

Questa Del Rio News

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QUESTA FARMERS MARKET GETS FUNDING

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HELP FIND THE NEXT D.C. CHRISTMAS TREE!

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THREE GENERATIONS ON THE RIVER

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

June Events in Red River

By SHELBY WERLEY

June offers mild temperatures, sunshine, and plenty of fun events in Red River. The weather finally gets warmer while guests and locals, alike, join in Brandenburg Park for some of summer's best events.

The Red River Classic Car Show will be celebrating its 24th year this year. It is always held on the first Saturday of June. This year, it will be on June 1st. If you happen to be in town early, make sure to catch the Glow Parade on Main Street on May 31st at 9:00 PM. The Show and Shine is held in the Park from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM on Saturday. Over 100 classic and modern cars rev their engines and show off to all of the guests.

After the park clears out, all 100 cars will head down Main Street in Red River again for another can't miss parade. The Red River Chamber of Commerce gives out over 20 trophies to category winners, as well as several others such as Best in Show and Mayor's Choice. The Award Ceremony will take place in the Pavilion in Brandenburg Park at 7:00 PM on Saturday. To end an entire day of cars and fun, there will be one final Glow Parade down Main Street at 9:00 PM.



Photo by Todd Vorce

The Red River Classic Car Show

If cars aren't your thing, maybe the Art and Wine Festival is for you. Friday, June 14th through Sunday, June 16th, the Art and Wine Festival will take place in Brandenburg Park for its 16th year. About a dozen local, New Mexican Wineries join us for this event along with another handful of New Mexico Breweries. Artists from all over the country also

join the festivities in Red River for your enjoyment. They offer everything from paintings, photography, textiles, and everything in between. Shop and sip wine while listening to some of the amazing local musicians who will be playing live on the stage all weekend long. The Art and Wine Festival has something for everyone with a beautiful setting in the mountains.

Admission for the Classic Car Show is \$5 per family. Admission for Art and Wine is \$5 or \$20 for a wine glass, admission, and wine tastings. Both prices are good for admission all three days. For more information on all of the Red River Chamber of Commerce's events. Please visit www.redriverchamber.org.

Positive Thoughts for June

By DONNA MITCHELL-MONIAK

June heralds the first day of summer with the Summer Solstice on June 21st. It is the longest day of the year when the days start to get shorter again. That day is also Make Music Day, what fun! Sit outside on the longest day of the year

strumming a guitar humming a tune as the sun sets. Three days before that is Go Fishing Day, perfect! Now, I know what to get the father-figure in my life for Father's Day on June 16th.

June 2nd is Cancer Survivor Day. We probably all know someone who is cur-

rently in a cancer journey, has beat the beast, or who has been relieved of their suffering through death. To celebrate the survivors is to acknowledge that fighting cancer is a heck of a fight. On that day,

POSITIVE THOUGHTS continued page 20



Josh Michael from Questa holding his 17.25 inch trophy fish that he caught in the last 3 minutes of regulation before weigh-ins to win the 3-8 year-old division at the Cimarron Fishing Derby on May 11th.

Photo by Lindsay Mapes

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Questa Del Rio News

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DEL RIO NEWS

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1 Highway 38

Questa, NM 87556

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OUR MISSION

To Inform, Inspire, Connect and Unite the Communities of Northern Taos County.

NUESTRO OBJETIVO

Es informar, inspirar, contactar, y unir a toda la comunidad del norte del condado de Taos.

PLEASE SEND ALL COMMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

BY THE 15TH OF THE MONTH

NOS PUEDEN CONTACTAR PARA INFORMACIÓN

ENVÍE ANTES DEL DÍA 15 DEL MES

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Some of us are old enough to remember the days when someone asked us how we were and the polite response was, "I'm fine, thank you." Nowadays, people reply with, "Busy!" In fact, people are almost too busy to talk about how busy they are! Have you noticed that everyone is really super busy, almost spinning in circles busy? It is as if the cosmic wheels have accelerated and we are all hanging on for dear life. Yes, the world is more connected now in terms of information, and it is hard not to react to all that input...

Do you know anyone who is NOT too busy? Most of us have a lot going on: work, family, taking care of our homes, dealing with surprises like fixing our cars or other emergencies... If we are lucky—and smart—we also add fun to our list, like hobbies, recreation, travel, spending time in nature and with people we love. Those things are so important. And what about caring for our health with exercise, cooking, relaxation and doing things that make us feel good? If we forget to add those to our list, that is when things go wrong. The list keeps getting longer and longer and it is very easy to forget what feeds our souls. That is when we get overwhelmed, too tired and stressed out. In the U.S. most of our major health problems are stress related, beginning with exhaustion. So, relax and let go!

One result of this Busy-Crazed Revolution is that to survive people learn to cut corners. It may take too much time to do something well, be considerate of others, or to live up to our word. The problems arise when our behavior becomes self-centered in an ego driven way rather than self-centered in a taking care of ourselves way. When negotiating a life that is too jam-packed, there may be a learning curve to taking care of ourselves. To become the best version of ourselves we need to create new habits in order for positive change to gracefully follow. This is especially true when others are counting on us and we have commitments. If we blow it and leave people hanging, a simple apology or acknowledgement of our responsibility makes a big difference.

Perhaps we are in the habit of saying yes and we end up feeling rushed, stressed or overwhelmed. Or guilty, resentful or doing things out of obligation. What is kindness in such a case? Crossing something off our list can bring relief, especially if it allows time for something important like getting rest, a hot bath, or a walk in the woods.

Some people are also busy serving community organizations, supporting church activities, or other volunteer work, all of which are good for your health, happiness and longevity. Volunteers rock! For example, here at the Questa Del Rio News, we rely on volunteers to write most of our articles and truly appreciate people taking time out from their busy lives to help offer this paper each month.

Writing is essentially about sharing and that is our purpose here. We at the paper make mistakes, being mostly human (and a small part technological!). We get reports of people who are upset because we forgot something, they don't like one of our writers, for a sentence that rubs someone the wrong way, or for not reporting on something that we didn't know about. If all readers can remember that we are doing our best and our intention is to share, maybe it will help be easier on us and to remember the good things we do. Thank you to our communities, our readers and all our volunteers who strongly support and encourage us, we are deeply grateful. You are an essential part of our project!

EDITOR: LOU McCALL

AND THE FOLKS AT THE QUESTA DEL RIO NEWS

We Need Your Help To Cover The News In Your Community!

Speaking of sharing; please remember to let us know what is going on. We hear about events after they happen and shucks, we are here to help you promote events—and for free (unless you decide to buy advertising)! Reporting on this diverse and wide-spread community requires many eyes and people willing to keep the paper informed. Because we are largely a volunteer organization (thus understaffed) we rely on "citizen reporters" to cover news in their communities. Please let us know (ahead of time), or better yet, write the story.

Send us what you have and if appropriate, we will share it!

THANK YOU TO ALL THE CONTRIBUTORS WHO HELPED MAKE OUR JUNE ISSUE ANOTHER WONDERFUL PAPER

ALBERTA BOUYER, JANIE CORINNE, PETER CRIDER, THERESE DOVALPAGE, MARIA GONZALEZ, DANIEL HUTCHISON, JONATHAN HUTCHISON, HAE WON KWON, TIM LONG, NICHOLAS MAESTAS, GAEA MCGAHEE, DONNA MITCHELL-MONIAK, RICHARD DE OLIVAS Y CORDOVA, DENISE OTTAVIANO, DANETTE RAEI, MALAQUIAS RAEI JR., MARK RICHERT, SANTANA SANTISTEVAN, JULIAN SPALDING, PEGGY TRIGG, ANDRES VARGAS, REED WEIMER, MARK WHITE



The views expressed in letters to the editor are those of the writer and not our publication.

Thank you for letting us know about all the opportunities we have seen in your publication informing us about

what is going on in Questa so we can get back out and do something. We appreciate you letting us know about all the local events and entertaining us with interesting subjects and keeping us up with the news.

We feel like you're doing a great job with what you are saying and believe there are still good people in the world and believe there always will be. For all the trouble you go through, there are people who see the Hard work you do.

JOHN ALFONE'S JOURNALISM CLASS,
QUESTA MIDDLE SCHOOL

Should the Rio Grande River and its tributary, the little Rio Colorado be cleansed since both have been polluted?

Attending the EPA meeting April 11, 2019 was a big letdown, it lacked an agenda, a speaker system, poor speakers and was generally very poorly organized. My perspective of the meeting is that the Rio Colorado is being monitored to the hilt but without conclusive data to determine its health. I asked EPA whether

the river had been cleansed such as its accompanying park lake, but there was no answer. So, simple logic dictates that if the river has not received a cleansing program, therefore both water entities remain polluted and the public's health is at risk because people are eating the fish and kids are swimming in the lake.

I remain appalled at the refuse pipe system installed next to the Rio Colorado River and the consequential polluted soup leakage which it received. Also, what were the three governmental agencies who sponsored the Superfund cleanup thinking about when they approved the back door of the village to be used as a tailing and chemical soup dumping ground? Or is there an alternative intentional motive, an evil and scandalous conspiracy to destroy the local environment, the underground water system, the health of the Questa residents and their government so that in their hopelessness decide to move out of Dodge?

Additional gobbledygook explanations at the meeting concerned a two-foot soil blanket to be laid over all the polluted ground and the chemically organic turquoise lake. Overall best solu-

tion is to obtain a Court Order and put a stop to all further action at the dump site until better solutions are made available. Furthermore, Questa residents and leaders should make plans for a possible Class Action Suit.

RESPECTFULLY YOURS,
ARNOLD E. CORDOVA

OPEN

The Questa Visitor Center will be open 7 days a week, 10am-3pm for the summer.

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.

Message From Nicholas Maestas

I want to share my sincerest gratitude to the citizens of Questa and all of the people I have had the privilege to know from the surrounding communities. Since August of 2017, as the Village of Questa Administrator, I have worked with a great staff who cares deeply about the community they serve as well as many creative, passionate, optimistic and forward-thinking community members. As I part ways with the Village of Questa government, I can't help but think about what the future will hold for Questa in our region.

A united community is a powerful force and can protect what it believes is important. You have a voice and can share your views about the future of our community at upcoming Village Council meetings.

Questa's future is still unwritten. With your continued involvement, it will also be a future that you can help develop and believe in. I look forward to watching Questa stand out in the region and become that one destination with its unique experience. What will it be?

SUNDAYS 11AM - 3PM
JUNE 16 - SEPTEMBER 15

QUESTA FARMERS MARKET

Vendors • Musicians • Join us
Questa Visitor Center hwy 38
EBT WIC & Senior Checks

QuestaFarmersMarket.org

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Happy Father's Day
from Living Word Ministries!

Serving Up A Father's Day BREAKFAST
Sunday • June 16 • 9:30-10:30AM

Join Us!

LIVING WORD MINISTRIES

12 Llano Rd • Questa NM • 575.586.1587 • lwmsite.org

Camping In The Great Outdoors!

With warmer weather comes spending more time outside, including camping in the great outdoors. Since Northern Taos County is a destination for camping for locals and visitors alike, we are sharing the U.S. Forest Service's list of Carson National Forest Campgrounds in our area. Campers are welcome to stay up to 14 days, enjoy!

USFS Campgrounds Open:

June Bug,
Columbine,
 Goat Hill,
Elephant Rock,
 Echo Amphitheater,
 Cebolla Mesa,
 Santa Barbara,
Agua Piedra,
 Upper and Lower La Junta,
 Duran Canyon,
 Comales,
Hopewell,
 Cimarron,
 McCrystal,
 Las Petacas,
 Capulin,
 La Sombra,



Lower Hondo,
 Cuchilla,
 Cuchilla del Medio,
 and Twining.

Campgrounds in bold are on the Reservation System and can be reserved online at www.recreation.gov or by calling 1-877-444-6777.

USFS Campgrounds which are closed as of press time in May: (Check with the USFS Office to learn these opening dates).

Fawn Lakes and **Fawn Lakes Campground:** closed due to high river runoff.
 Los Piños,
 Lagunitas,
 Trout Lakes,

and Canjilon Lakes: still being impacted by snow.

The west side of the Valle Vidal Unit in Taos County is closed through June 30 for elk calving but Forest Road 1950 is open to the public all the way through the Valle Vidal. In the closed area you are not allowed to leave your vehicle.

There are currently no fire restrictions in the forest. However, remember, it is critical that all campfires be properly extinguished! Do not take unnecessary risks by lighting campfires on hot and windy days.

Leave No Trace!

Thousands of visitors to Carson National Forest have a tremendous impact on the land. It's up to all of us to minimize our impact, to travel softly, leaving no trace of our visit so that future generations can enjoy the woods and mountains we all love.

You Don't Have to Camp in a Campground.

National Forests mean room to roam. You can camp anywhere in Carson National Forest. Some restrictions apply. Please check with the local Forest Service Office.

Your Campsite: Look for a site that:

- Is at least 200 feet from water. This will help protect water quality and minimize pollution.
- Has a good place for a tent, but where you will not have to destroy vegetation. Try using a hammock and a tarp instead of a tent.
- Is out of sight of the trail, unless you are at a designated site.
- Wear sneakers or light shoes around camp to avoid trampling vegetation.
- The high ridges of the Carson National Forest

tend to be steep and densely vegetated. Allow plenty of time to find a good campsite.

Your Campfire.

Campfires can cause unnecessary signs of human presence and ugly scars on the landscape. Please use a portable stove instead. If you must have a fire:

- Use only fallen, dead wood.
- Don't cut down snags, since animals rely on these for homes.
- Keep your fire small.
- Clear away duff and forest litter to prevent the fire from spreading.
- A fire ring isn't necessary!
- Never leave your fire unattended.
- Be sure it's dead out and leave no trace of your fire when you leave.
- Remember, a candle can be a focus point for a group instead of a campfire!

Can I Drink the Water?

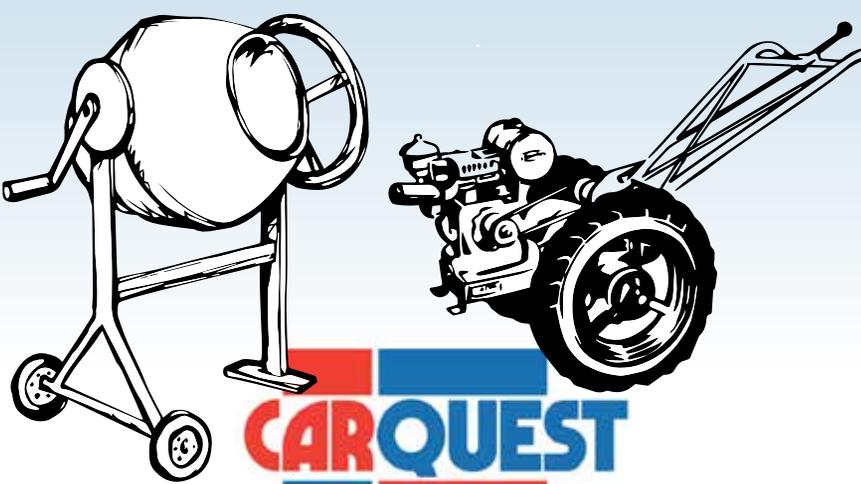
The answer to this question is an emphatic yes - and no. No matter how clear or pure the water may look, it's a good idea to purify all unprotected water. Water-borne parasites, including Giardia Lambia, have been found in Carson National Forest water. Purification methods include chemical treatment, filtration, and boiling. Fish, clean water, and soap (even biodegradable ones) don't mix. Wash your dishes - and yourself - 200 feet from the water source.

For site specific information including any applicable fees, visit the Carson National Forest: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/activity/carson/recreation/camping-cabins>

IT'S DIY SEASON!

SUMMER IS HERE!

Ask about our **Rotor Tiller & Cement** tools to get your DIY projects started.





2420 St. Hwy 522 • Questa, NM 87556
575.586.0419

Forest visitors are encouraged to contact the district office in the area they plan to visit to learn about road conditions and access to recreation sites:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/contactus/carson/about-forest/contactus>

Ranger District	Hours	Phone
Questa Ranger	9AM-12:30PM, 1:30-4PM	575.586.0520
Camino Real	9AM-12:30PM, 1:30-4PM	575.587.2255
El Rito	8-11:30AM, 12:30-4:30PM	575.581.4554
Tres Piedras	8AM-12PM, 1-4PM	575.758.8678
Canjilon	8AM-12PM, 1-4PM	575.684.2489
Jicarilla	8AM-4:30PM	505.632.2956
Supervisor	8AM-4:30PM	575.758.6200

Kids in the Heart of Questa



Daniel Hutchison
Executive Director

HC 81 Box 41
Questa, NM 87556
575.613.6808



info@localogy.org
www.localogy.org

MOVING PASSIVE CONSUMERS
TO BE ACTIVE PRODUCERS
OF LIVELIHOODS AND CULTURE

By DANIEL HUTCHISON

Food and agriculture have always been at the center of our community. From family dinners to Cambalache, generations get together to celebrate our shared survival. A new summer camp plans to put our youth back where they belong—literally, and figuratively— in the heart of the Questa. At the Vida Camp, campers will build an horno, planters, and shade structures for the Questa Farmers Market. The day camp not only offers a safe and fun activity for local youth, but also will also help them do some real good for our community.

Singing River Field Center, Vida Del Norte Coalition, and Questa Farmers Market are partnering to produce the program. Local experts will offer instruction on building techniques, and the Vida teens will serve as mentors for younger campers. Participants will learn the importance of locally grown healthy food, community service,

and that they can do great things by working together. Of course, there will be also plenty of time for summer camp fun and games.

The camp will take place on the farmers market grounds, by the Questa Visitor's Center, in the village center. The site improvements will be an anchor for the weekly Questa Farmers Market every Sunday, benefitting vendors and customers alike. The youth will be honored for their work in a ceremony at the market later in the season. Campers can take pride in their efforts for years to come as they drive through town, stop in for some fresh veggies, or roast some chicos in the horno.

The day camp is for 7- to 12-year-old campers. Vida Camp will run Monday through Friday, June 10th through 14th, from 9AM to 4 PM daily. Tuition is free. Campers can register at www.localogy.org/daycamp or by calling (575) 613-6808.



Courtesy Photos

An horno comes together at Singing River Field Center in the 1990s. Campers and Vida teens will repeat the feat at the Questa Farmers Market in June.

2019 RCST YARD SALE

Saturday, June 8th from 10am-3pm
(NEXT to the Costilla Gas & Grocery Station)

Drop-off the morning of event from 9am-10am.
In good condition, no junk or clothes, please!
All donations are tax-deductible.



SPREAD THE WORD, HELP US RAISE FUNDS:

Tell your family and friends to join us on this day! Unload the stuff you no longer need, pick up new ones, meet and greet our local artist's and community members...it's always a fun time.

VOLUNTEERS:

Contact Steve Waldrip (stevenw@gojade.org) or Evelyn (eoliva78@yahoo.com).
We always need help at the end of the day too...bring a hat and water "stay hydrated!"

Thank You!

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Questa Credit Union 2433 Hwy 522 Questa, NM 87556

El Borreguero

by ANDRES VARGAS

Excerpted from his memoir which will be published in the upcoming book, Late Bloomers: The Movement – Literary Gems by Taos Boomers in Their Prime, edited by Ellen Wood of Questa

This is a tribute to my father, Juan Andres Vargas, who, like many men from Northern New Mexico, and Taos in particular, earned his living as a migrant shepherd. As a young man, I spent two summers with him and two thousand sheep, five horses, and two dogs in the Caribou National Forest in Idaho. This is what he taught me about herding sheep and camp tending.

Herding sheep is a lonely and sometimes dangerous occupation. But despite these factors, it was common for men from Northern New Mexico to travel to Wyoming and Idaho to work as sheepherders and camp tenders to support

their families. My father made an almost yearly sojourn, especially during lambing season, working in the large sheep ranches in Cokeville, Kemmerer, or Rock Springs, Wyoming.

After my first semester at the University of New Mexico, I made arrangements for my father to ask his boss, John Dayton, if I could be his campero (camp tender) for the summer, and they hired me on. I arrived near the end of lambing season with herders overseeing the birth of thousands of lambs, twenty-four hours a day, and intervening in difficult births.

Not only did I learn about herding sheep and camp cooking, my Dad also taught me about riding in the forest on mountain trails, the inherent dangers of riding and being among horses and dogs, and the dangers of being isolated in the mountains where you might not see another soul for weeks. Gradually, my father also taught me the other duties

of the camp tender. First, at the break of dawn, the campero would start a fire and brew my father his coffee. While the coffee was brewing, the campero had to find the horses. If he had tied one up for the night, he would release him and saddle up the fresh one that had been grazing all night.

Although these were some of the duties I would have had to perform, my Dad was soft on me and let me sleep late every day. He would brew his own coffee and catch and saddle his horse.

A week or two after we set up our camp, my father told me to saddle up and help him bring down the herd from high up in the mountain so that they could drink from the creek.

Sheep would normally get sufficient moisture from the vegetation and dew that collected on the plants. However, as it had not rained in the weeks since we had arrived, he was bringing the herd

down for watering, to give them salt and to slaughter a yearling he had his eye on. It was a beauty, big and fat. My father caught it with the staff and then dragged it by its hind legs to a log where we placed its head and cut its exposed throat and then plunged the knife down to puncture its spinal cord so that it would not suffer unduly. As the lamb was kicking in rigor mortis, I grabbed and held its hind feet tightly.

“No, No! Mi hijo, no la detengas,” my father promptly told me, “dejala que le tire los ultimos pedos al mundo. Mi Dios nos da estos pobres animales para que nosotros vivamos y siempre es duro matarlos, pero tenemos que vivir.” (“No, son! Let it kick its last farts at the world. God gives us these animals so that we can live and it is always hard to kill them, but we have to live.”)

My father was an intelligent and compassionate man.

Killers of the Flower Moon

By JULIAN SPALDING

I am writing this in May, the month that the Osage call the Killer of Little Flowers Moon because frost came so often at this time of year killing young flowers.

My story starts on the Osage Reservation. Like so many native tribes, Osage territory was shrunk from a huge territory that originally covered most of Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Kansas, to banishment in the corner of northeast Oklahoma in the late 19th Century. The tribe, which had been consigned to a Kansas reservation, was given the option of buying some non-productive land from the Cherokee tribe. The land became Osage County. In a bizarre twist of fate, in the early 20th Century, oil was discovered under the land. The Osages, who had managed to buy mineral rights with the land, soon became the richest people in the world as they benefited from oil leases and royalties. The money was apportioned to the 2,229 living members of the tribe who were born before 1907. Their shares of the mineral rights were called “headrights,” which were inherited by their descendants in perpetuity.

My grandmother was one of the original headright owners. In the early decades of the new century, she enjoyed the

wealth shared by all headright owners. But there was a dark side to this sudden wealth, explored in depth in the bestselling book, Killers of the Flower Moon by David Grann. Sensing an opportunity to acquire some of this wealth, unscrupulous men married Osage women, killed their new wives through a variety of methods, including shooting, poisoning, and blowing up an entire house with the occupants inside. The headrights of men were also stolen by their white “guardians.” The government had set up a guardianship system, since the Indians did not know how to manage their sudden vast wealth. However, the guardians were invariably corrupt. In fact, it turns out most of the local institutions, from bankers and lawyers to law enforcement, were part of a grand scheme to defraud the Indians.

The resulting Reign of Terror began in the early 1920s. At that time, my great grandfather, Clarence Trumbly, lived with his extended family on their allotted land just over the border in southern Kansas. My grandmother had married a Scotsman named Thomas McAdam when she was sixteen. My mother, Betty Jane McAdam, was born in 1922. When she was two or three years old, Clarence moved the family to Grants Pass, Oregon. I never heard family lore saying that the reason for the move was the

Reign of Terror, but I can’t imagine that that was not a major factor since hundreds of Osages were being murdered at that time.

Clarence bought land in the Applegate Valley and a theater in Grants Pass where my Mom told me she used to see movies for free since her grandpa owned the theater. She grew up in Grants Pass, graduating from Grants Pass High School. Her mother, grandfather and other relations are buried in the Grants Pass cemetery with grave plates bearing their names.

When my mother was sixteen, she was working in a store when my father Raymond Spalding saw her and, as he told me, “When I saw that beautiful woman, I said, ‘I’m going to marry her!’” Sure enough, they married about 1942 and settled in Ashland where my Dad and his father, Elmer Spalding, owned a lumber mill called Sugar Pine Lumber Company. My Dad wrote a short autobiography where he mentioned that his mill stood at the corner of Ashland Street and Tolman Creek Road, the current site of Bi-Mart and Shop-n-Kart. When I was two or three years old, my Dad sold the mill and moved his family to Eureka, California where I grew up. I eventually graduated from UCLA, married, had a son, and then moved my family to New Mexico where my wife

and I had two more children before we divorced.

She left New Mexico, but I stayed, wandering in the desert, for forty years! In 1987, I met my current husband, Terry Brown, in Albuquerque. In 2008, we bought a home in Talent, Oregon, moving in 2009. When we shopped at Shop-n-Kart and BiMart, it felt strange to walk on the cement floor of these two stores—a floor my Dad poured when he built the mill in the late 1940s! But that’s another story—the Spalding family ran lumber mills in the Rogue Valley for several generations.

My maternal ancestry stems from the Osage Reign of Terror, without which I might not have been born, and, likely, not in Ashland. My mother lived on her headright income inherited from her mother, and me from my mother—which today represents a portion of my income—a mere fraction of what once provided lavish lifestyles for the Osage of Oklahoma. After a sixty-year absence, I returned to my own ancestral land of Oregon, where I lived for ten years before Terry and I moved back to Taos County.

How can we know who we are if we don’t know our roots? Only when we know our lineage can we place ourselves in historic time and recognize where we are and where we belong.

Charles Hippolyte Beaubien: Patriarch Profundo

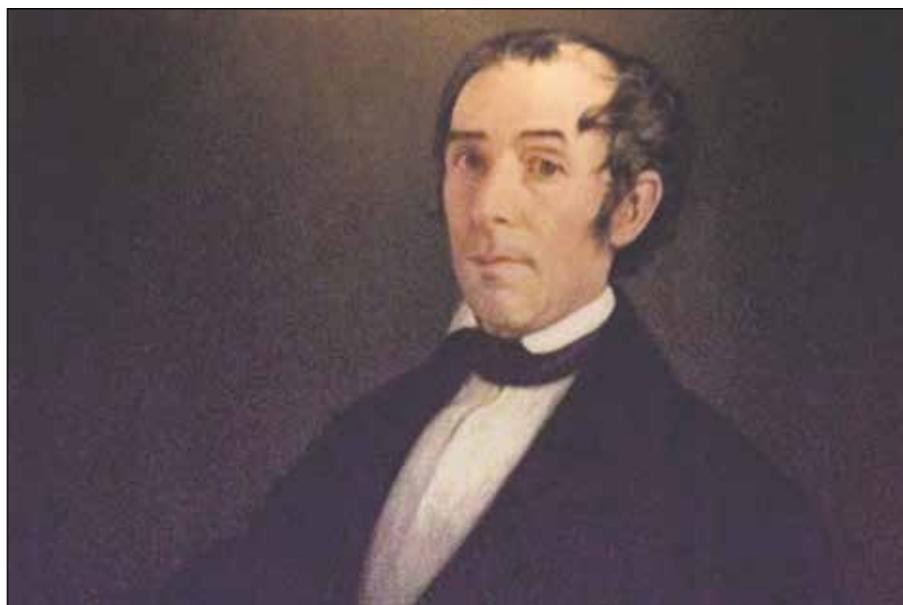
BY PRISCILLA
SHANNON GUTIÉRREZ

While the land grant that bears his name, the Beaubien-Miranda-Maxwell Grant, is renowned as the largest in New Mexican history, surprisingly few people realize what an important figure in the early history of the state that Charles Hipolite Beaubien was. A long-time resident of Taos, he would eventually become known as Don Carlos Beaubien, respected for his kindness, generosity and judgement in a number of areas. His influence over the decades paved the way for many of the communities from Taos into the San Luis Valley, including Río de Colorado, as well as the Valle Vidal and Vermejo Park areas.

Born in Canada in 1800, Beaubien left the seminary there and made his way to the French communities of Kaskaskia and St. Louis. After trapping for several years in the rivers in Colorado and Wyoming Territories with Francois (Francisco) Laforet and others, Beaubien carted goods into Mexico for Taos merchants, the Lajeunesse brothers. Not long after, he settled in town and bought the mercantile business from them. Beaubien was well-known for his ability to judge pelts being brought to town by trappers. Pabla Lovato, a local beauty, caught Charles' eye early on and the two were wed by none other than Padre Martínez in 1827, after requiring the young couple to get dispensation from the bishop in Durango, Mexico for the marriage (Padre Martínez was no fan of Beaubien).

Narciso was the first child to be born. As a youth, he would be sent away to be educated in St. Louis, returning to Taos a mere four days before the Rebellion of 1846. Ten additional children would follow over the years, who would marry into families with historically significant names such as Maxwell, Trujillo, Clouthier, and Abreu. Their descendants still reside in communities across northern, as well as southern New Mexico.

In 1840, Governor Armijo initially approved the Beaubien-Miranda land grant, which named the Old Taos Trail as its the western boundary; Raton Pass as the eastern boundary, and Sibley's gap near Rayado approximating the southern boundary of the tract. Political dealings would delay full approval until 1844. The towns of Rayado, Cimarrón, and Springer would eventually develop from the settlers who populated this



grant. Ultimately Guadalupe Miranda sold his interest in the grant to Beaubien to pay off debts he had amassed.

Three years later, Don Carlos was able to procure the Sangre de Cristo Land Grant on behalf of his son, Narciso, who was still under-age at the time. Taos merchant Stephen Louis Lee was also named as a petitioner on the one million acre grant, which encompassed the southern part of the fertile San Luis Valley, bordered by the Trincheras, Culebra, and Costilla Rivers. Once again, Armijo readily approved the petition, which became known as the Sangre de Cristo Grant. Beaubien was able to convince a group of Taos residents to attempt to settle and farm part of the grant. Thus, settlements such as San Luis and Costilla began to take shape. Ongoing threats of attack from Utes and Comanches would result in periodic abandonments of settlements from the San Luis Valley all the way down to Río de Colorado.

During his lifetime Don Carlos' business acumen made him a wealthy man by the standards of territorial days. He established his home adjacent to the trading post on the southern edge of Taos Plaza, where his business thrived. Soon, Beaubien's sense of fairness and interest in politics led to a judgeship, which meant travel to communities that were developing to preside in court on local matters.

When the Taos Rebellion broke out in January of 1846, the fact that Don Carlos was at Los Luceros holding court surely saved his life. Son Narciso, just back from several years at school in St. Louis, was less fortunate. Both he and Pablo Jaramillo, brother to Ignacia Bent and Josepha Carson became victims of the marauding rebels on the look out

for Americans and their sympathizers. Neighbors and friends hid the rest of the family members who managed to survive the carnage around them. When the Americans gained control again, the judge who presided over the trials of the Taos Rebels was Don Carlos, and the jury was packed with business associates and friends with no sympathy for the Natives and Mexicanos who had tried to protect their land from incursion by America. Not surprisingly, Don Carlos proclaimed a death sentence by repeating, "*Muerto, muerto, muerto.*"

Narciso's untimely death meant that his holdings in the Sangre de Cristo Land Grant were turned over to his father, expanding Beaubien's land holdings considerably. Surprisingly, when the U.S. Government officially began recognizing Mexican land grants, the Beaubien-Miranda- grant was accepted in its entirety, in spite of its vastness. The Sangre de Cristo grant was also approved in its entirety making Don Carlos Beaubien the largest land holder in New Mexican history.

But it was a brief ownership. After Narciso's death, Don Carlos' interest in business dealing and land grants markedly lessened. The taxes imposed by the U.S. Government on both grants were increasingly a financial burden. Beaubien would partner and eventually sell his Taos mercantile business to his daughter Teodora's husband, Frederick Müller. And shortly after the U.S. Government approved the grant in 1857, Beaubien sold the Miranda-Beaubien grant to son-in-law, Lucien Maxwell, and in 1863, sold the Sangre de Cristo grant to future Colorado governor, William Gilpin, giving up all claims north of Taos.

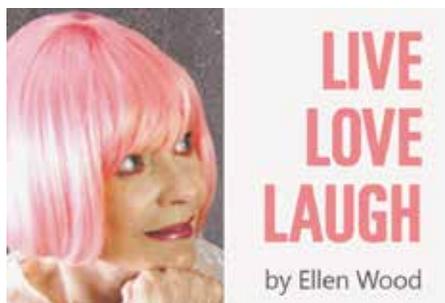
One year later, on February 6, 1864,

Don Carlos Beaubien passed away at his Taos home at the age of 64. His obituary in the Santa Fe New Mexican noted that he was "renowned for his great respectability, large sphere of influence and general goodheartedness." By the time of his death, Beaubien had recouped his losses from the rebellion and left an impressive estate for the time and place. The total value of his possessions was \$63,705; and included a buggy worth \$265, ten freight wagons valued sans cargo at \$1,250, as well as a large amount of whisky he had kept for "thirsty" clients. Both he and son, Narciso, were buried in the cemetery adjacent to Our Lady of Guadalupe Church. When the church burned and was rebuilt and expanded, for some reason neither grave was relocated. The present-day metered parking lot on Camino de la Placita adjacent to the church was built atop of the old cemetery. Both Don Carlos and Narciso remain interred beneath the concrete parking lot.

Don Carlos had a hand in the development of Río de Colorado, even though the town was not considered part of either of his land grants. Beaubien and others such as Charles Autobees used the Trappers Trail to haul goods to the isolated settlements north, as well as along the Arkansas. His long-standing friendship with Don Francisco Laforet, provided an important connection to keep goods moving. During the 1850's, Beaubien's business dealings around Río de Colorado were overseen by his nephew, Jean Bautiste Beaubien. He lived on the Río de Colorado plaza near Laforet and owned several of the adjacent buildings there. Visitors passing through town noted Jean Bautiste's hospitality, as well as his strange mix of French, English and Spanish which made it difficult to understand him. Jean Bautiste eventually sold his property on the plaza and moved on.

Given Charles Hipolite Beaubien's sphere of influence across northern New Mexico and the San Luis Valley, his legacy should not be limited by being a name on a famous land grant. Hopefully, this short overview of his life will help raise awareness of his importance to the history of New Mexico, and will cause readers to want to further explore the life of this fascinating patriarch profundo...

A Tribute to My Father Who Loved Hobos



Nicholas Bilansky was a good person with a big heart – a hard-working immigrant from Czechoslovakia with a broken English accent he never lost. He was my father – known as the best shoemaker in the region. However, if people in Pottsville, Pennsylvania knew the truth, they might have called him the Robin Hood shoemaker because he fixed shoes at no charge for poor people and charged extra to the rich people in town.

During the depression hobos would stop in my father's shop from time to time. Daddy loved hobos! He'd fix their shoes for free and ask for stories of their riding the rails and experiencing new places as they traveled looking for work. Then he'd send them to his friend Skip who owned the corner grocery store to feed them and put it on Nick's tick.

My mother fed the homeless, too. They seemed drawn to our house, as if one of them had marked an "X" on our door, telling others this was a place of sustenance.

I'd stand by the window in the kitchen on tiptoes and watch, barely able to see over the windowsill. I was intrigued by the hobos drawn to the aroma of Mom's freshly baked bread or sticky buns. All were men, each thin and bony with dull, watery eyes, looking as if someone had

turned out the lights in his soul and left just a shell to wander in that place beyond despair.

The hobo would gingerly open the gate, walk across the uneven bricks, knock on the door and then step back, head down, not wanting to appear too bold.

My mother would open the door and the man – dirt nestled in the creases of his forehead; a tattered headband holding back greasy hair that was probably home to lice; parts of his body exposed through the holes in his filthy, worn out clothes; scruffy facial hair matted together with dried-up food and snot; grimy hands that shook; teeth brown with rot; the stench of old urine and new booze – would ask for something to eat.

Even though the sight of him would normally frighten a child of three, I

had seen many of those homeless, godforsaken hobos come to our back door and was not afraid.

Hobos. The word had a respectability in our house. "It could be Jesus," my mother would say. But even Jesus would have had to eat outside, sitting on the steps despite my pleading with her to let the man come in and sit at the table to eat his bread or potato soup or whatever else Mom was cooking up.

The compassion in my parents' hearts had a lasting impact on me; the lessons I learned on the value of giving lingered and I did my best to instill it in my children. At this time of acknowledging fathers, I honor the memory and goodness of my own dear father.

Happy Father's Day to every Daddy out there!

Un tributo a mi padre, que amaba a los vagabundos

Por ELLEN WOOD

Nicholas Bilansky era una buena persona con un gran corazón —un inmigrante de Checoslovaquia, trabajador,

que hablaba inglés con un acento que nunca perdió. Era mi padre, conocido como el mejor zapatero de la región. Sin embargo, si la gente en Pottsville, Pensil-

vania, hubiera sabido la verdad, es posible que lo hubieran llamado el Robin Hood zapatero porque arreglaba los zapatos de los pobres gratis y les cobraba de más a los ricos de la ciudad. Durante la depresión, los vagabundos se paraban en la tienda de mi padre de vez en cuando. ¡A papá le encantaban los vagabundos! Les arreglaba los zapatos de gratis y les pedía que le contasen historias de cómo se colaban en los trenes y sus experiencias en los nuevos lugares que conocían mientras viajaban buscando trabajo. Luego los mandaba a donde su amigo Skip, que era el dueño de la tienda de comestibles de la esquina, para que los alimentara y pusiera los gastos en La Cuenta de Nick. Mi madre también alimentaba a las personas sin hogar. Parecían atraídos a nuestra casa, como si uno de ellos hubiera marcado una "X" en nuestra puerta, diciéndoles a los demás que aquel era un lugar donde podían hallar sustento.

Yo me paraba de puntillas junto a la ventana de la cocina y observaba, aunque apenas podía mirar por encima del alféizar. Me intrigaban los vagabundos que llegaban atraídos por el aroma del pan recién horneado o los panecillos esponjosos de mamá. Todos eran hombres delgados y huesudos con ojos opacos y llorosos, que lucían como si alguien les hubiera apagado las luces del alma y hubiera dejado solo un caparazón para vagar en ese lugar que queda más allá de la desesperación.

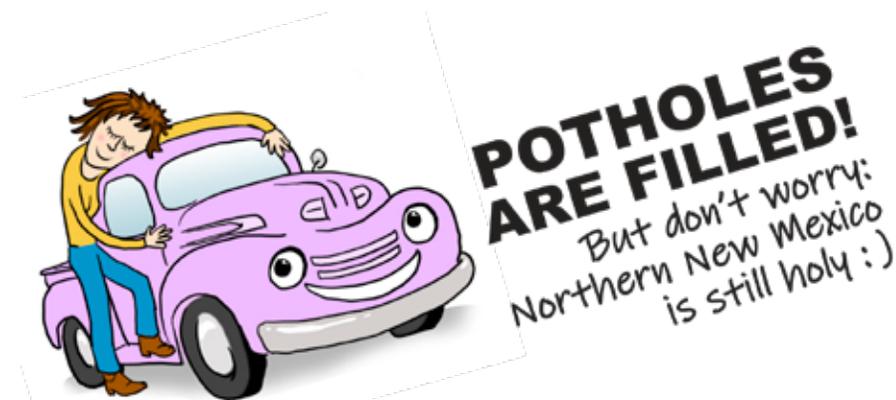
El vagabundo abría cautelosamente el portón de entrada, caminaba por los ladrillos desiguales, golpeaba la puerta y luego retrocedía, con la cabeza baja, para

no parecer demasiado fresco.

Mi madre abría la puerta y el hombre aparecía con tierra entre los pliegues de la frente, una bandana hecha jirones sujetándole el cabello grasiento en el que probablemente había piojos, partes del cuerpo que se le veían a través de los agujeros de la ropa sucia y gastada, barba desaliñada y enmarañada con comida seca y con mocos; manos mugrientas que temblaban, dientes marrones ya podridos y olor a orine viejo y a bebida reciente. Así le pedían algo de comer. A pesar de que la vista de una persona así normalmente asustaría a una niña de tres años, yo había visto a muchos de estos pobres vagabundos sin hogar llegar a nuestra puerta trasera y no les tenía miedo. Vagabundos. La palabra tenía una respetabilidad en nuestra casa. "Podría ser Jesús," decía mi madre. Pero incluso Jesús habría tenido que comer afuera, sentado en los escalones, a pesar de que le suplicaba que dejara que el hombre entrara y se sentara a la mesa para comer el pan o el puré de papa o cualquier otra cosa que mamá estuviera preparando. La compasión que había en el corazón de mis padres tuvo un impacto duradero en mí. Las lecciones que aprendí sobre el valor de dar han permanecido conmigo y he hecho mi mejor esfuerzo para inculcarlas en mis hijos. En este día de reconocer a los padres, honro la memoria y la bondad de mi querido padre.

¡Feliz Día de los Padres a todos los papás que hay por ahí!

Traducción del inglés por Teresa Dovalpage



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You Are My Sunshine

BODY | MIND

By BARBARA TRACY

When World War II ended, my dad came home from overseas. After that, like many returning from war, he was looking for his place in ordinary life again. He began by doing something that he loved that was natural to him, he sang. He began singing in a nightclub on the Kansas and Missouri state line, called the State Line Club. He had a deep voice and liked to sing those wonderful old love ballads that became so popular during the war. I was very small, but I do remember that he would sing to my sister and me. One song he sang to us was, "You Are My Sunshine;" a sweet love song.

As I was contemplating my memories about my father and Father's Day, his singing is what came back to me. It also triggered what I wanted to talk about this month. SUNSHINE.

Early in the 20th Century and before, hospitals had a daily routine where they

would roll patients out in their beds into the sunshine with the purpose of about 20 minutes of exposure to the sun to help them in their healing process. Studies suggest that people with higher levels of vitamin D, which we get from sunshine, have a greater potential survival rate than those with a lower vitamin D level. Another study suggests some cancer patients that had higher vitamin D blood levels when diagnosed had almost twice the potential survival rate than those with a lower vitamin D level.

A more well-known fact is that vitamin D boosts our calcium absorption for stronger bones and may protect against developing bone diseases, experiencing bone fractures, and osteoporosis. The vitamin D we get from sunshine may lower the risk of cataracts. Studies are ongoing on this subject. The immune system can be strengthened with proper exposure to the sun and the resulting vitamin D. One hypothesis is that when we do not spend a healthy amount of time in the sun, the body believes it is winter which can cause the body's metabolic processes to move into

the fat-storing process. Here we can see why a good amount of sun can help with weight management.

The warm sun improves circulation and may be useful in reducing high blood pressure. One study found that people who lived in areas with less than healthy sun exposure had a 60% higher

mind and when combined with exercise like a walk, we have a winning combination. It will clear the mind and emotions and, of course, the exercise of walking in itself is definitely good for you.

If you are not used to being in the sun, begin slowly and increase your

Sunshine almost always makes me high.

— John Denver

stroke risk than those who live in sunny regions. Healthy exposure to the sun helps to regulate our 24-hour internal clock that cycles between sleepiness and alertness, our wake/asleep circadian rhythm. When we get daily exposure to the sun, we have the opportunity for a better night's sleep; and a good night's sleep is very helpful for a healthy body and mind.

And let's not forget the gift of an improved mood. Sunshine has been well documented to improve our state of

length of time in the sun a little at a time. About 15-20 minutes per day would be a good therapeutic dose of sunshine for an adult. After that, consider protection so that you do not burn. And take into consideration if you burn easily, shorten your time in the sun to a length that is healthy for you and your skin. Please note: A baby's skin is thin and extremely sensitive and can burn easily. So be cautious with babies and children. What is outlined above is intended for an adult. Have you had your dose of sun today?

Bodhisattva Prayer for Humanity

By SHANTIDEVA

May I be a guard for those who need protection

A guide for those on the path

A boat, a raft, a bridge for those who wish to cross the flood

May I be a lamp in the darkness

A resting place for the weary

A healing medicine for all who are sick

A vase of plenty, a tree of miracles

And for the boundless multitudes of living beings

May I bring sustenance and awakening

Enduring like the earth and sky

Until all beings are freed from sorrow

And all are awakened.

—This is one of the
Dalai Lama's daily prayers

Shantideva was a Buddhist scholar, born in India in 685. He is best known for his book, "The Way of the Bodhisattva." This is one of the Dalai Lama's daily prayers.



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Summer Reading Program For Kids 4-12 with the Questa Library

Questa Public Library's summer reading program will be held every Friday from 1:00 to 3:00 PM from June 7 to July 19. This year's program is entitled "A Universe of Stories" in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing.

Each Friday will celebrate space exploration and include science-related activities led by volunteers from our community and outside presenters including the Alamogordo Space Museum,

Theater of Mystery, and Twirl. Time will be spent reading to the children and working with them to improve their literacy skills. The children will keep weekly logs of the time they have spent reading and receive prizes as incentives for reaching milestones.

Summer reading programs are designed to encourage elementary-aged children to keep reading during summer vacation. The Questa Public Library's summer reading program is intended for

children aged 4-12 years from Alta Vista Elementary/Intermediate School, Costilla School, Head Start, Roots & Wings Charter School, home schools, and Red River Charter School. This program is designed to motivate children to read, to develop positive attitudes about reading and books, to help children maintain their reading skills through the summer vacation, and to offer experiences through which children can learn to work cooperatively.

Each Friday's activity is stand-alone, so it is not necessary to attend each session. However, children who attend at least three sessions will receive a "Universe of Stories" tee-shirt.

As a public library event there is no cost for children to participate. Please consider enrolling your child in this year's summer reading program. For more information, call the library at 586-2023.

- June 4 10:15.**
NM State Library visit to Questa Library
- June 7 1-3 PM**
Summer Reading Program (SRP) Launch
Come for lunch, fun, activities and prizes.
- June 14 1-3 PM**
Theater of Mystery presents "Reach for the Stars."
Snacks, prizes.

- June 21 10:30 AM**
Wildcat Kitty Club, ages 0-3.
Reading, singing, play, crafts, snacks.
- June 21 1-3 PM**
"Race to the Moon" at SRP.
Activities, fun, snacks, prizes.
- June 28 1-3 PM**
"Blast Off" with Twirl. Make and launch rockets. Fun, snacks, prizes.

Every Thursday
Dropped Stitch Sewing Group
2:30-5:00 PM
Bring your latest fiber art project. We help each other and have the best time in the process.

The Friends of the Questa Public Library Annual Meeting was well attended on Sunday, May 5. We enjoyed great music, delicious food, and shared some of the accomplishments for the year. Library volunteers were thanked and presented with tokens of appreciation for their dedication to the library.



JUNE EVENTS AT QUESTA LIBRARY

Lucy Gonzalez Passes Away at 101

One of Questa's great treasures, Lucy Gonzalez passed away on May 4th, less than a week after she turned 101. She was born Lucia Agapita Vallejos on April 27, 1918. Her family threw her a big 100th birthday party last year with around 200 people in attendance. Please see our June 2018 issue for an article about Lucy. Copies of that paper are available at the Questa Visitor Center.

She and her husband Alfirio were married in 1946 and moved to Questa in the early 1950's where they continued farming while Lucy taught school. The keys to Lucy's long life could include being happily involved with her family, church and community, her love of gardening and houseplants, and especially physical exercise. She and Alfirio loved to dance. They were dedicated to making pilgrimages, the Guadalupana, long walks to Chimayo and other places. As

she got older they were active in Senior Olympics and took home many prizes. Lucy was indeed celebrated, as was her long and productive life. Born in Costilla, she liked to tell the "from kitchen to classroom" story where she was grabbed from the school kitchen where she worked and recruited to teach. She taught for several years while working her way through college, majoring in Elementary Education and graduating from Adams State College, a rare achievement for women in those days.

Please read her book, Treasures of My Valley: Humor and Survival in Early 20th Century San Luis Valley, written with Carol Terry in 2010. It is available for \$15 at the Questa Chevron Station, owned by her son, Johnny or call Lucy's daughter Maggie at 586-0600. Lucy's other children include daughters Kathy and Anna of Rio Rancho and Anthony.



Courtesy Photo

Self-portrait by Lucy Vallejos Gonzales, oil painting done while Lucy was a student at Adams State College.

APOLOGIES!

Last month we printed the HONOR ROLL for Questa High School and we left out some Seniors. Sorry about that. Here is the correct list. Keep up the good work!

- PRINCIPAL ROLL**
(4.00 & up GPA)
2018-2019 3rd Quarter
12th Grade
Aguilar, Linda
Garcia-Scott, Carolann
Mascarenas, Melissa
Padilla, Alexis
Romero, Marissa

CONGRATULATIONS

to all performers at the Mariachi Questa Spring Concert on May 15th. You were all amazing!

WINNERS

- of the Mariachi Questa Raffle are as follows:
Half Day River Rafting Adventure: Ruby Tafoya
Family Photo Shoot: Maxine Ortega
Dental X-ray and Cleaning
by Taos Dental Group: Alexis Rosales
The Lucky Shot Photography: Nancy Gonzalez
Snow Shoe or Llama Tour for two: Santiago Tafoya



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Lexy, She's Quiet But Don't Underestimate Her!

By JANIE CORINNE

LEXY: these four letters name an outstanding and complex young woman. Alexis Jamie Padilla, who prefers to be called Lexy, has a long list of accomplishments. She is Salutatorian of the Questa High School class of 2019, Prom Queen 2019, All District volleyball and basketball athlete, NM Highlands University Scholar Athlete Award recipient, and National Honor Society member every year since 7th grade.

With all of these accomplishments, one might expect a bigger than life person. On the contrary, Lexy is down to earth. She says that her highest priorities are "my family, God, and getting on the right path to college and a career I love..." Lexy is modest and more than a little shy, preferring not to be the center of attention. When asked how it felt to be chosen as Prom Queen, she looked down and said, "I was like, 'Oh, me?'"



Courtesy Photo

Recent QHS Graduate and Class of 2019 Salutatorian, Alexis "Lexy" Padilla.

Lexy lights up when talking about sports. She revealed feeling a "bunch of nerves" at the beginning of each game,

wondering how she would perform against the opposing team. After the first few minutes, any timidity or uncertainty disappears and she is all athlete, totally engrossed in the game. She feels the team as a whole is a "second family," and that helps remove the fear of "messing up."

The family that is so important to Lexy is firmly rooted in Questa. Lexy's parents, James and Therese Padilla, both grew up in Questa. Their other children are Zack, who will be a senior at NMSU and Thiago, a third grader at Alta Vista Elementary. Proud grandparents are Gloria and Larry Sanchez and Tomasita and Charlie Padilla, all great contributors to the Questa community. A very important person in Lexy's life is her great grandmother Tina Ortega. Since 95-year old Mrs. Ortega lives next door, Lexy feels blessed to see her "Nana" daily.

What's next for this get-it-done gal? Lexy will start her basic classes at UNM-Taos later this summer. She is aiming for a career in health care, either nursing or dental hygiene. Becoming fully bilingual in Spanish/English is part of her plan as well as pursuing her love of writing. In five years, she expects to be a college graduate on her career path. Lexy says her goal is "happiness and success." The odds are greatly in her favor to achieve both!

Meanwhile, if you're satisfying your sweet tooth at the Candy Crate in Red River this summer, you might say hi to Lexy as she rings up your sale.

Janie Corinne, a founding member of Vida del Norte drug free coalition, has lived in El Rito since '93. She spends her time pursuing her biggest passions - hiking the mountains and helping people get happier, healthier, wealthier and younger.



By MICHAEL P. LOVATO,
QISD SUPERINTENDENT

Questa Independent Schools will be implementing the following programs:

- AVID – Advancement Via Individual Determination
- AVID is being implemented to support students overcome obstacles and achieve success regardless of their life circumstances. They graduate and attend college at higher rates and, more importantly, they can think critically, collaborate, and set high expectations to confidently conquer the challenges that await them.

We have applied for the Fine Arts Grant:

- With the addition of monies from the Fine Arts Grant we will offer students from K-7 Art, Media Arts, Drama and Music.
- This will help free up FTE monies for additional electives at the high school and middle school.

Questa Schools has approved the installation of badges for keyless entry. This

will help secure the schools within the district. Smart Boards are being placed in every classroom to conference rooms and meeting rooms.

We have hired two new principals.

- Manuel Lucero, High School
- Cathy Gallegos, Elementary/Federal Programs

We have added a Security Guard to the budget.

Additional funds have been awarded to the district through the Extended Learning Grant. These funds will be utilized for after-school programs:

- Rio Costilla - \$13,810.49
- Questa Junior High - \$23,854.48
- Alta Vista - \$42,435.86
- Questa High - \$49,466.65
- K-5 Plus – The district was awarded the following:
 - June - \$47,329.93
 - July - \$ 98,612.64
 - Special Education Support \$15,442.15

Positions posted:

- Elementary Classroom Teachers
- Music Teacher
- Secondary Science Teacher
- Instructional Coach
- School Nurse
- Security Guard

Michael P. Lovato, Superintendent
2556A Wildcat Rd., Questa, NM 87556
Office Phone (575) 586-0421
Cell Phone (575) 779-1232

QHS Senior Melissa M. Mascareñas Volleyball All-Star

By DIANE LEÓN

Melissa M. Mascareñas, a Questa High School Senior, was chosen to represent Questa and the North at the New Mexico High School Coaches Association Volleyball All-Star Event. She was chosen to play as an outside hitter. The event will take place June

6th through June 8th in Albuquerque at Valley High School. All-Star players are chosen by coaches around the state based on this year's play and stats from Max Preps. On December 18, 2018 at 6:30pm NMHSCA & Proview Networks broadcasted the Volleyball All-Star announcement show.

STAY TUNED FOR SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Make sure to tell us about an upcoming educational event: news@questaedf.com

THANK YOU to all the sponsors who helped make the 15th annual veterans healing field of honor a success!

A Special Thanks to Mr. Claudio Rael and family for the use of their property.

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Artesanos de Questa

Mr. & Mrs. Claudio Rael, Debbie Montoya & Family

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Thank you



Shotgun Willie's And Li'l Willie's in Red River

By ROBYN BLACK
FOOD EDITOR

On any given day you will find throngs of locals and tourists alike at Shotgun Willie's in Red River enjoying a delicious breakfast or lunch. A short wait, so worth it for the satisfying, fresh fare they serve. Steve and Kelly Cherry have continued the tradition of previous owner Art Mulligan in feeding the hungry folks that amble through their door.

Steve had been coming to Red River to visit his grandparents since he was a baby. His wife, Kelly came with Steve in 2004 to learn to ski before they were married. He asked her if she could ever live in Red; a possible deal breaker for their future (lucky for us it all worked

out!). Kelly was in property management in Dallas, Texas and Steve was the general manager for Jason's Deli in Dallas.

Steve first met Art Mulligan in 1995 at the Lift House where Art was running the bar at the time. Art asked if he would be interested in working at the ski area, so Steve ran the restaurant at the ski area for just one season. He stayed in contact with Art throughout the years, ultimately buying Shotgun Willie's from him. They had a grand reopening in May 2012. Steve was awarded Business Man of the Year in 2013 by the Red River Chamber of Commerce. Steve and Kelly were also awarded 2013 Business Couple of the Year by the Chamber.

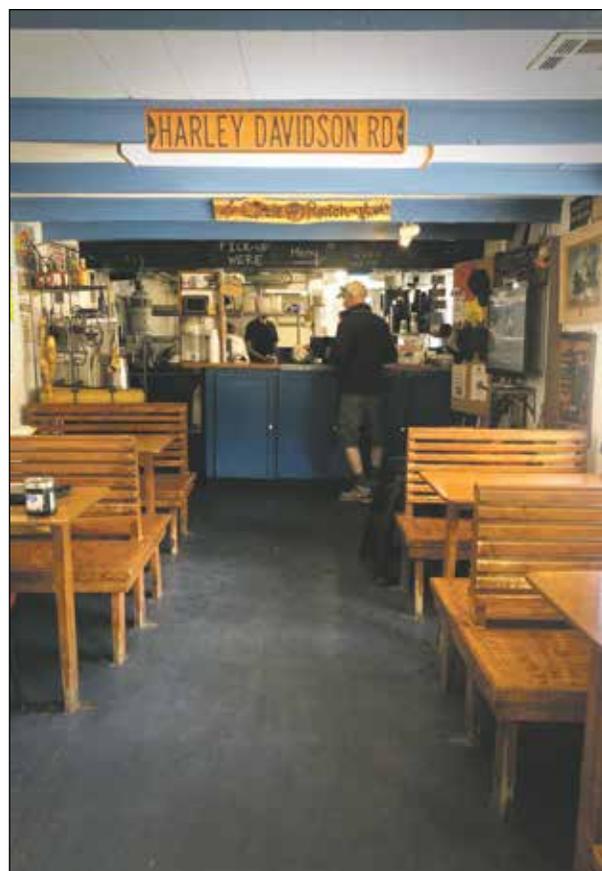
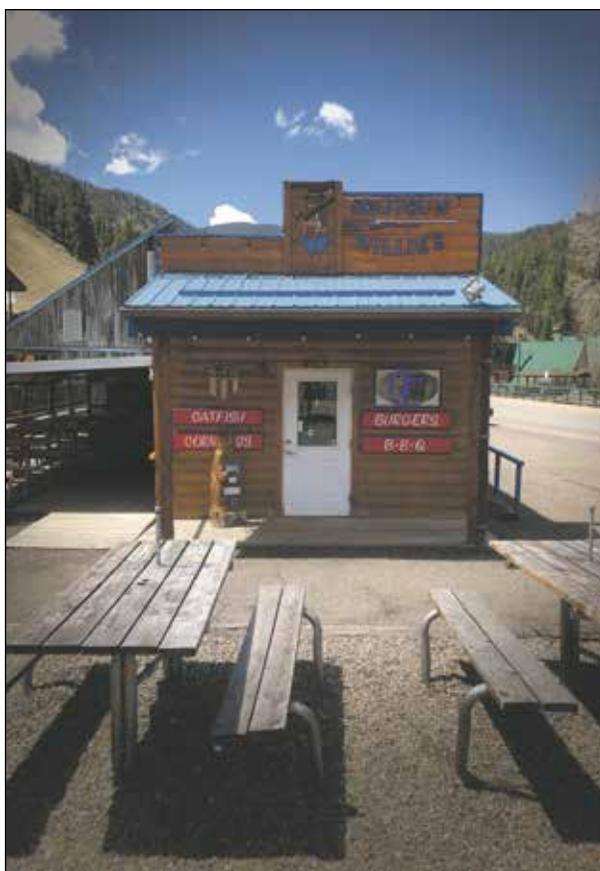
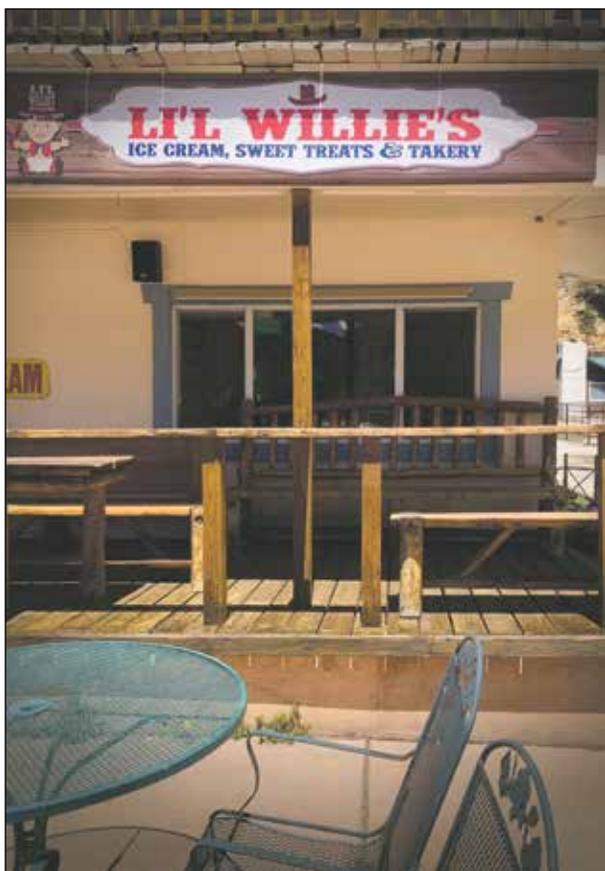
The menu at Shotgun Willie's offers

a nice selection for breakfast and lunch. Breakfast is served from 7:00 to 11:00 am. You can choose from breakfast burritos stuffed with brisket, sausage or bacon and covered in cheese, green chile or gravy, or maybe chicken fried steak and eggs, there is always a Willie's Breakfast Special! Lunch will have you scratching your head to decide if it's going to be a burger (rejoice vegetarians, they have an awesome garden burger that is delicious), sandwich, loaded baked potato, salad, burrito, a wrap or platter, so hard to choose! I guarantee you won't go away hungry from a visit to Shotgun Willie's. They are located at 403 W. Main St, Red River, NM 87558, phone 575.754.6505. You can also check out the menu at shot-

gunwilliescafe.com. They are open daily from 7:00 am until 2:00 pm.

Li'l Willie's Ice Cream, Sweet Treats & Takery

After you are full to the max from a visit to Shotgun Willie's, walk across the street to Li'l Willie's Ice Cream, Sweet Treats & Takery. Enjoy some fun shopping and a scoop of Blue Bell ice cream or delicious candy. There are lots of fun things to peruse while you enjoy dessert after lunch at Shotgun Willie's. Steve and Kelly opened Li'l Willie's at 410 W Main this year. They are looking forward to a great summer and lots of happy people enjoying the store and the yummy treats that they offer. Their summer hours are from 9:00am to 9:00pm. 575.754.1719.



Three Lines in God's River

By MARK RICHERT

Some of my earliest memories slide back to a riverbank or lake shore, usually with a fishing rod. In those early years, my father strapped down the canoe for trips to the local reservoir or to a distant lake in Ontario. On either type of trip, the anticipation led to sleepless nights. On the return home, I melted in the back seat with my eyes peering out the rear window at the wild glory of freedom diminishing in the distance.

From the ages of 12 to 18, I spent endless hours studying the water of Clear Lake in Michigan. I swam, canoed, water-skied, and ice skated. But mostly I stared hard into the water, searching for the other side of water. And I fished. I noticed the scent on the breeze or the sting of a squall. Maybe the pressing humidity. The deer along the shore line. The first hint of crimson in an August maple leaf. The last clinging December oak leaf. The first buds in April. And, always, the next cast.

I cast far, and usually ended up in the canoe on the other end of the lake. Over the years, the other end of the lake

*We are born
onto this good
earth and –with
fortune– flow
through life with
the rhythm and
grace of water
circling the globe.*

became remote regions of the Taurus Mountains in Turkey where Alexander the Great found a pass to the riches of Persia and I found pristine streams with unique strains of Mediterranean brown trout. Or the Caura River rolling over the Precambrian Shield in the jungle of Venezuela where I fought fanged payara in the roaring water chaos that speaks my language.

When I turned 50, my father said,



Photo by Mark Richert

Leandro Richert at age seven on his first hike to La Junta, Wild Rivers Recreation Area.

"Let's go fishing somewhere." I threw out ideas like Kamchatka, Russia or the Amur River system in Mongolia. Dad likes to fish, but his casts don't quite roll out the same as mine. He said we should think about it.

My son, Leandro, has climbed through the valleys and mountains of northern New Mexico and southern Colorado since we moved here when he was four years old. Leandro graduated from high school this spring. Later this summer he will leave home. But it's okay. He has learned to cast.

I thought about it. I remembered one of the first fishing books I opened when I was a kid. In a photo on the page my hand flipped to, a man held two large brook trout. The caption beneath the photo said, "Gods River, Manitoba." I called my father and said, "Maybe we should look up Gods River, Manitoba." A couple of days later my father wrote that he booked a trip for us this June.

So, my father, my son, and I will all throw our individual, unique lines into Gods River. We will catch fish, but mostly we will feel the water that flows to the great oceans, like the blood that circles our bodies seeking a return to our hearts.

Me, My Dad and Shotgun Willie's

By HAE WON KWON

Deep in the Sangre de Cristo mountains of New Mexico, my dad found the best burritos he's ever eaten during his 81 years on the planet. As you turn off Main Street in Red River towards the ski lifts, you might spy a small stand-alone building with a chili roaster in the front. Shotgun Willie's is a favorite among locals and repeat visitors for their brisket burritos, smothered Memphis style (cole slaw inside) and free soda refills. Dad's favorite was made even better with a bowl of broccoli cheese soup. Sadly, the soup is no longer served. Turns out, we were the only ones who ordered it. If everyone who reads this article asks for it, maybe they'll bring it back.

Being a vegetarian, I especially miss that broccoli cheese soup. Their garden burger smothered in guacamole and grilled onions with a side of gold coin-style tater tots are great on their own. But I never felt as excited as dad looked tucking into his burrito. At least the soup was something we could enjoy together. Dad loves soup. So do I. It is genetic. Mom always looks at me suspiciously



Hae Won and her dad, Mr. Kwon at Shotgun Willie's.

when I order soup at restaurants. She says I love soup, just like somebody else she knows. They divorced 40 years ago.

Perhaps it was the creamy cheesy cutting the spicy chili taste in his mouth, or the plentiful paper towels at each table, or the friendly staff, or the pretty drive

thru the canyon to get to Red River that dad enjoys so much. When the roads are clear, he wants to go all the time. We've started to tell our friends and neighbors, and sometimes they join us for lunch. That burrito is always a hit with the meat eaters. Introducing dad to Shotgun Wil-

lie's burrito may be one of the happiest things I've done for him.

The only thing dad enjoys as much as eating that burrito is flossing afterwards. Dad is a big flosser. We always keep an extra roll of it in the glove compartment for just such occasions along with a water bottle. Right around the old molybdenum mine he asks me to pull over so he can gargle and spit. He refuses to spit out the lowered window. It always hits the door, he says.

"Look at my teeth. Aren't they beautiful?" he said to me once when I asked him again if he really needs to pull over. "These are all my original teeth, he said. No one gave them to me. They are mine. Do you know how I've kept them? It's because I floss every day. You should be so lucky when you're my age."

I cannot argue with dad. They are indeed beautiful, almost as beautiful as the cottonwood trees in full glory. And they help dad digest one of his favorite things in life, so why neglect them? Now, whenever I pass Shotgun Willie's on my way to work, I can't help but associate it with dad and flossing after meals.

Questa Farmers Market Receives Support from Community Members and LOR Foundation

CONTRIBUTORS:
GAEA MCGAHEE,
MARIA GONZALEZ,
AND DANIEL HUTCHISON

Questa Farmers Market will begin Phase I of a site improvement plan, June to early August. This collaborative project involves Vida del Norte Coalition teen members - the Active8, and Singing River Field Center youth, with support from the LOR Foundation.

The vision for these improvements grew from several seasons of experience. Market organizer, Gaea McGahee, says, "Everyone at this weekly, seasonal market [vendors and patrons] needs a functional and beautiful space. I believe improvements will make it possible to keep putting forth our efforts and grow a lasting local market."

The plan is to build an horno and create raised gardens and shade structures for vendors and patrons. An excellent location in the Visitor Center parking area (used by QFM for two seasons) has been provided by the Questa Economic Development Fund. It sits at a major intersection on the "Enchanted Circle," the scenic byway through mountain communities.

QFM has received a LOR Foundation grant and with it comes a role for the community, including visitors and vendors. During the market season, QFM will survey attendees to gather responses to site improvements as well as hear hopes and concerns for Questa.

Dedicated vendors and community organizers, plus energetic youth, will make site improvements possible, thanks



Greenhouse Spinich, Walking Bear Farm.

Image is courtesy Jamey Bryant

to LOR's financial support. The Foundation supports projects in rural communities across the rural Mountain West and recently added Questa to that list. "LOR was founded in 2007 on the simple premise that communities can find economic prosperity without sacrificing what they love about the place they call home," said Jake Caldwell, a LOR program officer based in Taos, NM

On June 10th, youth and community members will begin the horno. This

traditional mud brick oven will provide a focus during the market and may help extend the season as corn is roasted into chicos in the fall. QFM aims to support local food, nutrition, and economic opportunities, and establish a truly local market: supporting traditional cooking and preservation methods is vital to this mission.

Sun and rain shade structures for vendors and patrons, and a well-organized space for musical performers, will

dedicate the site. Raised gardens will add beauty, plus the attention gardens require assure the investment of energy; along with shared responsibilities comes a sense of ownership.

For more information about Singing River Field Center, or to sign up your child, visit www.localogy.org/daycamp, or call Maria Gonzalez: (575) 779-2260. Want to help with site improvements? Contact Gaea McGahee: (575) 224-2102, growersmakers@gmail.com.

Questa Farmers Market 2019 goals:

- Increase attendance, both vendors and patrons
- Develop community space with site improvement and beautification project
- Incorporate community members, specifically youth, in leading project
- Increase support for local producers - vendors income in 2018 totaled \$19,500, more than double 2017 total \$9,500

Our Missions:

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

Vida Del Norte Coalition unites Northern Taos County Communities in preventing and decreasing youth substance abuse. Active8, youth extension of the coalition actively participating to reduce youth substance misuse.

Singing River Field Center connects local youth with nature, community, and personal potential.

QFM is calling vendors and musicians:

575-224-2102 • growersmakers@gmail.com • QuestaFarmersMarket.org

The Market officially begins June 16

but some farmers are ready; look for early sellers and keep up with the latest at facebook.com/QuestaFarmersMarket.

QFM is an EBT/Double-up authorized market and at least 50% of goods sold must be from local (80 miles) NM farms and gardens, and the remaining portion can be prepared foods and crafts. QFM is authorized to accept WIC, and Senior Nutrition checks; these circulate July to Nov.

QHouse Hot Water System

By MICHAEL YOUNG

I talked in previous columns about how we use a water catchment system to catch most of our water right off the roof. Pictures and a description of the filtration system to make sure the water is clean and pure were included. So now, how do we heat water? Like most normal houses, we have both cold and hot water supplies, and while we don't have to do anything to chill our water - the underground cisterns keep it cold enough in the summer - we need some kind of system to heat the water.

Once again, we use the sun. There are two fairly large solar collectors on the roof which capture and focus the sun's rays, converting them into heat energy that raises the temperature of the liquid circulating in tubes inside the collector panels. In some places, where the ambient temperature stays above freezing, the liquid circulating in those tubes can

be the water supply itself. So, the solar collectors focus the sun's energy to heat the water directly. Here, however, water running through those panels would freeze during winter nights. So, instead of water flowing through the panels, we use a supply of glycol in a closed loop system. Glycol doesn't freeze at the winter temperatures we can expect around here, and so pumping glycol through the panels is an efficient way to capture the sun's energy.

Then, the glycol heats the water supply in a heat exchange tank. It looks like a hot water tank, but instead of heating the water using an energy source such as gas or electricity, it contains a network of very small tubes which are threaded in and around each other. Half of those tubes are carrying the heated glycol; the other half have water in them. The heat energy from the glycol is transferred to the water in these small tubes. The water is then captured in larger pipes which are

sent to the rest of the house as hot water.

When the sun is out, the system can be extremely effective with scalding-hot water created out of the system. We have a temperature-controlled system that mixes the hot water coming out of the heat exchange tank with colder water, when necessary, to bring the water temperature back down to about 130 degrees.

What happens when the sun isn't shining and there is no solar energy to heat the glycol? Our backup is a propane-supplied flash hot water system. If the water coming into the flash heater is not at least 130 degrees, then the flash heater is activated which uses propane to instantly heat the water. Obviously, if the solar system is working, then the propane system is not needed and so it doesn't turn on.

One interesting little feature of the system is seen in the small PV panel located on top of the right solar collec-

tor panel. That little panel is the energy source for the little DC pump that circulates the glycol through the system. So, when there is sunlight enough to heat the water, there is also sunlight to run the pump. And that's about all there is to know about hot water at QHouse!



World Environment Day

By DONNA MITCHELL-MONIAK

June 5th is World Environment Day, established by the United Nations in 1974 well in advance of the current environmental and climate concerns. World Environment Day "is the biggest annual event for positive environmental action" in the world and is celebrated in more than 100 countries. This year's celebration of our interdependent world is punctuated by a UN assessment that came out in May: "Humans are transforming Earth's natural landscapes so dramatically that as many as one million plant and animal species are now at risk of extinction, posing a dire threat to ecosystems that people all over the world depend on for their survival."

One recognizes the fragility, beauty, strength and grandeur of this local landscape. Those living in the Amazon rain forest or the great savannah of Africa, or the Arctic tundra probably think the same of their environments.

To live here and thrive we must be eco-friendly. Throughout human history, most people have done so. I rejoice in Q-House's experiments with being off-grid, and Cerro Vista Farm demonstrating how to farm here sustainably, and Patrick Shaw in El Rito growing as much

organic food with his family as possible and teaching his children every step of the way, and Kit Carson Electric Cooperative's ambitious goal of 100% Daytime Solar Energy by 2022.

The UN report looks at the interdependence of one species with another, of water flow to habitats, the importance of vegetation to the stability of habitat, and of humankind being oblivious to the ramifications of their actions and policies. Farmer Daniel Carmona of Cerro Vista Farm gave me hope that humanity can live with Nature and that all can thrive. Thriving, though, cannot be measured by financial gain from devastation to other forms of life. Instead it is measured by good health for all, harmony, birds singing, bees buzzing, water flowing, soil being nurtured and the air being clean and clear.

Carmona said that an additional feature of living kindly with the environment is community, a vibrant expression of interconnectedness. Between the Farmers Markets, the people who have bought farm shares (Community Supported Agriculture or CSA), interns, and those who worked his fields for a discount share, he interacts with between 400-500 people through a season. "It's definitely a life-style," he said, one that is

shared by many and one that champions habitat wholeness and interconnected well-being.

Using solar, wind-generation, or geothermal sources of energy in this land of ancient volcanos is optimal. The environmental benefits of all three sources of energy are a small carbon-footprint and minimal impact to vegetation and wildlife. The people who live in northern New Mexico, and me just over the Colorado border, are here for its beauty. Big sky, mountains on the horizon and often in one's back yard, and the feeling of expanse are fundamental for those who have chosen this area as home.

With World Environment Day and the shocking report from the UN, what can you and I do for habitat and environmental health and well-being? Put out humming bird feeders, bat houses, plant flowers for bees and butterflies, vegetables for your family, grow organically and conserve water. Know that pesticides kill more than grubs. They get into the groundwater, kill beneficial lifeforms and necessary bacteria in the soil, and damage roots of trees. Walk your yard; pick up metal wire and plastic rings that small animals can get caught in. Bring shopping bags to the grocery store, and cease using plastic as much as

possible. The State of Maine just banned styrofoam, yay!

I asked Farmer Daniel if he had any advice or recommendations for home gardeners. His response was as big as his heart. "There is no better way to be tuned into the environment than gardening." We talked about having a personal relationship with one's own environment and how that can elicit a wise and kind relationship to Earth. He ended with a shout-out. "Get out there; grow something: flowers, vegetables, anything. I prescribe it for everyone!"

On June 5th gaze out to the mountains, prairies, and sky. Listen to the nature around you. Then look again. The truth is, it's disappearing; but you and I can stem the tide here in our yards, on our ranches, on the trails we walk, on the roads we drive, and by the grocery bags we choose to use. Small things are big things, like snowflakes make snow pack and single raindrops fill oceans. On June 5th, plant flowers and veggies (purchase them at Cerro Vista Farm or the Farmers Market). Then tend them lovingly through the summer and reap the rewards. They will be more than food on the table!

OSCAR

WINNING MOVIES
IN REVIEW

MICHAEL'S MOVIE MOMENTS

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

By MICHAEL YOUNG

JUNE'S MOVIE REVIEW:
GREEN BOOK



Green Book is the story of two real people who came to know each other during a road trip through the Deep South in 1962. The complication is that one of them is white and the other black.

In both style and impact, *Green Book* reminds me of *Can You Ever Forgive Me?* with Melissa McCarthy. Both movies were nominated for their scripts and both movies received two acting nominations. I liked them very much and yet professional critics found high merit in McCarthy's venture while condemning *Green Book* as guilty of a simplistic racial message. Christy Lemire (RogerEbert.

com) calls *Green Book* "Glossy and zippy, gliding along the surface of deeply emotional, complex issues while dipping into them just enough to give us a taste of some actual substance." A.O. Scott (New York Times) called *Green Book* "a sentimental tale of prejudices overcome and common humanity affirmed" and liked the tale "...even if the trip itself might cause some queasiness." So how does this flawed film end up with the Oscar for Best Picture?

Green Book is largely the brainchild of two people, Nick Vallelonga and Peter Farrelly who (along with Brian Hayes Currie) won the Oscar for Original Screenplay. Nick Vallelonga, mostly known for playing Italian thugs, is important here because he is the real-life son of Tony Vallelonga, the white half of *Green Book's* duo. He has been pitching his father's story for some time.

But the movie idea didn't take off until Vallelonga paired up with Peter Farrelly who is half of the notorious Farrelly brothers. Responsible for giving us such 'elevating movie masterpieces' as *Dumb and Dumber*, *the Three Stooges*, and *Hall Pass*, they also gave us *There's Something About Mary*, which, in my view, was one of the best comedies ever. And the thing about a successful comedy is that, not only are the lines full of wit and intel-

ligence, but there also has to be a perfect sense of timing in the delivery. It's not just what is said, but exactly when it is said after a preciously pregnant pause.

That same sense of timing is evident in *Green Book*. When Tony is in the Orange Bird bar, the bartender asks, "You a cop?" And without missing a beat, Tony replies "Do I look Irish?" It isn't only the line that is funny, but the immediacy adds a certainty to its meaning. Part of what makes *Green Book* work is the comedic sensibilities that Farrelly brings in both his scripting and his direction. A good half of this movie's success is the Oscar-winning script.

As a movie about the relationship between two totally different men, the other half of the credit must be ascribed to the performances of the two actors, both of whom were nominated for their work. Mahershala Ali plays Dr. Don Shirley, a black concert pianist - a description that should immediately cue both dramatic and comedic possibilities. (He was previously nominated for his supporting role in the 2017 Best Picture winner, *Moonlight*.) Here he must convey the technical and expressive skills of a master musician, but also the courage of a black man who, in 1962, dares to confront the prejudices of the Deep South. (If that weren't enough baggage to carry, he also

harbors some intense personal secrets which emerge in an embarrassing situation that Tony saves him from.) This is not a black man's expected world, and he well knows his predicament: "So if I'm not 'black' enough and if I'm not 'white' enough, then tell me, Tony, what am I?" Ali won Best Supporting Actor.

Although it is hard to rank them, perhaps the better performance was from Vigo Mortensen, who played Tony Vallelonga, the Italian bar-bouncer who hires on to drive Dr. Shirley through his southern tour. Mostly, Tony hasn't the faintest idea what he is getting into. But, over time, Tony changes the most; all in very positive ways. He even learns, with Dr. Shirley's help, how to write letters to his terrific wife (Linda Cardellini) whom he loves very much. In *Green Book*, he is the heart and soul of the movie, and it is how we see him change that gives us the 'hope' that the movie inspires.

Despite the valid criticisms, this is a superb movie. As MaryAnn Johansson (Flick Philosopher) writes "what snatches the film from condescending awfulness is the wit and the charm and the complexity with which both Don and Tony are drawn, and the absolutely gorgeous performances by its stars." For that it deserves 4.5 stars.

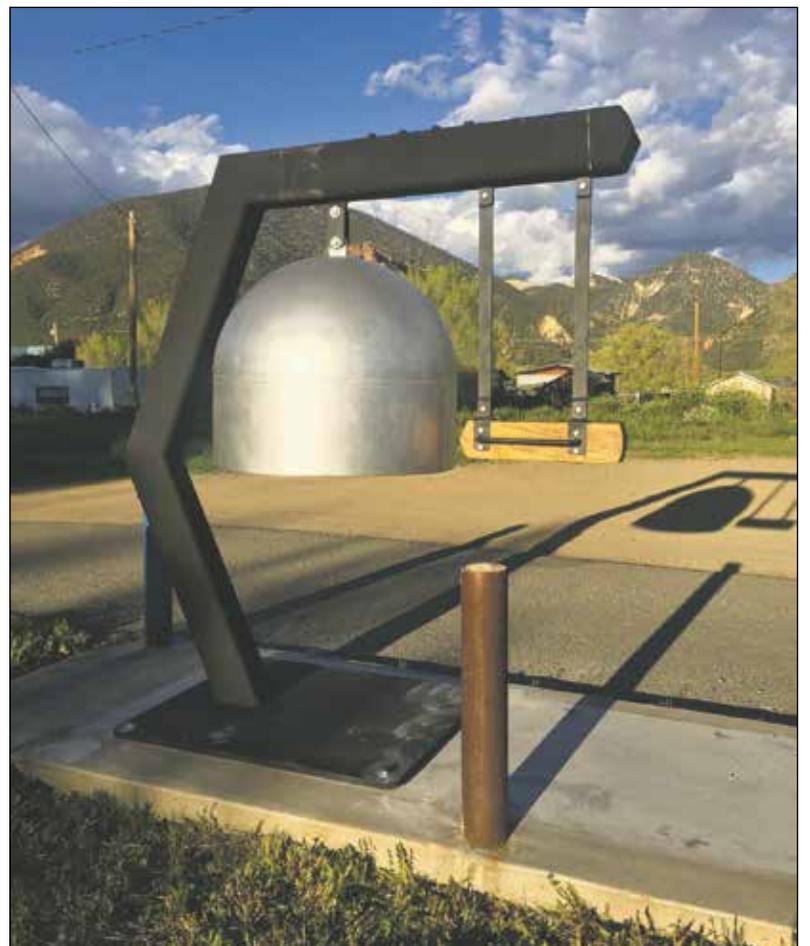
New Bell in Visitor Center Parking Area

BY MALAQUIAS RAEL, JR.

On May 17th, Dave Zimmerman delivered a beautiful bell that he made from an old propane tank. The bell is now firmly in place at the Questa Visitor Center parking lot, (also known as the QEDF Building) where Centinel Bank used to have its ATM. Dave has loaned the functional metal sculpture to the community with the hopes that other artists will create pieces that can replace his work or be on display in other public spaces. The bell has a deep resonant sound when struck with the wooden striker. Dave has also placed a small plaque with a few words stating when to ring the bell. Take the opportunity to ring the bell!



Photos by Malaquias Rael, Jr.



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Milagro Wolf

By MARK WHITE

The story of The Milagro Beanfield War which was set in the mythical village of “Milagro” was inspired by events in Questa. The story and the impact it can have on Questa today should not be forgotten. Moving into the 21st Century, it is my hope to put that story onstage locally. It could be a tool for raising acequia awareness and funds in acequia communities of Northern New Mexico and Southern Colorado. Joe Cisneros, the local inspiration for the original Joe Mondragon character in the story, is happy at the prospect of making Milagro stories more popular.

Inspired by Meow Wolf in Santa Fe, an immersive art installation built collaboratively by an ad-hoc arts collective and proven very popular with the paying public and adds even more to the possibilities. Their wildly-creative, collaborative immersive art installation keeps the public lined up around the block

daily without end. Its million-plus paid admissions have put hundreds of artists to work maintaining and expanding that immersive experience in Santa Fe and across the USA.

An arts collective giving Milagro Beanfield War fans an immersive Milagro experience in Questa could attract paid admissions from that appreciative public. With enough paid admissions between the last sports of spring and the first sports of fall, Milagro’s basketball court might show all the Hispano Rockies’ acequia communities how to add new financial value to their local and regional heritage by sharing it with Beanfield fans made newly aware of where their Beanfield pilgrimage should go. With Joe Mondragon’s workshop and the original beanfield, Questa aka Milagro would hold a special place in the hearts of fans. New jobs for craftsmen and artists building immersive experiences would create new customers for acequia farmers, giving more reason

to preserve the traditions behind the experiences that attract the fans. If, that is, ticket sales support the enterprise.

With Milagro’s fame and popularity, an arts collective building Meow-Wolf-style funhouses/stages and collecting paid admissions for immersive arts experiences in them and theatrical productions on them seems plausible. This seems altogether fitting. Local variations based on local histories and lore and talents seem fitting as well.

Milagro Beanfield War, the opera! Perhaps a hip-hop version, contrasted by a fandango musical. Creativity will help engage the youth of acequia communities, which is even more fundamental than arts collective jobs to preserving acequia traditions for future generations.

Whether dreams or pipe dreams, these ambitions for a MilagroWolf arts collective are beyond what its current infrastructure allows. What can fit Cerro at the VFW is a Lego diorama of Milagro that can stage puppet productions

of Beanfield. Legos are attractive to local youth which would encourage participation that helps elders transmit traditions with stories of their own young lives on acequias.

MilagroWolf, like its Meow Wolf inspiration, looks to be radically inclusive as it envisions and enacts its collective future, so look for announcements and make suggestions about that progress. With a Lego Milagro and backdrops sufficient to transform the Cerro VFW interior into the Sangre de Cristos as its first arts installation, MilagroWolf will discover whether Lego and Milagro combine to create sufficient local draw to sustain a new arts collective.

Please donate outgrown Legos to MilagroWolf at its North Star drop-off in Questa at 2460 NM Highway 522, just north of NM38. Contact Mark White about supporting and joining the MilagroWolf arts collective. Write P.O. Box 194, Cerro, NM 87519, email whitemark1@yahoo.com, or phone 575-224-4006

FRIDAYS

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“Wonder on Wheels”

JULY 19 – Take Me to Your Leader

SATURDAY, JULY 27

– Out of this World Fun for all at Community Day

Get to Know Your Vida Del Norte Coalition



By MARIA GONZALEZ

Youth Sector: As the youth representatives, students of Questa Jr./Sr. High School serve as the link between VIDA and their peers. Their insights play a vital role in how VIDA communicates an anti-substance-use message. These influencers have many skillsets that are beneficial to us. They represent the voice of community youth and advocate youth perspectives during Coalition meetings. Some young members have served on the Coalition since September 2018 and have voiced their opinions about the substance misuse that goes on in the community. They are Seventh graders Joaquin Arellano, Kaylee Piper and Amalia Gonzalez; Eighth graders Kalena Trujillo and Maverik Irvine; Ninth graders Araceli Gonzalez and Angelica Lovato and Eleventh grader Anastacia Gonzalez.

Parent Sector: From the beginning, Christy Arguello has been a proactive parent involved in many community and school activities. She has served to communicate between VIDA and the parent community at large, including grandparents and other adults raising children. Enriquetta Vigil is involved in several groups in the community. She is attending UNM working toward becoming a physical therapist serving the elderly. Enriquetta has been influential and proactive with education and training and attended the Leadership Forum in Washington, DC in February. "I have come to the realization that there is a need for this type of work throughout the United States and we need to begin here at home".

Business Sector: Cynthia Rael Vigil is a business owner and a multi-generational community member of Questa. She is active in numerous groups that help plan and implement community-based events. Each event she has helped lead focuses on community strength, family support, and reduction of harm, including drug use. As a business owner, she bridges the economic needs of the community with the prevention efforts

of the coalition. Her strong ties to the community assists the coalition in reaching other local business and locals and ignites their interest in the coalition.

Media Sector: Lou McCall is founding editor of the Questa Del Rio News, which celebrated its one-year anniversary in February. Lou has a Master of Arts in Multi-Cultural Education and has worked in prevention programs with Native American Youth in Gallup, NM and as an advocate for people with disabilities. Lou has been an integral part of the Coalition as she helps us publish our Vida messages on a monthly basis. This has allowed the coalition to send out monthly information to the entire northern Taos County community.

School Sector: Red River Valley Charter School Special Education teacher Sara Parker has been an essential part of Vida Del Norte since October 2018, reaching the middle school children at her school. Vida Del Norte did a presentation to the students of her school. Sara has been a resident of Questa for several years and has a passion for the community and participating in Coalition activities. She headed up an art project for community members to tell their story through fabric art. This partnership continues to develop and grow with creative ideas for prevention.

Youth Serving Organization Sector: Patty Torres is the Administrator II of Presbyterian Medical Services Questa Health Center. Her role in the clinic provides her with the ability to garner support and resources from the larger Presbyterian Health System. Ms. Torres has been a leader and advocate in community outreach needs for the past 20 years. She is well aware of the struggles and barriers of these rural communities and has made it her life's mission to improve services and eliminate barriers for the community she serves. Ms. Torres' work gives her hands-on experience working with youth and substance abuse in the community.

Law Enforcement Sector: Questa Chief of Police Nick Lamendola's role in the community is obviously very important and it also gives him a unique perspective on the drug abuse problem the community faces. He sees firsthand the effects of substance abuse on the community and its young people when he is answering 911 calls, making arrests, or responding to life threatening situations. He shares substance abuse issues with the Coalition regularly and explic-

itly. The Chief's work on enforcement of current Rx abuse laws and jurisdictional mapping of the area is key. Chief Lamendola has also been a key player in the Prescription Drug Take-Back Program, partnering with Vida del Norte and Taos Alive to gather as many prescription drugs as possible. The QPD has an Explorer program for youth to intern with on the job training. These young people have been actively engaged in assisting the Coalition with events held in the community. Zach Cordova has been in Law Enforcement for over 20 years. He has worked in Taos County teaching the GRIP program (Gang Reduction Intervention Partnership) implemented through NonViolence Works (Part of Taos Behavioral Health). Zach is passionate about being a positive influence on our youth. He has built strong connections with some of the younger gentlemen in our community and continues to support them in making positive life choices.

Religious/Fraternal Organization: Kristy Gonzales, pastor of Harvest Questa, has a substantial congregation of Northern Taoseños and has a large active youth group. Kristy is a leader in the community and influences us in many positive ways. She applies religious and moral teachings to real life struggles for individuals. Her participation in the Coalition reinforces the awareness that drug and alcohol abuse are issues important to religious congregations. They share a commitment to promoting healthy and devotional lifestyles, through self-improvement, community support, and dedication to our community's youth as leaders of tomorrow. Kristi does great work in our community.

Civic/Volunteer Group Sector: William J. Borges, once a former addict, has over 12 years of being clean and sober. He works on his recovery through serving with Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered 12-step program and other accountability partners. He has become a leader in recovery, and a youth and ministry leader for over seven years.

Healthcare Professional Sector: Kia Harrold, Patty Torrez, Susan Haugen and Cecelia Rodriguez through the Questa Health Center have been an integral part of the medical community. Being aware of the drug and alcohol problem that we face, the staff at the clinic have taken steps to ensure that their clients are aware of the side effects of medications, and the dangers of opioid misuse.

The behavioral health counselors work closely with those with addiction issues. Questa Health Center makes it standard practice to review and inform patients of their medications. The clinic also utilizes alternatives to pain reduction. The entire medical staff is certified and trained in Suboxone, a drug that is used to treat narcotic (opiate) addiction.

State, Local, Tribal Government Sector: Questa Village Councilman John Ortega has a background as a first responder that has allowed him to see first-hand the effects drugs and alcohol have on the members of this community, both youth and adults. John has been serving on the Village Council for the past 3 years. As an elected official, he is a great asset to the Coalition by being a liaison between the Village of Questa and the Coalition. John assists the coalition, by reporting back to the Village on what the Coalition is accomplishing. John is a great ally to the coalition, he is helping us figure out how the Coalition can ask for and propose new policies to reduce substance misuse, policies that are essential to the work of the coalition.

Other Organization Involved in Reducing Substance Abuse: Daniel Herrera, former addict, has been clean and sober for over two years. He works on his recovery through sponsoring those suffering addiction. Daniel started a group called RYNO, which stands for Rewire Yourself With New Opportunities. whose primary focus is to provide people suffering with addiction with a safe place to drop in and get the support and resources they need. Daniel's work through the coalition will continue to empower our community to vocalize their needs and support our youth through talk sessions and focus groups.

There are several other entities and collaborations that are working behind the scenes as well. The coalition strives to be community based, focusing on youth substance misuse reduction through community relationship building and collaborations. All our meetings are open to the Public and our next one will be held June 17, 2019 at 6:00pm at the Questa Youth Center. Please contact Vida Del Norte Coalition Director Maria Gonzalez with any questions or for more information. maria.gonzalez@vidadelnorte.com or 575.779.2260.

Can You Find the Next U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree

Your help is needed to search the Carson National Forest Questa Ranger District for the 2019 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree. The tree will be displayed on the west lawn of the U.S. Capitol Building in Washington, D.C., with a public tree-lighting ceremony in early December.

Be on the lookout for a fir or spruce tree that is 70-85 feet in height and has a perfectly conical shape that is visually pleasing from all angles. The tree should have a straight stem, uniform branching, natural density and good rich color. It must reside on Forest Service land within the Questa Ranger District and be easily accessible, preferably close to a road that will allow for crane and semi-truck access.

Take a photo of the tree and record GPS coordinates or other information that will allow us to locate the tree. Email submissions by June 7, 2019 to capitalchristmastree2019@gmail.com with the subject line: CCT Candidate Tree Submission. Or, send

the tree location information and your contact information to: Questa Ranger District, CCT Candidate Tree Submission, 184 State Highway 38, Questa, NM 87556.

For more information about the Carson National Forest providing the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree, visit capitolchristmastree.com. For questions about finding the perfect tree, contact Francisco Cortez at 575-758-6254 or Francisco.cortez@usda.gov.

FYI

Visitors should be aware that the west side of the Valle Vidal Unit (Taos County) in the Questa Ranger District will be closed from May 1 to June 30 for elk calving. You may travel on designated roads through the Valle Vidal but cannot hike or drive off of the roads in the closure area.

What Exactly is Adelante San Luis?

Since 2015, The Colorado Trust has been involved with the community of San Luis, Colorado. The Trust awarded a grant to address health equity issues in the community. Adelante San Luis established a vision and mission that identifies the youth of the community as the focus of their work. The three areas of concern are the economic development, social connection, and cultural revitalization of San Luis and the Culebra villages, specifically their impact on local youth and young adults.

Adelante San Luis employs one full-time Community Coordinator and five part-time employees. In addition, there are two teams made-up of members of the community: 12 student and 10 adult resident team members.

In 2018-19, there were four community events held: Santa Ana, Fiesta de Otoño, Manito Christmas, and Founder's Day. In addition, Centennial School was granted monies for an FBLA-style, Friday Program; monies are available to Centennial School for a Manito Spanish Curriculum for Centennial School. A 3-day Entrepreneurship Camp for middle school students was completed in January

and attended by 15 students and a Youth Advisory Council Civic Engagement Field Trip to Denver on April 25 - April 28. Additional monies were used for various programs including: an archiving grant for the Museum, the opening of the Student Activity Center at Adelante San Luis, among other things.

The plan for 2019-2020 has been submitted for similar programming. Adelante San Luis is looking forward to another successful year working with their partners: the Town of San Luis, Centennial School District, Costilla County, Costilla County Economic Development Council, Sangre de Cristo Parish, Costilla County Prevention Partners, Costilla County Conservancy District, Acequia Association, Costilla County Fire Protection District, Blanca Forestry, and Colorado Aggregate, among others. Many local residents have volunteered to work with Adelante San Luis on several events.

The Adelante San Luis office is open Mon - Thur at 316 Main Street, from 10am to 3pm. Please stop in for a cup of coffee and to say "hello." If you have any questions about Adelante San Luis, please email judith@coloradotrust.org or call 719.214.2548.



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Update on Kit Carson/Syncarpha Solar Array

The Taos County Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) voted unanimously at their May 8th meeting to approve the location of the Kit Carson Electric Co-op (KCEC) solar array north of Questa and construction by the Syncarpha Corporation. Specifically, they approved a Special Use Permit to allow a variance in local zoning for a commercial installation at this location.

Nine community members from the El Rito/Latir and Cerro area attended the meeting, six of whom spoke in opposition to the chosen location. One local resident said it was misleading to seek a variance for “Commercial” use, as the proposed installation would more properly be considered “Industrial”. One local resident presented a petition of over 30 signatures. It asks that another location be chosen that is zoned industrial and would mitigate the visibility from the highway. The site is also located on a wildlife corridor which would obstruct elk migration.

Of the four people who spoke in favor of the location, all represented commercial stakeholders in the project, including spokespeople for KCEC, Syncarpha, PPC Solar, and Abeyta Engineering.

Since the closing of the Chevron Mine, the Questa area has been transitioning from a mining town to a post-industrial economy based on recreation, tourism, the arts, and retirement. Increased visitors coming from the north along NM Highway 522 would be met by an industrial corridor, counterproductive to Questa’s economic development goals. Preserving the wild and scenic nature of the area is imperative, and from an economic development perspective, that is a valid point. Anyone looking west toward the Rio Grande Del Norte National Monument from NM Highway 522, whether visitors or resi-

dents, their viewscape will be impaired.

Plans to build the solar array and lease property from the Young Land & Cattle Company had been underway for over six months when the Latir Neighborhood Association (LNA) received notice from Wood Environmental & Infrastructure Solutions in December 2018, that an environmental study was underway and that residents were invited to comment. At no time before or since has KCEC provided local residents, most of whom are KCEC members, with written notification or updates in any form, despite a direct request from the LNA Board for more open communication.

On April 28th, the joint annual meetings of the LNA and VVLNA were held and Syncarpha, PPC and KCEC were again represented. Community members went away from the meeting thinking that the location was “a done deal” and there was nothing they could do, even though the vote with P&Z was yet to take place.

Looking back to KCEC’s newsletters, bill inserts and website, there was no mention to the public of any plans to build an array in the Latir area. A spokesperson for Abeyta Engineering stated that they had received concurrence from the LNA, which is incorrect. The LNA has not taken an official position in support of the location. If anything, the majority would more correctly agree to move the project as far away from the highway as possible.

When word got out about the solar construction which will begin this summer, the Latir community held an informational neighborhood meeting where KCEC and Syncarpha representatives shared their plans. A site had been chosen next to the highway with no other properties considered. Ironically, the LNA and the Versylva Y Vecinos

KIT CARSON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

KCEC has made a commitment to provide 100% of their electric power with clean, renewable energy by the year 2022. This is an ambitious goal, and more aggressive than similar mandates across the country, including that of our own State of New Mexico. Currently, in Northern Taos County (NoTaCo), KCEC has solar arrays outside of Questa, Eagle Nest and Amalia. They plan to install the solar array in El Rito/Sunshine Valley to efficiently serve its customers in that area. According to Luis Reyes of KCEC, this new array will serve 500-600 homes. KCEC has already built several arrays in Taos and the southern part of Taos County.

Please join us for the Kit Carson Electric Co-operative Annual Meeting on Saturday, June 8th, at the Taos High School Gymnasium. registration starts at 8:00 AM and prizes will be given starting at 8:15. Meeting starts promptly at 9:00 AM. Lunch will be served after the meeting. Hope to see you there!

Landowners and Neighborhood Association (VVLNA) spent years developing a comprehensive plan for the area with no industrial zoning along the highway. The crafters of the Plan were disappointed that the Plan had not been considered.

Members of the KCEC, including residents of the Latir, El Rito, Cerro and Sunshine Valley areas, where the new solar array will be constructed are overwhelmingly in support of solar energy. Many have installed rooftop solar systems. Their objection is only to the location of the array and concern over the way that KCEC went about the project. After citizens expressed opposition to the highway-shoulder location first proposed, Kit Carson agreed to move the installation back 500 feet. The array will appear smaller with distance, although to some residents in the higher elevations, it will be more visible and still be a notable feature for visitors on Highway 522.

At the close of public comment, at the May 8th meeting, it was decided that the applicants had met the requirements of Planning & Zoning regulations and the Commission Chair called for a mo-

tion to approve the application for a Special Use Permit. The motion carried. The Commissioners commented that few members of the community showed up at the meeting to voice their view against the project, so it seemed to them that most people in the community must, therefore, be supportive of it. With about 150 people in the affected community, many of whom are elderly, inclement weather and night driving kept many from making the drive.

Those who oppose the Taos County P&Z decision have the option of filing an appeal within 30 days, which is being considered by some residents of the El Rito/Latir community. There is a \$200 filing fee and an appeal packet must be picked up at the P&Z Office. If you have questions about the appeal process, please contact Mr. Rudy Perea, the County Planning Manager at 737-6453 or email: rudy.perea@taoscounty.org.

In the future, it was suggested that KCEC work with a citizen’s advisory board or committee of local residents when developing this type of project so all priorities of a chosen site and other considerations can be discussed.

POSITIVE THOUGHTS from Page 1

I will light a fresh candle for my mom who is a survivor, one for my sister who could not tame the cancer beast. Let us all acknowledge those out there who are survivors, in the challenging journey with cancer themselves, and also those who have passed on due to this scourge of our times.

June 8th is Best Friends Day. Who is your best friend, what makes

that person hold that esteemed role in your life? June 9th is Children’s Day. Having fun with the children in our lives invites us to act like kids, too! Crawl on all fours, get dirty, get silly, get creative, enjoy the clouds, and make sure you’ve got bubbles to play with.

June 11th is Herbs and Spices Day. Have fun in your kitchen with fresh herbs and it is an excellent day to plant an herb garden! Experiment with tastes, get to know the age-old medicinal properties of what’s in your kitchen,

in your yard, or in your garden. Remember, herbs grow well in planters and containers; and there’s nothing like cutting fresh cilantro or parsley, or running your fingers through the rosemary, tarragon, or sage.

World Environment Day is June 5th. It is the biggest annual event in the world for positive environmental action. Last year’s theme was Beat Plastic Pollution. This year the focus is Air Pollution. “We can’t stop breathing, but we can do something about the qual-

ity of air that we breathe.” Our world, our children and grandchildren, need our help. Everyone can do more to help Mother Earth. Positive Thoughts invites you to not drive on June 5th, not build a fire that affects air quality and not use plastic. Sometime during that day, hug a child and promise him or her that you will protect her in every way you can from pollution so that he or she can have a long and happy life, like you have had.

ESOTERIC ASTROLOGY

SKYDANCE ESOTERIC ASTROLOGY by Charlene R. Johnson
JUNE 2019

NEPTUNE

“Let’s not forget that the little emotions are the great captains of our lives and we obey them without realizing it.” –Vincent Van Gogh

This month, Neptune offers a couple of different influences for us to ponder. Neptune in Pisces is basically two water associations coming together, water representing emotions and feeling. Thus, Neptune can stimulate our emotions in positive or negative ways depending upon other influences in the chart. From approximately June 7 through 12 Neptune will be in a challenging position (square, 90 degrees) to both the Sun in Gemini and the Earth in Sagittarius, forming what we call a T-square. In other words, it is a fulcrum of energy. Since Sun is naturally associated with Leo and the Earth with Sagittarius (meaning it’s happiest right now) and Neptune is associated with Cancer, all three signs are affected, stimulating the possibility of strong emotions. Being forewarned is forearmed. For those who are ultra-sensitive, you may feel the influence for a longer period of time, possibly even from June 5 – 13.

Then on June 21, the same day the Sun shifts from Gemini to Cancer and the day of Summer Solstice, Neptune shifts into retrograde, it’s most benign and spiritual mode. In fact, it is the most spiritual of all the planets when it is retrograde. The timing, as its own sign, Cancer shifts into our consciousness, is literally Divine! Now Neptune transitions from confused, moody or possibly even delusional to clear, reliable and successful. All retrogrades are considered the spiritual expression of a planet, but Neptune’s is of the highest level. Instead of negative emotions, this Neptune in Pisces now suggests deep intuition, clairvoyance and many other, often unreachable mystical characteristics. Thus, we go from Neptune initiating the only real challenges to offering an opportunity for escalation in spiritual growth, all in the same month.

Everyone: Of course, the Soul loves challenges, so the whole month can be considered opportunity for growth.

ARIES ♈ Planet: Mercury ♀ MARCH 20 – APRIL 19

Dynamic: You may feel like slowing down a bit, being a little less active than you typically like.

Direction: Instead, imagine what you want.

Soul Thought: “What distinguishes imagination from fantasy is creative purpose.” Arcane School

TAURUS ♉ Planet: Vulcan ♁ APRIL 19 – MAY 20

Dynamic: Something may occur which renders you speechless.

Direction: Instead of expressing verbally, feel into it.

Soul Thought: Silence is golden.

GEMINI ♊ Planet: Venus ♀ MAY 20 – JUNE 20

Dynamic: It’s been comfortable but now it can get profound.

Direction: Practicing good communication skills will get you far.

Soul Thought: The power of words.

CANCER ♋ Planet: Neptune ♆ JUNE 20 – JULY 22

Dynamic: A couple of challenges regarding lessons to be learned.

Direction: Dive deep to find your truths.

Soul Thought: Conflict is meant to lead to harmony.

LEO ♌ Planet: Sun ☉ JULY 22 – AUG 22

Dynamic: You know you have some challenges, but it’s also a time to scintillate.

Direction: As in, sparkle, shine, show the way through the labyrinth.

Soul Thought: What happens when two light beams collide?

VIRGO ♍ Planet: Moon ☾ AUG 22 – SEPT 22

Dynamic: With all the dynamics this month, you experience great expansion.

Direction: Hold onto that even as the emotions of others run rampant.

Soul Thought: Holding space for others to grow.

LIBRA ♎ Planet: Uranus ♁ SEPT 22 – OCT 22

Dynamic: It’s a good, strong energy for partnerships.

Direction: If all you feel is the challenge, check out your values.

Soul Thought: The balance between the material and the spiritual.

SCORPIO ♏ Planet: Mars ♂ OCT 22 – NOV 21

Dynamic: Your usually sharp mind may feel confused at times.

Direction: Instead of action, practice observation instead.

Soul Thought: What is the difference between sharp versus subtle intellect?

SAGITTARIUS ♐ Planet: Earth ♁ NOV 21 – DEC 20

Dynamic: You feel the usual oppositional tug, but now also a sideways pull.

Direction: Focus!

Soul Thought: Will it draw you off your path?

CAPRICORN ♑ Planet: Saturn ♄ DEC 20 – JAN 19

Dynamic: Excellent beneficent energy coming your way the first part of the month.

Direction: Go fly a kite sometime from June 14 on.

Soul Thought: The joy and the challenge of flying a kite will make all things clear.

AQUARIUS ♒ Planet: Jupiter ♃ JAN 19 – FEB 18

Dynamic: That Neptune challenge thing also affects you.

Direction: Channel that passion into positive directional waves.

Soul Thought: Rock the boat!

PISCES ♓ Planet: Pluto ♇ FEB 18 – MAR 20

Dynamic: You could expose the secret of success.

Direction: Look! Things are clear to you right now, like a diamond.

Soul Thought: What is a diamond in the rough?

DATES TO REMEMBER JUNE 2019

MAY 31, JUNE 1 & 2:

Red River Town-wide Garage Sale

JUNE 1:

Red River Annual Classic Car Show

JUNE 2:

National Cancer Survivor’s Day

JUNE 4: 6:00 PM

Questa School Board Meeting

JUNE 5:

World Environment Day

JUNE 7: 1:00-3:00 PM

Questa Library Launches the Summer Reading Program (SRP), lunch, fun, prizes

JUNE 8:

Best Friends Day

JUNE 8: 8:00AM

Kit Carson Electric Co-op Annual Meeting, Taos High School Gym

JUNE 8: 10:00 AM- 3:00 PM

Yard Sale at Costilla Station to benefit Rio Costilla Studio Tour

JUNE 8: 7:00 PM

“A Glimpse Into the Past”, Wild Rivers Visitor Center Amphitheater

JUNE 9:

Children’s Day

JUNE 5: 3:30 -4:15 PM

BookMobile, Questa Post Office

JUNE 11:

Herbs and Spices Day

JUNE 11: 6:00 PM

Questa Village Council Meeting, Village Hall

JUNE 14-16:

Red River Art and Wine Festival

JUNE 14: 1:00-3:00 PM

Questa Library, Theater of Mystery “Reach for the Stars.” Fun, snacks, prizes

JUNE 14: 11:00 AM-2:00 PM

Free Food at North Central NM Food Pantry!

JUNE 15:

Questa Creative Council Bake Sale at CID’s

JUNE 15: 7:00 PM

The Magic of the Monarch Butterfly, Wild Rivers Amphitheater

JUNE 16:

Father’s Day

JUNE 16: 11:00 AM-3:00 PM

First Day of Questa Farmers Market, Questa Visitor Center

JUNE 17: 4:30-6:00 PM

Full Moon Community Yoga, Free at OCHO

JUNE 17 6:00 PM

Vida Del Norte Coalition Meeting, Questa Youth Center

JUNE 18:

Go Fishing Day

JUNE 18: 6:00 PM

Questa School Board Meeting

JUNE 18: 10:00 AM

Red River Chamber Board Meeting, RR Conference Center

JUNE 21:

Summer Solstice and Make Music Day

JUNE 21: 10:30 AM-NOON

Questa Library, Wildcat Kitty Club, ages 0-3.

JUNE 21: 1:00-3:00 PM

Questa Library SRP “Race to the Moon” fun, snacks, prizes

JUNE 21: 11:00AM-2:00 PM

Free Food at North Central NM Food Pantry!

JUNE 22-26:

Red River Family Encampment

JUNE 23: 11:00AM-3:00 PM

Questa Farmers Market, Questa Visitor Center

JUNE 25: 6:00 PM

Questa Village Council Meeting, Village Hall

JUNE 25: 5:00 PM

Red River Town Council, RR Conference Center

JUNE 27:

PTSD Awareness Day

JUNE 28: 1:00-3:00 PM

Questa Library “Blast Off” with Twirl. Make & launch rockets. Fun, snacks, prizes.

JUNE 28-29: 7:30 PM

Q-town Drama Community Theater: “Be Careful What You Wish For!” A Campfire Event, Wild Rivers Visitors Center Amphitheater

JUNE 30: 11:00AM-3:00 PM

Questa Farmers Market, Questa Visitor Center

JULY 4:

Fourth of July Parade, Red River

For a complete list of June Events in Red River, go to <https://reddriver.org/events/calendar/2019/6>

JUNE IS:

- LGBTQIA Pride Month
- Men’s Health Month
- National Great Outdoors Month
- National Pollinators Month
- National Safety Month
- National Soul Food Month



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.

HELP WANTED

ROCKY MOUNTAIN YOUTH CORPS is accepting applications for our Summer Questa Crew. Multiple positions for 17-25 year olds this summer. Earn \$760 every two weeks, and \$1,252 Education Award. We are also seeking an Assistant Crew Supervisor, and a Supervisor. Apply online www.youthcorps.org, or call (575) 751-1420.

Reservations Unlimited in Red River is accepting applications for housekeeping. \$12.00/hr. starting wage with a \$1.00 raise for all full-time employees after 45 days and a sign on bonus of \$300 for any full-time employee after completing their first 60 days of employment. RU offers paid vacation, dental, and vision insurance.

FOR SALE

Solid oak regulation pool table, cue sticks, balls, lights. Great condition. Previous owner: Ray Vinella. \$1500, call Lynn or Krissie at 586-0515.

If anyone needs chile, Mariachi Questa still has green (\$9) and red medium and hot (\$7). Please spread the word! Ask any Mariachi member or call 779-5601.

Freshly harvested Tipi (teepee) poles for sale. Poles are pre-order and harvested for you. Denedubbed, peeled,

and dried. Delivery and set up available for an extra charge. Multiple lengths available. Contact Wendy for price: thetipilady@gmail.com or 541-497-0287.

WANTED

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

LAND FOR SALE

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

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Summer Volunteers Needed - ideal for retired folks wanting to stay busy and interact with people a few hours a week. Some compensation provided. Three positions available, no skills needed except people skills. Please call 586-2149 for details.

Questa Del Rio Colorado News looking for: High School Students to work as QHS Correspondent and Social Media Support. This volunteer position offers professional training and experi-

ence! Volunteer writers needed: Questa, San Cristobal & Lama, and Educational Correspondents. Email news@questaedf.com or call 575.586.2149. Can start immediately!

NOTICES

The Questa Visitor Center will be open 7 days a week, 10am-3pm for the summer. 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.

The Questa Visitor Center - Call to local artists: we would like to sell you art! Please call the Questa Visitor Center at 586-2149 if you would like us to display and sell your art.

Q-town Drama Community Theater Presents "Be Careful What You Wish For!" An Outdoor Theater Production (Fireside Folktales; there WILL be s'mores). A Campfire Event @RIO GRANDE del NORTE NATIONAL MONUMENT AMPHITHEATER June 28 and 29, 2019, Wild Rivers Visitors Station, 7:30 pm. Info: FB and Instagram @qtowndrama #findwhatsreal

Large Yard Sale to benefit the Rio Costilla Studio Tour at the Costilla Gas and Grocery in Costilla, NM on Saturday, June 8th from 10am to 3 pm. Donations of items (no junk or clothes, please) can

be brought from 9-9:30 am. All proceeds support the Rio Costilla Studio Tour and the Emerging Artists Program.

Mark your Calendar! Saturday, July 27th. The 50th Anniversary of the Lorien Commune Celebration north of Questa. We are celebrating the contributions of the Children of the Commune era! Details will appear in the July edition of the paper.

Summer Reading: A Universe of Stories **Questa Public Library with sponsor a free summer reading program every Friday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.** beginning June 7, 2019 and ending with a Community Day Celebration on July 27, 2019. There will be awards, food, music and games. Children 4-12 yrs. welcome. For more information call 586-2023.

The State Library Bookmobile Northeast will no longer be making stops at San Cristobal. It will continue to come to Questa Post Office monthly. The new schedule is from 3:30 - 4:15 PM on the First Wednesday of the month, please visit the Bookmobile on June 5th!

Costilla-Amalia Community Reunion (including Garcia and Jaroso, CO) Mark your calendars: July 6-7, 2019 at the Plaza De Arriba in Costilla. There will be a parade, historical ceremony, vendors and a music festival,

a Catholic mass on Sunday, something for everyone and lots of family fun. The Facebook page "Families of Costilla and Amalia" will keep you current on all things Costilla, Amalia and that area of Northern Taos County (NoTaCo).

Campfire Talk Series at 7PM titled "Cuentos y Historias de Questa, A Glimpse Into the Past." Every second Saturday June-August hosted by Rio Grande del Norte National Monument at Wild Rivers. All events will take place the Visitor Center Amphitheater. Please come join us! Talk by Flavio Cisneros Flavio is one of Questa's unofficial historians.

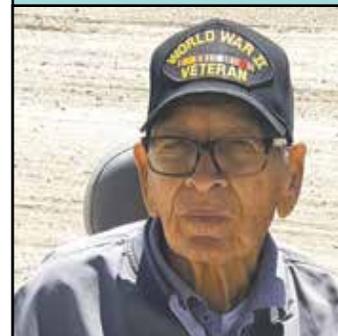
Saturday, June 15th, 7PM, Wild Rivers Amphitheater "The Magic of the Monarch Butterfly" by Marielle Gomez Ninth grade student, Marielle Gomez of Taos Pueblo, will talk about her award winning studies and research with Monarch Butterflies.

Music lessons - piano, guitar, ukulele, accordion, base, saxophone and recorder, contact Nat Wilson, 575-779-2725, lessons at La Sala in Questa, 2331 Hwy 522.

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

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

HAPPY 99TH BIRTHDAY!



Virgil Martinez, former owner of El Seville Restaurant, Questa Lodge and Sangre de Cristo Motel, **celebrated his 99th birthday** with his family on May 21st. He currently resides at the motel.

QUESTA CREATIVE COUNCIL REPORT



Questa Creative Council Bake Sale:

The Questa Creative Council will offer another fundraising bake sale in Taos at Cid's Market on June 15. If you can contribute baked goods, we especially would like to have more gluten-free, savory and vegan offerings. They go fast! The QCC hosted a bake sale at Cid's Market on March 23rd. It was one of those cold and breezy

(really windy!) days, folks were very generous, even contributing when the goods had all been sold. Many thanks to you for all the wonderful goodies and to all the members who donated items and time. A special thanks goes out to Linda Betz, Nancy Parker, and Chuck Kroon for all the help organizing and working the bake sale.

Call 575-770-5267 for more information or check out www.questacreative.org. See you then!

Questa History Trail:

Our History Trail team wishes to thank all our neighbors and visitors who

have offered feedback in the last year! The team is busy with grant-writing and planning for this coming summer's effort, and plan to replace our existing wooden trail signs with long lasting metal frames and updated text this year. Comments taken at our guided walks of last summer will be used to move the project along. The team also hopes to add some directional signage and make the path thoroughly and continuously walkable.

If you wish to help match their second National Heritage Area grant our team has secured, you can make

a donation on our QCC website, or mail us a check, noting "History Trail." Watch for the next stage of this work to be completed by the end of this summer, 2019. Thank you for your patience and your support! Contact Alberta for more information at questacreativecouncil@gmail.com.

Library First Fridays- ArtKids!

The partnership between Questa Creative Council and Questa Library that began on March 8th, "Library Friday with the ArtKids," has been a lot of fun! Usually 10 to 15 kids show up, plus their parents, and they all enjoy the artistic activities. We have

worked with printmaking, Easter egg design, self-portraits, and more. Our final Friday was May 10th. During that session, kids worked on making a Koi windsock for the spring breezes. We are working on getting a 3D program started for the fall! Stay tuned!

Questa Beautification Signage Projects:

Two more sets of banners are in the works. The QCC received a whopping 25 different submissions of artwork created by local artists and Questa area youth. The final selection of 16 is under way. After that is completed, our graphics department (Martha

Shepp) will format and prepare the images for printing. We hope the retablos will be up for everyone to see very soon, pending hardware installation on light poles. Look for news of an opening celebration with posters of images for sale in the near future.

Welcome Signs:

The QCC has partnered with the QEDF to develop three "Welcome to Questa" signs to be installed on the main roads as one drives into Questa. The final design is in the process of fabrication and several sites are under consideration.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY (Continued from Back Page)

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Firewood Permits Available for Carson Ranger District.

Fuelwood permits for dead and down timber are available for purchase at Carson National Forest (CNF) ranger district offices. The price is \$20 for 5 cords, with a maximum of 10 cords per household per year. Customers may purchase permits by check, credit/debit card, or cash.

Any wood removed from national forest land must have a permit. CNF permits do not transfer to other forests and will expire at the end of the year. With the permit, the woodcutter is provided cutting and transporting instructions including fuelwood locations. It is the responsibility of the permit holder to know where they are cutting, as well as to follow the rules governing the permit.

The public may purchase fuelwood permits at the Questa Ranger District offices Monday thru Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., 1:30 -

4:00 p.m. excluding Federal holidays. Please call ahead to be sure the office is open and personnel are available to sell permits. Forest maps are for sale at the Taos Visitor's Center.

Permit holders should be prepared for unpredictable weather changes and be properly equipped to safely harvest wood. Please dispose of litter in trash cans or "pack it out" and close all forest gates after passing through them.

Check the Carson National Forest webpage www.fs.usda.gov/carson or Facebook page www.facebook.com/CarsonNF/ for updates on office hours and permit sales availability.



AA MEETINGS

Sundays 10-11:00 am

Open Meeting
Questa Youth Center

Mondays 7:00pm

Harvest Questa
2558 Highway 522

Tuesdays 7:00pm

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

AA WORDS OF INSPIRATION FOR JUNE

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Yoga Sala Schedule

Monday, 4:30-6 pm

Slo Yo with Lou.

Tuesday, 9-10:30 am

Gentle Flow/Restore with Gaea.

Wednesday evening, 5:30-7 pm

Flow/Deep Stretch with Gaea.

Thursday,

10-11:30 am

Gentle Basic Yoga with Willow

Free on the full moon,

June 17, 4:30 - 6:00pm

8 Highway 38, Questa

Yogasalaquesta.org

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Questa Del Rio News



CHURCH DIRECTORY

QUESTA

ST. ANTHONY DE PADUA CHURCH IN QUESTA

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

MISSION CHURCHES:

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

HARVEST QUESTA

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

LIVING WORD MINISTRIES

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

PATH OF LOVE

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

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RED RIVER

CROSS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

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

FAITH MOUNTAIN FELLOWSHIP

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF RED RIVER

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

ST. EDWIN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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



QUESTA LODGING PROJECT CLASSIFIEDS

Call 586-2258 or email Lodging@QuestaEDF.com

HOUSING WANTED

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

Young couple looking for 1 or 2 bedroom in the Questa area.

Couple with 2 dogs looking for a long-term rental of 2 or 3 bedroom home with enclosed fenced yard.

Professional family of 5 just moved to Questa, seeking a home for rent long-term. Medium sized house-trained dog. Non-smokers, immaculately clean. Budget \$1,200 per month. Selling home in July, looking to move in July 15. Call Sue 217-791-0167

HOUSING AVAILABLE

2 Bedroom 1 Bath, two car garage home in the El Rito area, \$800 per month, \$800. deposit, No pets, propane gas, tenant pays all utilities. Minimum 6-month lease available now.

Located in Questa. Furnished two-bedroom, 1 bath, washer and dryer, minimum lease - 6 months, \$700 deposit required at move in, monthly rent - \$700 per month (all utilities included), application and list of references required, non-smokers, NO pets.

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BUSINESS DIRECTORY



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