

MARCH 2020

Questa Del Rio News

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A SMASH HIT!

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

Ice Fishing In the Enchanted Circle

By TONER MITCHELL

It's beyond dispute: ice fishing is the most fun a person can have while standing in one spot for an entire day in the freezing cold. You're outside, usually in a beautiful place, and depending on how or when you respond to the bouncing tip of your fishing rod, you can pull a nutritious dinner from a small hole at your feet. Until the last second, you don't know how large this dinner will be. You know for almost certain that it's a fish, though you don't know its color or shape. Who doesn't love a good mystery?

Questa is blessed to have two of New Mexico's best ice fishing destinations right in its back yard. One of these, Eagle Rock Lake, is technically in Questa's living room, where drilling some holes and dropping a couple lines on your way home from work is definitely not out of the question.

On the other side of Bobcat Pass, Eagle Nest Lake is the other ice fishing treasure. To be honest, Eagle Nest in winter is more than just an ice fishing hot spot. It's a community, a legitimate scene of packed parking lots and Grinch-loaded sleds being pulled out onto the ice. Even the



Photo by Toner Mitchell

Chris Michael ice fishing on Eagle Nest Lake.

ravens enjoy themselves as they feast on the remains of the humans' catch, which can include northern pike, rainbow trout, yellow perch, and sometimes kokanee.

Floating across the whiteness are the sounds of motorized fishing rigs and playlists. Anglers like Questa's own Chris Michael hear the ringing of little bells, like

the ones he clips to his rod tips to indicate when a fish has taken his offerings, like worms, salmon eggs, brined shrimp, and salmon peach and salmon red Powerbait. White and bright green jigs are worth a shot, as are spoons and spinners.

Chris likes to move until he locates fish, so it's fortunate that he has an auger bit that he can attach to his power drill for punching holes as he goes. Make sure your rig is heavy enough to get to your desired depth and remain under tension if you're tending to another rod (make sure you buy an extra rod stamp) or other business.

In addition to his baits and the scent they give off, Chris likes to incorporate some other attractants into his setup. A favorite technique is simply to tie a thin strip of red rag into the fishing line above your bait(s). The movement of the rag underwater attracts fish, which then find his baits and take a bite. Friends are sometimes skeptical of this method, which Michael understands. Like all experienced fishermen, he knows the importance of confidence; if you believe in something, you're more likely to stick

ICE FISHING continued page 24

Positive Thoughts

by Donna Mitchell-Moniak

Impeachment processes are complete, Brexit is in motion. The US presidential primaries are underway (cast your vote in New Mexico and Colorado on Tuesday, June 2). Fires in Australia are under control for now, an expanded wall at the

border with Mexico has been halted by the courts again, corona virus is spreading faster than the virus itself can be analyzed...and the world turns.

The United Nations' world goals of improved life for human beings and Mother Earth continue to be met on their timeline and with quantifiable results. The figures that follow are measures from 1990-2015 and offer much that is joyful for humanity as a whole. Let's hope the current numbers

continue to improve.

More than one billion people were lifted out of extreme poverty. In 1990, nearly half of the population in the developing regions lived on less than \$1.25 a day. This rate dropped to 14% in 2015, which fueled a similar decrease in undernourishment in developing countries. Today, over 795 million people are estimated to be under-

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TROUT
RESTOCKING
EVENT

FRIDAY,
APRIL 3

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Questa Del Rio News

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LOU McCALL Editor

LYNN SKALL QEDF Director/Directora

SARA MARTINEZ Assistant Editor/Editora asistente

EMILY WILDE Graphic Design & Layout/Diseño gráfico y delineación

ROBYN BLACK Food Editor/Editora de comida

MARTHA SHEPP Copy Editor/Editora de copia

NICHOLAS NAGAWIECKI Americorp VISTA Volunteer

TERESA DOVALPAGE Translator

DINA COLEMAN
MARIA GONZALEZ
CHARLENE R. JOHNSON
TONER MITCHELL
DONNA MITCHELL-MONIAK
SHARON NICHOLSON
BARBARA TRACY
ELLEN WOOD
MICHAEL YOUNG
Columnist/Columnistas
Monthly Features/Presentaciones Mensuales

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR CONTRIBUTORS, SEE PAGE 3!

CHUCK KROON Distribution Manager/Gerente de distribución
chkroon@gmail.com • 575.586.2360

JESSICA ARBOUR Subscription Manager/Gerente de suscripciones
FREE SUBSCRIPTIONS VIA EMAIL
SUBSCRIPCIONES POR CORREO ELECTRONICO
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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.

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PLEASE SEND ALL COMMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS
BY THE 15TH OF THE MONTH
NOS PUEDEN CONTACTAR PARA INFORMACIÓN
ENVÍE ANTES DEL DÍA 15 DEL MES

news@questaedf.com

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

NATIONAL DAY OF UNPLUGGING

One of my favorite holidays is National Day of Unplugging. It is always on the first Friday of March, this year it falls on March 7th. We observe it as a 24-hour period from sundown on Friday to sundown on Saturday to unplug from computers, TVs and cell phones and do other things besides using technology, electronics, and social media. If you go for a hike, try it without your cell phone. If you are addicted to taking pictures, use a camera, or better yet, draw a picture! If you usually watch TV at night, try spending the evening reading a book or playing cards with your family. You can even take the no-electricity thing to the next level and enjoy candlelight or you can light an oil lamp—warm and cozy and calming!

Many of us may not remember a world before computers, cell phones and the internet. It is no secret and very well documented that spending too much time bombarded by electro-magnetic low frequency radiation (ELMF) from these devices is detrimental to our health, impairs brain development in children and causes all manner of behavioral and relationship problems. Besides the health effects, I am bothered by how ill-mannered people are when it comes to the use of their “smart” phones and social media. In this world plagued by addictions to toxic substances, it is easy to spot those with cell phone and social media addictions. Harmful habits abound!

As editor of our local newspaper, I love my job and almost everything about it. One thing I do not love is sitting at a computer, interacting so much with screens and in general, spending too much of my time in an unnatural man-made world bombarded by EMLF. I am saved by having a beautiful place to work with big windows looking out onto big sky and mountains. With the rise of technology (let's all face it, technology controls our lives), it is easier and faster to text or email people or communicate with “friends” on Facebook. But is it really better? Picking up the phone to hear someone's voice or actually meeting someone to have a conversation in person seems so old-fashioned. But, ya know what? It works and is an infinitely better way to communicate in so many ways, not least of which is the feeling of true connection that is lost in the virtual landscape that too many of us, especially our youth, inhabit.

Unfortunately, the National Day of Unplugging is not a recognized national holiday when the banks are closed. I think it should be! Can you imagine bank employees not having access to their computers or the internet? Unthinkable!

When I think of National Day of Unplugging Wendell Berry comes to mind. Someone once asked me who my favorite author was and I surprised myself with my immediate response, “Wendell Berry!” Until that time, I did not even think of Wendell Berry as an author. He is so much more, to me, anyway. If someone had asked me who my favorite philosopher, activist, farmer, teacher, poet or cultural icon was, it would probably be him—if I had to choose just one.

I first became aware of Wendell Berry because he was always being quoted in books, magazines, documentaries or by celebrities on talk shows (I always wished I could see him on a talk show! He does not give interviews...). All the quotes resonated with me in a powerful way, so I started reading collections of his essays, some dating as far back as the 1960s and 70s. My parents subscribed to Prevention Magazine, Organic Gardening and other publications from Rodale Press, where Wendell Berry was either on staff or was a frequent contributor. Reading those articles again in the 21st Century is enlightening, they are still timely and revolutionary almost 50 years later.

Imagine my surprise when I discovered a Wendell Berry novel at the Rural Bookmobile! Wow, a whole new world of books and pleasurable reading had just opened up to me. When an old friend came to visit and we started talking about poetry he told me his favorite poet was a man named Wendell Berry. What? That was quite a moment when I discovered that one of my biggest influences was also a poet and my friend found out that Wendell Berry had so much more to offer besides poetry, that was just the tip of the iceberg! This may seem odd that I didn't know everything about Wendell Berry if I was such a fan. Well, some people do not spend any more time than necessary on Google!

Take Wendell Berry, for example. He grew up in a remote area of Kentucky on a small farm. He went off to college, became a professor at NYU and it wasn't long before he gave up his career in New York City to move back to Port Royal, KY, population 64. He and his wife, Tanya, bought a farm where they still live today.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR continued page 24

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR CONTRIBUTORS TO OUR FEBRUARY EDITION!

JACOBO BACA, VICKI CISNEROS, ANISA CLARKE, DINA COLEMAN, CLAIRE COTÉ, PETER CRIDER, ERIN FRYER, VERONICA GARCIA, KRISTI GONZALES, MARTIN HEINRICH, GILLIAN JOYCE, ANWAR KAELIN, MARGARET LEJUSTE, LINDSAY MAPES, MARIA MEDINA, BRANDALE N. MILLS, MARY DWIGHT OLSON, FELIZ ORTEGA, MARIA POPOVA, MALAQUIAS RAE, ANDREA D. RHODES, KIMBERLY RITTERHOUSE, REGAN SCHWARTZ, LYNN SKALL, AUSTIN TAYLOR, KARLTON TERRY, SUSAN TEUTON, KATHY THERIOT, BERNIE TORRES, PATTY TORRES, PEGGY TRIGG, CARLA VIGIL, CYNTHIA RAEL-VIGIL, MARK WHITE



MAIL CALL

We would like to acknowledge our

student correspondents from Questa Junior High and High School, under the mentorship of our Assistant Editor, Sara Martinez; Ivy Flores, and Elizabeth Martinez. We appreciate your student voice. Thank you for your contributions and best wishes for a brilliant career in journalism!

OOPS!

Last month we mistakenly called the Youth Center the Carlos Cisneros Youth and Family Center. The correct name is the Cornelio Cisneros Youth and Family Center, named after the late Senator Carlos Cisneros' father.

OOPS!

On our February Dates to Remember calendar, we forgot to add Losar, the Tibetan New Year which began on February 24. In the Tibetan tradition, New Year's Eve (Losar Eve) which was February 23, is called Housecleaning Day, a wonderful way to finish up the old year. On our January calendar, we listed January 25 as the Chinese New Year, the first day of the Year of the Rat. In most traditions, the Lunar New Year is on the same day. This year, the Chinese and Tibetan New Year were a month apart. Many of our readers practice Tibetan Buddhist so, we apologize for this omission!

Dear Questa del Rio News,

I'm reading this month's issue and loving it. Amazing that you found such a hugely talented woman like Lynn Skall to step into Lindsay Mapes' shoes....congrats!

I saw the banner asking about who deserves recognition and although you may have done this in the past, the Latir Volunteer Fire Dept and Fire Chief Jona

Ollson would be a good story - especially now as we get ready to head into fire season soon.

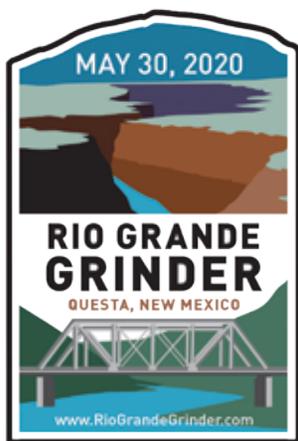
THANKS FOR A GREAT PAPER!
ISHA HADDIGAN

Thank you, Isha, great idea. Our Volunteer of the Month for April will be Fire Chief Jona Ollson and her crew. I am sure they appreciate your nomination!

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NCUA



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

RIO GRANDE GRINDER IS COMING TO QUESTA!
MAY 30, 2020

Cyclists from all over the region will arrive to Questa on May 29-31 to ride 116 miles on gravel roads featured in the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument. We'll need to feed them, house them, and host our cycling guests so they want to come back to Questa for many weekends to come! Let's use this opportunity for the entrepreneurs of the area.

- Do you make breakfast burritos for sale?
- Have a restaurant for dinners?
- What about an extra bedroom to rent?
- Do you have a group that is fundraising and can staff an aid station in exchange for a donation?
- We need prizes for the winners, are you a carver or crafty?

WWW.RIOGRANDEGRINDER.COM



If you have ideas, suggestions, or can offer an answer to any of the above questions, contact us!

575-776-8687
Lindsay@TurquoiseTours.us

Questa Lodging Project Receives 3-Year Grant

By NICK NAGAWIECKI

The Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) is a 501(c)(3) whose goal is to "provide training, technical and financial resources, and advocacy so rural communities can achieve their goals and visions." The corporation is based in Sacramento, CA and has projects in every western state in the nation.

After an application process through SARCHP (the San Antonio del Rio Colorado Historic Preservation non-profit), RCAC nominated Questa under their Rural Economies Program. The process will begin with a \$15,000 grant to support a boots-on-the-ground community coordinator for the next three years,

who will work with SARCHP to address our region's current housing crisis.

Not only is the project going to benefit the Questa community, it will have a beneficial effect on the entire Enchanted Circle region, since the towns of Taos and Red River are experiencing serious housing shortages. When the community coordinator arrives this month, that person will begin by gathering local stakeholders to create a strategic action plan, with the goal of continuing to build on partnerships. RCAC stresses that their programs will only work if they are driven by local participation.

RCAC has worked on several projects throughout the state. Mora had a noteworthy success story when

they worked with the Rural Economies Program to create the Mora Watershed Alliance, which has studied the quality of water in the valley. Their goal was to prevent extraction companies from using processes such as hydraulic fracking to pollute the watershed. RCAC also worked with local Mora residents to incentivize entrepreneurship in the community.

There is enormous potential in Questa for the RCAC to hit at some fundamental issues keeping the community from thriving in the wake of the mine closure. It is important for people living in Questa to attend the upcoming public meetings in order to communicate what needs to be done, so that the commu-

nity coordinator has a strong base of operations.

Other communities in New Mexico that RCAC has worked with include Rio Arriba, Raton, Cochiti Pueblo, Acoma Pueblo, and Isleta Pueblo. Technical assistance will be given in both English and Spanish. There will be further updates in this newspaper about when these meetings will take place.

*San Antonio del Rio Colorado
Historic Preservation*

*P.O. Box 534
Questa, NM 87556
(575) 586-2149*

*<https://www.sarchp.org/>
Admin@SARCHP.org*

Turquoise Tours Receives Star Client Award

By STAFF WRITERS

Last month, 19 businesses from around New Mexico gathered to be recognized as "Star Clients" from the Small Business Development Center where they receive free business support. The Taos Small Business Development Center, led by Anwar Kaelin and affiliated with UNM-Taos, assists businesses from all over Taos County, including hosting monthly office hours in Questa.

Each Small Business Development Center nominates one Star Client or business that has made important strides in the growth of their business. The Taos office of the SBDC chose Turquoise Tours & Events, Inc. owned by Lindsay Mapes.

In 2020, the Star Clients from the nearly 20 Small Business Development Centers around New Mexico gathered at the Round House in Santa Fe to be recognized at the legislature. Shortly thereafter they met with Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham. "I was honored to be nominated as the Taos Star Client for the SBDC. Representative Barrone recognized Turquoise Tours on the House Floor and the Governor made time for a photo. It was an amazing experience," said Lindsay.

The Taos SBDC also took home the award of Top SBDC in the State, so congratulations Anwar and staff! "Anwar has helped me with Turquoise Tours by



Courtesy Photo SBDC (do you know who took the photo?)

From left to right: State SBDC Director Russell Wyrick, New Mexico Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham, Turquoise Tours owner Lindsay Mapes and Taos SBDC Director Anwar Kaelin.

leaps and bounds; he really goes above the call of duty when it comes to helping businesses," said Lindsay. Anwar spends at least one day each month in Questa visiting with both existing businesses and those with business ideas. If you're interested in free business counseling or support, schedule a meeting with Anwar by calling (575) 737-6219.



*Lindsay Mapes, Chief Adventure Officer
P.O. Box 1511, Taos, NM 87571*

*www.TurquoiseTours.us
(c) 505.863.4228 (o) 575.776.TOUR (8687)*

GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

Have a voice in your town's future;
attend public meetings!
These meetings are open, and public
comments are welcome with a limit of 3 minutes.
Check the websites for
agenda topics and past minutes.

Questa Village Council meets
the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, at 6 pm at Town Hall

Mark Gallegos, Mayor

mgallegos@villageofquesta.org

Renee Martinez, Town Clerk/Administrator

rmartinez@villageofquesta.org

Village of Questa Town Hall (575) 586-0694

2500 Old State Rd. 3

Questa, NM 87556

RED RIVER <https://redriver.org/>

Town Council meets the 4th Tuesday of the month
at 5:00 pm at the Conference Center

Linda Calhoun, Mayor

mayor@redriver.org

Georgiana Rael, Town Administrator

grael@redriver.org

Red River Town Hall (575) 754-2277

100 E Main Street

P.O. Box 1020



Business Profile

MOUNTAIN RANGE SUPPLY AND TRANSPORT

By LOU MCCALL

Who knew there was a trucking company in Costilla that ships premium hay all over the country?

Mountain Range Supply and Transport is Bernie Torres' family-owned business that has put hay producers of the San Luis Valley on the map. There is a lot of hay grown in northern Taos County and there are many big producers. The quality of the hay here is what makes the difference.

The business has grown because Bernie's High Country Mix is some of the best feed that can be bought anywhere. It used to be farmers wanted to grow 100% alfalfa, which led them to use all kinds of toxic chemicals to keep the grass down - grasses that naturally sprout up along with alfalfa. As it turns out, the alfalfa/grass mix is a much better product, with more nutrients for livestock. While not all of what Bernie ships is certified organic, it is all naturally grown without pesticides. Bernie said the toxic chemicals are very hard on animals, and their customers want the good stuff.

Another reason that this hay is of such high quality is due to the cold, high-country growing location. The mountain runoff brings mineral-rich water and adds more nutrients to the soil. Bernie does not purchase hay from warmer climates, such as in Arizona, which is poor quality. He says that the producers there may get cuttings all year, sometimes as many as seven or eight, and they do not rotate their crops to boost their soil. Up here in the north, farmers do two cuttings a year, or sometimes three. The slower the growth, the higher the nutritive value. Tests done by the dairy industry have proven that Bernie's High Country Mix grown in the San Luis Valley is the number one best source for dairy milk producers. In the early days the dairy business was a big part of their customer base, although it is not so much now. Most sales now of this feed are for horses.

Customers notice the difference, and the hay from Mountain Range Supply and Transport is in high demand, especially among horse breeders. Between 80-85% of their hay goes to Texas and somewhat less to Florida. On their way

back home from deliveries, Mountain Range Supply semi trucks are loaded with other materials, especially from Houston, a port city, where all kinds of goods are picked up - containers, PVC pipe, treated lumber, and heavy equipment. Often, when other trucking companies are delivering to northern New Mexico or southern Colorado, they pick up loads of hay to deliver to faraway places. This saves money, especially when shipping hay to Bernie's regular Amish customers in Pennsylvania.

Mountain Range Supply and Transport always has hay, and Bernie's hay producers have a guaranteed market. When there is a drought here with a shortage of hay, you can bet there will be another area where there is no drought, such as North Dakota or Idaho. Yes, this is a busy enterprise, with four trucks and four drivers; other drivers also lease with them. Bernie's sons, Brian and Jeff, are involved with the business, along with his grandson Justin. Bernie's wife of 54 years, Gladys, works from home, and their secretary, Megan Jenkins, works in the office. Another family member who is an essential part of their team is Duggie, Bernie's eight-year-old dog who goes everywhere with him. Duggie has visited all 50 states and has logged more miles than many young truckers.

Bernie and Gladys graduated from Costilla High School in 1965, CHS's last graduating class. They married after graduation and couldn't wait to get away, living and working in Colorado and Wyoming for nine years. When their young ones got to be school age they realized what a culture shock they had experienced and what a good thing they had left behind back home. They returned to Costilla in 1974, where they believed their children could benefit from a good school and being blessed with family. By the late 1970s, they were starting to grow their hay and trucking business.

Bernie's family grew hay for their own livestock and didn't have enough to sell. It all started when Jaroso farmer Dave West asked Bernie if he had any use for his alfalfa/grass mix, and as they say, the rest is history. That was the first of what became known as High Country Mix. Other partners at the beginning were the Andersons in Jaroso and rancher Lupe Young. Bernie grew up with homegrown natural foods and he saw the need for an all-natural product and realized there was a niche market that he could fill. He began working with other producers to transport hay.

We have big hay producers right here in our backyard that have been

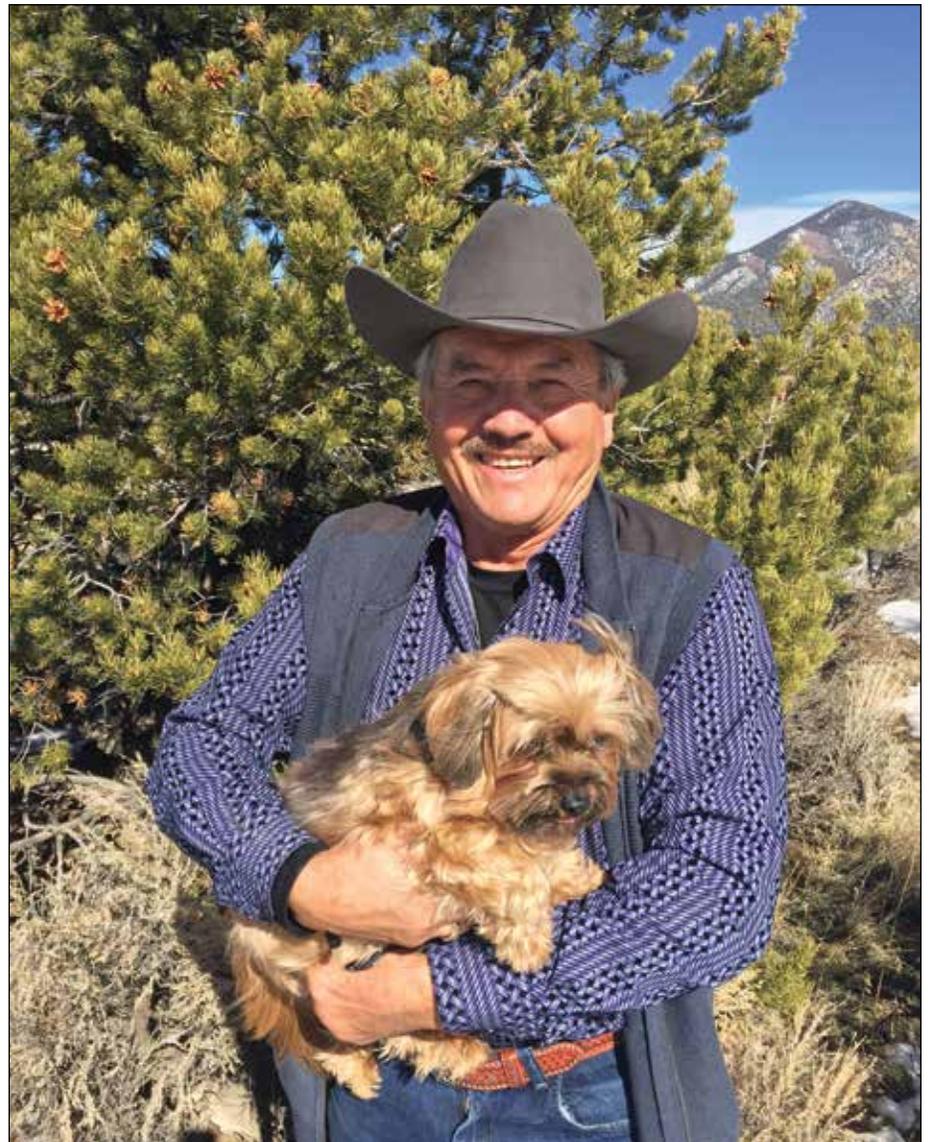


Photo by Lou McCall

Bernie Torres of Mountain Range Supply and Transport with his co-pilot, Duggie.

supplying Bernie for decades. More hay is produced in our area than all of Taos County, although there are large producers in the Peñasco area, as well. Some of the big farms that he deals with are the Top of the World Farm, MTC Farms, Cisneros Ranch, Urraca Ranch, Duran Farms, Quintana Farms, Medina's, Clay Johnson, Art Sanchez and others. They all grow top-notch hay. Bernie says that with bigger producers there is a more consistent product. With one big farm, Bernie can fill an entire truck, whereas with smaller growers, they might drive all the way out to a remote farm for a couple hundred bales only to discover the quality would vary.

Bernie and his family have a history of community involvement. Both Bernie and Gladys have served on the Questa Independent Schools Board at different times, back when the school board had 6-year terms. Gladys served first for one term and Bernie served later for two terms. Bernie was a Taos County Commissioner and is most proud of his signature project - building the new Holy Cross Hospital in 1990. Bernie said, "I was born in the old hospital and

I didn't want to die in the old hospital!" The County paid for Holy Cross by increasing the gross receipts tax 1/4 of 1%. After the hospital was built, that tax went to the schools in the county. Bernie is currently on the Board of Trustees for Kit Carson Electric Co-op. His family is active in the Catholic Church and he serves on the Archdiocese Catholic Appeal.

If you want to buy high quality hay for your livestock, you don't have to have it delivered to Texas or Florida; you can drive to Costilla and pick it up yourself, saving the delivery fee. Mountain Range Supply and Transport also sells storage containers. You can find them at 4361 Highway 522 in Costilla, NM 87524 or give them a call at (575) 586-9623 and (575) 779-0513. Email them at btrang-er14@yahoo.com.

If you would like more information about growing and transporting hay, see Cody Hooks' February 9, 2016 interview "Getting Down to Business with Bernie Torres." The Taos News

<https://www.taosnews.com/stories/getting-down-to-business-with-bernie-torres.26839>



By LYNN SKALL,
DIRECTOR QEDF

WHAT IDEAS DO YOU HAVE FOR OUR COMMUNITY'S FUTURE?

Hello, from the new director of the Questa Economic Development Fund (QEDF), and I thank you for your warm welcome! I am honored to represent the greater Questa area as we all collaborate and partner together to shape the future of our inviting northern New Mexico community.

I want to hear from you! I am getting around town to say hello, to meet everyone, and get your feedback. I also invite you to email me with your input. What is working? What can we do better?

When you bring us your ideas and passion, please also bring us your energy, time, and commitment to help put your plans into motion. We can't do it without



We welcome Lynn Skall as QEDF's new director. She is looking forward to hearing from you with your suggestions and ideas.

you; in fact, we need you to be involved in this progressive community-wide effort. Be prepared to take action!

You'll find updates from the QEDF in this column in future issues of the *Questa Del Rio News*. Thank you for your support moving forward and for being engaged in our community. I am looking forward to hearing from you! lynn@QuestaEDF.com

Free 'New Mexico True' Certification Program

The New Mexico True Certification Program endorses the quality, care, and craftsmanship of your products that are uniquely New Mexican. You can add this widely recognized "New Mexico True" certified logo to your products that are 100% made in, grown in, or born and raised in New Mexico!

The New Mexico Tourism Department is proud to offer the opportunity to state licensed businesses to participate in this free New Mexico True Certification program. This influential and established brand will help to build your product's recognition and certify their authenticity.

Businesses of all sizes are eligible to showcase the logo if your product falls into one of two categories:

1. Products are 100% made or manufactured in New Mexico, such as packaged consumer goods, jewelry, soap, salsa, or craft beverages.

2. Plants or non-meat agricultural products are eligible to display the logo if they are 100% grown in New Mexico. Qualifying agricultural products could include herbs, fruits and vegetables.

It's simple and free to apply for the certification, just go to NewMexico.org, click on the "Work Together" tab at the top, and follow the guidelines.

Once approved, you can use the New Mexico True Certified logo on your packaging, website, and in all of your marketing and promotional materials. This certification allows you to leverage the highly successful New Mexico True brand to help build your business and position your product for continued growth. For more information, email: true.certified@state.nm.us.



Carson National Forest Invites You to Snowshoe with a Biologist!



By ERIN FRYER

If you enjoy the outdoors and want to learn more about your public lands, this Friday afternoon program is the perfect opportunity for you! We will explore the flora, fauna, and the histo-

ry and ecology of our area.

Free and open to all ages, the "Snowshoe with a Biologist" program is an interactive way to connect you with Forest Service employees who have a keen interest in natural resource education. Join us every Friday from 12 pm – 2 pm at the Enchanted Forest Cross Country Ski Area, in Red River, NM through March 20.

Plan to bring snowshoes, poles, water, snacks, binoculars, and your Trail Pass. For more information call Adam LaDell, Carson National Forest Supervisor's Office, at (575) 758-6200.

Cerro de la Olla Could Become a New Wilderness Area

A LETTER FROM SENATOR
MARTIN HEINRICH

Dear Friend,

Cerro de la Olla towers over the Taos Plateau and the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument. Much like Ute Mountain—which Congress protected as wilderness last year—Cerro de la Olla is a shield volcano with upper elevations that offer solitude and unparalleled views of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains to the east, the San Juan Mountains to the west, and the Rio Grande Gorge down below.

For hundreds of years, people of the Taos area have hunted, gathered herbs, and collected firewood on the flanks of Cerro de la Olla. The area is an important wildlife corridor between the Sangre de Cristos and San Juans and security habitat for species such as elk, mule deer, black bears, and mountain lions.

Cerro de la Olla is exactly the type of landscape we all recognize should be protected as wilderness. That's why I am so excited to introduce legislation

to designate Cerro de la Olla as a new wilderness area. Protecting this outdoor treasure as wilderness is the best way to safeguard its invaluable resources for future generations.

This community-driven legislation is one more example of how, despite all the political chaos in Washington, I am still committed to bringing New Mexicans together to find common ground to protect the public lands we all cherish. I hope this bill will follow the example set by last year's historic public lands law that designated 13 new wilderness areas in New Mexico—including the Cerro del Yuta and Rio San Antonio Wildernesses in the Rio Grande del Norte.

I remain focused on delivering results for our state and making a real difference in the lives of all New Mexicans. Please stay in touch with me about important issues and contact my office if I can ever be of assistance to you and your family.

SINCERELY,
MARTIN HEINRICH
UNITED STATES SENATOR



Courtesy Photo

Senator Martin Heinrich visits Cerro de la Olla in the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument, 2019.

Workshops at the Cisneros Youth & Family Center



Photos by Peggy Trigg

The QCC puts the art room to good use at the Cisneros Youth & Family Center. Artist Peggy Trigg shown here facilitating the Tuesday afternoon workshop.

By PEGGY TRIGG

During March we'll be switching things up for our Tuesday art workshops. For the first two Tuesdays (March 3 and 10) we will be working with clay. On March 17 and 24, we will be offering reduction printmaking, focusing our imagery on your favorite birds and wildlife. On March 31 we will offer a special workshop on Tradi-

tional Questa Lenten Foods. All ages are welcome! Please see the related article on this page.

All workshops are held at the Cisneros Youth & Family Center behind the Questa Library, on Tuesdays from 3:30-5:30 pm and are offered by the Questa Creative Council. For more information please email us at questacreativecouncil@gmail.com. Donations are appreciated.

Update on "Welcome to Questa" Signs

FROM THE
QUESTA CREATIVE COUNCIL

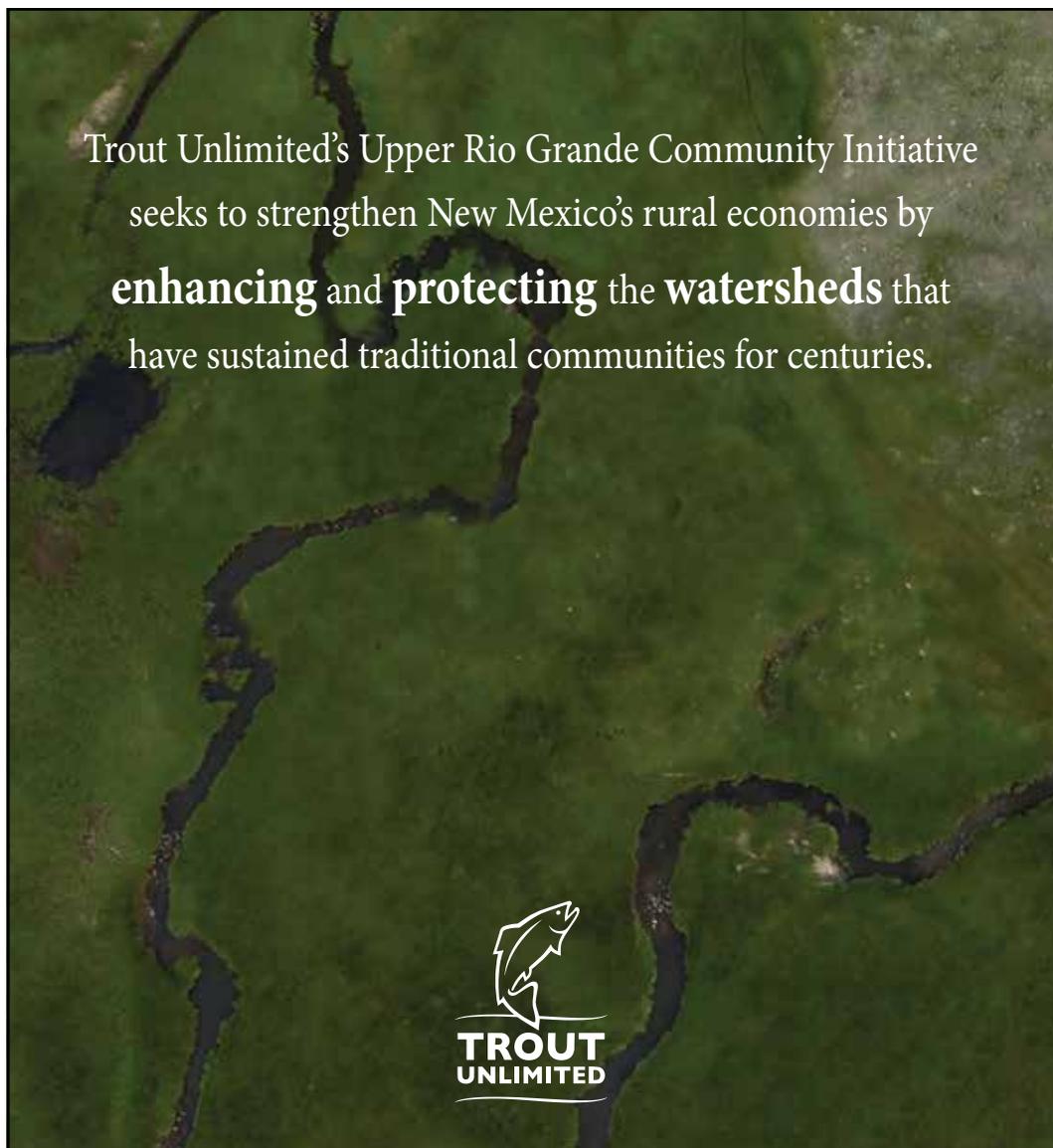
We are so excited to report that the first of the Questa welcome signs are in production at this very moment! This has been a long process of collaboration between the Questa Economic Development Fund and the Questa Creative Council. There have been some necessary changes along the way; our final sign design is a combination

of the original entries received and is fabricated from wood instead of stone and metal, for safety reasons. The signs will have both carved and uncarved areas which will be stained or painted. We are working on the color palette now. We are hopeful that the first sign will be installed beginning in late spring on the south end of Questa along Highway 522. We are also working on placing a sign on the east end of Questa along Highway 38 in the future.



"Welcome to Questa" signs in the process of being built. They will be installed at the north and south ends of Questa, along Highway 522. Eventually, there will also be a "Welcome to Questa" sign on Highway 38, coming from Red River, stay tuned!

Computer design rendering by Nick Nagawiecki.



Trout Unlimited's Upper Rio Grande Community Initiative seeks to strengthen New Mexico's rural economies by **enhancing** and **protecting** the watersheds that have sustained traditional communities for centuries.



Since 2013, TU has supported the Village of Questa's expansion of its fishing-based economy through re-storing the Red River, developing a restoration work force, and improving the village's capacity to lodge and serve visitors.



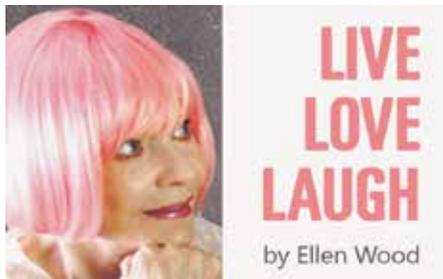
TU has joined a diverse coalition of local stakeholders opposing a proposed copper, gold, and zinc mine in the Pecos River watershed. The mine would destroy the economy of the Village of Pecos, which depends heavily on revenue generated by the river



For over a decade, TU has engaged in restoring the Comanche Creek watershed, supporting reliable irrigation flows and imperiled Rio Grande cutthroat trout, a species of significant cultural value.



Five Things To Do Every Day



Deepak Chopra had a profound influence on my life, even before he became well known and then super famous as one of Oprah's favorite authors in the New Age Movement.

It was in the early 1990s that I attended his lecture one evening in Princeton, NJ. I went with my friend Dolores and we sat in the front row of a small room. Dr. Chopra spoke eloquently, never needing notes for the two hours of his talk. Afterwards he borrowed my pen so he could sign his book for participants and then gave the pen back to me. I treasured that pen but eventually lost it.

I also lost interest in his books and gravitated to other authors, but his words that evening stayed with me a long time, especially the five things he taught that we should do every day.

1. **Do good.**
2. **Pray and meditate.**
3. **Trust in the Universe that everything will be taken care of.**
4. **Be grateful.**
5. **Forgive everyone.**

For years I had those words on my

desktop computer screen as reminders and I found them to be life changing.

I remember that just noticing them didn't do much good, but when I paused and took time to actually put them into practice, the results were astonishing.

Today I came across those five things, handwritten on a piece of paper that's almost 30 years old, in a folder of income tax stuff. Boy, do I ever need this!

It says: **Do good.** I didn't have to think long about that one. My friend Deborah has been sick with the flu and I've had chicken soup sitting in my freezer twiddling its thumbs, so I took it across the road and delivered it. Check!

Pray and meditate. That one was difficult. My mind wanted to stew about last night's State of the Union Address and the Iowa Caucus non-results the night before. But I persisted in bringing my thoughts back to prayer – miraculously, for both political parties – and then I got on my meditation bench for half an hour. Check!

Trust in the Universe that everything will be taken care of. Another hard one: After all these years, you'd think I would have realized that I can't control what happens to me – but I keep wasting my time trying to make sure the next event in my life goes right. So, I told myself: Be here right now. Forget what happened or might happen.



Courtesy Photo

Author and columnist Ellen Wood with best-selling author and spiritual teacher, Deepak Chopra, shown here in 2007 at a conference in Albuquerque.

Rest. Trust. Allow the Divine to come in and take care of things. All right, I'm willing. Check!

Be grateful. Ah, that's easy. I have loving family and friends; my brain works, and my joints don't hurt. Plus, I have a bit of a wild streak I'm thankful for. Check!

And last but not least: **Forgive everyone.** There's politics again, irritating me.

Okay, politicians, I forgive you. Guess I'd better forgive myself for watching the TV news. Ellen, I forgive you, too – but I'll bet you're going to watch the news again tonight. Oh well, check!

Ellen Wood of Questa is the award-winning author of the series of books, The Secret Method for Growing Younger. Her website is www.howtogrowyounger.com Contact Ellen at ellen@howtogrowyounger.com

Cinco Cosas Que Debes Hacer cada Día

Deepak Chopra tuvo una profunda influencia en mi vida, incluso antes de que se volviera bien conocido y más tarde súper famoso como uno de los autores favoritos de Oprah en el Movimiento de la Nueva Era.

Fue a principios de la década de 1990 cuando asistí a su conferencia una noche en Princeton, Nueva Jersey. Fui con mi amiga Dolores y nos sentamos en la primera fila de un salón pequeño. El Dr. Chopra habló con elocuencia, sin necesitar notas, durante las dos horas de su charla. Luego tomó prestada mi pluma para firmar su libro a los participantes, y después me la devolvió. Guardé esa pluma como un tesoro, pero un día la perdí.

También el perdí interés en sus libros y me interesé más por otros autores, pero las palabras que dijo esa noche se quedaron conmigo durante mucho tiempo, especialmente las cinco cosas que

deberíamos hacer todos los días.

1. **Haz el bien.**
2. **Ora y medita.**
3. **Confía en que el universo se encargará de todo.**
4. **Agradece.**
5. **Perdona a todos.**

Durante años tuve esas palabras en la pantalla de mi computadora como recordatorio y descubrí que cambiaban la vida.

Recuerdo que nomás el mirarlas no servía de mucho, pero cuando hacía una pausa y me tomaba el tiempo para poner en práctica lo que aconsejaban, los resultados eran sorprendentes.

Hoy me encontré estas cinco cosas, escritas a mano en una hoja de papel que tiene casi 30 años, en una carpeta de impuestos sobre la renta. ¡Y bien que lo necesitaba!

Dice: **Haz el bien.** No tuve que

pensar mucho en eso. Mi amiga Deborah ha estado enferma de gripe y tengo una sopa de pollo esperando en el congelador, así que crucé la calle y se la di. ¡Hecho!

Ora y medita. Esto fue difícil. Mi mente quería pensar en el Discurso del Estado de la Unión de anoche y la ausencia de resultados del Caucus de Iowa de la noche anterior. Pero insistí en volver a la oración —milagrosamente, por los dos partidos políticos— y luego estuve meditando durante media hora. ¡Hecho!

Confía en que el universo se encargará de todo. Otra difícil: después de todos estos años, cualquiera creería que ya he comprendido que no puedo controlar lo que me pasa, pero sigo perdiendo el tiempo tratando de asegurarme de que el próximo evento en mi vida salga bien. Entonces, me dije a mí misma: Estate aquí ahora mismo. Olvídate de lo que

pasó o de lo que podría pasar. Descansa. Confía. Deja que lo Divino entre y se encargue de las cosas. Muy bien, estoy dispuesta a hacerlo. ¡Hecho!

Agradece. Ah, eso es fácil. Tengo una familia y amigos cariñosos; mi cerebro funciona y las articulaciones no me duelen. Además, tengo una vena salvaje por la que estoy agradecida. ¡Hecho!

Y por último, aunque no menos importante: **perdona a todos.** Ahí está la política de nuevo, irritándome. Bien, políticos, los perdono. Supongo que mejor me perdono a mí misma por ver las noticias de televisión. Ellen, también te perdono, pero apuesto a que volverás a ver las noticias esta noche. Oh, bien, ¡hecho!

Ellen Wood de Questa es la galardonada autora de la serie de libros, "El método secreto para crecer más joven". Su sitio web es www.howtogrowyounger.com. Comuníquese con Ellen en ellen@howtogrowyounger.com

Diabetes Care Clinic at PMS Questa Health Center

By ANDREA D. RHODES

Do you have diabetes? Are you up to date on all your recommended exams and blood work? Not sure what you need? Come and see us at the new Diabetes Care Clinic at the PMS Questa Health Center!

The first Tuesday of every month from 8 am to 3 pm PMS Questa Health Center is offering a walk-in Diabetes

Care Clinic. No appointment necessary!

Do you know what screening tests you need if you have diabetes? A retinal eye scan should be done every year. A special diabetic foot exam should be done at least every year.

Blood testing to check your kidneys and cholesterol should be done one or two times per year. Testing your A1C tells us about your average blood sugar readings for the last three months and

is done every 3-6 months. If you need other testing, a provider can add extra blood tests when you come into the clinic. You can also get medication refills if you need them.

Why should you come to the new Diabetes Care Clinic? Taking charge of your diabetes can help you live your best life! Doing testing helps us to catch complications from diabetes early so we can prevent or slow damage to your body.

Knowing your A1C can also help you plan your meals and exercise, and it lets us know if your medications are working or need to be changed.

The first clinic is Tuesday, April 7 from 8 am to 3 pm. Questions? For more information about the Diabetes Care Clinic, please call the PMS Questa Health Center at (575) 586-0315 or stop by at 2573 State Highway 522, Questa, NM 87556. See you in April!

Gene Therapy Treatments

By MARK WHITE

Harvard Medical School's Professor in the Department of Genetics (and co-Director of the Paul F. Glenn Center for the Biology of Aging) David A. Sinclair recent discovery (see the February 2020 Questa del Rio News) offers the prospect that gene therapies will soon reverse human aging. Reversing aging lessens the likelihood of many diseases such as cancer, dementia, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer's, and heart disease. Wrinkles, gray hair, fatigue, and many other conditions the aged suffer could also be eliminated.

Gene treatments could add years of youthfulness to our lives.

Anti-aging gene therapies available to the public could be years off. In the meantime, we lose people every day to aging. Are there ways to keep folks alive long enough to rejuvenate them with the gold-standard gene therapies that are now on the horizon? Harvard's David Sinclair himself uses NAD boosters and intermittent fasting to slow down his own aging, as does his vigorous father (in his 80s), who climbs and hikes around the world.

NAD is a coenzyme involved in numerous cell processes. As we age, the

NAD levels in our body decline. NAD boosters are available over the counter. Intermittent fasts simply involve adding extra time between meals.

Stanford University's Tony Wyss-Coray performed research on potent anti-aging treatments, inspired by Alexander Bogdanov – the father of blood transfusions. Bogdanov had developed them as a life saving measure for Russian soldiers in WWI. He believed that blood transfusions from young people would rejuvenate older people and he experimented on himself. People around him noted his bald spot filling in and his wrinkles smoothing

out, and Bogdanov himself noted his own increased energy. Wyss-Coray's lab surgically connected the blood flows of old and young mice and his recent research has proven that young blood rejuvenates old mice.

Today blood transfusions are widespread and considered safe. When it comes to anti-aging blood transfusions, though, the Food and Drug Administration emphasizes the risks and downplays the safety.

As it is, the FDA doesn't consider old age a treatable condition and fails to expedite research that might save many lives among the aged.

BODY | MIND | SPIRIT

By BARBARA TRACY

LIVING THE MIRACLE

As individuals, a nation or a planet we have the ability to live in peace and harmony with one another and the world that is given to us. At this time in the human journey, through the labyrinth of experiences that each of us walks, there is something we can remember that will help us along the way; the reality that we are a miracle, that our presence here in body is a miracle that cannot be explained by the mind or the personality. When we stop to look at a flower or a tree or another person, wow, what a miracle is that? Where did it all come from? We take for granted so very much the miracle of breathing; there is always air. How often do you

ask, "Where does this air come from?" Speaking for myself—hardly ever. We can't see the air - yet without it the body would die. How is it that we are beings that breathe air and just so happen to be in a place that provides air for us to breathe?

And what about the miracle of the natural processes of life such as how the organs of the body work, all without our telling them to do anything at all. They simply go about their duties providing life through their complex processes. We eat, we drink, we drive cars, we walk our dogs, we go to the market, we raise families, we assist others, and through it all, how many of us think about what a miracle it is that we have the ability to do any of it?

We are here. We are human beings. We are breathing, walking, talking miracles that have the capacity to do many wonderful things. And yet, as

it continues to play out in our history, there is prejudice, hatred, cruelty, indifference, ignorance, and wars. How can we individuals help? Here is something to consider: pay attention to what we are paying attention to. When we take time to stop and notice what we are paying attention to, it can reveal the nature of the energy we are contributing to the whole of humanity and the planet. Does the thought, feeling, or attitude you are paying attention to give you joy, peace, or happiness or just the opposite? Is it worth focusing on hour after hour or day after day? Do you want to be devoted to it? How does it serve your life, is it negatively destructive, or positively creative? What would life be like if that thought, feeling, or attitude were not there? Does it contribute to your desire of how you wish your life to be? There are many questions you can ask that can help explore how we are using the mira-

cle of our presence as humans.

The theory of the butterfly effect suggests that the flapping of a butterfly's wings in South America could affect the weather in Texas, meaning that the tiniest influence on one part of a system can have a huge effect on another part. So, in a world that appears to be so much in need of kindness, compassion, understanding, and peace, would being positive and contributing good things not be a good direction to go? We as individuals need to become aware of what we ourselves are contributing to the mass consciousness. When we are paying attention to what we are paying attention to, be aware that we are like the butterfly wing, a tiny influence on a part of a system that can have a huge effect on another part. And that is how powerful we all are if we choose to participate in contributing light to the world and letting go of the darkness.

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Michael's Movie Moments: 2020 Oscar Recap

By MICHAEL YOUNG

The danger in predicting the Oscars is the embarrassment you suffer when you're wrong, especially when it is published in black and white. I only guessed correctly eight of the 24 categories, or one third. Last year I managed 15 correct, and the year before 16. This year I did better than random guessing, but not by much.

In early January, I did not think that a foreign language film had any chance of getting the top Oscar. With time it became clear that *Parasite* was rising in the ranks. Still, I think everyone was surprised at the movie's outstanding success. Nominated in six categories, it won in four of them, including directing and screenplay. These are significant wins for a foreign language film, indicating that the Academy is now viewing itself as an increasingly international body. That could have a profound effect not just on Academy membership, but also on an industry that might now look harder at talent outside of US borders.

It is interesting that, despite an expensive campaign to sway academy voters, Netflix did so poorly. *The Irishman* received ten nominations, half of them

in major categories, and did not win a single Oscar. *Marriage Story* earned six nominations with all but one in the major categories, and yet Laura Dern was its only winner for Best Supporting Actress. Other Netflix movies nominated but failed to receive Oscars included *The Two Popes*, *I Lost My Body*, *Klaus*, and *The Edge of Democracy*. That *The American Factory* won the documentary category may have more to do with it being produced by President Barack and Michelle Obama, rather than the fact that it came from Netflix.

Out of 24 nominations (almost one quarter of all possible nominations) Netflix took only two Oscars. Is that truly because their talent is not on par with the rest? Or is it that the Academy members see the Netflix distribution model as a threat to their traditional theater-based industry? The old school has it that people get dressed up, drive to a theater, buy a ticket and popcorn, and sit in a dark theater for two hours - the movie is in full control of the viewer. In the Netflix model, it is the other way around - the viewer is in full control of the movie. Perhaps the older academy members are having a hard time with this shift and

are unwilling to reward the new threat. Many movies work best in a theater setting, but there are some that work better in a more intimate setting. I'm not sure the Academy sees that yet, and that bias would have worked against Al Pacino, Joe Pesci, Adam Driver, Anthony Hopkins, Jonathon Pryce, and Scarlett Johansson in the acting categories, and Noah Baumbach, Steven Zaillian, Anthony McCarten, and Martin Scorsese in the writing and directing categories. These are talented people and, had they not been working for Netflix, they might have collected more Oscars.

Another bias in the nominations was that women and people of color were underrepresented in the directing and writing categories. Not a single Best Picture or Best Director nominee was a woman. Everyone noticed this when the nominations were announced. I had thought that the Academy would at least acknowledge their foolishness by awarding Greta Gerwig the Oscar for her *Little Women* adaptation. I misjudged their lack of shame - they are more incorrigibly misogynistic than I thought. For Leading Actress, I was hoping they would boost *Little Women* even more by

giving the Oscar to Saoirse Ronan, who I like a lot, but I'm okay with Renee Zellweger, and critics agree she did a terrific job as Judy Garland.

My guesses were better in the technical art categories, where I got four out of nine right. *1917* was the big winner in these races, winning Oscars for Cinematography, Sound Mixing, and Visual Effects. That reflects a general consensus that this was a well-crafted movie. I got the first two right, but I thought Visual Effects would go to the *Avenger's* installment, largely because of its box office success, but the Academy just wasn't having much of comic book movies this year. However, they did give the Original Score Oscar to *Joker* which was surprising because it was written by a woman (Hildur Guonadottir). I correctly guessed *1917* for Sound Mixing, but, contrary to recent history, they awarded the Sound Editing Oscar to a different movie - *Ford v Ferrari*. I'm not sure most members of the Academy know the difference between Sound Editing and Sound Mixing any better than the rest of us. I suppose, though,

OSCAR RECAP continued page 24

MICHAEL'S MOVIE MOMENTS

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

By MICHAEL YOUNG

MARCH'S MOVIE REVIEW:
MISSING LINK



There are several ways to make an animated film. Today, most of the better known movies are done on computers with computer-generated imagery (CGI), resulting in lushly detailed images. Many are still done with hand-drawn imagery which reflects the skilled artistic hands and imagination of artists.

There is a third form of animation called stop-motion, which is a tedious and difficult way to film a movie, but produces interesting effects. In stop-motion, the characters are real three-dimensional models, which are manipulated to simulate motion. The figures are often made of clay, hence the name Clayma-

tion. The artist places their figures in a set, snaps a frame, then moves the arms or legs or mouths ever so slightly, and snaps another frame. This process goes on for thousands of frames; the combination produces the simulation of movement. It takes a great deal of patience and time to make such a movie.

When done right, it can also result in some stunningly beautiful imagery - as is the case with *Missing Link*. There is a brief scene during the credits that shows how this process works in producing just a few seconds of movie magic. Because the figures are three-dimensional objects, and not drawings on paper or on a pixelated screen, the three-dimensional effects are real - the shadows cast by the figures are real shadows and the light bending around their faces is actually shining on them. And these effects are the best thing about *Missing Link*. One of the best and most complicated stop-motion scenes of any movie is the barroom fight scene in this movie. In fact, if you have any liking at all for this animation technique, then this scene alone is a reason to see the movie. The stop-motion animation is exceptional.

The appreciation for the technique is most intense in *Missing Link* in the created environments that the characters inhabit. Much of the closer-in backgrounds were created on a live, miniature set and the level of detail in the artwork is stunning. Because the story takes place in multiple locales around the world, there are many different kinds of scenery. Whether it is the detailed evergreen needles in the forests of Washington, or the water-starved cracks in the desert of New Mexico, the swells of an ocean, or the ice crevices dotting the jagged mountains of the Himalayas, the most exciting imagery for me were these miniature sets.

Missing Link comes to us from Chris Butler, who also wrote and directed *ParaNorman*, for which he received another Oscar nomination. Butler is with Laika Studios, out of Portland, Oregon, which is also responsible for *Kubo* and *The Two Strings* - which received two Oscar nominations - and *Coraline*, one of my all-time favorite animated movies and yet another Oscar nominee. In other words, there is a lot of talent behind this production. It also helps that they threw

an estimated \$100 million into making this movie. Visually, this is a movie well worth watching.

And yet, it did not do well with either audiences or critics. Of our 38 movies this year, *Missing Link* was third from the bottom in audience rankings. Critical reviews were a little more charitable, but still, it fell in the bottom third of their average ranking. The storyline is simple but would be appropriate for a family outing. And while the moral takeaway (that we can be friends with all kinds of "people") might provoke a slight gag reflex among jaded adults, there is some interesting wordplay between Sir Lionel Frost (a proper British adventurer voiced by Hugh Jackman) and Mr. Link (a sasquatch who can read and write, but takes things quite literally, played by Zack Galifianakis). When Adelina Fortnight (Zoe Saldana) joins the adventure, she adds enough intelligence to save the day.

The movie is a diversion with something for everyone - and a good time with the kids. Just a solid 2.5 stars.

Kids Ballet Classes in Questa Continue at La Sala



Photo by Anisa Clark, 8th-grade photographer

Young ballet students enjoying practicing *pas de chat* at La Sala.

By CLAIRE COTÉ

Introductory Ballet Classes for kids began in February and will continue through March! Taught on Friday afternoons, instructor Miss Tuesday's love of dance and enthusiasm for teaching is tangible. Classes are light, fun, and full of imagination, exercise, and smiles. For each class, she brings special themed and seasonal books and props and weaves movement and dance activities around these.

Originally geared towards 5 - 8 year-olds, Miss Tuesday has welcomed younger kids to try out the class and older kids have joined as well.

La Sala hosts events and classes with health in mind. It offers a beautiful space for dance, yoga, music events, and workshops, and is available for

nonprofit educational activities (LaSalaQuesta.com). The kids' ballet classes are presented by Sala Reach, a grant and donation-supported program of the local nonprofit Localogy (Localogy.org). Donations to Sala Reach are welcome! They make programming possible and support participation.

The Kids Ballet Classes are on Fridays from 4:30 - 5:15 pm at La Sala (2331 State Hwy 522 in Questa). Price per class is suggested (\$5 - 10). Siblings welcome. No one turned away for lack of funds. For more info, visit LaSalaQuesta.com · (575) 224-2102 · YogaSalaQuesta@gmail.com



Historical Lenten Foods Revisited



By PEGGY TRIGG

Come and explore the traditional Questa Lenten foods of yesterday! These early Questa Lenten dishes will be reintroduced through a workshop at the Cisneros Youth & Family Center on Tuesday, March 31 from 3:30-5:30 pm. The workshop will cover 3 to 5 local traditional dishes, brought to you by Questeños who are members of the Questa History Trail Committee. We will share samples, recipe cards, and

offer step-by-step cooking instructions. This workshop will also offer traditional, local recipe sharing by participants, so if you have a favorite recipe to share, please bring it with you! We will have a copy machine available. This workshop is sponsored by the Questa Creative Council.

Lent lasts for 40 days (46 days for Orthodox Christians) with prayer, fasting and abstaining from sinful or pleasurable pursuits in preparation for the celebration of the Resurrection of Christ on Easter Sunday. Lent began on Ash Wednesday, February 26.

DIABETES CARE *Clinic*

TESTING AVAILABLE	1st Tuesday of the month	575-586-0315 QUESTA HEALTH CENTER 2573 State Highway 522, Questa, NM 87556 pmsnm.org
👁️ Retinal eye tests	Walk in 8:00 to 3:00	
👣 Diabetes foot exam	All insurance accepted	
✔️ A1 C checks		
🧪 Lab test ordered by Provider		

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The event is free and open to kids of all ages!

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Carla Archuleta Ready to Help Move Questa Schools to the Top



By IVY FLORES

When Ms. Archuleta greeted me in the high school lunchroom, I noticed she had a serene aura. She was hired this year as the Principal of Alta Vista Elementary and Intermediate School. She was recently appointed to be the Interim Superintendent for the Questa Independent School District. QISD is in the process of looking for a new superintendent and Ms. Archuleta has applied.

I began by asking her where she is from and what drew her to apply for the superintendent position at Questa Schools. She answered proudly, "I'm originally from Sanford, Colorado. I retired in Colorado after 29 years of working with the schools." Archuleta then said she would share something personal and asked if I would excuse her,

because it may bring her to tears, "After the tragic loss of my husband two years ago, I felt that I needed a change, a new calling, which drew me to Questa." She also added that she enjoyed the small town and longed to be around her people, the Chicano culture.

I asked what job experience she had working with the schools. Ms. Archuleta proudly responded, "I have 21 years of teaching upper elementary and middle school, both secondary math and science. I also have eight years of experience working as assistant superintendent and superintendent." She has worked for Alamosa, Sangre De Cristo School Districts, and for Antonito, Colorado's South and North Conejos School Districts.

I asked, "What was your favorite position in the schools and at which school?" Ms. Archuleta wanted it understood that she had no negative intent in what she was about to say and asked us to please not take it the wrong way. She said, "The majority of my career I did not work with Hispanic staff, finding



QISD Photo

Ms. Carla Archuleta, Principal of Alta Vista Elementary and Intermediate School, and currently serving as QISD's Interim Superintendent.

myself feeling secluded from my culture. My favorite position was working as a superintendent in Antonito, Colorado's North and South Conejos Schools, because there were other Latinas that I could work with which made me feel comfortable, like I was at home."

What are some problems and solutions you have noticed at Questa Schools? She answered, "In March, the

New Mexico Public Education Department will be conducting the RAMS (formerly RDA) review for Kindergarten through Third Grade. We have high hopes that it will show we are at performance level but we are ready to make the appropriate changes if we aren't there yet. The assessment looks at our Reading Achievement Math and School Culture. It would be ideal to improve the schools' scores with the help of our staff, having them mingle with our students, letting them know that they are always first." She concluded with, "I truly want our schools to be progressive."

Lastly, I asked, "What are your genuine interests in improving our public schools?" With confidence Ms. Archuleta said, "I would truly love to see our schools become student-driven, with staff supporting our students to be the voice of our schools. I want our teachers to provide in-depth real teaching, not so much virtual, through electronics. Ultimately, to make Questa big news and bump up our schools to the top academically."

Go-Fight-Cheer Questa: Flamin' Blues Roar

By MARIA MEDINA,
CHEERLEADING COACH

For the past four years Questa Flamin' Blues (QFB) have been transforming the lives of youth in our community and they have been blowing us away with their desire to excel. This year our squad consists of 17 cheerleaders, ages 5-13. Originally, this squad came together to create an equal opportunity for all youth in the Village of Questa and surrounding areas. The goal was to be part of a team and to know the real meaning of camaraderie, dedication, and determination. Throughout our 10-month season, the cheerleaders are encouraged to dig deep with their hearts and minds to reach for excellence athletically, academically, and socially.

For over three years QFB have traveled to different parts of New Mexico for cheer competitions. QFB have placed in every competition we have competed in. Our team has done a fantastic job representing themselves, their families,



Photo Credit: Maria Medina

In alphabetical order by last name: Melissa Andrianos, Maria Bella Arguello, Analea Cisneros, Aubrey Cisneros, Ysidro Garcia, Annalia Buggy Martinez, Gracie Martinez, Olivia Martinez, Sophia Martinez, Ariana Medina, Joshlyn Medina, Marissa Ortiz, Sierra Ortiz, Aaliyah Piper, Adrienne Rael, Karla Trujillo, Saphira Woodruff

and the community of Questa and surrounding areas.

Our hope for each team member is that they take the skills they learn and go on to cheer at the high school and maybe even at the collegiate level! Just like any other sport it takes hard work, dedication, determination, and the support of their families and community. Thankfully, these things are in abundance with this amazing team.

So far this year, we have competed in two competitions, Spirit of Hope in Albuquerque and Demon Throwdown in Santa Fe. Our team placed first in both competitions. Questa Flamin' Blues love to perform for the community and our routines are sure to thrill with every back-flip and stunt.

Our next competition is the UNM Spirit Invitational in Albuquerque on March 7, 2020, where our cheerleaders take their talent and dedication onto the floor of The Pit. Stay tuned for our April issue to see what happens!

Alta Vista Science Fair A Smash Hit!



Photo by Feliz Ortega

Alta Vista Elementary and Intermediate School hosted their Science Fair on January 29.

By FELIZ ORTEGA

AVEIS would like to thank all students who worked hard on their Science Fair Projects, and thanks go to their families for their support. Pre-school through 3rd grade all did an amazing job with their classroom projects. A huge shoutout goes to the eight 6th-grade students who were selected to

attend The Northeastern Regional Science and Engineering Fair, hosted at New Mexico Highlands University in Las Vegas, NM. Our AVEIS students will showcase their science projects and abstracts at the fair to compete against other New Mexico students in a variety of science-related categories on March 7. We want to congratulate the following students for a job well done at The Alta

Vista Science Fair held in the School cafeteria on January 29, 2020.

We would also like to thank our judges who evaluated students on their creative ability, scientific thought, thoroughness, skill, clarity, and neatness of display.

6TH GRADE

Ernie Lopez (Education Coordinator for TSWCD), Carla Archuleta (QISD

Interim Superintendent) and Ms. Jaynell Trujillo (Teacher)

4TH AND 5TH GRADE

Tina Cisneros (QISD Retired teacher), Deborah Chavez (QISD Homeless Liaison), Isabelle Rael (QHS Senior Class President and Valedictorian), Christina Cisneros (QHS Senior) and Gabrielle Danis (QHS Senior)

ALTA VISTA ELEMENTARY & INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS

4TH GRADE

- 1st Prize —Ezekiel Henderson
- 2nd Prize—Hailey Rael
- 3rd Prize—Maliyah Dominguez

5TH GRADE

- 1st Prize —Jose Cisneros
- 2nd Prize —Jheart Roque
- 3rd Prize —Larry Roybal

6TH GRADE

- 1st Prize —Alyse Lovato
- 2nd Prize —Jocelyne Ortega
- 3rd Prize —Donny Santistevan Jr.

6TH GRADE

- Regional Winners
- Alyse Lovato
- Jocelyne Ortega
- Donny Santistevan Jr.
- Janae Dominguez
- Ariana Medina
- Joshlyn Medina
- Skye Hurtado
- Ricardo Leon Jr.
- Alternates
- Matthew Sanchez Jr.
- Luke Rael

Service-Learning: The Kids' Heart Challenge

The RED RIVER VALLEY CHARTER SCHOOL

The students of Red River Valley Charter School are engaged in the Kids' Heart Challenge. This service-learning project provides an opportunity for the students of RRVCS to raise money for kids with heart disease through the American Heart Association while simultaneously emphasizing the importance of physical activity. The students not only raise money for a good cause, but also have fun working together to create routines using jump ropes and basketballs. Students performed their

routines on Friday, February 14 at the Red River Conference Center. They started the service-learning event the week of February 3 and the presentation of their routines was February 14. The students were divided into two teams and the winning team gets to slime the principal, Kimberly Ritterhouse! The sliming will happen before spring break, most likely on March 26 when it warms up a bit. Ms. Ritterhouse says, "Yep, I am so excited about gooey ickiness all over me, and the kids are excited about the opportunity to slime me! Could someone bring me a shower cap?"

Roots and Wings Community School Accepting Applications

Roots and Wings Community School is now accepting lottery applications for the 2020-21 school year. You can come by and pick up an application or download one from our website, rootsandwingscommunityschool.org. Applications must be received no later than March 6 by 10 am. If you have any questions, you can call Veronica Garcia at (575) 586-2076 or email vgarcia@rwcs.org.

Long-time Questa Resident Retires from Montessori School

By LOU MCCALL

Some of our readers may remember when there was a Montessori School in El Rito. Mary Dwight Olson first began purchasing her property adjoining the Carson National Forest in 1977. She says, "In 1985, after a workshop in 'How to Build with Adobe,' my husband Mark and I began construction of a house. We had adobes delivered from the Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Council in Espanola and worked on the project for five years in the spring and summer. In 1990, after losing our California house

in a bad fire in the Santa Barbara foothills, we moved to El Rito and more or less finished the house over the following couple of years." Who would have imagined the house would become El Rito Montessori School ten years later?

Mary and her family began visiting Todos Santos, then a quiet town on the west coast of Baja California Sur, Mexico, over 20 years ago. A few years later she had the opportunity to step in and start a Montessori School there. The school was already a fixture in the bilingual educational community but wasn't yet officially a Montessori School. For

all these years, Mary has been spending the school year (about nine months) in Todos Santos and coming up to spend summers in El Rito.

Now her children are grown and live in Ojai, CA and Jackson Hole, WY. Both daughters, as well as four grandchildren, all attended Montessori schools – some as toddlers and some through junior high. And they still spend time in Todos Santos.

At age 76, Mary has decided to retire. This will be her last school year at Todos Santos Montessori School. The school has found not one, but two

people to step into her shoes. They have hired an administrative director to run the school and also a full-time teacher. There is a well worn footpath between Mary's house and the school! Not losing touch altogether, next year Mary will serve on the new Board of Directors as educational consultant and board member.

The next chapter in Mary's life is to spend more time in El Rito. She and her two dogs will be driving to New Mexico in late June or early July and we are looking forward to having her back in the neighborhood!

Dear Friends,

In 2000, after more than 20 years teaching at the Montessori Center School in Santa Barbara, I decided to retire and move full time to El Rito where my husband Mark and I had built a beautiful adobe house. Previously only able to spend vacations and summers there I was looking forward to experiencing Fall, Winter and Spring at 8500 feet. I was joined by my daughter, Jhala, her husband, Dave, who was taking flying lessons in Alamosa and keeping his plane at the Questa airport, and their son, Rowan.

Rowan was four years old and needed a school. So did several families in the neighborhood. It turned out that our house made a great school and El Rito Montessori was born. We started with seven wonderful students: Lucia, Luka, Djuna, Liam, Jackson Fin and Rowan. More parents braved the terrible road to my house with Tonali, Nyjah and Ishua, and the little school continued to grow over the next five years. Coming from sunny California I was completely unprepared for snowsuits, boots, hats and mittens on and off every time we went in and out for "playground" time. But we all had so much fun in the snow, and I think there was a lot more of it in those days. Making snowmen and sliding down the hill on toboggans and saucers, all the dressing and undressing was totally worth it.

Our Montessori curriculum was enriched with art projects, parent volunteers, music, games and lots of time outside in nature. During this time my family and I discovered Todos Santos, a small community on the west coast of Baja California Sur, well known in Taos as an art community, and everywhere else as a surfing destination. Born and raised in California, my daughter, Jhala, was an accomplished surfer, and I was attracted to the warm winters, so we bought some land there.

Serendipitously, the adjoining property housed a small local alternative school where Rowan was welcome on our occasional camping/surfing trips. In 2006 this little school asked me for help. I agreed to join them but had to postpone my arrival due to an unfortunate diagnosis of breast cancer. The year 2006 was filled with surgery, chemotherapy, radiation and more surgery. The school and its young students were excited and full of energy and life and that was the perfect antidote for me. My family, supportive school parents, and my neighboring friend and angel, Larry McConnell, got me through that challenging year.

In June, 2007, we closed the little school in El Rito. My daughter and her family moved to Wyoming and I turned my attention to Todos Santos Montessori where I have been involved for the past 13 years. Now I look forward to more time in El Rito, above and below 8500 feet, with my canine family– my two beloved Portuguese Water Dogs, Ondi and Bodhi. We will take long walks in the National Forest, watch the leaves turn yellow and gold in the Fall, and reconnect with Northern New Mexico friends. Life in Santa Barbara, El Rito and Todos Santos has all been great and brought me many wonderful experiences to be thankful for.

LIFE IS GOOD,
MARY DWIGHT OLSON



Photo by Lou McCall

Mary Dwight Olson, who ran El Rito Montessori (Closed in 2007) and Todos Santos Montessori in Mexico is retiring and looking forward to spending more time in El Rito.



Photo by Susan Teuton

Classroom in Todos Santos Montessori in Baja California Sur, Mexico.



MARGARET LEJUSTE

By DONNA MITCHELL-MONIAK

The components of a community are many, including people, environment, the post office, reputable businesses, beneficial education for children of all ages, and a library. The Questa Public Library is a prominent feature in the greater Questa community. Last month's tribute to Esther Garcia included her visionary handiwork in the creation of Questa's first public library in 2008.

As monumental as that was (and remains), the ongoing life stream of the Questa Public Library, – all of its outreach and programs and funding from the state of New Mexico for the extension underway – are due to the tireless effort of a cadre of volunteers. Sharon Nicholson, current director and Carolyn Anderson, previous director, the library staff, and the non-profit volunteer organization Friends of the Questa Public Library, have worked hard to keep the library going and growing.

As a representative of the many volunteers, Margaret Lejuste, former president of the Friends of the Library, was selected as this month's Volunteer of the Month. Last month's volunteer of the Month, Louise Gallegos nominated



Photo by Lou McCall

Margaret Lejuste helping out with Fun Friday on Valentine's Day at the Cisneros Youth & Family Center in Questa.

two different individuals, both of whom declined the nomination. Finally, Louise suggested we focus on the library, since it is a true inspiration and good model for what volunteers can do.

Margaret spoke with us about the vital role of the Questa Public Library to the Enchanted Circle and the function of Friends of the Questa Public Library.

Like many others who are involved

with libraries, Margaret "grew up loving libraries," was a regular user wherever she was living, and now uses the online features of Questa Library fully. When asked why she became engaged with Questa Library, she responded that it was small enough to feel that her efforts would make a difference, and new enough to be open to ideas from volunteers and those who frequented the library.

Many volunteers express similar thoughts. Someone volunteers because there is a need and one feels that one has something to offer (even if only time or muscle); maybe it will lighten the load of others or maybe it will make a difference in someone's life. For these reasons, the Friends of the Questa Public Library was created. In 2010, working with then library director Carolyn Anderson, the Friends established themselves as a volunteer organization whose mission is the support of the library in as many ways as possible. The group was awarded 501(c)(3) non-profit status in the same year. The Friends help staff the Fun Fridays program, assisting with ideas for these creative, interactive Friday afternoons. The organization seeks out and writes grant proposals through which to fund Library events, onsite and off, along with other fundraising efforts. The Friends of the Library has played a key role together with Judith Cuddihy and Esther Garcia in the processes begun in 2013 to evaluate and procure funding for the expansion of the library. Due to the efforts of many people, \$580,000 was

funded from the New Mexico Legislature for the extension and renovations of the Library. Those funds were awarded in Spring of 2019 and construction groundbreaking will begin in April. The new extension is scheduled to open in the Fall of this year.

To belong to the Friends of the Questa Public Library, it costs just \$10 for an annual membership. That money goes to support the needs of the Library, such as art supplies for Fun Fridays. Margaret enthusiastically said, "Yes, volunteers and new members are welcome!" She spoke about the functions that the Questa Library fulfills, such as free internet (used by townspeople of all ages), the Summer Reading program, Fun Fridays, plus the library's reference materials, full selection of books, DVDs, and its downloadable e-books.

"More support is needed," Margaret said. When the extension opens, the Library will need more staff, both volunteer and paid. As a volunteer, she echoed what everyone highlighted in the Volunteer of the Month articles has also said, "Volunteering is extremely rewarding. You do work that matters. It's done from the heart, and you have the feeling that what you are doing really does make a difference."

Questa Library is open from noon to 5 pm, Monday through Saturday. Please call them at (575) 586-2023 for information about the Library, volunteering through Friends of the Questa Public Library, or becoming a member. www.questalibrary.org



Robotic Workshop at Questa High

These 7th and 8th grade students at Questa Jr. Sr. High School are getting started building robots in a half-day Robotics Workshop. Students are in Mr. Bill Rasmussen's science classes and were aided by upperclassmen Josiah Mandonado and Mateo Medina. The goal of the workshop was to give students hands-on experience building and programming the robots.

Photo by Sara Martinez

How You Can Help the Questa Public Library Expansion

By MARGARET LEJUSTE,
FRIENDS OF THE QUESTA LIBRARY
AND QUESTA PUBLIC LIBRARY
ADVISORY BOARD

The year 2020 promises to be an exciting for the current and new patrons of the Questa Public Library. Plans for the library's extension are well underway. With groundbreaking planned for April, we anticipate a grand opening by October or November of this year. During con-

struction, the library will remain open and the library's programs and services, including Fun Fridays and the 2020 Summer Reading Program will continue.

With the new addition comes new challenges. The cost of construction is covered, thanks to the late Senator Carlos Cisneros and a capital allocation grant from 2019. There still remains the need for furnishings, a paved lighted parking lot, and much needed renovation of the existing building. We are seeking finan-

cial assistance from a variety of sources, including the citizens of Questa and surrounding communities.

The Questa Public Library is an integral part of the community, sponsoring children's story time and educational programs, annual summer reading programs, author visits, book club discussions, computer instruction, wireless internet access, and the Dropped Stitch group for local crafters. It provides a safe space for quiet study for students and

resources for local residents to explore employment opportunities. The Library's large collection of books and DVDs for adults and for children offers the latest in media.

No matter what one's ability to contribute, all residents and visitors to the northern Taos County area are encouraged to visit the Questa Public Library and take advantage of its offerings at no charge. Sign up for a library card and enrich your world!

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS, HOWEVER SMALL, WILL HELP. HERE ARE SOME IDEAS:

1. Join Friends of the Questa Public Library (FQPL), a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, for \$10 a year. Forms are available at the Questa Public Library
2. Do you shop with Amazon? AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support Friends of the Questa Public Library every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the FQPL. On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you need to select Friends of the Questa Public Library to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. They will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.
3. Smith's Grocery Store has a similar program. Use your loyalty card and go to the Inspiring Donations website to designate the Friends of the Questa Public Library as your designated charity. Smith's will apply 0.5% of your purchases to the FQPL, again at no additional cost to you. It's simple and highly effective, and all it takes is a few minutes of your time up front.



MARCH EVENTS AT QUESTA LIBRARY

MARCH 6 1-3 PM

**Library Fun Friday
Questa Youth Center**

It's time to replace the library mural of the universe! Monique will be helping us create the new mural. What's your favorite myth or legend – the Three Pigs, Cinderella? Let's make a BIG mural with all of our favorites! Come ready to add your ideas to our mural. All ages welcome

MARCH 11 1-3 PM

**Friends of the Questa Public Library Board
Questa Library**

Everyone is welcome to attend this meeting of dedicated library supporters. They are the people who make things happen for the library.

MARCH 19 10:30 AM-12 NOON

**Wildcat Kitty Club
Questa Library**

Join the Questa Wildcat Kitties for play, music activities, snacks, and a good time. Ages 0-3 are welcome to attend.

MARCH 20 1-3 PM

**Library Fun Friday
Questa Youth Center**

Ventriloquist Meghan Casey will visit Questa with her Rocky Mountain Puppets. Meghan performs all over the country and we are excited that she will be here with us. Aiden the Dinosaur and Lenny the Alien are two of twelve or so puppets who will accompany her. Meghan has something for everyone, adults and children alike. This is a special performance, so please come and bring your friends.

<https://rockymountainpuppets.com/>

MARCH 23 3-5 PM

**Questa Library Book Club
Rael's Market**

In March we will be reading award-winning books. There are many regional and genre-specific awards. It is not necessary for everyone to read a Pulitzer-prize book! Join us for a lively conversation.

**DROPPED STITCH MEETS AT THE LIBRARY
EVERY THURSDAY AFTERNOON FROM 2:30-5:00 PM.
JOIN US!**



Photo by E. Wilde

www.questalibrary.org

First Steps Connects With Wildcat Kitty Club

By CARLA VIGIL
AND KATHY THERIOT

Once a month at the Wildcats Kitty Club you can find the First Steps Home Visitors singing, reading books, or elbow deep in arts and crafts. Tucked into the little reading nook in the Children's Library at the Questa Public Library, the happy bunch of youngsters and their parents join in with the Story-Time activities. The First Steps program began this partnership with the Questa Library's Wildcat Kitty Club in October 2018 as an outreach opportunity focusing on early literacy. It was developed by Kathy Theriot and Carla Vigil, the Home Visitors at First Steps, and Sharon Nicholson from the Questa Library. The innovative idea was inspired by the Embudo Valley Library's Caterpillar Club, a high-quality, research-based, fun, interactive weekly program that has created a strong community of families and a rich learning environment for children. Questa Library wanted to see this happen in Questa.

The Home Visiting Team went to the drawing board. They developed age-appropriate curriculum focused on emotional intelligence and early literacy. Songs and crafts were carefully selected to enhance developmental skills like fine motor, problem-solving, and focus as well as making the activities fun for parents to get involved with. Research shows that strong bonds between parent/caregiver and child promote overall development, so all activities and songs



Photo by Questa Public Library

Once a month at the Wildcats Kitty Club you can find the First Steps Home Visitors singing, reading books or elbow deep in arts and crafts. Children from 0-3 years of age and parents are welcome!

were designed with this in mind. "I love hearing from parents or other agencies that our songs or crafts are being done

at home, or with friends at play groups; that the fun and joy we share together on Thursdays lasts long after," says

Kathy, one of the group's founders and a facilitator. "That's what it's really all about. Helping parents find fun ways to connect with their child."

Fall 2019 marked the one-year friendship and collaboration between the two programs, a big celebration for both agencies. Because of the strong attendance and engagement from families, the Questa Children's Library will continue to offer this program on a monthly basis. An excellent free activity, it is available to families with young children whether they come with parents, grandparents, or babysitters!

StoryTime is not just available in Questa. First Steps Home Visitors have continued their outreach to bring fun family connections and early literacy to other libraries in Taos County, including Taos Public Library and The S.P.O.T. in Peñasco. Jaci Imberger, First Steps Program Director beams, "First Steps is grateful for the warm welcome from our community partners. This collaboration has allowed us to reach families in Dixon, northern Rio Arriba County, Questa, and Taos communities. I'm glad for families to meet the home visitors in this way and learn more about our services."

The purpose of StoryTime is not just reading, it's about making connections with your child, with other parents, and with the community through song, fun, movement, and story. Come join us one Thursday a month at the Questa Library. This month we will meet on March 19 between 10:30 and noon.

HOW TO BE A POET *(to remind myself)*

By Wendell Berry

i

Make a place to sit down.
Sit down. Be quiet.
You must depend upon
affection, reading, knowledge,
skill—more of each
than you have—inspiration,
work, growing older, patience,
for patience joins time
to eternity. Any readers
who like your poems,
doubt their judgment.

ii

Breathe with unconditional breath
the unconditioned air.
Shun electric wire.
Communicate slowly. Live
a three-dimensional life;
stay away from screens.
Stay away from anything
that obscures the place it is in.
There are no unsacred places;
there are only sacred places
and desecrated places.

iii

Accept what comes from silence.
Make the best you can of it.
Of the little words that come
out of the silence, like prayers
prayed back to the one who prays,
make a poem that does not disturb
the silence from which it came.

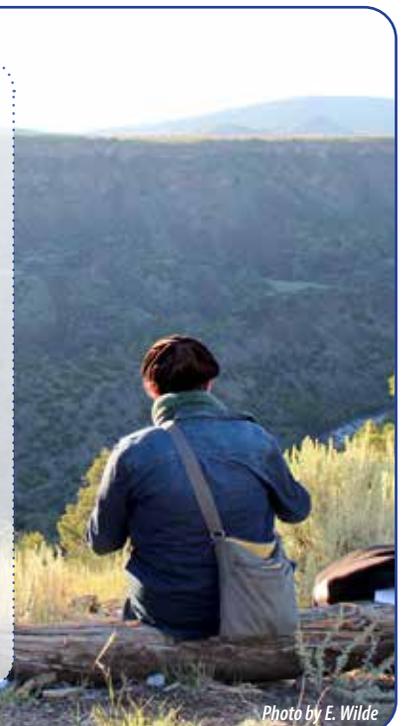


Photo by E. Wilde

Espere ver a un trabajador del Censo en su puerta

Por GILLIAN JOYCE

Los trabajadores del Censo estarán trabajando en el condado de Taos a partir del 12 de marzo. Todos los que usen un apartado postal para recibir su correo serán visitados por un trabajador del Censo que les entregará sus formularios e instrucciones para responderlos. En cualquier casa en la que no se responda al Censo por correo, teléfono o en línea se recibirá una nueva visita de un trabajador del Censo para asegurarse de que las cifras del Censo se acerquen lo más posible al conteo total.

Todos los trabajadores del Censo que se presenten en su puerta habrán

pasado con éxito una verificación de antecedentes federales y tendrán un documento de identificación del gobierno de los Estados Unidos, un distintivo que incluye su nombre, su fotografía, una marca de agua del Departamento de Comercio y la fecha de vencimiento. Los trabajadores del Censo nunca deben solicitar números de Seguro Social, números de tarjetas de crédito u otra información que permita la identificación personal. Cualquier persona con inquietudes acerca de si un trabajador del Censo que se presenta en su puerta realmente está con el Censo puede llamar al 1-800-923-8282.

El censo de 2020: por qué es importante

Por BRANDALE N. MILLS

En 2020, nuestra nación llevará a cabo el Censo, que sólo se hace una vez por década, con el objetivo de contar a todas las personas que viven en los Estados Unidos una vez, solo una vez, y en el lugar correcto. Todos importan y responder al Censo ayuda a las comunidades para obtener una parte justa de los fondos federales. Los datos del Censo guían la manera en que se distribuyen más de \$ 675 billones en fondos a los estados y las comunidades cada año. Los datos ayudan a las comunidades a crear empleos, proporcionar viviendas, prepararse para emergencias y construir escuelas, carreteras y hospitales. El Censo también ayuda a determinar cuántos escaños recibe un estado en el Congreso. Los gobiernos estatales y locales utilizan los datos para volver a trazar los límites de los distritos del Congreso, los distritos legislativos estatales y los distritos escolares, adaptándose a los cambios de población.

El Censo de 2020 es fácil, seguro e importante. Responder es más fácil que nunca, ya que por primera vez las personas pueden responder al Censo en línea. Contiene solo unas pocas preguntas y toma unos minutos responderlas. Sus respuestas son seguras, confidenciales y están protegidas por ley. Si responde en línea, sus respuestas quedan encriptadas para proteger su privacidad y están a salvo de la piratería informática y otras amenazas cibernéticas. Si no tienen acceso a Internet, las personas pueden responder por teléfono o por correo.

La Oficina del Censo está obligada por el Título 13 del Código de los Estados Unidos a mantener su información confidencial. Según el Título 13, la Oficina del Censo no puede divulgar ninguna

información identificable sobre usted, su hogar o su negocio, ni siquiera a las agencias policiales. La ley garantiza que sus datos privados estén protegidos y que sus respuestas no puedan ser utilizadas en su contra por ninguna agencia gubernamental o tribunal. Los empleados de la Oficina del Censo están juramentados de por vida para proteger la información personal y tenemos medidas de seguridad estrictas para salvaguardarnos contra las amenazas cibernéticas. De acuerdo con la ley, sus respuestas solo pueden usarse para producir estadísticas y la Oficina del Censo toma medidas extraordinarias para proteger la confidencialidad de sus respuestas.

La realización del Censo es una tarea enorme y requiere años de planificación con el apoyo de miles de personas. A medida que se acerca el Censo de 2020, nuestro éxito dependerá de la participación de todos en cada comunidad. La Oficina del Censo está contratando a cientos de miles de personas para ayudar a garantizar un recuento completo y preciso en los Estados Unidos y en todas las comunidades. Esté atento a los anuncios de estos trabajos a medida que estén disponibles en 2020census.gov/jobs. Los solicitantes de puestos temporales de campo y oficina pueden completar todo el proceso de solicitud en línea.

El alcance del Censo también consiste en construir relaciones en la comunidad donde se encuentran las Oficinas del Censo del Área. Durante los últimos meses, el Censo ha obtenido el apoyo de comunidades locales, gobiernos y distritos escolares de todo el estado.

Para obtener más información sobre el próximo Censo de 2020 y cómo usted puede participar, visite www.2020census.gov.

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Expect A Census Worker At Your Door

By GILLIAN JOYCE

Census workers will be on the ground in Taos County as early as Thursday, March 12. Everyone who relies on a post office box for their mail will be visited by a Census worker who will leave forms and instructions with you. Anyone who does not respond to the Census by mail, phone, or online will be visited again by a Census worker in order to ensure that counts are as complete as possible.

Authorized Census workers

knocking at your door will have passed a federal background check and will have a U.S. Government I.D. badge that includes their name, their photograph, a Department of Commerce watermark, and expiration date. Census workers should never ask for Social Security numbers, credit card numbers, or other identifying information from you. Anyone with concerns about whether a Census worker who shows up at their door is truly with the Census can call 1-800-923-8282.

D-497 (PO)

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United States
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The 2020 Census: Why It Matters

By BRANDELE N. MILLS

In 2020, our nation will conduct the once-a-decade Census with the goal of counting every person living in the United States once, only once, and in the right place. Everyone matters!

Responding to the Census helps communities obtain their fair share of federal funding. Census data guides show that more than \$675 billion in funding gets distributed to states and communities each year. The data and subsequent funding helps communities create jobs, provide housing, prepare for emergencies, and build infrastructure like schools, roads, and hospitals. The Census also helps determine how many seats a state receives in Congress. State and local governments use the data to correctly draw boundaries for Congressional districts, state legislative districts, and school districts, adapting to population shifts.

The 2020 Census is easy, safe, and important. Responding is easier than ever, since, for the first time, people can respond to the Census online. It asks just a few questions and takes only a few minutes. Your responses are safe, secure, confidential, and protected by law. If you respond online, your answers are encrypted to protect your privacy and are safe from hacking and other cyberthreats. Those without internet access can respond by phone or by mail.

The Census Bureau is bound by Title 13 of the US Code to keep your information confidential. Under Title 13, the Census Bureau cannot release

any identifiable information about you, your home, or your business, even to law enforcement agencies. The law ensures that your private data is protected and that your answers cannot be used against you by any government agency or court. Census Bureau employees are sworn for life to protect personal information. By law, your responses can only be used to produce statistics; the Census Bureau takes extraordinary steps to protect the confidentiality of your responses.

Conducting the Census is a massive undertaking and requires years of planning with the support of thousands of people. As the 2020 Census approaches, our success will rely on everyone's participation in every community.

In addition, the Census Bureau is hiring hundreds of thousands of people to help ensure a complete and accurate count across the US in every community. Watch for these jobs as they become available on 2020census.gov/jobs. People applying for temporary field and office positions can complete the entire application process online.

Census outreach also consists of building relationships in the community where Area Census Offices are located. For the past several months, the Census has garnered support from local communities, governments, and school districts throughout the state.

To obtain more information about the upcoming 2020 Census and how you can become involved, please visit www.2020census.gov.



Welcome Martha Shepp to *Questa Del Rio News*

Many of you know Martha Shepp as a talented pianist, artist, arts advocate, graphic designer, and a contributor to our newspaper. She is also a founding member of the Questa Creative Council. Martha came on board as our copy editor, and what a difference she has made! Many of our perfectionist readers may have noticed that we have very few typos these days. Sometimes, unfortunately, with late submissions we have skipped the copy editing phase due to the stress of our deadline. We pay for it, believe me! We have such a great team of professionals getting this paper out every month. Let's all give a hand to Martha for stepping in and joining us to volunteer with her skills.



ENCHANTED EATS

QUESTA VFW
FUNDRAISING BREAKFASTS
AND DINNERS

By ROBYN BLACK

The Questa VFW needs YOU — and your appetite! They are serving delicious breakfasts twice a month on Sundays and will soon be adding Friday or Saturday dinner, once or twice a month (price and dates to be determined) starting in March. They will continue to serve meals as fundraisers to meet their financial goals to renovate their commercial kitchen. After they have their beautiful new kitchen in place, they just might continue! Come to the VFW to support their mission and you can get a delicious meal and hang out with some of the nicest people in the Questa area.

On Sunday, February 9, huevos rancheros was on the menu, and please, believe me, you would be hard pressed to find any better fare anywhere else in the Enchanted Circle on a Sunday morning. The red chile was delicious! Each dish is cooked to perfection with your eggs any way you like them, coffee, juice, and dessert, for only \$8. Every breakfast menu will offer something different. On March 1, there will be pancakes, eggs, and ham. Breakfast will be served from 8 am until noon.

More important than the yum factor for your Sunday morning or weekend dinner, you will be supporting the VFW and their kitchen renovation project. The VFW received a grant and has purchased all new appliances. They are embarking on this fundraiser to pay for the construction costs. They will be tearing down a wall and making room for the new stove, fridge/freezer, steam table, and stainless steel tables. Hopefully our community will take full advantage of the delicious food offered and the camaraderie that comes with it!

The heart and soul of this fundraiser is Vicky Cisneros. Vicky came to Questa in 1966 and has been the president of the VFW since 1978. She also worked at the food pantry, is president of the Friendship Circle, and was named Volunteer of the Year in Taos in 2019. Vicky isn't alone in this; she has some serious help... Carolyn Gallegos,



Photos by Lou McCall

Questa VFW members serve up a great breakfast! From left to right, Maxine Ortega, Ruby Cisneros, Roxanne Ortega, Carolyn Gallegos, Vicki Cisneros, Irene Cisneros, and Cynthia Rael-Vigil. Not pictured are Martha Ortega and Maggie Mascarenas.

Irene Cisneros, Maxine Ortega, Ruby Cisneros, Martha Ortega, Roxanne Ortega, and Cynthia Rael. Without these women and their dedication, our VFW would not survive.

The one thing that is near and dear to Vicky's heart is the survival of the VFW. Would you like to join the VFW? They welcome new members. The VFW needs support from our community for our veterans and this center. They provide free lunch on Veteran's Day for our vets. The VFW also offers two scholarships a year and would appreciate the community rallying behind the VFW by attending these fundraising breakfasts and dinners.. Let's all get behind this and show our veterans we are proud of them and appreciate their service to our country. Without our veterans this country would be a different place, so thank you to all who have served and are serving now!

Would you like to make food items to sell? anything from bread to jam to salsa for the Questa Farmers Market or other venue? The VFW offers a fully certified commercial kitchen that is available to rent for \$35/hour. The hall can also be rented out for any occasion. If you are interested in renting the kitchen or the hall, please call Vicky at (575) 779-6929. Many celebrations have



Huevos rancheros with red chile, cheese, eggs, beans, and potatoes. Breakfast includes coffee, orange juice, and dessert!

happened there over the years including birthday and graduation parties, showers, and celebrations of life.

Please, let's rally for this fundraiser, get out there after church on Sunday (or even if you sleep in, remember they serve until noon!), take your sweetie to dinner at the VFW, or just get a bunch of friends together and make it a fun evening while doing something good

for our community! What's better than a fundraiser and fun? You never know who you may run into or what new friendships you might make. The food is delicious and as fresh if you cooked it yourself. The big upside: you don't have to do the work, just enjoy!

Keep an eye out for dates and times on our Calendar of Events. There will also be signs at the VFW.

Happenings at Harvest Questa

Happy belated second birthday to Questa Del Rio News! We love having our very own community newspaper that keeps us informed and inspired by all that happens in the region. It was last year that we were invited to participate in a planning committee that would result in a big first birthday celebration for Questa Del Rio News. During the meeting, Harvest Questa Church was given the idea to make Valentine's cards for our community's homebound senior citizens. We took the idea and ran with it. Our Harvest Kids enjoyed every ounce of energy that went into making cards and stuffing candy and chocolates into gift bags that potentially brought joy and delight to the recipients. This year, 40 Valentine's cards were made and delivered by Rosie Cisneros from Meals On Wheels. We heard that the receivers were ecstatic and so grateful.

Kid's Night Out took place on Valentine's Day and it was full of major fun! The kids were wildly enthusiastic and determined to beat each other at musical chairs and relay races that included using soap bubbles, streamers, cupcake frosting, and welcome mats... oh, the messes we made! The competition was great, but so was everything else. There were delicious strawberries dipped in awesome chocolate by Pastor Johnny Gonzales, fresh kernels popped the old-fashioned way and home-made cupcakes by both Sally Gonzales and Charlene Chavarria. There was pizza, candy, door prizes, competition winner prizes, and decorations! It was so much fun... we can't wait to do it again! We truly appreciate Kam and Dina Coleman and Tyra Blackbear who made sure the children were safe and entertained; Pastor Johnny and I couldn't have done it without you guys!

Harvest Singles had a fantastic time on their bowling and dinner venture on Valentine's Day. We love that most of our Harvest Singles were together on this day to celebrate God's love and their friendship with one another. It has been reported to me by an anonymous source that they laughed so hard their cheeks were sore. Life is better together.

If you are looking for a community of believers to do life with, then join us on Tuesday nights from 6:00 - 8:00 pm for our Life Group. We welcome everyone to study the Bible together and participate in group discussions that will ultimately create life-changing reflection.

Our Men's Breakfast will be on March 7 at 7 am at Harvest Questa. There was



Photos by Kristi Gonzales

Harvest Questa kids made forty goodie bags which included chocolates and Valentine's cards especially crafted for homebound senior citizens. They were delivered by Rosie Cisneros with Meals On Wheels.

quite an interest shown last month and we want to invite more men to come for fellowship and be encouraged by God's word, regardless of ethnicity, political party, religion, or denomination affiliation.

If you haven't heard yet, Harvest Questa has a group of young girls from 4-12 years old called "Questa Sparklers" who typically meet once a week to practice cheer and gather once a month to socialize and learn godly values. The group was founded by Dina Coleman and Dezirae Walker in September 2019 and students were offered enrollment in October. Contact Harvest Questa if anyone you know wants to be a Sparkler! You might have seen them fundraising at Cambalache and selling cookie dough. Since the start-up, Dina and Dezirae have been teaching this group of about 20 girls, with assistance from Sarah Mcelhinney-White, and more recently Valerie Anne Vigil. We look forward to their first performance at the Northern NM March Madness Basketball Tournament, led by the newly formed QISD PTA.

April is right around the corner, so we want to invite you to join us for a special Easter service on April 12 at 11 am, followed by a potluck.

Here is a heads-up: our Harvest Kids will be doing a couple of Free Car Washes in April to raise donations for Bible Camp happening in Ruidoso, NM. Kids Camp is May 26 - 29 and Youth Camp is June 8 - 12. If your child or teen is interested in attending, let me know ASAP. And of course, you're always welcome to join us at Harvest... you don't have to wait until Easter!

GOD BLESS YOU ALL. MUCH LOVE,
PASTOR KRISTI

HarvestQuesta.org 2558 Hwy522, Questa, NM
87556 kgonzales@harvestabq.org
Pastor Kristi (575) 770-5906



Photo by Kathy Gonzales

Questa High School Cheerleaders and Varsity All-Americans Jordyn Martinez, Jennalee Hernandez, and Danielle LaCome are all smiles in front of the Tower Bridge in London, England. They performed in the London New Year's Day Parade in January.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH-MARCH

During this month, we are all encouraged to honor the women who came before us and fought for equality among all races and genders.

The OTHER Serenity Prayer

GOD, grant me the serenity to stop beating myself up for not doing things perfectly, the courage to forgive myself because I am working on doing things better, and the wisdom to know you already love me just the way I am.

- Author Unknown, sent from Women Recover

E-Cigarette Use By Questa Area Youth



By MARIA GONZALEZS

Safer maybe, but that doesn't mean safe, which is a common misconception by both youth and adults alike. Vida Del Norte has chosen to target e-cigarette use because of the high rate of use among our youth. Below is the data that has driven this concern. We have the highest rate of e-cig use in Taos County. Vida Del Norte views e-cigs as a gateway to other substances, and therefore we are choosing to utilize target strategies to prevent its use.

"How can e-cigs be a gateway?" you ask? Every vape juice on the market has a small percentage of nicotine. Nicotine is a highly addictive substance that causes the brain and body to crave more, and over a period of time the body believes it needs the substance to function. This creates a behavioral change. If a child or adult opens the gateway to a habit that is detrimental to their health, once they cross that line, it is much easier to say yes to other harmful and more dangerous influences. That is the definition of a gateway drug and is especially concerning while working with our youth. The big e-cig companies have marketed and targeted our kids. This should be obvious with such vape juice flavors as bubble gum and other candy flavors.

Vida Del Norte is committed to address this epidemic that is taking our youth by storm and we are here to tell the big e-cig companies that they can't have our kids. Below is data that was collected in 2015 and 2017; it shows the impact e-cigs and other substances have on our youth. Please take some time to look over the data and read some of the facts below and be looking out for some

QUESTA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS CURRENT DRUG USE RATES

<u>CURRENT USE (past 30 days)</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2017 All Taos County High Schools</u>	<u>2017 State of New Mexico</u>
<u>At least one drink of alcohol</u>	43.4%	39.3%	<u>36.5%</u>	<u>27.5%</u>
<u>Binge drinking (boys: 5 or more drinks on a single occasion, girls: 4 or more)</u>	<u>36.0%</u>	<u>18.8%</u>	<u>15.0%</u>	<u>11.2%</u>
<u>Smoke cigarettes</u>	17.7%	14.4%	<u>14.8%</u>	<u>11.1%</u>
<u>E-cig use</u>	<u>74.0%</u>	<u>67.7%</u>	<u>53.8%</u>	<u>26.4%</u>
<u>Use marijuana</u>	45.8%	54.0%	<u>42.9%</u>	<u>27.9%</u>
<u>Use a prescription drug (OxyContin, Percocet, Vicodin, codeine, Adderall, Ritalin, or Xanax, etc.) not prescribed</u>	9.9%	16.3%	<u>13.4%</u>	<u>Not available?</u>
<u>Use painkiller to get high</u>	<u>8.1%</u>	<u>4.5%</u>	<u>6.8%</u>	<u>6.6%</u>

E-Cigarettes are a hot topic around the nation right now and Taos County is no exception. E-cigarette use among youth has increased at an alarming rate. Reasons for this explosion is in part due to the lack of understanding about e-cigarettes and a misconception that they are safe.

information coming on ways we look to combat this issue.

Here are some facts: Brought to us by our partners at Taos Alive

- Scientists are still learning about the long-term health effects of e-cigarettes.
- Some of the ingredients in e-cigarette aerosol could also be harmful to the lungs in the long-term. For example, some e-cigarette flavorings may be safe to eat but not to inhale because the gut can process more substances than the lungs.
- E-cigarette aerosol is NOT harmless "water vapor."

- The e-cigarette aerosol that users breathe from the device and exhale can contain harmful and potentially harmful substances, including:

- Nicotine
- Ultrafine particles that can be inhaled deep into the lungs
- Flavorings such as diacetyl, a chemical linked to serious lung disease
- Volatile organic compounds
- Cancer-causing chemicals
- Heavy metals such as nickel, tin, and lead

- Nicotine can harm the developing adolescent brain. The brain keeps

developing until about age 25.

- Using nicotine in adolescence can harm the parts of the brain that control attention, learning, mood, and impulse control.
- Each time a new memory is created or a new skill is learned, stronger connections – or synapses – are built between brain cells. Young people's brains build synapses faster than adult brains. Nicotine changes the way these synapses are formed.

Source: https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic_information/e-cigarettes/Quick-Facts-on-the-Risks-of-E-cigarettes-for-Kids-Teens-and-Young-Adults.html

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Land Grants Gather to Commemorate Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo; Honor the Late Esther García

By JACOBO BACA, PH. D.
UNM LAND GRANT
STUDIES PROGRAM

On February 2, 2020, land grants from across New Mexico gathered at the New Mexico State Capitol to commemorate the 172nd anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, signed on February 2, 1848 to end the Mexican American War. Land grants were protected under the Treaty, which guaranteed the property rights of the former Mexican citizens, many of which dated to the Spanish colonial era. These land claims, some by private individuals, and many held by whole communities, were examined for their legitimacy under an adjudication process that was tainted by the involvement of speculative attorneys. Despite more than a century of land speculation, partition lawsuits and tax seizures, more than three dozen land grants ranging from political subdivisions to livestock associations and permittees to associations of heirs, still exist throughout New Mexico and southern Colorado.

The annual commemoration of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo at the Roundhouse, called “Treaty Day,” has been taking place for more than a dozen years, when the now defunct Land Grant Forum organized the first celebration. The Forum’s successor organization, the New Mexico Land Grant-Merced Consejo, now puts on Treaty Day with the University of New Mexico’s Land Grant Studies Program and the New Mexico Land Grant Council, a state agency that



Photo by Jacobo Baca

Treaty Day at the New Mexico State Legislature, honoring Land Grants and celebrating the 172nd Anniversary of the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo. Lifetime Achievement awards were given to the late José María Perea III and the late Esther García from Questa. Pictured from left to right: Andrea Padilla (President, New Mexico Land Grant Consejo), Arturo Archuleta (staff, New Mexico Land Grant Council and UNM Land Grant Studies Program), Eugene García (Esther García's husband), Myra García (Esther García's daughter), Christine Rodríguez (Esther García's daughter), Juan Sanchez (Chairman, New Mexico Land Grant Council).

assists land grants with governance and technical assistance. State law recognizes Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo Day at the New Mexico State Legislature, where land grants gather every year during the legislative session to get important updates on state and federal legislation. Members of the State Legislature, particularly state senators and representatives that serve on the Legislative Interim Land Grant Committee, also deliver remarks, as do representatives from the Congressional delegation.

While the four land grant related bills introduced in the 2020 Legislative Session were not passed, land grants have nonetheless made strides in reforming or creating policies that benefit their communities. This includes laws that ended the adverse possession of com-

mon lands and the recognition of land grants as political subdivisions of the State of New Mexico, which makes these communities eligible for funding while increasing reporting requirements to the State. Over the next year, land grant communities will continue working with the Land Grant Interim Committee to create legislation that helps them meet their audit requirements and makes available technical assistance such as legal and surveyor services.

Treaty Day is also a day to honor the commitment of land grant leaders from across New Mexico. This year, the New Mexico Land Grant-Merced Consejo posthumously honored the late Esther García (1945-2020) of Questa, as well as Merced del Pueblo de Torreón President, the late José María Perea III (1974-2020),

with the Lifetime Service Award. Esther was crucial in the reorganization of the San Antonio del Río Colorado Land Grant, which lost all of its common lands when Congress took no action, despite recommendations by the Surveyor General of New Mexico (the first office in charge of adjudication) in 1874 and 1886. Esther served as president of the Board of Trustees and won the recognition of the San Antonio del Río Colorado Grant as a political subdivision of the State of New Mexico, which was not an easy task considering the Grant never received a federal patent. As president of the San Antonio del Río Colorado Land Grant, she was instrumental in protecting traditional uses, like grazing, firewood gathering and piñón picking, when the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument was designated in 2013. Esther García continued fighting for the community’s rights to access federally managed public lands that once constituted the common lands of the San Antonio del Río Colorado Grant. As president of the Grant, she cooperated on the revision of the resource management plans for the Bureau of Land Management and the Carson National Forest. Both Esther García’s and fellow posthumous awardee José María Perea’s commitment to their communities and to the statewide land grant movement demonstrate their commitment to preserve the land rights of their communities that were guaranteed by the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo nearly 175 years after it was signed.

Looking Back While Moving Forward:

The Past, Present, and Future of Land Grant-Mercedes

By JACOBO D. BACA, PH.D.

Land grant heirs are often accused of being stuck in the past, the forlorn descendants of a once great empire, clinging onto a land system that is both archaic and oppressive. Recently this stance has softened, and many critics have embraced *querencia* as a newfound quixotic connection to this exotic place. But *querencia* means more

than “a sense of place,” a concept that suggests connectivity, but consigns people to a contextual role, making whole peoples inactive and ineffective parts of an otherwise picturesque land. For land-based peoples, *querencia* is a communal self-definition that implies not only homeland, belonging, and identity, but also a deep, enduring respect for and stewardship of a place, of this land and its water. Like our Native brothers

and sisters, herederos have a reciprocal relationship to land and a duty to preserve it as a resource that we depend on, that roots our culture, and that carries on the wisdom of our ancestors.

Jacobo D. Baca
is from Peñasco, New Mexico, an heir to multiple land grants, including the Town of Tomé and the Santa Cruz de la Cañada, and was raised an *acequia parciante*.

Dr. Baca was raised on stories about his ancestors and their relationship to this land, inspiring him to study the history of land grants for more than two decades. He holds Bachelors, Masters, and Doctoral degrees in history from the University of New Mexico. He serves as the Research Historian for the UNM Land Grant Studies Program and New Mexico Land Grant Council and teaches for the Chicana & Chicano Studies Department at UNM.

ICE FISHING continued from page 1

with it, and if you stick with something, the more likely it is to work for you.

Perhaps more than other winter pursuits, ice fishing demands strict attention to safety. Dressing warmly is the first order of business, with adequate layers from head to toe, including a vapor barrier to keep the wind out. Winter

or summer, it's a rare day in Eagle Nest when the wind isn't blowing - so don't mess around.

Wear shoes with proven traction on ice, or better yet, ice cleats if you have them. Hopefully there's a coat of snow on the lake and traction won't be an issue, but keep in mind how quickly one can go from standing to horizontal on a slick frozen surface.

Most importantly, check conditions before you go. It is best to go fishing with a friend and let people know where you are going. Some folks, not including me, feel comfortable going out on four inches of ice. With things the way they are with the climate, I'd be concerned that there would be areas of thinner ice. Six inches of ice can apparently support a snowmobile, and eight can hold up a car.

In the event that you do tempt fate on thin ice, it's recommended to bring a rope (which implies a partner, also a good idea) and some ice spikes to enable the person who fell in to get out of the water. It goes without saying that if this happens to you, get back to the car fast and crank up the heater. Hopefully, you will have brought a dry change of clothes!

POSITIVE THOUGHTS from page 1

nourished in the world; 90 million being children under age five.

Mortality in children under five years old declined from 12.7 million in 1990 to almost 6 million in 2015. Children of mothers with secondary or higher education are almost three times as likely to survive as children of mothers with no education. Please support the empowerment of women and support education around the world.

The date of the Spring Equinox is March 19, marking equal light and dark hours. Until the Summer Solstice, the days will get longer, and nights will get shorter. May it be that we do the same within ourselves: increase the light and goodness we live from and bring into the world.

Lent is in full swing. Easter is on Sunday, April 11. Please contact your local church for Lenten events. Enjoy your family's favorite Lenten recipes. And remember March 13 is National Day of Unplugging, so try going a day without your cell phone, computer, or television -

you can do it!

Trees It is estimated that over 5 billion trees were planted in 2019 around the world. Trees and algae blooms in the ocean absorb more carbon from the atmosphere than any other mechanism, man-made or natural. This spring, plant trees in your yard or on your property. If you plant apple or other fruit trees and nuts, in a few years you can have fresh wonderful produce from the tree and you can share its bounty with animals. Planting trees is one of the best things you can do to help the environment. If you must chop down a tree, please consider planting two or three to make up for it.

Support the long-term growth and health of the tree with this planting method: dig the hole twice as wide and deep as the root ball. Collect ripped-up brown cardboard, toilet paper that you don't flush, and any small branches and leaves you can gather, and put it all under and around the root ball of the new baby tree. Water thoroughly, let it absorb into the poor-quality soil and the cardboard. Next sprinkle compost or a couple of day's-worth of vegetable kitchen scraps

on top of the mixture and water again. Now mix most of a big bag of coconut coir (fiber from the hull) with the soil that will go back into the hole. This will all help regenerate the soil so the baby tree will grow healthily, retain moisture, and break down the additions that you added. Coconut coir is available at the gardening center Earthgoods in Taos.

Before buying your baby tree, find out if it will grow well in this climatic zone and if it needs a partner for pollination. If it is a female tree, it would need a male tree, so get two. If you buy more than two of one type, get extra females. Then tend them lovingly. Some trees can't sustain themselves in desert and semi-desert environments, with intense sun and little rain, especially in the prolonged drought. The shade that trees offer and the moisture they produce are valuable beyond monetary measure. They create mini ecosystems around and under them. Trees provide habitat for wildlife and companion plants, patches of grass, and flowers underneath. Then the falling leaves, pine needles, and cones compost along with dead grass and flowers. If we plant and care for baby trees,

then desertification can be decreased, and its devastation often restored. Mother Nature knows how to renew herself, but she can't battle changing global weather plus human-produced hardship at the same time! My friends, your back or front yard can become an atmospheric carbon absorber, a bird and butterfly sanctuary, a place of beauty for you, and produce food with very little effort. Sounds good to me, how about you?

Clip this article and put it on the fridge for now. Start researching what trees you would like to plant. Talk to the people at Petree Nursery in Taos or to Farmer Daniel at Cerro Vista Farms or to the old-timers you know about what grows well here. Then in mid to late May, make it happen. One last thing: don't rake up fallen leaves, dead grass, and flowers. Let them compost where they lie and make rich soil, the way that Nature does. Resist the compulsion to rake or "clean up." Neat is fine, but let those fallen leaves be eaten by worms. Consider this practice when deciding where to place your baby trees.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR from page 3

Wendell is now 86, he does not own a computer, television, cell phone or answering machine. Tanya has typed over 40 books on the non-electric typewriter they purchased in 1957.

This month, on National Day of Unplugging or before, I invite you to read something by or about Wendell Berry. I highly recommend this article "A champion of the unplugged, earth-conscious life, Wendell Berry is still ahead of us" by Hope Reese.

<https://www.vox.com/the-high-light/2019/10/2/20862854>

Every month we try to publish at least one poem (remember to send us your poetry!). This month, I invite you to read "How to Be a Poet" By Wendell Berry on page 17. For any of our readers who have always wished to be a poet and didn't know how, well, wishes do come true! Now you can know how to be a poet and you can thank Wendell Berry and the Questa Del Rio News!

Happy Day of Unplugging to you, whether or not you participate,

LOU MCCALL

AND ALL THE FOLKS AT YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD PAPER

OSCAR RECAP from page 10

that racing cars is almost as noisy as making war, so maybe it doesn't make much difference. Giving the race car movie the Oscar for Film Editing might be because it deserves it, or it might be because of their bias against Netflix and its offering, *The Irishman*. I'm guessing *Bombshell* for Makeup and *Little Women* for Costumes was easy and the correct choice, but I have no explanation for why *Once Upon a Time in Hollywood* won over *1917* for Production Design. The Academy loves Tarantino, so that could be the answer.

I correctly predicted that *Toy Story*

4 would take the Animation Oscar, reflecting the strong pro-Disney/Pixar bias. I thought the Best Song Performance on Oscar night came from Cynthia Erivo (for *Harriet*), but the votes were in long before she sung her song. So, did they pick Elton John (*Rocketman*) because he's an old white guy? I have no idea. (Guessing the Short films is always just a guess, and I only got one of those right.)

Overall, it was a humbling exercise and all I can say is that we recognize that predicting what the Academy will do is not an easy task- they will do pretty much darn well what they want to do. The best we can do is try again next year. Stay tuned!

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ESOTERIC ASTROLOGY

SKYDANCE ESOTERIC ASTROLOGY by Charlene R. Johnson
MARCH 2020

PRECESSION OF THE EQUINOXES

"The most beautiful thing in the Universe is the mystery." –Albert Einstein

This month we celebrate one of our two equinoxes, the Vernal or Spring Equinox. In the northern hemisphere, it marks the end of winter and the beginning of spring (while it is the Autumnal Equinox in the southern hemisphere). This equinox also marks the end of our zodiacal calendar with the sign of Pisces, and the beginning of the next year, starting with Aries. It generally occurs on either March 19, 20, or 21. One of the purposes of a leap year is to keep us from slipping too far behind each year, so once every four years our date is earlier than the previous year to keep us from slipping a few hours behind. This year it occurs at 9:49 pm MST on March 19.

Due to the 23-degree tilt of the Earth and the fact that Earth is not perfectly round and therefore wobbles as it rotates, the north and south poles describe a great circle over a period of some 25,000 years. An equinox occurs when the Sun is directly overhead the equator and its rotational axis is neither away from nor toward the Sun. Because of this gradual shifting of the poles' direction (called an axial precession) this time of year is also called the Precession of the Equinoxes. This precession is one of the reasons why physical scientists (as opposed to metaphysical scientists) consider western astrology bunk. The point where the Sun crosses the celestial equator heading north is called the "First Point of Aries." However, this point is now in the constellation of Pisces rather than Aries. Our metaphysical scientists, however, insist that our astrological system still works because we have been vibrating to this idea of Aries and the Vernal Equinox for so long. Rather than refute what either side has to say, the partnership of the physical and metaphysical sciences could enable all kinds of new work. Energy follows thought.

Everyone: March 24 will be one of our best days to view Mercury low in the eastern sky just before sunrise, and Venus in the western sky after sunset.

ARIES ♈ Planet: Mercury ♀ MARCH 20 – APRIL 19

Dynamic: You dance from confusion to a moment of clarity and back again.

Direction: Enjoy the dance.

Soul Thought: Confusion can be the pause that refreshes.

TAURUS ♉ Planet: Vulcan ♁ APRIL 19 – MAY 20

Dynamic: It's a time for absolution.

Direction: Ponder upon what you need to be released from.

Soul Thought: It's internal.

GEMINI ♊ Planet: Venus ♀ MAY 20 – July 20

Dynamic: You have a choice between debating and singing.

Direction: There is no wrong answer.

Soul Thought: Music makes the world go 'round.

CANCER ♋ Planet: Neptune ♆ July 20 – JULY 22

Dynamic: Sometimes it's just fine to lay low and stay out of the fray.

Direction: Ask any crab.

Soul Thought: Or, be the Observer.

LEO ♌ Planet: Sun ☉ JULY 22 – AUG 22

Dynamic: It's a time for starting over.

Direction: Hopefully on a higher level than the last cycle.

Soul Thought: What is a spiral?

VIRGO ♍ Planet: Moon ☾ AUG 22 – SEPT 22

Dynamic: Two different groups capture your attention now.

Direction: Their energy can assist with your will to dive within.

Soul Thought: "When we use the word 'can't' we deny the Christ within." –Leonardo de Vinci

LIBRA ♎ Planet: Uranus ♁ SEPT 22 – OCT 22

Dynamic: This energy challenges your sense of balance and determination.

Direction: Sometimes we try extremes before getting to center.

Soul Thought: The Middle Way.

SCORPIO ♏ Planet: Mars ♂ OCT 22 – NOV 21

Dynamic: Two or more come together in an opportunity to work off karma.

Direction: Ponder, who are your karmic brothers and sisters?

Soul Thought: The Age of Brotherhood.

SAGITTARIUS ♐ Planet: Earth ♁ NOV 21 – DEC 20

Dynamic: You've done all the research, gathered all the data.

Direction: Now put it to use.

Soul Thought: "I am awake." –Buddha

CAPRICORN ♑ Planet: Saturn ♄ DEC 20 – JAN 19

Dynamic: Partnerships are challenged on the ground level.

Direction: Raise them to a higher level.

Soul Thought: "The vitality of opposition is where things are fresh and dynamic" –John O'Donahue

AQUARIUS ♒ Planet: Jupiter ♃ JAN 19 – FEB 18

Dynamic: Blessings abound while the attitude remains positive.

Direction: Look for the reasons to be positive.

Soul Thought: You are the "U" in the Universe.

PISCES ♓ Planet: Pluto ♇ FEB 18 – MAR 20

Dynamic: A tough start to the month might have you wallowing.

Direction: Put your feet down!

Soul Thought: When rocks seem to be everywhere, build foundations.

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

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

DATES TO REMEMBER

MARCH 2020

MARCH 1 8:00 AM- NOON

Breakfast at the Questa VFW

MARCH 2

World Book Day and Read Across America Day

MARCH 3

Village of Questa Elections

MARCH 3

World Wildlife Day

MARCH 3 3:30-5:30 PM

Questa Youth Center Art Room: Clay Studio

MARCH 4

National Grammar Day

MARCH 4

Hug a G.I. Day

MARCH 4 10:30-11:30 AM

Bookmobile in Lama at Roots & Wings Community School

MARCH 4 1:00-1:45 PM

Bookmobile at Questa Post Office

MARCH 6 1:00-3:00 PM

Questa Library Fun Friday Kid's Program

MARCH 6

Employee Appreciation Day

MARCH 7 7:00 AM

Men's Breakfast at Harvest Questa

MARCH 8

Daylight Savings Time begins (spring ahead an hour)

MARCH 8

International Women's Day

MARCH 9 5:30-6:30 PM

Free community yoga class at La Sala

MARCH 10 3:30-5:30 PM

Questa Youth Center Art Room: Clay Studio

MARCH 11

Small Business Development Center in Questa, schedule appt at 575-737-6219

MARCH 12

Girl Scout Day

MARCH 12 2:00-4:00 PM

Questa to Red River Trail Planning Meeting at Questa Youth Center

MARCH 13

National Day of Unplugging

MARCH 13

Good Samaritan Day

MARCH 13 1:00-3:00 PM

Questa Library Fun Friday Kid's Program

MARCH 13 11:00 AM-2:00 PM

Free Food at North Central NM Food Pantry!

MARCH 14 10:00 - 11:15 AM

Free Service Veterans Class at La Sala

MARCH 14 8:00 PM

Fundraisor for Michael & Lizzy Vigil at Old Martinez Hall, Taos: Time Machine Band playing

MARCH 17

St. Patrick's Day

MARCH 17 3:30-5:30 PM

Questa Youth Center Art Room: Printmaking

MARCH 19 10:30 – NOON

Wildcat Kitty Club Questa Public Library

MARCH 19

Vernal (Spring) Equinox

MARCH 20

International Day of Happiness

MARCH 21

World Poetry Day

MARCH 21

Common Courtesies Day

MARCH 22

World Water Day

MARCH 20 1:00-3:00 PM

Questa Library Fun Friday Kid's Program

MARCH 24 10:00 AM

Red River Chamber Board Meeting, RR Conference Center

MARCH 24 3:30-5:30 PM

Questa Youth Center Art Room: Printmaking

MARCH 24 6:00 PM

Questa Village Council Meeting, Village Hall

MARCH 24 6:00 PM

Questa School Board Meeting

MARCH 24 5:00 PM

Red River Town Council, RR Conference Center

MARCH 25

Tolkien Reading Day

MARCH 27 1:00-3:00 PM

Questa Library Fun Friday Kid's Program

MARCH 27 11:00 AM-2:00 PM

Free Food at North Central NM Food Pantry!

MARCH 27

Spanish Paella Day

MARCH 28 10:00 AM- 3:00 PM

Taos Women's Expo at El Monte Sagrado Resort & Spa

MARCH 29

Mom and Pop Business Owners' Day

MARCH 29

Vietnam War Veterans Day

MARCH 31 3:30-5:30 PM

Questa Youth Center: Lenten Foods

APRIL 3 10:00 AM

Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout Stocking Event. Meet at Wild Rivers Visitor Center to stock Rio Grande or Eagle Rock Lake to stock Red River

For a complete list of March events in Red River, go to <https://redriver.org/events/calendar/2020/03>

HELP WANTED

See Census Job announcement ad on this page

Store Manager. Questa Family Dollar is seeking a full-time store manager. Benefits include: Full Medical, Dental, and Vision Benefits, 401K Retirement Plan, Employee Stock Purchase Program. High school graduation or equivalent experience preferred. Experience in Retail Management preferred. Ability to work flexible, full-time schedule to include days, evenings, weekends, and holidays. Apply in person at Family Dollar in Questa.

Questa Independent Schools is seeking a Human Resources Director. Please see the school website for more details or call Kathy Gonzales at 575-586-0421.

Vermejo Park Ranch Sous Chef A Ted Turner Reserve Location is seeking an executive sous chef. Help to lead and guide the team in our top tier professional, clean kitchen. We take great pride in our work and the land that we protect. We use the best ingredients we can procure from local farms and suppliers and our on-site greenhouse. We are inspired by the seasons, the land and the culture of our domain. If you are looking for an employer who will nurture and maximize your talent and would like to cook outside two days a week over South American style Asado grills, this is the place for you. Contact Vermejo Ranch to apply. (877) 288-7637

Do You Have a Home Rehab Business? The Questa Lodging Project is compiling a list of Questa-area GB-98 contractors, roofers, landscapers, electricians, plumbers, and handymen and women to rehabilitate homes in Questa. If you own a business in the Questa area, have a Questa business license, and fall into one of these categories, please call to get in our directory so we can send home rehab customers to you! (575) 586-2258 (more details on page 4)

Housesitters: The Questa Lodging Project is compiling a list of housesitters. If you would like to be in the directory, please call so we can tell people about you! (575) 586-2149.

Housecleaners: The Questa Lodging Project is compiling a list of people who clean houses, especially for short-term and vacation rentals. If you would like to

be in the directory, please call so we can tell people about you! (575) 586-2258.

LAND FOR SALE.

35 gorgeous (not all flat) off-the-grid acres in Sunshine Valley. Reduced to \$25,000. Call (575) 770-3064.

FOR SALE

Nice Used Restaurant Equipment, 8 ft custom steel prep table 30" wide, steel tables and rolling rack, Berkel 14 qt. mixer, Market Forge steam sleeve and boiler 40 gallon, FAEMA due espresso machine and grinder, Kenmore fairly new freezer 61" L x 27-1/2" w x 34" h, 1- 3 ft x 30" steel prep table, 3- 4 ft. x 30" steel prep tables, Kenmore Elite freezer. Call 586-0064 or swcfox@icloud.com.

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

Mariachi Questa is still selling chile! They have red chile powder in medium and extra hot for \$7 a pound. Please spread the word! Ask any Mariachi Questa member or call 779-5601. Mariachi Questa thanks everyone for their continued support!

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.

NOTICES

Roots and Wings Community School is now accepting lottery applications for the 2020-21 school year. You can come by and pick up an application or download one from our website, rootsandwingscommunityschool.org. Applications must be received no later than March 6 at 10 am. If you have any questions, you can call Veronica Garcia at (575) 586-2076 or email vgarcia@rwcs.org.

Local Artists - Get Creating! The 2020 Questa Studio Arts Tour is currently in the planning stages. It is scheduled for August 15-16. Look for the applications to be posted around town by April 1. We need your help! If you are interested in being on the planning committee, please email us at questacreativecouncil@gmail.com

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

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

Colcha Embroidery Group meets on the 3rd Wednesday of every month from 10 am to noon at the Costilla County Economic Development Conference Room, 401 South Church Place, San Luis, CO. For more information call Marcella Pacheco at (719) 672-4237.

Red River Ski Area is open and the Torchlight Parade and Fireworks will be every Saturday during ski season!

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Public Meeting on Agency Plan

EASTERN REGIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY
The Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 requires Northern Regional Housing Authority to prepare an Annual Plan covering the operations of the Public Housing and Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program.

Beginning February 24, 2020 a copy of the Annual Plan and the 5 Year Action Plan is available for public viewing at the Administrative Office of the Northern Regional Housing Authority at 525 Ranchitos Road, Unit 962, Taos, New Mexico, Grants Housing, 508 E. Santa Fe Avenue, Suite B, Grants, NM 87020

The public is welcome to view the Plan(s) and submit comments to the Northern Regional Housing Authority beginning February 24, 2020 through April 8, 2020. A public hearing will be held on April 9, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. at 525 Ranchitos Road, Unit 962, Taos, New Mexico to review public comments.

For information regarding the Annual plan or Five-Year Action Plan, please contact Irene Murillo at 575-622-0881 x 17 or at ra.irene@dfn.com.

(Legal No. 1, published on March 1, 2020

QUESTA HIGH SCHOOL : BASEBALL • SCHEDULE 2020					
Opponent	Date	Day	Games	Venue	Time
Antonito, CO	3/12	Thurs	2	Home	2:00/4:00 pm
Clayton	3/24	Tues	2	Home	2:00/4:00 pm
Logan	3/27	Fri	2	Away	3:00/5:00 pm
Peñasco	3/31	Tues	2	Home	3:00/5:00 pm
Mesa Vista	4/3	Fri	2	Home	2:00/4:00 pm
Sierra Grande	4/7	Tues	1	Home	3:00 PM
Centennial	4/9	Thurs	2	Home	2:00/4:00 pm
Peñasco	4/14	Tues	2	Away	3:00/5:00 pm
Cimarron	4/17	Fri	TBA		
Mora	4/20	Mon	2	Home	2:00/4:00 pm
Raton JV	4/23	Thurs	2	Away	3:00/5:00 pm
McCurdy	4/28	Tues	2	Home	3:00/5:00 pm
Mora	5/1	Fri	2	Away	2:00/4:00 pm

QUESTA HIGH TRACK & FIELD • SCHEDULE 2020				
Opponent	Date	Day	Venue	Time
Dulce	3/21	Sat	Away	10:00 AM
Cimarron	4/4	Sat	Away	10:00 AM
Questa Invite	4/11	Sat	Home	10:00 AM
Lobo Quad (Escalante)	4/18	Sat	Away	10:00 AM
Northern Rio Grande	4/25	Sat	Home	10:00 AM
Ram Relays (Cimarron)	4/27	Mon	Away	10:00 AM
District Meet	5/2	Sat	TBA	
State Track & Field	5/8-9	Fri-Sat	Albuquerque	

The New Mexico Census office is still hiring for temporary Census positions.

Do you want to make extra money by working for the 2020 Census? Census information is used to determine how much federal funding comes to our communities, our representation in Washington, and serves to support essential programs - from SNAP food subsidies to building roads. New Mexico lost millions of dollars because of under reporting during the 2010 Census. We can't afford to repeat this! Good citizens are needed to help us count their communities.

The 2020 Census offers:
Great pay - (\$16.80-18 for census takers)
Flexible hours - 20 - 40 hours a week, on an open schedule
Weekly pay - Direct deposit
Paid training - in Taos
8-week renewable contract

For more information interested candidates can apply at 2020census.gov/jobs. Candidates can apply now, and decide later when to start, but openings are being determined now.
Let me know if you need any information.
Thanks for helping us keep these jobs in Taos County!

Maria Pia Lima
Recruitment Assistant, Taos County
Albuquerque Area Census Office
Maria.pia.lima@2020census.gov

LIST IT IN THE CLASSIFIEDS! 575-586-2258 delriocoloradoads@gmail.com



CHURCH DIRECTORY

QUESTA

ST. ANTHONY DE PADUA CHURCH IN QUESTA

Father Andrew Ifele 586-0470
 Saturday 6:00 pm,
 Sunday 7:00 am in Spanish -11:00Am in English

MISSION CHURCHES:

Sagrado Corazon in Costillo - Sunday 9:00Am
 Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe in Cerro-
 2nd & 4th Saturdays 4:00 pm
 Santo Niño in Amalia- 1st & 3rd Saturdays 4:00

HARVEST QUESTA

Pastors Kristi & Johnny Gonzales
 2558 Hwy 522
 Sunday 11:00Am- 12:30Pm
 Phone 575-770-5906
 Visit us online: HarvestQuesta.org

LIVING WORD MINISTRIES

Pastors Peter and Gayle Martinez
 12 Llano Road
 Service: Sunday 10:30Am
 Nursery and Kids' Church at 10:30Am
 Wednesday Bible Study 7:00Pm
www.lwmsite.org
 586-1587

PATH OF LOVE

Teachings of Herman Rednick
 Sunday 7:30Am class and meditation
 586-1454, Hilece
 Sunday 10:00Am Alice Bailey Theosophy Study Group
 586-4641, Francis www.earthjourney.org

QUESTA CHURCH OF CHRIST

2 miles north of Questa on State Road 522
 We are excited to offer Bible Class at
 9:30Am on Sundays
 Followed by worship at 10:15Am
 We pray you will join us!

KAGYU MILA GURU SANGHA

Tibetan Buddhism
 Thursday at 4:00Pm Chenrezig
 Friday 8:00Am-Green Tara
gabrielle.herbertson@gmail.com
www.earthjourney.org
 586-1454 or 586-1038

ABUNDANT LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Sunday Service 10:30Am
 Potluck & Fellowship 3rd Sunday of the Month
 Highway 196, Amalia
 Pastors: Lorenzo & Arleen Lucero
 575-770-5716

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 8:15 am and 10:30Am
 Pastor Joe Phillips 754-2882

ST. EDWIN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

North End of Silver Bell Trail
 Saturday 6:00Pm
 (Confession prior to Mass or by appt.)
 Father Andrew Ifele 586-0470



AA MEETINGS

Sundays 10-11:00 am

Open Meeting
 Questa Youth Center

Mondays 7:00 pm

Harvest Questa
 2558 Highway 522

Tuesdays 7:00 pm

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

AA WORDS OF INSPIRATION for MARCH

Made a decision to turn our will
 and our lives over to the care of
 God as we understood Him.

QUESTA LODGING PROJECT CLASSIFIEDS

Call 586-2258 or e-mail Lodging@QuestaEDF.com

HOUSING WANTED

Single older female artist seeking a small place to live. No pets. Non-smoker. Has been living in Taos but landlord just sold house. Budget is \$500/mo.

FOR RENT

LARGE QUESTA HOME FOR RENT

3 bedroom, 2 bath 1350sf home for rent in Questa. Only \$900/month. Deposit \$900. Pets allowed with a pet deposit. Available March 1st. Twelve month lease.

LAMA LOFT

Unique lofted 1 bedroom 1 bath home in Lama, house sits on 3 acres and is only 5 years old. Perfect for a 1 person or a couple. There are many special features to this home. Rent is \$1250 per month, plus utilities.

STUDIO FOR RENT

1 bed, 1 bath studio style casita for rent just north of Questa on Highway 378. One pet is allowed. No smokers. Rent \$600 per month plus a \$250 deposit. Available March 5.

ROMERO'S RENTALS

Available Now. 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath apartment located just off of Highway 522 in Questa. \$550 per month utilities included, \$250 deposit required. No pets allowed.

EMBARGO TRAILER

Available now. Cute and tidy trailer with remodeled bathroom and upgraded kitchen. Ideal for a couple or individual. \$600 plus utilities, \$300 deposit. No pets, no smoking. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Long-term preferred.

ABRA APARTMENT

Available March 1st. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath apartment in a duplex. \$600 per month plus utilities. \$600 deposit. No pets, no smokers.

CUTE CABIN IN QUESTA

A fully updated one-bedroom, 1 bath historic cabin for rent starting March 1, 2020 for a 6-month lease or longer. New bathroom and kitchen, tile throughout. 600 sqft. Nestled near the woods but only one mile from downtown Questa. AWD needed for incline to driveway during snowy months. Asking \$600/mo. Perfect for an individual or a couple.

ROOM FOR RENT

1 Bedroom for rent. \$350 per month plus utilities Looking for an individual between 20-40 years old, males welcome, female preferred. No smokers, drug users, or partiers. Possibility of dogs allowed depending on the dog. No cats allowed.



TROUT RESTOCKING EVENT

FRIDAY, APRIL 3RD, 2020

FREE to All. Meet at 10 am at one of two locations:
 Wild Rivers Visitor Center to stock the Rio Grande
 Eagle Rock Lake to stock the Red River
 Bring a water bottle, lunch, and of course, your fishing rod.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY



KEITH D. JAMESON, D.D.S.
Questa Dental Center
 2451 Highway 522
 575-586-0259



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QUESTA CREATIVE COUNCIL



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 FB: Questa Creative Council
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QUESTACREATIVE.ORG

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* Billboard advertising space
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575.779.9456 Located across from the Questa VFW
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 Questa, NM 87556



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 32 Sagebrush Rd. (next to Questa High School)



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