that solutions stories engage people differently. They can change the tone of public discourse, making it less divisive and more constructive. By revealing what has worked, they can also lead to meaningful change.

That’s the essence of what we’re trying to do. It’s not about making people feel good or advocating for a certain policy or balancing out the “doom-and-gloom.” Instead, solutions journalism is about what journalism has always been about: informing and empowering people. We’re just asking journalists to do that in a more complete way, by investigating what has worked just as rigorously and relentlessly as what hasn’t.

—Solutions Journalism Network

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Noon - 4:00PM

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Dear Editor:

I write to applaud the visionary article "Economic Diversity in Northern New Mexico" by Toner Mitchell in the February 2019 QUESTA DEL RIO NEWS which explains the economic impact for the Village of Questa of the Red River Restoration Project. I had the good fortune in 2017-2018 to serve as a recreation interviewer on Carson National Forest as part of the USFS National Visitor Use Monitoring (NVUM) program which surveys the recreational use of each of our national forests once every 5 years.

The resounding success of the reclamation of Eagle Rock Lake and Picnic Area, a partnership effort of private and public entities spearheaded by the USFS and Chevron, was evident each time we surveyed the site. Our Questa Ranger Station has created a thriving developed day use area hosting local walking clubs, family picnics, throngs of vehicles and most importantly avid fishermen/women from all over the country. On the Fourth of July we counted 50+ anglers along the perimeter of Eagle Rock Lake! The NVUM survey showed we recorded zip codes from all over the country ranging from Florida to California, a very high satisfaction level of the recreational users and a significant economic impact for the area.

The restoration of Red River in Questa will serve to expand the recreational use surrounding Eagle Rock Lake and the economic impact on our community. Mr. Mitchell has laid out a clear vision of how Questa can benefit from additional natural recreation opportunities that draw visitors to our unique community, whether it be trout fishing, rock climbing, hiking or camping.

ROBERT F. MONAHAN J.D.

Attention Editor,

Last year Judy Cantu, a then commissioner for the Town of Taos wrote an article in the Taos News introducing a proposal for a Flea Market. The negative response from her fellow representatives surprised me. Personally, I thought it was a splendid and very thoughtful idea. Too bad it was shot down.

How about Questa's Economic Development Fund do research and develop a plan to promote and grow a classic and traditional type of Flea Market where

northern New Mexico residents may have a place to shop for their needs? Entirely too much energy and capital is being expended in the form of extreme advertising to attract real estate promoters to our nest. Forgotten is the fact that our natural park may not be able to support a large population. Growth of a community is good, but only for the right reasons. Another revolutionary change is well on its way requiring us all to change our current lifestyles. Monsanto is poisoning the food we buy, thereby forcing many people to return to gardening. Much of the food sold is packaged and malnutritious.

It is a shame that so little attention is being paid to our environment, the Ogallala aquifer under our beautiful virgin unpolluted homeland, our clean air compared to Santa Fe, Albuquerque and other large cities and lastly our local and Enchantment Circle residents and their needs. A Homeland Flea Market would create jobs; the market in Santa Fe and Denver could be utilized as models. I lived in Denver for over 20 years and when I journey there, I visit its Flea Market where one can locate almost anything at a reasonable price; greens and fruits, cars, clothes etc. Bartering is allowed and hundreds of customers visit its rented display areas. Joviality abounds, places to eat and restrooms are available. Included is a large parking lot; its location is away from the city very close to a highway.

There are many good reasons a Homeland Flea Market would prosper, a main one expresses the simple fact that working age Americans are having a difficult time making ends meet, and it is not going to get easier. Fortunately, many of the resources to consider such a unique plan are already available, including the Economic Development Board. Maybe the idea merits a thought.

ARNOLD E. CORDOVA

Thank you, Mr. Cordova. During summer months, our Questa Farmers Market offers many of the elements that you are proposing, especially farm-fresh produce, lunch and refreshments. It has been proposed by others that a flea market at the same time and place, in conjunction with the Farmers Market would be an excellent addition. A Questa Flea Market would be a separate entity, and would require a manager. So, it could provide a job right off the bat. If the will and motivation is there, perhaps it can happen!

LOU MCCALL
EDITOR

Dear Friends,

My home is in El Rito/Latir, and next month will be my 50th year anniversary of being in El Rito. I am so excited that major solar energy is coming to our State and to our County, and I am an enthusiastic supporter of solar. My house collects all its own water, so I conserve very highly! My home is partly passive solar. I'd love to have all solar but it is expensive, and there is little in the way of tax help.

The main reason to write this letter, beside just spreading my joy to be here, is to give my view on the Kit Carson solar array that has been planned for just down the hill from me. I would like there to be one industrial district in our area. It seems logical and sensible to have it in the flatlands next to the transfer station off Sunshine Valley Rd. There is not a developed area next to the transfer station like there is here. Right now the proposed location of the array is right next to Cathy Hope's business, Iris Herbal, and her home! Plus, the transfer station is about as industrial as we get around here. To spread all this metal hardware around the neighborhood and all across the valley would not be a pretty sight.

My other frustration is with how this land was procured having been

around long enough to know how things work around here. The Neighborhood Associations were not contacted before all this land negotiation began and it would have been less stressful to get the feeling of landowners and the neighbors as to where the solar array would be best put first. We are almost all into solar vs fossil fuel. But it needs to be done right. Thanks for hearing me out. And long live sustainable energy!

MARIA MIKHAILAS



**Questa Del Rio News
Welcomes Our New Amalia/
Costilla Correspondent
Sara Martinez**

Sara teaches Creative Writing at Questa Junior High. She promises to send us a lot of great educational articles. Thank you, Sara for jumping on board!

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Questa Casita - Domingo Gallegos



By LINDSAY MAPES

Lifetime resident of Questa, Domingo Gallegos, contacted us last October with interest, and a dash of hesitancy, in renting out his family's casita. The casita had only been used by family and friends and is located within feet of his parents' home. He certainly didn't want any parties from rowdy tourists.

I explained the pros and cons of renting to tourists: the money is great, it's not very much work and you need to have a smart phone to respond to guests within 24 hours. I returned a week later to photograph the two-bedroom, one bath, fully furnished, stand-alone home in Questa and set up Domingo's AirBnB Questa Casita. Since early October, Domingo has been renting the casita at least five days each week.

"We've had German people, Asian people, all kinds of people. For the most part, everybody cleans up after themselves. Then we go in and change out the sheets and do cleaning," said Domingo

of his experience thus far as a 'landlord' with AirBnB.

When asked what challenges he's experienced, Domingo said, "The only thing that was hard was that first month, they don't send you any rental income for the first 30-days. AirBnB holds it, and then you get a lump sum. After that, you get paid after every rental." And he's been booked, and getting paid, more than 80% of the month since then. "We've been booked most days every month since November."

Alice Gallegos, Domingo's mother, is the active host. She's available next door to the casita should the guest need anything. She also does the cleaning between guests. Perhaps the best part of AirBnB is that it's all automated. Domingo receives a text when someone books the casita, an email is sent to the guest with directions, and the rental fee is auto-deposited to Domingo's account after the guest leaves. If there are any problems, AirBnB has liability insurance

that has Domingo covered. "There's been no problems or major issue. Just a guest that left a camera charger that I mailed back to her," said Domingo.

Each guest is asked to write a review of the casita, which is an integral part of the AirBnB model. Future guests, when searching for a place to rent, read reviews from past tenants to help decide if they want to rent Domingo's casita. Reviews of the Questa Casita say, "Great price, awesome location, convenience of being right in town, not having to pay top dollar in Red River but close to the Ski Resort."

Domingo said that this winter he is hosting a lot of skiers. A big boon for Questa marketing itself to tourists is our proximity to both Red River Ski Resort (20 minutes) and Taos Ski Valley (35 minutes). Downtown Questa is actually closer to Taos Ski Valley than downtown Taos. "The convenience to being this close to Taos Ski Valley and Red River helps draw tourists. Guests are so happy

that Questa is so close," pointed out Domingo.

Until recently, the Questa Casita was the most affordable stand-alone rental in Questa on AirBnB, perhaps explaining the extremely low vacancy rate despite being new to AirBnB. In testing the market, Domingo raised his prices slightly and there has been no slowdown in bookings. This is a good sign for AirBnB hosts in Questa. Depending on your rates, you may be able to raise them!

"I jumped in without knowing anything [about AirBnB]. I took a chance, and I would recommend it. It's showing a good profit so far. In fact, if I had another place to rent out, I would. It's that good," Domingo said with a smile. If you're thinking about jumping into the short-term rental business and increasing your monthly income by \$1000-\$1500 per month, give us a call and we'll walk you through the steps free of charge. Call the Questa Lodging Project at 586-2258.

Jackson Accounting

By TANYA BADGER

Tax season is here, and in our smaller community we are fortunate to have options for filing our taxes. Jackson Accounting started in 2011 and although the main office is located to our neighboring north in Jaroso, Colorado, you can find business Owner and Enrollment Agent Christy Jackson in the Questa area on most days. Christy Jackson was born and raised in Jaroso and

left home after school. Like many of us, she found her way back 10 years ago and shortly after began her business. Jackson Accounting's goal is to "assist with all tax accounting needs, help other businesses succeed through finance advice and honest financial reporting."

Jackson Accounting services include bookkeeping, tax preparation, financial statements, and payroll services for New Mexico and Colorado. Christy

Jackson is a certified Enrollment Agent allowed to practice before the Internal Revenue Service with credentials to prepare taxes, aid through audits, represent clients in tax court, and even influence tax law.

When Christy is not at the office, you can find her in Questa at one of her three children's Questa school activities, at church or at a church activity with Harvest Questa, helping with the local

4H Club, or last but not least on her family farm. Christy's work ethic has made her business a great service to our community and those around her. Jackson Accounting is available to all in our community and surrounding area.

Whether you need tax preparation, audits or financial assistance, Jackson Accounting can help. Give Christy a call at phone # 719-672-0900 / Cell # 719-588-4113 or email: jacksonacct@gmail.com

Update on Proposed Syncarpha Solar Array

By LATIR
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

The Latir Neighborhood Association (LNA) and the Virsylvania Vecinos Land Owners Association (VVLA) held a joint community meeting in El Rito on January 27th to discuss the Proposed Solar Array north of Questa. Presenters included Keith Akers, VP of Development for Syncarpha Solar in New York, the owner/operator of the solar array, plus Richard Martinez, Bobby Ortega, and Bernie Torres of the Kit Carson Electric Coop (KCEC), who will be purchasing and distributing the electricity.

The original site for the array, on Highway 522 at approximately mile marker 27, is 100 feet from the Highway and met with concerns from the local community. Along with other residents of our beautiful area, they treasure the magnificent views and would like to preserve the scenic beauty. The LNA has received a notice from KCEC with a revised site location, 700 feet further away from Highway 522.

The current 14 acre site east of the Questa airport is owned by Young's Land and Cattle Company. A 30-year lease

was signed for this site provisional on permit approval from the County. The plan includes 6,000 plus solar modules, each about 6 feet long x 3 feet wide. They will be mounted approximately 12 feet off the ground. Construction is scheduled to begin in May or June of this year, and will take 4 or 5 months to complete. Parasol Solar is the local solar contractor that will use local labor to build the array. They also built the newly completed solar array in Eagle Nest.

A 7-foot-tall fence will surround the entire solar array. NM Game and Fish will be consulted as to whether this fence should be taller for elk migration. The "Buffer Zone" refers to an area of residents that must be notified of the permit application and approval process. This zone extends through El Rito.

The project is being constructed in compliance with Kit Carson Electric Cooperative's Solar Initiative which aims to provide 100% solar energy for the peak summer daytime electric demand of its members by 2022 (targeting a total of 30-35 MW of solar projects). Currently, Kit Carson has over 10 MW of operating solar projects throughout its service territory. Once operational, the project

will generate enough clean, renewable energy to power over 400 New Mexico households. The project will also pay local and state taxes (both during and after construction).


Kit Carson has not explored other potential sites in Questa. KCEC selected this site because of its favorable environmental and electrical attributes, and it was assumed that El Rito was the "the kind of community that would want this."

What is next? Syncarpha will adjust its site plans to comply with the Taos County ordinance and apply for a permit on or before March 8, 2019. If it is accepted and deemed fully compliant with the County ordinance, the County Planning Commission will hold a public meeting on APRIL 10, 2019 to hear comments from the community before approving this project. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR THE COMMUNITY TO ATTEND THIS MEETING! Please mark the date.




MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

SUNDAY | MAY 26 | 1:00PM



15th Annual

Healing Field of Honor



1,000 flags on display to honor Veterans.

Village of Questa
2500 Old State Road 3, Questa New Mexico 87556
Phone: 575-586-0694

Questa Creative Council: Shout Out For Culinary Artists

By LINDA BETZ

Many people identify artists as those applying paint to a canvas. Our community is blessed to have many individual and commercial bakers and cooks creating art in their kitchens. If your creative talents lie in the kitchen The Questa

Creative Council (QCC) is looking for volunteers to donate baked goods for a Bake Sale on Saturday, March 23, 2019, at Cid's in Taos, NM.

Pies, cakes, cookies, scones, breads, and gluten-free items are some of the popular choices to prepare. The QCC welcomes non-member volunteers to

join in the fun for the many artistic and support activities that make our piece of the Enchanted Circle a magical place to live. Volunteers are needed year-round to support the QCC member organizations with greeters, phone banks, setup and tear downs for artistic projects, membership tables, parade floats and


many other opportunities that require little or no painting skills. For more information on volunteer opportunities go to questacreativecouncil.org

Bake Sale Volunteers are asked to call/leave messages asap to Nancy Parker (landline) 575-586-2069 or Linda Betz (cell) 575-770-5267. Thank you for supporting the QCC!

Request for Artists' Submissions for Lamp-Post Banner Project

By PEGGY TRIGG,
QUESTA CREATIVE COUNCIL

Local area artists are encouraged to submit their artwork to be considered for the Lamp-Post Banner Project. Submissions will be accepted from March 1st through 31st. The image size is 30" high and 15" wide (a tall vertical image). We have 16 spots and are looking for both two-dimensional and three-dimensional art, contemporary to traditional. We want to showcase the wide range of artists' styles in our area. For more information see the Questa Studio Arts Tour website <https://www.questaartstour.com> or call Peggy at 505-974-5314.




Questa Artist Banner Competition

Have your Artwork on a Lamp Post Banner

Submissions March 1-31, 2019

For more information go to QuestaCreative.org or QuestaArtTours.com
or call 505-974-5314



Mellon Foundation Funds Manitos New Mexico Memory Project

By DR.ESTEVAN RAEL-GÁLVEZ

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has funded the Manitos Community Memory Project, a northern New Mexico initiative to recover and revitalize cultural heritage.

Through the creation of community-based digital archives focused on the Indo Hispano villages of Abiquiu, Amalia, Cerro, Chamisal, Costilla, Dixon, Las Trampas, Questa, and Truchas, the project is redefining the meaning of community in a digital age. Manitos connects residents in the villages with descendants of those who have moved away.

Through the process of recovering community memory, the project addresses the losses suffered by those villages as a result of over a century of extractive practices by scholars, cultural institutions, and government programs that have removed artifacts, documents, and knowledge without reciprocal

benefit. Manitos aims to restore what has been lost by collecting, digitizing and preserving historical records, photographs, and oral histories; documenting and revitalizing traditional practices; and exploring a wide array of topics such as ancestry, migration, archaeology, architecture, and living traditions. It aims to deepen a sense of social and cultural identity through such new technologies as digital mapping, data visualization and virtual reality.

New Mexico Highlands University, Department of Media Arts and Technology, lead institution for the initiative, is partnering with rural libraries, community nonprofits, universities, and archives and museums located in Denver, Santa Fe, Albuquerque, and Washington, D.C.

Through community engagement, some of northern New Mexico's top community focused academic scholars and archivists, including a number who grew up in these villages, as well

as librarians, community historians, community youth, and local university student interns are working together. Dr.Estevan Rael-Gálvez, CEO of the Creative Strategies 360°, is the project director. A native son of Questa, his previous roles include serving as the state historian of New Mexico and Senior Vice President of Historic Sites at the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Washington, D.C.

"We firmly believe in the importance of reclaiming cultural heritage and strengthening communities. Although this sovereign landscape and its people reflect astonishing complexity, wisdom and beauty, we have only begun to measure the depth of the cultural wounds from the legacy of colonialism and the losses that followed," Rael-Gálvez said. "Critical steps toward transcending this trauma will be connecting rural to urban and past to present."

Manitos has recently launched a blog (www.Manitos.net) that publicly

documents progress and also provide a virtual gathering space for manitos, as people from rural northern New Mexico and southern Colorado call themselves, to reconnect, recollect, record, and reflect on their shared cultural heritage.

The Mellon Foundation, one of the nation's leading philanthropic organizations, believes that arts and humanities are critical to human spirit and societal well-being, and seeks to broaden their roles in education, innovation, and civic discourse, by providing grants and strategic guidance to support educational and cultural institutions, research, and public humanities engagements.

The Department of Media Arts and Technology at New Mexico Highlands University, an Hispanic serving institution, educates students at the intersections of art and technology and inspires them to work creatively, innovatively, and collaboratively towards let the goal of contributing to their own communities.

A Formidable Ancestral Matriarch

By PRISCILLA
SHANNON GUTIERREZ

For those who live in Taos County, folks known as Leroux, Vigil, Jacques, and Villalpando are familiar surnames. What residents and readers may not realize is that the ancestral matriarch of those families, Rosa María Villalpando Jacques Leroie, led an incredible life that is the stuff of legends. To help celebrate Women's History Month, we would like to tell her story.

Born approximately 1725, she was the daughter of Pedro Villalpando from the Ranchos de Taos/Talpa area, who had built one of the first fortified plazas there. Given the remoteness at the time and the very real danger of Indian attacks, fortification was a necessary protection for survival. Around 1757, María married Juan José Jacques, with whom she had a son, José Julian Jacques, the following year. The family remained at the Villalpando compound for the next two years until fate intervened.

On August 4, 1760, the infamous Comanche raid on Taos descended on the Villalpando compound and claimed the life of María's husband and father, along with many other residents. It was one of the bloodiest attacks in all of Taos history. María and 60 other women and children were carried off east to the plains by the Comanche. Somehow, her son, José, lived through the raid and was raised in the Ranchos area by other family members who survived the attack.

Not long after her capture, María was traded or sold to the Pawnee. For the next ten years, she would live with the Pawnee, fathering a child with one of the braves. At some point during her captivity with the Pawnee, the French trader and founder of St. Louis, Jean Salé dit Leroie, saw María and fell in love with her. For

whatever reason, he did not ransom her until later in her captivity even though he fathered María's third child during that time. Finally, in 1770, he brought María to St. Louis, where they were married. It is not clear whether they brought María's Pawnee child with them, but likely he or she remained with the tribe. The Leroie's would have three more children together while living in St. Louis. However, in 1790, after 22 years of marriage, Jean abruptly left on a trip for France without his family and never returned to the Americas.

In 1802, her son, José Julian Jacques made the trek east from Taos to St. Louis to meet with his mother. They had not seen one another since the raid 42 years earlier. It must have been an emotionally charged reunion, filled with tears, questions, and embraces. During the visit, María settled her estate with her son, who then returned to Taos. José was already married to María Francisca Pacheco and would later marry María Paula Martín Serrano. It is not known if María, who remained in St. Louis, or José ever saw one another again.

In 1792, María's daughter, Helene Lajoie married William Leroux, a member of one of the affluent St. Louis merchant families who had made their fortune in trade. Their son, Antoine Leroux, born in 1801, came to New Mexico in 1824 as a trapper, and would also become the stuff of legends.

In addition to becoming known as one of the most adept trappers/mountain men of his day, Antoine also guided military expeditions for the Mormon Battalion as well as for Gunnison's 1853 expedition to blaze a railroad across the 38th parallel. During the Gunnison expedition, Leroux quarreled extensively with the captain who often ignored his advice. Two days after Leroux quit the expedi-

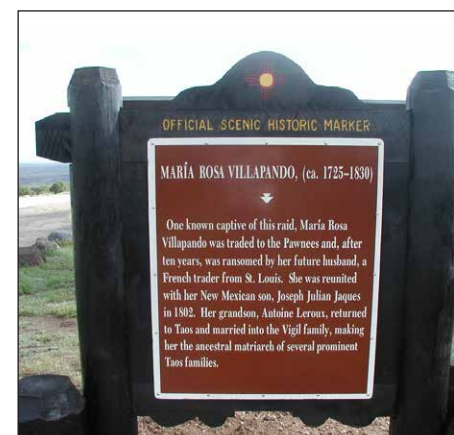


Helene Leroie Leroux, the daughter of Matriarch Rosa Maria Villalpando, and the mother of Antoine Leroux, who has a Taos street named after him!

tion in frustration, Gunnison's party was ambushed by Paiutes. Most of the party, including Gunnison, were killed.

In 1833, when Leroux married Juana Catarina Vigil of Taos, she was heir to the 426, 026 acre Los Luceros Land Grant. Through his marriage, Antoine became the owner of the extensive acreage which extended from Taos north to the Río Colorado where he raised sheep and became quite wealthy. His prominence in Taos history earned him a street that was named for him. Leroux Street, once known as Camino Beaubien, is a small winding road just off of Ranchitos Road and Camino de la Placita.

Antoine's grandmother, María Villalpando, the formidable matriarch of the Leroux-Vigil-Jacques families remained in St. Louis until her death in 1830. Amazingly, María, in spite of all trauma,



Historic Marker near Ranchos de Taos/Talpa.

tumult, and transitions throughout her lifetime, lived to be 107 years old. That's an incredible number even by today's standards, but especially considering she lived two centuries ago when disease and the environment often resulted in early deaths! So, the next time you run into a Jacques, Vigil, Villalpando, or Leroux, chances are the ancestral trail leads back to María.



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Young People's Views of Elders Can Predict Their Own Aging



**LIVE
LOVE
LAUGH**

by Ellen Wood

The truth of just how powerful our thoughts are in determining our future is illustrated in the results of a major 40-year study by the Yale School of Public Health. The findings showed that the stereotypes teenagers and young adults have of older people – positive or negative – can actually predict how they themselves will age.

Younger people with strong negative

stereotypes about the elderly are more likely to experience strokes, heart attacks and other heart problems when they grow older than those who had positive images of the elderly.

“Someday you’re going to be old,” we’ve admonished teenagers and youngsters who have ridiculed elderly people and expressed a lack of compassion for their seeming helplessness. And it warmed our hearts when we watched other young people share love with elders and delight in their company.

Little did we know that their stereotypes about old people would have an effect on young people’s own lives when they got older! Yet that’s what this major study has found. The research is a good reminder that we can serve not only ourselves but our kids, grandkids and

great-grandkids by engendering in them compassionate understanding of the limitations of others – young or old.

When grandpa (or grandma) visits and is grouchy, encourage those youngsters in the family to override that grouchiness with kindness and humor. It’s been proven that emotions are contagious, so instead of allowing grandpa’s grumpiness to spread to everyone in the family, create a stronger emotion – one of love, joy and understanding. Let grandpa catch this better-feeling emotion. Demonstrate for those who are younger how they can bring the emotional energy up instead of allowing grandpa’s (or anyone’s) emotional state to bring them down. Realizing they can make grandpa smile will make them feel good about themselves as well as feeling empowered.

Another way we can serve those younger is to BE the example of adding years without sacrificing our vitality, curiosity and enthusiasm. If we just step over those age labels like they’re not there, we can imprint a healthier image of what it looks like to be over 50 or 80 or heck, 100! We can prevent those detrimental stereotypes from forming, and pave the way for the generations coming behind us to add years without strokes and heart attacks.

Scientific studies continue to prove that thoughts, beliefs and expectations are extremely powerful influences on what takes shape in our lives. This is just one more reason to replace negative thought habits with those that inspire, encourage and bring joy.

El punto de vista de la juventud de los mayores puede predecir su propio envejecimiento

La verdad del poder de nuestros pensamientos en la determinación de nuestro futuro se ilustra en los resultados

de un mayor estudio de 40 años por la escuela de Yale de la Salud Pública. Los resultados muestran que los estereotipos

que tienen los adolescentes y adultos jóvenes de los mayores – sean positivos o negativos pueden predicar como ellos mismos van a envejecer.

Es más probable que jóvenes con fuertes estereotipos negativos de los mayores experimenten infartos, ataques del corazón y otros problemas cardíacos cuando envejecen que los que tienen imágenes positivas.

“Algún día vas a envejecer,” les amonestamos a los adolescentes y jóvenes que ridiculizan a los ancianos y expresan una falta de compasión por su aparente impotencia. Y nos calienta el corazón cuando otros jóvenes comparten su amor con los ancianos y gozan de su acompañamiento.

¡Poco sabíamos que sus estereotipos de los ancianos tendrían un efecto en la vida propia de esos jóvenes cuando se hicieran mayores! Todavía, eso es lo que este estudio importante encontró. La investigación es buen recuerdo que podemos servir no solo a nosotros mismos pero también a nuestros hijos, nietos, y bisnietos cuando engendramos en ellos un conocimiento compasivo de las limitaciones de otros – sean jóvenes o ancianos.

Cuando los abuelos visitan y están de malhumor, animen a los jóvenes en la familia para que ignoren el malhumor con compasión y humor. Se ha dem-

ostrado que las emociones son contagiosas, de modo que en vez de permitir que el malhumor del abuelo afecta a todos en la familia, crea una emoción más fuerte – una de amor, alegría y comprensión. Deje que abuelo comparta de esta emoción de bienestar.

Demuestre para los jóvenes como pueden mejorar la energía emocional en vez de permitir que la emoción negativa (de quien sea) les domine de mala manera. Cuando reconocen que pueden hacer al abuela sonreír, los hará sentir bien y más poderosos.

Otra manera en que podemos servir a los jóvenes es SER el ejemplo de envejecer sin sacrificar nuestra vitalidad, curiosidad y entusiasmo. ¡Si solo ignoramos las etiquetas de edad, podemos imprimir una imagen de como es tener 50 o 80 o mejor 100 años! Podemos evitar que se formen esos estereotipos perjudiciales, y preparar un camino con más años de vida, sin infartos o ataques de corazón, para las generaciones que nos siguen.

Los estudios científicos continúan mostrando que nuestros pensamientos, creencias, y expectativas son muy poderosos en formar nuestras vidas. Esta es sola una razón para reemplazar pensamientos negativos con unos que inspiran, animan y dan alegría.

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The FOOD/MOOD Connection

By BARBARA TRACY

I am always in awe when I see people feasting on the “mass feeding material” so common in supermarkets. These “non-food” items are chemical bombshells that our body does not recognize as food but reacts to as if it is being attacked! This affects the very nature of our being physically, mentally and emotionally.

In the U.S. alone, we spend billions of dollars a year on diagnoses, treatment, and prescription drugs. In some cases, this may be the only solution to a health problem, but it is also important to take a good hard look at how we are treating our bodies and minds with both our foods and our focus. Most of us were born with our body as close to its natural state as we will ever experience; whereas for others health or even staying alive depends on pills or interventions.

The ingestion of foods and beverages that are foreign to the body or even harmful, changes our vibration. This

produces a negative energy field and takes the body/mind experience from one of natural balance and harmony to one of imbalance and disharmony, showing up as health issues such as allergies, skin problems, digestive issues and nervous disorders. Imbalance can manifest as weakened states of emotional stability, drug and alcohol dependency, problems with comprehension and socialization in school, road rage, greed, anger, aggression and depression. When someone doesn't feel good, they can push and pull at life, living in fear of loss. These are not all the manifestations, but are a good representation.

Young people trust us to guide them. Are we doing a good job? Look at the prison facilities and drug and alcohol rehabilitation centers struggling to help restore our youth to a better life. The most beautiful gifts we can give our children are those that are natural and wholesome: sunshine, exercise, good books, quiet times, inspiration, support, healthy food, good water, the joy of health and

happiness and a clear understanding of how to maintain it.

Barbara Reed served as an Ohio probation officer for 20 years. Correcting diets was her number one tool to help people regain their lives. She developed a program on the relationship of diet to behavior which she implemented and tested in a prison system. Those in the program eliminated sugars, white flour, sodas and caffeine, focusing on whole foods with the addition of daily vitamins. A five-year study showed that over 80% of the people on her program did not get into trouble again with the courts. This was a big improvement from the norm.

We can change a negative attitude or feeling by our focus on the opposite. When we feel anger, fear, despair, discouragement and such, seek opposite

thoughts such as ones that make us calm or patient, bolster our faith, strength and trust. All of these symptoms can be brought to a healthier state more easily by choosing a natural, nutritional diet combined with an understanding that mental and emotional problems worsen with a high percentage of chemicals, fast food, processed food, sodas and refined sugar.

Let's take the initiative to learn more, read labels, and start changing the products we buy. Remember, our body/mind is not artificial but is organic. Always do what you know is best for your body. And let's not forget that we are influenced by many things in our environment, not only the foods we ingest. Experiences such as violence on television, in movies and video games all have an effect on how we feel.

We can change a negative attitude or feeling by our focus on the opposite.

Living with Multiple Sclerosis

by DONNA MITCHELL-MONIAK

March is Multiple Sclerosis Awareness month. Multiple sclerosis (MS) is thought to affect more than 2.3 million people worldwide and almost one million in the US. MS is a debilitating chronic disease whose cause is not yet known. The strongest evidence for what triggers the disease is leaning toward environmental pollutants (common air, water, and soil pollution) as well as additives in the public water supply (e.g. fluoride) or to the soil (e.g. petroleum-based pesticides). A spike in the diagnoses of MS in the U.S. occurred as baby-boomers approached their 40's and 50's. This points toward blanket mosquito spraying in the late 1950's and early 1960's (DDT based) as well as radioactive fallout carried on the wind from repeated nuclear testing during the same period as potential factors causative of immune system break-down and/or the neurological degeneration seen in MS as well as Alzheimers and Parkinson's disease which also have spiked in the baby-boom generation and their parents.

MS is a disease of the immune system that effects the neurological system of a person. If the brain is the primary area

affected, then cognitive issues, dysfunction, and/or disability ensue. If the central nerve running down the spine is the primary area affected, then muscle and motor coordination are compromised or disabled. In both cases, the gamut can be quite full including swallowing, peristalsis of the colon and bowel, sphincter control, and breathing since all of these require coordinated muscle functioning. When brain functioning is disrupted or compromised it, too, can have a range including difficulty thinking and with analytical processes, communicating, and depression. Chronic fatigue also tends to be part of life with MS.

Due to these vagaries and the individual profiles of people with MS, it can be difficult to diagnose. There is no single test for MS; modernly an MRI is the most conclusive. Most people diagnosed are between ages 20 and 50. It is two to three times more common in women than men and, of the various ethnic/racial groups of the world, MS is most common among Caucasians of northern European ancestry.

MS tends to be found in areas away from the equator, thus the mid-latitudes around the world are where the bulk of MS patients reside. Interestingly, however, in spite of the latitude at which

they live, MS is almost unheard of in certain populations, including the Inuit, Yakutes, Hutterites, Hungarian, Romani, and Norwegian Lapps.

I was diagnosed with MS in late 2000 when in Boulder to teach a four-day seminar of meditation training and psycho-spiritual development. To say that MS has been a journey would be an understatement, but I am grateful for every moment, twist and turn, celebration, and surrender that this journey has provided. I know that many people suffer with MS or cancer, aging, or myriad other debilitating circumstances. I wish you well, hope that you are supported beneficially, and that whatever can be gained through your challenge you are gaining.

My body has MS primarily in the central nerve of the spine. My left leg drags and the left arm and hand have issues, but this body used to be wheelchair bound. So, over ten years ago I left the medical mode which was not a good fit for me. Doing so put the healing of my body together with acceptance of what might not be fixable in my lap, in my heart-mind, and in my meditation/prayer practice. A year later I was walking my dog a mile a day with a cane! I use a walker now, and joyfully so.

My life has retained a level of independence that surprises many. I live alone, took care of an elder friend for the last six months of her life, have traveled swaths of this country, and now indoor garden, meditate, teach online, and write. MS slowed me down, helped me sort out priorities, and has been a primary source of spiritual understanding and clarity on my Path. It keeps each day unpredictable and fresh and keeps me open. In all of this, acceptance has been crucial. As the saying goes: “Give me strength to accept the things I cannot change and the wisdom to change the things I can.” I know that contentment is not how many with MS live. My heart goes out to you. If you live in the area and I can help, let me know. Disability accounted for, I'll try.

Donna can be reached at Blazing-Light.net .

Sources for this article: <https://www.nationalmssociety.org/What-is-MS/Who-Gets-MS#section-0> and https://www.msbrain-preservation.com/ms-pathogenesis/?msclkid=9a49e88df72213052148b4d6c36861e9&utm_source=bing&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=MS%20General&utm_term=ms&utm_content=ms_ph

Successful 2018 Season at Questa Farmers Market Thanks to All

By GAEA MCGAHEE

We held 20 Sunday markets during the 2018 season, early June to early October, hosted four to nine vendors each Sunday, and sponsored musicians at every market. Vendors came from Questa, Cerro, Sunshine Valley, Arroyo Hondo, Arroyo Seco, Eagle Nest, San Cristobal, El Rito north of Questa, Costilla, and Taos. Musicians hailed from some of these same places, plus Lama, Red River, and even Texas, Georgia, and New Orleans!

Vendors reported total sales topping \$19,000, about \$9,500 more than our 2017 season. That's almost a 100% increase! We are glad to see sales and attendance up; we believe in growing locally and that a marketplace creates visible vitality and contributes to quality of life in our community.

Sales of unprocessed ag – local fruits, vegetables, honey, eggs, meat, and dairy totaled \$11,857. Non-ag sales of prepared food, and art and craft totaled \$7,191. That's a measurable economic impact of \$19,048 spent locally, once a week, for just 20 days. About \$1000 spent were food benefit program monies (SNAP, WIC, etc.). An average of 80 people visited per Sunday, about 1,600 for the season.

We are grateful for increased vendor and patron participation and thank all the musicians, mostly local performers, who played each Sunday. We are thankful for financial support from the Questa Economic Development Fund, Chevron's Community Grants for Good program, and the New Mexico Farmers Marketing Association.

Participating in food benefit programs:

QFM accepts WIC and Senior Nutrition Program checks, is SNAP/EBT authorized, and participates in Double-up-food-bucks, which is funded by a federal grant and associated with SNAP/EBT. Double-up makes someone's dollars worth double when they buy local (NM grown within 80 miles) fruits and vegetables or fresh cut herbs, dried pinto beans, dried chile, and garden food plant starts. Double-up is funded by grants made possible through the Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive (FINI) program authorized by the 2014 Farm Bill.

To be a farmers market we must maintain a 50% or higher proportion of essential "food staples" for sale. Vegetables, fruits, meats, or farm products



Chris and Rodney Arellano, local musicians, performing at Questa Farmers Market.

fit into the essential category, as well as other basic food items like bread, tortillas, flour, pies, beans, dried chicos, and herbs. These are SNAP/EBT eligible items, and some are eligible for double-up-food-bucks.

Last season, QFM vendors, cooks and bakers prepared the free fall feast for NeoRio held at Wild Rivers in Rio Grande del Norte National Monument, and we will do this again - mark your calendars, NeoRio is September 22, 2019. The NeoRio pop-up outdoor



Misty Archuleta selling Cerro Vista Farm produce August 2018

kitchen, right on the edge of the gorge, was a spectacular place to make calabacitas and fresh tortillas. Thank you to all those volunteers who chopped, stirred, washed and laughed.

The 2019 season will officially begin June 16 and end Sept 15th.

There will likely be some vendors beginning earlier in June as weather permits and vendors may return for the final fall market at Cambalache (tentative date October 6th?).

QFM will focus on growing a strong local economy in 2019. Prepared food

vendors are asked to obtain as many local ingredients as possible and to make foods from start to finish. Patrons can count on local produce, products like handmade tortillas and tamales, as well as handmade goods! Join as a vendor, play music, or patronize the market to help achieve these community goals: to support local food production and particularly small-scale agricultural projects, as well as local entrepreneurs. Make a stronger and more resilient community right here!

2019 QUESTA FARMERS MARKET PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

- **QFM requires a vendors fee**, \$5 per Sunday, waived for vendors under 18.
- **Village of Questa requires a peddler's permit** (\$35 for 3 months) to sell processed foods and crafts, contact (575) 586-0694.
- **Prepared food vendors** (baked goods, jelly, hot foods) **must abide by the food safety laws of NM.**

You need a permit to operate, call the New Mexico Environment Department (575) 758-8808 or visit https://www.env.nm.gov/nav_permits.html.

- "Sale of vegetables, fruits, meats, fowl or farm products raised and sold in an unprocessed state" **can be done without a peddler's permit** (Per Village of Questa Ordinance 2005-122).

Contact **Gaea McGahee**
(575) 224-2102 • growersmakers@gmail.com • QuestaFarmersMarket.org
facebook.com/QuestaFarmersMarket

Working to empower community members' active production, support health and local food, and inspire the entrepreneurial spirit.

Questa Farmers Market ~ a community—led effort to localize our economy by supporting agriculturalists and makers during the growing season in beautiful northern New Mexico.

Questa Farmers Market is a program of Localogy, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) (Localogy.org) Localogy moves people and communities from passive consumption to being active producers of local livelihoods and culture.

Heating QHouse



The 'Furnace Room': The main hallway with full-length windows on the left, South wall, and the solar-mass-wall, which captures the heat on the right. (Our dogs, Fleur and Smooch like the room because it is warm and they can see out.)

By MICHAEL YOUNG

One of the most interesting and energy saving characteristics of our home is how we heat it. We use passive solar heating which, as the name implies, uses the sun's energy to heat the house. In our case, passive solar heating provides somewhere around 90% of the energy required.

The home was designed and built with passive solar heating in mind. Certain design and construction decisions were made that stand out from normal home design. First, it isn't a huge home—the concrete slab measures only about 1300 square feet. Secondly, since we were designing the house from the ground up, we were able to layout a design that is a rectangle with the long side of the house running almost exactly east-west to maximize exposure to the sun on the south side.

But passive solar design doesn't stop there. The southern wall of the house is almost entirely windows to allow the solar energy to enter. The longest 'room' of the house is a hallway. It has nearly floor-to-ceiling windows on the outside wall and a 'solar mass wall' on the inside of the hallway built of cinder blocks with the purpose of capturing as much heat as possible. This heat is then slowly radiated to the rest of the house. The concrete floors also serve as a solar mass and help capture additional heat.

Three construction features further facilitate heat retention. The West, North, and East walls are eight-inches thick and are built using a Norwegian

construction technique that staggers two-by-fours in such a way that studs don't run completely from inside to outside the wall. This technique reduces the amount of heat that is radiated out from inside to the outside of the house because there are minimal pathways to conduct it. Secondly, these walls, and the ceiling, are packed with blown-cellulose insulation exceeding normal house levels - R52 in the ceiling, and R38 in the walls. Finally, the house is nearly as tight as a drum. The net result is a home that retains heat well.

So practically speaking, how does this all end up working? We are early risers and are usually up by 6:00 AM. When we wake-up in the morning in the winter and the house is chilly, we have seen it as low as 57 degrees. First job is to start a fire in the wood stove. Although the wood stove is small, it does warm up the main room and, with help from a ceiling fan, will send heat to the rest of the house. Generally speaking, once the sun starts penetrating the windows, the house warms up to the high 60s fairly quickly, and can reach the high 70s on many winter days. It is a rare day when we have to keep the fire burning much past 10:00 AM, which is why we use less than a cord of wood per year!

When it is really cold outside on grey days, the propane space heater in the hallway may come on. It is on a thermostat and does come on occasionally while we are sleeping. However, it is not needed very often, which is why we use very little propane. By mid-afternoon, even when it is brutally cold outside,



The Quadrafire wood stove in the main room, warms the house in early winter mornings.

we often have to open windows to cool the house off. We have measured the temperature in the hallway, the 'solar furnace room', at over 100 degrees!

There are adjustments we have to make in our lifestyle. We put up with chilly mornings in the winter and need to bundle up a bit when we get out of

bed. We start a fire and tend to it for a few hours. And we have to raise and lower the blinds every day to allow the entire heating mechanism to work. But just how bad is all that? The benefit is an almost-zero heating bill every year. And we get to live by the Sun.

JOIN COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO HELP GET QUESTA READY FOR SPRING!

- Bring Sunscreen
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2019
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SATURDAY, MARCH 23
10:00AM-1:00PM

GATHER AT THE STOPLIGHT, DOWNTOWN



Party Perfect Recipes

SHIRLEY TRUJILLO'S BISCOCHITOS RECIPE

Yield: 5 dozen
Oven: 350°F
Baking time: 10 to 12 minutes

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 pound lard
- 1 1/2 c sugar
- 2 t anise seed
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 6 c flour
- 3 t baking powder
- 1 t salt
- 1/2 c brandy*
- 1/4 c sugar
- 1 t cinnamon

1. Cream lard, sugar, and anise seed in a large mixing bowl. Add eggs and beat well.
2. Combine flour, baking powder, and salt in another large mixing bowl.
3. Alternately add flour and brandy to creamed mixture until a stiff dough has been formed.
4. Knead dough slightly and pat or roll to a 1/4 inch to 1/2 inch thickness. Cut dough into desired shapes.
5. Combine sugar and cinnamon in a small mixing bowl. Dust the top of each cookie with a small amount of mixture.
6. Bake in a 350°F oven for 10 minutes or until cookies are lightly browned
7. Varied amounts may be used. Bourbon or sherry maybe substituted for brandy.

NOTE: The Fleur-de-Lis shape is traditional for these cookies.

BETSY IRWIN'S BERRY-CHERRY BROWN BETTY

Makes 12 servings

My family always called a cobbler with a crumb topping a 'Brown Betty'. We used any kind of fruit we had on hand. As a result, I rarely use a recipe when making this dessert. Another signature of my family's pie/cobbler making was that we ALWAYS used tapioca instead of flour to thicken the filling. This recipe gets as close to recreating the dessert that I brought to the Newspaper's anniversary party. I cut the recipe in half.

Preheat oven to 375°F. In a large pot, combine:
1 c strawberries
1 c blueberries
1 c blackberries
1 c raspberries
1 c pitted sour cherries

1 c dried cranberries
1 c unbleached sugar
1 c dark brown sugar
1/3 c tapioca
1/4 t sea salt
1/2 c sour cherry juice
Zest and juice from 1 lemon

Bring everything just to a boil, stir gently, and immediately let cool. Butter the baking dish. Line with pie crust (optional).

In a separate bowl combine:

1 c brown sugar
1/2 c unbleached sugar
3/4 c unbleached flour
1 c rolled oats
1/4 t salt

Mix together dry ingredients and then cut in:
1 stick (1/2 c) cold butter

Refrigerate topping until ready to use. Pour cooled filling into baking dish. Top with oatmeal crumble. If desired, dot top of cobbler with butter and lightly sprinkle 2 tablespoons Demerara sugar over the topping. Bake 35 minutes or until topping is golden brown and the cobbler juices are bubbling.

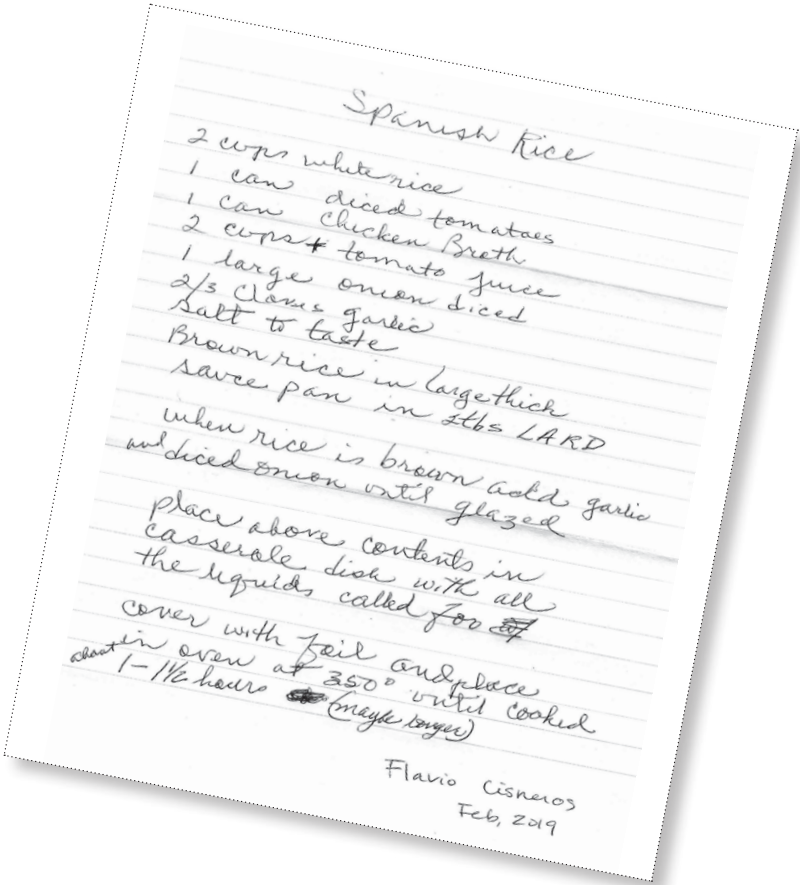
RED CHILE (FOR A CROCK POT) FROM DANETTE RAEI

Prep Time: 20 minutes
Cooking Time: 20 minutes for pods
4 -5 hours if you want your meat to be tender or you can use a pressure cooker for about 40 minutes.

INGREDIENTS

2-pound roast (beef, pork, or venison)
15 dried red chile pods (found at most grocery stores)
¼ c of canola or olive oil to brown the meat
¼ c canola or olive oil for roux
¼ c flour
1 T of garlic powder
4 c of water
Salt to taste

1. Cube your roast to about ¼ inch size cubes.
2. Wash and boil your chile pods in an 8" stock pot for 15 minutes or until soft.
3. Brown meat in ¼ cup oil in an 8" stock pot, once that's done remove meat to a crock pot.
4. While meat is browning begin working on your pods. Once they are done, transfer pods with liquid into a blender or food processor and puree until a smooth consistency.



Now you're ready to begin the chile! Add a 1/4 cup of oil to the juices and a 1/4 cup of flour to make your roux. Once the roux has cooked for 3 minutes add your chili puree and 4 cups of cold water. Bring to a boil, turn heat off and transfer into a crock pot for slow cooking about 4 – 5 hours on low for tender meat. If pressed for time you can use a pressure cooker, and uses so much less energy!

FLOURLESS ORANGE ALMOND CHOCOLATE CAKE FROM MARIA MIKHAILAS

You will need a size 9 or 10 spring load pan, coated with butter. Preheat oven to 350°F

1 1/4 c toasted almonds, cooled, ground to flour
8 oz bitter-sweet good quality chocolate, chopped up in hunks
1/2 c cocoa
14T organic butter, melted
1 c natural sugar
6 organic free-range eggs, divided
1/2 c organic orange juice
2 T organic lemon zest
1 T organic orange zest
1/4t sea salt

1. Melt butter and chocolate in pan and cool slightly.
2. Put ground almonds and cocoa together in a blender and mix 'til well blended.
3. Place egg yolks in big bowl and whip 'til blended. Add cooled butter & chocolate, almond/chocolate mixture, sugar, orange juice, lemon and orange zest. Blend well.

4. Place egg whites in large bowl and whip with salt. Whip 'til soft peaks form.
5. Place whipped egg whites onto egg yolk batter. Fold whites into yolk batter carefully with a large spatula or a balloon whisk.
6. Pour batter into spring load pan and bake in a 350°F oven for approximately 50-60 min. Cake will be done when sides begin to pull from edge of pan and the top gets darker brown and cracks.
7. Decorate with a cocoa powder dusting, fresh strawberries or whip cream.

EVELYN COGGIN'S POSOLE FOR A PARTY RECIPE

1 large can of posole (hominy Mexican style)
1 medium pork butt
32 oz can chicken broth or stock
Oregano
Garlic powder
Onion flakes
Red pepper flakes

1. Cool pork butt separately (save stock). Cook it completely, skim off congealed fat.
2. Shred or cut pork into small pieces (you can freeze for later use).
3. Then, mix all ingredients together, spice to taste, serve hot! (This recipe does not freeze well.)

Party Perfect!

BY ROBYN BLACK

Instead of our usual Enchanted Eats restaurant review this month, I am going to focus on our wonderful one-year anniversary party of the *Questa Del Rio News*, with a little Valentine's Day and Happy Birthday thrown in for good measure. On Thursday, February 14th, Valentine's Day, with the winds howling and the snow blowing, a hearty group of revelers came out to celebrate the paper's FIRST BIRTHDAY. What a celebration it was. The locally provided food from our community members was some of the best you will ever eat! It was so good and so news-worthy that we scrapped our March Restaurant Review and decided to tell you about it!

Evelyn Coggins needs to be acknowledged, not just for the delicious food she made, but also for stepping up and heroically becoming a card carrying member of our Party Planning Committee. Without her we would still be chewing our nails! Evelyn and her husband Gary even shopped at Sam's Club to outfit the occasion. Evelyn brought deliciously pork-laden posole along with a vegetarian version, and a big pot of fresh local pinto beans with chicos. Not to be outdone, Danette Rael graced us with her outstandingly scrumptious, apparently famous red-chile. Flavio Cisneros shared his delectable Spanish rice, and Olga Gressot's jalapeno cheese bread was to die for!

Did I mention we had the most amazing desserts as well? Frank Rael made the birthday cake, a carrot cake with chocolate covered strawberries and all of our local neighborhoods acknowledged in frosting! Marie Mikhailas tempted our waistline with a decadent flourless chocolate cake, Gary Coggins snuck in with his family's secret brownie recipe (a.k.a. Sam's Club Brownie Mix). The biscochitos from Shirley Trujillo were a huge hit and Gaea McGahee's locally famous cookies were gone in an instant. Betsy Irwin snuck in at dessert time with a bubbling hot pan of Berry Betty.

There were so many great things to eat there, nut bread, rum-soaked fruit kabobs. We are sorry we missed anyone who brought delicious tid-bits that we aren't writing about. We just couldn't keep up with all the good food! By now, you are probably getting hungry with all this talk of food. Do not despair! We are including some of the recipes for you to try at home. This was no small feat, some of these family recipes have never been written down and thank you to our cooks who tried their best to capture the recipes on paper.



Photos by E. Wilde

Master of Ceremonies, Malaquias Rael, Jr.-Newspaper co-founder and Chairman of Questa Economic Development Fund.



Lou McCall, Editor acknowledgement.



Magnificent array of food, especially desserts! Thanks to Frank's for the official and delicious birthday cake.



Peter Mellon is served by Evelyn Coggins. Thank you to Rael's Coffee House for hosting and to our community cooks for catering the enchanted eats!

Just remember, if it doesn't turn out quite the same, not to fret, there were doses of extra love put into these recipes for our special day!

All of this fun could not have happened without the generosity of Cynthia Rael-Vigil for letting us use her wonderful place for our party. Rael's Coffee House was decked out in its finest Valentine's Day AND Birthday decorations. So many people made the beautiful decorations happen, took their time to set things up and went to a great deal of effort to make this party happen, for this we are truly grateful. Thank you for all the hard work and inspiration of our own Ellen Wood, also known as the Dancing Queen, since her middle name is Party. Without her this celebration would not have been news worthy.

How fortunate for us that it was Thursday night and the musicians who meet there every week to jam showed up to provide us with some fantastic music. Rachel Leon was on guitar and vocals, Olga

Gressot and Howard Schwartzman on violins (or is it fiddles?), we all know Michael Rael, Wyman Edwards and Jimmy Baca. We also need to add the rest of the names of the musicians and at press time we are still trying to get them... please write to us and let us know who we forgot!

Harvest Questa generously provided free babysitting for Valentine's evening for the entire community and we piggy-backed on their generosity. They also offered their church van for transportation for anyone who needed a ride to the party. The kids at Harvest Questa contributed their share, too by making special Valentine's cards and invitations to our newspaper party. They were handed out to seniors in the Meals On Wheels Program, another great Ellen Wood idea.

Malaquias Rael, Jr., founder of the newspaper, was the Master of Ceremonies and told the crowd the story of the paper's rise to stardom and he nailed it! Special thanks to co-founders, editor Lou McCall

and QEDF Director, Lindsay Mapes. A shout out goes to Emily Wilde, graphic designer and Gaea McGahee who sells ads and of course our growing list of those who contribute their talents and don't get paid; writers, our volunteers, and especially our readers! Our paper depends on these wonderful people in the communities of Northern Taos County (and Southern Colorado) to keep our paper rolling out every month.

Our paper reaches a growing community of readers and we want to thank our loyal advertisers as well as the Questa Economic Development Fund. Without their financial support, we would have gone under months ago. I look forward to writing about our next anniversary party and many more to come. For those of you who were not able to join us, we missed you and hope that you will continue your support and keep sending us your wonderful ideas for our paper. Bon Appetite!

Utah Mystery Writer, Michael Norman, Coming to the Questa Library

The Questa Public Library will host Utah mystery writer Michael Norman, author of *Burn* on Saturday, March 23, at 1:30 PM. After policing for seven years and teaching criminal justice for 25, Michael Norman decided to switch from academic writing and try his hand at writing mysteries.

His debut novel, *The Commission*, which Kirkus described as “a refreshing throwback to the lean, straight ahead police procedurals of the Dragnet

era,” received a starred review and was chosen as one of Publisher’s Weekly Best 100 Books of 2007. Since then, Norman has written four additional mysteries, including his latest, *Slow Burn*, slated for national release this summer. His first four novels were published by the Poisoned Pen Press.

This highly anticipated third book in the *Sam Kincaid* series begins in Salt Lake City with the kidnapping of a college student. But this is no ordinary

kidnapping. This kidnapping will receive special attention because the victim is Samantha Cates, the daughter of politically powerful Benjamin Cates, the Executive Director of the Utah Department of Corrections, and Sam Kincaid’s boss. Out of favor and recently demoted by Cates, Kincaid is riding a desk in the department’s training division awaiting retirement.

Believing that his daughter’s kidnapping might be the work of a vengeful

offender, Cates asks Kincaid to return to the Special Investigations Branch (SIB) on temporary assignment to help find his daughter. Teaming with Salt Lake Police Department Detective Lieutenant Kate McConnell, the two launch a desperate search to find the missing girl. Soon Kincaid discovers two recent murders that appear to be connected.

*Meet the Author Michael Norman
Saturday, March 23 at 1:30pm
Questa Public Library*



MARCH EVENTS AT QUESTA LIBRARY



Saturday, March 2nd National Read Across America Day

It is also Dr. Seuss Day to commemorate Theodor Geisel’s birthday. We encourage all children to read not just on this day, but every day, and PARENTS; PLEASE READ TO YOUR CHILDREN!

By Monica Ortega, a member of the Friends of the Questa Library board and retired Alta Vista teacher.

March 1 1:00-3:00 pm

Explore optical illusions and the endless possibilities of perception! Bring the whole family for a fun afternoon where parents and kids learn together as they play and create! SNACKS, DOOR PRIZES AND CREATIVE FUN!

March 8 1:00-3:00 pm

Art Kids will work in printmaking by making their own fun and colorful pop art print of a bird or winged insect. Art Kids, please come with a simple line drawing of your favorite bird or winged insect. Space may be limited!

March 12 4:00 pm

Friends of the QPL Board meets at 4:00 pm.

March 15 1:00-3:00 pm

Alta Vista and Rio Costilla kids in School. Homeschoolers and Red River kids welcome at the library! Special fun!

March 22 1:00-3:00 pm

We will be working on book making and story development by creating a fun and inviting accordion book. Art Kids, please bring an idea for a story that you will be illustrating on your own book. This could be a story of your family, your pet, or a favorite adventure. Space may be limited!

March 2 10:30 am - Noon

Kitty Club for ages 0-3. Music, story time, arts and crafts, and play!

March 23 1:30 pm

Author Visit with Michael Norman 1:30 PM.

March 29 1:00-3:00 pm

Alta Vista and Rio Costilla kids in School. Special fun!

LEARN A LANGUAGE

FREE AT THE QUESTA PUBLIC LIBRARY...

But wait, there’s more! Libraries aren’t just for books anymore. Maybe you already know that. You might know your library lends DVDs and audiobooks, too, right? And, by now you have probably heard that the Questa Public Library offers several programs including computer classes, a book club, a fiber craft group, and children’s programs, to name a few.

Much more! Have you ever wanted to learn Spanish? French? Italian? Icelandic? English? PIRATE? We can help with that. The library subscribes to a program called MANGO. And it’s free. Mango currently provides instruction in 71 languages (including Pirate). To get started, go to the library website at www.questalibrary.org. On the home page, scroll down, and click on the MANGO logo on the right side of the page. Key in your library card number and you are off on a new adventure. Let us know how that works for you, AHoy!!!

If you need a library card, just stop by the library and fill out an application. Bring your ID or driver’s license. . . or your parent if you are under 18. It just takes minutes! Call us if you have questions at (575) 586-2023 and check out our website, questalibrary.org.



For ages 0-3

Wildcats Kitty Club

COME READ AND PLAY!

**Date: Thursday
March 21, 2019
(3rd Thursday of every month)
Time:
10:30 am – 12pm
Location: Questa Public Library**

In collaboration with
Taos First Steps and
Questa Public Library.

**Contact Kathy or Carla
at First Steps
for more information.
575-751-8908
or 751-8933**



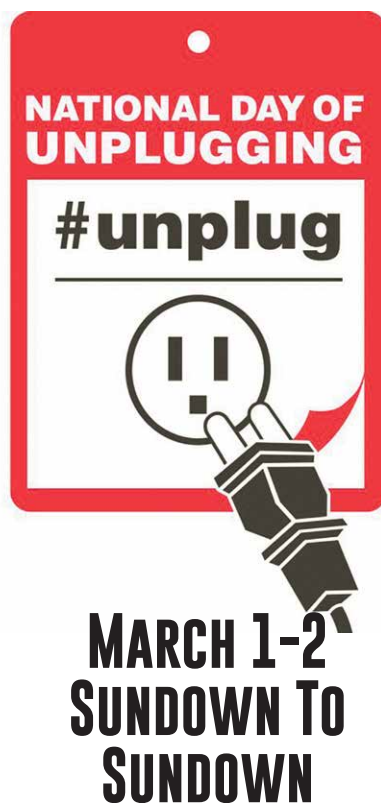
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National Unplug Day- “Put Your Phone Away!”

By SARA MARTINEZ

“Put your phone away!” It’s the call echoed by every teacher in just about every classroom. Students, like many of us, enjoy their smart phones and other electronic devices. Our young people, like the adults in the room, use the internet to get through their daily activities and for a bit of socializing. Many of us may have never questioned whether the technology that is improving our lives might also be changing our culture.

Most people would say that having a smart phone and internet is an essential part of their daily life. When the fiber gets shot, our world comes to a halt. The feeling of needing to have your phone by your side is one part the usefulness of technology and one part addiction by design. Technology is a booming industry with advertising dollars spent getting us to click, scroll, and keep our eyes glued to the screens. Tech giants pay people to know how our brains work so that they can use that information to keep us “engaged” on their platforms. Look around you and notice how many



people are glued to their phones. The sights and sounds that notify us, keep our brains waiting for the next rush. Students at Questa Junior High

recently read an article about a mom and three kids who “survived, for six months, a world without Internet, TV, iPods, cell phones, and video games.” Three kids and their mother discovered many things that they enjoyed on a deeper level IRL (In Real Life). Many students concluded that giving up their phones would be the hardest thing, however some reluctantly talked about what things they would do instead. Juan Gonzales wrote that if he didn’t have his phone, he would be doing other things like riding his dirt bike, working on his soccer skills, and might be able to focus on school better. Amaya Cisneros writes, “I would have to read or go outside”. Many students expressed that they wouldn’t know what was going on with their friends anymore. Jaydyn Cintas said she would feel “left out of everything because I wouldn’t know what’s going on”. While they know it would be hard, many know that it is not necessary for survival but would be rather inconvenient.

The National Day of Unplugging is “a 24-hour global respite from technol-

ogy. It highlights the value of disconnecting from digital devices to connect with ourselves, our loved ones, and our communities in real time.” It is held on March 1-2, Sundown to Sundown. Many of us couldn’t imagine a world without our cell phones or internet and yet you have to wonder what possibilities exist for more meaning and connection in our lives with occasional breaks from the internet and personal devices.

THE TEN PRINCIPLES OF NATIONAL DAY OF UNPLUGGING

MARCH 1ST & 2ND - SUNDOWN TO SUNDOWN

1. Avoid Technology
2. Connect With Loved Ones
3. Nurture Your Health
4. Get Outside
5. Avoid Commerce
6. Light Candles
7. Drink Wine
8. Eat Bread
9. Find Silence
10. Give Back

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS!

Roots and Wings Community School, a free public charter school in Lama, is accepting applications for kindergarten through eighth grade. Roots and Wings offers an expeditionary learning-inspired outdoor adventure program.

Download an application at: www.rootsandwingscommunityschool.org or call the school at 575.586.2076.

Applications are due by March 13th.

The lottery drawing will be held on March 14th.

CALLING ALL GRADUATING SENIORS!

Are you or do you know a high school senior from Taos or Western Colfax County? If so, please consider applying for or sharing this Taos Community Foundation Scholarship Opportunity. TCF hosts 5 scholarship funds and is accepting applications for all 5 scholarship opportunities.

Applications may be hand delivered to our office (115 La Posta Rd. Ste. A) or postmarked by our application deadline. Early application submissions are strongly encouraged.

For our scholarship announcement, eligibility requirements, and application materials, please visit: www.taoscf.org/scholarships.

Deadline to apply is

Thursday, April 11, 2019 @ 5:00 PM

COFFEE TALK

experience the power of community



Mondays & Wednesdays
9:00-11:00am

Cafe con Vida

Join us for a regular Coffee and Conversation with Vida Del Norte Drug Free Coalition at the Questa Youth and Family Center (next to the library)

Maria Gonzalez 779-2260

This Ad is Sponsored by Chevron Environmental Management Company

Vida Del Norte Goes to Washington D.C.

Every year the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) holds a Drug Free Communities Conference and training event, the first week of February in Washington, DC. This year, three young women from Questa's Vida Del Norte Coalition attended the training; Maria Gonzales, Vida Del Norte Program Director, her 15 year-old daughter Ariceli Gonzalez, representing the Youth Sector and Enriquetta Vigil, representing the Parent Sector of the Coalition. All three had an unforgettable and very enlightening experience while learning more about creating a Drug Free Community right here at home. Here is what they say about their experience:

Maria Gonzalez Vida Del Norte Coalition Program Coordinator:

Everything about DC for me was a great experience. The day that we spent on Capitol Hill was one of the highlights. Getting to meet with Senator Tom Udall and his staff was a great honor. Sharing what we are doing in our community to reduce substance misuse was also a plus. The trainings were very inspirational, especially listening to the youth and the great things they are doing in their communities to reduce substance misuse. This inspired me to come back home and do everything I can to engage our youth in this conversation. The youth are essential to our growth as a community and if we are not listening to them, then we are at a loss ourselves. We as adults are currently failing our youth and we need to change that. Our Coalition will

be making this a priority to gain more insight from our young leaders about what they feel our community needs to prevent substance misuse and any other concerns they may have. The Coalition will also be moving forward by helping these young leaders attend more trainings on substance misuse. Education is key in prevention and Vida Del Norte will be emphasizing and focusing more on educational trainings and workshops throughout the year for both youth and adults by partnering with key stakeholders. Again, I encourage any adult or youth community member to reach out to me to learn more about the Coalition and the activities that are being planned and implemented

as we move toward change. Together we weave our threads of change and it really does take a village.

Araceli Gonzalez – Vida Del Norte Youth Sector Representative

My favorite part of D.C. was seeing the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier because of the emotion attached to the fact that some soldiers don't return home. And, to see them being honored at this site was very heartwarming.

Attending the training, I was able to learn that we aren't the only community going through this substance abuse crisis. I also learned about the things that drugs do to your body and health.

I think the Coalition can move forward by implementing education to help others understand the types of things these drugs are doing and how they are affecting communities across the world.

The trainings that we attended, along with the Coalition, provide benefits to the kids because at a young age they will have the knowledge and understanding of why these drugs are harmful and will be smart enough to not try them.

Enriquetta Vigil – Vida Del Norte Parent Sector Representative

I have two favorites about attending CADCA in Washington DC. Getting to sit though experienced speakers in the trainings and absorbing the information. Secondly, my favorite part of DC was getting to see and experience all the things I've read about in books. Seeing the national documents that were formed by our forefathers was at the top of my list. The work done within the Coalition is hugely important, but it was being at the trainings that really opened my eyes to see just how big a problem we are up against, not just within own community but throughout the nation. From vaping to prescription drugs, our youth are suffering. Moving forward, our Coalition has to have our youth on board, they are the way into our prevention efforts. The community should know that the Coalition is trying to make healthy, positive changes for our community and that the community needs to realize what types of problems are hurting us. It takes a village, and participation makes changes. One community at a time.

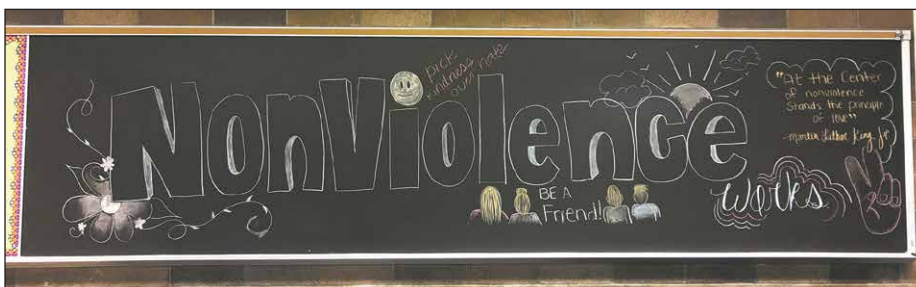


Vida Del Norte Coalition Members in front of our Nation's Capital, is that a copy of our esteemed Questa Del Rio News they are holding? From left: Ariceli Gonzalez, Maria Gonzalez and Enriquetta Vigil.

The Nonviolence Works Mentorship Program

By DEBORAH CHAVEZ,
PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Since 2102, Nonviolence Works has provided youth mentorship services to the Questa area. At its peak, the program consisted of over 100 members including several staff and teachers from the Questa School District, community members, junior high students, Alta Vista Elementary and Intermediate School (AVEIS) students, and Questa High School (QHS) Juniors and Seniors. In the past, the program was housed at Questa High School in the Nonviolence Room and a Mentorship Room



was available at AVEIS. Members of the mentorship program volunteered one hour per week mentoring younger students within the Questa School District. Members of the program who were QHS Seniors also helped organize a variety of school and community events.

The Nonviolence Works Mentorship

Program continues to thrive and work with youth in the Questa community even though this school year it is no longer doing so at the Nonviolence or Mentorship Rooms. Harvest Questa, as well as the Cerro Community Center, have graciously offered their facilities

to members. Space is also utilized at the Questa Public Library.

QHS Seniors continue to be the heart of the program and are working together to provide peer mentorship even though the program is no longer housed in the Questa Schools. They meet several times a week and work on job, scholarship, and college applications, as well as resumes and job prep. QHS Seniors are also continuously finding new ways to give back to their school and community through planning and hosting events that include younger QISD students.

Karen Trujillo, with Questa Roots Named Secretary of Education

BY LINDSAY MAPES

Last month, Governor Lujan Grisham appointed a new Secretary of Public Education, Karen Trujillo. Given the challenges at the Questa Independent School District and statewide decline in our education system, this is a key position that many have been watching.

According to the Associated Press, Trujillo is an expert in professional development for teachers. She comes from New Mexico State University as where she was a dean and research director and is now embarking on an overhaul of student testing and teacher evaluations. “We are no longer in the time of punitive measures,” Trujillo said, emphasizing a break with the policies of recently departed Gov. Susana Martinez, who implemented A-F grades for school performance and incorporated student test results into teacher evaluations. “We support teacher pay raises, we support more resources in the schools — for nurses, social workers,” Trujillo said.

Karen received her Bachelor’s, Master’s, and PhD. at New Mexico State University (NMSU) almost entirely on scholarships. In seven years of education, she received only two B+s among a sea of A’s. She taught high school for several years, was principal of the K-8 Catholic School in Las Cruces for four years and accredited the high school making it a K-12 school. She then moved on to NMSU Administration.

Karen comes from a strong family of Questa teachers. Karen’s mom, Bernadette (Berna) Rael Apodaca was born and raised in Questa and was a teacher for 25 years, as was Karen’s three Questa aunts: Stella Jackson, Louella Gomez, Merlyn Sideris. “I’m honored and humbled to represent generations of teachers in New Mexico. It’s very personal to me. Our entire leadership team at the State, all of our mothers are New Mexico teachers. We’re honoring their legacy,” said Karen in a phone interview.

Karen’s mother, Berna, has fond memories of growing up in Questa. “It was a good place to grow up, a good Village to raise kids. We were shaped by all these strong people that always had a vision for the betterment of the whole, the community, and they were always working towards that. Today we see the unity of Questa as in the rebuilding of the church or the coming together of a wedding, funeral or any other celebration,” said Berna.

Bernadette Rael was born to Juan Benito (JB) Rael and Celia Laforet, both from Questa. She graduated from Questa High School in 1965 and shortly after attended New Mexico State University (NMSU) where she met her future husband, Gilbert Apodaca. A farm boy from Garfield, NM, Gilbert also attended NMSU and after a stint at UNM they moved to Questa.

Gilbert worked for the Taos Commu-

nity Action Program while Berna looked after Karen. Later, the growing family moved to Santa Fe and eventually to Las Cruces where all five of the Apodaca children graduated high school. “At least once a month we were in Questa. In the summers the kids would spend time with grandma and grandpa. I helped grandpa with his cows and with his alfalfa. Our Questa connection is strong and big,” said Gilbert.

Gilbert and Berna’s five children (Karen, Debbie, Frank, John, and Julie) have a strong Questa foundation. “The kids love Questa! Of course, when they were little, we spent a lot of time there because my parents lived there,” said Berna. All of their children were part of the reconstruction of the church. Karen worked on some of the stained-glass windows. “They feel very much a part of the church,” she added.

“Even though Karen wasn’t raised in Questa, Questa had a very big impact on who she is today. She was baptized in the church, she loved working on the church restoration,” said Berna. Gilbert added, “She and her husband, Ben, spent a lot of weekends going up to Questa to lend a hand.”

Karen’s husband Ben Trujillo is a State Farm Agent in Las Cruces and coaches high school girls’ basketball coach in Hatch. They have three children: Tarlyn (23) who is working towards a Master’s Degree in speech

pathology at NMSU, Tim (19) who is a freshman at NMSU majoring in theatre, and Tavyn (17) who is a junior at Hatch Valley High School with dad as her basketball coach. With pride, Gilbert added “She is number one in her class and their basketball team is 18-4 for the season.” When speaking of Karen’s new position with the State Education Department, Berna said, “We are super proud and excited for her.”

As for the retired parents, Gilbert and Berna love Questa. “I feel very privileged to have grown up in Questa,” said Berna. In 1995, they bought her father’s building on State Highway 38, the old post office JB Rael built in 1947, the year Berna was born. Gilbert, with the help of his talented brother-in-law, gutted the building and spent 23 years remodeling it to make it their second home. They spend five months of the year in Questa and the rest in Las Cruces.

“We’re blessed. All our children still live in New Mexico and we have 11 grandkids with number 12 on the way. We’re very excited for our family and for Karen. It is a privilege to witness our children and their families fulfilling their destinies. Karen’s is in education. We are very happy for her,” said Berna.

Cabinet Secretary of Education Karen Trujillo finished by saying, “We have the capacity with our team to make a difference for New Mexico Education, now we just need to prove it.”

Gallegos New Taos County Chairman

By LINDSAY MAPES

Taos County Commissioner Mark Gallegos was selected as Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, filling the rotating seat from January 1 - December 31, 2019. Commissioner Gallegos was Vice-Chair for the past three of his four years as County Commissioner and is currently serving the first of four years of his second term. His new responsibilities include running the bi-monthly Taos County Board of Commissioners meeting (similar to the Village but the Chair, unlike the Mayor, gets to make

motions and vote). He will be setting the agenda for commission meetings, signing County checks, will have more participation with County staff, and attend public engagements among other duties.

“I enjoy the challenge of managing the meeting on a larger scale than what I usually do at the Village Council. I hope it helps me for future elected positions,” commented Commissioner Gallegos, who is also Mayor of Questa. When asked how this new role will affect Questa, Gallegos commented, “There are probably not going to be any

changes. The County Commissioners focus on issues that pertain the County as a whole, but having greater representation for Questa is always a positive.” Taos County focuses on issues like land use ordinances, property tax ordinances, and collaborative efforts with Towns and Villages within the County. Taos County Commission meetings are held the first and third Tuesday of each month at 9:00AM in the Commission Chambers of the Taos County Complex at 105 Albright Street in Taos. The public is welcome to attend.

Jaramillo New Taos County Manager

With the resignation of Taos County Manager Leandro Cordova in January, the Taos County Commission appointed Deputy County Manager Brent Jaramillo to step up as the new County Manager. Jaramillo has served Taos County since 2011, both as Deputy County Manager and Director of Human Resources. Jaramillo is very active in the Questa Community and served as Questa Village Administrator for 9 years. Many of you know him currently as a Questa Village Council Member and he is also on the board of the Questa Economic development Fund. Jaramillo will begin his new position starting March 1st.

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WINNING MOVIES
IN REVIEW

MICHAEL'S MOVIE MOMENTS

REVIEWS OF THE YEAR'S
OSCAR-NOMINATED MOVIES
AVAILABLE FOR RENT OR STREAMING

By MICHAEL YOUNG

MARCH'S MOVIE REVIEW:
BLACKKKLANSMAN



The premise of this movie is plainly absurd - the idea that a black person could join and even function as a member of the Ku Klux Klan (a.k.a. The Organization). It is so preposterous that you have to imagine the result as a comedy, or even a farce. There are comedic elements scattered throughout this movie. There is nothing funny about this movie's message - racism, which, not only has a long and sordid history, but is even thriving in contemporary America.

From the creative imagination of Spike Lee, this movie may well represent the pinnacle of his career. *BlackKKlansman*, which was rated in the middle of this year's Oscar nominees by both critics and audiences, surprised me in just how effective it was. I suspect it has a very good shot at winning this year's Best Picture Oscar. Using several of Lee's signature traits (like double-dolly shots, grainy, high-contrast imagery, and an extended discussion of 'wokeness'), Lee uses the comic elements of the situation as contrasts to his very seriousness theme.

The writers (except for Lee, new to the Oscar-nominated world), adapted their screenplay from a book - true, if incredible - written by Ron Stallworth, a young black cop, new to the Colorado Springs police department in 1979. Shortly after joining, he becomes an undercover detective and without much forethought, begins talking to the local chapter of the KKK over the phone. Soon, he is talking to the Grand Wizard himself, David Duke, who wants to come out to Ron's initiation ceremony. Obviously, he can't meet any of the KKK members as himself, and so ropes his partner - a non-practicing Jew, Flip Zimmerman - to portray Ron in face-to-face meetings. The two of them, acting as the same person, suc-

cessfully infiltrate The Organization. The partnership between a black and a Jew brings on even more comedic elements.

John David Washington, Denzel's son, plays Ron in the movie and a terrific Adam Driver received an Oscar nomination for Supporting Actor for his role as Zimmerman - Driver's first Oscar nomination. He is best known as Kylo Ren, Darth Vader's successor in the later Star Wars movies. Driver is surprisingly nuanced in this role and I wouldn't be surprised to see him win an award in the future. He brings credibility to Zimmerman's growth in his own faith and identity as his relationship with Stallworth matures.

Without giving away too much of the plot, let us say that *The Organization* bumbles towards a deadly conclusion and it is at the climax that Lee's, and his team's, filmmaking skills break through in dramatic fashion. Barry Alexander Brown received a nomination for film editing here and, in these climatic scenes, I think he shows why this particular craft is at the core of movie-making magic. Two events are occurring simultaneously - the KKK chapter is having their initiation luncheon, followed by a screening of Griffith's *Birth of a Nation*. Meanwhile, the Colorado Springs black community is having a meeting where Jessie Turner (played perfectly by Harry Belafonte) recounts the harrowing and horrific tale of the torture and murder of a black man that he witnessed as a young child. The tension builds as the scenes cross-cut back and forth, slowly at first, and then with increasing drama. The effect is to serve as witness to the realities and the horror of racism not just in the past but is so clearly with us today. Although it wasn't necessary, Lee further roots the movie in the politics of today, by running video of recent events, tying the movie directly to our current political climate.

Jazz trumpet player Terence Blanchard was nominated for his *Original Score*, the soundtrack is a great album. *BlackKKlansman*, is a serious contender for Oscar wins. It is tightly written, directed, and edited with engaging craftsmanship and tells an important (and true) contemporary story. I give *BlackKKlansman* five stars.

Our Nation's 2019 Christmas Tree Provided by Questa Ranger District

This year's U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree will be coming from the Questa Ranger District of the Carson National Forest! The tree will be displayed on the west lawn of the U.S. Capitol Building in Washington, D.C., with a public tree-lighting ceremony in early December. Seventy smaller companion trees will also be sent to our nation's capital to decorate government buildings and public spaces.

Ricardo Martinez, Deputy District Ranger for the Questa Ranger District and project coordinator, noted that Christmas 2019 in Washington, DC will spotlight New Mexico. "We will seek opportunities to share stewardship of this project by engaging with the state, tribal, and local communities as well as partners from the private and public sectors," he said.

Communities throughout New Mexico will select, care for, decorate, and transport these gifts to the nation. New Mexicans will contribute 10,000 handmade ornaments to be created throughout 2019 capturing the unique culture and beauty of northern New Mexico.

"I am so proud and excited that New Mexico has been chosen as the origin of the 2019 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree," Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham said. "New Mexico's public lands are treasured all across the state, and it is an incredible honor for all New Mexicans

to have our beautiful landscapes represented to the nation with a tree from the Carson National Forest. I hope this wonderful event inspires all New Mexicans to continue to celebrate and value our public lands and our proud history of stewardship."

The Forest has partnered with Choose Outdoors, and a host of other partners, sponsors, and volunteers who will contribute funding and thousands of hours to help make ornaments and transport the tree from New Mexico to Washington, D.C. New Mexicans and visitors are invited to participate in activities throughout 2019. The first event took place on Feb. 22, at the Taos Youth and Family Center where volunteers celebrated with Forest employees, heard more about the project, and helped decorate ornaments for the tree.

Every year since 1970, USDA Forest Service has provided the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree, also known as the People's Tree. This is the third tree to come from New Mexico: first an Engelmann Spruce from the Santa Fe National Forest in 2005, and a Blue Spruce from Carson National Forest in 1991. For more information visit the Capitol Christmas Tree website at www.capitolchristmas-tree.com. To get involved, send an email to capitolchristmastree2019@gmail.com.



The History and Meaning of Ash Wednesday

“The practice of Ash Wednesday dates back to the 11th Century,” says Lauren F. Winner, a priest and assistant professor at Duke Divinity School. Fr. William Saunders of the Notre Dame Institute confirms that the Catholic origin of the ritual for the “Day of Ashes” comes from around the year 1000. An Anglo-Saxon priest named Aelfric preached: “We read in both in the Old Law and in the New that the men who repented of their sins bestrewed themselves with ashes and clothed their bodies with sackcloth. Now let us ... strew ashes upon our heads to signify that we ought to repent of our sins during the Lenten fast.” Ashes as the Catholic birth ritual of Lent has been respected ever since.

Lent is the season of fasting and prayer that Catholics practice to generate humility and penance for transgressions and to prepare spiritually and bodily for the Passion and Resurrection of Christ celebrated during Holy Week. The practices of practitioners and of Holy Week (Semana Santa) culminate with Easter. The Catholic community honors Christ's path, passion, and sacrifice with additional remembrances and practices. Please consult your local parish and congregation for its celebrations.

Semana Santa (Holy Week) commences on Domingo de Ramos (Palm Sunday). Jueves Santo (Holy or Maundy Thursday) begins the Passion of Christ. Viernes Santo (Good Friday) honors the trial, walk, and crucifixion of Christ, Sabado de Gloria (Holy Saturday when Christ descended into hell to release souls), and Domingo de Pascua is Easter - the resurrection of the Lord.

Ash Wednesday takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday. Mardi Gras, which is French for Fat Tuesday, symbolizes the excesses, distractions, and desires that draw the faithful away from living in a Christ-like life. Mardi Gras is an opportunity to eat, drink, and be merry before fasting and penance but also is a blatant parade of what is not virtuous.

Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting in which a “sinner” would rub ash on his or her face. The ashes represented the ephemeral nature of one's mortality and that one could die with their “sins” still upon them. Scripture would be called to mind. “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” Ashes also symbolize the grief of being divided from God due to one's sins.

Being a day of penitential prayer and fasting, it is considered inappropriate to

dine out, shop, or go about in public after receiving the ashes. Feasting is also inappropriate. Small children, the elderly, and sick are exempt from these observances.

Fr. Saunders reminds that “While the ashes symbolize penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful to those who call on Him with repentant hearts. His Divine mercy is of utmost importance during the season of Lent, and the Church calls on us to seek that mercy during the entire Lenten season with reflection, prayer and penance.”

He encourages that as practitioners begin this holy season of Lent which prepares one for Easter, “remember the significance of the ashes we have received: We mourn and do penance for our sins. We again convert our hearts to the Lord, who suffered, died and rose for our salvation. We renew the promises made at our baptism when we died to an old life and rose to a new life with Christ. (And), mindful that the kingdom of this world passes away, strive to live the kingdom of God now and look forward to its fulfillment in Heaven.”

La Historia y Significado de Miércoles de Ceniza

La práctica de miércoles de ceniza se remonta al siglo 11, la mayoría de fuentes confirman que el origen católico del ritual de “Día de Cenizas” viene más o menos del año 1000. Un sacerdote anglo-sajón llamado Aelfric predicaba: “Leemos en el Ley Viejo y en el Ley Nuevo que los hombres quienes se arrepentían de sus pecados se preparaban con cenizas y se vestían de arpillera. Ahora déjenos prepararnos con ceniza sobre nuestras cabezas para significar que deberíamos arrepentirnos de nuestros pecados durante el ayuno cuaresmal.” Desde entonces se han respetado las cenizas como ritual de nacimiento católico de la Cuaresma.

La Cuaresma es la temporada de ayunar y rezar cuando católicos practican la humildad y la penitencia para las transgresiones. También es el tiempo para preparar espiritualmente y físicamente para la Pasión y Resurrección de Cristo celebrado durante Semana Santa que. Las prácticas de la Semana Santa culminaban el domingo de Pascua. La comunidad católica honra el camino, la pasión y el sacrificio con recuerdos y practicas adicionales. Favor de verificar las celebraciones con su parroquia.

La Semana Santa empieza el domingo de ramos. La pasión de Cristo empieza

el jueves santo. Viernes santo honra el juicio, camino, y crucifixión de Cristo. En sábado santo Cristo descendió al infierno para salvar a las almas y en el domingo de Pascua, Cristo resucitó.

Miércoles de ceniza empieza 46 días antes del domingo pascual. Mardi Gras, que es francés para martes gordo, simboliza los excesos, distracciones y deseos que alejan a los fieles de la vida Cristiana. Mardi Gras nos da la oportunidad de comer, beber y festejar antes de ayunar y hacer penitencia. También es un desfile flagrante de lo que no es virtuoso.

Miércoles de ceniza viene de la tradición anciana judaica de penitencia y ayunar en cual un “pecador” se juntaba ceniza en la cara. La ceniza representa la naturaleza efímera de la mortalidad de uno y que podemos morir con nuestros “pecados”. Recordamos las Escrituras, “Porque eres polvo y al polvo volverás.” (Génesis 3:19). Las cenizas también simbolizan el dolor en separarnos de Dios con nuestros pecados.

Como es día de penitencia y ayuno, no es propio salir a comer, ir de compras, ni salir al público después de recibir la ceniza. Festejar tampoco esta apropiado.

Los niños, los ancianos, y los enfermos no están obligados a cumplir estas prácticas.

El sacerdote William Saunders del Instituto Notre Dame nos recuerda, “Mientras las cenizas simbolizan la penitencia y contrición, también son recuerdo que Dios es gracioso y misericordioso a los que lo invocan con corazones arrepentidos. Su misericordia divina es de mayor importancia durante la temporada de Cuaresma, y la Iglesia nos pide que busquemos misericordia con reflexión, oración y penitencia durante toda la Cuaresma”.

Como comenzamos esta temporada santa de la Cuaresma que nos prepara para la Pascua, nos anima que, “recordamos el significado de la ceniza que hemos recibido: Lamentamos y hacemos penitencia por nuestros pecados. Otra vez, convertimos nuestros corazones al Señor, quien sufrió, murió y resucitó por nuestra salvación.

Renovamos las promesas que hicimos en nuestro bautismo cuando morimos al pasado y renacimos a una nueva vida en Cristo...conscientes de que el reino de este mundo pasa, tratamos de vivir el reino de Dios ahora y mirar hacia su cumplimiento en el cielo.

DEMOCRATS!

GET INVOLVED IN YOUR LOCAL LEADERSHIP
BE PART OF ORGANIZING FOR 2020.

— MARCH 10 —

Precinct meetings to elect precinct chairs, vice-chairs, and representatives for the Taos County Central Committee.

VFW (Questa)

Precincts 5, 6 & 8 at 2:00 p.m.

Precincts 2, 3, 4 & 7 at 3:30 p.m.

— MARCH 16 • 1:00 PM —

Juan I. Gonzales Agricultural Center
202 Chamisa Road, Taos

Taos County Democratic Party elects county party officers and State Central Committee members.

Open to all registered Democrats!

— UNSURE OF YOUR PRECINCT? —

Go to NMVote.org and find it under Registration and Election Information.

See taosvotesblue.com for more info, including short videos about responsibilities of elected roles.

Or call 575-999-1621.

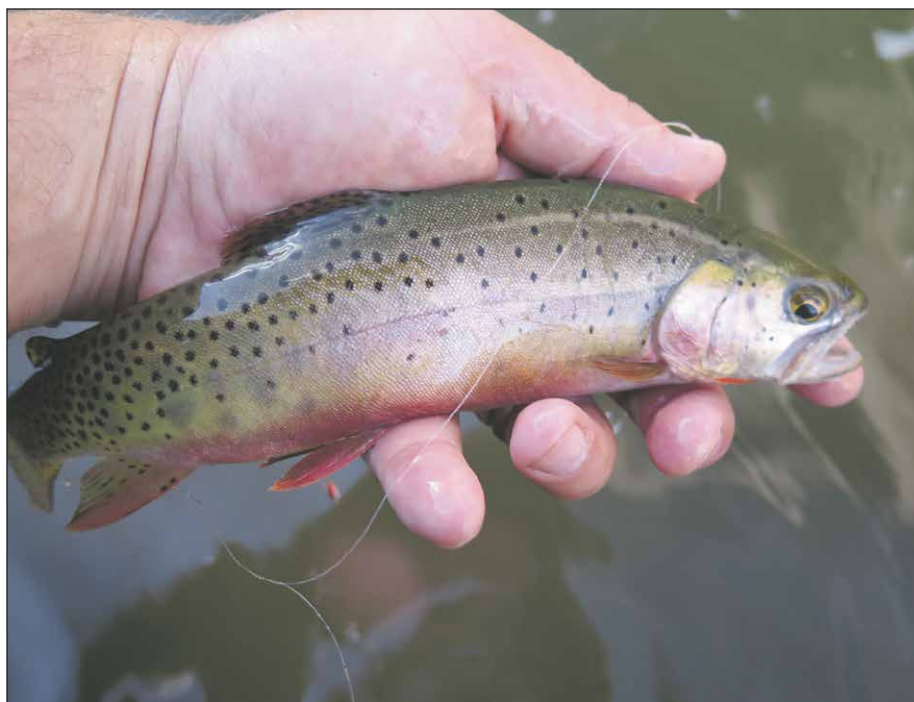
By TONER MITCHELL,
TROUT UNLIMITED

At the time Questa was first settled in the 19th century, only two species of trout swam in New Mexico waters. The Gila trout is one, native to the mountain island in the southwest region of the state. The Cutthroat trout dominated the rest of our rivers, most of which feed the Rio Grande or its major tributaries, the Chama and Pecos Rivers (yes, Cutthroats were once the only trout in the Red River and Rio Grande Gorge). Many are unaware that the Cutthroat was the first New World trout seen by European explorers. It's true, Francisco de Coronado's army encountered these beautiful fish near Pecos in 1541.

In New Mexico and elsewhere, native trout suffered greatly under human expansion and progress. Mining, grazing, logging, agriculture, as well as over-fishing reduced native trout populations to a fraction of their ancestral abundance. The most decisive blow came with the introduction of non-native trout around the turn of the 20th century. Rainbow trout, originating in Pacific-draining watersheds, hybridized with natives and diluted their genetic purity. Aggressive Brown trout from Europe and Brook trout from the East Coast outcompeted natives for food and space, in addition to preying upon them.

Around the 1950s, professionals at fisheries and fishermen realized that native trout were in trouble everywhere, mainly due to non-native competition. Scientists also recognized that the Cutthroat trout was not just one species, but a general category of trout comprised of many geographically-distinct subspecies. This is important because, if viewed from a west-wide perspective, Cutthroat trout are numerous enough to not warrant concern. In their specific domains, however, individual Cutthroat varieties are in danger of disappearing.

Due to the fact that it exists nowhere on earth beyond the Rio Grande basin (with the exception of the Cimarron River headwaters) New Mexico's Cut-



throat are officially known as the Rio Grande Cutthroat trout. They were once common from the San Luis Valley to Truth or Consequences and possibly the Guadalupe Mountains in Texas. Today, New Mexico's state fish occupies a mere 13% of its former range.

The best Rio Grande Cutthroat trout streams are in the upper Rio Grande region, near villages like Questa, Costilla, and Peñasco. Unfortunately, Brown and Brook trout keep pushing them

upstream. Consequently, Cutthroats are found mainly in remote reaches of streams like Columbine and Cabresto Creeks, the Rios Chiquito, Santa Barbara, and Costilla. They are more and more difficult to access and fish for; as a result, few New Mexicans under the age of 35 have ever seen a native Cutthroat. It's difficult to recover something you've never seen.

It is this experience of anglers seeing these unique fish that the New Mexico

Department of Game and Fish wants to bring back with its annual Cutthroat stockings at the Rio Grande del Norte Monument. At this event, volunteer participants are given sturdy plastic bags full of water and baby Cutthroats before hiking into the gorge and releasing the fish. After several years of this program, Rio Grande anglers now enjoy the chance to catch adult Cutthroat in the big river.

This year's stocking will be held on Friday, March 29 at the La Junta or Big Arsenic trailhead (pending word from NMDGF and BLM). Bring your lunch, a water bottle and, of course, your fishing rod. In 2018, the stocking drew over 300 participants. Questa businesses may even choose to attract customers with fishing-focused promotions.

Out of sight, out of mind, the plight of Rio Grande Cutthroat trout mirrors the challenges faced by headwater communities throughout New Mexico. Almost imperceptibly, cultural traditions can melt away under the pressure of modernization: horses give way to ATVs; knocking on doors gives way to smart phones; alfalfa fields give way to development. English replaces Spanish, and the fried Cutthroat you relished as a child is now a Brown trout.

Though not always bad, modernization does have the power to fog the memory and, at its worst, can make forgetting become easy. The Rio Grande Cutthroat has been with Questa since the beginning. It's watched Questenios go to war and to the mine, has seen its children off to college and beyond. Like the church they worked so hard to restore, the Cutthroat is woven into their culture. The Cutthroat belongs to Questa.

*Annual Cutthroat Trout Stocking
Friday, March 29 at 10:00am. Meet at the La Junta or Big Arsenic trailhead (pending word from NMDGF and BLM). Bring your lunch, a water bottle and, of course, your fishing rod.*

LEGISLATIVE FOCUS from Page 1

Village received a property donation from Chevron to build a nearly 30-acre Business Park and has built one facility on the property. It is the home of Taos Mountain Energy Foods, Inc., the maker of Taos Mountain Energy

Bars. Much more is planned for the development of the Business Park. The funding secured for the Village benefits each resident of Questa. We are grateful for the commitments and support from our State Senator Carlos R. Cisneros and Representative Roberto "Bobby" J. Gonzales. As leaders, they

have continuously supported the growth of the Village. Senator Cisneros and Rep. Gonzales co-sponsored legislation to establish the Rio Grande Trail Commission in 2015. Rep. Gonzales is currently a member of that commission. The trail from Colorado to Texas directly impacts Questa through the Vistas de

Questa Trail. Through diversification of our economy, in addition to providing utility and trail infrastructure, the Village of Questa will create jobs right here at home where they are needed for our local residents and our neighbors. There is a lot more excitement in store for Questa, stay tuned!

ESOTERIC ASTROLOGY

SKYDANCE ESOTERIC ASTROLOGY by Charlene R. Johnson
MARCH 2019

GRAND EARTH TRINE

"A triangle is the reflection of the triple nature of God." —Lucis Trust

This month we experience the most positive energy the heavens can provide: a Grand Trine. "Trine" is astrology for triangle. Astrology focuses on the energies of the elements as much as it does the planets and signs. We work with four elements in astrology: fire, earth, air, water. Planets with their unique ellipses can land anywhere in a chart and they are what trigger whether a sign or element is activated. A "trine" is formed by planets landing in two signs of the same element and being approximately 120 degrees apart. In astrology, this angle is considered a blessing. A Grand Trine is formed when at least three planets "trine" each other, forming a huge trine around the whole chart. The Grand Trine occurring from March 2nd through March 18 is a Grand Earth Trine.

Earth represents solidarity in the literal and figurative sense. As it is certain that we cannot transcend matter except by controlling it, it is necessary that the element Earth be represented in the zodiac. The Earth signs keep us anchored in the material world and equipped with the practical abilities to master its forms. Without the ability for dealing sensibly and efficiently with the material world there can be no materializing of ideals. A spiritual and practical application is the right use of material resources in Service to mankind.

Everyone: From March 13–14 that beautiful Trine sits in the middle of a Grand Cross, which is a major challenge. It is an opportunity to accomplish amazing things.

ARIES ♈ Planet: Mercury ♀ March 20 – APRIL 19

Dynamic: It may be an emotional time.

Direction: Take time to ponder.

Soul Thought: "I don't want to be at the mercy of my emotions. I want to use them, to enjoy them and to dominate them." Oscar Wilde

TAURUS ♉ Planet: Vulcan ♀ APRIL 19 – MAY 20

Dynamic: That sense of sluggishness which has been making it hard to think should lighten now.

Direction: Say what you've been holding back.

Soul Thought: Penny for your thoughts?

GEMINI ♊ Planet: Venus ♀ MAY 20 – JUNE 20

Dynamic: You understand the bigger picture, but that guy/gal is stubborn.

Direction: Consider whether it is truly a gender issue.

Soul Thought: "Men are from Mars..."

CANCER ♋ Planet: Neptune ♀ JUNE 20 – JULY 22

Dynamic: You have a lot of basic intuitive know-how.

Direction: Learn to trust it.

Soul Thought: To float or to dive deep, that is the question.

LEO ♌ Planet: Sun ☉ JULY 22 – AUG 22

Dynamic: It's exciting, starting something new.

Direction: As you launch this enterprise, take a moment to reflect upon the old.

Soul Thought: "A mind that lives in the past builds a prison it cannot escape." From the book, Atlantis Plague

VIRGO ♍ Planet: Moon ☾ AUG 22 – SEPT 22

Dynamic: Much support exists regarding your goals.

Direction: As you "feel into" this Grand Trine express your desire as aspiration.

Soul Thought: What is the Light of God?

LIBRA ♎ Planet: Uranus ♂ SEPT 22 – OCT 22

Dynamic: This new energy is more realistic and practical than energies have been.

Direction: Is it a broken spell? Or a chance to manifest the vision?

Soul Thought: Your choice.

SCORPIO ♏ Planet: Mars ♂ OCT 22 – NOV 21

Dynamic: You'd like to be more actively involved, but it's your turn to hold down the fort.

Direction: You can still accomplish much.

Soul Thought: When being the point man puts you in a triangle, not the lead.

SAGITTARIUS ♐ Planet: Earth ☷ NOV 21 – DEC 20

Dynamic: Once again, things seem to revolve around you.

Direction: Join or create a triangle to do good for the whole world.

Soul Thought: It's not about you; it's about the effect you can have on others.

CAPRICORN ♑ Planet: Saturn ♄ DEC 20 – JAN 19

Dynamic: Strong, powerful and positive are keywords for you this month.

Direction: Whatever else you do, bring others along with you.

Soul Thought: When short-term and long-term karma work together.

AQUARIUS ♒ Planet: Jupiter ♃ JAN 19 – FEB 18

Dynamic: Yes, that challenge perseveres regarding your beliefs and ideals.

Direction: It's time to be the Seeker.

Soul Thought: "If you would be a real seeker after truth, it is necessary that at least once in your life you doubt, as far as possible, all things." Rene Descartes

PISCES ♓ Planet: Pluto ♇ FEB 18 – March 20

Dynamic: A great month for the resolution of old karma.

Direction: And the building up of good karma.

Soul Thought: The Law of Cause and Effect.

To discover your Rising Sign, or for more information, contact Charlene R. Johnson, www.SkyDanceAstrology.com, or email: SkyDance@SkyDanceAstrology.com

Esoteric Astrology is focused on the rising sign more than the sun sign (we suggest you read both) and provides clarity, direction and answers for those seeking a higher level of life.

WE SHIP!

THE CANDY CRATE

Candy Mountain FUDGE

Northern New Mexico's Premier Candy Store

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300 West Main Street, Red River NM
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BRING THIS AD IN FOR 10% OFF



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facebook

Stay up to date with what's going on through out the month with Questa Del Rio News on facebook!

EL MONTE CARLO

THIRSTY THURSDAYS

5:00PM-7:00PM
DRINK & DINNER SPECIALS

2435 NM-522, QUESTA
575.586.0004



(575) 754-3028

100 W. Main St
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LOCALS DISCOUNT

OPEN EVERY DAY

Red River NM

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EST. 1959

"The store that does the gunfights!"

the JEWELRY LADY

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KIKER construction

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Instagram@jewelryladyredriver

RedRiverVacationRentals.com
ask for "4K" overnight rentals

kikerconstruction@gmail.com
(575) 770-0644

JewelryLadyRedRiver.com

FOR SALE

Freshly harvested Tipi (teepee) poles for sale. Poles are pre-order and harvested for you. Denedubbed, peeled, and dried. Delivery and set up available for an extra charge. Multiple lengths available. Contact Wendy for price: thetipilady@gmail.com or 541-497-0287.

WANTED

SCRAPPED VINTAGE VEHICLES for truck bed garden landscaping at the Farmer's Market site. Old and rusty, one piece or different parts. Contact Farmers Market Manager Gaea McGahee at (575) 224-2102 or growersmakers@gmail.com

LAND FOR SALE

35 gorgeous off-the-grid acres in Sunshine Valley. \$45,000. Call 575-586-1363

VOLUNTEER

OPPORTUNITIES

Questa Del Rio Colorado News looking for:

High School Students to work as QHS Correspondent and Social Media Support. This volunteer position offers professional training and experience!

Volunteer writers needed: Questa, San Cristobal & Lama Correspondents

Email news@questaedf.com or call 575.586.2149. Can start immediately!

NOTICES

Calling all graduating seniors!
Are you or do you know a high

school senior from Taos or Western Colfax County? If so, please consider applying for or sharing this Taos Community Foundation Scholarship Opportunity. TCF hosts 5 scholarship funds and is accepting applications for all 5 scholarship opportunities. Applications may be hand delivered to our office (115 La Posta Rd. Ste. A) or postmarked by our application deadline. Early application submissions are strongly encouraged. For our scholarship announcement, eligibility requirements, and application materials, please visit: www.taoscf.org/scholarships Deadline to apply is Thursday, April 11, 2019 @ 5:00 PM.

Roots and Wings Community School, a free public charter school in Lama, is accepting applications for kindergarten through eighth grade. Roots and Wings offers an expeditionary learning-inspired outdoor adventure program. Applications are due by March 13th. The lottery drawing will be held on March 14th. Download an application at: <http://www.rootsandwingscommunityschool.org> or call the school at 575.586.2076.

Call for Event Funding Requests
Each year, the Questa Economic Development Fund (QEDF) accepts proposals for event funding, and each year, the QEDF funds events that benefit the Questa area. The intent is to help events start or grow, with a focus on events that draw tourists to the area. This year, the QEDF will consider event funding requests for marketing and advertising expenses that attract tourists. To request an ap-

plication, email Lindsay@QuestaEDF.com. Submission deadline for event funding applications is March 15, 2019 at 5:00PM.

Mariachi Questa still has chile for sale! Green (\$9) and red medium and hot (\$7). Please spread the word!

The Catholic Daughters are collecting plastic caps from water, soda and other plastic bottles, such as Gatorade bottles. They will be sold to raise money to help a patient in Juarez get Chemo-therapy treatment. We send the caps to the Court in Las Cruces, they recycle and sell them and deliver the money to the hospital to be used for a treatment. Save all your caps for a good cause and bring them to Rael's Coffee House.

The Catholic Daughters will also have their annual fund raiser on March 17 8:00am to 12 noon at the St. Anthony Parish Center. Breakfast Burritos with green or red chili. Adults: \$6.00. Kids 5 to 12: \$5.00. Age 4 and under free. For questions ask Rosalie Ortega, Lovedia Cisneros or Cynthia Rael, 770-9249.

Bluegrass Music Jam The Juice Caboose in Red River, every Thursday night at 6:30 pm

Weekly Music Jam Rael's Coffee House in Questa, Every Thursday at 6:00 pm.

LIKE OUR NEW FACEBOOK PAGE
Questa Del Rio News. We are looking for a Social Media Volunteer to manage our FaceBook Page, Twitter, Instagram. Students Welcome!

QUESTA LODGING PROJECT CLASSIFIEDS

Call 586-2258 or email Lodging@QuestaEDF.com:

HOUSING WANTED

- **Professional female**, 2 dogs, non-smoker, seeking short-term rental or house sitting. Fantastic references, tidy and clean person. 505-863-4228.

- **Older Single female**, 2 cats, non-smoker, seeking short-term rental or willing to house share. 575-224-5357



HOUSING AVAILABLE

- **Great cabin available in Questa**, close to the river. Perfect for 1 person or a couple, 4x4 recommended during the winter months. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, modernized fully furnished with your choice of bunk beds or full-size bed space for stackable washer and dryer set. Owner is asking \$700 per month plus utilities. For further details contact Questa Lodging Project at 575-586-2258 or lodging@questedf.com

- **3 Bedroom 2 bath located in Cerro**, \$650 per month plus utilities, \$650 deposit. Washer, dryer, stove, refrigerator and wood burning stove. Contact Danny for further info 575-770-9067.



MARCH 1-2 SUNDOWN TO SUNDOWN

a 24 hour global respite from technology. it highlights the value of disconnecting from digital devices to connect with ourselves, our loved ones and our communities in real time.

Join us for national day of unplugging 2019 from sundown to sundown, march 1 - 2

JOIN THE MOVEMENT

www.nationaldayofunplugging.com

Need Something? Have Something?

LIST IT IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

Starting at flat rate \$10 for 25 words or less
(25 word min./50 word max)

For an undetermined amount of time...
**ALL CLASSIFIEDS submitted BEFORE the 10th of each month
will be FREE!**
Take advantage!

DelRioColoradoADs@gmail.com



**2019
FRIDAY
MARCH 29
10:00AM**

Meet at the La Junta or Big Arsenic trailhead
(pending word from NMDGF and BLM).

Bring your lunch, a water bottle and,
of course, your fishing rod.

Yoga Sala Schedule

Monday, 4:30-6 pm

Slo Yo with Lou.

Tuesday, 9-10:30 am

Gentle Flow/Restore with Gaea.

Wednesday evening, 5:30-7 pm

Flow/Deep Stretch with Gaea.

Thursday, 10-11:30 am

Gentle Basic Yoga with Willow

Free community yoga
on the full moon,
March 20th,
5:30 -7:00pm
(International Day of
Happiness, Come Celebrate
with Us!)

First Class Free at OCHO!

8 Highway 38, Questa
Yogasalaquesta.org
Facebook: yogasalaquesta



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR MARCH CONTRIBUTORS!

Berna Apodaca, Misty Archuleta,
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Mark Richert, Jane Stuehling,
Peggy Trigg, Shirley Trujillo,
Cynthi Rael-Vigil, Enriquetta Vigil,
Elizabeth Williams



AA MEETINGS

Sundays 10-11:00 am

Open Meeting
Questa Youth Center

Mondays 7:00pm

Harvest Questa
2558 Highway 522

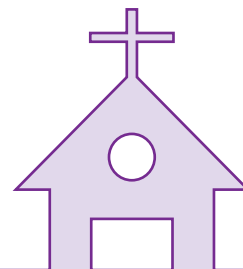
Tuesdays 7:00pm

Erik's Workshop
417 E. High St., Red River

INSPIRATION FOR MARCH

We will suddenly realize that God is doing for us what we could not do for ourselves.

—The 10th Step Promises of The Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous



CHURCH DIRECTORY

DATES TO REMEMBER

MARCH 1&2

National Day of Unplugging,
From Sundown to Sundown

MARCH 1-5

Mardi Gras in the Mountains c
ontinues in Red River

MARCH 1

1:00-3:00 PM Questa Library Kid's
Program, TWIRL!
Employee Appreciation Day

MARCH 2

Read Across America Day

MARCH 5

Fat Tuesday—Mardi Gras, the day
before Lent begins
6:00 PM Questa School Board Meeting

MARCH 6

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Enchanted Circle Day at
Legislature, State Capital in Santa Fe
2:30 - 3:00 PM BookMobile, San Cristobal
Community Center
3:15 - 4:00 PM BookMobile, Questa Post Office

MARCH 7

Ash Wednesday, 40 days of Lent begins

MARCH 8

Questa's Got Talent - deadline for auditions
1:00-3:00 PM Questa Library
Kid's Program, ArtKids!
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Free Food
at North Central NM Food Pantry!

MARCH 12

6:00 PM Questa Village Council Meeting,
Village Hall

MARCH 13

Good Samaritan Day

MARCH 15

1:00 - 3:00 PM Questa Library Kid's
Program, Homeschoolers Welcome!

MARCH 17

Happy St. Patty's Day
8:00 AM - Noon Catholic Daughters Breakfast
Burrito fundraiser

MARCH 19

6:00 PM Questa School Board Meeting
10:00 AM Red River Chamber Board Meeting,
RR Conference Center

MARCH 20

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF HAPPINESS!
5:30 - 7:00 PM Free Full Moon Community
Yoga OCHO

MARCH 21

10:30 - Noon Wildcat Kitty Club Questa Public
Library

6:00 PM Questa's Got Talent! Chile Cook-off
& Silent Auction

7:00 PM Questa's Got Talent! (see page 15)

MARCH 22

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Free Food at North
Central NM Food Pantry!
1:00 - 3:00 PM Questa Library Kid's
Program, ArtKids

MARCH 23

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Community Trash
Pick-Up Day, Eagle Rock Lake
1:30 PM Questa Library, Author Visit with
Michael Norman

MARCH 25

3:30 PM Questa Public Library Book
Club at Rael's Market (see page 14)

MARCH 26

6:00 PM Questa Village Council Meeting,
Village Hall
5:00 PM Red River Town Council,
RR Conference Center

MARCH 29

Vietnam War Veterans Day
10:00 AM Cutthroat Trout Restocking Event,
La Junta or Big Arsenic trailhead at Wild Rivers

EVERY SATURDAY DURING SKI SEASON

7:00 - 8:00 PM Torchlight Parade and
Fireworks, Red River

For a complete list of March Events
in Red River, go to <https://reddriver.org/events/calendar/2019/3>

MARCH IS

National Women's History Month
Irish-American Heritage Month
Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month
National Caffeine Awareness Month
National Brain Injury Awareness Month
National Kidney Month



QUESTA

ST. ANTHONY DE PADUA CHURCH IN QUESTA

Father Andrew Ifele 586-0470
Saturday 6pm, Sunday 7am in Spanish - 11am in
English

MISSION CHURCHES:

Sagrado Corazon in Costillo - Sunday 9am
Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe in Cerro - 2nd & 4th
Saturdays 4PM
Santo Niño in Amalia - 1st & 3rd Saturdays 4pm

HARVEST QUESTA

Pastors Kristi & Johnny Gonzales
2558 Hwy 522
Sunday 11 AM- 12:30 PM
Phone 575-770-5906
Visit us online: HarvestQuesta.org

LIVING WORD MINISTRIES

Pastors Peter and Gayle Martinez
12 Llano Road
Service: Sunday 10:30 am
Nursery and Kids' Church at 10:30am
Wednesday Bible Study 7pm
www.lwmsite.org
586-1587

PATH OF LOVE

Teachings of Herman Rednick
Sunday 8am class and meditation
586-1454, Hilece
Sunday 11am Alice Bailey Theosophy Study Group
586-4641, Francis

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Friday 8am-Green Tara
gabrielle.herbertson@gmail.com
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RED RIVER

CROSS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

(Standing in the Gap)
The Way Coffee House, 201 W. Main Street
Sunday 10:00am, Wednesday 6:30pm
Children's Church at Both Times
Pastor Chris Torres (505) 600-5859

FAITH MOUNTAIN FELLOWSHIP

Corner of River Street and Copper King Trail
Sunday 10:30am

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF RED RIVER

103 High Cost Trail
Sundays 8:15am and 10:30am
Pastor Joe Phillips 754-2882

ST. EDWIN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

North End of Silver Bell Trail
Saturday 6pm (Confession prior to Mass or by appt.)
Father Andrew Ifele 586-0470



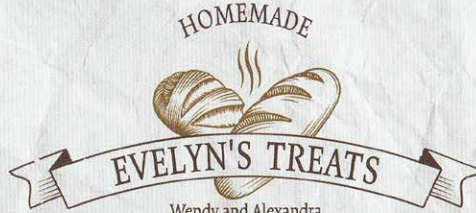
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