Cambalache 2019

Featuring Questa’s First Frito Pie Eating Contest!

BY LINDSAY MAPES

Questa is redefining itself from a post-mining economy to a diverse, picturesque community of many resources. Part of that process is determining what sets Questa apart, what is unique and how can we celebrate what is wonderful here? The answer may be in most people’s kitchens - Frito pie!

That’s right. Where else but in Questa can you find Frito pies like ours? Connoisseurs of these iconic delicacies find that Questa’s are head and shoulders above any Frito pie anywhere else. Is it the chile? Is it the presentation? Is it the fine art of layering? Who knows, but they are pretty darn good. So why not celebrate our delectable, delicious Frito pies with a contest: who can eat the most Frito pies?

We will feature Questa’s first Frito pie-eating contest during our annual harvest festival, Cambalache on Sunday, October 6.

Cambalache 2019 is one not to be missed. The Frito pie-eating contest is at 3:00 pm. The challenge before contestants is who can eat the most Frito pies in 3 minutes. Please arrive ahead of time if you want to participate in the contest. Cambalache is sure to be spectacular for the kids. Several food vendors, a cake-walk, and an old-fashioned apple press to make fresh apple cider will be available so you won’t go away hungry.

The real star of Cambalache is Cucuii. Let’s not forget the building and then the burning of Cucuii along with all our penas or worries at 6:00 pm. Cambalache is going to outdo itself this year! Questa first celebrated Cambalache in 1990, says event organizer, Cynthia Rael Vigil. There were some years when Cucuii was forgotten, but he is now a strong annual presence in Questa and getting stronger every year.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, October 6th from 10:00 am - 6:00 pm in downtown Questa at the newly renovated Questa Farmers Market space. If you’re interested in vending food or early Christmas crafts and gifts, please call Dina at 586-2258. Otherwise, bring your dancing shoes, an empty belly, and smiles for the annual Questa Cambalache.

See you there!
Greetings, Readers, thank you again for reading our publication!

Ask people what their favorite month is and so many say October. I don’t blame them, October is golden, literally. It is always inspiring to see the aspens turn and there are so many other shades of gold and red. I hope all of us take some time to breathe in the beauty of autumn.

The world stage is pretty dramatic right now. If you look at history, the crazy weird bad stuff is what eventually gets taught in schools. What will future generations be taught about the first decades of the new millennium? If I were writing the history book, first of all, I would call it her story, instead of history. And then I would examine the violence that humankind continues to perpetuate on itself—and not just on the world stage. We all see violence every day—in the news, in the movies and kids are given games to shoot and kill. Violence against each other on an interpersonal level, no matter how minor it may seem, ripples through us in ways that we may never be aware of. Many children grow up in homes with abuse and domestic violence, and they often grow up to be abusers themselves. New Mexico’s rate for domestic violence is well above the national average.

And what about those who suffer from bullying? The month of October is National Bullying Awareness Month. October 9th is National Stop Bullying Day. In October and especially on October 9th let’s be aware! Please carry that awareness with you next month and every month. As individuals and as a culture, we can stop bullying, stand up and speak up. Maybe we say that we do not know how to speak up for ourselves or stand up against bullies. It is something we can learn, and it may take practice. It also takes courage, which is much needed in this world. Keep stepping up and it will get easier and we can get better at it. Be gentle with yourself, especially if no one else is. We must stop this cycle of violence. It must be miserable, being a bully, help them out by not letting them get away with it.

When you watch grownups on the news, some have more power than they know what to do with, they abuse their power by being bullies. You have to wonder how they got away with it. Oh, yeah, we let them. Let’s stop doing that. They can be shining models of who we DO NOT want to be. Make an effort to not engage with their aggressive behavior and do not respond with anger. It helps if you think of them as a poor innocent child that was beaten up and scarred, it makes it harder to be mad at them. When you give up your own fear and anger, that is when things really change.

When nonviolence in speech, thought and action is established, one’s aggressive nature is relinquished, and others abandon hostility in one’s presence.

—The Yoga Sutras

LET’S BE NICE TO ONE ANOTHER.
Lou McCall
Editor
Costilla’s Departure from the Questa Schools: Costilla’s Perspective

I was working on my 7th year with Questa Schools when the rug was pulled out from under the Costilla community; it left us scrambling three days before school started. The Rio Costilla Southwest Learning Academy was at the center of the Costilla community. Our school was rated the highest scoring school in the district and our students had the highest achievement. We were the only school that had a PTA and the level of community and parent support was amazing. Some say that RCSLA should be the model school for the district. Instead, it was shut down.

I made the difficult decision to stay with the district and enroll my three kids at Alta Vista Elementary in Questa. Staff met with the Superintendent to discuss the changes and what possible positions were available. Every year, with each new superintendent, my contract and salary decreased, and I was given more new duties that I happily accepted. At that first meeting, it was discussed that I would be the librarian at Alta Vista two days a week and a counselor’s assistant at the High School the other two days.

Three weeks later, I was the Alta Vista secretary, assisted at the business office, the first-grade substitute and then the Alta Vista Librarian. I asked several questions for my contract and was never given one. I was also told that they would fight to keep my contract at least the same as last year. And I was also driving 45 minutes each way to work. It was time for me to walk away. My former job, which I loved, turned into a hostile work environment.

There are currently 15 employees left of the over 80 I started with back in 2013. Most left because they were being mistreated, given no support, or constantly berated by new administration or board members and was an unpleasant and unproductive environment. Contrary to what is being reported, the staff at all sites work very well together. We help each other with the common goal of moving the district forward with consistency for the students despite the revolving door of administration.

The choices made in our community were not easy. Most families decided not to participate with the Questa School District. Why would they want to be a part of that system, when we have been on the agenda 13 times since 2015 for closure? We have fought tirelessly to bring everyone in the district together to be on the same team. We invited all families and school board members to come to any event that was hosted at the school or in our community and there were many. Mrs. Garcia and I wrote Bradbury and Kids in the Parks Grants which benefited all district elementary classes, not just ours. The grants that were awarded lessened the burden on the entire district.

There is talk in the newspaper and publicly at school board meetings that is not only offensive, but untrue. The district continues to say that they only had 15 students registered. Technically that is true, only because of an online registration system which did not allow students to be registered in Costilla. Only 15 students were able to register in the PowerSchool system. The majority of Costilla students were not yet registered for school at the time the school was closed. Some parents were locked out of their PowerSchool accounts and could not find help or reset their passwords in order to register their child. The system would also not allow parents to transfer their students to Costilla from Alta Vista. They were told to register them under Alta Vista and then I would transfer the students over to Costilla. I was never given access to the registration system as I had in the past, so I was unable to complete student registrations, no one was.

Normally when the Costilla students participate in the summer school program at Alta Vista, they are transferred to Alta Vista and then transferred back to Costilla before school starts in the fall. The students were never transferred back to Costilla after the program ended this year in July, so no, they were not registered in Costilla. The true number for students registered in Costilla was over 30. I am currently obtaining affidavits from each parent stating that if the system was working properly, their child would be registered at Costilla and attending school there. The student enrollment is important because this number continues to be the reason to justify the closure and for not doing the repairs on the building.

There has also been petty talk and accusations against the community of Costilla, for example saying that items were taken from the school by our community members (a ladder was taken by the administration several years ago and never returned to the Costilla Site). It was the reason the superintendent and some board members went hunting through the school to find items that were supposedly missing. That is when they found the moldy smell in the condemned part of the old school building, a place they were not allowed to be in, in the first place.

In addition, there were accusations that Costilla staff were responsible for damages in the school during the summer when we had no access to that building. There are cameras on site, but instead of reviewing them, they continue to make accusations. There is so much division in the district, which wastes time, is not productive and the students suffer.

I am sad and disappointed by this situation, the way it was handled and the outcome. I LOVED my job, the staff and the students. I will never forget the friendships and love that I felt from everyone there. The Rio Costilla Southwest Learning Academy was a very special place, and really good for the community--and the school district.

Megan Jenkins

Electronic construction of the old building is underway. The school was the model school for the district. The community loved the school, and the students. The school was a special place, and really good for the community–and the school district.

Megan Jenkins

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Friendly reminder: We welcome contributions from our readers, in fact, that is what this publication is all about. Please be respectful and considerate of our deadline for articles—the 15th of the month. If you write something ahead of time, send it in, don’t wait until the 15th! We understand that things come up, so please send us what you have, regardless of the date, send it anyway.

Being a monthly paper has its challenges. Primary among them is the time-sensitive nature of every aspect of generating a newspaper. Because of this, articles submitted late will be considered for the following month.

We are literally holding space for your submissions, and the layout of the newspaper cannot proceed until all articles are in, formatted, copy edited, photos received with captions and photo credit. Then the article is ready for placement on the appropriate page.

Most articles are more interesting with a photograph. Low-resolution photographs such as those copied off Facebook cannot be used be used for print media. Please turn on the HDR function on your camera if you are taking a photo to accompany an article. We also need to know who took the photo and we appreciate a caption.

We know you love our paper, as much as we love sharing it with you. Please support us by submitting your complete contributions, to be considered by the 15th of each month. We know that the cosmic wheels are accelerating and everyone is busy. This is an opportunity for us to honor our work together. Thank you for helping our production staff create this community resource. Your co-operation and contributions are greatly appreciated.

Lou McCall, Editor

STAND UP AND SPEAK UP!
DO NOT BE BULLIED!

I am speaking up and standing up!
YOU CAN TOO!

Tommy Jeanelli is Supporting National Bullying Prevention Month
Questa Grieves the Loss of Senator Carlos Cisneros

STAFF WRITERS

The death of Carlos Cisneros came as a shock to everyone, especially his hometown of Questa. He was most known as being Senator Carlos Cisneros, but to many members of the Questa Community, he was known as Carlos, friend, uncle, brother and advocate. Born on May 13, 1948, he passed away unexpectedly of a heart attack on September 17th. He was 71.

Fellow State Senator Michael Padilla, announced the news and a spokesman for the Senate Democratic Caucus confirmed Cisneros’ death. Senator Padilla said, "Very sad to report that my colleague, Senator Carlos Cisneros, passed away earlier today. My colleagues and I are incredibly shocked, and hope that we can all keep his family in our prayers. Dios te bendiga mi amigo.”

According to the Senator’s nephew, Juan Cisneros of Questa, his uncle had undergone treatment for heart problems in the past and was thought to have fully recovered, even recently announcing his candidacy for re-election in 2020.

The Senator attended the University of Montana and New Mexico Highlands University. He was an insurance agent and worked for the Union Oil Company of California. As a younger man, he worked at the Questa Molycoor Mine and was president of his local union. Until his death he was a tireless advocate for labor issues and was known for sticking up for the little guy. His political career began in earnest as a Taos County Commissioner. He was on the Board of Trustees for the Kit Carson Electric Cooperative and a Board Member of Taos County Community Mental Health Services.

Cisneros was a long time Democrat and worked tirelessly for his constituency in Northern New Mexico, a large geographic area spanning Taos County and parts of Mora, Rio Arriba and Los Alamos Counties. “He was a champion for northern New Mexico who loved serving our state. He will be greatly missed,” Senate Majority Leader Peter Wirth said.

Cisneros was in the New Mexico State Senate for 34 years, since 1985. He was the longest-serving Democrat in the Senate before his death. He served on the powerful Senate Finance Committee for years as the committee’s vice-chair under Sen. John Arthur Smith, D-Deming. Senator Cisneros was essential in creating the state’s annual budget and in the appropriation of funds. Senator Cisneros was noted for his strength in fiscal issues, “He was very, very responsible when it came to state finances,” Smith said. He will be remembered for being a champion of acequia issues and fought to pass legislation to protect both New Mexico’s water and its farmers.

Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham said of his death, “I am completely shocked and deeply saddened to learn of the unexpected death of Carlos Cisneros. The senator faithfully served Northern New Mexico and our state for more than three decades. His leadership and friendship will be sorely missed.”

The Senate Republican Caucus said they are in mourning. Senator Cisneros was known for working across the aisle to get things done for New Mexico.

“We grieve the loss for his family and friends, his Senate district in Northern New Mexico and we grieve for the entire state,” said his Republican colleagues.

“Senator Cisneros was a dedicated public servant whose sincere desire was to improve the condition of the state so all New Mexicans could flourish and thrive.

Senator Cisneros is survived by three children, sons Thomas (wife Andrea), Bryan (wife Maria), daughter Tasha Cisneros, Grandchildren Phillip, Kristen, Bella Cisneros and Great Grandson Ezra Cisneros, wife Patsy of 38 years, sister Olivia Rael and many family and friends. He is preceded in death by his parents, Cornelio and Salud Cisneros, and many siblings.

Funeral arrangements were made through the Riverside Funeral Home. A public viewing was held at the State of New Mexico Capitol Building where Senator Cisneros laid in state on Friday, September 27, 2019 from noon until 4:30 PM in the Rotunda. The Funeral Services were held the next day, Saturday, September 28 at 5:00 PM at the Light at Mission Viejo Church, 4601 Mission Bend Road in Santa Fe, NM. Services in Northern New Mexico will be announced.

Senator Carlos Cisneros

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Questa Needs More Short-Term Rentals!

BY LINDSAY MAPES

As Questa receives more publicity and recognition as a mecca for untapped wilderness and authentic, hospitable people, the tourists will follow (hopefully not in droves!). Nonetheless, we expect an uptick in guests in the coming months and an increase next summer.

However, we are still challenged with spaces for guests to spend the night. While we have places like the Questa Lodge, the Kachina Motel, and Sierra Hermosa, it is not enough. Airbnb and VRBO, two online platforms that offer short-term rentals of people’s homes, extra bedrooms, RVs, and in some cases even tents, has seen more adoption by homeowners (and tent owners) of the area, and it is still not enough. We need more people to list their homes for rent online.

Oddly, these short-term rental platforms have created major housing issues in other tourist towns, such as Taos, which has around 250 properties listed on Airbnb. Questa had 13 listings but has now dropped to 10.

As Questa continues to build on existing events, like the Wild Rivers Plein Air Festival, and introduces new events like a bicycle gravel grinder, guests will need accommodations. Not to mention growing needs from an overflowing Red River during Fourth of July, the Motorcycle Rally, and other popular weekends.

If you have questions about listing a home for rent or if you have a vacant home you would like to rent but need some free help fixing it up first, or if you have a room, RV, tent, hammock, tree house - just about anything a person could sleep in, please call the Questa Economic Development Fund or the San Antonio del Rio Colorado Historic Preservation to learn how you could benefit financially and help Questa grow its tourism economy at 586-2149.
Taos Bakes in Questa

By LOU MCCALL

Since the first issue of our paper in February of 2018, the local company, Taos Mountain Energy Bars, has been a good friend to the community of Questa and the Questa Del Rio News. As of June 1st of this year, the company has been re-branded and is now Taos Bakes. They have made changes to their business model and marketing but still have the same great products—six different flavors of all-natural energy bars. They will introduce a seventh in November.

Co-founders, Kyle Hawari and Brooks Thostenson, grew up together in Dallas, Texas. Kyle went off to Yale as a history major and Brooks was a Markets and Culture major at Southern Methodist University. They were ski bums after college, took a trip to Taos, and ate energy bars that were available only to discover how bad most of them were. Many are not made with natural ingredients, nor produced with methods that would remind one of home cooking. The bars these young men created are baked, rather than squirited out of machines like most other bars. This is one of the reasons that the name was changed to Taos Bakes.

Kyle and Brooks started talking about what a truly wondrous energy bar could be. Brooks grew up with the sweet treat Scotcheroos, which he often craved while skiing. They were made with Rice Krispies®, peanut butter with chocolate and butterscotch chips. This was the inspiration for their first energy bar, a great idea was born.

They started their business in 2010, making their bars at the Taos Community Kitchen. They are high in protein and very nutritious. A typical list of ingredients on the wrapper would include nuts, organic honey, organic coconut sugar, unsweetened dried fruit, organic seeds, such as chia and sesame, organic blackstrap molasses and coarse sea salt AND many of the bars have chocolate! Their first brand, Taos Mountain Energy Bars were marketed to the outdoor crowd who would eat them on ski lifts, on the trail, while hiking or biking. The bars also appeal to a broader audience which is one reason they changed their name; they are popular with kids, travelers and just about anyone who tries them, and they are delicious! The new packaging has a face on it because they want to remember that the bars are made by real people, for real people.

The company moved to the Questa Business Park in 2016 and has a 10,000 square foot facility. One reason they moved there was because it was 100% powered by solar energy and Kyle and Brooks were committed to investing in the green economy. The location has its challenges, for shipping and transportation, especially, and they think it is all worth it. Now they are a national brand and ship to all 50 states. They currently have 30 employees and are on track to double their revenue in the next year. Kyle, the Chief Executive Officer and Brooks, the Chief Innovation Officer, are excited that they will continue to grow the company and, in the future can hire more local people, providing a living wage for Questeños with jobs that allow people and families to grow. Kyle and Brooks have an investment in the Questa community and are here to stay. They are keeping it real!

1st Annual Pumpkin Carving Contest
Saturday, October 26, 2019
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Two Age Categories: Children: 12 & Under • Juniors: 13-18
For more info, registration and rules contact:
Danielle at 575-586-0414 or danielle@questalumber.com

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By LINDSAY MAPES

If you have a smart phone, read New Mexico Magazine, or talk to just about anyone in Questa, you’ve probably seen or heard Questa’s recent splash in the media. Folks from around the region are taking an interest in Questa; they’ve been hearing of our untouched wilderness, our National Monument, and the warm people of the north. And the attention is spreading.

Two promotional videos for Questa were shot over the summer and released at the end of August. The videos open with three men riding horses in the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument at sunset while a person with a Northern New Mexico accent talks about the beauty of Questa. The first time I saw them I cried—what a special place filled with kind, hospitable people. I was moved.

The videos were created thanks to a grant from Chevron to the Questa Economic Development Fund (QEDF) to create tourism videos to promote Questa. From the seven-day video shoot in June, two videos were developed: one to attract the younger, nature-oriented Colorado tourist and the second to attract the Texas hunting and ATV-riding tourist.

The videos paint Questa as a village rich with Spanish culture with the San Antonio Church at the center, and a community with a thriving arts scene with some great studio shots. Primarily, the focus of both videos are on the pristine forests, mountains, and rivers that surround Questa. If you have not yet seen the videos, they are posted on the Visit Questa Facebook page.

Just after the video release, the September edition of New Mexico Magazine hit the press with a 6-page spread focusing on Questa’s rebound since the closure of the mine. While the article may not have all the facts straight, the word got out to 70,000 subscribers that Questa is open for business and on an upward trajectory ready for tourism.

Another article about Questa is set to come out in the nationally distributed Drake Magazine that focuses on fly fishing and one more article will appear in High Country News this fall.

The positive press celebrating Questa as an authentic and incredibly scenic destination creates a sense of pride. It is a heart-warming affirmation that the outside world recognizes what people here have known all along: there is no better place to be than Questa.

Videos promoting Questa as a tourist destination focus on Questa's scenic beauty. One promo focuses on the "Texas" market, with cowboys, horses, ATVs and hunting.

One promo video focuses on the younger Colorado crowd with mountain biking, rock climbing, hiking and running. Both videos offer stunning cinematography of Questa's scenic beauty.

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By NICK NAGAWIECKI

Saturday, October 13th, get ready, get set, go! Pick Your Poison Races get underway in the Rio Grande Del Norte National Monument. Taos County is known for its diverse and intense natural landscape, but the Pick Your Poison race distinguishes itself as the only race that actually goes down into the Rio Grande Gorge. The race, now in its third year, takes the runner through a perfect cross-section of the environment, all the way down to the river. The race is a technical challenge as racers need to use their skills to navigate the rocky, gravelly, sloped terrain.

Don't be too intimidated by the run because there is plenty of room for racers to take their time and enjoy the scenery. After making their way down to the river, past the ancient petroglyphs and cascading streams, runners will have to make a grueling ascent back to the top to complete the loop. This physical act will engage every muscle in your body and is an excellent reprieve for long distance runners who want to challenge their technical skills.

There will be two races to choose from. The Little Arsenic 5K Race, and the Big Arsenic 10K. Pick your poison. Our readers are encouraged to sign up for the race online at www.pickyourpoisonrace.com or visit the Facebook page, “Pick Your Poison Race,” for more information. There will also be a signup event at El Monte Carlo Lounge in Questa on October 12th from 5:30-7:30 pm, the day before the races begin. The Questa High School Drama Club will be hosting a spaghetti dinner for the prospective runners that night. If Questa del Rio News readers sign up with the code, “questalocal,” they will get a $10 discount from whichever race they sign up for.

Come out to the race, either as a runner, walker, or spectator to engage this wonderful and unique natural environment with your local running community!
Beaver ponds are a tremendous help for restoring streams and create wonderful conditions to grow big fish!

By TONER MITCHELL

Given northern New Mexico’s abundance of small streams, it’s no surprise that we also have lots of small trout. Less water flowing in a stream produces fewer aquatic insects, by far the most important part of a trout’s diet. Deep pools, critical resting places during periods of temperature stress, aren’t as common as instreams as in rivers which results in shorter lifespans and, thus, shorter fish.

A lot of new information is emerging these days about the benefits of beavers. Though disruptive with all their damming and tree-felling, the old wives’ tales about beavers being bad for streams have been proven questionable and in many cases, wrong. What’s not debatable, however, is how beaver ponds grow big trout.

Beaver ponds create the kind of conditions that small streams lack. First of all, they’re rarely short of water, since they store so much water in surrounding floodplains. During times of drought, water stored in adjacent spongy soils releases slowly to stream channels to keep them running. Stored groundwater is usually colder than surface water, which enables trout to thrive. Again, more water produces more insects, and deep, still ponds enable trout to survive winters and live longer. Older fish, especially when they’re well-fed, are bigger fish.

Beavers are doing well in Taos County which is awesome for fishermen. Name a creek – Rito de la Olla, Rio Fernando, Rio Chiquito, Rio Hondo, Columbine Creek, and even the Red River – and it’s probably got some happy beavers in it, and probably some big brown trout.

Cabresto Creek has plenty of ponds along its length where you can see the shadows of cruising trout from 14 to 16 inches long. On a recent excursion about 5 miles down from Midnight Meadows, I was trying to catch just one of these elusive submarines and having little success. Certainly, when the sun is out, one has to remember how spooky fish can be and keep expectations in check. On that day, however, there was also the possibility that the big brown trout I saw were worried about being eaten by something besides me, for out of the weeds near my feet swam a brown trout the size of a beaver. Two feet long if it was two inches, ten pounds if an ounce. This fish was probably born when the Chevron mine was still in operation and, if not for its beaver-created paradise, it would have died a long time ago.

You can’t just walk up to a beaver dam and hope to catch a lifetime trophy because fish don’t grow so huge by being stupid. As a youngster, the fish would have bolted at the sight of anything that stood out from its accustomed surroundings, bright colors, quick motions, waves crossing the pond. Over time, this fish responded to such alarms by simply keeping its mouth closed, and by eating only when it felt completely comfortable. Now, this beast probably only eats during low or no light hours and takes its meals in big bites.

Increase your chances of catching beaver pond lunkers by approaching slowly, finding something to hide behind, and by studying the water for several minutes, spotting fish, noting the locations of snags as well as what the fish might be eating. Don’t even think about fishing until you’ve developed a plan for how to conceal yourself from fish and how to get them to bite.

Cast from behind obstacles and from shade. If you can, throw your casts when fish are otherwise occupied, swimming away from you. If fishing flies, drop your casts in the path of a cruising fish, leading it by as much as the length of six to ten fish. As the fish approaches, twitching your fly to life may stimulate a strike.

If targeting super large fish, throw your lure or plug near woody debris or other types of structure. Understand that such fish will most likely be out in the open in the very early morning and late in the day. It is reasonable to think that such fish don’t eat frequently. Perhaps one will eat a ten-inch trout on a full moon night and not again for a week. Big fish will eat ducklings, mice, frogs, and snakes. I heard of one big brown trout that gulped down a baby beaver. For these fish, you will not get many shots, better to make one good cast than many mediocre ones.

If you get a big one on the line, you’re pretty much on your own among all the downed logs and weed beds that are so common in beaver ponds. Strong line helps, as well as one’s willingness to take chances, wading deep, even swimming. More than anything, though, it all comes down to luck.

The New Mexico Department of Game & Fish releases trout into Eagle Rock Lake during the USFS National Public Lands Day and Fish Fiesta on Saturday, September 23.
The Law of Attraction Works: You Are What You Think

This cosmic law says that our minds are very powerful and what we focus on, with emotion, becomes our reality.

In a nutshell: You are what you think. Quantum physicists have found, to their complete surprise, that matter is affected by thought, a discovery that rocked the boat for the scientific community.

Scientists have since peered into the life of our trillions of cells and found that they are actually responding to our thoughts and beliefs. What we say to ourselves about who we are and how we age does matter!

As the science of epigenetics shows, our fate is not controlled by our genes. Instead, non-genetic factors over which we do have control send signals to our genes to express themselves differently. More specifically, our beliefs and behaviors including diet, exercise, attitude, prayer, and our thoughts and responses to life strongly influence the expression of our genes.

This is good news, my friend! For me it means the Alzheimer's gene I have inherited has the opportunity to remain in the off position. I spent five years accepting the early symptoms of Alzheimer's as my fate. Then, fifteen years ago, I made a conscious choice to reverse early Alzheimer's with a program of practices and it worked. Now Alzheimer's is just an unexpressed potential in my life.

Science and metaphysics agree that vibration is the core, the elemental essence, of everything. The Law of Attraction is about vibration. All energy possesses a unique vibrational signature. And for over a century, scientists have known that all matter, too, is formed of energy vibrating at specific frequencies.

The Law of Attraction means like attracts like: packets of energy vibrating at a particular frequency attract other packets of energy vibrating at the same frequency.

You are a living magnet. The Law of Attraction says the energy of your thoughts attracts the energy of other thoughts that are similar. And each thought, emotion and action resonate with whatever has the same vibrational frequency.

Everything that comes to you, you are attracting whether it's something you want or not. What is now solid matter began as a thought, and every day we think approximately twelve thousand to fifty thousand thoughts. The fleeting, random thoughts have little effect on us, but the ones we repeat to ourselves over and over – the ones we invest with emotion, be it love or fear – have a powerful effect on our health and well-being.

La Ley de Atracción Funciona: Eres Lo Que Piensas

La Ley de Atracción es una de las Leyes Universales que ha gobernado todo el cosmos desde el comienzo de la creación. Hoy, los nuevos descubrimientos científicos revelan lo que muchos sabios maestros y sanadores han enseñado durante siglos: nuestros pensamientos y creencias crean nuestra realidad.

Al igual que la gravedad, la Ley de Atracción funciona tanto si creemos en ella como si no, y si la usamos a sabiendas o no. Esta ley cósmica dice que nuestras mentes son muy poderosas y en lo que nos enfocamos, con emoción, se convierten en nuestra realidad.

En pocas palabras: eres lo que piensas.

Los físicos cuánticos han descubierto, para su gran sorpresa, que la materia se ve afectada por el pensamiento, un descubrimiento que le movió el piso a la comunidad científica.

Desde entonces, los científicos han observado la vida de nuestros trillones de células y han descubierto que en realidad están respondiendo a nuestros pensamientos y creencias. ¡Lo que nos decimos a nosotros mismos sobre quiénes somos y cómo envejecemos es bien importante!

Como muestra la ciencia de la epigenética, nuestro destino no está controlado por los genes. En cambio, los factores no genéticos sobre los cuales sí tenemos control les envían señales a nuestros genes para expresarse de diferentes maneras. Más específicamente, nuestras creencias y comportamientos, incluyendo la dieta, el ejercicio, la actitud, la oración y nuestros pensamientos y respuestas a la vida influyen con mucha fuerza en la expresión de nuestros genes.

¡Estas son buenas noticias, amigos! Para mí significa que el gen de Alzheimer que heredé tiene la oportunidad de permanecer en la posición de apagado. Pasé cinco años aceptando los primeros síntomas de la enfermedad de Alzheimer como mi destino. Más tarde, hace quince años, tomé una decisión consciente de revertir el Alzheimer que comenzaba con un programa de prácticas y me funcionó. Ahora el Alzheimer es solo un potencial no expresado en mi vida.

La ciencia y la metafísica coinciden en que la vibración es el núcleo, la esencia elemental de todo. La Ley de Atracción trata sobre las vibraciones. Toda la energía posee una firma vibratoria única. Y durante más de un siglo, los científicos han sabido que toda la materia también está formada por energía que vibra a frecuencias específicas.

La Ley de Atracción significa que todo atrae a su semejante; los paquetes de energía que vibran a una frecuencia particular atraen a otros paquetes de energía que vibran en la misma frecuencia.

Eres un imán viviente. La Ley de Atracción dice que la energía de tus pensamientos atrae la energía de otros pensamientos que son similares. Y cada pensamiento, emoción y acción resuenan con lo que tenga la misma frecuencia vibratoria.
THE UNDISPUTABLE CONNECTION BETWEEN SUGAR, DEGENERATIVE DISEASES, AND ADDICTION

Our greatest creation is our own life. We are a reflection of our inner thinking and focus as well as that which we put into our bodies for nutrition or enjoyment. A diet high in carbohydrates leads to craving more carbohydrates. Sugar and alcohol are carbohydrates that are well known for their ability to lead to craving for more. That which is beyond a casual consumption of sugar or alcohol brings about chemical imbalances in the body that can then interfere with the brain’s ability to function properly leading to reactions as listed above.

It is important to understand that there are other factors that can cause a drop in blood glucose including legal and illegal drugs, stress, a critical illness, or going without food for an extended period. As for the legal drugs, consider searching “drugs that cause hypoglycemia list” on the internet. You can also check for medications that you may be taking that could affect your blood sugar levels as well as their possible side effects.

Again, the list of unhealthy symptoms stemming from ingesting sugar is extensive. Here are a few more: irregular heart rhythm, fatigue, anxiety, and visual disturbances. Because the list of hidden sugars is extensive, I suggest the website The Ultimate List of Hidden Sugars. You will discover detailed explanations of the hidden sugars and their effects on the body. It is easy, quick reading and well worth the time.

Chris Prentiss, founder of Passages, a rehabilitation center in California, has written a book that is a very powerful approach to recovery from addictions, The Alcoholism and Addiction Cure – A Holistic Approach to Total Recovery: How to heal the underlying causes, How to end relapse and How to end suffering. This book is highly endorsed and reports for the Passages approach to addiction are strong. Prentiss states: “What I want for you is that you live your life peacefully, happily and in good health, being completely free of the need to use addictive substances or behaviors. To accomplish that, you and I are going on a journey into the inner recesses of your mind and body where live the causes of your dependency. There are only four.

Cause 1: Chemical imbalance
Cause 2: Unresolved events from the past
Cause 3: Beliefs you hold that are inconsistent with what is true
Cause 4: Inability to cope with current conditions

Cause 1: Chemical imbalance is the main culprit in dependency. Not only can physical problems in our body cause chemical imbalances, but when Causes 2, 3 and 4 are present, they also create a chemical imbalance within us. So even though you could say that all dependency is caused by a chemical imbalance, and you would be correct, you must still uncover the specifics of Causes 2, 3 and 4 that may be at work within you and heal them if you are to be forever free of dependency.

I feel this is one of the most helpful books available on the subject – effective, holistic, up to date, and provides complete guidance for one’s life in this regard. For anyone wishing to purchase the Chris Prentiss book, The Alcoholism and Addiction Cure - for themselves or possibly a loved one - the ISBN # is 978-0-943015-44-6

As we always say, read labels on all your foods to make sure there are no hidden sugars or other undesirable ingredients. Food markets should have a sign as you enter that says “BEWARE – PROCESSED FOODS!”
Madeline Miller Reflects on her Ute Mountain Artist Residency

By NICK NAGAWIECKI

NN: Could you please describe the artist’s residency program for our readers?

MM: It’s currently a program for emerging women artists. It’s a chance to give those women a space to do art uninterrupted as if it’s their job without the burdens of dealing with finance. Jill is the woman who runs it and this is the second year and I am only the second resident. I was just able to delve into the kind of artwork I like to do and take it wherever I want to go. Both myself and the previous resident (Lynnette Haozous) have had ongoing projects that are left there. So, Lynnette did the murals and then I put together a naturalist journal. It was very open-ended.

NN: What is your background in art?

MM: I always enjoyed drawing as a kid, and high school was the first time I thought that I might have some talent. I took all of the art classes in high school that I could and then took courses in college. I ended up majoring in fine arts but didn’t switch until halfway through my junior year. I had been taking art classes that whole time to at least get a minor in Art.

I graduated from Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg, Virginia in 2016. I never imagined having any sort of career or job involving art. It was just what gave me energy and if I hadn’t majored in it, I never would have had a chance to use my talents to their potential, and I never envisioned having a career in it. Since graduation, I’ve had a couple shows here and there. We laid low in Virginia before moving out here.

NN: What themes did you wish to explore in your residency?

MM: For my senior show in college, I was exploring general themes like the cycle of life and death and how they’re different sides of the same coin. And I’m looking at compositional comparisons between trees and humans to show the connectedness of the different systems that go into making these natural forms.

The naturalist journal I kept during my residency has encouraged me to understand the landscape over time and to understand how things relate to each other over months or days. The way that the landscape changes became an important part of my work.

NN: What impact did the nearby area have on your residency and your work?

MM: Documenting natural systems in Sunshine Valley changed my notions of how I perceive nature. I was more intentional about noticing changes and noticing repeating patterns. I thought a lot about how Ute Mountain changes. How big it looks throughout the day depending on the type of light. You just notice these things: how the light changes, how the landscape looks, wind patterns, growth patterns, (and) something as simple as the howling patterns of coyotes.

NN: Did you explore anywhere else besides Sunshine Valley for your work?

MM: We made a point of going down Sunshine Valley Road so that we could make it to the river. I saw a lot of the wildflowers that I drew that way. But also, we went up on the mountains frequently. We went up on Ute Mountain twice and into the Sangre de Cristo Mountains regularly.

For the naturalist journal, I wanted to include things like the gorge and the river and then going up Columbine Trail and the Latir Peaks area. I definitely expanded the scope of the project.

NN: What effect will the residency have on your future in art?

MM: I think it’s made me quite a bit more competent as an artist. My skills have visibly improved throughout the year just by doing art almost every day. So that motivates me to continue in my career. I would love to take my work process from the naturalist journal with me wherever I go and use it as a tool to learn about my environment.

For the time being, I’m ready to go back to a more rigid work life. The self-discipline was really difficult for me to work with, so I want to work in a more structured environment before going back to a career in art. I learned how to make my own frames for my artwork and I was able to develop my Etsy store. I gained all of the building blocks to set up a small art business.

NN: What words of advice would you give for future artists in the residency?

MM: I would just say to be open to exploring whatever new ideas you have, even if you are inexperienced with what that may entail. Be patient and kind to yourself. There were times when I felt like I was not producing enough work, but just being gracious towards yourself and what you have achieved will go a long way toward helping you achieve your goals.

In order to learn more about Madeline Miller’s work, you can visit her website at madelinejmiller.wixsite.com/artwork and you can browse her work on her Etsy Shop: MMiller Artwork.
Children K-12 entered the 11th Annual Emerging Artist Show at the Costilla Plaza on September 7th and 8th as part of the 21st Annual Rio Costilla Studio Tour. The Emerging Artists Show accepts works by youth on both sides of the state line from Colorado and New Mexico. Ninety-one visitors cast ballots during the Tour, with 7th Grader Jacob Vallejos of Costilla winning the People’s Choice Award of $100 for his drawing “What Makes My Community Special”. In addition to the People’s Choice Award, all entries were evaluated by professional artists with prizes and awards for first, second, and third prizes and Honorable Mentions. Studio Tour artists donated funds, held a garage sale, and a fundraiser which included a silent auction of artist-rendered tote bags, $800 was raised which was distributed to area youth with a total of $535 in cash awards and $300 in art supplies in four age categories – Pre K-3, 4-6, 7 & 8, 9-12.

**PRIZE WINNERS FROM THE EMERGING ARTIST SHOW**

**Pre K through 3rd Grade:**
- Amalia Roybal, Pre-K Honorable Mention
- Lucia Roybal, 2nd Grade, 3rd Place, Art Supplies and $10.

**Grades 4-6**
- Marissa Ortiz, 6th Grade, 1st Prize, Art Supplies and $50.
- Melissa Andrianos, 7th Grade, 3rd Place, Art Supplies and $10.
- Jacob Vallejos, People’s Choice Award, Art Supplies and $100.

**Grades 7-8**
- Marissa Ortiz, 6th Grade, 1st Prize, Art Supplies and $50.
- Melissa Andrianos, 7th Grade, 3rd Place, Art Supplies and $10.
- Jacob Vallejos, People’s Choice Award, Art Supplies and $100.

The purpose of the Emerging Artist Show is:
1. To encourage the artistic and creative interests of the children in our community.
2. To give families a method of engagement in the arts.
3. To provide community outreach to children, parents and among widely dispersed small communities within our geographical area.
4. To give the artists a broader method of participation in community interests.

The art supplies distributed annually to prize winners include clay, sculpture tools, acrylics, watercolors, easels, mannequins, charcoals, paintbrushes, oils, canvases, portfolios, pencils, kneaded erasers, and photo supplies. It is our intention to provide the youth with professional-level supplies and financial rewards reflective of their commitment, effort, craftsmanship, and skills. Information about the tour and show may be seen online www.riocostillaart.com.

The Rio Costilla Studio Tour wishes to thank those community members and sponsors who invest in the next generation of thinkers, artists and craftsmen! Thank you to Art Teachers, Studio Tour Artists, Costilla and Taos Counties, KRZA Radio, Rio Costilla Park, Karen Ahlgren Studio, Kircher Studio and Santistevan Family Farmer’s Insurance. For those of you who donated to this endeavor a big heartfelt “Thank You!”

“Art does not solve problems, but makes us aware of their existence,” sculptor Magdalena Abakanowicz has said. Arts education, on the other hand, does solve problems. Years of research show that it’s closely linked to almost everything that we as a nation say we want for our children and demand from our schools: academic achievement, social and emotional development, civic engagement, and equitable opportunity.

—Fran Smith, Edutopia

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**5X5 Art Show & Sale**

**Benefiting the Shuter Library of Angel Fire**

“You’ve heard that good things come in small packages? How about fabulous mixed-media art on 5”x5” canvases? The Shuter Library in Angel Fire is inviting you to come October 5th 5:00-7:30 p.m. to browse through the art from artists across the Enchanted Circle, enjoy some snacks, music and beverages – and maybe take a piece home for just $55! Find out more at shuterlibrary.net. For questions, contact Melody Costa, Library Director, 575-377-6755, director@shuterlibrary.net
Ready to Open: La Sala in Questa

By GAEA MCGAHEE

A yoga and multi-use studio and event space will open in Questa this month. This studio will be home to Yoga Sala, an organization promoting wellness and health through mindful movement and simple meditative practice. Owner Gaea McGahee has a mission for the new space: to support a culture of health. Across many languages, sala refers to a special place; living room, dance hall, or community house (Spanish), or sheltering sala trees (Sanskrit). The name was given by Jeannie Masters and contains that intention for the space.

“Our Sala will be available for community uses that align with our mission. It's a performance space, and can host dances, music events, support expressive arts, and offer a variety of classes. This space is meant to be of service,” says owner, Gaea McGahee.

She and collaborators have been envisioning this kind of space for years, mainly to support their community work and passions. Gaea organizes Questa Farmers Market and teaches yoga at OCHO where Yoga Sala (YogaSalaQuesta.org) got its start and has long been supported. She also teams up with Claire Coté, director of LEAP - Land, Experience and Art of Place, on a variety of events and projects. LEAP and the farmers market are programs of the non-profit, Localogy.org. Through Localogy there will be non-profit offerings under the name Sala Reach. These will include mindfulness and movement classes for individuals living with PTSD, for veterans, and programs for kids. La Sala will host Questa Creative Council’s chamber music concerts as well as hold Sala music and film events.

Renovation to make an energy-efficient, accessible, and beautiful studio has been underway for over 18 months. Since purchasing the building in February of 2018 renovation efforts were slow and steady, but a 30-day fundraising campaign through Kickstarter (La Sala - Yoga and Community Space, http://kck.st/2JLs8F0) has helped the project speed up. The campaign passed its fundraising goal on August 22nd, thanks to many local contributions and donations from much farther away. “Online fundraising platforms mean a community in a very broad sense can back a project. Friends, and friends of friends, contributed and donations came from all over the US plus Ukraine, Berlin, and Denmark. It's amazing!” says Gaea.

In her request for donations, Gaea wrote that she was “inspired by the resilient spirit in and around Questa specifically through organizing Questa Farmers Market, formalized in 2017.” She believes that small, local markets can regenerate communal and economic life and she works to facilitate the creation of such spaces because infrastructure that is useful and welcoming will support community members coming together.

“I’ve been working on La Sala with these principles in mind, and the vision is one of a simple, functional and beautiful studio that works for yoga and other modalities, plus host community events!” says Gaea.

“The Sala is on the main road, Highway 522 and is easy to spot on the east side of the highway just south of Questa Lumber and almost directly across the street from the laundromat and ArtQuesta. This space has a history and many in the community know it well. Built in the 1950s by the Archuletta family, the building was originally a filling station. Its function changed over the years. People remember it as a bookshop, thrift store, coffee shop, chamber of commerce, glass blowing studio, a residence, and even a yoga studio!

The Sala is privately owned and operated and has a community mission. It will be available for those working toward greater community health: teachers and individuals with projects that support a culture of health. To learn more go to LaSalaQuesta.com and subscribe to “News” or go to YogaSalaQuesta.org. Also, Instagram and Facebook at Yoga Sala Questa. Reach out to Gaea at 575-224-2102, or yogasalaquesta@gmail.com.

SCHEDULE
Yoga and Tai Chi / Qi Gong schedule begins October 12 at La Sala: Special one-time classes:
October 12, Saturday morning, 9:30-10:45
Yoga for Service Veterans, Carrie
October 13, Sunday evening, Oct 13, 5:00 - 6:00 pm
Free Community Class, Restorative Yoga, Mike
October 14, Monday evening, 6:00 - 7:00 pm
Tai Chi/Qi Gong for PTSD, Mike
October 23, Wednesday morning, 8:00-9:00 am
Introduction to Tai Chi 10 Form, Mike
October 28, Monday morning, 8:00-9:00 am
Yoga Vinyasa/Flow class, Mike

Weekly classes:
Tuesday, 9:00-10:30 am
Gentle Flow + Restore, Gaea

Loui’s Monday class has moved to Wednesdays!
Wednesday evening, 4:30-6:00 pm
Restore + Meditate, Lou
Thursday morning, 10:00-11:30 am
Gentle Basic Yoga, Willow
Thursday evening, 5:30-7:00 pm
Flow + Deep Stretch, Gaea

Yoga Sala has had three teachers during 2019, Willow Mason, Lou McCall, and Gaea McGahee. Together they offer four weekly classes, which will continue, with some schedule changes. Yoga Sala welcomes Carrie Leven and Michael Graney, who will offer Yoga and Tai Chi!

Carrie Leven
After taking a 3-year hiatus from instructing weekly yoga classes in Questa and Taos, Carrie Leven is back. Carrie will offer “I,” a class open to all types of service veterans, as well as military and gold star families, first responders, Peace Corps, and civil servants. If there is enough interest, she will offer a class exclusively to serve Veterans and their families, like Connected Warriors.

The classes center on mindfulness, movement, and meditation. The yoga will be modified and use practical movements that help with everyday life. There are not a lot of difficult or fast moves, and it is okay to sit in a chair or on the floor. The class will focus on grounding, guided meditation, connecting movement with the breath, and practicing mindfulness methods like using your own breath for stress reduction and resilience. This monthly class is free. It will be held on the second Saturday of the month, from 9:30 am to 10:45 am, beginning October 12, November 9, December 14, and into the new year. For more information contact Carrie at carrieleven@gmail.com.

Michael Graney
Having begun his practice of yoga as an augmentation to outdoor sports in the early 1980’s Mike has gradually become a dedicated student of both yoga and tai chi. He has instructed various forms of both disciplines since 2007 and has worked as a substance-abuse counselor and professional guide for most of his adult life. He has relocated to Sunshine Valley from New Zealand where he lived for some years. Mike will be hosting both yoga and introductory Tai Chi / Qi Gong classes starting in mid-October. He would welcome the chance to meet everyone. Some of his offerings will be specifically for people diagnosed with PTSD. Meet him this October to try Tai Chi classes, as well as a couple yoga sessions. Talk to Mike about taking an 8-week Tai Chi course to learn 10 Form with him in November.

Mike is interested in offering Tai Chi for kids if several young people want to dedicate to an 8-week program. This program would be free to the student (age 11-17), and offered through Sala Reach, the non-profit project. Please contact YogaSalaQuesta@gmail.com or call 575-224-2102.

See YogaSalaQuesta.org for all Yoga and Tai Chi / Qi Gong classes.
See LaSalaQuesta.com for music and events.
Questa Creative Council Mission:
Questa Creative Council seeks to strengthen and sustain community enrichment and economic opportunities through arts, culture, history, and education.

Vision:
We will enhance opportunities to build cooperation among artists, artisans, cultural creatives, and community members. We will help build a beneficial future while nurturing, sustaining or reviving traditional and contemporary creative pursuits.

Our by-laws call for us to have a Chair, Co-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, and a Member at Large. Most of our founding members are also Project Leaders of successful local projects/events now in their 4th-10th years, mostly in non-profit organizations. Project Leaders are not Executive Board Members. With the successful hiring of an Executive Director, many current board members would like to focus their energy on their projects. As a result, over the next year, we will be seeking to fill the positions of Chair, co-Chair, and Treasurer, and possibly add to our overall Board membership.

Please join us for an open meeting to discuss the QCC in detail on Wednesday, October 23rd, from 5-6 pm at the Questa Youth and Family Center adjacent to the Questa Public Library. Snacks will be served.

Thank you for considering a deeper level of support for this fun and valuable work!

If you are interested in more information about the board members’ roles and responsibilities, please attend our open discussion.
You may also email QuestaCreativeCouncil@gmail.com, subject line “Board questions.”

QCC Celebrates Two-Year Anniversary!

Our Creative Council is celebrating its two-year anniversary! It’s been much work getting this new non-profit off the ground. We’ve gained funding, built publicity, and formalized legal and tax requirements, all while maintaining and growing our many projects. We’re very, very grateful to our many supporters.

We are now entering a new period of maintenance and growth. Here’s a little peek at what we’re working on and some of our goals for the future:

For the remainder of 2019 and over the winter we will work toward completion of projects. The list includes: installing the permanent History Trail signs, completing the street banner series, as well as the Questa Welcome signs.

In 2020 and 2021 we hope to see the changes above solidified with the addition of yearly Questa beautification projects.

• We will see the continuation of the Questa Chamber Music series
• Weekly multi-generational art classes at the Youth Center.
• For 2020, we would like to add the paid positions of Executive Director and Bookkeeper.
• We will apply for a VISTA volunteer
• We hope to establish a public home-base/member gallery.
• Our current projects will continue including the Annual Questa Studio Arts Tour.
• NeoRio and the Wild Rivers Plein Air Festival will be going to a bi-yearly rotation, with NeoRio in 2020, WRPAF in 2021, etc.
• We are actively seeking additional sponsors and funding opportunities.
• We are looking for fresh new volunteers to play key roles in our future. Our Board will be reviewing nominees this autumn and hope to find new teammates that will be as committed to our goals as our founding members have been, and as willing to add their time and good ideas to our ongoing enrichment of the community.

QCC Clay Instruction at Questa Youth Center This Fall

By PEGGY TRIGG

Clay Studio-All Ages! Starting October 1st in the Questa Youth Center Art Room, the Questa Creative Council will offer clay instruction for all ages on Tuesdays from 3:30-5:30 PM through December. The clay studio will focus on hand-built pottery production including techniques like slab, coil, and sculpture. There will be a suggested donation per visit of $3.00 for QCC members and $5.00 for non-QCC members. For more information, please go to the questacreative.org website or email us at questacreativecouncil@gmail.com. Anyone under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Space is limited, so please arrive on time.
How Does the Capitol Christmas Tree get to DC?

BY DENISE OTTAVIANO

The holiday season will be a little brighter this year with the help of Artesia-based Wilbanks Trucking Services, LLC, as it takes on the role of transporting the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree from the Questa Ranger District of the Carson National Forest to Washington, D.C. An annual gift to the nation, the 2019 “People’s Tree” will make its way to the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol building in a Kenworth W990.

Wilbanks Trucking are experts in hauling oversized, overweight loads, making them the perfect fit to transport the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree. They will also provide crane support as the tree is cut in early November and prepared for the 2,000-mile expedition, which will include a series of over 30 community celebrations, culminating in the official tree lighting in early December.

Wilbanks employees Josh Garcia, Josh Rice, and Brum Stephens have been given the honor of driving the truck and will ensure the precious cargo is safely delivered. Read more about the drivers at http://www.uscapitalchristmastree.com/news.

Kenworth Truck Company returns for a sixth year as a sponsor. A specially decaled Kenworth W990 will transport the 55th U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree. "Kenworth is proud to once again play a part in delivering the People’s Tree to our nation’s capital," said Kurt Swihart, Kenworth marketing director.

"The annual journey is only possible with the help of strong partnerships throughout New Mexico and beyond state lines," said Ricardo Martinez, Deputy District Ranger, Carson National Forest. "We’re grateful for the resources Wilbanks Trucking and Kenworth Truck Company are providing.

Additional transportation partners include Spireon, Inc., Truckload Carriers Association, Hale Trailer, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Meritor and LexisNexis VitalChek Network, Inc., in addition to local and national partners including Elvis Duran & Alex Carr, PNM Resources, Husqvarna, Alaska Airlines, Taos County and Christmas Tree Promotion Board. For related news and events, visit www.uscapitalchristmastree.com, along with Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Volunteer to Deliver Enchantment

Help us pack Capitol Christmas Tree ornaments to ship to Washington, D.C! Our community has created 10,000 ornaments for the Capitol Christmas Tree. Please join us October 15 through 21, anytime between 8 AM to 5PM at the Juan Gonzales Agricultural Center, 202 Chamisa Rd. in Taos. Please call or email us to let us know you are coming: Ganga Little, Volunteer Coordinator at friendsofthecarson@gmail.com or Juana Rosas, Partnership Coordinator at 575-758-6296 or juana.rosas@usda.gov.

Welcome to Questa

Chris Dohmen!

By LINDSAY MAPES

Chris Dohmen, originally from Tübingen, Germany, and most recently from Albuquerque, just moved to Cerro as the Questa Economic Development Fund’s newest Americorps VISTA Volunteer! Chris and her three "children" - cats Rosa, Emma, and Max arrived in early September to volunteer her services around trail expansion, outdoor recreation, and tourism development.

"I’m excited about this opportunity because Questa is a diamond in the rough when it comes to outdoor recreation development. There is so much that can be done to create local jobs by promoting and positioning Questa as an outdoor destination," said Chris. Chris volunteered for seven years at Grand Canyon National Park doing Preventive Search and Rescue (PSAR), she is a former trip leader and adventure travel guide for the Colorado Mountain Club, and has been a Ski Patroller for six years. Chris spent a winter trekking through Nepal, hiked sections of the Appalachian Trail, rafted the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon, and enjoys just about anything outdoors.

Chris is working on the Questa to Red River Trail, marketing Questa as an outdoor paradise, and putting Questa on the map - both online and literally creating a map of Questa’s outdoor recreation assets.

Next time you are at the Questa Visitor Center and would like to talk about outdoor adventures or plans for Questa’s recreation future, stop by and give a warm welcome to Chris!

Welcome Linda Miller

To Questa Del Rio News!

By LINDSAY MAPES

We are excited to welcome Linda Miller to our newspaper ad sales team! Linda was raised in Red River by John and Judy Miller, who were the owners of former Powder Puff Mountain beginner ski area behind her house. "I would literally ski out the door from our house," said Linda. Later, her parents founded the Enchanted Forest Cross-Country Ski and Snowshoe Area, now owned by Linda’s sister, Ellen Goins.

After attending college in Albuquerque at UNM, Linda worked briefly for Senator Pete Dominici, but "found out that Washington wasn’t my cup of tea." She had a stint in Guatemala, worked as a photographer during summers in Michigan, a river guide for Los Rios in Taos, and many years at Red River Ski Area and Enchanted Forest Cross-Country Area. She also worked as a lift operator at Taos Ski Valley, ski patrol at Red River, and coached alpine skiing at Angel Fire.

Linda moved to Questa in 2004 where she raised her daughter Helen, 18 who just started at UNM and her son Nathan, 22, who now lives in Arizona. She currently sells ads for Ski New Mexico Magazine in the summer and is Ski School Director at Enchanted Forest. Her folks are still in Red River. Welcome to our newspaper team, Linda! You can contact Linda at LindaDelRioAds@gmail.com or 575-586-2258.
Growth for the Enchanted Circle Regional Fire Association

BY NICK NAGAWIECKI

On Friday, September 13th, the Enchanted Circle Regional Fire Protection Association (ECRFPA) began its 19th structure fire “Mini” academy. This was a three-day volunteer event for people who want to be volunteer firefighters in the Enchanted Circle. Nineteen students from 11 different fire departments completed their training this year. They went through intensive training from 6:30 AM to 7 PM each day. This year’s academy was very successful, and all the students did an amazing job applying themselves to learning this craft.

The communities that are served by the fire departments in this area are truly blessed to have such dedicated people that volunteer their time and energy to better their communities.

The training grounds are just west of Red River and they were also constructed by a group of volunteers. The ECRFPA includes 22 different fire departments in Taos, Colfax, and Mora Counties. Two of the instructors came all the way from Amarillo, Texas!

James Hampton is the Incident Commander of the Academy, he is Taos County Fire Marshall and Chairman of the ECRFPA. This organization is instrumental in keeping the people and the ecology of this region safe from fire threats. Congratulations to the new graduates of the ECRFPA Academy!

For more information about the ECRFPA and the fire academy, readers can email them at e-c-fire@usa.com or go to their website at www.ecrfpa.org. You can also talk to your local volunteer fire department to see how you can help your community.

On September 28th and 29th, the Enchanted Circle EMS conference also took place. Similar to the ECRFPA, this was a two-day training session geared towards our EMS responders in the Enchanted Circle region, but EMS providers from across the state also attended the event.

La Sala Hosts Autumnal Bliss Concert

BY MARTHA SHEPP

Hello music lovers! La Sala is hosting a lovely live music concert entitled “Autumnal Bliss” on Saturday, Oct. 12 at 3 pm, at the new home of La Sala, 2331 Hwy 522 in Questa. The concert is organized by cellist Rebecca Caron, founder of Soundscape, a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization dedicated to bringing inspiring musical performances to the communities of Northern New Mexico.

Featured performers are Emily Aquin, violin; Jacquelyn Helin, piano; and Rebecca Caron, cello. All these ladies are superb musicians. Jackie Helin is a Steinway artist from Santa Fe, Emily has performed with Taos Soundscape before, and you may know Rebecca Caron who recently played for the August 31 Trio Quetave concert here and is a major figure in bringing classical music to Taos schools and beyond.

This program is especially selected for the season and features Stravinsky’s Suite Italienne for violin and piano, Piazzolla’s Buenos Aires Autumn from his Four Seasons Piano Trio, and Brahms’ Piano Trio in C Major, Op. 87. Light refreshments will be served.

RSVP is appreciated. Contact Martha at 575 776-7579. Call Gaea at 575 224-2102 for directions or if you have other questions about La Sala. Tickets can be purchased online at (TaosSoundscape.com) or at the door. Suggested donation is $20, $15 for students.
**Questa Farmers Market 2019**

From Gaea McGahee, Market Organizer

What a wonderful season for Questa Farmers Market and the community! The market wrapped up a 14-week run on September 15th with a great celebration! A lamb from the Woman Shepherdess from Costilla, Suzanne Sanford, was roasted in the new horno. Young community members who began the horno and participated in the site beautification project, planting veggies and flowers, were honored in an award ceremony. Michael Rael and Dino Archuleta played, along with Mariachi Questa, and the High School Stage Band, filling the day with music.

This season QFM completed Phase I of a site improvement plan with the help of many collaborators. Special thanks to Vida del Norte Coalition teen members - the Active8, and Singing River Field Center youth, and to Mark Sideris and many volunteers who built the vendor’s structures. And thanks for the huge support from funders; the LOR Foundation, Questa Economic Development Fund (funding and in-kind) which helped with site improvement and market operations, and a Community Grants for Good award from Chevron, which helped host events at the market.

Enjoy a photo journey through some of the season’s growth and colorful market days. From Questa Farmers Market, thank you!

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**Seminar–All About Co-ops!**

By GILLIAN JOYCE

On October 5th, Alianza Agri-Cultura de Taos, Rocky Mountain Farmer’s Union, and Taos County Extension Service will present a seminar about co-ops. What is a co-op, and how do you go about setting one up? Different co-op models include producer co-ops, worker-owned co-ops, consumer co-ops, housing co-ops, and more.

Are you a farmer who cannot afford to buy and maintain expensive farm equipment that you use a few weeks a year? Think about forming a co-op to share the ownership and maintenance.

Do you like to buy food in bulk and pay wholesale prices? Form a buying club or consumer co-op!

At this seminar, you can listen to experiences of co-op development and management from co-ops already on the ground in New Mexico and beyond. Meet others interested in co-op development in your area! The seminar will be held at the Juan I. Gonzales Agricultural Center at 202 Chamisa Road in Taos, from 8:30 AM-3:30 PM. Cost is $10 at the door and includes lunch. For more information call (505) 470-4080 or Gillian Joyce at gilliandjoyce@gmail.com.
Humans buy a million plastic bottles a minute and only 7% of them are recycled into new bottles. This was reported in The Guardian and based upon a report by Euromonitor International. That’s 20,000 bottles every second and almost half a trillion bottles a year.

As originally reported in The Guardian, between 5 and 13 million tons of plastic leaks into the world’s oceans each year to be ingested by sea birds, fish, and other organisms. By 2050 the oceans will contain more plastic by weight than fish says the Ellen MacArthur Foundation. Experts warn that some of it is already finding its way into the human food chain.

Although some trendy companies are turning them into t-shirts, shoes, and other articles of polyester clothing, the vast majority end up in landfills or the ocean. It takes around 500 years for plastic bottles to degrade, and they pretty much never biodegrade. They just break into little microplastics that contaminate soil and water and kill wildlife. Please consider investing in a water filter and stainless-steel or glass water bottles.

Editor’s Note: Reuse glass bottles, the water tastes so much better when it isn’t in plastic!
**Mrs. Osa**

By JILL ANSELL

Mrs. Osa was frail and elderly and spoke in halting, broken English. Her diminutive body seemed to possess little strength despite an indomitable spirit of courage and resolve. Although her story took place many years ago, I can still hear her voice. I was a very young child when I met Mrs. Osa. She lived in a guest room at my grandmother’s house which now seems part fantasy but at the same time quite real. I can still feel her cool fingers gripping my face and stroking my hair when she spoke to me as I looked up into her eyes. She was very, very kind. She was possessed by unforgettable sensitivity and a remarkable sense of compassion. Our hearts reached across a cultural chasm that transcended age. How desperate yet trusting she must have been to consent to living in this house of foreigners after the unspeakably tragic events in her own country which engendered blame, shame, and isolation. Osa means chief in her language and indeed she had the heritage of a chieftain.

World War II was an event that many of us remember. I am certain Mrs. Osa and her family were put into an internment camp in Central California, not because of any perceived threat on their part, but simply because they were Japanese. Even being 1/16th Japanese was considered reason for caution and isolation.

The echoes of Hiroshima and Nagasaki were still audible in my memory and in Mrs. Osa’s life. Never before and hopefully never again. I can still hear the voices on the radio of survivors interviewed on the seventieth anniversary of that unspeakable event. As they recounted their horrific ordeal, I stopped my car and wept. This was an unprecedented slaughter. It was and still is the most horrifying and unspeakable act of violence ever, removing masses of humans in a single gesture. The cruelty, hatred, and rationalized retribution of that time were without precedent.

My grandmother was of Jewish descent. Although my family had been in this country since the middle of the 19th century, Jews were pointedly and collectively aware of the European atrocities committed in that war. Conscious and generous, my grandmother worked for the good of all. She started a foundation for blind people as well as fed the hungry. Her home was a place of refuge for many. I accompanied her to serve the poor on holidays. We delivered gifts to children so that they might experience Christmas. It seemed she was guided by her heart which facilitated great acts of courage and transcended cultural differences. I believe she took Mrs. Osa into her home because of her personal resonance and understanding of the atrocities perpetrated on her own bloodline where Jews were slaughtered by the millions.

I recall the day my grandmother told me Mrs. Osa would be leaving. I would never see her again, but she has remained in my heart, such was the power of her being. I always wondered what became of her after leaving my grandmother’s house, I never heard another word. One morning, quite suddenly, my grandmother’s heart just stopped. That was an incalculable loss, not just for me, but for the world. Growing up with my grandmother and her many gifts, including knowing Mrs. Osa shaped who I am today.

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**When Rural Schools Work**

By JEREMY KNIGHT

Education nonprofit, Bellwether Education Partners, launched a new website that offers school leaders, funders, and authorizers a starting point for understanding when rural charter schools can be successful.

This site profiles four rural charter schools: Crossroad Academy Charter School in Quincy Florida, Glacial Hills Elementary School in Starbuck, Minnesota, Prescott Valley Charter School in Prescott Valley, Arizona and Roots and Wings Community School in Questa, New Mexico. These four schools are outperforming state and local averages in reading and math while serving economically diverse student bodies.

Each case study is the result of in-depth school and community visits and hours of interviews with school leaders, teachers, authorizers, school board representatives, district leaders, and community members. The studies provide an overview of the elements of each school’s model as well as a discussion of the challenges that school leaders have faced as they’ve established and led charter schools in rural communities.

Analysis of the four case studies surfaced three themes that are important for those considering the potential of rural charter schools.

1. Rural charter schools face many of the same challenges as charter schools in other geographies but these challenges manifest differently or with greater intensity.

2. State policies are often designed on dramatically changing education and life outcomes for underserved children. We do this by helping education organizations accelerate their impact and by working to improve policy and practice.

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**Get Out and Register, Get Out to Vote!**

If you haven’t registered, please do it now. You can register with the Taos County Clerk’s Office, DMV and the quickest and easiest is to go to the secure online portal at nmvote.org and do it electronically. Your Democratic and Republican Parties both have registrars. Please exercise your right as a citizen of the U.S. and vote, only then is it a true democracy!

Voter turnout in the U.S. is behind all other developed, democratic nations. In 2016, 54 percent of the eligible population voted in the Presidential election. According to the Pew Research Center, the United States ranks 31st among the 35 developed democratic nations for voter turnout in national elections. It is a source of embarrassment to many Americans that half of eligible citizens choose not to vote in national elections, and it is even less for state and local elections. If you are not registered to vote, celebrate democracy and get registered. If you are registered, celebrate democracy and vote!

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575.586.2149 or DelRioColoradoADs@gmail.com
high-quality education. I will advocate for QISD to improve safety without question, I have stood for QISD to improve safety and academics.

As a Board Member my commitment to the district is without question, I have stood for QISD to improve safety and academics. As a Board Member my commitment to the district is without question, I have stood for QISD to improve safety and academics.

I am seeking re-election for the Questa Independent School District Board, Position 1. I am a graduate of Questa High and a proud business owner in our community. I have a kid that attends the district and one that recently graduated. It is my commitment as a community member and parent to ensure that QISD improves safety and academics.

As a Board Member my commitment to the district is without question, I have stood for QISD to improve safety and academics.

I am a native Questena and 1999 graduate of Questa High School. I am married to Ernie Griego and we have three children: two are school age.

The Questa Schools are facing new challenges including high turnover rates with staff, budgetary constraints, and a sense of mistrust between the board and the public. I think that we need to have good relationships with people and organizations in our community that support our students. Second, we need to review the finances of the district and ensure that money is spent in the places where it is most beneficial to the students. That starts by being respectful with staff and students. We need to foster good relationships with people and organizations in our community that support our students. Second, we need to review the finances of the district and ensure that money is spent in the places where it is most beneficial to the students.

I believe that I will be best qualified for the school board position due to my background serving on political boards in the past. I will make educated decisions about the future of our schools within the Questa school district. I will be a voice for the public and do not have any personal agendas to bring to the table.

The Questa school district is in dire need of stability. Stability for our students, teachers and community members. We as a community and parents to these children need to have better communication between the administration and staff members. We need to know that our children are receiving the best education possible so that our children can become productive members of society once they graduate. This world is hard enough, we adults need to empower our youth to achieve their highest possible goals. So, remember you are not voting for me, you are voting for our children and our community.

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Bursting at the Seams at the Questa Library

By SHARON NICHOLSON, LIBRARY DIRECTOR

And away we go! The New Mexico State Legislature gave us funds for expansion in the 2019 Session and now the project is underway. Doug Patterson of Living Design Group has been hired as the architect. Village officials and library staff, along with members of both the Library Advisory Board and the Friends of the Questa Public Library Board, have been meeting with Mr. Patterson. He took the original design submitted in 2013, put his personal touch to it, and came up with something awesome! You can see in the 3-D image a very impressive entrance to the expanded library. The new addition, at about 1700 square feet, will include a Gathering Room for just enjoying the view with a good book, friendly conversation, or even a small meeting. Guests will be greeted at a spacious reception desk. And our younger guests will find a spacious children’s area designed just for them.

Check the newspaper each month for an update on the expansion. You will find enticing new details each month. We can all be part of this project—it’s our library. A larger library will need a larger staff. Train to be a volunteer now! Contact Sharon or Carolyn at the library for more information. 575-586-2023.

ARCHITECTURAL COMPUTER MODEL OF PROPOSED ADDITION TO QUESTA PUBLIC LIBRARY.
How Do We Change a Culture of Bullying?

By SARA MARTINEZ

Bullies are present in all areas of our lives, from playgrounds to classrooms, public arenas to private, online and offline, and on the political stage; and from toddlers all the way up to the elderly. For the perpetrators of domestic violence, abuse and neglect, workplace bullies to the schoolyard bully, the tactics are similar but are given different names depending on the setting. For one reason or another, some people seem to enjoy exerting power and control over others; and no matter the setting, it is a fact that bullies cause lasting harm to their victims and bring negative consequences upon themselves.

Many of us have heard the horror stories of bullying or have experienced it. Why is it that the people who have been the victims of bullying seem to feel more shame than the bully themselves? Bullies can convince their victims that they are crazy and overreacting, and sometimes the bully will try to claim that they themselves are the victim. But healing can happen once people stop believing the bully and instead rally to support the victim.

The best antidote to a bullying problem is when their victims are surrounded by caring people who will stand up for them. Let the bully know their behavior is unacceptable. It means talking to people that seem different from you or who seem withdrawn. Learn about healthy relationships and teach others what it looks like by example. Stand up for people when others are trying to tear them down. Apologize to those you have bullied in the past.

The solution also involves organizations and people advocating for change on a national scale. Recently, a student was teased for wearing a homemade University of Tennessee T-shirt on his school’s college colors day. UT decided to reproduce the boy’s design and is now selling T-shirts, and will then donate the proceeds to the organization STOMP Out Bullying™ which is the leading national nonprofit organization dedicated to changing the culture of bullying for all students. Students across the nation have been wearing orange shirts to show their support for the student who was teased.

Many people wear orange on October 23rd which is Unity Day: Together Against Bullying. Find out more about UNITED for kindness, acceptance and inclusion. Visit https://www.pacer.org/bullying/nbpm/unity-day.asp for more info on Unity Day.

October 9th is National Stop Bullying Day. October is both National Bullying Prevention Month and National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Both of these causes are meant to shine light on bullying across the spectrum from schools to our homes. Most of us are aware of these issues, we can recognize bullying when we see it, we can feel it. So, instead of just becoming more aware, how about we act in solidarity with all victims and survivors of all forms of bullying? Young people are a reflection of their environment. When they see adults bully each other, it makes it acceptable to do the same. There are many solutions to end bullying and adults must lead the charge. We must be willing to consider our own role in this culture of bullying and move towards healthier relationships in homes and in our communities.

New Mexico 4th Grader to Light Capitol Christmas Tree in D.C.!

Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham and the Carson National Forest (CNF) announced an essay-writing contest for New Mexico fourth graders as part of the celebration of the 2019 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree which will come from New Mexico. The contest winner will travel to Washington, D.C., to join the Speaker of the House of Representatives in lighting the 2019 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree. Fourth graders from around the state are invited to participate in the contest. They will be writing about why they love New Mexico’s forests and public lands. The essay question corresponds to the theme of the 2019 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree, “Delivering Enchantment!”

Every year, U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service selects a national forest to provide the best possible Christmas tree to place on the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol building. The tradition of the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree, or the “People’s Tree,” began in 1964, and in 2019 New Mexico will be providing the tree for the third time. This year, the tree will come from the Red River area in the Questa Ranger District of the Carson National Forest.

Ten thousand ornaments have been made by New Mexicans around the state to decorate the tree in Washington, D.C. New Mexicans are invited to stay updated on the 2019 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree and its journey from New Mexico at https://www.uscapitolchristmastree.com.

New Mexico Fourth Graders: Essay Contest Winner Goes to Washington, D.C., in December!

All Fourth Graders in New Mexico are invited to write an essay entitled: Delivering Enchantment.

How are you enchanted by New Mexico’s forests and public lands and why is it important to protect them?

Word count: 500 words maximum

Due date: October 4, 2019

Essays should be submitted to ChristmasTree.Essay@state.nm.us as a typed document or as a scanned hand-written document.

PLEASE INCLUDE:

• Name of the student,
• Names of their Teacher and Principal
• Name, address and phone number of the student's school.

Gov. Lujan Grisham will select one winning student essay, whose author will be flown to Washington, D.C., along with a parent or guardian, to attend festivities and light the 2019 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree during the first week of December.

TWO WEBSITES TO LEARN about how you can prevent bullying in schools and in our own homes.

BULLYING:
https://www.stompoutbullying.org/

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:
https://www.thehotline.org/

FOR OUR KIDS

Going on a trip? Take us with you!
Send photos and stories for our new column Around the Bend
575.586.2149 or News@QuestaEDF.com
Wonderful Wendy!

By ROBYN BLACK, FOOD EDITOR

During the summer season, you can find Wendy Medina at the Questa Farmers Market along with her daughter, Alex, and Billie Jo Norsworthy serving up some of the most delicious Frito Pies, homemade tortillas (sold by the half dozen or dozen), and Wendy’s amazing green chili salsa. And she offers so many other delicious things to make your taste buds do a little dance! Everything Wendy makes is locally sourced and homemade. It doesn’t get any better or fresher than that! Recently, she was spotted at the new herb garden at the farmers market site, picking fresh cilantro for a batch of something yummy.

On Saturdays, Wendy spends about nine hours cooking and getting ready for the Questa Farmers Market on Sundays. Sometimes you will even find her making her chicharron burritos right there—a delightful way to spend your Sunday, under the trees with local musicians serenading us!

At Questa’s Dia de los Muertos Celebrations, Wendy and her family will provide the most memorable traditional breads and cookies; very authentic additions to the event.

Wendy is from San Cristobal where she grew up in a large family - five brothers and four sisters - and she has three children. Wendy wasn’t always in the food business. She was in nursing for nine years and, due to an injury, that career came to an end. She loved cooking so much that she has put her heart and soul into the food she makes and loves doing it. Some weeks you can find her at Questa Lumber and Hardware, selling her delicious goodies, usually on a Wednesday, Thursday or Saturday.

Besides the Questa Farmers Market and the bake sales at the hardware store, Wendy caters. When I asked her what her catering menu included, she said she would do anything anyone wanted for any occasion. It doesn’t get better than that. Wendy named her business after her mother, Evelyn’s Treats, and she is carrying on the tradition with family recipes.

In September, Wendy held a fundraiser with the intention of raising money for a commercial refrigerator for the San Cristobal Community Center. She has been working diligently for a couple years to establish a commercial kitchen so other people could legally make food for markets around the area. She got the kitchen up and running and got it USDA certified. Everything was in place and at the last minute tragedy struck. The Cruz family of San Cristobal suffered the devastating loss of their 16-year-old daughter, Maria Elena in a fatal car accident. Instead of the proceeds of the fundraiser going toward the kitchen, she generously dedicated the event to the family without giving it a second thought to her need. Her refrigerator could wait. This is the kind of caring, compassionate person that Wendy is. We are fortunate to have her in our community and to share her talents with us. [Editor’s Note: Due to Wendy’s kind and caring spirit she put her dreams of a commercial refrigerator on hold, if any of our readers would like to donate towards a commercial refrigerator, or know someone who would, please let the newspaper know or contact Wendy directly].

With the last Questa Farmers Market on Sunday September 15th, Wendy has stepped up to keep a fall market going on Saturdays at the same site, as long as the weather is glorious and not too cold (shall we all gather around the new horno!). She named the Saturday market, “Questaval” because it rhymes with festival. It is not officially the QFM, so will not accept EBT. The farmers still have produce and now the fun stuff begins with fresh canned goods and other value-added products. Start your Christmas shopping now. And you can still come for breakfast, lunch and snacks, because Wendy and other vendors will be there from 9 am to 2 pm. The Questa Sparklers will also have a booth to raise money for the QHS Cheerleaders’ trip to London.

With the holiday season coming up there will be celebrations and parties, Wendy Medina of Evelyn’s Treats would be a great choice for all your catering needs. Every morsel of food she makes with love, which is the best ingredient you can add! You can contact Wendy Medina at 575-770-7968 or find her on Facebook/Questaval.
Volunteer of the Month: Chuck Kroon

By DONNA MITCHELL-MONIAK

Chuck Kroon and his late wife, Cathi, moved to Sunshine Valley ten years ago from Connecticut. Before moving, foreign exchange students were a frequent addition to their life and home. When asked "why host exchange students?" Chuck said that cultural differences were interesting to observe and he felt that everyone gained from inter-cultural experiences. Cathi knew this first-hand from serving in the Peace Corps.

Before he retired, Chuck was an electrical engineer. A "take care of what needs to be taken care of" attitude comes through while talking to Chuck. He is a humble and practical man, capable of attending to almost anything put before him. That ease with "getting things done that need doing" comes up with many volunteers, including Chuck. That same joyful, roll-up-the-sleeves demeanor has been in every volunteer I've ever met. "I enjoy making things," he said. That joy led him to Habitat for Humanity and house building in Questa some years ago. Chuck stays involved with Habitat though he's not one of the youngest guys on the crew anymore.

Chuck on a Habitat home-site brings to mind the image of Jimmy Carter with his tool belt banging nails with Habitat, an organization he has championed since its beginning.

One thing leads to another. Chuck volunteered with Holy Cross Hospital in Taos, filling in a variety of needs, and the next thing you know Chuck became a member of the Latir Volunteer Fire Department. "We always need help," he said. "A lot of things go on at a fire" many of which are preparatory or supportive of the guys that interact with the fire itself.

As volunteering at the hospital ran its course, Chuck sought out a new way to contribute to the well-being of the greater Questa community. Ah, the Food Pantry! "It's rewarding," Chuck said. He helps out on multiple tasks a few days a week: unloading the trucks of food, splitting 50 lb. bags of potatoes or carrots into smaller portions, and "helping elderly or frail people" on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month when the Pantry is open. "You meet people, and you feel good that you've helped others." He's been a volunteer at the Questa Food Pantry for over four years.

If that wasn't enough, Chuck is also the volunteer Distribution Coordinator of the Questa Del Rio newspaper. Lou McCall, editor of the newspaper, knew Chuck from the Latir Fire Auxiliary in which they both participate. Lou asked if he would help organize the distribution routes for the Paper, and he was johnny on the spot! New order was brought to getting the newspaper disbursed to a variety of far-flung locations – shops, cafes, offices, and visitor centers of the Enchanted Circle and north of the border as far as Fort Garland, CO.

Why do all or any of this, I asked? "I enjoy it," Chuck replied. "If volunteers didn't do it, there's a lot that wouldn't get done...There's a sense of community responsibility," Chuck added. We then talked about how each community has needs the same as other communities and ones that are specific or unique to an environment or demographic or time of the year. For instance, Cerro Vista Farm, where Chuck has volunteered labor for 7-8 years (he said with great joy!) Latir or Questa doesn't have an organic cooperative farm that needs volunteer help. Cerro does. By the same token, Questa's Farmers Market is specific to Questa and it has its volunteer needs. Some communities have more elderly people, some more children. The elderly need visitors or food brought to them or a safe way to get to church. The children need clean parks, a staffed library, people to help them learn to read or stay interested in reading, or who organize fun after-school programs. The majority of all these require volunteer effort.

"I'm not a philosopher," Chuck said, "but I recommend volunteering to anyone!"

Do you know someone who we can feature as a Volunteers of the Month? Let us know! Email news@questaedf.com or call 575.586.2149.

Volunteer with the Latir Fire Department, Chuck Kroon, our Volunteer of the Month!
Fifth Annual Dia de los Muertos Celebration

By GAEA MCGAHEE

Enjoy music, art, altar-making, and a potluck feast - posole, prune pies, hot chocolate, pan de muerto, and more! Bring a dish to share, and perhaps a favorite of someone being remembered. This event is free to all. Participants can bring photos of loved ones or objects to add to a community altar. The Questa Stories Project will be present and available to record community members’ remembrances of loved ones, if families choose to share (QuestaStories.org).

Dia de los Muertos is a time-honored tradition to remember loved ones who have passed on. It originated in Mesoamerica as a blend of Spanish, Aztec, and ancient traditions. There are few set parameters, besides food, music, bright colors, and active remembering; this may explain why Day of the Dead has spread around the globe. Today, it is celebrated worldwide and in Questa, a community celebration has been held since 2015!

This event will be held at La Sala, 2331 State HWY 522 Questa, NM 87556, on the south end of the village. La Sala is a new space in Questa being renovated to host a yoga studio, plus expressive arts, dance, and music events. La Sala and LEAP are co-hosting the fifth annual celebration of Day of the Dead. LEAP is Land, Experience, and Art of Place, an artist-run organization that creates arts and educational events and opportunities reflecting the natural and cultural ecology of Questa and surrounding communities.

There will be much to do, feast upon, and music to enjoy. A key aspect of the evening will be art making and sharing in a supportive and festive environment. Participants can make sugar skulls, paper marigolds, and other art. Supplies and instructions are provided.

Dia de los Muertos is a celebration and honoring of loved ones with meaningful actions such as a ritual that offers a container for feelings of sorrow over the death of our beloveds. And, by treating the certainty of death with honesty and even humor, we recognize we are all making the same journey; some are simply further ahead.

Questa Stories now has access to a StoryBox kit through the Questa Library, thanks to the Manitos Project grant. The kit provides a selection of tools to share stories and hear the experiences of people in our community. Tools from this kit will be available to use to share stories.

This collaborative event is coordinated by Gaea McGahee (LaSalaQuesta.com) and Claire Coté (LeapSite.org) with help from Dava McGahee (DavaCulturalLegacy.com), and many from Questa and surrounding communities. For more information contact Gaea McGahee, (575) 224-2102, or visit LaSalaQuesta.com. Volunteers are welcome!

La Sala in Questa on Saturday, November 2, 4 - 7 pm

PHOTO OF THE MONTH

The Real Big Boys by Malaquias Rael.

Think you can take a good photo? Prove it.

Send us your photos of “on the scene” news worthy events OR just a pretty shot for our new “Photo of the Month” section.
e-mail news@questaedf.com
(don’t forget to include a caption and your name)
Introducing the ENCHANTED EATS RESTAURANT GUIDE!

MANY OF OUR REGION’S RESTAURANTS HAVE SEASONAL HOURS AND IT IS TRICKY TO KEEP UP WITH THEM. PLEASE CALL FIRST TO MAKE SURE THEY ARE OPEN!

WILDCAT’S DEN
575-586-1119
2457 Highway 522, Questa
11am-6pm Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday & 11am-5pm Tuesday, Thursday

FRANK’S EATS & SWEETS
575-586-2303
2366 Highway 522, Questa
Monday-Thursday 11am-7pm, Friday-Sunday 11am-8pm.

MY TIA’S CAFE
575-586-2203
107 Highway 347, Cerro
Tuesday through Friday 11am-6pm, Saturday and Sunday 9am-6pm, closed Mondays

DEB’S DELI
575-586-6293 (inside the Questa Center Super Market)
5 Supermarket Rd, Questa
9am-6pm, daily

PRIMETIME PIZZA
575-586-2328
2431 Highway 522, Questa
11am-7pm, closed Mondays.

EL MONTE CARLO GRILLE
575-586-2922
400 W. Main Street, Red River
4:30-9pm Daily

BRETT’S BISTRO
575-754-9959
201 W Main Street, Red River
11am-9pm, daily

THE MAGNOLIA KITCHEN
575-754-9955
305 Pioneer Street, Red River
Thursday-Monday 2-8pm

SUNDANCE MEXICAN RESTAURANT
575-754-2971
401 E. High Street, Red River
5-9pm, daily

TEXAS RED’S STEAKHOUSE AND LOST LOVE SALOON
575-754-2922
406 E. Main Street, Red River
4:30-9pm Daily

MRS. RIOS’—THAI KITCHEN
719-672-0211
218 Main Street, San Luis, CO
9am-9pm Daily

CRAZY BEAVER
719-672-9022
101 County Road 13.2, Garcia, CO
Wednesday—Friday 128pm, Saturday 9am-5pm,

THE MOTHERLODE SALOON
575-754-6280
406 E. Main Street, Red River
4:30-9pm Daily

BULL O’ THE WOODS
575-754-2593
401 E Main Street, Red River
11am-12am Daily

RED RIVER BREWING CO.
575-754-4422
217 W. Main Street, Red River
Sunday-Thursday 11am-10pm & Friday-Saturday 11am-11pm

COSTILLA GAS & GROCERY (SNACK BAR)
575-586-8010
Highway 522 & Highway 196, Costilla
Monday-Saturday 6am-9pm Sunday 7am-9pm

CAPO’S CORNER
575-754-6297
110 Pioneer Road, Red River
11:30am-2pm and 5-9pm daily

MAJOR BEAN COFFEE & SANDWICHES CO.
575-754-2700
121 E. Main Street, Red River
7am-3pm Wednesday—Thursday and 7am-5pm Friday—Sunday

SHOTGUN WILLIE’S
575-754-6505
403 W. Main Street, Red River
7am-2pm daily

YESTERDAY’S DINER
575-754-2951
201 E. Main Street, Red River
7am-2pm daily

OLD TYMERS CAFE
575-754-6280
406 E. Main Street, Red River
4:30-9pm Daily

MRS. RIOS’—THAI KITCHEN
719-672-0211
218 Main Street, San Luis, CO
9am-9pm Daily

Please help us keep up with seasonal hours and closures. Do you have something to add? Did we leave something out, does anything need correcting? Let us know!
news@questaedf.com

AUGUST 1
8:53 PM Assault, Kiowa Rd. A caller said a female walked into her home and punched her.
3:56 PM Welfare Check, Herrera Rd. A caller said there was a male lying in an irrigation ditch.

AUGUST 3
7:18 PM Assault, State Rd. 522 A caller said a male was upset and threatening him.

AUGUST 4
9:31 PM Criminal Damage, Old Red River Rd. A caller said his girlfriend is damaging his stuff.

AUGUST 6
4:08 PM Larceny, Avenida de Eliz A caller said someone stole a gun from him.

AUGUST 9
7:00 AM Trespassing, Cottonwood Rd. A caller said someone with a restraining order is trespassing.

AUGUST 14
11:14 AM Motor Vehicle Theft, Cabresto Rd. A caller said someone stole her vehicle last night.
9:30 PM Suspicious, Cabresto Rd. A caller said there are three bikes pulling a wagon with a bunch of stuff in it.

AUGUST 21
9:43 PM Domestic Disturbance, State Rd. 522 A caller said they can hear a couple arguing.

AUGUST 23
12:07 PM Traffic Accident, State Rd. 38 A caller said she was involved in a crash.

AUGUST 26
3:34 AM Psychiatric Behavioural, State Rd. 522 A caller said he needs help.

AUGUST 27
6:29 PM 911 Hang up Call, Old Hwy 3 Open Line, could hear individuals arguing.

AUGUST 30
12:10 AM Commercial Alarm, State Rd. 522 An alarm was set off.
1:02 PM Larceny, Old Red River Rd. A caller said an individual went into her home and stole a ring.

Q U E S T A P O L I C E B L O T T E R
GREECE, A TRIP BACK IN TIME
By PRISCILLA SHANNON GUTIÉRREZ

This summer I had the opportunity to travel to Greece and visit historical as well as beautiful places such as the island of Santorini or Thera as it was once known. The island is what remains after a massive volcanic explosion around 1450 B.C. Most of the island collapsed into the caldera during the eruption, leaving behind a half-circle of cliffs that ring a body of water. Two magma-created islands with hot springs are in the center of the caldera. Santorini is still an active volcano that erupts from time to time on a much smaller scale than the historic devastating eruption. The last eruption occurred in 1950.

Most folks associate Greek history with the Parthenon and other buildings on the Acropolis in Athens. However, you may not have heard about the ancient Minoans, who were truly an amazing culture. Their civilization/empire circa 5,000-1,000 B.C. occupied the islands of Crete and Santorini. Crete, the largest of the Greek Islands is just north of the African coast. In addition to many frescoes and painted walls and columns, Minoan palaces such as Knossos in Crete, not only had indoor plumbing, complete with hot water, they also boasted toilets as well as showers!

The Minoans ushered in the Bronze Age to the Mediterranean after discovering that 10 parts copper to 1 part tin produced a much stronger metal alloy. A seafaring culture that sailed the globe, we now know that the copper the Minoans used came from mines in the British Isles as well as the Isle Royale region of Lake Superior right here in the U.S., over 3,000 years ago. Incredibly, Minoan ships were able to handle as much as 11 tons of copper ingots in each hold – shipwrecks found off the Turkish coast confirm this number and are a testament to their shipbuilding skills. The Minoans found many uses for bronze in everyday life, as well as warfare. This 2-inch thick bronze shield gives you an idea of their craftsmanship and artistry.

The Minoans also were master potters and glassmakers. Excavations have revealed massive carved storage jars called pithoi, as well as goblets, and delicate vials for perfume that you can see through with an amazing iridescent quality. They are another testament to the Minoans’ skills in the arts.

The massive volcanic explosion of Santorini in 1450 BC was a major contributing factor to the demise of the Minoan empire. The collapse of the volcano into the caldera caused an immense tidal wave or tsunami that sped across the Mediterranean to Crete, Egypt and Turkey. In some places on the Turkish shore, scientists have determined the tsunami reached as high as 800 feet! And the toxic cloud of gas and pumice circled the globe, wiping out crops and killing livestock across the region. It would take a century before the area was hospitable again, but the Minoan civilization would not return. Instead, the more war-like Mycenaean took control of the region (think of Achilles, King Agamemnon, and the fall of Troy).

I highly suggest you look further into the Minoan Civilization when you have the chance – lots of info on the internet, as well as many good books on the subject. Gavin Menzies is an excellent historical writer on the topic. Even better—get yourself to Greece if you can! In addition to history, and beautiful islands, the people are delightful hosts and Greek food is pretty darn tasty fare!
MICHAEL'S MOVIE MOMENTS

Reviews of the Year’s
Oscar-Nominated Movies
Available for Rent or Streaming

By MICHAEL YOUNG

October’s Movie Review:
The Wife

Some of the most interesting Oscar-nominated movies are those that receive just a single nomination. Sure, the leaders in the nomination race, like Roma or The Favourite (each receiving ten nominations), have outstanding qualities across the board and usually stimulate both the senses and the mind with artistic expression—visually, aurally, and in the stories they tell. Watching a movie like that can be a little overwhelming as you struggle to separate the story threads, presentation of elements, and how they contribute to the total effect.

But then there are the movies that receive recognition in just a single category. I call these movies ‘one-shot wonders.’ While the total package may not be overwhelmingly compelling, there is a single aspect of the movie-making craft where it shines. Viewing such a movie allows me to tease out that special thread and helps me understand the value of that specific skill in the overall magic of making a movie. The Wife is that kind of movie. It received only a single nomination for Glenn Close in the category of Leading Actress. Watching this movie, I go into the experience with a particular focus—the acting of Glenn Close because, well, that’s the only thing that it got nominated for. That doesn’t mean that nothing else is worth noting, but it does mean that her acting deserved special attention in this movie.

Glenn Close rose to fame with several outstanding performances in the 1980s. She received Oscar nominations for The World According to Garp, The Big Chill, The Natural, Fatal Attraction, and Dangerous Liaisons. She received her sixth nomination in 2012 for Albert Nobbs, and then was nominated this year for The Wife. Surprisingly, though, she has never won the Oscar. While Alex in Fatal Attraction might be her most famous role, I might argue that she reaches the pinnacle of her career in The Wife.

The Wife is a Swedish film, shot in Scotland and Sweden; produced in Sweden, and directed by the Swedish director Bjorn Runge. The screenplay was by the British television writer, Jane Anderson, and based on the novel of the same name by Meg Wolitzer. None of these people have done anything else that I recognize. I can’t even claim that I know of the work of her co-star, Jonathan Pryce, who plays The Husband, Joe Castleman. The movie is, by American standards, a very low-budget production and is by no means a blockbuster. It has grossed less than $10 million in the United States so far, despite Oscar acclaim.

So, the reason to watch this movie, and you should, is to watch Glenn Close act. Having said that, it isn’t true that the story line is irrelevant. It is about a writer, Joe Castleman, who is awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1992–fictionally. The story begins as he receives the phone call notifying him and inviting him to Stockholm for the ceremonies held in December associated with the award. From there, we learn more and more about Joe’s relationship with Joan and how much she supports her husband’s literary efforts. This development includes flashbacks to when they first met. Joe was a new college professor seducing his student, Joan, who would, of course, become his wife, and it is suggested, much more.

The movie has a mystery feel to it as we increasingly sense that things aren’t quite as they seem. But this developing understanding comes more from Joan’s behavior and her growing sense of unease. As Ken Stables, of Sight and Sound says, “The playing is always complex, (Close’s) Joan caring yet irritable, pulsing with damped down fury while her face shines with ambivalent pride…”

By the time we get to the ending, everything makes sense and there is a satisfying conclusion. What makes the movie, though, is watching Joan/Close. There is one scene, at the awards dinner where Joe is making his ‘acceptance’ speech. Joan says absolutely nothing, but Close’s facial expressions—the furrows above her eyes, her lips pursing, the darting glances—make for one of the most exciting acting scenes I’ve had the pleasure to see. Watch for this scene and pay attention.

To quote Louise Keller of Urban Cinefile: “Without question, it is Glenn Close’s film; her economy of expression, emotion and delivery are made all the more potent by their understatement.” James Berardinelli of Reelviews concluded, “The Wife has modest ambitions and succeeds in fulfilling them. I wish there were more movies like this one.” For Close’s acting alone, I give this movie 4 stars.
My sister was like Summer. Her heart was like sunshine; it warmed everyone and was always bright. She was like a butterfly too: floating into situations, lifting everyone with her presence, and then flitting off. My friend, Grace, was like Winter. Her feet were always cold and her presence stately. She was as honest as the snow is pure, forthright, and just. She stood like Mt. Blanca or Latir. October honors teachers with World Teacher Day. How important all teachers are and have been in our lives. The same day is World Smile Day and, boy, does the world need that, please do your part!

Several youth-focused things are highlighted during October. They include: Child Health Day, Bullying Prevention Month, Youth Confidence Day, Teen Read Week, and National Book Month. Add to the list that October is called “Eat better, Eat Together” month.

Health of body, emotions, mind, and spirit are essential to our children. Physical exercise is vital to the brain and cognition, to emotions and social interaction, as well as to releasing kid-energy. Then, their spirits are joyful and kind-hearted.

Bullying is generated from many unhappy life experiences, not least of which is poor diet and little intellectual stimulation. Give our children good food and the opportunity to read and explore the world through books, then bullying would decrease exponentially.

October is Arts and Humanities month. Hats off to the Emerging Artists program associated with the Rio Costilla Studio Tour and all ways that our young ones are supported in expressing their creativity.

Lastly, Astronomy week is part of October. Just as the seasons change, the night sky does too. The Fall and Winter skies are stunning. Turn off the porch lights and gaze into the majesty of the universe with someone—especially a young person. Remember, many of the points of light that appear to be a star are themselves galaxies of billions of stars. Then, call to mind, that in the tales of the world, many of these “stars” were beings who won their place in the heavens by being good or courageous or selfless or kind.
ESOTERIC ASTROLOGY
SKYDANCE ESOTERIC ASTROLOGY by Charlene R. Johnson
OCTOBER 2019

SATURN & MARS
“Life will give you whatever experience is most helpful for the evolution of your consciousness. How do you know this is the experience you need? Because this is the experience you are having.” Eckhart Tolle

Through the latter half of October and briefly into November, a challenge develops between Saturn and Mars. This is virtually the only challenge in our skies and offers a good excuse to discuss these two important planets.

In Esoteric Astrology, Saturn is the planet of long-term karma — all of your past lives — while Mars is the planet of short-term karma, that of the immediate past life or last two lives. Saturn is in its own sign of Capricorn, so it is both strong and happy; it is strong enough as well as strong enough Capricorn and Saturn are about: hard work, ambition, initiation.

Mars is in the sign of Libra, which is partnerships, the law, and balance. Karma within and challenging from without our committed relationships might be reason to pause consider how you react to your partners. Mars can also indicate passion within a partnership, for the partner for the project you and your partner are working on, and for the goals you aspire to. The repercussions of our actions are always karmic; this is merely a time when we get to examine those thoughts and actions more closely. The short and long of it is “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.”

Everyone: Uranus and Mercury are the closest they get to Earth in their orbits around the Sun and are easiest to see because of that. Go see!

Aries ♃ Planet: Mercury ♃ MARCH 20 — APRIL 19
Dynamic: This could be a magical and energetic time.
Direction: An excellent time to put yourself out there as just the right person for the job.
Soul Thought: You are!

Taurus ♄ Planet: Venus ♄ APRIL 19 — MAY 20
Dynamic: A time when measures are established and center
Direction: This could be a great time to invest or re-invest… moving time energy
Soul Thought: “Retention is nothing but the resources we are not harvesting. We allow them to disperse because we’ve grown ignorant of their value.” R. Buckminster Fuller

Gemini ♊ Planet: Venus ♊ MAY 20 — JULY 20
Dynamic: If you feel more anxious or angry than usual, know that it is not coming from outside of you.
Direction: Take a deep breath.
Soul Thought: When passion and grace work together.

Cancer ♋ Planet: Moon ♋ JULY 20 — JULY 22
Dynamic: That long time aggravation will end this month; calm waters will ensue.
Direction: Remember, “Now I see as through a glass darkly…”
Soul Thought: “. . . but then, face to face.” 1 Corinthians, 13:2

Leo ♌ Planet: Sun ♌ JULY 22 — AUG 22
Dynamic: Different challenges exist when boxes or business all diffuse later in the month.
Direction: Take care of your structure, body and Soul.
Soul Thought: Seeing the balance.

Virgo ♍ Planet: Moon ♍ AUG 22 — SEPT 22
Dynamic: There is a certain mystery in being you, though you are so factual.
Direction: Research the many faces of the moon.
Soul Thought: A lovely wine, 7 Moons.

Libra ♎ Planet: Uranus ♎ SEPT 22 — OCT 22
Dynamic: If you feel in conflict, it is because you’re on one side and many others are on the other.
Direction: Remember that karma is in and about relationships.
Soul Thought: What a side?

Scorpio ♏ Planet: Mars ♏ OCT 22 — NOV 21
Dynamic: Maintaining balance within relationships may be a little more difficult by mid-month.
Direction: Direct the energy of your passion into achieving your goals.
Soul Thought: Passion is not the problem.

Sagittarius ♐ Planet: Earth ♐ NOV 21 — DEC 20
Dynamic: Some of the tumult settles out by latter half of the month.
Direction: You’re on solid ground already, add sailboats.
Soul Thought: But don’t get stuck in a rut.

Capricorn ♑ Planet: Saturn ♑ DEC 20 — JAN 19
Dynamic: You have strength and power and new challenges.
Direction: The challenges — and the karma — are easily dealt with when you ponder what is good for everyone, not just self.
Soul Thought: “Kill out ambition but live like one ambitious.” Matilde Helenus Baudracy

Aquarius ♒ Planet: Jupiter ♒ JAN 19 — FEB 18
Dynamic: That intense focus can relax by mid-month.
Direction: Now find a new goal.
Soul Thought: The point is one new goal attained, and then another.

Pisces ♒ Planet: Pluto ♒ FEB 18 — MAR 20
Dynamic: The one who has been supporting you through these challenges, now shoulders them.
Direction: Relief is great, gratitude even better.
Soul Thought: What’s a side?

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.

DATES TO REMEMBER
OCTOBER 2019

OCTOBER 1  6:00PM  Questa School Board Meeting
OCTOBER 1  3:30-5:30PM  QCC Clay Studio at the Questa Youth Center
OCTOBER 2  National Walk to School Day
OCTOBER 4  1:00-3:00PM  Questa Library Kid’s Program,Explorafest Presents “Mad Hatter”
OCTOBER 5  9:00AM-2:00PM  QUESTIVAL Saturday Market at the QFM site.
OCTOBER 5  World Teachers Day, World Smile Day too
OCTOBER 5  8:30 AM-3:30 PM  Co-op Seminar, Juan I. Gonzales Agricultural Center, 202 Chamisa Road, Taos (See page 16)
OCTOBER 6  10:00A- 6:00PM  Cambalache! Downtown Questa, Farmers Market Site
OCTOBER 6  3:00PM  First Ever Questa Fritz Frie eating Contest! Downtown Questa, Farmers Market Site
OCTOBER 7  National Child Health Day
OCTOBER 8  3:30-5:30PM  QCC Clay Studio at the Questa Youth Center
OCTOBER 8  6:00PM  Questa Village Council Meeting, Village Hall
OCTOBER 9  Yom Kippur
OCTOBER 9  National Stop Bullying Day
OCTOBER 9  6:00-8:00PM  School Board Candidates’ Forum, Quesa VF
OCTOBER 10  World Mental Health Day
OCTOBER 10  KTAO Radiothon Day for CAV!
OCTOBER 10  10:30-11:30AM  Bookmobile at Questa Post Office
OCTOBER 10  10:30-11:30AM  Bookmobile in Lama, Roots & Wings Community School
OCTOBER 10  1:00-1:45PM  Bookmobile at Questa Post Office
OCTOBER 11-13  Oktoberfest in Red River
OCTOBER 11  5:00-6:30PM  Questa Library Kids Program, Moonrise Party 11:00AM-2:00PM  Free Food at North Central NM Food Pantry!
OCTOBER 12  9:30-10:45AM  Yoga for Service Veterans, Free at Yoga Sala
OCTOBER 12  5:30 - 7:30PM  PM SIGN UP EVENT FOR PICK YOUR POISON RACE AT EL MONTE CARLO LOUNGE
OCTOBER 14  Columbus Day! Native American Day
OCTOBER 15  3:30-5:30PM  QCC Clay Studio at the Questa Youth Center
OCTOBER 15  6:00PM  Questa School Board Meeting
OCTOBER 15-21  8:00AM TO 5:00PM  Capitol Christmas Tree, Pack Ornaments to Ship to D.C ! Juan Gonzales Agricultural Center, 202 Chamisa Rd, Taos
OCTOBER 16  World Food Day
OCTOBER 17  10:30-NOON  Wildcat Kitty Club Questa Public Library
OCTOBER 18  1:00-3:00PM  Clay Studio with Peggy Trigg, Questa Youth Center
OCTOBER 19  9:00AM-2:00PM  QUESTIVAL Saturday Market at the QFM site.
OCTOBER 20  Youth Confidence Day
OCTOBER 21  3:00-5:00PM  Book Club Rae’s Coffee House (see page 20)
OCTOBER 22  3:30-5:30PM  QCC Clay Studio at the Questa Youth Center
OCTOBER 22  10:00AM  Red River Chamber Board Meeting, RR Conference Center
OCTOBER 22  6:00PM  Questa Village Council Meeting, Village Hall
OCTOBER 22  5:00PM  Red River Town Council, RR Conference Center
OCTOBER 23  UniTY Day, Together Against Bullying
OCTOBER 23  5:00-6:00PM  Open QCC Meeting, Questa Youth Center,
OCTOBER 24  UN Day
OCTOBER 25  1:00-3:00PM  Questa Library Kids Program, ArtKids!
OCTOBER 25  11:00AM-2:00PM  Free Food at North Central NM Food Pantry!
OCTOBER 29  3:30-5:30PM  QCC Clay Studio at the Questa Youth Center
OCTOBER 31  Halloween
OCTOBER 31  4:00-6:00PM  Trunk or Treat! Halloween Games & Activities, 2500 Old State Road 3, Questa
NOVEMBER 2  4:00-7:00PM  Dia de los Muertos, Day of the Dead, La Sala in Questa
NOVEMBER 5  School Board Election
HELP WANTED

BE A CENSUS TAKER. Apply now at 2020census.gov/jobs. Great pay, flexible hours, weekly pay, paid training. For more information or if you need help applying, please call 1 (855) 562-2020.

QISD-Questa Schools Job Vacancies—Check the website or call 575-586-0421

Housecleaner: Looking for someone to clean for a person with disabilities, 16 hours a month (2 days) at $13 an hour. Must have reliable transportation, references and undergo a background check. Call 575-640-8789.

Wild and Scenic Rivers Visitor Center is seeking seasonal volunteers to help operate the Center. Starting October 1st, 6 hours per day from 9am to 5pm at the Juan Gonzales Agricultural Center, 202 Chumash Rd, in Taos. Please call or email us to let us know you are coming. Ganga Little, Volunteer Coordinator at friendsofthecarson@gmail.com or Juana Rosas, Partnership Coordinator at 575-586-6296 or juana.rosas@nmsa.gov.

Questa Del Rio News: is looking for an assistant editor, must be computer literate, have some background in writing or journalism, social media skills a plus. Grant writing and fundraising skills appreciated. Email news@questaedf.com or call 575-586-2149. Can start immediately!

Questa Del Rio News is always looking for writers. We could use Questa, San Cristobal, Lama, Cerro and Educational Correspondents and a Social Media Coordinator. Email news@questaedf.com or call 575-586-2149. Can start immediately!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Our community has created 10,000 ornaments for the Capitol Christmas Tree in Washington, DC. Help us pack the ornaments for shipping. October 15 through 21, anytime between 8AM to 5PM at the Juan Gonzales Agricultural Center, 202 Chumash Rd. in Taos. Please call or email us to let us know you are coming. Ganga Little, Volunteer Coordinator at friendsofthecarson@gmail.com or Juana Rosas, Partnership Coordinator at 575-586-6296 or juana.rosas@nmsa.gov.

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NOTICES

Trunk or Treat! Halloween Games & Activities For Kids, 2500 Old State Road 3, Questa. October 31st, 4:00-6:00PM. Sponsored by Village of Questa, Living Word Ministries and Harvest Questa.

PENSACOLA, DEER/CROPS (continues from Back Page)

NEW MEXICO MAGAZINE: Check out newmexio.org/mmmagazine/articles/post/questa-development/

QUESTAVAL, SATURDAY FALL MARKET: Open for breakfast and lunch, selling produce, crafts until it gets too cold! 9:00 am to 2:00 pm on Saturdays at the Questa Visitor Center Parking Lot. To be a vendor or for more information call Wendy Medina at 575-770-7968 or find at Facebook/Questaval.

The Questa Visitor Center will be open Monday through Saturday 10 AM to 3 PM until Saturday October 19th. It will close for the winter starting on October 20th. Check us out when you visit the Questaval on Saturdays! The address is 1 NM Highway 38 in Questa. Turn at the light onto Highway 38 and make an immediate left into the parking lot. 575-586-2149.


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

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

FOR SALE

Solid oak regulation pool table, cue sticks, balls, lights. Great condition. Previous owner: Ray Vinella. $1,500, call Lynn or Kris at 586-0515.

Anyone needs chile, Manach Questa still has green (9) and red (7). Please spread the word! Ask any Manach’s member or call 779-5601.

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

New Mexico Magazine? Check out newmexio.org/mmmagazine/articles/post/questa-development/

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Weekly Music Jam: Raels Coffee House in Questa, Every Thursday at 6:00 pm.
We pray you will join us!
Followed by worship at 10:15am
9:30am on Sundays
We are excited to offer Bible Class at 2 miles north of Questa on State Road 522
Sunday 11am Alice Bailey Theosophy Study Group
Sunday 8am class and meditation
Teachings of Herman Rednick
586-1587
www.lwmsite.org
Wednesday Bible Study 7pm
Nursery and Kids’ Church at 10:30am
Service: Sunday 10:30 am
12 Llano Road
Pastors Peter and Gayle Martinez
Visit us online: HarvestQuesta.org
Phone 575-770-5906
Sunday 11 AM- 12:30 PM
2558 Hwy 522
Pastors Kristi & Johnny Gonzales
Sunday 10:30am
Corner of River Street and Copper King Trail
Pastor Chris Torres (505) 600-5859
Sunday 7am in Spanish -11am in English
Father Andrew Ifele  586-0470
Santo Niño in Amalia- 1st & 3rd Saturdays 4pm
Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe in Cerro-
Sagrado Corazon in Costillo - Sunday 9am
QUESTA CHURCH OF CHRIST
PATH OF LOVE
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
586-1367
PATH OF LOVE
Teachings of Herman Rednick
Sunday 8am class and meditation
586-1454, H10ce
Sunday 11am Alice Bailey Therosophy Study Group
586-4641, Francis
QUESTA CHURCH OF CHRIST
2 miles north of Questa on State Road 522
We are excited to offer Bible Class at 9:30am on Sundays
Followed by worship at 10:15am
We pray you will join us!

KAGYU MILA GURU SANGHA
Tibetan Buddhism
Thursday at 4pm Chenrezig
Friday 8am-Green Tara
gabrielle.herbertson@gmail.com
www.earthjourney.org
586-1454 or 586-1038

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) 680-5899

FAITH MOUNTAIN FELLOWSHIP
Corner of River Street and Copper King Trail
Sunday 10:30am
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF RED RIVER
103 High Corral 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

Fuelwood Permits, Maps & More available from Carson National Forest

By Denise Ottaviano
Fuelwood permits, maps, Interagency Passes, and other products will once again be available for purchase at the Carson National Forest (CNF) Supervisor’s Office in Taos. These products are also available at all ranger district offices.

As an added convenience, we will also be offering Saturday sales on a temporary basis. The Supervisor’s Office will be open on five Saturdays from August 31 through September 28 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Starting Monday, August 26, office hours at the Supervisor’s Office in Taos will be 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. until further notice.

Dead & down fuelwood permits are $20 for 5 cords, with a maximum of 10 cords per household per year. Fuelwood permits are valid until December 31, 2019.

“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”
BUSINESS DIRECTORY

**L&E Self Storage**
$40 for 5’x10’
$60 10’x10’
$90 10’x20’
(575) 586-0568  (575) 586-0695
32 Sagebrush Rd. (next to Questa High School)

**NEW AT NorthStar!**
ROAD HAZARD WARRANTY
(Ask the guys at NorthStar for details)
NorthStar Tire & Auto
575-586-0561  575-779-0623

**CarQuesta Auto Parts**
hydraulic hoses and small engine repair
You need it? We rent it.
2420 St. Hwy 522
Questa, NM 87556
575-586-0419/0418

**NEW QUESTA THRIFT STORE**
Winter clothes and practical items for your needs!
2422 Highway 522 in downtown Questa • 575-224-5551

**Double Eagle Electric**
of NM, LLC
“Searing above the rest”
20+yrs. Experience * Excellent Workmanship * Prompt Service
JOHNNY GONZALES
Cell: (575) 770-5843
doubledagel30@hotmail.com
FACEBOOK.com/DoubledagleELECTIRC

**Questa Dental Center**
2451 Highway 522
575-586-0259

**Questa Creative Council**
QuestaCreativeCouncil@gmail.com
FB: Questa Creative Council
PO Box 1025 • Questa, NM 87556
(575) 586-5636

**QuestACREATIVE.ORG**
be a part of the creative action!

**Happy Paws**
2303 A, NM 522 • Questa, NM 87556
dpgzjett@hotmail.com • 575-586-1065
www.questa-happypaws.com

**Vecinos and Visitors Welcome**
• Espresso and coffee • Locally crafted furniture •
• NM Products • Art Work • Shower Facilities •
• Treasures New and Old • Thursday Night Music Jam •
• Meeting Space for Small Groups •
QUESTA, NEW MEXICO • AT THE LIGHT

**Questa Creativity Council**
2422 Highway 522 in downtown Questa • 575-224-5551

**Discount if you mention this ad!**
575.779.9456
Located across from the Questa VFW

**Vecino**
Handcraftedwood design
Cabinets-kitchens-baths-countertops
Doors-custom millwork
CAD Design
Paul Kunkel
Cabinetmakerhng@gmail.com
575 586-0631
575 779-5736

**New Questa Thrift Store**
Winter clothes and practical items for your needs!
2422 Highway 522 in downtown Questa • 575-224-5551

**ARTQUESTA Gallery**

**Mention this Ad for 5% Off!**

**Questa Lumber & Hardware Co.**
P.O. Box 199
Questa, NM 87556
Phone: (575) 586-0414
Fax: (575) 586-1916

**Jay’s Unique Thrift Shop**
Jason Rice
(575) 779-3723
mtnriencm@aol.com
Questa, New Mexico

**Discount if you mention this ad!**
575.779.9456
Located across from the Questa VFW

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