

FIESTAS DE SANTIAGO Y SANTA ANA

JULY 21-23, 2006



NUESTRA CELEBRACIÓN DE VEINTE-CINCO AÑOS
DE LA GENTE, POR LA GENTE

Fiestas



GREG KRELLER

Lloyd García of Mariachi Río Grande at the start of a procession

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THE TAOS NEWS

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THE TAOS NEWS, P.O. BOX U, TAOS, NEW MEXICO 87571

Published by El Crepúsculo, Inc. - *The Taos News*

Sucesor de El Crepúsculo, fundado en 1834 por el padre Antonio José Martínez

WEB SITE: www.taosnews.com ■ ALL DEPARTMENTS: 505-758-2241

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WELCOME TO THE 2006 LAS FIESTAS DE SANTIAGO Y SANTA ANA

Bienvenidos familia y amigos! This past fiesta year has been a very fulfilling learning experience that has brought me to be an exceptionally better person.

If it was not for the Taos Fiesta Council, I would not have had this amazing opportunity to be an incredible role model for all young girls in Northern New Mexico.

So, I would like to thank them for this joyous commitment they have presented to me.

This past year I have traveled to different places all over Northern New Mexico to celebrate their fies-



Maria Elena A. Martinez

tas. I have met the most outgoing people that have made an impact on my life as I did theirs.

Also a huge part of this journey has been my family. They have been very supportive and I would not have been able to do it without them.

Last, I would like to give the upcoming court of 2006 all my best regards and the best of luck.

Get ready for a fun and exciting experience that will make an impact on your life.

¡Que viva las Fiestas!

Maria Elena A. Martínez
2006 La Reina de Taos

Lt was an honor to be the 2005 *Reina de Taos*. My experiences as *La Reina* were wonderful memories that I am going to remember for a long time. I realized how important it is to keep our traditions and culture alive. I am very proud to be part of this culture and to say that I am a Taoseña and that I was *La Reina de Taos*, New Mexico. I grew and my life is more enriched from this experience.

Representing Taos and *La Gente* was very rewarding. I met a lot of good people and I truly enjoyed participating in all the events. I hope that I can continue to promote our culture. I will tell our young girls that being *La Reina* is a commitment that needs to be taken seriously and it will make you aware of the richness and beauty of what the Taos fiestas brings to our gente that continues our wonderful traditions that I am so very proud of.

I'd like to thank my two *Princesas*, Maria Elena Martínez and Krystal Struck, for representing Taos, La Gente and our culture with me. For personal reasons I



Elena Adalia Villafranca

could not complete my reign, so I would like to especially thank Maria Elena Martínez, who became the new *Reina*.

A special thanks to my family especially to my mother, Carmelia Chavez-Villafranca, who assisted me and participated in all the events. Also I want to thank my mom's family, my *tias* and *tios* that supported me during my reign. I could not have made it without your love and support you all gave me.

I would like to thank the royal court chairwoman, Evangeline "Vangie" Romero, and her partners, Elma Vigil and Sonya Romero and also Don Francisco Trujillo. The time and commit-

ment you gave to me and my *Princesas* was unforgettable.

Otra vez, muchas gracias a todos por el amor y por la oportunidad a poder representar mi comunidad de Taos. Que Dios les bendiga a todos y que.

¡Que viva las Fiestas de Santiago y Santa Ana!

Elena Adalia Villafranca
2005 La Reina de Taos



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Fr. George Salazar crowns Jessica C. Quintana during Fiesta Mass at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church.

GREG KRELLER

¡BIENVENIDOS!

*W*elcome to Taos and las Fiestas de Santiago y Santa Ana. The annual celebration of the Fiestas de Santiago y Santa Ana is part of our culture and tradition that makes Taos a unique and historical town. We have been celebrating the fiestas for centuries, and this year

is our 25th year as an incorporated council. This annual celebration is a time for us to visit with old friends and make new ones. We of the Fiesta Council would like to wish everyone a fun and safe Fiesta. Enjoy!

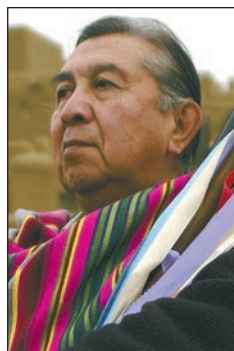
¡Que Viva Las Fiestas!
Liz Peralta, President

GREETINGS FROM TAOS PUEBLO

*L*et me welcome you from Taos Pueblo. As Governor of our Native American Community, I would like to welcome each and every one of you to the Annual Fiestas of Santiago and Santa Ana.

The Fiestas will be celebrated in Taos Town on July 22 and 23, while here at Taos Pueblo, we will celebrate on July 26 and 27, in accordance with our traditions.

The Fiestas are enjoyed by locals and visitors from across the land. Fiestas are a very festive



RICK ROMANCITO
2006 Taos Pueblo Gov.
James Lujan Sr.

time, a time to see old friends and a time to make new friends; it is a time to enjoy the historic parade, to enjoy "fiesta burgers" and other culinary delights.

Here at Taos Pueblo we celebrate with our Corn Dances on both days, the 26th and 27th. Everyone is welcome to observe our age-old dances.

I hereby wish everyone a save and festive time at the Fiestas of Santiago and Santa Ana and do wish everyone a save return to your homes, wherever you may have traveled from.

James Lujan, Governor
Taos Pueblo

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FIESTA WELCOME FROM THE MAYOR'S OFFICE

Bienvenidos!
On behalf of the Taos Town Council and the town of

Taos, I would like to welcome everyone to the 2006 Fiestas de Santiago y Santa Ana.

The Taos Fiesta Council has dedicated many working hours throughout the year to make this celebration special for all of us.

Congratulations to our fiesta queen and her court. Thank you for representing the town of Taos.

This annual celebration is a time for us to visit with old friends and



Bobby Durán

for us to make new ones. Taoseños and visitors to Taos have an opportunity to mingle as we enjoy the sights and sounds of fiesta on our historic and beautiful Taos Plaza.

Taos has so much to offer! Please take the time to enjoy the natural beauty of the area and the friendliness of the people. The Fiestas de Taos is a special time for all of us.

Have a great time, keep safe and please visit us often! ENJOY!

¡Que vivan Las Fiestas de Taos!

Bobby F. Durán
Mayor of Taos

FIESTA WELCOME FROM THE TAOS COUNTY COMMISSION

Bienvenidos! There's no better time of the year than at Taos Fiestas for Taoseños and visitors to get together

and rekindle old friendships and family ties. True Taoseños will always share fond memories of Taos Fiestas. From the beautiful señoritas vying for the honored positions of Taos fiesta queen and royal court to the colorful parades, the Tío Vivo carousel and El Vivorón, all these remain beautiful elements of Fiestas de Taos.

On behalf of the five member board of the Taos County Commission, and other elected officials of our Taos County government including the Taos County treasurer, assessor, clerk, sheriff, probate judge and our fine members of administration and staff, I welcome you to the annual Fiestas de Santiago y Santa Ana.

Fiestas are a good time to think about those who



Manny Pacheco

have passed on and Taoseños who have contributed toward the quality of life we enjoy in Taos. Fiestas are also a good time to honor our soldiers who have fought to ensure that we will continue to enjoy freedom and peace. We must pray for the safe return of those Taoseños who continue to protect our freedom.

The Taos County Board of Commissioners would like to thank the fine members of the Taos Fiesta Council for making our Taos Fiestas such a success. Without your dedication and hard

work this annual gathering would not be possible and a major part of our lives, culture and tradition would not exist.

¡Con Amor y mucho Gusto! ¡Que Vivan Las Fiestas de Santiago y Santa Ana!

Respectfully,
Emanuel "Manny" Pacheco, chairman
on behalf of Taos County commissioners



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Fiestas

WELCOME FROM THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL

Dear Fellow Taoseños and Visitors:

On behalf of all the elected and appointed officials and staff of the Intergovernmental Council of the Enchanted Circle, Welcome! *¡Bienvenidos!* *Hee-Ya-Ho!* to our annual Fiestas de Taos.

Fiestas are a tradition that through the last four centuries has passed from generation to generation a way of preserving the rich cultures that have developed in Taos. This festivity is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and unity.

We invite our visitors to tour and enjoy the many cultural and historic sites throughout the Enchanted Circle and receive the cariño of our citizens and communities.

Thank you from Taos County, Town of Taos, Town of

Red River, Village of Questa, Village of Taos Ski Valley, Village of Eagle Nest, Village of Angel Fire, Taos Pueblo, Picuris Pueblo, Taos Municipal School District, Peñasco Independent School District, Questa Independent School District and the University of New Mexico-Taos.

Our sincere thanks to the Taos Fiesta Council for their tireless efforts in maintaining this time-honored event.

¡Gracias!

¡Que Vivan Las Fiestas de Taos!



Barb Wiard

Barbara L. Wiard
Chairperson,
Intergovernmental Council
of the Enchanted Circle
Mayor Pro Tem, Village of
Taos Ski Valley



RICK ROMANCITO



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Vivan
Las
Fiestas!*

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Fiestas

2006 FIESTA ROYAL COURT

Profiles written by Jessica Marsh

MICAYLA CORRAL-JEANTETE

*Q*rowing up, Micayla Corral-Jeantete said she has vague memories about attending the annual Fiestas. However, what sparks her memory is remembering that she always wanted to be riding in the parade as the Fiesta Queen. Micayla said she loves all the wonderful food that can be found at the Fiestas, but her favorite treat is the funnel cake. She said she has remained a dedicated parade-watching fan, and even though she is not a little girl anymore, she still loves to ride the Tío Vivo carousel.

As a young woman of 19 years, Micayla said she is proud to be a Taoseña and she knows she can represent Taos in a positive way. Micayla admits that the fiestas are a “part of my culture I never really knew about,” but she is determined to help “bring the motivation” to learn more about the tradition and keep it alive in the community. Micayla said she will not sit by and watch as community members lose the knowledge and history of the town’s traditions; she wants people to join her in representing the Taos culture with pride and respect.

When asked what the role of Fiesta Queen means to her, she said it means being “a positive role model (and a) positive part of Taos.” Taking on the role of Fiesta Queen means “fulfilling that goal you set for yourself ... (and being) proud of what you’re doing,” she said. Micayla said she would encourage every person to become involved with the Fiesta tradition because it’s a fun experience and you get to meet so many wonderful people.

Micayla said that she would also love to be a role model in the community, but she has set her sights on targeting a different group of people. She said she wants to “reach out to everyone,” instead of only focusing on individuals close to her age.

Micayla said that while she does not want to alienate any age group from looking to her as a role model, she still would like to “target the kids who have given up on their culture,” and who say Taos sucks. Micayla said she wants to help these kids recognize and appre-

ciate the fact that they get to live in a great community. Micayla said that if she is crowned Fiesta Queen she plans to represent Taos as a community whose members get along with and support each other, and she especially wants to prove that the youth in the community want to help make a difference.

It’s important that people in our own community, as well as surrounding communities realize that “we’re not (a town made up of) all bad kids,” she said. Micayla offers people the advice to get involved in their community, and to embrace every person who lives in the community. She said the best way for any person to make a difference is to “get involved ... attempt to make that positive change.”

Micayla Corral-Jeantete was born Feb. 8, 1987. She

is the daughter of Ted “Bear” Jeantete and Alicia Corral. Her maternal grandparents are Alfredo Padilla Corral and Hortensia Venegas Corral. Her paternal grandparents are José and Teresina Jeantete. She is a 2005 graduate of Taos High School, where she served as Honor Society president, as well as serving on the Student Council and Student Senate.

She attends the University of New Mexico, and she plans to pursue her career as a pre-school teacher. Micayla enjoys swimming and spending time with her family and friends. She loves listening to the music of Kelly Clarkson and Nickelback,

watching one of her favorite movies “Crash” and reading any books written by Rudolfo Anaya.

Micayla said her family members are extremely important to her, but it is her sister, Catrina, who is the most influential person in her life. Micayla said that her sister, who has Down Syndrome, has taught her that a person does not need to spend their life worrying, that a person should not let what other people think affect them, and that all people should be happy and thankful to just be themselves. Micayla said she is grateful that her parents encouraged her to run for Fiesta Queen, and she knows that they will always be there to give her support in whatever she does. She credits her parents for teaching her to be proud that her “roots” are in Taos, which has allowed her to fully appreciate how “tight” the Taos community is.



Micayla Corral-Jeantete

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Court profiles *continued from page 12*

Micayla also gives credit to her faith in the Catholic religion. She said her religion plays a big role in her life and she knows her faith will never let her down during hard times. She also said her faith has helped guide her to be a good person, both to herself and to others.

When asked how she will remember this experience, Micayla said she will look back on it as a fun and

positive experience. “Whether I win or lose, it’s an experience,” she said, “there’s really no loser in this (competition).” Micayla said it has been an honor to be part of this tradition, and it has been wonderful getting to meet new people from different communities. She said she would like to be remembered as a person who incorporated everyone in the Fiesta tradition, and who looked at the whole experience with a positive and optimistic attitude.



MINDY JULIE TRUJILLO

Playing basketball, spending time with friends and family, writing poetry and watching “Friends” are just a few of Mindy Julie Trujillo’s favorite hobbies. Throughout her four years at Taos High School she was a member of the Student Senate, and she also served as the high school’s yearbook editor and photographer. Mindy, who plans to attend the University of New Mexico in the fall, credits the knowledge she received in her high school Honors and AP classes for helping her to choose pediatric

nursing as her career.

“I’ve always enjoyed coming to the Fiestas ... and I want to show people how traditional our Fiestas are,” she said. She wants to remind the Taos community that the Spanish culture is still very much alive, and that the annual Fiestas reinforce the town’s traditions and history. Mindy said that it is a “big honor ... (and) an amazing experience” for her to be representing Taos and the Fiesta tradition. Mindy said she wants to be a role model for the younger generations in the community, because it is these generations who don’t understand or are losing respect for the Spanish culture. By being a representative of the Taos Fiesta Court

Court profiles *continued on page 14*

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Fiestas

Court profiles *continued from page 13*

and reaching out to the younger generations Mindy said she will “have taken (her) chance to make a difference” not only in her life, but in the lives of others in the community. Mindy encourages all members of the community to be a part of the Fiesta tradition, and offers the advice to always “learn as much as you can about your traditions” because once they are forgotten it is a challenge to bring them back. Mindy said she will never forget this experience, and will look back on it with fond memories.

Mindy Julie Trujillo was born June 30, 1988. She is the daughter of Evelyn Martínez and Raymond Trujillo. Her stepfather is Allen Martínez. Her maternal grandparents are the late José Abel Espinoza and Benita Espinoza. Her paternal grandparents are Raymond Trujillo, Sr. and Mercy Trujillo. Mindy is 18 years old and is a 2006 graduate of Taos High School.



Mindy Julie Trujillo

Mindy said that the most inspirational people in her life are her parents and her uncle, Darren Córdova. She said her uncle has turned his life into a great success, and that her entire family provides her with unconditional love and support.

Mindy said that her family “was all on board ... and proud” when she told them she wanted to run for Fiesta Queen. She said she is thankful that her parents have instilled in her a strong sense of responsibility, as well as teaching her to always “try to help people as much as you can.” Mindy also said that her faith in the Catholic religion has helped her throughout her life.

Religion has always been prominent in her family, and Mindy said her strong faith has helped her through many difficult times in her life.

Mindy shared some final thoughts about why she would like to be Fiesta Queen. She believes that the role of Fiesta Queen includes the duty of “bringing the feeling of respect back to the Fiestas” and representing the Taos community in the best way possible. Mindy remembers watching the parade when she was little, and thinking that one day she could be Fiesta Queen. Mindy said that she will look back on this time in her life as “a once-in-a-lifetime experience,” and

whether she is crowned or not, she hopes that the community will “remember that (she) represented Taos well.”

MONICA MARIE JULIANNA COCA



Ever since she was a little girl, Monica Marie Julianna Coca thought about what it would be like to be Fiesta Queen. Monica said she thought about getting to wear the beautiful dresses and riding in the parade “every year and every day of the Fiestas.” Monica said her favorite part of the Fiestas is seeing “everybody coming together” to celebrate the traditions of the community. She said growing up around the Fiesta tradition has allowed her to truly understand that the “Fiestas are our community’s greatest tradition.” Monica said she would be very proud to represent the Taos community, and would be honored to carry on the Fiesta tradition.

Monica said there are several reasons why she would like to be crowned Fiesta Queen. She said she wants to help bring back some of the fading traditions of the community, and to learn more about what is included in the town’s Spanish culture. What is most

important to Monica is the opportunity to “represent our culture, religion (and) hometown.” Monica said she also wants to show people that there is nothing wrong with being proud of where you come from, and she wants to help people realize that Taos is one of the most “unique” communities to live in. Whether or not Monica is named as Fiesta Queen she said this experience will give her the opportunity to be a role model for the younger girls in the community. Teaching these younger generations to always try to achieve their dreams and to pursue every inspiration that comes into their mind is the goal that Monica said she would like to accomplish the most. Monica said she would also encourage any girl to run for Fiesta Queen because they will leave the experience with good memories and a greater appreciation for their culture.

Monica, who is 18 years old, said it is crucial to the history and culture of Taos that the Fiestas remain an annual event in the community. Monica said it is exciting for her to be part of a tradition that goes back

Court profiles *continued on page 15*



Court profiles

continued from page 14

many generations, and it is an experience that she will never forget.

Monica Marie Julianna Coca was born May 27, 1988. She is the daughter of José and Kathy Coca. Her maternal grandparents are Lloyd and Barbara Mondragón. Her paternal grandparents are the late Eluterio and Elizaria Coca. She is a 2006 graduate of Taos High School, where she was a member of the Drama Club for three years. Monica said that she loves to sing and it is one of her favorite hobbies. Monica said her favorite movie is "The Color Purple," and she loves listening to the music of Mariah Carey. Monica plans to attend college at the University of New Mexico-Taos in the fall, and her career goal is to become an elementary school teacher.

When asked who the most influential people in her life are, Monica responded that it is her parents and her niña, Corine Grant, who has always been like a second mother to her. She is especially grateful



Monica Marie Julianna Coca

person.

Monica has the following words of advice for the younger generations in Taos. She said it is important to always be proud of yourself, your family and the place that you come from. She added that as a community "we need to try hard to bring back our traditions," and keep them running strong for many generations to come.

for her mother because "she's always there for me ... (and she) does so much for me." Monica said that her family was very happy when she told them she wanted to run for Fiesta Queen, and they have given her nothing but encouragement and support. Monica said her family has helped her to recognize that she should be proud of herself, and she said that she would not be the person she is today without the help of her sister, Jessica Coca, and her friends. Monica also said that her faith in the Catholic religion helps her whenever she is having a hard time in life, and that faith has helped her to remain a strong

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COURTESY THE FIESTA COUNCIL

The Fiesta Council in 1986. From left, Martín Torres, Alfred Peralta, Elma Torres, “Young and the Restless” star Terry Lester, Liz Peralta, Don Francisco Trujillo and R.C. Gorman.

THE FIESTA COUNCIL, CARETAKERS OF A TRADITION

*L*as *Fiestas de Santiago y Santa Ana* is the focal point for an annual celebration of tradition, culture and community. With private parties happening all across town, and music, food, parades and other activities happening in and around Taos Plaza, it is one of the most popular and important events in Taos.

Given the scope of the event, it's little wonder that it takes a tremendous effort to make the fiesta, and all the related events and activities, run smoothly. There was a time when it was a struggle each year to find people willing to volunteer enormous amounts of time to make the fiesta happen, but 25 years ago, things changed for the better.

That is when the Fiesta Council was formed and incorporated, thus creating valuable continuity throughout the years. This year's fiesta is dedicated to that anniversary and the years of service of those on the council, both past and present.

A number of people have served on the council over the years, but some, including current president Liz Peralta and her husband Alfred, have served the

longest out of today's council. Liz said her husband, and her husband's cousin, Robert, were the ones who put it together way back in 1981.

The all-volunteer council works almost year-round, with things getting increasingly hectic in the weeks before the fiesta.

"I keep saying, 'This is my last year,'" Liz said, laughing. It's possible that threat doesn't hold much weight anymore, since she's served on the council since its inception.

Even when things are especially frantic and stressful, Liz said walking around the plaza and seeing so many people enjoying themselves makes it worth it.

The rationale behind creating the council to run the fiesta was simple. "This has been a tradition for centuries, so we can't just let it die," Liz said.

Liz jokes that she's not getting any younger, but she added with more seriousness that she would love to see some younger blood on the council. It's difficult to find people who are willing to make such a large time commitment, especially among younger Taosños.

Many people don't realize just how much work goes into the fiesta each year, but think of it: Three



COURTESY THE FIESTA COUNCIL

La Reina Julie Suazo, left, and Princesa Laura Peralta, right, pose with Archbishop Sanchez in 1983.

days worth of live entertainment, vendors setting up shop on Taos Plaza, the parades and other activities.

That's not even counting the months leading up to the fiestas, which includes seeking out and choosing candidates for the Royal Court; three young girls, one of whom will be named La Reina. Vangie Romero is in charge of the court candidate process.

There is the fiesta pageant, in which the three candidates perform, and from which judges make the choices for La Reina and Las Princesas. There is the Fiestacita, that takes place a couple weeks before the fiesta itself.

Then there is the main event, or really events. Three days worth of activities. All the live musical acts need to be found and scheduled. This year, Elma Torres was in charge of that large feat.

But after that, the council can finally take a break until next year, right?

Not by a long shot. The Fiesta Court goes into full swing, attending fiestas in other parts of the state, making a presence at major functions in town, thus fulfilling their role as cultural ambassadors. "There's a lot of running around," Liz said.

The council doesn't do all of this without help. The local Kiwanis Club organizes the fiesta parade, and the Optimist Club runs the children's parade. Members of the Lions Club runs the venerable carousel, Tio Vivo. The council is very grateful to those groups, as well as the town of Taos, which supports the fiesta in several ways, which includes providing funds to help offset the great expense of the events.

Council members do get the change to actually enjoy the results of all their hard work, but underlying all of that is a deep sense of responsibility.

"We have to do it," Liz said.

— Eric J. Hedlund



COURTESY THE FIESTA COUNCIL

The 1985 Fiesta Court. From left, Jackie Graham, Altheia Oakeley, Wendy Mares and Lindy Sanchez.

FIESTA COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP, 2006

Liz Peralta, president
Elma Vigil, secretary
Don Francisco Trujillo, treasurer
Alfred Peralta
Vangie Romero
Sonya Romero
Elma Torres
Martin Torres
Francis Tafoya
Cheryl Lucero
Teresa Medina
Manuel Medina



Fiestas

ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, JULY 21

Noon-1 p.m.	Mariachi Río Grande
1-2 p.m.	Sangre de Cristo Liturgies
2-2:30 p.m.	Ricky Garcia
2:30-3 p.m.	Los Comanches de la Serna
3-4 p.m.	Steve Encinos Band
4-5 p.m.	La Ley del Norte Band
5-6 p.m.	Las Macarenas
5:30-6:30 p.m.	Mass, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church
6-7 p.m.	El Gringo Band
7 p.m.	Procession from church to Taos Plaza
7-9 p.m.	Opening ceremonies
9-10 p.m.	Mariachi Río Grande

SATURDAY, JULY 22

9-10 a.m.	St. Francis Choir
10 a.m.	Children's Parade
10:15-11 a.m.	Los Ninos Bailadores
11-11:30 a.m.	Baile Ilusión Dance Company
11:30 a.m.-noon	Baile Folklorico de Santa Fe
12:30-1:30 p.m.	Lidiana Castro
1:30-2:30 p.m.	Baile Español de Santa Fe
2:30-3 p.m.	Los Coloniales
3-4 p.m.	Mariachi Río Grande
4-5 p.m.	Orange Blossoms Band
5-6 p.m.	Los Zapatados de Las Vegas
6-7 p.m.	The Allen Vigil Trio
7-8 p.m.	Lidiana Castro y Antonio Reyna
8-9 p.m.	Ixcalli Nanantzin Aztec Dancers
9-10 p.m.	Grupo Diversion

SUNDAY, JULY 23

9-9:30 a.m.	Life in the Fast Lane Band
9:30-10:30 a.m.	Jenny Vincent Trio
10:30-11 a.m.	Jenna
11 a.m.-noon	Trio Los Gallos
Noon-1 p.m.	Antonio Reyna
1 p.m.	Historical Parade
1-2 p.m.	Johnny Archuleta Trio
2-3 p.m.	Young Guns Band
3-4 p.m.	Lidiana Castro
4-5 p.m.	Sentimiento Band
5-6 p.m.	Julian Lucero Band
6-7 p.m.	Mariachi Río Grande



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The local Kiwanis Club is instrumental in organizing and running the annual Fiesta Parade, and the Fiesta Council gratefully acknowledges the group's tireless work to make the parade a reality.

!Vamos a las Fiestas!

I want to wish you all a wonderful and safe holiday as we celebrate our traditional fiestas.

[Signature]
Ernest Ortega
 Magistrate Judge

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT ERNEST L. ORTEGA MAGISTRATE JUDGE, DELFINO MARTINEZ CHAIRMAN, THERON HORTON, TREASURER



WERE ST. ANNE AND ST. JAMES RELATED?

By Larry Torres

For The Taos News

The end of July brings thoughts of the Taos Fiestas into the minds of many locals and visitors alike. We all know that during this interlude, two people are honored as patron saints of Taos. St. James and St. Anne have had their names so intertwined that many who are unaware of their history, often assume that they were married. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Although it is never mentioned anywhere except in apocryphal texts outside of The Bible, it is possible that James might actually be the grandson of St. Anne, hence the close link in the old calendar of feast days. Some, who contest the idea that St. Anne was married multiple times, might have a harder time with this concept.

James is mentioned as the third apostle summoned by Christ after Peter and Andrew. James the Greater, as he is known sometimes, became the apostle to Spain after the Ascension of Christ. But little is known as to his life from the time of the Ascension to his actual burial at Compostela, Spain. For this, we must refer to the accounts written by medieval scribe Bishop Jacobus Voragine. In his book titled "The Golden Legend" he writes extensively of James.

James, son of Zebedee, preached throughout Judea and Samaria after the Lord's Ascension and then went on to Spain to preach. He met with so little success in Spain initially that he made only nine converts. Returning then to Judea, he took seven converts with him and left the other two back in Spain. In Judea, he incurred the wrath and envy of a certain magician named Hermogenes who was outraged by his preaching of the new Christian faith. He bid one of his followers named Philotes to try to discredit James and

his miracles. Instead of doing the bidding of Hermogenes, Philotes became a convert to Christianity because of James and his preaching.

This angered Hermogenes even more. By his magic arts he summoned forth a multitude of demons to punish Philotes. The demons were willing to comply but when they heard that they would have to face the anger of the "Son of Thunder" as James was called, they pleaded with the magician: "Spare us for we are

on fire already. We cannot harm even an ant as long as it is in the house of James." The demons tied him up instead. Then turning to James they said, "give us power over Philotes that we may avenge the harm he tried to do to you."

To this, James the Apostle replied, "Let us follow the example of our Lord Jesus Christ and not return evil for evil but return only good. Then he turned to Philotes and told him to unbind Hermogenes who was so moved by his actions as a Christian that he went home and gathered up all of his books on magic and wanted to burn them. However, St. James said to him, "The smoke from the evil books might do harm to some who are unaware of their danger. Cast them rather, into the sea."

Hermogenes did as he was asked.

He then returned to St. James and said, "Liberator of men's souls! You have borne with me while I envied you and sought to do you harm! Receive me now as a penitent!" Thereafter he began to live perfectly in the fear of God, so much so that many miracles took place through him.

Now, some Jews were indignant at St. James being that he had converted the great magician to the new



COURTESY OF THE ARTIST

"Santiago," Raymond López, 1997, carved wood, cooper, natural pigments, rawhide, gesso and tin

Saints continued on page 22

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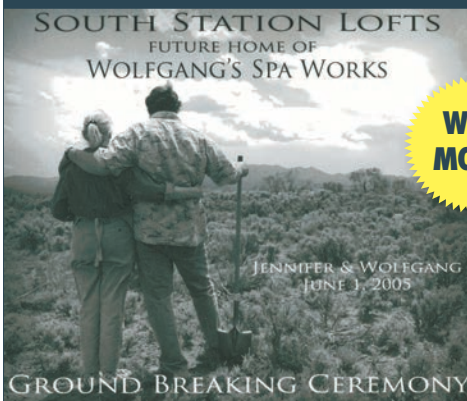
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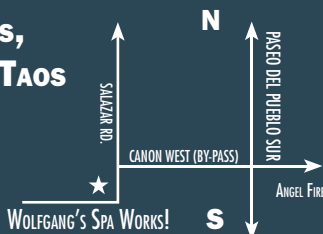


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Fiestas

Saints continued from page 20

faith. Abiathar, who was the high priest of that year, incited an uprising among the people, then put a rope around the apostle's neck and had him brought before Herod Agrippa. At Herod's command he was led away to be beheaded but along the road, there was a paralyzed man lying close by. Invoking the name of Jesus Christ, St. James bid him to stand and walk.

The man who had put the rope around St. James's neck was named Josiah. Having seen how the paralyzed man got up and walked, he too fell at the apostle's feet and begged mercy. This outraged the high priest Abiathar so much that he punched Josiah in the mouth and then he ordered that Josiah should be beheaded along with James as well. Before they both had their heads struck off by the sword St. James poured water and baptized Josiah and so they both became martyrs at the same time. The beheading took place on March 25, the feast of the Lord's annunciation.

The body of St. James was put into a deer skin sack and returned to Compostela, Spain by his disciples. This happened on July 25. He was buried on December 30 because the construction of his tomb took from August to the end of December. Compostela has been the site of many great pilgrimages ever since then.

A little bit more difficult to trace is the lineage of St. Anne, who was chosen to be the mother of The Virgin Mary. What causes confusion sometimes is an ancient tradition that says that St. Anne had been married three times and with each man she had a daughter and named each one of them, Mary. In Latin and ancient verse says:

*"Anna solet dici tres concepisse Marias,
Quas genuere viri Joachim, Cleophas, Salomeque.
Has duxere viri Joseph, Alpheus, Zebedaues.
Prima parit Christum, Jacobum secunda minorem,
Et Joseph justem peperit cum Simone Judam,
Tertia majorem Jacobum volucremque Joannem."*

In English, this means:

*"Anna is usually said to have conceived three Marys.
Whom [her] husbands Joachim, Cleophas and
Salome, begot."*

*The Marys were taken in marriage by Joseph,
Alpheus, [and] Zebedee.*

*The first Mary bore Christ, the second, James the
Lesser.*

And Joseph the Just with Simon and Jude,

The third, James the Greater, and John the Wingèd."

The little that we do know about St. Anne comes from the tradition that says that she was the wife of St. Joachim. She had a sister named Hismeria who was the mother of Elizabeth and Eliud. Elizabeth was the mother of John the Baptist. Eliud became the father of Eminen and the grandfather of St. Servatius.

Apocryphal script holds that Anne was married to Joachim first. By him she conceived The Virgin Mary through what Jacobus Voragine calls "the chaste kiss." This would make Anne the grandmother of Jesus.

After Joachim died, Anne is said to have remarried. This time her husband was named Cleophas, [brother of Joseph]. The daughter from this marriage was the second Mary; Mary of Cleophas [who married Alpheus]. This Mary bore four sons known as James the Lesser, Joseph the Just (also called Barsabas), Simon and Jude [all cousins of Jesus].

When Cleophas died, Anne married her third husband, Salome. With Salome she had a third Mary whom she gave to Zebedee as wife. Thus this third Mary became the mother of James the

Greater and John the Evangelist, also cousins of Jesus. If these tradition are true, then St. James is the grandson of St. Anne and since their calendar feast days fall side by side, they jointly rule over the Taos Fiestas.

During the first day of fiestas, the day of St. James, or Santiago in Spanish, men are wont to ride on horseback in imitation of the apostle who rode of horseback in his great crusade against the Moors in Spain. On the second day, the women usually ride in horse carriages in honor of Santa Ana, patroness of mothers and grandmothers everywhere.

Whatever the truth behind the legend, the fact remains that the days dedicated to the two great saints are an occasion for unbridled celebration, meditation and jubilation. Happy Taos Fiestas!





GREG KRELLER

Ben Aragón of Santa Fe leads a group of riders from Bear Creek Adventures in the Historic Parade during the 2005 fiestas.

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COURTESY THE FIESTA COUNCIL

Laura Peralta and Joe Miera in the 1983 fiesta procession.

EL CONCILIO DE LAS FIESTAS, GUARDANDO UNA TRADICIÓN

Las Fiestas de Santiago y Santa Ana son el punto clave para una celebración anual de tradición, cultura y la comunidad. Con fiestas privadas tomando lugar por toda la comunidad, y música, comidas, desfiles entre otras actividades en y alrededor de la Plaza de Taos, es una de los eventos más populares e importantes de Taos.

Comprendiendo lo que encierra el evento, es una maravilla que se toma un esfuerzo tremendo llevar a cabo la fiesta, con todas los eventos relacionados y actividades que funcione bien. Había un tiempo cuando se tenía que lidiar para encontrar gente dispuestos de volutar tremendas cantidades de tiempo para hacer la fiesta una realidad, pero hace 25 años, las cosas han mejorado.

Eso es cuando el Concilio de las Fiestas fue formado e incorporado, así creando algo que iba a continuar a pesar de los años. La fiesta de este año se dedica a ese aniversario y los años de servicio de aquellos en el concilio, ambos pasado y presente.

Un número de gente ha servido en el concilio a lo largo de los años, pero algunos, incluyendo la presidenta corriente Liz Peralta y su esposo Alfred, han servido más tiempo de todos del concilio corriente.

Liz y su esposo, y su primo de él, Robert, fueron los quienes lo formaron allá en 1981.

El concilio de todos voluntarios trabaja casi todo el año, con las cosas volviéndose más apuradas en las semanas aproximando las fiestas.

“Yo sigo diciendo, “Este es mi último año,” dijo Liz, riéndose. Es posible que esa amenaza no se lo creen ya, porque ha servido en el concilio desde su principio.

Hasta cuando las cosas están especialmente frenéticos y estresados, Liz dijo que rodeando la plaza caminando y viendo a tanta gente gozando del buen tiempo lo hace valer la pena.

La razón por crear un concilio para maneja la fiesta fue sencilla. “Esto ha sido una tradición por siglos, de manera que no podemos permitir que no más se muera,” dijo Liz.

Liz se chanea que ya no se está poniendo más joven, pero agregó más serio, que quisiera a gente mucha más joven en el concilio. Es difícil encontrar a gente quien está dispuesta a cometer tanto tiempo, especialmente entre la juventud Taoseña.

Tradición continuado en la página 26



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Fiestas



COURTESY THE FIESTA COUNCIL

The 2001 Fiesta Court parades in Santa Fe. From left, Mercy Lucero, Cami Archuleta, Sonya Romero and Chris Ann Jeantete.

Tradición desde la página 24

Mucha gente no realiza cuanto trabajo se dedica a la fiesta cada año, pero piénsalo: Tres días de entrenamiento en vivo, vendedores preparando sus bienes en la Plaza de Taos, los desfiles y otras actividades.

Eso no toma en cuenta los meses aproximando las fiestas, que incluyen buscando y escogiendo candidatas para la Corte Real; tres jóvenes muchachas, una de cual se nombrará La Reina. Vangie Romero está encargada del proceso de las candidatas.

Luego está el concurso de la fiesta, en cual las candidatas se presentan sus actuaciones, de cual los jueces escojen La Reina y las Princesas. Y está la Fiestecita, una fiesta en miniatura, que toma lugar unas dos semanas antes de las fiesta propia.

Entonces llega el evento clave, ó eventos. Tres días de actividades. Toda las actuaciones de música en vivo se tienen que encontrar y preparar en un horario. Este año Elma Torres estaba encargada de esa gran tarea. Pero después de todo eso, el Concilio de las Fiestas puede por fin, descansar hasta el otro año, ¿no es cierto?

No hay manera. La Corte de las Fiestas se dedica a toda prisa, asistiendo fiestas en otras partes del estado, respresentando en todas las funciones grandes de la ciudad, así llevando a cabo el deber como embajadores culturales. “Hay mucho corroteando y corriendo por donde quiera,” dijo Liz.

El concilio no lo hace todo sin ayuda ninguna. El Círculo Kiwanis local organiza el desfile de la fiesta, y

el Círculo Optimista maneja el desfile de los niños. Miembros de Círculo de los Leones maneja el antiguo Tío Vivo. El Concilio está muy agradecido a esos grupos, así como al municipio de Taos, que apoya la fiesta de varias maneras, que incluye proveendo fondos para ayudar con los grandes gastos de los eventos.

Los miembros del Concilio se les permite cambiarse de ropa y actualmente gozar los resultados de todo su trabajo, pero abajo de todo eso hay mucha responsabilidad.

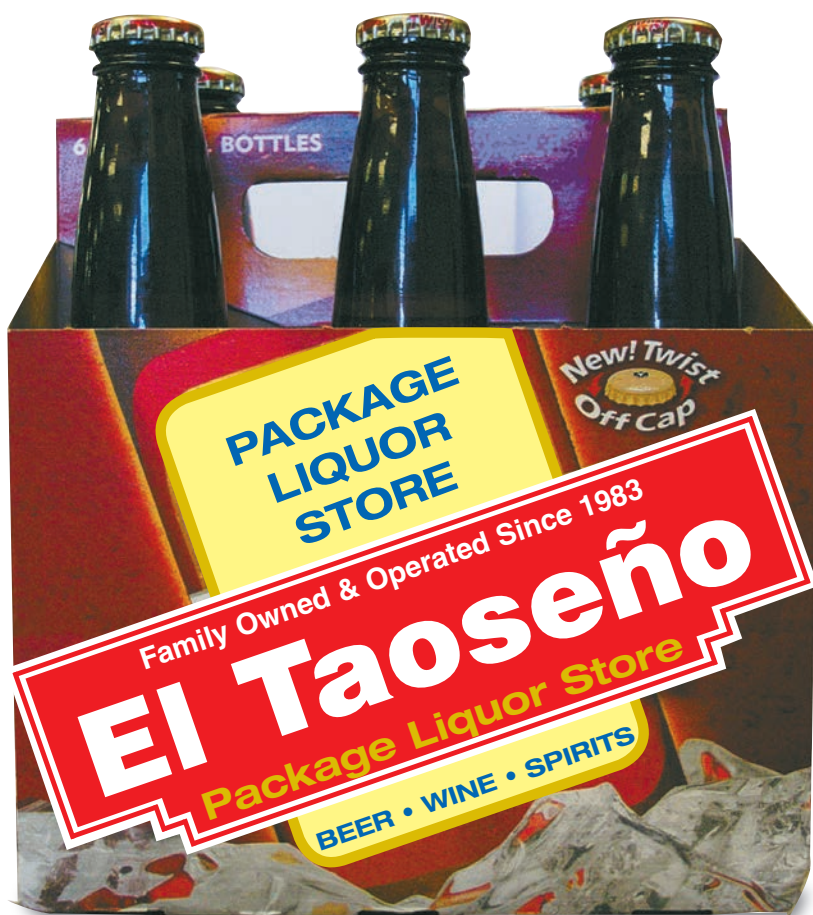
“Tenemos que hacerlo,” dijo Liz.

*Por Eric J. Hedlund
Traducido por Jerry A. Padilla*

MIEMBROS DEL CONCILIO DE LAS FIESTAS, 2006

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Elma Vigil, secretaria
Don Francisco Trujillo, tesorero
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Fiestas



GREG KRELLER

Allen Vigil sings "Brown Eyed Girl" with his granddaughter Briana Torres, 10, at the 2005 fiestas.

HONRANDO LAS REINAS DEL AÑO PASADO LA ENTREGA DE LA REINA Y SUS PRINCESAS

Por Allen Vigil

*En este día de las fiestas, aquí les voy a cantar
Para entregar estas flores, las reinas y su parental
Les canto con estos versos, a quien llegaron aquí
El concilio de las fiestas, y la gente que se arime así*

*A los padres de la reina, también les quiero cantar
Por ser padres tan honrados, los quiero felicitar
Los padres son familia, la tema de estas fiestas
Nuestras familias son la base, de los valores de nuestro cultura*

*Regresaron soldados de la guerra, agradecemos su sacrificio
Celebramos con nuestras familias, otra vez a gozar a*

*las fiestas
También no se les olvide, amigos que pasaron allí
El Ricky, La Annie, y Adelecia, con Dios estarán muy feliz*

*Presentamos a las señoritas, con grande orgullo y honor
Cada uno por su nombre, con sinceridad y amor
Salientes: Reina-Stephanie Romero, Princesa-Edna Córdova,
Princesa-Kalina Córdova
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*Con esto ya me despido, les vuelvo a felicitar
En las Fiestas de Santiago y Santa Ana, allí les voy a mirar*

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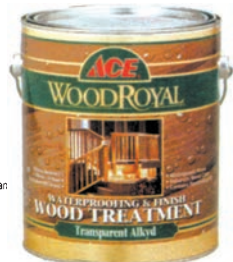
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Fiestas



RICK ROMANCITO

FIESTA RECIPE

With Reyna Zarazúa

Black Bean Chimichangas, (meat or vegetarian)

Makes at least six servings

Ingredients:

- 1 cup of fresh shredded Mexican style white cheese
- 2 cups refried black beans
- 6-12 flour tortillas
- 10 pieces of tomato, chopped
- 2 chopped canned Chipotle chiles
- 1/2 onion finely chopped
- 1/3 cup cooking oil
- Salt and pepper to taste
- With meat: (Optional) 2 cups fried ground beef or shredded stewed chicken

Preparation:

Using three tablespoons of heated cooking oil, clarify chopped onions frying lightly, then add the tomato pieces. Add a sprinkle of salt and pepper, add a little water, and simmer.

In a bowl mix the refried black beans, cheese and chile. If using meat add ground beef or chicken, and mix. To form the chimichangas, place two full tablespoons of bean/cheese/meat mixture to the middle of each tortilla. Roll the tortillas around the mixture securing the ends by folding in. Fry until lightly browned in the remainder of the hot oil. Allow to absorb excess oil on a paper towel.

Spoon simmered onions and tomatoes over chimichangas before serving.

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