

# GREEN FIRE TIMES

NEWS & VIEWS FROM THE SUSTAINABLE SOUTHWEST




*Santa Fe Conservation Trust*

**LAND, TRAILS, SKIES! ☀ CELEBRATION OF A LEGEND  
THE GALISTEO BASIN: AN UNHERALDED GEM  
LANDSCAPE RENEWAL THROUGH CONSERVATION**




*Santa Fe Conservation Trust*

photo by Seth Roffman



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GREEN FIRE TIMES provides useful information for community members, business people, students and visitors—anyone interested in discovering the wealth of opportunities and resources in the Southwest. In support of a more sustainable planet, topics covered range from green businesses, jobs, products, services, entrepreneurship, investing, design, building and energy—to native perspectives on history, arts & culture, ecotourism, education, sustainable agriculture, regional cuisine, water issues and the healing arts. To our publisher, a more sustainable planet also means maximizing environmental as well as personal health by minimizing consumption of meat and alcohol.

Green Fire Times is widely distributed throughout north-central New Mexico. Feedback, announcements, event listings, advertising and article submissions to be considered for publication are welcome.

# GREEN FIRE TIMES

NEWS & VIEWS FROM THE SUSTAINABLE SOUTHWEST

WINNER OF THE SUSTAINABLE SANTA FE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING EDUCATIONAL PROJECT

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Sandhill crane in New Mexico

© Billy Johnson

COVER: THE GALISTEO BASIN • PHOTO © BILLY JOHNSON

Green Fire Times is not to be confused with the *Green Fire Report*, an in-house quarterly publication of the New Mexico Environmental Law Center. The NMELC can be accessed online at: [www.nmelc.org](http://www.nmelc.org)



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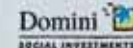
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# LAND, TRAILS, SKIES!

GEORGE STRICKLAND



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Northeast of Abiquiú in Río Arriba County, New Mexico

Change is inevitable. Whether you want it or not, it happens. Santa Fe now has a new courthouse, a Super Walmart and a train to Albuquerque, among other advances. However, for the most part, change seems to happen rather slowly in Santa Fe.

For those of us who love this area as it is, that's a good thing. There is something timeless and beautiful that happens when one is able to sweep one's eyes across the landscape and see the natural world as it was intended. In some cases, it happens effortlessly through benign neglect, but, in other situations, it requires a great deal of

*It requires a great deal of effort and organization to preserve something that we cherish.*

effort and organization to preserve something that we cherish. That is why, a little over 20 years ago, the Santa Fe Conservation Trust (SFCT or Trust) came to be.

## LAND CONSERVATION

Over the last couple of decades, the Trust has worked directly with landowners to help them enter into conservation easements (CEs) to permanently preserve more than 35,000 acres of land in northern New Mexico. The Trust currently holds

26 CEs in the Santa Fe foothills, preserving 445 critical acres around important landmarks such as Atalaya and Sun mountains, Sallie's Hill, Cerro Gordo and the Dale Ball Trail system. The Trust has also been very active in the Galisteo Basin, where it holds and monitors 28 CEs, preserving 7,438 acres of vital wildlife habitat and rich cultural resources.

The next time you drive to Las Vegas, New Mexico, look to your left and your right along Interstate 25 at the ranches, homesteads and meadows, little changed from the days when wagons traveled the Santa Fe Trail. The Trust

holds CEs on almost 20,000 acres of that landscape, ensuring that it will remain forever pristine. Similarly, the Trust has worked with local landowners to preserve the fish and wildlife habitat in the riparian areas and mesas along the Pecos and Los Piños rivers and around Abiquiú Lake.

## TRAILS

All this preservation is great stuff, but what if you want to strap on some boots and sweat a little in the backcountry?

## THE SANTA FE CONSERVATION TRUST

CHARLIE O'LEARY

The trail, long and narrow, winds its way around obstacles, skirts steep and exposed sections, reveals wonderful views of the surrounding landscape and gets my heart pumping. While I could be describing my favorite section of the Atalaya Trail, I'm actually describing my experience as the executive director at the Santa Fe Conservation Trust (SFCT).

Land is an important part of life in New Mexico, and conserving land is an issue that concerns us all. No other private, nonprofit organization in this community is as focused on conserving the open spaces in and around the city of Santa Fe and ensuring access to the natural world that lies just beyond our homes as SFCT. We are equally dedicated to conserving land in Santa Fe, Río Arriba and San Miguel counties.

We envision a northern New Mexico where diverse communities work together to create deeper connections between people and land, preserve our rich traditions and cultural heritages, and build mutual respect and friendship by better understanding and appreciating the land and the values we all share.

SFCT sees these places, not as commodities, but as vulnerable communities needing a voice. For 20 years we have been advocates for the protection of open space and iconic vistas, wildlife habitat, clean watersheds, productive lands, dark skies, recreational trails and trail users. We have done this by working in cooperation with many public agencies, nonprofits, and volunteers, financial supporters including foundations, conservation advocates and landowners—in fact all our conservation easements were voluntarily donated by private landowners.



Charlie O'Leary

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# THE SANTA FE CONSERVATION TRUST STORY

TOM McCAMPBELL

In 1993, when a handful of Santa Feans came together to form the Santa Fe Conservation Trust (SFCT or Trust), they knew little about conservation easements (CEs) nor a great deal about land trusts. What they did know was that, if they didn't act quickly, one of Santa Fe's most prominent natural landmarks, Atalaya Mountain, would be scarred by road cuts and ridge top homes.

These founding board members, which included William deBuys, Margaret Gray, Stewart Udall, Lesley Barclay and Rosemary Romero, were led by a feisty and energetic retired banker named Dale Ball. While the group may have lacked hands-on land-trust management experience, there was no lack of commitment and enthusiasm for the mission of conserving land around Santa Fe. They got busy rallying others, spreading the word and raising money. Thanks to grants from the McCune Charitable Foundation and other early supporters, the Trust began gaining momentum in its struggle to save Atalaya.

After 18 months, their hard work paid off. Fifty acres high on the west side of the mountain were permanently saved from development. The agreement included \$80,000 to help pay for the restoration of the road scar across the slope's western face.

The effort to save Atalaya produced a greater awareness of land conservation in Santa Fe. The fledgling SFCT soon engaged other landowners, and eight additional pieces of property were placed under CEs. Remarkably, by the summer of 1995, more than 5,600 acres of land had been protected by the Trust.

Over the past two decades, there have been many proud moments for the people of the Trust, our partners and our supporters: preserving the scenic vistas around Georgia O'Keeffe's Abiquiú home; creating the 1,350-acre Ortiz Mountain Preserve; saving the Garden of the Gods, a popular landmark along the Highway

14 scenic bypass; assuring public access to Sun Mountain, a favorite hiking destination; and preserving working lands on the Koldyke Ranch, a scenic 4,900-acre cattle ranch along the Las Vegas/I-25 scenic corridor.

Today SFCT holds more than 35,000 acres of preserved land in perpetual trust—most of that generously donated as CEs. Stewardship responsibility is in the hands of four staff members and the Trust's 16-member board of directors.

The Trust's successes haven't been limited to land-conservation projects. Since the early years, SFCT has been involved in efforts to ensure permanent access to the wild lands neighboring our homes and to build trails that connect people to nature.

The Dale Ball Trails in the Sangre de Cristo foothills, La Tierra Trails northwest of Santa Fe, the popular Santa Fe Rail Trail, and the new La Piedra Trail Connection off Hyde Park Road are examples of the Trust's vision and leadership.

*Over the past two decades,  
there have been many proud moments.*

Of course, none of these trails were built single-handedly. They are the result of broad stakeholder cooperation and collaboration, the financial support of many organizations and individuals, and thousands of hours of volunteer time and labor. These trails now provide an amazing variety of recreational opportunities for young and old. They are a positive contribution to the long-term health and well-being of our entire community.

The challenges the Trust will likely face in the next two decades are more complex than those encountered 20 years ago during the campaign to save Atalaya Mountain. Fortunately, experience has strengthened the organization, and it's much better equipped to meet the future.

SFCT is the first Santa Fe-based land-conservation organization to apply for accreditation by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent arm of the Land Trust Alliance of Washington, D.C. Accreditation is the mark



SFCT staff (front): Charlie O'Leary, Mary Pat Butler; (top): Melissa Houser, McAllister Yeomans

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Hiking along the Pecos River

© Billy Johnson

CONTINUED ON PAGE 35




*Terry*  
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# CONSERVATION EASEMENT 101

DAVID FLEISCHAKER

Many tools are used by land trusts and landowners to save land, but conservation easements (CE) are the most popular today. They preserve a land's conservation values by permanently retiring some or all of the development rights of the property. The protected conservation values might include wildlife habitat, open space, scenic views, recreational assets or agricultural use.

The term "conservation easement" is often misunderstood. CEs need not allow public access to your property. But every CE must provide a "significant public benefit" to qualify for potential tax benefits and the participation of a land-trust organization such as the Santa Fe Conservation Trust (SFCT) in its establishment.

*The term "conservation easement" is often misunderstood.*

As a landowner, you continue to own, use and manage your land, subject to the development limitations created by the easement. You may sell, lease, bequeath or mortgage the property like any other landowner. However, the property always remains subject to the CE created in the deed.



Historic Trinidad Romero barn on the Charles R Ranch, south of Las Vegas, New Mexico

The benefits to a landowner are many. Most take great pride in the land legacy they have created for future generations. They are relieved to know that the land they love will remain much as they know it under the careful stewardship of an organization such as the SFCT.

There are tax- and estate-planning benefits to consider. The fair market value of your property is usually diminished by the creation of the restrictions in the CE. When you donate the CE to a land trust, you may be entitled to a federal income tax deduction or state tax credit based on the land's reduced value. In addition, the creation of the CE may be a useful estate-planning tool because it reduces the taxable basis of the property in your estate.

The CE is created through a Deed of Conservation Easement, a legally binding agreement, which spells out the conditions that will govern the future use of your land. The SFCT will work as your partner and guide and will help you make informed decisions by explaining the process, the documentation requirements and the financial commitments that are part of the transaction. The SFCT, of course, urges landowners to seek the counsel of their financial planners and legal advisers when preparing a CE.



Since 1993, SFCT has written 77 CEs protecting over 35,000 acres of land in northern New Mexico. SFCT is the only Santa Fe-based land trust accredited by the national Land Trust Accreditation Commission. SFCT knows that each landowner is different and that each parcel of land is unique. The SFCT will work to craft an agreement that works for individuals and their families, the land and our community.

To learn more about conservation easements, contact Charlie O'Leary at the Santa Fe Conservation Trust, 505.989.7019 or [Charlie@sfct.org](mailto:Charlie@sfct.org).

*David Fleischaker is a board member with the Santa Fe Conservation Trust.*



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Well, the Trust works with the city and county of Santa Fe and the Trails Alliance of Santa Fe to make sure that you can do that also. That effort started in 1993 when Dale Ball, SFCT's founding executive director, worked with private landowners, government agencies and the U.S. Congress to secure the gateway to Atalaya Mountain and maintain access to the rugged trails that lead to its summit. The success and popularity of the Atalaya Trail galvanized a broader effort, which led to the creation and expansion of the current Dale Ball Trail system. To date, SFCT has quietly helped to create and maintain over 75 miles of public trails in and around Santa Fe, the most recent being La Piedra Trail linking the Dale Ball system to Little Tesuque canyon.

### DARK SKIES

Inevitably, when my family has visitors from New York, Los Angeles, or some other part of the planet, we all end up lying down in the driveway and looking up at the night sky. They can't believe all those stars are really there. Because we have fewer man-made lights than most

cities, we can look up to see many more stars against a truly dark sky. Rarely do I lie on my back in the driveway for more than a few minutes without spotting at least one shooting star or a satellite. SFCT supports dark skies by enforcing terms in CEs, limiting outdoor lighting, throwing educational "star parties," and supporting the New Mexico Night Sky Protection Act.

So, the next time you look up at the dark night sky, across the horizon at our lovely foothills or down at a rocky trail on your way up a mountain, think of the hard-working staff, board members and supporters of the Santa Fe Conservation Trust and ponder what our area would be like if they had not spent the last 20 years protecting, preserving and advocating for natural beauty and access to the backcountry. ☼



*George Strickland is a board member of the Santa Fe Conservation Trust.*



*Los Piños overlook. Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railway, north of Chama, New Mexico*

Our success has been possible due to the hard work and dedication of all of these people who have been committed to making our community a more livable place.

One reason why people choose to live in northern New Mexico is easy access to our neighboring public lands. "Wild land" experiences are often the cornerstones of people's mental, physical and spiritual health. SFCT's efforts to improve permanent access and build trails are connecting people to nature, creating new opportunities for recreation and advancing the health and well-being of the young and the old. In fact, outdoor recreation has become an economic driving force in many communities.

Access to healthy foods and clean water is an economic, health and social-justice issue in many parts of America, including the counties we serve in northern New Mexico. It is also a land-conservation issue.

As you can see, the work of SFCT follows a winding and varied pathway, with branches that reach out and touch all of us in one way or another. There is room for all of us to participate. We hope you will join us in our mission to save land for everyone, forever. ☼

*Charlie O'Leary is executive director of the Santa Fe Conservation Trust.*

photo by Billy Johnson

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# THE GLORIETA FREEDOM RANCH

## *Evolving from Conservation Easement to Land Stewardship*

BRAD AND KATHY HOLIAN

Eleven years ago, we purchased nearly 500 acres of an old ranching operation on Glorieta Mesa to save it for wildlife and recreational uses. Working with Santa Fe Conservation Trust, we put two contiguous parcels of land into conservation easements, limiting future development to one 5-acre site on each easement.



Brad Holian surveys a pond at the Glorieta Freedom Ranch

As we explored the land we had bought, we began to see that the piñon and juniper forest was heavily overgrown, crowding into stands of tall ponderosa pines and creating a dangerous “ladder fuels” habitat. Ladder fuels create a pathway for low-intensity ground fires to easily erupt into massive crown fires in the canopy. A catastrophic crown fire, fueled by the hot, dry winds of May and June, could blacken the mesa for decades to come. To prevent this nightmare, we began thinning the forest.

About the same time, we discovered that a poorly designed access road through the property was causing the erosion of the forest and grasslands along the roadway. Before we knew it, we had another project on our hands—repairing the damaged roadbed and improving the drainage, especially in the riparian area of Padre Springs Creek, which flows from its headwaters southwesterly across our land. In addition, the stock tanks along the creek, a critical wildlife water resource, needed attention and would silt up without routine maintenance.

As we learned more about the degraded condition of the grasslands, a result of the slow invasion of the piñon and juniper trees, and the hazardous environs in the overgrown stands of the forest, we realized that a more comprehensive, conservation-planning process was required.

We contracted with Jan-Willem Jansens of Ecotone to write a comprehensive 20-year forest-management plan. Beginning in 2013, in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, we undertook major waterway-restoration projects to rebuild the dams and spillways for three historic stock tanks in the drainage.

*A comprehensive, conservation-planning process was required.*

The riparian renovation was a true collaboration. Jan-Willem Jansens supervised the work, using designs from Steve Vrooman, Van Clothier and the Quivira Coalition. Mechanical help came from Gary Bates and his trusty Bobcat. Some 20 hardy volunteers from the Albuquerque Wildlife Federation contributed time and labor. We contributed financial resources for more than 90 tons of rock, pond liner and grass seed, as well as “sweat equity” to the projects.

The creation of one-rock dams, Zuni bowls, media lunas, and other structures have slowed water flow and enhanced the vegetation coverage of exposed soil.

Work on thinning, with a professional chain-saw crew and volunteer “swampers” to lop and scatter branches for soil-erosion control, will begin in late fall along the main access road, to complement the drainage structures that have already been installed. Thinning will be more aggressive within the first 50 feet on each side of the roadbed and graduated for 50 feet beyond that. The result will be a more defined firebreak, as well as allowing snow to melt on the road in winter.

As part of our long-term forest-restoration project, we have designated meadowlands as potential staging areas for firefighters in the event of wildfire. In fact, we welcome them! We have constructed an off-grid cabin, which has 10,000 gallons of water

dedicated to firefighting and will serve as headquarters for managing the land-restoration projects, as well as being a focal point for educational tours we want to offer.

The name “Glorieta Freedom Ranch” is meant to invoke the feeling of freedom from development and extractive energy grids. It does not imply the freedom to do anything one wishes with the land, nor is it freedom from a sense of responsibility for the land. We are proud to tell people that, at one time, we thought of ourselves as owners of the land; now, we understand that the land owns us—our hearts and souls. ☒

*Brad and Kathy Holian are land stewards in Santa Fe County. Kathy Holian is a Santa Fe County commissioner.*



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Stewart Udall by Pat Oliphant

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# THE GALISTEO BASIN

ADAM VINCENT



Santa Fe Conservation Trust



The Galisteo Basin

© Billy Johnson

The Galisteo Basin is one of New Mexico's unheralded gems. The 730 square miles that stretch south of Santa Fe are rich with beautiful landscapes and archaeological treasures. It was home to some of the earliest settlements in New Mexico and is a crucial zone for the state's wildlife. And it is under threat.

The basin's biological importance cannot be underestimated. It has a varied geography that includes grasslands, forests, mesas, rolling hills, rocky escarpments, streams, small lakes and wetlands. Because it is sparsely populated and has expansive open space, the basin serves as an extremely important wildlife corridor from the Sandía Mountains all the way up to the Sangre de Cristos. Pronghorn, cougar, mule deer, black bear, fox and more thrive there.

But the area has been under threat for centuries. The Spanish overgrazed the area with sheep and cattle as early as the 1600s, leading to erosion and loss of habitat. The railroad has divided vital flood plains, diverting water and further increasing erosion.

## *An unheralded gem full of sensitive ecological and archaeological sites*

In modern times, development is the biggest threat. According to a study by Earth Works Institute and the Santa Fe Conservation Trust (SFCT), development has mostly been concentrated at the perimeter of the watershed in sensitive high areas where drainage systems begin, triggering problems downstream. Additionally, increased development—and the subsequent roads, fences, paving and houses that come with it—fragment habitat, create barriers to migration and increase flooding and erosion.

But organizations like the SFCT and Commonweal Conservancy are working hard to protect the basin and preserve its status as a cultural and natural wonder in perpetuity.

SFCT has worked tirelessly to obtain 28 conservation easements in the basin. Many of these are on private land and protect sensitive ecological and archaeological sites.

The Galisteo Basin Preserve has opened up thousands of acres to the public with an innovative development that promotes responsible residential building. The preserve will protect approximately 13,000 acres, have 50 miles of trails and restore habitat when the project is completed. "This is a keystone project in the Galisteo Basin," said SFCT Director Charlie O'Leary. "It protects key wildlife habitat and is a wonderful recreation resource for people."

The Galisteo Basin is not only a biological treasure; its archaeological significance is massive, as well. The area was settled by Paleo Indian people around 7500 to 6000 B.C.E.

By 1500 B.C.E., these people had transitioned from a hunter-gatherer lifestyle to more of a farming-based existence, moving seasonally to take advantage of all nature had to offer. While the region was sparsely populated until this time, it was a trade route for turquoise, lead and other minerals that came from the area, especially the Cerrillos hills.

During a massive drought from 1100 to 1300 A.D. many Anasazi relocated to the area, establishing the modern Pueblo cultures. The largest settlement, which could have had as many as 1,000 residents, was on the present-day San Cristóbal Ranch, about 12 miles south of the Galisteo Basin Preserve. The ranch has had five different pueblos in its history: San Cristóbal, Pueblo Largo, Pueblo Colorado, Pueblo Shè and Colina Verde. The basin was also home to at least three other pueblos in the Pre-Colonial Period. At their peaks, the total population could have been as high as 15,000. But the heyday of these Pueblo societies did not last long. By the 1400s, they were under constant attack from Apache and Navajo tribes, and soon the Spanish would come in search of gold. The harsh rule and disease they brought decimated the local populations.

It didn't take long for the Spanish to start ranching the land with sheep and cattle and mining for silver in Cerrillos. By the 1820s, the Santa Fe Trail was opened, and gold was found in the Ortiz Mountains.

With the conclusion of the Mexican-American War in 1848, Mexico lost massive amounts of territory. New Mexico became a U.S. territory, and Anglos began settling the area. The railroad came to the Galisteo Basin in 1880 with the establishment of Lamy, which boomed for 50 years. Cerrillos and Madrid were thriving mining towns during this time, too.

Several organizations and agencies are currently working to preserve and restore this invaluable area:

- The Galisteo Basin Sites Protection Act Committee is working on the hundreds of critical archaeological sites.
- Santa Fe Conservation Trust works with landowners to create conservation easements in the basin and northern New Mexico.
- Commonweal Conservancy is working on the 13,000-acre conservation development in the Galisteo Basin Preserve.
- The Bureau of Land Management is a major, federal land manager in the basin.
- Santa Fe County is a major county land manager in the basin.

Additionally, there are groups working to protect resources like La Bajada Mesa from mining, protect Lamy from becoming a major oil depot, and opposing a gold-mining permit in the Ortiz Mountains. ❖

*Adam Vincent is a writer, editor, cyclist and family man based in Santa Fe.*




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# COMMONWEAL CONSERVANCY

## *Developing Outdoor Amphitheater and Galisteo Basin Preserve Trails*

GRETCHEN GROGAN

**C**OMMONWEAL CONSERVANCY, a nonprofit community-development and conservation organization, recently received \$65,000 in grants for construction of a new gathering spot and for development of five miles of trails in the Galisteo Basin Preserve. The preserve is Commonweal's 13,000-acre project located in Santa Fe County's Galisteo Basin, an ecological region celebrated for its historic cultures, scenery and wildlife.

*Thousands of hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians enjoy the preserve's trails each year.*

In June, PNM Resources Foundation announced that Commonweal would receive a \$50,000 Power-Up Grant, one of four awarded to New Mexico nonprofit organizations in 2014. The foundation describes the initiative as an investment in the communities PNM serves across the state.

PNM's grant to Commonweal will support the construction of a 60-seat, multi-use outdoor amphitheater that will become a new venue for a wide variety of events that Commonweal sponsors at the preserve, including guided hikes, mountain bike rides, star parties, public lectures, performances and fireside story-telling evenings. The amphitheater's proximity to a proposed memorial landscape/green cemetery will facilitate memorial services and life celebrations. Commonweal will also rent the facility for weddings, birthday and anniversary parties and other events.

On May 20, REI announced a gift of \$15,000 to Commonweal to support the development of five miles of publicly accessible trails. The preserve's existing trail network includes more than 22 miles of hiking, cycling and equestrian trails. According to recent surveys, thousands of hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians enjoy the preserve's trails each year. Commonweal has built and maintained the trail system with help from the Friends of the Preserve and other volunteers, along with assistance from the Santa Fe Conservation Trust, the Trails Alliance of Santa Fe and the Santa Fe Fat Tire Society. Over the past two years, REI has contributed \$10,000 to Commonweal to facilitate construction of seven miles of trails within the 13,000-acre preserve. An additional 25 miles of trails are planned for construction during the next five years.

On Sept. 27, REI and Commonweal will co-sponsor a volunteer trail-building workshop at the preserve to correspond with National Public Lands Day. Volunteers will receive a free t-shirt and will be registered in a drawing for other giveaways. Commonweal will sponsor a second volunteer trail-building workshop on Oct. 12. For more information about the trail-building events, contact Commonweal at 505.982.0071. ☒

*Gretchen Grogan is project manager with Commonweal Conservancy.*

## THORNTON RANCH OPEN SPACE

CLAUDIA MEYER HORN

**I**n the heart of the stunning Galisteo Basin, a 1,920-acre section of open space is in the process of being master-planned for educational and recreational uses. As the largest, contiguous open space currently owned by Santa Fe County, the Thornton Ranch Open Space property near the village of Galisteo is known for its quintessential high-desert landscape, breathtaking long vistas, wildlife habitat and cultural resources.

*The largest contiguous open space currently owned by Santa Fe County*

Land-conservation efforts in the late 1990s and early 2000s led to the purchase of the land by Santa Fe County and designated as open space. It was approved by voters and purchased with open-space bond monies. A concern over increased development in the Galisteo Basin and its impact on this unique cultural landscape—with loss of open space and wildlife habitat—and preservation of cultural resources drove this effort. The Galisteo Basin Archaeological Resource Protection Act, which became law in 2004, designated 24 significant sites within the Galisteo Basin in the National Register of Historic Places as federally protected sites. One of these sites, Petroglyph Hill, a

particularly important archaeological site, lies within the Thornton Ranch Open Space property.

Santa Fe County staff conduct periodic guided tours with a limited number of people to Petroglyph Hill and other sites on the property. Overwhelming interest to visit this resource has resulted in tours filling up quickly and underscores the need to identify a management plan and master plan for the property for public access.

In 2005, a Draft Management Plan Report was prepared by Design Workshop

with public and agency input to document desired uses, outline potential levels of access and recommend management scenarios.

Efforts are underway to inventory existing site conditions and cultural resources and generate a master plan for the property.

The master plan will outline access for cultural, educational and recreational



© Kirt Kempler

*Horned lizard at the Galisteo Basin*

use while balancing the preservation and protection of significant resources. A team of archaeologists from Parametrix is conducting the cultural-resource inventory of the property while the planning team (design office, with the Santa Fe Conservation Trust, Ecotone and AOS Architects) will be preparing a master plan for the site. Together, a well-considered master plan and a management plan will permit access for cultural, educational and recreational purposes while addressing site-security issues, erosion control, resource conservation and stewardship. ☒

*Claudia Meyer Horn is a landscape architect and founder of design office, a small multidisciplinary landscape and planning practice based in Santa Fe, New Mexico. chorn@do-designoffice.com*



*Petroglyphs in the Galisteo Basin*

© Seth Roffman



# CELEBRATION OF A LEGEND

## *The Annual Stewart Udall Legacy Dinner*

MARY PAT BUTLER

*"The community of the West and the broader collective human heart are better because of the life that Stewart Udall has lived." -Robert Redford, 2002*

Few people can claim to have one dinner named in their honor, let alone having it become an annual event. But that's just what happened when, in 2002, the Santa Fe Conservation Trust (SFCT or Trust) decided that a special dinner would be a fitting tribute to a man who had provided so much inspiration and leadership to the organization as one of the original board members.

Referring to Stewart Udall, author Bill deBuys so eloquently remarked, "Imagine a hero who brings Wallace Stegner to Interior and Robert Frost to the White House, a hero who bans dams from Grand Canyon and protects the seacoasts, rivers and wild places of the nation with an inventiveness we may never see again, a hero who fights for the otherwise powerless families of Navajo miners for

more than 20 years—and wins! Actually, such a hero is not hard to imagine, for he is in our midst: Stewart Udall, whose friendship blesses and inspires all who know him."

The evening was filled with warmth, respect and affection for a man who meant so much to so many people. Tom Udall assumed the role of master of ceremonies, and Robert Redford served as honorary chair of the event. On a night to remember, Stewart was truly touched by the friends and colleagues who had gathered at La Fonda in his name and elected him to the newly created position of Director Emeritus of the Santa Fe Conservation Trust.

Admittedly, that first gathering was a hard act to follow and, while the SFCT board was inspired to create the Stewart Udall Environmental Award, in preliminary discussions by the board there had been no definitive expectation that this would become an annual event. But in each subsequent year, the SFCT has used this special dinner to honor an individual—or individuals—who embody Stewart Udall's breadth of spirit and strength of integrity in the conservation arena. Craig Barnes, a founding member of the SFCT and co-chair of the first event, describes the award as follows: "The Stewart Udall Environmental Award is given to honor those values, that work, or that person or

persons who inspire us to love the land, care for it, preserve its sweep and heal its wounds. In honoring Stewart, we seek to encourage every man and woman, every modest friend, to rise to the peaks, to never give up, nor ever lose touch with the black earth, the trails between towns, the web of community and the land."

Having moved in 2004 to the picturesque courtyard of the National Parks Service building, the event has continued to draw a capacity crowd of civic and corporate leaders, avid conservationists and outdoor enthusiasts. Each year has been used as a forum to celebrate the SFCT's many achievements and milestones: having a hand in saving both Atlatya Mountain and Sun Mountain from development, creation of the Rail Trail with Santa Fe County, holding the conservation easements for the Galisteo Basin Preserve and spearheading the first countywide trails map for public use, to name a few.

Over the years, the Trust has taken the opportunity to recognize both national and local leaders in the conservation movement. Following the inaugural year, the Trust chose to acknowledge Jean Hocker, a pioneer in the land-trust movement. As president of the Land Trust Alliance from 1987 to 2002, Hocker championed the growth of land trusts nationally from 600 to more than 1,200 organizations.

Other honorees over the years have ranged from national figures to local luminaries, including Mark Michel, founder and president of The Archaeological Conservancy; Dale and Sylvia Ball; Bill Cowles; Sallie Wagner, who conserved a vital piece of Santa Fe landscape behind Santa Fe Prep, affectionately known now as "Sallie's Hill"; Nancy Wirth, a passionate advocate for conservation and historic preservation in and around Santa Fe; author Bill deBuys, known for his long-time interest in the environment in and around the Southwest, and founding chairman of the Valles



N. Scott Momaday, 2013



Scott Bol of the Wildlife Center with bald eagle

Caldera Trust; aural historian and long-time Stewart Udall friend, Jack Loeffler; Janie Bingham, the force behind the opening of the Rail Trail and champion of a host of other SFCT projects; and Rina Swentzell, writer and lecturer on the philosophical and cultural basis of the Pueblo world. Last year the Trust honored Pulitzer prize-winning author, lecturer and Native American artist, N. Scott Momaday.

As the SFCT celebrates its 20<sup>th</sup> year of successful land conservation throughout northern New Mexico, this year's Stewart Udall Legacy dinner celebrates the Trust's roots and honors those current and past board members who have been instrumental to the continued success of SFCT and its program: Leslie Barclay, founding member of SFCT; Colin Waldon, whose work led to the preservation of Sallie's Hill; Margaret Alexander and Bill Johnson, the backbone of SFCT's public trails program; and Terry Smith, creator of SFCT's Dark Skies program.

Join the Santa Fe Conservation Trust on Sept. 14, 2014, under a canopy of stars at the historic National Parks Service building, as we continue to honor Stewart Udall's legacy. For information or tickets, call 505.989.7019 or visit [www.sfct.org](http://www.sfct.org).

Mary Pat Butler is executive assistant at the Santa Fe Conservation Trust.



Jack Loeffler (top), 2011. Annual Stewart Udall Environmental Award Dinner at the National Parks Service building in Santa Fe



# STEWART UDALL AND THE LAND

*Excerpted from an interview with the former Secretary of the Interior conducted by Jack Loeffler on Oct. 12, 2004*

**JL: A place to start would be before the beginning: your family, going back as far as you can remember.**

SU: That's a good place to begin. I have said—I never quite defined it in my mind—that I thought I was fortunate because, in a sense, I was born on the frontier or at least on the last edge of the frontier in this little community. I think it has given me in my life a very wide range of experience. The community is St. Johns, Ariz., settled by my grandfather when he was a young man. My father was born there. I was born there. I was a child in that small community. I was a teenager. I rarely left, and this is really the best place to grow up, I believe, for a child, in the small community where everybody knows everybody else. The most important thing, though, in terms of my upbringing, other than my parents and the devotion that they gave to their children, was the fact that you learned to live that kind of frontier lifestyle. I was a Depression kid as a teenager. The Depression had such a small impact on half the people in the country—the people who were living on farms and ranches and small towns and middle-size towns, you know, 30-, 40-, 50,000 people, particularly if you were living in the country and your family was producing a lot of its food. What's more basic than that? You're

almost back to the Old Testament in some ways.

In fact, my environment socially was a Mormon community, where the people had lived in that community 40 years. People were accustomed to working together, as you have to do in a small community, of putting the community first. That's a theme, Jack, in my last book, as you know—*The Forgotten Pioneers*. I went back into my life to sort of form the framework of that.

*“That experience of community helped me instinctively understand people and treat people in a respectful way.”*

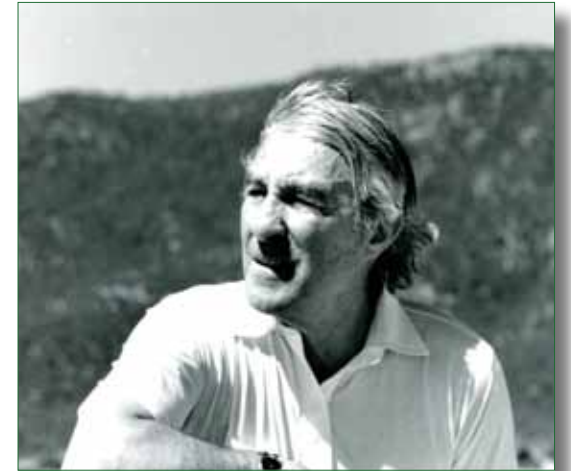
**JL: Could you talk a bit about how your grandfather, your grandparents, any recollections you might have, getting to St. Johns in the first place?**

SU: My grandparents were all Mormon pioneers, and they were sent south by Brigham Young. It was pretty tough country in southern Utah in the 1850s, 1860s and later. Juanita Brooks, who wrote that wonderful book about the Mountain Meadow Massacre and about my great-grandfather John B. Lee, she said it was kind of a Siberia. I think I

know what she meant because once the Mormons got started in Salt Lake City, they had a theater, they were strong on music, they had all kinds of cultural things that began to develop and were encouraged. Brigham Young and the Mormons had a devotion to culture, to music and other things.

These people that were sent south, you're going out on the edge of the frontier and you've got to start settlement. You've got to learn how to build a house from scratch. And they're living and working with horses. That's where my life overlapped with those people because as a young kid my father had about a 60-80 acre farm. We raised alfalfa. That was the one money crop. We could sell hay to dairies in Winslow, Gallup and other places. So I grew up working with horses and riding horses. I was even a little cowboy when I was 11, 12 years old, back in the Depression days. My dad had a part interest in a ranch, and I'd go out there for a month or six weeks and live with cowboys. So I had these kinds of basic experiences, which are inevitably transmitted into values.

**JL: When you were a boy and you were working on the farm, could you give a sense of what your daily chores might be? I know that**



**chores are a big thing for people who live on ranches and farms.**

SU: Well, chores, even in a community like St. Johns, you know, everybody had something to do. That made your ties with your family very important. I, as the oldest boy—you were the one that milked the cow. You raised pigs. You had to feed the pigs. You had to take care of the animals, and you were the gardener. You had the experience of planting a garden and picking the tomatoes and corn and everything.

And that was, I think, a wonderful experience. I'm thinking of an essay, Jack, and one of the things I'd like to say is that I wonder with all of this population growth in the world, with all of this inrush to cities, because in that process you're cutting people off from the land, and whether that isn't a great historic mistake. I may, if I have

CONTINUED ON PAGE 35

DeVito & Desmond and Kevin Bobolsky

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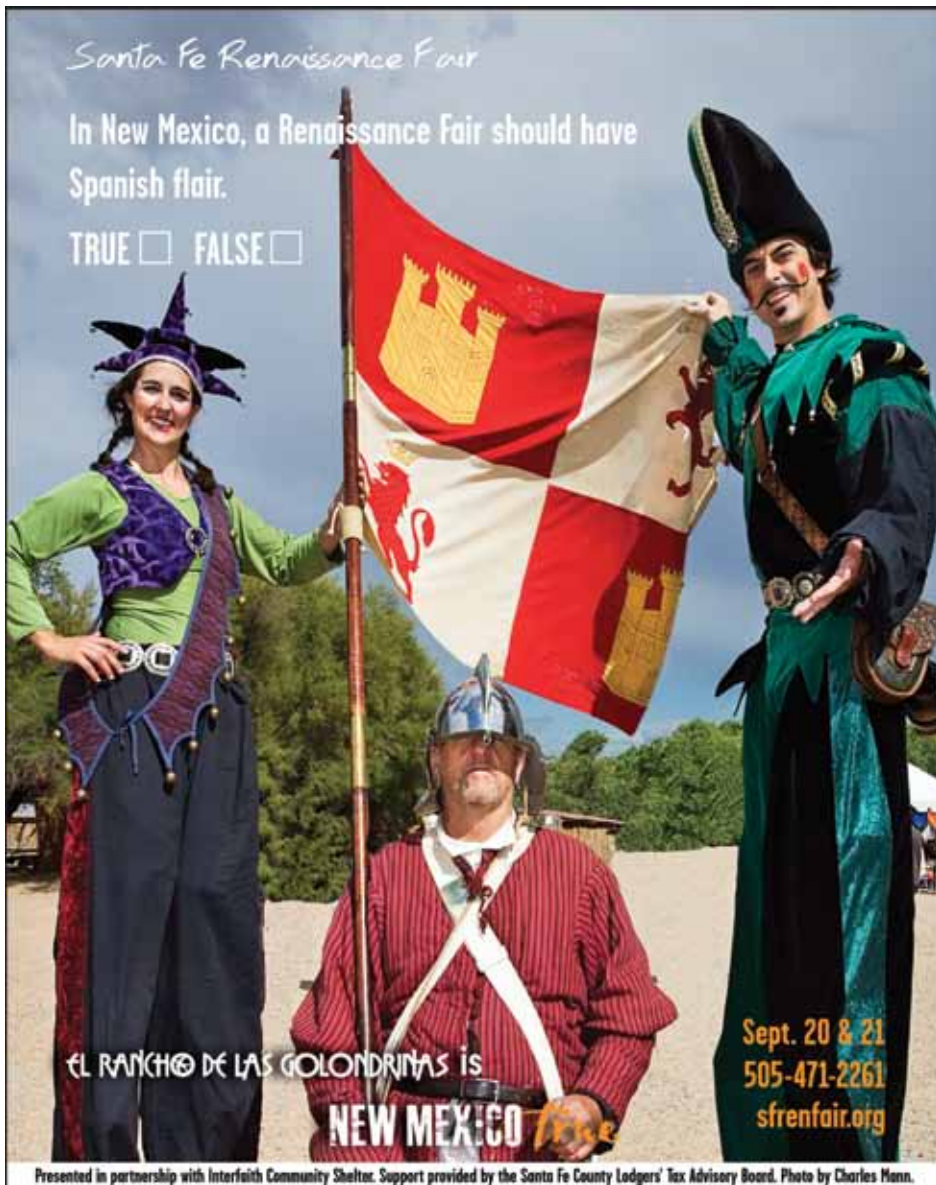
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# CLIMATE CHANGE: NOW

MELISSA HOUSER

Climate change is emerging as the defining issue for conservation in the 21st century. With each passing year, evidence of changes in the Earth's climate system and their impacts on natural systems becomes more profound. In addition to emissions of heat-trapping greenhouse gases (GHGs) from energy, industrial, agricultural and other activities, humans affect climate through changes in land use (activities taking place on land, such as growing food, cutting trees or building towns) and land cover (the physical characteristics of the land surface, including crops, trees or concrete). Choices about land-use and land-cover patterns have affected and will continue to affect how vulnerable or resilient human communities and ecosystems are to the effects of climate change.

To better understand the climate-change impacts and the mitigation and adaptation strategies to solve our challenges, Santa Fe Conservation Trust (SFCT) collaborated with the Santa Fe Watershed Association and others in a 10-month, intensive-learning Model Forest Policy Program (MFPP), "Climate Solutions University, Forest & Water Strategies." The team studied the predicted climate shifts, as well as the forest, water and economic vulnerabilities here in New Mexico. Climate predictions for the area include extended drought; less snowfall; more rain-on-snow events; a higher chance of severe weather events such as extended drought and flooding; faster, earlier spring water runoff; drier, hotter summers; and increased forest fires and outbreaks of invasive species.

## *Choices about land-use affect how vulnerable or resilient human communities and ecosystems are to climate change.*

The plan that was developed in light of these changes, the *Forest and Water Climate Adaptation: A Plan for the Santa Fe Watershed*, outlines specific strategies and action steps to safeguard water resources and reduce hazards from storms, fires and floods. These strategies include increasing rainwater infiltration, developing water-reuse systems, expanding forest-thinning treatments, improving the functionality of our rivers and arroyos, promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy, and developing long-term financing structures that enable all of this work to be implemented.

The planning team developed the following five goals:

GOAL 1: Increase the water security and ecological integrity of the Santa Fe Watershed through conservation, infiltration, groundwater recharge and reuse.

GOAL 2: Improve forest health for resilience in the face of climate change.

GOAL 3: Develop the workforce training needs to implement this plan.

GOAL 4: Increase energy efficiency and renewable energy (EERE) to achieve a reduction in fossil fuel-derived and water-consumptive energy sources by 45 percent by 2030.

GOAL 5: Establish financing systems that facilitate (equity) investments, emergency funds and cash-flow availability to fund climate adaptation and innovation initiatives.



© Anna C. Hansen (2)

Stressed pine trees suffering from drought in northern New Mexico

SFCT is utilizing this information to augment its existing *Strategic Conservation Plan* for the entire service area of north-central New Mexico. Locally, SFCT will be a source of information as we actively work with private landowners to minimize those land-use changes that cause GHG emissions and increase water infiltration and forest health through land-restoration efforts.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

1. Contact SFCT to learn about the conservation options and tax benefits available to you as a landowner. Financially support the SFCT and other nonprofits working to create healthier communities.
2. Plant native plants that fit your specific location and conditions. When you can, plant a variety of native species and types of plants, from grasses for erosion control and wildflowers for bees and butterflies to shrubs and trees for birds.
3. Reduce impervious surfaces and disconnect them from arroyos and storm drains. Use porous alternatives such as gravel or pervious pavement for driveways and paths. Collect roof water and slow its release back into groundwater through rain barrels, rain gardens and bioswales.
4. Keep water clean. Prevent soil erosion, use nontoxic household and garden products, and keep oil and animal waste out of streams and storm drains.
5. Repair erosion wherever possible with biotechnical and/or permaculture techniques that incorporate native plants and land contouring. These methods allow for natural watershed functions to continue.
6. Protect and restore arroyos and riparian areas.

The plan is available for download from <http://www.mfpp.org/climate-solutions-university-adaptation-plans/>. Learn more about Santa Fe Conservation Trust, Santa Fe's land trust, at <http://www.sfct.org>. See how SFCT's work to protect wild lands and clean water benefits everyone. ☒

Melissa Houser is the Santa Fe Conservation Trust's conservation and stewardship coordinator





# LANDSCAPE RENEWAL THROUGH CONSERVATION

JAN-WILLEM JANSSENS

Each day, our natural and built environments are changing. In many places throughout northern New Mexico, landscapes are aging, losing their productivity, failing to heal damaged soils and plant communities and no longer serving our needs. Due to the increasing extremes of weather, ecological processes and dwindling funds to support proper stewardship, many places show signs of extreme runoff and flood events, accelerated soil erosion, reduced productivity, many invasive exotic plant species, intense wildfire and death and disappearance of wildlife.

Degraded landscapes that become marginally productive are abandoned and repurposed, often for residential, industrial, or mineral-extraction uses. Statistics show that, until recently, thousands of acres per year have thus been converted (see sidebar below).

In the last few decades, land trusts and ecological conservation organizations have successfully protected hundreds of thousands of acres statewide, with a recent positive net effect on the preservation of farmland. However, land-protection strategies are not always bringing degraded landscapes back to life. In many cases, we will also need to rehabilitate diverse ecological patterns and restore human connections to the land to ensure that we grow the qualities of new, living landscapes. Landscape renewal through conservation is, therefore, now more important than ever.

## WHAT IS LANDSCAPE RENEWAL?

Landscape is much more than just land. In simple terms, “landscape” is what we experience around us and see with our eyes: water, soil, plants, animals, roads, buildings, power lines and all other animate and inanimate components of the land in their mutual relationships and in their meaning to us. In that sense, landscape, on the one hand, is a weaving and layering of ecological and functional relationships and, on the other, of the human stories and values for everything we see on the land.

We see how some landscapes are degrading and fading while others are thriving and resilient. The difference between them depends largely on how the constituent parts of the landscape connect with each other and tell stories that are meaningful to us. The science of landscape ecology has taught us that it is through maintaining ecological connections that we can keep landscapes resilient against the vagaries of weather and land-use practices. Indigenous knowledge has taught us that it is through human connections to the land that we can take care of it and maintain meaning and stories about a place.

For at least the last 40 years, in response to the rapid loss of rural landscapes and their many qualities, communities in New Mexico have sought to preserve their beloved landscapes. Common land-conservation mechanisms included conservation easements, county open-space areas, private preserves, wilderness areas and national monuments. As a result, we were able to preserve wildlife corridors, dark skies to practice astronomy, outdoor recreation opportunities, scenic views and (pre)historical ruins and artifacts.

Yet legal and financial arrangements to keep the landscape undeveloped are often not enough to bring the landscape back to life, ecologically, socially and economically. Abandoned landscapes continue to erode, often even more aggressively than before, and fall victim to abuse, pollution and illegal extraction of resources. Without concerted efforts, the stories that were associated with the landscape get lost when the daily users and caretakers disappear.

**The Farmland Information Center (<http://www.farmlandinfo.org/statistics>) reports that New Mexico's developed acreage grew by 602,200 acres (84.4 percent) between 1982 and 2010, of which 68,000 acres (nearly 32 percent of all farmland) was a loss of farmland. Between 2007 and 2010, New Mexico saw a net growth of 29,100 acres (2.26 percent) of developed land and also a net growth of farmland of 3,800 acres (2.67 percent). This seems to point to a loss of forest, woodland, range and ranch land equivalent to the sum of the increase in developed and agricultural land area in that time period.**



This map identifies the Upper Río Grande Watershed as one of 20 priority wildlife corridors of the continent. Within this area, the Galisteo Basin is one of the most important linkage areas for wildlife conservation. This is due in part to the basin's mostly private landownership. By placing strategic conservation easements on these lands, wildlife will retain essential migratory pathways across the basin between the mountain ranges, plateaus and rivers of some of the major ecoregions in New Mexico. Map by BirdsEyeView GIS for New Mexico Wildways.

Besides mere protection, we will need to heal ecological relationships and rebuild social connections to revitalize the landscape. Ecological relationships are both “vertical” in the interplay of soil, water and plants in one place and “horizontal” in the connections between places through pathways for water flow, wildfire, plant and seed dispersal, and animal movements. Social connections are rooted in the meaning of the landscape for the people that use and love it, expressed for example in trails across the land, caring behavior, coordinated group activities and stories.

In order to bring a landscape back to life, we must see it as a functioning organism that needs the same care and nurturing as any garden would require. Landscape renewal is then the process of caring for the land's ecological relationships while growing new values and stories through human connections to the land. If we do this right, we can often kick-start and speed up ecological regeneration processes toward greater landscape resiliency and biodiversity. Thanks to the work of local land-trust organizations, conservation groups, landowners and supportive government agencies, examples of such landscape renewal can be found along the Río Grande



and the Santa Fe River, throughout the Galisteo Basin and the Chama Valley, and in several other watersheds and communities in northern New Mexico.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF CONSERVATION?

Conservation can be an appropriate tool for landscape renewal if it is aimed at conserving ecological connections, both vertical and horizontal, and human connections to the landscape. In this sense, the meaning of conservation embraces the concept of stewardship, including public education and community organizing.

Conservation aimed at landscape renewal focuses on a specific set of objectives at a “landscape scale,” i.e., across watersheds and ecoregions and across districts of human communities. Conservation at this scale involves creating space and time for natural processes and for human connections and collaboration. For example, conservation action will need to create space for floodwaters, wildfire and migrating wildlife and time for research, public dialogue and collaboration to carve out the space for connections across the landscape. Additionally, it will take time to rebuild people’s connections to the landscape and grow collaborative partnerships. Specific goals and principles for such landscape renewal are listed below.

NATURAL PROCESSES REQUIRING SPACE AND TIME THROUGH CONSERVATION:

- Conserving large-scale forest and woodland landscapes as core areas for biodiversity and as water-recharge areas.
- Preserving and improving connective ecological corridors for plant communities and wildlife, as well as flood zones and stormwater-infiltration zones across the landscape.
- Developing pathways for low-intensity wildfire across rangelands, woodlands and forest lands.
- Simulating connective zones for ranching and farming, interwoven with ecological linkage zones.

HUMAN CONNECTIONS AND COLLABORATION FOR CONSERVATION:

- Collaboration and cooperation among various government agencies, NGOs, communities and businesses about land stewardship and conservation.
- County-level planning to create multifunctional rural and suburban spaces and linkage areas that combine functions such as flood zones, water-infiltration/recharge zones, wildlife corridors, visual elements, trails, recreation areas and zoning boundaries.
- Community organizing and ongoing education, with an emphasis on engaging youth, to support land stewardship in our living landscapes.
- Individual and community engagement in pioneering and practicing land-stewardship activities, farming and ranching, study and sharing of the stories of the land and developing new stories through creative action.

WHAT WOULD A NEW LIVING LANDSCAPE LOOK LIKE?

Landscape as a pattern of functions and forms, components and processes can be “read” as a story of the land’s history, ecology and people. A readable landscape mirrors behavioral and governance processes of people in relation to the land.

New living landscapes that mirror the goals and principles described above will express new, complex patterns of relationships, both ecologically and in terms of human use and care. In my view, these landscapes will feature large areas of rangelands, forests and wilderness areas that are connected by multifunctional, ecological linkage zones (“wildways”) that serve as wildlife corridors, flood zones and riparian buffers, recreation zones and scenic edges. Interwoven with the rural wildways, we will find farm and ranch zones that produce climate-resilient food and fiber along with water and carbon sequestration in soils. Recreational uses are made possible across the network of wildways throughout the farm and ranch zones and along the connective corridors to the larger rangeland, forest and wilderness hubs.



An important ecological corridor for plants, wildlife and water flows, the Galisteo Creek is a wild river with extreme flow variations. Top l-r: the stream after bank stabilization in August 2013, during a flood in September 2013, after flood impacts in May 2014, and after floodplain reconstruction in August 2014

At the level of neighborhoods and individual properties, similar connectivity will be established by creating a network of multifunctional, connected corridors along arroyos, drainages easements, acequias, riparian areas, buffer zones, roadsides, fence lines, trails and utility easements. Residential areas can be woven into these local-level corridors and will benefit from trails, drainage systems and scenic views in this corridor network. Thus, ecological diversity and a new, storied landscape will reemerge from the local to the regional level.

This vision for rural landscape renewal through conservation in New Mexico builds on similar visions described by planners, ecologists, conservationists and community organizers worldwide throughout the last 100 years. However, this vision of landscape renewal through conservation combines and refines these past visions with our local, contemporary challenges and with the opportunities

embodied in decades of landscape-conservation experience in northern New Mexico.

When we are successful, the landscape will tell its stories to those who can read it—in the scenic views along the lines in the landscape that delineate the connections between areas, in the paw prints of the animals following these pathways, and in the stories of kids as they discover how the landscape is full of signs and tales to be read and retold.

Jan-Willem Jansens is a landscape planner who specializes through his business Ecotone in conservation planning for landscapes in transition, aiming to create new living landscapes throughout northern New Mexico. [jwjansens@gmail.com](mailto:jwjansens@gmail.com)

RESTORING THE ECONOMY

The restoration economy provides an exciting and necessary opportunity for New Mexico to promote environmental conservation and restoration while creating good jobs and increasing economic bases. There are some local businesses, consultants and nonprofits currently working on restoration in northern New Mexico, but with our vast land area more help is urgently needed to address climate change.

Fortunately, training opportunities for this restoration economy are available from the following institutions in northern New Mexico: New Mexico Highlands University offers a bachelors and masters degree program in Forestry & Watershed Management; Bernalillo County has a Master Naturalist training program; Northern New Mexico College offers an associate degree in Natural Resources; and the Santa Fe Watershed Association has a Climate Masters program. Santa Fe Community College offers many degree and certificate programs at its School of Trades, Technology, Sustainability and Professional Studies. Ampersand Sustainable Learning Center in Madrid offers restoration workshops and internships. The table below shows just a small example list of the jobs that are needed to adapt to changing conditions, grow our economy and strengthen our community.

Climate Risk	Action/Job	Job Type
Forest Fire	Thinning and prescribed burning	Ecologists, Foresters, Firefighters
Flooding	Arroyo stabilization	Hydrologists, earth-movers, etc.
	Strengthen riparian corridors	Ecologists, foresters, landscaper.
	Increase water infiltration	Soil experts, earth-movers, landscapers
Drought	Retrofit with efficient/smart plumbing and water catchment/reuse systems	Plumbers, construction workers
Increased Temperatures	Retrofit buildings for passive solar	Construction workers
	Tree planting to increase shade	Landscapers, arborists, parks dept.
Green House Gases Concentrations	Install renewable energy systems	Electricians
	Energy audits and retrofits	Energy auditors, contractors
	Land restoration	Ecologists, biologists, geologists, surveyors
Community Destabilization	Neighborhood Association, business, non-profit and community coordination	Community organizing
	Diversify revenue streams	Outdoor recreation, green manufacturing,



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# SANTA FE CONSERVATION TRUST AND TRAILS

TIM ROGERS

Public trails are a central part of the Santa Fe Conservation Trust's work. Not all land trusts emphasize trails, but SFCT pursues the development, maintenance and promotion of public trails as a high priority. Trails are a valuable community resource for recreation, health and economic development in our area. They also play an important educational role, directly increasing awareness of the value of preserved open spaces and acting as a shared tool for responsible land stewardship.

*Trails are a valuable community resource for recreation, health and economic development.*

SFCT has been involved with public trails in Santa Fe since its inception in the early 1990s, when the Trust became engaged in the preservation of public access to Atalaya Mountain in the Santa Fe National Forest through privately owned foothill areas that were under development at the time. The preservation of a formal, public Atalaya Trail was a proud product of SFCT's early work and a natural lead-in to further collaboration with private landowners, the city of Santa Fe, and Santa Fe County to create the adjacent Dale Ball Trails system in the 1990s. This year, working with the Santa Fe National Forest, the SFCT formally adopted the Atalaya Trail, also known as "FS Trail 170," for purposes of maintenance and upkeep.

SFCT has also been integrally involved in the development of the Santa Fe Rail Trail, Spur Trail, La Tierra Trails, La Piedra Trail and Arroyo Hondo Open Space Trails. SFCT helped create the Trails Alliance of Santa Fe (TAOSF), which, along with the Santa Fe Fat Tire Society (SFFTS), has become a major source of volunteers for the maintenance of city, county and National Forest Service trails in our area. Through a contract with the city of Santa Fe, SFCT now directly coordinates the voluntary maintenance of all of the city's soft-surface trails, in addition to collaborating on trail work days and related activities with the county and the Santa Fe National Forest.

SFCT's contract with the city of Santa Fe has allowed the Trust to hire a Trails Program manager and to increase promotional activities as another major area of trail work for the SFCT. The contract provided support for our participation in the annual Bike to Work Week in May 2014, including two fun and educational community bicycle rides: the first-ever "South Side Community Cruise," on the weekend before Bike to Work Week, and the "Eighth Annual Community Cruise," starting at the Railyard the following Saturday. SFCT also celebrated "Dale Ball Day," which honored Dale and Sylvia Ball at the Sierra del Norte trailhead in March and "National Trails Day" in June, including a ride on the city's "M" bus and a group hike on the Dorothy Stewart Trail.



E.J. Martínez Summer Camp kids on rock ledge below Picacho Peak

Beyond these special celebrations, the SFCT is programming regular activities to get young Santa Feans and their families out on our trails. Over the summer, the SFCT worked with the city Youth and Family Services Division to organize field trips to Dale Ball Trails for summer campers. Many of the children we met at the Cerro Gordo trailhead said they had never gone on any kind of hike. Very few had ever had the opportunity to visit the Dale Ball Trails, even though one does not even need to leave the city limits to do so. Two trips to the base of Picacho Peak in July were a universal hit with campers, counselors, SFCT staff and volunteers. (These trips are summarized along with other trail events this year at <http://sfct.org/trails/sfct-trail-events-in-2014>). A big "thanks" goes out to the city Summer Camps staff and kids, and especially to Karen Denison of Outspire Hiking and Snowshoeing, who provided interpretation of plants and geology along the way.

This fall, SFCT will ramp up field trips to city trails in collaboration with Santa Fe Public Schools, thanks to the support of a grant from the S.L. Gimbel Foundation, which will provide for the cost of transportation and promotional materials. If you are interested in getting your school signed up for these field trips, contact Tim Rogers at [tim@sfct.org](mailto:tim@sfct.org). Other opportunities to promote hiking and bicycling on our city trails will include collaboration with SFFTS on "Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day" at La Tierra Trails on Oct. 4 and publicizing "Walk and Roll to School Day" on Oct. 8.

Another area of interest to SFCT, TAOSF and the vast base of trail

volunteers and users is the planning and construction of new trails. In the course of the next year, SFCT anticipates working with a wide variety of partners, including the city, the county, Santa Fe National Forest, The Nature Conservancy, TAOSF, SFFTS, International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA), private landowners and other private partners. This enthusiastic group wants to improve access, maintenance and user experience on our trails; improve wayfinding (signage and maps) to help orient and guide trail users; establish new, special-use trails such as a "Flow Trail" being considered by SFFTS at La Tierra Trails; and assist partners with longer-range planning that is needed for the continued improvement of our urban, foothill and mountain trails.

Our public agency staff and our local volunteer base are critical resources for our trails. SFCT will work with SFFTS to see that as many as possible are able to participate in state-of-the-art trainings to be offered by IMBA's visiting Trail Care Crew, including a training for land managers on Sept. 12 and "Trail Building School" for volunteers and staff on Sept. 13.

Wanna get involved? Trail work days and other upcoming events in our area are posted on SFCT's online events calendar (<http://sfct.org/events/calendar>) and on the TAOSF website (<http://trailsallianceofsantafe.org/calendar-2/>). ☘

*Tim Rogers is the Santa Fe Conservation Trust's Trails Program manager.*



Trail work crew removes a gully above a junction in the Dale Ball Trail



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## 2014 Santa Fe Outdoor Irrigation Rebate Programs

### Take control of your irrigation system: reduce overwatering and reduce your water bill.

Did you know that up to 37 percent of the water used by Santa Fe homes is for outdoor watering? Santa Fe is in its fourth year of drought. Although the current situation has been improved by summer rains, the city of Santa Fe is encouraging customers to put every drop of water to work by ensuring that irrigation systems operate at peak efficiency to minimize overwatering, evaporation and runoff.

Increasing irrigation system efficiency and teaching property owners about best management practices result in healthier landscapes, less water waste, less irrigation runoff and reduced water bills. Many irrigation systems can benefit from simple changes such as fixing or adjusting sprinkler heads, ensuring proper operating pressure and implementing appropriate watering schedules.

#### IRRIGATION EVALUATION REBATE - \$50

The city is offering irrigation-efficiency rebates through Oct. 31, 2014. A \$50 water bill credit will be given to customers who conduct an irrigation evaluation performed by a certified Qualified Water Efficient Landscaper (QWEL). The city has certified approximately 30 QWEL professionals. They have been trained in sustainable landscape practices and can audit, install and maintain irrigation systems. Be sure to ask questions about their ideas on how to minimize water waste in your yard or garden and how they will make sure that your irrigation system is watering the right amount for the landscape. A list of QWEL landscapers is available at [savewatersantafe.com](http://savewatersantafe.com) or [qwel.net](http://qwel.net)

Homeowners may also be eligible for irrigation equipment upgrades and a rebate if they participate in the landscape irrigation system evaluation. Only city of Santa Fe Water customers with an existing irrigation system qualify. The rebates do not apply to new installations.

Irrigation Evaluation Rebate applications are available from the QWEL professionals or through the city. Submit the application, signed by the QWEL professional, to the Water Conservation Office. The application should include the QWEL professional's certification number.

#### IRRIGATION EQUIPMENT UPGRADE REBATE - \$40-\$750

City of Santa Fe rebates are also available for the installation or retrofit of automatic "smart" rain sensors, soil moisture sensors and WaterSense-labeled, weather-based controllers. These are the latest in smart technology. Many of the devices sense when there is enough moisture in the air or soil and automatically stop watering.

For more information on this program, contact the city Water Conservation Office at 505.955.4225 or visit [savewatersantafe.com](http://savewatersantafe.com)

**REMEMBER:** Outside watering is prohibited May 1 to Oct. 31 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. and limited to three days a week—once on the weekend and twice during the week—on days of your choice.



## SUSTAINABLE SANTA FE MONTHLY UPDATE

### Santa Fe's Plastic Bag Ban

ASHLEY ZAPPE

Since the Reusable Bag Ordinance (popularly called the "Bag Ban") was implemented last February, Santa Fe businesses have no longer offered free single-use plastic bags at the checkout. The purpose of the ordinance is to encourage shoppers to bring their own bags and promote sustainability through reuse of resources because reuse is more effective than recycling.

To evaluate and improve the ordinance, Sustainable Santa Fe has conducted two surveys of impacts on a sampling of retail establishments. The first survey was conducted in April, the second in June. The information gathered will be used in the ordinance's reassessment and update scheduled for later this year. In June, four months after the ordinance took effect, 56 percent of surveyed businesses report that there has been no financial impact whatsoever, 23 percent indicate some significant financial impacts, and the rest indicate only minimal and transitory financial impacts. All businesses report that there have not been significant customer complaints. Overall, neither businesses nor customers have been severely negatively impacted by the bag ordinance.

#### *Reuse is more effective than recycling.*

Be that as it may, we are not much closer to the goal of promoting reusable bags over disposable ones. In the first survey, a quarter of the businesses reported that none of their customers bring their own bags, and nearly the rest reported that less than 1 percent of customers bring bags. However, by June, about a third of businesses reported that more than 3 percent are bringing their own bags. A few businesses have even observed over 25 percent of customers bringing bags, up to as much as 65 percent. While this shows some improvement, it seems many customers have simply exchanged using single-use plastic bags for single-use paper bags.

The originally proposed reusable bag ordinance suggested a 10-cent charge for single-use paper bags to deter paper-bag use as well. While the city government does not have authority to require that businesses charge for bags, other options to discourage the use of disposable bags and increase reusable bag use are being considered in the reassessment of the ordinance. Ten percent of surveyed businesses specifically requested a mandatory paper-bag fee.

If you would like to be involved with this initiative or other Sustainable Santa Fe Commission actions, please attend a commission meeting. The commission meets on the third Tuesday of every month from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Council Conference Room in City Hall. Interested community members should contact Commission Staff Katherine Mortimer at [kemortimer@ci.santa-fe.nm.us](mailto:kemortimer@ci.santa-fe.nm.us). More information can be found at <http://sustainablesantafe.wordpress.com>

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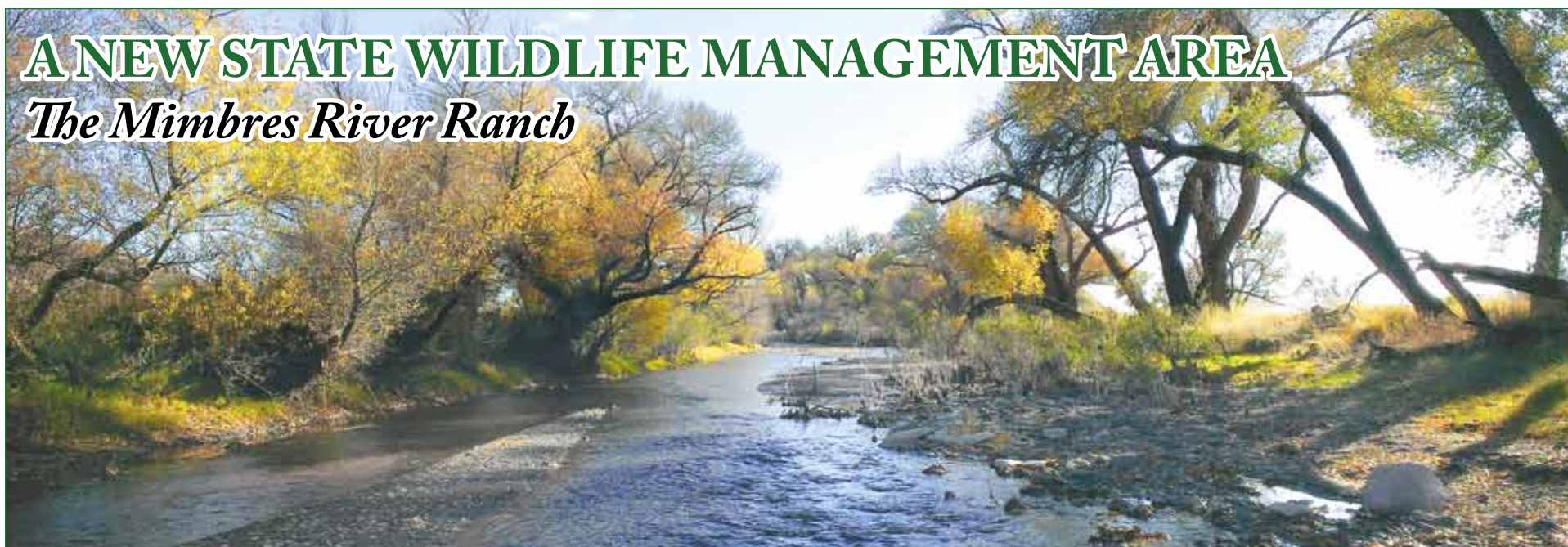
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# A NEW STATE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

## *The Mimbres River Ranch*



Photos courtesy New Mexico Land Conservancy

**T**HE NEW MEXICO LAND CONSERVANCY (NMLC), a statewide, nonprofit land trust, has announced that, through a unique, public-private partnership with the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF), a 1,010-acre ranch property on the lower Mimbres River in southwestern New Mexico will become one of New Mexico's newest state

Funding for the acquisition of the ranch was made possible with a combination of public funds from the NMDGF's Share with Wildlife Program, the New Mexico Office of Natural Resources Trustee (ONRT) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), combined with private support funding from the Turner Foundation, Element Power and Wells Fargo Bank.

"The acquisition of the River Ranch by the NMDGF is a wonderful gift for New Mexico," said Scott Wilber, NMLC's executive director. "As a new state wildlife-management area, the river corridor and the surrounding habitat will be protected for the benefit of wildlife, and the property will serve as a permanent buffer to prevent the encroachment of development on the nearby City of Rocks State Park."

The River Ranch is approximately 20 miles northwest of Deming and encompasses about a two-mile stretch of its namesake—the Mimbres River—at a point where the river still flows perennially before disappearing underground into the Chihuahuan Desert. The river supports a

mature, mixed cottonwood-ash riparian gallery forest including the current state champion velvet ash tree and a seasonally flooded area of rare, native sacaton grasslands, which stand out in sharp contrast to the surrounding desert scrubland. This unique combination of vegetative communities translates into particularly high biological diversity. Black bear, mountain lion, mule deer, javelina, coyotes, bobcats, turkey and a variety of bird species are all known to frequent the ranch.

*Funding for the project resulted from an environmental settlement between the state of New Mexico and an international mining company.*

Conservation of the property started with an initial working relationship established in 2009 between landowners Gene and Elisabeth Simon and the NMLC. The NMLC and the Simons recognized that much of the high-quality private lands located along water or close to

public lands in New Mexico are highly susceptible to development. The Simons saw that the best way to protect their land from subdivision and development was to place the entire ranch under a conservation easement (CE). The NMLC worked with funding and support from the New Mexico State Forestry Division to complete the CE in 2011.

Ultimately, it was the Simons' vision to find a public agency that would be willing to acquire the ranch and manage it for conservation and educational purposes. With the sudden passing of Gene Simon in 2012, the ranch became part of his estate under the management of Wells Fargo Bank. Working with Wells Fargo, the NMLC was able to negotiate for time to find a conservation buyer.

That same spring, the NMLC became aware of potential funding for the project resulting from an environmental settlement between the state of New Mexico and Freeport-McMoRan, Inc., an international mining company. Following a natural-resources damage assessment of its mining operations in southwest New Mexico, this settlement

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28



Gene and Elisabeth Simon

wildlife-management areas. The River Ranch will be owned and managed by the NMDGF for wildlife, compatible public recreation and educational purposes.

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included the creation of a \$5.5 million wildlife habitat-restoration fund to be used for land protection and restoration projects designed to offset the impacts of the Chino, Cobre and Tyrone copper mining facilities. The NMLC worked closely with the NMDGF for over a year and a half to prepare a successful application for the River Ranch acquisition.




Finally, in mid-July 2014, with the unanimous approval of the state Game Commission and cooperation among all of the partners, the sale of the ranch to the NMDGF was completed. The sale includes a life estate for Elisabeth Simon that will allow her to live out the remainder of her life on the ranch.

While it took nearly five years to complete the entire process, Elisabeth Simon and her family are pleased with the results. "After living in this valley for so long, Gene and I simply couldn't stand the thought of breaking up the integrity of this beautiful place and allowing the land to be developed after we were gone," said


Elisabeth Simon, now 95. "I wish that Gene had lived to see this day, but I'm sure that he would be pleased to know that the wildlife and future generations of New Mexicans are going to be able to continue enjoying the ranch as much as we have."

Founded in 2002, the NMLC's goal is to protect, directly or in partnership with others, one million acres of high conservation value lands throughout the state by 2037. To date, the organization has helped private and public landowners conserve nearly 130,000 acres of land. The trust works at community, watershed and landscape scales. For more information, visit [www.nmlandconservancy.org](http://www.nmlandconservancy.org) ☒



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# LAND'S END / STARTING AGAIN

ALEJANDRO LÓPEZ

A recent drive down an unfamiliar lane in the Española Valley introduced me to a sprawling trailer park that I had no idea existed. As I made my way through this residential area, I marveled at how close each of the homes was to the next. I was simultaneously struck by how, despite the population density, there was a total absence of nearby public parks or walking trails, let alone access to farmlands or wilderness of any kind. I surmised that, if anyone wanted to get out and walk or experience the awesome landscape of northern New Mexico to any degree, one would then simply have to go forth along the narrow sides of the road and compete with automobiles, all the while staying alert to the potential incursion of one's right of way.

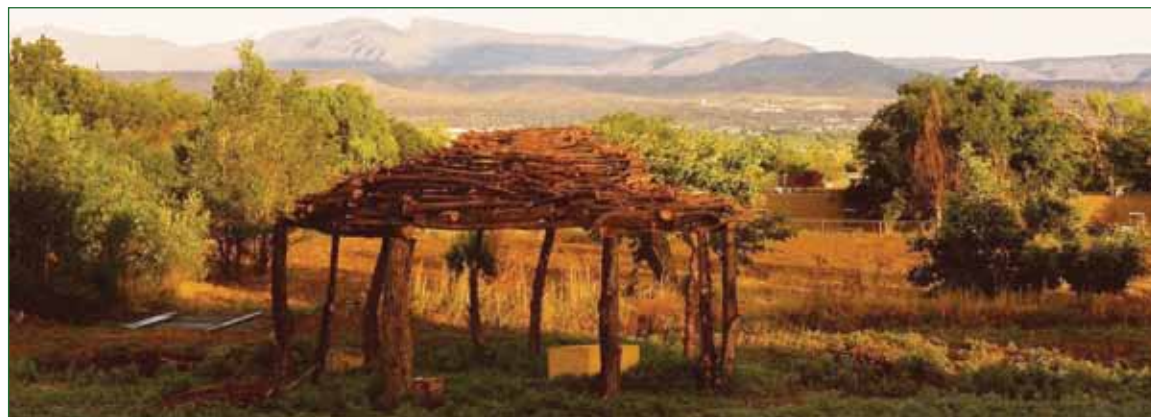
I would venture to guess that almost all the inhabitants of this residential area—and of many others throughout northern New Mexico—are descendants of families that have been here for 400 years and were not so long ago landed, land-based and highly familiar with the area's forests and mountains. How could they not have been, when a mere 40 years ago all of this region was known for its thoroughly rural character, as well as for the integration of its "wilderness" areas into its people's prevailing semi-self-sufficient and highly autonomous way of life?

Recalling my own childhood, which unfolded amid endless foothills and badlands on one hand and lush green alfalfa pastures, orchards, gardens and acequias on the other, in the same Española Valley, I asked myself how

the present generation of Nuevo Mexicanos are able to survive culturally, physically, psychologically and spiritually on such slim pieces of land that measure but a few feet in every direction and have no access to anywhere? How is it that after so deep, rich and meaningful a multigenerational experience in this geographically, culturally and historically significant place, so many of us are now left not only without land but, also and just as importantly, without the memory and consciousness of land and place?

My father, a once free-spirited shepherd, who wandered up and down the ravines, meadows and piedmont of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of Las Truchas as a boy early last century, and whose family entered the expansive Nuestra Señora del Rosario de San Fernando y Santiago Land Grant at will for wood, micaceous clay and remedios, could, if he were alive, very well ask the same question of me. I, nowadays, spend most of my time on a mere four acres and rarely venture out beyond that, so shrunken has my own sense of land become.

In general, with each successive generation of Nuevo Mexicanos, it seems that both the geographical arena in which we live out our lives, as well as the actual knowledge, consciousness and sensitivity we possess as a result of rigorous interaction with nature, in all of its potency and complexity,



Santa Cruz, in northern New Mexico's Española Valley

© Alejandro López (2)

has shrunk dramatically. It has even come to the point that entire generations are now experiencing "land" and "nature" largely via media and the tinted windows of the family car as it whizzes by the epic landscape that our grandparents used to dig their hands into when they planted or gathered natural resources for their survival.

*Entire generations now experience "land" and "nature" largely via media and the family car as it whizzes by the epic landscape.*

Our present lack of land and land-consciousness is reflective of a people who, in recent history, have had ever-so-little control over their own lands, lives and livelihoods. Much has been written about the significant land losses in the 19th century to American businessmen and tycoons, unscrupulous lawyers, and even government interests and directives, but far less has been written about the way in which generic, contemporary public school education, national and regional media and advertising, the undermining of Native languages, the biases of the workplace and unmitigated economic pressures at play in our state have all combined to alienate traditional people from the land to which they once had a close connection.

If Native children and youth are to develop and regain a sense of belonging to this wider geographic space we call northern New Mexico, as well as a responsible consciousness of the earth, we will all collectively have to create opportunities for them to deeply experience the land over sustained periods of time. Regional thinkers such

as Arturo Sandoval have gone so far as to propose that the inhabitants of mountain villages create economic enterprises in which thoroughly trained local youth function as guides into the national forests for visitors willing to pay for the experience of being out in remote areas under the guidance of knowledgeable and responsible individuals. In Gallup, the National Indian Youth Leadership Project has pioneered highly successful prevention and leadership-development activities in wilderness areas, where youth learn all sorts of survival skills. For several years, the organization has also carried out annual week-long summer youth camps in natural settings. Youth are provided with opportunities to learn traditional skills and knowledge, interact vigorously with nature, and even be active stewards of the land through service-learning projects. It seems to me that this model could be used to great benefit throughout northern New Mexico.

Another way to instill an understanding and appreciation for the earth is to engage area youth in farming and agriculture. In farm settings, youth can experience the magic of soil, seeds, water, sunshine, growing cycles, harvests and much, much more. By the same token, Nuevo Mexicano communities need to reclaim their own voice and initiate messaging campaigns in every media that reflect their traditional values—that the land is not for sale, that she is our mother, that she gives us all that we need and that we need to take care of her. ☒

*Writer, photographer and educator Alejandro López is author of Hispanic Folk Arts and the Environment of the Río Grande curriculum for grades K-12, produced under the auspices of the Museum of International Folk Art, Santa Fe, New Mexico.*





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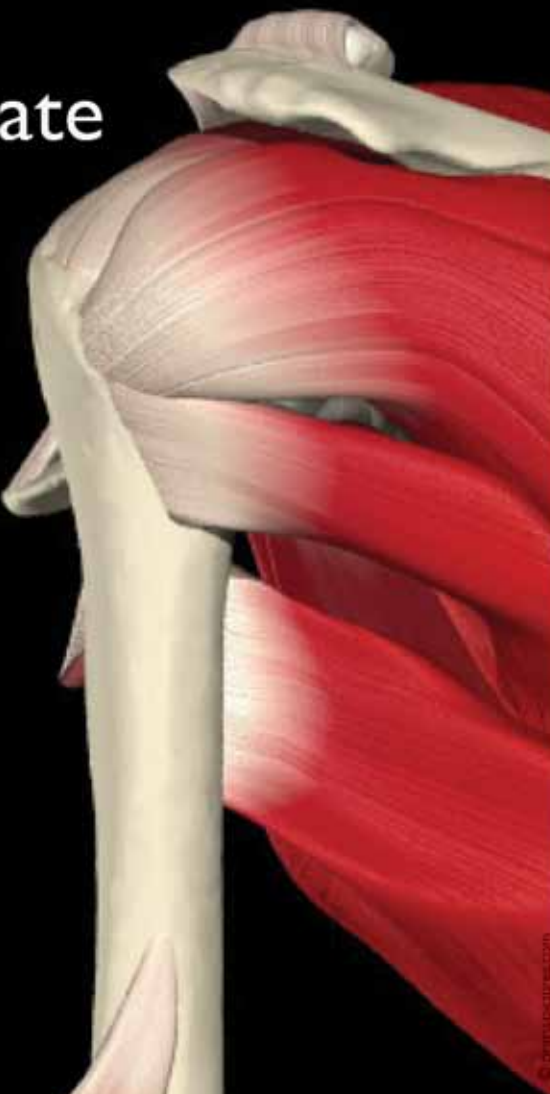


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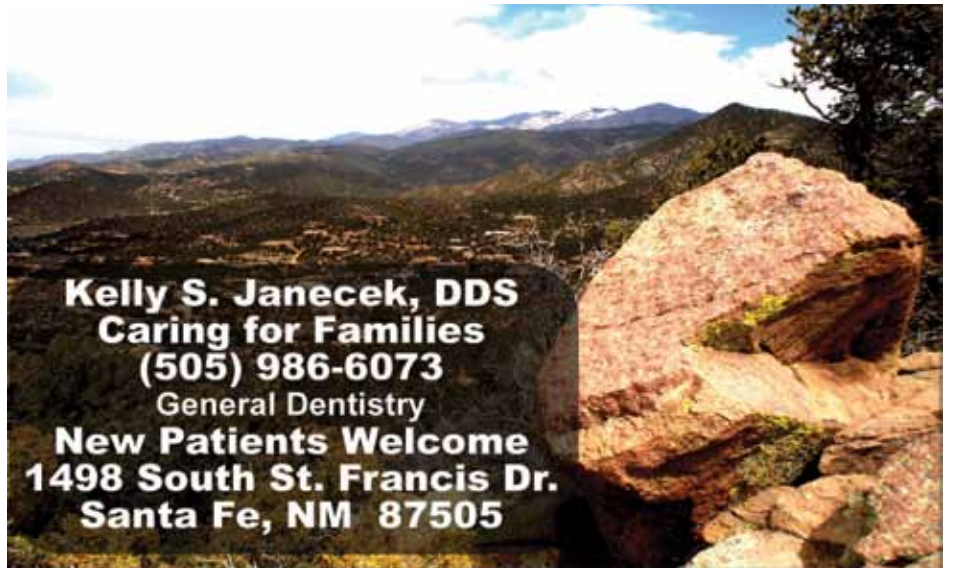


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**JL: The essay that you hope to write, it seems to me that the sort of existence that you were born into and grew up in greatly shapes a balanced point of view with regard to the presence of a natural habitat, whereas those who are born and grow up in cities are missing a huge chance at a perspective. I know this has shaped your thinking a lot.**

SU: Jack, you've expressed what I'm trying to say almost as well as I could. But there's more than your relationship with nature, with the natural world, with producing part of your own food, with the intimacy that you have. When I became Secretary of Interior, suddenly I had 55,000 employees working under me and 17, 18 different agencies, mostly dealing with resources, of course. The Native people, most of them in 1960, were living the way I'm talking about, and that gave me an understanding of those people. But you grow up in a community of that size and you know part of the human comedy and the human tragedy, and you develop as a child a relationship with adults that's very important. Because most people will say, well, their parents were important. My parents were very important, but I had other relations. I had an uncle that I worked with in the fields, who was a very wonderful, practical, blunt sort of a man. I had relationships with other people, so that I knew what a functioning community was, and I think some people are robbed of that experience.

We have Little League, and in large and small cities we have all of these activities people get involved in. With this kind of a community where I was

born, that was it. We're 60 miles from any other community, so you know all kinds of things. We used to go to court. My father was the judge when I was kid, 13, 14 years old, and we watched the court proceedings. Then we had a little court of our own. I think I was responsible for setting it up. We also had a theater. We wrote plays and things. We had to make society function, and if the community had little primitive theatrical productions, we imitated it as kids. When they had the rodeo, I had a kids' rodeo. My sister can tell you all about that. I think that experience of community helped me instinctively understand people and treat people in a respectful way because I was a not a great administrator as Secretary of Interior in terms of the budget and a lot of things, but I had learned how, and maybe my Mormon missionary experience adds a little bit to this, too, to deal with people in a leadership role. You don't learn a hell of a lot as a congressman, I can tell you, in terms of what I'm talking about of being administrator and running a large department. But I had a feel and a respect for people that was enormously helpful.

My real religious feelings, with a Mormon underlay, you might say, are ecumenical. I see good in all religions. I've come to appreciate the Spanish people, the Catholic people who came in here early. I have an enormous appreciation of their history and what they did coming into this wilderness, as it were, before Plymouth Rock. The first European settlement in what's now the United States of America was not in Virginia, not in Massachusetts; it was here in the Río Grande Valley, where I live now.

I have an empathy for Native Americans and their struggles, their desire to determine their own life and to carry their values because they had values, and I liked the fact that so many of the religious values of Native people are related to land and the landscape and a worship of the land. ☒

*Bioregional documentarian Jack Loeffler and his daughter Celestia Loeffler's recent book is Thinking Like a Watershed. [www.loreoftheland.org](http://www.loreoftheland.org)*



of distinction among land trusts. Of the 1,700 land trusts in the United States, fewer than 400 have been accredited. SFCT learned it had received accreditation on August 25th. It is the culmination of almost two years of rigorous examination and peer assessment of SFCT's fiscal, transactional, ethical and governance policies and procedures.

The seal of accreditation should instill an extra measure of confidence in the minds of landowners, donors, public policy-makers and other stakeholders. They should feel secure knowing they are working with an organization that has the proven ways and means to protect land in perpetuity.

Although the Trust's mission remains solidly grounded in saving land, shifting economies and a changing climate are reframing SFCT's priorities. Much land-protection work remains to be done and, using its Strategic Conservation Plan as a roadmap, the Trust is taking on as many new CE projects as capacity will permit.

SFCT is moving forward with a broad and ambitious agenda. The Trust is continually seeking innovative ways to serve landowners by providing more in-depth stewardship and land-use planning. SFCT is teaming up with other concerned groups to inform the public on the impact a warming climate has on our natural resources. Getting more kids out in the woods is a priority for the land trust's popular trails program, and SFCT is working with the city of Santa Fe and others to make that happen.

SFCT is an example of how a strong and engaged land trust, working in partnership with like-minded groups and individuals, can help contribute to our common wealth—not just by saving lands but by advocating for all the natural and civic assets held in common for the well-being of those of us who call Santa Fe and northern New Mexico home.

Santa Fe Conservation Trust is an organization that has earned our support! Learn how you can help by visiting its web site at [sfct.org](http://sfct.org) ☒

*Tom McCampbell is a land trust consultant living in Durango, Colorado.*

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# NEWSBITES

## SANTA FE STARTUP WEEKEND – SEPT. 19–21

### EVENT TO RECOGNIZE SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS

Businessman/entrepreneur Alan Webber, former candidate for the Democratic nomination for Governor of New Mexico, keynotes the second annual Santa Fe Startup Weekend at the Santa Fe Business Incubator. Startup weekends are dynamic entrepreneurial events where ideas are pitched, teams formed and startups created over one weekend of intense activity. The weekend culminates in a pitch competition on Sunday evening where a group of judges chooses a winning team. In addition to providing support for traditional business startups, the weekend will offer specialized coaching, mentoring and other services for participants interested in socially minded startups.

“Social entrepreneurship encompasses ideas from triple-bottom-line businesses to nonprofits, from environmentally conscious products to new sustainable methods of production,” said Sean O’Shea, co-organizer of Santa Fe Startup Weekend and program director at the Incubator. “Social enterprises place a firm emphasis on tackling social problems, making positive impacts as important as financials to the bottom line.”

Anyone is welcome to participate, regardless of age or experience. A \$75 registration fee includes meals throughout the weekend. Register at [www.santafe.startupweekend.org](http://www.santafe.startupweekend.org) or contact O’Shea at 505.424.1140 or [soshea@sfbi.net](mailto:soshea@sfbi.net).

The Santa Fe Business Incubator ([www.sfbi.net](http://www.sfbi.net)), currently home to more than 19 client companies and three partner organizations, has helped more than 125 companies create over 1,000 jobs.

## BANKING ON NEW MEXICO: A PUBLIC BANK SYMPOSIUM

SEPT. 27, 9:30 A.M., SANTA FE COMMUNITY CONVENTION CENTER

The Banking on New Mexico Symposium seeks to provide New Mexicans a way to explore a future economy in which public money stays in the community and is invested locally to support economic prosperity in that community. Public banking experts will gather in Santa Fe for a full day to share their knowledge with local residents via plenaries, panel discussions and workshops to answer specific questions: What is a public bank? Who benefits by having a public bank? Why would we want a public bank? How are public banks used in other states and countries? How can you establish a public bank in your community?

Residents interested in learning about how a public bank can bolster the local economy—including public officials, entrepreneurs, union members, community bankers, farmers, retirees and students—should attend. There will be speakers from across the state, as well as nationally recognized public banking experts, including Richard D. Wolff, author of *Democracy at Work* and professor of Economics; and Ellen Brown, Public Banking Institute founder and author of *Web of Debt* and *The Public Bank Solution*.

Admission is \$40; students with ID, \$10. For more information: [bankingonnewmexico@gmail.com](mailto:bankingonnewmexico@gmail.com), [bankingonnewmexico.org](http://bankingonnewmexico.org)

## TRADITIONAL AGRICULTURE & SUSTAINABLE LIVING CONFERENCE – OCT. 3–4, NORTHERN NM COLLEGE

“MOVING FORWARD WITH OUR NEIGHBORS TO PROTECT OUR MOTHER EARTH”

The ninth annual Traditional Agriculture & Sustainable Living Conference will be held at the Nick L. Salazar Performing Arts Building of Northern New Mexico College in Española, New Mexico. Keynote talks will be by Jeffrey M. Smith of the Institute for Responsible Technology, noted farmer Percy Schmeiser, and Bioneers co-founder Nina Simons. The event will feature local and regional experts in the areas of food security and sustainable ecology, workshops and panel discussions on youth issues in the 21st century, food and nutrition, seed saving, traditional farming, land restoration, traditional medicine and medicinal herbs. There will be a heritage seed exchange and a vendors’ market featuring natural earth-friendly products, information and services. Los Masis, a musical group from Bolivia, will perform. There will be speakers and participants from at least six countries, including Canada, Guatemala, México, Nicaragua and the United States, as well as many Native American tribes from across the country.

The conference has been organized to promote and generate support for sustainable communities, traditional sustainable agriculture and indigenous spiritual practices. The organizers consider genetically modified seeds and foods (GMOs) to be dangerous to the environment, the food supply and human health. The event is sponsored by the Pueblo of Tesuque, Four Bridges Traveling Permaculture Institute, the Indigenous Program at Northern New Mexico College, and the Traditional Native American Farmers’ Association. For more information, call 518.332.3156 or visit: <http://4bridges.org/educational-programs/annual-conference/2014-conference/>

## RESIDENTS OPPOSE FRACKING IN THE CHAMA RIVER WATERSHED

Río Arriba Concerned Citizens (RACC) has announced a campaign to halt leasing of land for oil and gas exploration proposed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The parcels are located in the Río Chama Watershed area of the Santa Fe National Forest (SFNF), east of the Continental Divide near Gallina.

The group objects to hydraulic fracturing, or “fracking,” as it is commonly known, because they think it could contaminate the watershed’s Morrison Formation aquifer, which, with the Río Grande, provides over half of the water for the entire state of New Mexico—water that is already legally allocated. A statement the group released says that contamination of the aquifer would have disastrous effects for downstream residents from Abiquiú to Española, Santa Fe, Albuquerque and beyond. RACC is also concerned about “flaring,” a byproduct of fracking, in which unmarketable gas is released into the air or burned off. The proposed parcels are in a region where catastrophic forest fires have occurred in recent years.

For more information on RACC, call 505.685.0511, email [cody@frankcody.com](mailto:cody@frankcody.com) or visit [www.rioarribaconcernedcitizens.com](http://www.rioarribaconcernedcitizens.com)

## ESPAÑOLA CHARTER SCHOOL FINDS PERMANENT HOME

The New Mexico State public charter school, La Tierra Montessori School for the Arts and Sciences (LTMAS), has announced an unprecedented lease agreement with the Ohkay Owingeh Tribal Government. The former John F. Kennedy Junior High School, located on the pueblo, is being remodeled as the permanent home for LTMAS, which begins its third year this September. One hundred students in kindergarten through eighth grades are currently enrolled. LTMAS expects to take occupancy by January 2015. The project is being developed by Tsay Corporation of Ohkay Owingeh, with Studio Southwest Architects leading the design team and Avanyu General Contracting engaged as the prime contractor.

Ohkay Owingeh Gov. Marcelino Aguino says, “The tribal council is in full support of this opportunity to help our communities of northern New Mexico through an educational curriculum that focuses on a return to traditional agricultural practices.” “The partnership with Ohkay Owingeh and La Tierra is a perfect example of a private/public collaborative effort that has put the education of our students and community at the forefront. This is a true learning community effort,” said LTMAS Governing Council Pres. Ron Martínez.

Mateo Peixinho of Avanyu General Contracting said, “We can transform the building into a wonderful home for the kids and staff. The reuse of an existing structure is the greenest and most sustainable construction there is.” The nonprofit LTMAS PTA is working to raise funds to enhance the developers’ investment. For more information call Martínez at 505.927.3815.

## VALLE DE ORO NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

The federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, along with state and local partners, has completed the \$18.5 million acquisition of the Southwest’s first urban wildlife refuge, the 570-acre Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge in Albuquerque’s South Valley. U.S. Interior Secretary Sally Jewell, along with Sen. Tom Udall, Sen. Martin Heinrich and Rep. Michelle Lujan Grisham attended a celebration of the acquisition in Albuquerque last month. Jewell called the community partnership “a model for other parts of the country.” Isleta Pueblo Gov. Paul Torres said, “It’s a giant classroom for our kids.” Valle de Oro is now open to the public at least one day a month. A visitor center at the site is planned.

## COLORADO CITIES BEGIN USING SOLAR ENERGY

Denver-based solar power company SunShare LLC has reached an agreement with the Adams County government to provide the city with power from the company’s community solar gardens. Adams County government will be the first in the country to power its buildings with energy from community solar power.

Community solar gardens, which offer large solar energy power systems and panels for individual sale or lease, are an increasing trend in Colorado. Numerous local governments have been adopting them into their power grids. The city of Englewood is launching a solar project of its own, using a system developed by Clean Energy Collective as a means to power its city Parks and Recreation Department’s pumping station.

Adams County will buy a specific amount of energy from the solar garden and receive a credit on its Xcel Energy bill for that amount. The county will purchase energy for seven of its county facilities and will offset the power needed for 40 to 45 homes. The city of Arvada will purchase enough power for about 130 homes.





# What's Going On!

## Events / Announcements

### ALBUQUERQUE

**SEPT. 4, 10 AM-1 PM**  
**UNM HEALTH SCIENCES JOB FAIR**  
 HSC NORTH CAMPUS UPPER PLAZA  
 Open to physicians, nurses, midwives, physician assistants, social workers, nutritionists, occupational therapists, health profession students, etc. ACLithereo@salud.unm.edu

**SEPT. 6**  
**TEDXABQ**  
 POPEJOY HALL, UNM  
 Full-day stage program featuring innovative, dynamic, homegrown ideas from people who are stimulating dialogue and putting ideas into action to improve communities. \$65/\$25. Tedxabq.com, (http://facebook.com/tedxabq)

**SEPT. 8, 6-7:30 PM**  
**NM ECONOMY DEBATE**  
 SO. BROADWAY CULTURAL CENTER  
 1025 BROADWAY BLVD. SE  
 Live debate on the NM economy between retired businessman/former Democratic gubernatorial candidate Alan Webber and Paul Gessing, president of the politically conservative Río Grande Foundation. Moderated by KNME-TV public affairs host Gene Grant. \$5.

**SEPT. 9, 6-9 PM**  
**CÍBOLA NATL. FOREST WILDERNESS**  
 UNM CONTINUING ED. BLDG. N.  
 1634 UNIVERSITY BLVD. NE  
 Public collaboration workshop to identify lands suitable for wilderness conservation. Other Sept. workshops in Grants, Mountainair and Socorro. 505.346.3889, champegreen@fs.fed.us, www.fs.usda.gov/cibola

**SEPT. 11, 5-6:45 PM; SEPT. 27, 10 AM-12 PM**  
**COMPOSTING WITH WORMS**  
 LOS VOLCANES SENIOR CENTER  
 6500 LOS VOLCANES RD. NW  
 Food scraps, junk mail and paper products make up about 30% of our garbage. Learn to use red worms to turn organic waste into high-quality compost. Free. Registration: 505.836.8745, register@nmcomposters.org

**SEPT. 14, 5 PM**  
**RÍO GRANDE AGRICULTURAL LAND TRUST HARVEST DINNER**  
 FARM & TABLE  
 Fundraising dinner celebrates the preservation of farms and wildlife habitat in the Middle Río Grande. "Farm to fork" event brings together several Albuquerque chefs who will create a 5-course meal made with local ingredients. \$105 or \$200 for two. 505.884.6577, eventbrite.com

**SEPT. 18, 5:30-7:30 PM**  
**HOME COMPOSTING BASICS**  
 LOMA COLORADO PUBLIC LIBRARY, 755 LOMA COLORADO DR., RÍO RANCHO  
 Learn the science, materials and methods of drought-proofing your garden soil. Free. register@nmcomposters.org, nmcomposters.org

**SEPT. 19-20**  
**GLOBALQUERQUE**  
 NATIONAL HISPANIC CULTURAL CENTER  
 10th annual celebration of world music and culture. Diversión para todos. Fun for all. www.globalquerque.org

**SEPT. 22-24**  
**NM RECYCLING & SOLID WASTE CONFERENCE**  
 HOTEL ALBUQUERQUE  
 Integrating Solutions. Lectures, roundtable discussions, exhibitors, awards, more. NM Recycling Coalition. 505.603.0558, sarah@recyclenewmexico.com

**SEPT. 27**  
**FALL SOLAR FIESTA**  
 CNM WORKFORCE TRAINING CENTER,  
 5600 EAGLE ROCK AVE.  
 A full day of engaging presentations sponsored by Central NM Community College. Renewable energy and sustainability trade show. Free. Presented by the NM Solar Energy Association. 505.246.0400, info@nmsea.org, www.nmsolarfiesta.org

**OCT. 11, 2 PM**  
**THE STORY OF FRACKING: A TEACH-IN**  
 ABQ PEACE & JUSTICE CENTER  
 202 HARVARD SE  
 Part of a global day of protest to call for a ban on fracking, a method of natural gas drilling that opponents say puts our air, water, climate and communities at risk. Host: Food & Water Watch NM. www.globalfrackdown.org/events-2014/

**OCT. 11-NOV. 8**  
**BERNALILLO COUNTY EXTENSION MASTER COMPOSTER TRAINING**  
 Applications are now being accepted. www.nmcomposters.org

**OCT. 12, 11 AM-4 PM**  
**LOCAL FOOD FESTIVAL AND FIELD DAY**  
 GUTIÉRREZ-HUBBELL HOUSE  
 6029 ISLETA BLVD. SW  
 Highlights local food and agriculture. Connect with local growers, producers and businesses. 505.724.3619, localfoodnm@mrcog-nm.gov, www.mrcog-nm.gov

**OCT. 15-19**  
**NATIONAL WILDERNESS CONFERENCE**  
 HYATT REGENCY ABQ,  
 ABQ CONVENTION CENTER  
 Presentations, panels, exhibits, field trips and skill-development workshops focusing on recent advances and emerging issues in wilderness stewardship. The companion Wilderness Celebration Exhibition will showcase organizational booths for grade- and middle-school students. Conference registration: \$350/\$200. Scholarships. Get Wild Festival (public) on Oct. 18, 2-10 pm on Civic Plaza. http://www.wilderness50th.org

**WEDNESDAYS THROUGH NOV. 19, NOON-12:45 PM**  
**WATER & ENERGY IN NEW MEXICO**  
 PEARL HALL (STANFORD & CENTRAL), RM. P139  
 Conversations on Our Common Future seminar/discussion series. Free. cscruggs@unm.edu. 9/3: Water law in NM; 9/17: Impacts of climate change on the Río Grande Basin; 9/24: Adjudication, water rights and appropriation; 10/1: Water & energy use in NM agriculture; 10/8: Implications of militarized landscapes for groundwater

### SANTA FE

**SEPT. 3, 6-7 PM**  
**ZAPPOS CEO TONY HSIEH**  
 JAMES A. LITTLE THEATER  
 Lecture/Dialogue with Geoffrey West. Presented by Creative SF, the SF Institute and St. John's College. Hsieh is behind a major urban experiment to revitalize Las Vegas, NV's downtown. \$20. Lensic box office, Tickessantafe.org

**SEPT. 6, 8:30 AM-5 PM**  
**TEEN STARTUP CHALLENGE**  
 WAREHOUSE 21, 1614 PASEO DE PERALTA  
 Community collaborators and mentors will provide intensive training and business development support for NM's teen entrepreneurs. Presented by the city of SF Economic Development Div. and the Regional Development Corp. Free, including meals. 505.955.6607, rxchaney@santafenm.gov

**SEPT. 6, 4-6 PM**  
**RESISTANCE – FILM SCREENING**  
 CCA, 1050 OLD PECOS TRAIL  
 Documentary film about superbugs and antibiotic-resistant infections. Free. RSVP: 505.750.4919. Info: Resistancethefilm.com, Foodandwaterwatch.org

**SEPT. 9, 4-6 PM**  
**ELDORADO/285 RECYCLES**  
 ECIA CONFERENCE ROOM  
 Eldorado area recycling advocacy group monthly meeting. All welcome. 505.466.9797, eldorado285recycles.com, eldorado285recycles.org

**SEPT. 9, 6:30-8 PM**  
**THREE PATHS TO PUBLISHING: WHICH IS BEST FOR YOU?**  
 UNITARIAN CHURCH, BARCELONA RD.  
 Susan Guyette, author of 5 books, will present 3 options for publishing your book—conventional publishing, self-publishing, and a hybrid model—and will discuss the benefits and pitfalls of each. Presented by New Mexico Book Assn. \$10 NMBA members / \$20 non-members. 505.660.6357, admin@nmbook.org.

**SEPT. 11, 18, & 21**  
**NM ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CENTER EVENTS**  
 Celebrate the NMELC's 27th birthday. 9/11, 9/18: Horseback rides in the Cerrillos hills. \$65. 9/21: Hike with conservation biologist Kelly Gallagher in the Galisteo Basin. RSVP: 505.989.9022, ext. 19, shelbie@nmelc.org

**SEPT. 12-14**  
**FUZE-SW 2014 FOOD & FOLKLORE FEST.**  
 MUSEUM OF INDIAN ARTS AND CULTURE AND MUSEUM OF INTL. FOLK ART  
 Explore the customs of NM's many cultures that created a unique culinary tradition in a series of keynotes, talks, panel discussions, breakout sessions, creative interludes and lots of food and drink. 200 tickets available (9/12-13): \$250 with early-bird discounts. Single-day tickets may be available for \$150. Free marketplace event (9/14) open to the public. 505.476.1144, fuze.sw@gmail.com, fuzesw.museumofnewmexico.org

**SEPT. 13, 9 AM-12 PM**  
**GREY WATER WORKSHOP**  
 PERFORMANCE SPACE AT LA TIENDA, ELDORADO  
 Learn how to collect and recycle water from your sink, tub or washing machine and use it to irrigate your lawn and garden. A Green

Café workshop with Doug Pushard, sponsored by the Sustainable Eldorado Residents Alliance and HarvestH2o. Free. Registration: 512.698.8763, diane@harvesth2o.com

**SEPT. 15 ENTRY DEADLINE**  
**WATER CONSERVATION POSTER CONTEST**  
 Grades 1-6. www.savewatersantafe.com/conservationclassroom

**SEPT. 16, 6:30-7:30 PM**  
**TIME BANKING PANEL DISCUSSION**  
 DOWNTOWN LIBRARY, WASHINGTON ST.  
 Complementary currency and maximizing community resources. 505.490.2119, www.santafetimebank.org

**SEPT. 16, 8:30-10:30 AM**  
**ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE AND FUNDRAISING SUCCESS**  
 SF COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
 Nonprofit technical assistance workshop with Elizabeth Roghair and Nadine Stafford. \$15-\$45. Registration: 505.988.9715, www.santafecf.org

**SEPT. 16, 23, 6 PM**  
**SUSTAINABLE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE AMENDMENTS PUBLIC MEETINGS**  
 • 9/16: POJOAQUE VALLEY SCHOOL  
 MULTI-PURPOSE BLDG., 1797 STATE HWY. 502  
 • 9/23: SF COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, 3229 RODEO RD.  
 Meeting on matters of local interest concerning the SLDC amendments and Zoning Map Adoption Draft. 505.986.6200, www.santafecountynm.gov/dldc

**SEPT. 16-17, 6-8 PM**  
**EXPLORING HORIZONS IN CARBON ENERGY: DIVESTMENT AND ENGAGEMENT**  
 JEAN COCTEAU CINEMA, 418 MONTEZUMA  
 Two evenings about carbon energy, climate change and investment-driven solutions. 9/16: screening of the documentary *A Climate of Change*. 9/17: Panel discussion of experts from the Sustainable, Responsible, Impact Investment industry. 505.982.9661, www.HorizonsSFS.com

**SEPT. 18, 5-7 PM**  
**EXHIBITION OPENING RECEPTION**  
 SFCC VISUAL ARTS GALLERY  
 PREcognition/REcognition: Examining the Reciprocal Gaze in Godfrey Reggio's film *Visitors*. Exhibition on display 9/11-Oct. 8. Free screening of *Visitors* following reception at 8 pm at The Screen, SFUAD.

**SEPT. 19, 6:30-9:30 PM**  
**WILD EARTH GUARDIANS GUARDIANS' GALA**  
 SF FARMERS' MARKET PAVILION  
 WEG's 25th anniversary benefit dinner. Celebrate being a force for nature. Tickets: \$100. 505.988.9126, ext. 0, http://www.wildearthguardians.org/site/MessageViewer?em\_id=16701.0

**SEPT. 19-21**  
**STARTUP WEEKEND**  
 SF BUSINESS INCUBATOR  
 3900 PASEO DEL SOL  
 Dynamic entrepreneurial event. Pitch an idea, form a team, build a startup. Registration: \$75/\$35. 505.424.1140, soshea@sfbnet, www.santafe.startupweekend.org



SEPT. 20, NOON

### THE PEOPLE'S CLIMATE MARCH

SF PLAZA TO THE RAILYARD

A march coinciding with the People's Climate March in NYC, calling on the U.N. and member governments to take concerted action on climate change. Six stops to hear presentations on climate topics from noted presenters. Info: [Camilla.feibelman@sierraclub.org](mailto:Camilla.feibelman@sierraclub.org)

SEPT. 20, 5:30-8:30 PM

### REACHING FOR THE STARS

THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION

Fundraiser for Rising Stars in the SW, youth leadership program that helps students prepare for higher education and careers. Dinner, silent auction. Tickets: [www.RisingStarsSouthwest.org](http://www.RisingStarsSouthwest.org), 505.216.6049, [roybmartinez@gmail.com](mailto:roybmartinez@gmail.com)

SEPT. 20, 9 AM-2 PM; SEPT. 21, 1-3 PM

### WORLD PEACE LABYRINTH EVENTS

FRENCHY'S PARK (AGUA FRÍA AND OSAGE)

9/21: Help repair prayer labyrinth. 9/21: Intl. World Peace Day. 505.954.4495, [fantasemudman@gmail.com](mailto:fantasemudman@gmail.com)

SEPT. 20-21, 10 AM-4 PM

### KINDRED SPIRITS FALL OPEN HOUSE

Visit the animals and browse through barns and shady grounds. Free talks and presentation on senior animal wellness care. Refreshments provided. 505.471.5366, [www.kindredspiritsnm.org](http://www.kindredspiritsnm.org)

SEPT. 22, 6-9 PM

### MUSHROOM CULTIVATION WORKSHOP

AMPERSAND LEARNING CENTER, CERRILLOS  
Mushroom cultivation for dryland environments. Low-costs skills for working with fungi. \$10-\$30 donation. Registration: [radmycology@gmail.com](mailto:radmycology@gmail.com). Info: 360.561.5612, [www.radicalmycology.com](http://www.radicalmycology.com)

SEPT. 24, 7:30 PM

### BUCKWHEAT ZYDECO

SF FARMERS' MARKET PAVILLION

A benefit for KSFR SF Public Radio featuring zydeco's most revered band. \$25 adv./\$30 door. [Brownpapertickets.com](http://Brownpapertickets.com)

SEPT. 26, 1:30-4:30 PM

### SW WOMEN IN CONSERVATION FORUM

RANDALL DAVEY AUDUBON CENTER

Forum on freshwater. Guest speakers Letty Belin of the Dept. of the Interior and Audubon NM's Beth Bardwell. Moderated by Laura Paskus. RSVP: 505.983.4609, ext 24, [mmiller@audubon](mailto:mmiller@audubon)

SEPT. 26, 7 PM

### WE ARE PEOPLE HERE!

EL MUSEO CULTURAL

A dramatic reading of Howard Zinn's *A People's History of the United States*. The story of an indomitable human spirit that is rising again. By donation. [WAPHemail@gmail.com](mailto:WAPHemail@gmail.com)

SEPT. 27, 9:30 AM-9:30 PM

### BANKING ON NEW MEXICO

SF COMMUNITY CONVENTION CENTER

A Public Bank Symposium with SF Mayor Javier Gonzales, Rep. Brian Egolf, authors Craig Barnes, Gwendolyn Hallsmith, Ellen Hodgson Brown, Richard D. Wolff and others. Learn how a public bank can bolster the local economy. Sponsored by WeArePeople-Here! and the Public Banking Institute. \$40/students: \$10. 505.501.1779, [waphemail@gmail.com](mailto:waphemail@gmail.com), [bankingonnewmexico.org](http://bankingonnewmexico.org)

SEPT. 28-OCT. 1

### NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

ELDORADO HOTEL

Higher education as a catalyst for economic

development. Economic development experts from across the U.S. and Canada, along with professionals from universities, communities and for-profit businesses will attend. Regional partners include Luna Community College, NM Highlands University, Northern NM College, Regional Development Corporation. [tim.hindes@universityeda.org](mailto:tim.hindes@universityeda.org), [www.UEDAAAnnualSummit.org](http://www.UEDAAAnnualSummit.org)

SEPT. 30, 5:30-7 PM

### WOMEN'S SALON

SF COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

"Fostering the confidence to cultivate our own success." A SFCF community dialogue for women with Lanie Grimmer, Rubina Cohen and Cyndi Conn. No charge. Registration: 505.988.9715, [www.santafecf.org](http://www.santafecf.org)

OCT. 3, 5-8 PM

### GARB WARE

RADICLE, 1703 LENA ST.

Fashion show and sewing how-to with scrap materials. 505.474.8000, [Christie@beradicle.com](mailto:Christie@beradicle.com), [upcycledfashion.com](http://upcycledfashion.com)

OCT. 4

### HARVEST FESTIVAL

EL RANCHO DE LAS GOLONDRINAS, LA CIÉNEGA

Living history museum. Children 12 & under free. 505.471.2261, [Golondrinass.org](http://Golondrinass.org)

OCT. 4, 3-8 PM

### 3RD PETCHESKY CONSERVATION AWARD

PETCHESKY CONSERVATION CENTER,

5430 S. RICHARDS AVE.

NM Land Conservancy's celebration of land conservation. Tickets: 505.986.3801, [ladkins@nmilandconservancy.org](mailto:ladkins@nmilandconservancy.org)

OCT. 11: PUBLIC CONVERSATION;

OCT. 13-16: RETREAT

### LEADING BY BEING: EXPLORING A NEW VISION OF LEADERSHIP

CONVERSATION: THE LENSIC; RETREAT:

GHOST RANCH, ABIQUIÚ, NM

Gloria Steinem, Alice Walker, Chung Hyun Kyung will explore ways to support the growth and development of the feminine voice and balanced leadership. Lensic tickets (\$35): 505.988.1234; Retreat (\$455-\$900): 877.804.4678, ext. 4152 or [Registrar@GhostRanch.org](mailto:Registrar@GhostRanch.org)

OCT. 15-19

### SF INDEPENDENT FILM FEST

505.349.1414, [info@santafeindependent.com](mailto:info@santafeindependent.com), [www.santafeindependent.com](http://www.santafeindependent.com)

### BECOME A SITE STEWARD

SANTA FE NATIONAL FOREST

Monitor archeological and historical sites on a regular basis for evidence of natural deterioration or vandalism. [www.sfnfstestewards.org](http://www.sfnfstestewards.org)

## ESPAÑOLA

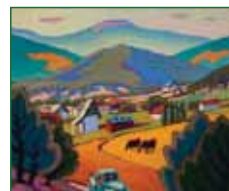
OCT. 3-4

### TRADITIONAL AGRICULTURE & SUSTAINABLE LIVING CONFERENCE

SALAZAR PERFORMING ARTS BUILDING, NORTHERN NM COLLEGE

Keynote speeches, panel discussions, workshops, performances, vendors' market, more. See newsbite, page 37. 518.332.3156, <http://4bridges.org/educational-programs/annual-conference/2014-conference/>

## TAOS



SEPT. 19-28

### HIGH ROAD ART TOUR

ON "THE HIGH ROAD TO TAOS" [highroadnewmexico.com](http://highroadnewmexico.com)

SEPT. 20, 7 PM

### ON THE LAND-TOGETHER WITH THE EARTH - FILM PREMIERE

TAOS CENTER FOR THE ARTS

133 PASEO DEL PUEBLO SUR



7-7:30: live entertainment by 10-year-old Taos Pueblo drummer/singer Cruise Lujan, Nick Branchal with 12 guitarists; Intro by Jonathan

Warm Day Coming. Documentary film brings together the 3 primary cultures of northern NM with 7 stories of the land: its power to heal and unify. Soundtrack by Tom Bee. \$12 at the door or [www.tcataos.org](http://www.tcataos.org). Info: 575.668.2055, [juliapatt@gmail.com](mailto:juliapatt@gmail.com), Trailer: <http://vimeo.com/33124684>, [www.the8thfire.org](http://www.the8thfire.org)

SEPT. 26-OCT. 5

### 40TH TAOS FALL ARTS FESTIVAL

SEVERAL LOCATIONS, TAOS, NM

Awards, art installations, receptions, architecture/history walking tour, performances, environmental film festival and more. Presented by the Taos Arts Council with partial funding from NM Arts/NEA. 575.758.4648, [taosfallarts.com](http://taosfallarts.com)

SEPT. 30

### SAN GERÓNIMO DAY

TAOS PUEBLO, NM

Annual feast day, trade fair, ceremonial foot races and pole climb. 575.758.1028

THROUGH FEB. 28, 2015

### ART THROUGH THE LOOM WEAVING GUILD SHOW

OLD MARTINA'S HALL, RANCHOS DE TAOS

[www.artthroughtheloom.com](http://www.artthroughtheloom.com)

## HERE & THERE

SEPT. 1-7

### 68TH ANNUAL NAVAJO NATION FAIR

FAIRGROUNDS IN WINDOW ROCK, ARIZ.

Traditional songs and dances, parade, Miss Navajo Nation Pageant, rodeos, powwow. 928.871.6647, [navajonationfair.com](http://navajonationfair.com)

SEPT. 9-11

### NATIONAL HEIRLOOM EXPOSITION SANTA ROSA, CALIF.

"The World's Pure Food Fair" A nonprofit event centered around heirloom seeds, vegetables and anti-GMO activism. Speakers and vendors. 707.773.1336, [info@theheirloomexpo.com](mailto:info@theheirloomexpo.com), [theheirloomexpo.com](http://theheirloomexpo.com)

SEPT. 11-15

### AMERICAS LATINO ECO FESTIVAL

DENVER AND BOULDER, COLO.

2nd annual festival produced by Americas for Conservation & the Arts and the Sierra Club's Beyond Coal Campaign. With environmental leader Jean-Michael Cousteau, actor/social activist Edward James Olmos, scientists, artists, community and policy leaders from across the Americas. [americaslatinoecofestival.org](http://americaslatinoecofestival.org)

SEPT. 19, 5 PM APPLICATION DEADLINE

### PNM REDUCE YOUR USE GRANT

COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT NM

Energy-efficiency proposals from NM nonprofits up to \$5,000. [PNM.com/reduceyouruse](http://PNM.com/reduceyouruse)

SEPT. 26-28

### ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION VOLUNTEER PROJECT

RÍO MORA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE NEAR LAS VEGAS, NM

Join the ABQ Wildlife Federation to construct erosion control structures to improve riparian wildlife habitat. [rioscial@gmail.com](mailto:rioscial@gmail.com), <http://abq.nmwildlife.org/>

SEPT. 27-28, 9 AM-5 PM

### HEART OF NM FIBER FESTIVAL

MORIARTY CITY PARK, MORIARTY, NM

East Mountain fiber artisans and suppliers. Natural fiber products, equipment, materials. Demos, competitions, hands-on booths. Music, food. Free admission. 505.384.2293, [Heartofnmfibergathering.com](http://Heartofnmfibergathering.com)

OCT. 3-7

### SHIPROCK NAVAJO NATION FAIR

SHIPROCK FAIRGROUNDS, SHIPROCK, NM

Dances, song & dance competition, arts & crafts, rodeo, parade. [Northernnavajofair.org](http://Northernnavajofair.org)

OCT. 4-5

### AMERICAN SOLAR ENERGY SOCIETY SOLAR TOUR

19th annual tour of homes and businesses in NM. [www.ases.org/solar-tour](http://www.ases.org/solar-tour)

OCT. 23-24, 9 AM-5 PM

### 4TH ANNUAL RENEWABLE ENERGY AND CLEAN TECHNOLOGY CONF.

LAS CRUCES CONVENTION CENTER, NM

575.323.1575, [carrie@nmgreenchamber.com](mailto:carrie@nmgreenchamber.com)

THROUGH OCT. 15.

### INVITATIONAL NM PAINTERS EXHIBITION

KENNEDY ALUMNI HALL, HIGHLANDS UNIV.,

905 UNIVERSITY AVE.,

LAS VEGAS, NM

The largest show of its kind in decades. More than 50 contemporary NM painters and original printmakers. Figural and representational artists.



Jerry West Painting

Gila Conservation Coalition presents  
10TH ANNUAL  
*Gila* RIVER FESTIVAL  
CELEBRATING AMERICA'S  
FIRST WILDERNESS RIVER

The Southwest's  
Premier  
Nature  
Festival!

September 18-21, 2014  
Silver City, New Mexico

- Dave Foreman, wilderness advocate, author of *Confessions of an Eco-Warrior*
- Michael Berman, new photographs of America's First Wilderness River
- Films celebrating 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act
- Kayaking • Birding • Guided hikes
- Wild Grace with Sister Joan Brown, New Mexico Interfaith Power & Light
- Gala for the Gila, featuring live music by The Roadrunners
- Art Walk • Monsoon Puppet Parade

SCHEDULE AND REGISTRATION AT  
[www.gilaconservation.org](http://www.gilaconservation.org)

Art by Philip Parotti Partially funded by Silver City Lodger's Tax



# Live the Extraordinary



Hacienda de Las Hermanas, Tesuque Ridge  
\$4,450,000



Camino Militar, Upper Eastside  
\$3,450,000



Casa Carolina, Circle Drive  
\$2,295,000



The Emerald Home, Monte Sereno  
\$1,950,000

- New Mexico Emerald Award
- HERS 16 (Energy Rating)
- Haciendas, Parade of Homes, 2014 - Awards
  - Best Energy Efficiency
  - Best Water Efficiency
- 4.4 KW Photovoltaic Solar System
- Thermal Solar Hot Water
- Water Catchment and Cisterns
- LED Light Fixtures
- Energy Star Appliances

- LEED Platinum, New Mexico Emerald - Awards
- Produces all of its own energy - zero energy costs
- All natural finishes including flooring, walls and ceilings
- ERV (Energy Recovery Ventilation) System: HEPA filtered air
- Recycled materials are used throughout
- No chemicals used in the construction or maintenance
- Utilizing geothermal and solar heating
- All roof runoff water is used for irrigation purposes.
- Three 1700 gallon cisterns for water catchment
- Drought resistant and drought tolerant landscaping

## Own the Sustainable

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