

**CULTURA, FAMILIA Y COMUNIDAD**



**FIESTAS  
DE SANTIAGO Y  
SANTA ANA  
2004**



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GREG KRELLER/THE TAOS NEWS

**2004 Fiesta Pageant Judges – Commissioner Antonio Jácquez, Gabriel Romero, Judith Pepper and Michelle Padilla.**

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# WELCOME!

## THE TOWN OF TAOS

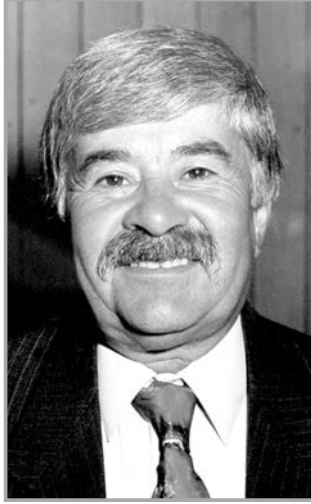
¡Bienvenidos!

On behalf of the Taos Town Council and the town of Taos, I welcome everyone to the 2004 Fiestas de Santiago y Santa Ana.

The Taos Fiesta Council has dedicated many hardworking 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 Taos so proudly and so nobly.

This annual celebration is a time for us to visit with old friends and 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 are a special time for all of us. Wear your brightest finery and your biggest smile; you are all invited to a wonderful

party!

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

¡Que Vivan Las Fiestas de Taos!  
Bobby F. Durán,  
Mayor of Taos



## TAOS COUNTY COMMISSION

Dear Taoseños and visitors:

On behalf of the Taos County Board of Commissioners, elected officials and staff, we would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the annual Fiestas de Santiago y Santa Ana, the patron saints of Taos.

This festivity is a great opportunity for the community to come together and celebrate the various cultures. It is a very special time for families to reunite and share in the various festivities that are being provided to the general public by the many talented performers. Take the opportunity to tour and visit the many cultural and historic sites throughout Taos County



**Nicklos Jaramillo**  
Chairman

and the Enchanted Circle.

We would like to give a special thanks to the Taos Fiesta Council for taking the time to make this event possible.

Celebrate and enjoy!  
¡Que Vivan las Fiestas de Taos!

*Taos County Board  
of Commissioners  
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vice chairman-District V  
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TAOS PUEBLO

Greetings and Welcome to the Santa Ana and Santiago Fiestas:

The Fiesta tradition goes back for many generations and has been enjoyed by the entire population of the Taos Valley and residents of Northern New Mexico and Southern Colorado. It is a time for celebration, a time for those who have moved away to return for this festive occasion to strengthen family ties, to revisit old friends and to make new ones. This is a time when all cultures come together to celebrate, to re-ride Tío Vivo and enjoy all the merry-making around the Historic Taos Plaza and to enjoy the parades.

The Taos Pueblo tribal



RICK ROMANCITO/THE TAOS NEWS

members have long enjoyed the Fiestas, which coincide with our tribal celebration of Santa Ana and Santiago. Taos Pueblo will hold the Corn Dance on both days and everyone is welcome to observe the dances.

As Governor of Taos Pueblo, I hereby extend a warm welcome to all the visitors to our multicultural Taos Valley to celebrate the feast days of Santa Ana and Santiago. May this time of celebration be memorable and for those who have traveled to the Fiestas, have a safe return.

Tah-uah,

*John A. Mirabal,  
Governor, Taos Pueblo*



TAOS FIESTA COUNCIL, INC.

Dear Visitors and Neighbors,

On behalf of the Taos Fiesta Council, we welcome all of you to our beautiful community of Taos to celebrate and commemorate the feast days of Santiago and Santa Ana.

We gather this weekend of July 23, 24 and 25 with joy to greet each other, to reminisce, to make new acquaintances and to enjoy the sounds and sites of our fiesta.

We are a unique community, rich in culture, tradition and our heritage which is indeed special. Our community is



multicultural, where we live and celebrate in harmony.

This year we are honored to have some young people and their chaperones from our Sister City, Tepic-Xalisco, Nayarit, México where they for the first time will tour Taos and our surrounding communities.

We invite you all to join us in the Taos Plaza to take part in all of this year's festivities.

Please enjoy yourselves and have a safe weekend y ¡Que Vivan las Fiestas de Taos!

Sincerely,  
*Elma Torres, president  
2004*



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INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL  
OF THE ENCHANTED CIRCLE

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 over the last four centuries have 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 us to unite.

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



Thank you from Taos County, town of Taos, Taos Pueblo, Town of Red River, Village of Questa, Village of Taos Ski Valley, Village of Eagle Nest, Village of Angel Fire, 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! God Bless you all! ¡Que Vivan Las Fiestas de Taos!



*Don Francisco Trujillo II,  
chairman  
Intergovernmental Council  
of the Enchanted Circle  
Taos County Commissioner,  
District 1*

REINA JESSICA 2003

Welcome to  
Las Fiestas  
de Santiago  
y Santa Ana

I can't even begin to describe the experiences I have had this year as La

Reina de Taos. I am very proud to have been able to represent Taos throughout the state. Because of my role, I have accomplished exactly what I had hoped for; learned more about myself through learning about my culture, and been able to amaze many people as I described our fiestas and the extent to which *nuestra comunidad mantiene las tradiciones de la gente de Taos.*

I am very grateful for the duties placed on me; because of them, I walk away from every Fiesta event feeling more full with a culture I can call my own. *Soy bendicida con dos princesas maravillosas, Amadea Castellano y Alicia García.* They have stood by my side at every event, and together when I was unable to attend, projecting



**Fiesta Royalty 2003: Princesa Alicia García, Reina Jessica Quintana and Princesa Amadea Castellanos.**

the reputation of Taos wonderfully.

*Muchas gracias a aquellos que nos ayudaron con todo. Especialmente los negocios*

*que donaron y las muchachas que "corren" para la Reina este año.* Without the generosity of community, events like the Fiestas might not be possible. I encourage you to always do what you can to help keep our traditions alive. Special thanks to my parents, Herman and Louisa Quintana, for supporting me throughout this journey. Thanks also to my sisters, Andrea and Emily, and a *mi Caballero, Joey, y a Linda* who helped me put my words into action, and the rest of my family and friends. *¡Los amo! Muchas gracias. ¡Que Dios los bendiga, y que Vivan las Fiestas!*

*Jessica Catherine Quintana,  
Reina, 2003*



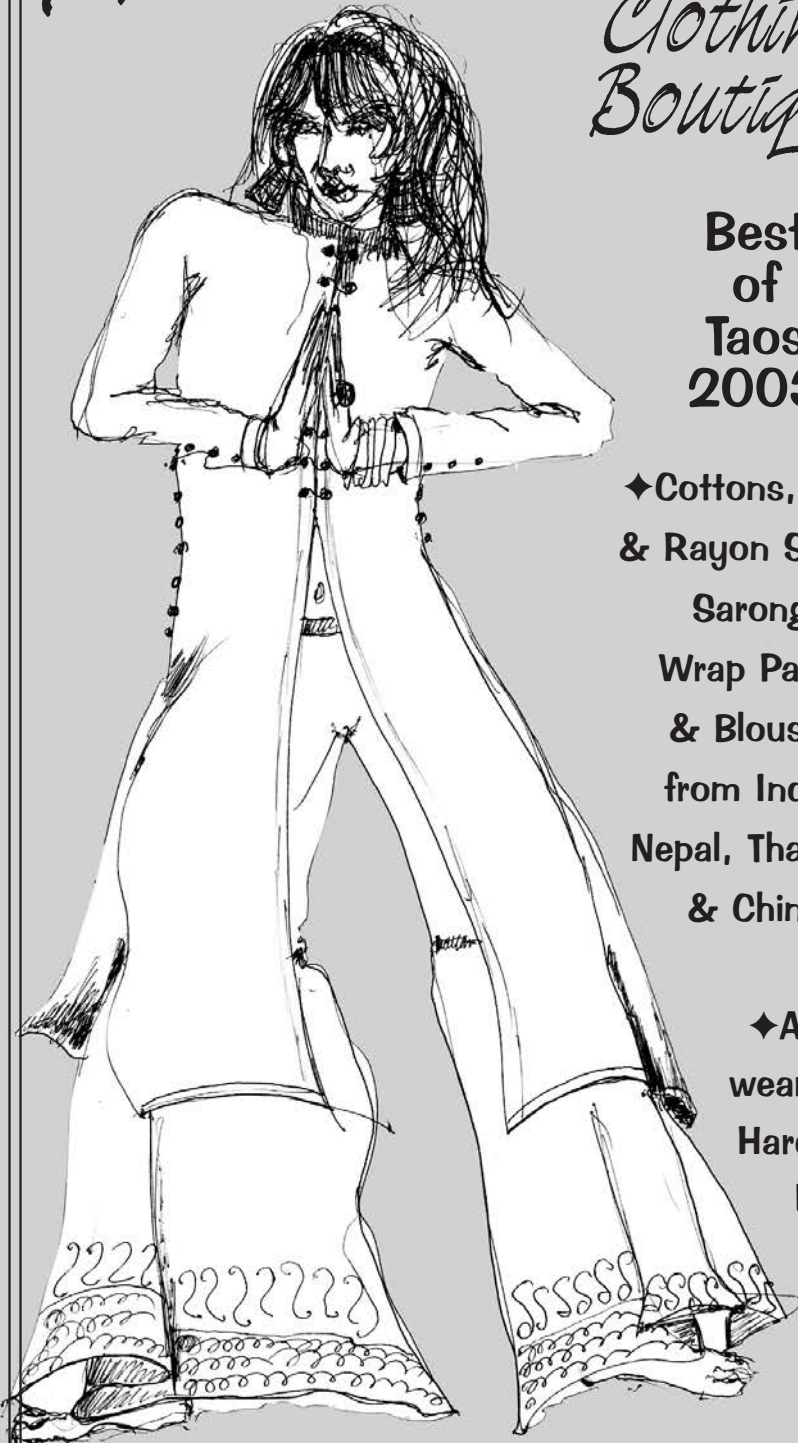
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**Kalina Córdova, Edna Córdova and Stephanie Romero, 2004 Royalty.**

## FIESTA QUEEN CANDIDATES

As the community of Taos once again anticipates the celebration of the feast days of Santiago y Santana, we are reminded that as Taoseños we continue to honor our families, friends and neighbors in our traditional manner. During the past several decades people have set aside time from busy summer schedules to gather at Taos Plaza at the end of July and remember the past, honor the present and encourage the future. For many of us, these feast days bring back beautiful memories of childhood, of friendships and of loved ones.

### STEPHANIE ALISON ROMERO

Stephanie Alison Romero has been chosen to represent the people of Taos as our ambassador to other communities in New Mexico. She will rein as Taos Fiesta Queen 2004.

On May 13, 1986, Dan and Renée Romero welcomed their daughter, Stephanie Alison Romero, into their family. Stephanie grew up in Arroyo Seco with her brothers, Shawn and Daniel Romero.

She is a member of the graduating class of 2004 from Taos High School, and she will begin her freshman year at the University of New Mexico in the fall. Stephanie plans to enter the

medical field and would like to study to become a registered nurse. She believes that there is a strong need for nurses, and she would like to fulfill that calling.

It's her belief that the feast days of Santiago y Santana have become a strong cultural tradition to enable the reunion of families in Taos. Romero said that a young lady chosen to represent the Taos community as its queen should provide a positive role model for the young people of Taos, but also for our community elders. Stephanie states, "Elders know about traditions, culture and family. Young people need someone to look up to."

*continued on page 12*



**Stephanie Romero: Flamenco in motion.**

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Continued from page 10

Romero has done an extensive amount of traveling. She has visited Spain, Germany, France, Austria, Switzerland, England and Mexico. She would like to encourage the young people of Taos that this is all very possible for each and every one. Young people need to set goals and strive to reach them.

Studying flamenco dance for the past 10 years, she was also a member of the Taos High School Dance Team and was named to the All-Star Team. With this team she participated in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in November 2003 in London, England.

Stephanie would like to thank her parents for all their encouragement. "They have supported and encouraged me to do anything I want."

She also acknowledges her paternal grandmother, Elliza Romero, saying, "She taught me about my heritage and taught me how to be proud to be Hispanic."

Stephanie has the following words of advice to the younger people of Taos.

"Being Hispanic and aware of your culture is of great importance. Take the time to appreciate who you are. Think of where you came from and decide where you can go."

*¡Que Viva La Fiesta! ¡Que Viva La Reina! ¡Que Vivan Sus Princesas!*

EDNA THERESE CÓRDOVA

**P**rincesa Edna Therese Córdova is 16 years old and will begin her senior year at Taos High School in the fall. Edna was born on Aug. 18, 1987, to Walter Córdova and Ruby Miera. Edna grew up in Tucson, Ariz., until the

age of 14, when she came to Taos after her mother's passing. Edna says that she remembers making special trips to Taos as a little girl with her mother to visit her family during the Taos Fiesta. She has wonderful memories of watching the fiesta parade and the pretty girls in the fiesta court. Edna believes that the Taos Fiesta is a great tradition where friends and family can be united. She says that Taos is a beautiful, small town with much history, and feels that the people of



GREG KRELLER/THE TAOS NEWS

**Danza Azteca by Edna.**

Taos are very friendly.

It is Edna's opinion that the Taos Fiesta Queen should represent the people of Taos by being a good role model for people of all ages. She believes that a queen should come to the aid of her community when it is needed. This may require volunteering for work or helping anyone who needs assistance.

Edna's plans include graduating from high school and studying cosmetology. She would like

*continued on page 14*



GREG KRELLER/THE TAOS NEWS

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Continued from page 12

to return to Tucson to be with her younger brother and sisters, Tony, Brittany and Desirea Moreno. While in Taos, she enjoys spending time with her brother and sister, Jeremy Córdova and Marissa Córdova.

When speaking of people who have had a great influence on her life, Edna says that she would like to acknowledge her mother, Ruby.

“She was my best friend, she was my everything.”

Edna states that in her mother’s absence, her aunt Florence Miera “has become my mother.”

Edna enjoys spending time with her family, she enjoys shopping and talking on the telephone. She advises the young people of Taos to make wise decisions.

### KALINA MARÍA THEODORA CÓRDOVA

Princesa Kalina María Theodora Córdova is 17 years old and will also begin her senior year at Taos High School in August. She is the daughter of Bill Córdova and Francina Córdova, having been born to them on Nov. 6, 1986. Kalina was born in El Paso, Texas, but has lived in Taos for the past five years. Kalina’s family includes her brother, William, and her sister, Vanessa.

As a child she would visit the Taos area during school breaks because most of her family lives here. She remembers that during the summer she would visit her grandparents and they would take her to Taos Plaza to celebrate at the fiesta. She would watch the parade and would wish that someday she would be able to ride with the queen. Her mother, Francina, was a member of the Taos Fiesta Court 25 years ago and she has wonderful memories of her experience.

Kalina believes that by representing the Taos community in a positive manner, she would bring great honor to her family. She says that the Taos traditions are slowly being lost. As Fiesta Queen it would be her honor to become involved in trying to restore the Spanish language. Kalina is fluent in both English and Spanish.

Being a member of the

Taos High School Mariachi program has provided great opportunity for Kalina. Music plays a major role in her life. She believes that music has a great impact on the people of any community and that Taos is no exception. Kalina would like to see the people of Taos allowed the opportunity to enjoy as many of the Taos musical talents as possible.

Someday, Kalina would like to attend Stanford University. She would like to study pre-med and psychology. She also wants to further enhance her musical abilities.

Evelyn Abeyta, Kalina’s maternal grandmother, has had tremendous influence on her granddaughter’s development. Kalina states, “My grandmother is strong of character, heart and mind.”

She also saves a special place in her heart for Theresa Martínez, her godmother. “She never lets anything bring her down. It’s always great to be around her. You know you’re around something good.”

She also states, “My mother, Francina Córdova, is my best supporter. She lets me experience many things, she lets me broaden my horizons.”

Kalina says that she would like to advise the younger people of Taos to think of what they would like to do when they are older. “Do not put all your eggs in one basket. There are so many options in life. You should be willing to experience a little bit of everything.”



GREG KRELLER/THE TAOS NEWS

**Kalina sings traditional favorites.**



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# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## FRIDAY, JULY 23

- 1-1:30 p.m.** Los Comanches de la Serna
- 1:30-2 p.m.** Amber Anaya
- 2-3 p.m.** Los Coloniales
- 3-4 p.m.** Las Macarenas
- 4-4:30 p.m.** Crystal Renee
- 4:30-5:30 p.m.** Los Zapateados Dancers
- 5:30-6:30 p.m.** Kandace Vargas and Band
- 6:30-7:30 p.m.** Sangre de Cristo Liturgies Band
- 6-7 p.m.** Fiesta Mass, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church
- 7-7:30 p.m.** Procession to plaza gazebo
- 7:30-9 p.m.** Opening ceremonies, Taos Plaza
- 9-10 p.m.** Mariachi Paisano del Valle



GREG KRELLER/THE TAOS NEWS

*La belleza Taoseña, reflejada por estas jóvenes quienes representarán Taos este año. Taos' grace and beauty is reflected in these young ladies who will represent our community this year.*

- 2-2:30 p.m.** Sorellas
- 2:30-3:30 p.m.** Baile Español de Santa Fe
- 3:30-4:30 p.m.** Orange Blossom Express
- 4:30-5 p.m.** Los Vigilantes
- 5-6 p.m.** Lidiana Castro
- 6-7 p.m.** Young Guns Band
- 7-8 p.m.** Ana María and Band
- 8-9 p.m.** Guerros de Chocomostoc
- 9-10 p.m.** Sentimento Band

## SUNDAY, JULY 25

- 9-9:30 a.m.** Life in the Fast Lane Band
- 9:30-10 a.m.** Mark Moody
- 10-10:30 a.m.** Guardians of Dawn
- 10:30-11 a.m.** Amber Felicia Armijo
- 11-12 a.m.** Antonio Reyna/Lidiana Castro
- 12-1 p.m.** Mariachi Río Grande
- 1-1:30 p.m.** Historical/Hysterical Parade
- 1:30-2 p.m.** Taos Trío
- 2-3 p.m.** Mezcal Band
- 3-3:30 p.m.** Ixcalli Nanantiz Aztec Dancers
- 3:30-4:30 p.m.** Liliana Castro/Antonio Reyna
- 4:30-5:30 p.m.** The Bad Boys
- 5:30-6 p.m.** Las Floricitas con Estilo Band
- 6-7 p.m.** Dickie y La Pleve Band
- 7 p.m.** End of Fiesta 2004

## SATURDAY, JULY 24

- 9-10 a.m.** Steps Dance Academy
- 10 a.m.** Children's Parade
- 10:15-11 a.m.** Grupo Diversión Band
- 11-12 p.m.** Hermanos de Corazón performers and presentation, Mexico Lindo y Querido, Tepic, Mexico
- 12-1 p.m.** Mariachi Río Grande
- 1-2 p.m.** Baile Folklórico de Santa Fe

## CULTURA, FAMILIA Y COMUNIDAD



Students from Taos Sister City Xalisco-Tepic, Nayarit, México participating in this year's fiestas. Students attend el Colegio Nayar de Educación Integral in Tepic. Estudiantes de la area de la Ciudad Hermana de Taos, Xalisco-Tepic, Nayarit, México.



# FIESTA COUNCIL DEDICATES FIESTAS, FIESTACITAS AND THEME

By Kathy Córdova

For The Taos News Fiesta Guide

**T**he Taos Fiestas, steeped in tradition, always honors the community and its members. Two areas in which tribute remains most obvious and fitting include the theme and the dedication of the traditional festival.

Fiesta Council president Elma Torres recently announced the 2004 Taos Fiestas theme, “Traditions, Culture and Unity” or “Tradiciones, Cultura y Unidad.”

“This is also the theme of the 70th anniversary of the incorporation of the town of Taos,” Torres said. “We wanted to keep in line with this important occasion, so the Fiesta Council chose the same theme for the fiestas.”

This year’s dedications honor two deceased individuals who exemplified community spirit. The Fiesta Council dedicates the 2004 Fiestacitas in memory of late Princesa Rayla Párraz and the fiestas in memory of the late Isaac Gonzales.

## RAYLA JUSTINE ALEX PÁRRAZ

**T**aos Fiesta Council members remembered Princesa Rayla Justine Alex Párraz in Fiestacita ceremonies July 19 at the Río Grande Hall. Parents Irene and Raymond Párraz received the dedication plaque, attended by friends and family.

At age 15, Rayla remains of the youngest members of the fiesta court. She began fiesta participation in third grade, as a dancer on Taos Plaza. At age 13, Rayla sang the “Star Spangled Banner” to open the festivities.

Family photo albums and interviews with loved ones reveal a young woman in love with life, her community, family and people. Individuals reciprocated by huge attendance at her final services, with continued phone calls, visits to the family home and poems in her honor.

“She lived in the moment and to the fullest,” her mother said.

Friends and Eastern New Mexico University officials, where Párraz attended school, and the Eagles’ Auxiliary, raise funds for the Rayla Párraz Memorial Scholarship. This year, Jason García received the first award. Parents Raymond and Irene currently channel their efforts in assisting with fund-raising efforts for the scholarships.

Rayla Párraz died Sept. 19, 2003, as the result of an automobile accident. She majored in graphic arts and minored in music theater and dance. Past activities included Taos High Mari-

achi, drill team, cheerleading and singing at Carnegie Hall. She took private piano and voice lessons and looked forward to her 21st birthday and a Disney interview this summer. Besides her parents, survivors include siblings Robert Padilla, Denise Párraz Frank and Darren Párraz and grandparents Alex and Gerrie Montaña. Grandparents Vicente and



*continued on  
page 19*

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to sign down . . .  
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### Isaac Gonzales

Continued from page 18

Marcelina Párraz preceded her in death. Aunts and uncles, two nephews and 21 cousins round out the family group.

“We plan to bury her ashes on Aug. 5, the day God gave her to us. She’ll be buried next to my sister, her aunt Nancy, in Arroyo Seco,” concludes mother Irene Párraz.

### ISAAC GONZALES

**T**he family of deceased First State Bank regional and local president Isaac Gonzales also received a plaque commemorating dedication of the 2004 fiestas in his memory.

“First State Bank always celebrates the fiestas,” says Erlinda Gonzales, Isaac’s widow. “Isaac always wore his ribbon shirt to the bank during Fiesta occasions. However, when he worked at Tío Vivo, he wore casual clothes and his Lions’ cap.”

Erlinda Gonzales shares some Fiesta memories. The couple enjoyed some fiesta memories of their own — eating hamburgers with green chile “and the works” at the late Lupe Medina’s booth and the Our Lady of Guadalupe stand. They sought out other food operations for corn on the cob.

“He’d work at Tío Vivo near the time of the parade. After the parade, we’d meet at the ride. Then, we’d go relax and get out of the hot sun.” They went to the outdoor section of Ogelvie’s to check out the action on the Plaza.

Gonzales, son of the late Isaac and María Carmen Gonzales, grew up in El Prado with three brothers and one sister. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in accounting and business from

New Mexico Highlands University in 1971. Three children, Mark (Carmella), Andrew (Roberta) and Francine survive their father. The three Gonzales grandchildren include Isaac, Matthew and Jamison Gonzales.

The Gonzales children share memories of their father and mentor. Their comments all center on Isaac’s love of Tío Vivo, the Fiesta ride for children.

“Dad was a big advocate for the Lions,” explains oldest son Mark. “Since my sons were babies, they’d always go for a ride, but always on Grandpa’s shift. They’ll go again this year. We’ll stick to tradition and go during his shift. Dad will be there in spirit.”

Andrew remarks on his father’s unwavering dedication. “No matter how sick he was, he’d take his shift. He’d said he had to be there for the kids and not to let anyone down. Dad also felt that in not helping, this would place a burden on someone else.”

Besides Tío Vivo memories, daughter Francine, a 2000 fiesta princesa, recalls her parents’ strong sense of pride and support toward her role of cultural observations. She adds, “He wanted all the kids to ride. He encouraged the Lions to keep the ride affordable for the little ones. Dad would ask kids what horse they wanted to ride. He’d actually lift them up and down if they were too small to get on and off by themselves.”

The Lions Club plans to raise funds to refurbish the horses in memory of a man whose fascination with Tío Vivo began as a little boy and continued throughout his lifetime.

Fiestas, honoring tradition, culture and unity, also honors the memories of Rayla Párraz and Isaac Gonzales in 2004.



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# SAINT ANNE AND SAINT JAMES, PERFECT MODELS FOR TODAY

By Larry Torres  
For The Taos News

With the advent of the Taos Fiestas, the names of Saints James and Saint Anne, are often mentioned as its patron saints. Much has been written about the role of Saint James in history, literature and song but Saint Anne is often relegated to a passing paragraph at the end of articles on the Taos Fiestas. This year, Saint Anne, the maternal grandmother of Jesus, gets top billing. She is the focal point or spindle around which many threads wind.

There is an ancient Spanish lullaby that used to be sung here in Taos. As mothers would rock their babies, they would sing of the pastoral lives of the Holy Family. Of course, by local definition this would not only include Jesus, Joseph and Mary, but the maternal grandparents of the baby, too. Tradition holds that Mary was the daughter of Joachim and Hannah, or San Joaquín and Santa Ana, as they are called in Spanish.

Part of the local lullaby calls for his grandparents to lull the baby Jesus to sleep: *Señora Santa Ana, Señor San Joaquín, arrullen al Niño que quiere dormir.* [Belovèd Saint Anna, Joachim do keep this, the little Baby who doth want to sleep.] The ditty then goes on to invoke Saint Anne by saying, *Señora Santa Ana, toca tu campana, porque el Niño llora por una manzana.* [Belovèd Saint Anna, ring the bell on high because, for an apple, the baby doth cry.] Then it is the child's grandfather who is invoked: *Señor San Joaquín, toca tu violín porque el Niño llora por*

*un bolantín.* [Joachim, your fiddle, play without a dread, for the baby's crying for a spool of thread.] The idyllic lullaby goes on to talk about how Mary washed the baby's diapers and Joseph hung them out to dry.

So often, as it is in the case of this lullaby, apocryphal threads of local lore are woven into the fabric of ancient knowledge. For example, it is doubtful that fiddles existed in the years before Christ. The truth of the matter is that once their daughter Mary was dedicated to the service of the temple at the age of three, Joachim and Anna

died of broken hearts just six months thereafter. Mary grew up under the protection of the priest

Simeon and the Prophetess Anna, within the most sacred portion of the temple that was reserved only for the male priesthood. The daughter of Anne was breaking with traditional Jewish custom.

The life of Saint Anne was a difficult one despite the fact that she had married into a rich family that owned flocks and herds. Her husband was Saint Joachim, which is a name meaning "Yahweh prepares." His own father would have been named Heli and according to Luke the Evange-

list, this would translate from the Hebrew as Eliachim or Jeho-achim.

Adding to the litany of stories told of the holy couple is one taken from the writings of Bishop Jacobus Voragine in the 13th century. In his book, "The Golden Legend," he talks about how Saint Joachim and Saint Anne were distraught because they had been married many years without being able to conceive children. Joachim, desperate for



*continued on page 24*

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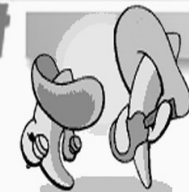
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help, went out to seek the advice of the temple priests. There, the priest Ruben advised him to depart from that holy area since it was obvious that Joachim was not favored by God. Sadly did Joachim leave and he isolated himself in the mountains to pray. It was there that he was visited by the angel Gabriel who told him that even in her old age, his wife Anne was to conceive a daughter.

Filled by holy rapture, Joachim rushed back to the city where Anne, who had also been visited by the angel, was waiting for her husband. She leaned against the city gate and clasping her hands with joy she told him of the message of the angel who had said, "Hannah, the Lord has looked upon thy tears; thou shalt conceive and give birth and the fruit of thy womb shall be blessed by all the world."

Joachim leaned toward her and gave his wife a small kiss on her cheek. It was during what became known as "the chaste kiss" that she who was destined to be known as "The Immaculate Conception" came into being.

Tradition has it that the parents of the Blessed Virgin first lived in Galilee and then settled in Jerusalem where they died and were buried. A church that came to be known across time as St. Mary, St. Mary *ubi nata est*, St. Mary in Probatica, Holy Probatica and St. Anne, was built during the 4th century on the site of the house of St. Joachim and St. Anne. Their tombs were honored there until the close of the 9th century, when the church was converted into a Moslem school. The crypt which formerly contained the holy tombs was rediscovered on March 18, 1889.

St. Anne is honored across the world in many communities. She has

been known as the Patroness of Mothers, the Patroness of Housewives and the Patroness of Miners. The first two titles are obvious given her role in the formation of The Church. But why would she be known as the Patroness of Miners.

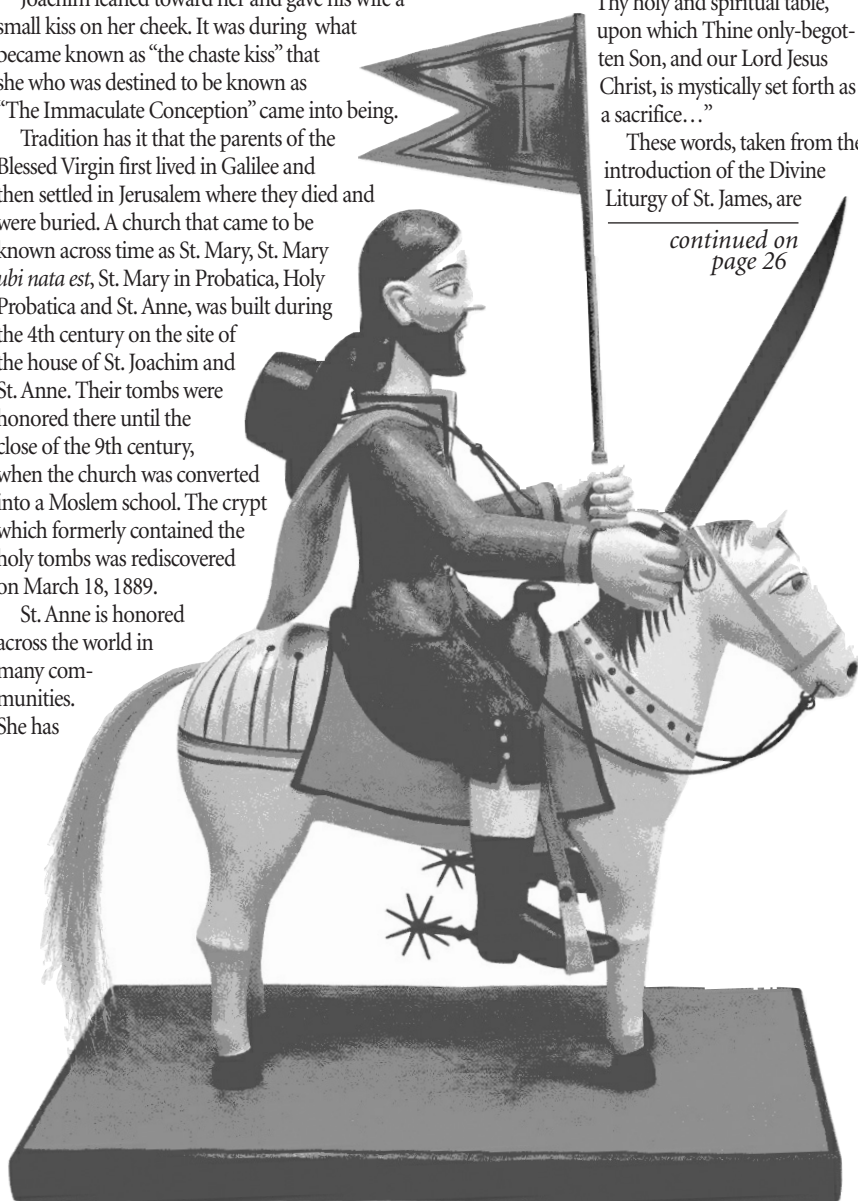
This is a symbolic title that equates St. Anne with the personification of mines which yield forth the precious metals silver and gold. In this case, her daughter, the Virgin Mary, is the silver and her grandson, Jesus, is the gold.

In taking a close look at the life of Saint James the Greater, one has to wonder about quotations that begin with such words as: "O Sovereign Lord our God, condemn me not, defiled with a multitude of sins: for, behold, I have come to this Thy divine and heavenly mystery, not as being worthy; but looking only to Thy goodness, I direct my voice to Thee: God be merciful to me, a sinner; I have sinned against Heaven, and before Thee, and am unworthy to come into the presence of this

Thy holy and spiritual table, upon which Thine only-begotten Son, and our Lord Jesus Christ, is mystically set forth as a sacrifice..."

These words, taken from the introduction of the Divine Liturgy of St. James, are

*continued on  
page 26*



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Continued from page 24

pretty high-sounding words from a boy who grew up among plain old fisher-folk. James, together with his little brother, John, were to become apostles of their cousin, Jesus. James would be the first apostle who would be martyred. His little brother John would be the only apostle not martyred.

After the Ascension of Jesus into Heaven, the apostles sat around in fear having been told simply to wait in an upper chamber. It was there that they received the gift of tongues from the Holy Spirit. This is still celebrated as The Feast of Pentecost. They went off to preach the good news of salvation to the far corners of the world. To the Apostle James fell the lot of preaching at Finisterre; the end of the earth, where Spain is now located.

Tradition says that Saint James landed in Andalucía in 38 A.D. and that he had very little initial success in converting the local people. It wasn't until James and his eight converts were praying by the Ebro River once day that they heard angels singing and had a vision of the Virgin Mary atop a pillar of jasper.

James returned to Jerusalem where he was beheaded by King Herod Agrippa. His body was deposited in a deerskin sack by his disciples and carried back to Spain. Tradition holds that his disciples arrived in Spain after only seven days on the sea. When they removed the body of James

from the sack though, they found that his head was miraculously re-attached to the body. They lay the body of the apostle upon a stone and it immediately melted like wax around him; a sure sign that James was meant to remain on Spanish soil.

THEY LAY  
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The body of James was deposited in an abandoned crypt and a little chapel was erected over it. In the year 711 the Moors crossed from north Africa to occupy Spanish Christian lands. They were to occupy much of the Iberian Peninsula for over 700 years. One hundred and two years after the initial Moorish invasion, a shepherd who was out tending his flocks, heard angels singing and he saw a shining star. He reported the event to Bishop Theodomir of Padrón. The rediscovery of the body of the Apostle of Spain strengthened Spanish resolve to drive the non-Christians out of Spain. The body of Santiago led them to believe that they were the new chosen people. The burial place of Saint James was to become known as Santiago de Compostela (St. James of the field of the star) and became a place of pilgrimage.

Because their names are so often linked together, many people assume that Saint Anne and Saint James were married to each other. They didn't even live during the same time period, historically speaking. She lived B.C. He lived A.D. Yet, their stories of sacrifice and faith continue to serve as glowing examples for all people today.

## TAOS FIESTA COUNCIL 2004



GREG KRELLER/THE TAOS NEWS

**Members of the Taos Fiesta Council, whose efforts throughout the year help make this celebration possible. Left to right, Evangeline Romero, Sonya Romero, Herman and Louisa Quintana, Don Francisco Trujillo, Elma Torres, Palemón and Neoma Martínez, Elma Vigil and Mercy Lucero. Not shown, Andy Fambro, Francis Tafoya, Jean Burrows, Teresa Trujillo, Chris Ann Jeantette, Manuel Medina, Leandra Medina-McCash, Wanda Quintana, Annette Torres, Charlotte Pérez and Martin Torres.**

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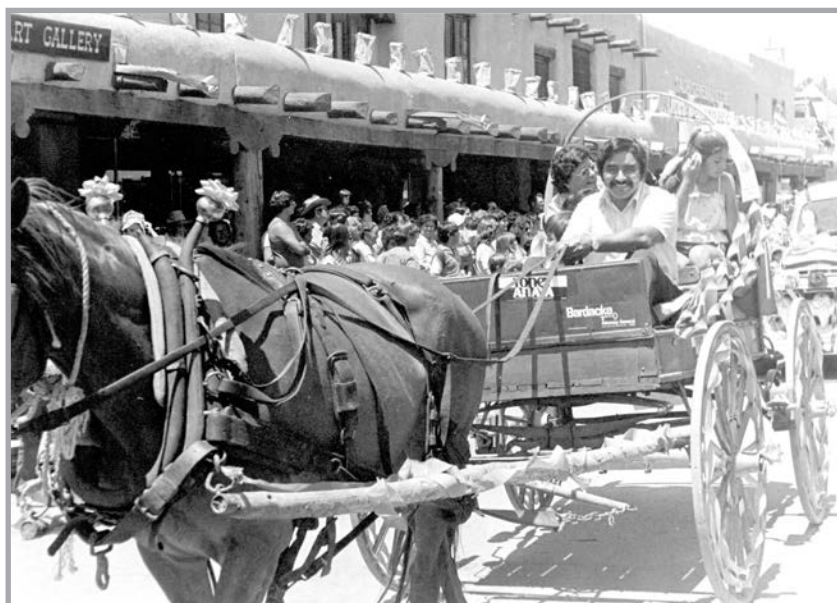
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# FIESTAS DEL PASADO



Fiesta royalty, above, ride a wagon. Left, Fiesta royalty from 1994. Below, Tío Vivo is still fun.



The tradition of the Taos Fiestas reflects the interaction of the community taking time off to celebrate together. These images recall fiesta events and participants from previous celebrations during the last part of the twentieth century.



Los Gigantes making an appearance at the parade. They are inspired by a similar tradition in Pamplona, Spain.



All kinds of pets might be seen at the parade.

*continued on page 30*

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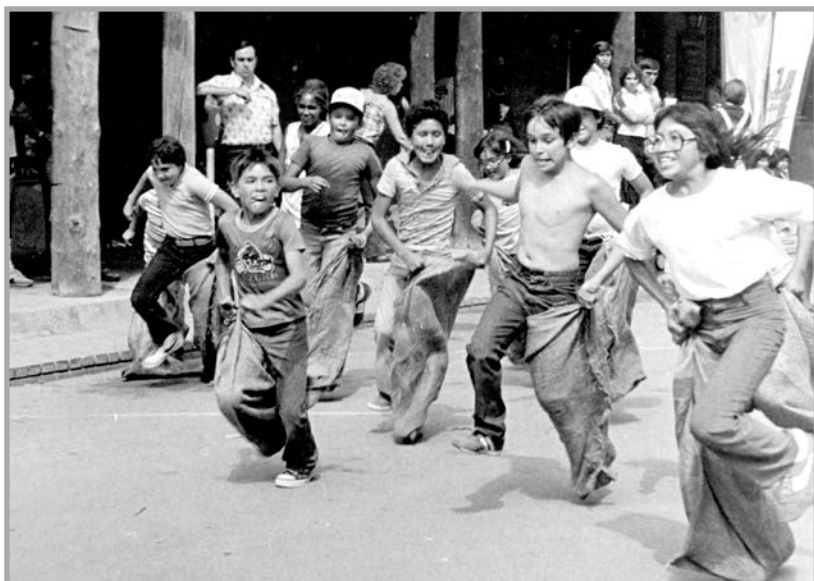
## FIESTAS DEL PASADO



**Barbara Lujan, Taos Pueblo's Fiesta Queen of 1981.**



**Above, horses and wagons are always fun. Left, costumes are limited only by a child's imagination.**



**There's nothing like a sack race to get one in the mood to have fun.**

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Martin Romero at Fiestas 1957

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