

# La Voz de Mora

August 23 to September 2018

Volume 5

Edition 54

## Shame, Not Person Shall Littering in Mora!

By Pedro (also known as Peter)



What's up brothers and sisters, do you remember me? I am Pedro (the king rooster) I introduced myself in the last edition. Anyway, like I told you my first mission is that together we can create the habit of keeping clean the beautiful county where we live.

After the publication "Make and Keep Mora Clean Again", I had dreams in

After the publication "Make and Keep Mora Clean Again", I had dreams in which a voice told me: "Pedro, Pedro, there is something that has the name: **MORA COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE**. After that, I had another dream, this time I saw all the trash disappear from the river, so, in the early morning I ran in my bicycle to confirm if my dream had come true.



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## Economics in Mora County

By Carla Gomez

An interview with Veronica Serna on Economic Development for Mora County. She is very involved in the Los de Mora Growers Co-op and the Tourism Co-op.

### Why do you feel that tourism is a good thing for the community?

As a community, we circulate money among ourselves (businesses and patrons). By attracting tourists who are passing through, we can bring more revenue into our community and benefit our local businesses. We have many talented craftsmen, artists/artisans, services, resources such as mountains (for camping, hiking, photography), streams (for fishing), farms (for farm walks, harvesting experiences, bucking hay, cattle roundups, branding cattle, horseback riding, ATV excursions), casitas (for overnight accommodations), cooks/chefs for destination meals and cooking classes (primarily local cuisine), crafting classes (wood carving, painting/drawing, leather work, woodwork, etc.). The sky is the limit--speaking of which, our skies offer some of the best star gazing experiences in the world.

### How do you think that the tourism co-op can benefit the community?

The intent of the "Mora Valley Tourism Cooperative" is primarily to promote tourism and encourage emerging and potential business development. The Co-op would like to encourage creativity in reviving our history and supporting our culture and traditions. We have a very rich culture which many of us take for granted. Recently, staff from New Mexico Tourism Department visited our community, taking them around our community for a couple of days, we realized there is so much many of us have never explored. It was very exciting, not only for those visiting, but for us locals as well. It really makes us proud to share what we have to offer, especially when we see others appreciate it more than we ever anticipated.

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**Volunteer Core Staff: Nancy Quintana, Carla Gomez and Peter the Rooster King**  
**Volunteer Distribution Staff: Barney Torres, Gina Pacheco. Prof: Leslie Alden**

Send your articles, Announcements, Adds, letters, photos and donations to:  
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## Economics in Mora County

By Carla Gomez

By becoming a member of the Mora Valley Tourism Cooperative, we can help guide both businesses and entrepreneurs. We are developing a map highlighting the attractions, events, accommodations, etc. and forwarding them to NM Tourism Department who will then work with us on advertising and marketing. We want to create opportunities for the world to visit Northern New Mexico where they will stay for a week or two and look forward to returning year after year as their destination vacation. Once a business has been developed, they can consider adding their membership to the Mora Valley Chamber of Commerce who will continue to support and advertise your business.

If anyone is interested in supporting tourism, have an emerging business that would benefit from tourism or would like to consider starting a business, you are invited to join. Send your request to [moravalleytourismcoop@gmail.com](mailto:moravalleytourismcoop@gmail.com) and we will forward a membership application to you.

I understand that you are also very involved in the growers co-op. Yes, I am very passionate about encouraging more agriculture in our community. We have so much fertile land that I feel is grossly underutilized. We need to encourage more grazing, farming and harvesting what we've got, not only in the meadows, fields and orchards, but in the mountains as well.

**How long have you been part of this co-op?** We created *the Los de Mora Local Growers' Cooperative, Inc.* (2012) when we came together as producers and aggregated our products to meet larger markets.

### How do you think the co-op can impact the community?

For starters, along with other local producers, we can add more opportunities for members of our community to become producers as well as offering healthier food options to our people.

We produce not because it is a feasible means of supplementing our income, but because we are passionate about gardening and providing healthier food. As farmers all know, you put in a lot of blood, sweat and tears and hope for the best but expect some disappointments along the way. When we produce a healthy, delicious product, the rewards are priceless. Unfortunately, we cannot produce enough to keep up with the demand both locally and within our other markets that we have developed. **We hope to attract more producers to help meet the demand of healthier food for our people and those of surrounding communities.**

For members of the Los de Mora Local Growers Cooperative, Inc. some of the benefits are that as a producer, you can focus on producing while the coop does the marketing, delivery and invoicing. A producer only has to harvest what the market will take which is usually everything. We meet frequently to plan on what needs to be planted next and each producer only plants what they are comfortable with and only what they can manage alone. We offer many workshops and trainings to help producers understand how to maximize success.

## Humanizar la Tierra

By Nancy Quintana

"I will tell you what is the meaning of your life here: humanize the earth! What is humanizing the Earth? It is to overcome pain and suffering, it is to learn without limit, it is to love reality that you build. Love the reality that you build and not even death will stop your flight!". (Mario Rodriguez Cobos).

This is a very deep reflection and has to do with choosing in what conditions we want to continue living and build a new individual, social and economic reality in Mora County. Remember, we have rights but also responsibilities. Take charge of the part that corresponds to you here in Mora.

Dear readers, this edition marks the end of summer, the return to school and the celebration of Labor Day. Remember that Labor Day honors the American labor movement and the contributions that workers have made to the strength, prosperity, laws and well-being of the country.

Mora County celebrates Cleveland Millfest and Wagon Mound Bean Day, two events prior to Labor Day Holiday and that attracts the attention of many visitors, we hope you are one of them.

We wish you a happy and productive end of summer, we hope that the issues of this edition are to your liking. Once again, we invite you to send us articles, suggestions, new ideas and be part of our volunteer staff.

**God Bless you and Love the reality that you build!**

## Mora Chamber of Commerce News

At the August meeting at the Mora Valley Chamber of Commerce we voted to donate \$400.00 toward expense associates with the Mill Fest. The Chamber will also be serving popcorn and assisting with this fun event.

We discussed the fall clean up on Mora County. The date is Saturday October 6, 2018. Please plan and join us we pick up litter around the county. We plan to meet at the South West Capital Bank parking lot, 9:00 am – 1:00pm. A picnic style lunch is also planned at noon. Bags, gloves, water and recycling will be available. Your help s need to "clean-up" the litter before winter sets in.

**Call Duane Freeman 387-2800 for questions.**

# Shame, Not Person Shall Littering in Mora!

By Pedro (also known as Peter) Torres



But, it was only a dream, what a sadness! como decia mi abuelita: **"No hay peor sordo que el que no quiere oír, ni peor ciego que el que no quiere ver** "As my grandmother said: **"There is no worse deaf than the one who does not want to hear, nor worse blind than the one who does not want to see "**.

After having made this fact known by different ways, there has not

been a single action in this regard by 8-22-18. Shame, shame! Asides, brothers and sisters, nothing new has happened, the garbage continues in the watercourse, because not enough water has fallen in the river to move it.

So, I decided to do what the voice in my dream told me and as a good researcher, I started looking for the ordinance on the handling of garbage in the county. And guess what? Eureka, that ordinance exist with! But apparently, it's a "letra muerta" (dead word). So, we'll get out this knowledge with the hope if putting it into practice.

I'm just going to point out some sections so, you can see that I'm not daydreaming. You can read it complete on the county website or ask for it personally in the respective office. There goes:

## MORA COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE (REPLACING MORA COUNTY ORDINANCE No. 97-04 and 09-01) MORA COUNTY ORDINANCE No. 2015-01

**WHEREAS**, Mora County Board of Commissioners finds that the efficient and sanitary collection, recycling, transportation and disposal of solid waste and construction and demolition debris and **control of litter in Mora County is necessary for the protection of the health, welfare and safety of the citizens of Mora County, and**

**WHEREAS**, the Mora County Board of Commissioners finds that a system of solid waste collection is necessary in order to protect the environments of Mora County from illegal dumping occasioned by the lack of a countywide system of solid waste collection, and **to protect the environment and promote the preservation of the natural beauty of Mora County lands, ....**

**Section 8: UNLAWFUL ACCUMULATION AND DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE.... b.- Not person shall commit littering;**

**Section 14: EXCEPTIONS TO THE SOLIDWASTE MANAGEMENT FEE:** 1.- the age of 65; 2.- Qualifies for public assistance; Upon approval of the application, the solid waste management fee for any such responsible person shall be six dollars (\$6.00) per month; **Section 16: ADMINISTRATION OF THIS ORDINANCE:** a. The County Manager is hereby authorized to formulate such policies and procedures as will aid in the application and administration of this Ordinance by the Mora County Solid Waste Department and the other County departments in any way involved in the administration of this Ordinance. Any such policy or procedure must be approved by the County Commission before it becomes effective; **Section 17: ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS:** a.- A Code Enforcement officer (1) shall have the authority to receive and investigate complaints concerning any alleged violation of this Ordinance....

**Section 18: PENALTIES:** Any person who commits litter contrary to Section 8 (b) shall be subject to a fine not to exceed \$1,000.00 for each separate offense, in addition to the penalties set forth above; **SECTION 20: EFFECTIVE DATE: PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** this 14th day of July 2015, by the Mora County Commissioners.

**(1) Code Force Enforcement officer is a Mora County employee designated as such by executive order of the County Manager. The Code Enforcement officer is charged with enforcement of this Ordinance.**

So, now we're all daydreaming? No, brothers and Sisters, the universe rewards actions and not ideas. If you are 65 years old or older you have a discount, if you apply for public assistance, you have a discount (only have to pay \$6.00 at month). There is no excuse, **not person shall litter in Mora County** if you do it "smile to the camera".

Finally, if these arguments do not motivate you, let me tell you this little story that happened to my friend Pablo:

*\_ "What's up Peter, he told me. Last night my mom and I were sitting in the living room talking about the many things in life ... Among others ... we were talking about life and death ... I said: "Mom, never let me live in a vegetative mode, depending on machines and liquids in a bottle, if you see me in that mode, unplug the artifacts that keep me alive and throw out the liquids on which I depends, I prefer to die. Then, my mom got up and looked at me with a face of admiration that I had never seen ... and she unplugged: The cellular- The what'sApp - The Facebook - The TV - The iPod, The play station, the internet .... and throwed in the trash My tequila, Whiskey, the cigarettes and all my beers. I ALMOST DIE".*

The point people are, you pay more \$\$\$\$ for 12 pack of beers at week, for your cell phone plan per month, for a pack of cigarettes a week. If the citizens of Mora do their part, if the Commissions and employees of the offices of Mora County in charge do their part, the dream will come true. What is your choice?

## Letter to Mora Community



The American Red Cross Mora Chapter has been inactive for the past two-three years. Despite this, when house fires occurred in the area retired member Sam Muniz, Joan Maestas, and Joan's daughter Lori Barela have responded to the emergencies. Joan is now attempting to revive the Red Cross Local Chapter.

### We need your help!

Volunteers are meeting the 2nd Thursday each month at 6:30pm at Joan and Matias Maestas' home @ 792 Cleveland, N.M. (Grandma Joan's Choke Cherry Jelly). **You are welcome to join us!**

On July 14th and 15th, five volunteers attended workshops in Las Vegas, NM, to learn about: "Shelters Fundamentals", "DAT (Disaster Action Team) Basics", "Psychological First Aide", "CERT (Community Emergency Response Team)" and "Disaster Assessment Fundamentals". A CPR, First Aid course is being planned at the local clinic (MVCH, Mora Valley Community Health) soon.

Those interested in becoming a Red Cross Volunteer should go on line to [redcross.org](http://redcross.org) to register and contact Joan Maestas at 575-387-2673.

**Together we can provide a safer community!**

## From Stephen Fadden (professional storyteller)

**"When everyone got running water, the story-telling stopped. People used to visit one another at night and tell stories. When television came in, that stopped, and instead, we were all watching stories created by another culture. It was a huge loss."**

## History of the Mora Post Office

By Manuel Alcon

Mora became the county seal in 1860 when Mora county was carved out of Taos County. At his time, Mora town was known as Lo de Mora or Santa Gertrudes after the patron Saint of the Catholic Church.

Mora Post office was established in 1864. Charles Zimmerman was the first postmaster according to the stories passed on to the present generation. Mail was received once a week at this time.

Levi Madrid recalls, the route from Las Vegas had been established by the early 1900s. Among the postmasters Levi remembered or had been told were a Mr. Green, a St Vrain, A Nolan, a Mary Kahn, and about the time he was born in 1895, Palemon Ortiz was the postmaster. After him, that he remembers was Jesus Maria Sanchez who was Steven, Florentino, and Manuel Sanchez's father, Eugenio Romero was another postmaster as was Phillip N. Sanchez whose wife, Emma, was the one who ran the post office. He believes Cosme Garcia was the next postmaster.

By 1934 or 35s, Rosalba Branch was the postmistress and her brother Richard were her assistant. She served until the early 1960s. Jose Trujillo took over and later Alberto Romero was the postmaster. Trivinio Romo was his assistant. In the late 70's, Evangeline Maestas took over. Up to 1999, she is the postmistress.

Some buildings that have been occupied as the post office building are: in the early 1930s at the present site of the Steve Sanchez home. Later it was moved to a two-story house where Rosalie Branch was postmistress, later a small building was built in front of the old post office. A new prefab building was later set in the old site of the Balland Merchandise store which was razed years before. This building is in front of the Catholic Church and across from the Butler Hotel Site.

In 1998, a new building was built at the present location. A much bigger building was built. Many customers were up in arms because of the move to the new building. Before, the post office was conveniently situated across the Bank of Las Vegas Branch in Mora. The bank was across the post office building in the old Hanosh building.

Next edition History of Holman Post Office

## Mora Above & Beyond

This program is an opportunity for our community to thank and encourage our youth for their positive attitudes, their acts of selflessness, helping our community, and overall showing growth.

### Nomination by Monica Aragon

I have spent several seasons in the dugout with the Mora High School Baseball team-the current Class 1A/2A State Champions. This is a unique experience since you see the team at their best and their worst. One thing that stands out in my mind after every game is Devondre's positive attitude. He is constantly cheering for his team mates. He is a constant source of positivity and encouragement for the Rangers. When the team is behind in the game, Devondre only increases the "cheering on" of the boys. He is always offering a compliment to each player and a job well done.

Devondre had back surgery a couple of years ago to correct a curvature in his spine. This was an intense time for Devondre and the certainty that he may not be able to play his favorite sport again was gone. Post-surgery, Devondre was determined to get back on the field. He worked hard to regain his balance and strength. Watching him from the dugout for so many years, I knew he was hesitant and afraid. Regardless, Devondre persevered and ultimately became a State Baseball Champion. He came back better and stronger and I am certain it was because of his positive outlook.

Devondre is a kind-hearted young man. His positivity is infectious and plays a huge impact on the morale of his team. Devondre's personality has carried him and his teammates far and it will continue to drive him to achieve even more great things.

## Happy Birthday to You!



**Feliz  
Cumple  
Vida!**

**Guadalupita, Agosto 20, 2018.- En compania de su hija Tamy y del grupo de estudiantes y amigas, hemos celebrado un ano mas de vida de una de nuestras artistas locales, Silvia Ortega.**

**Deseamos que Dios continue bendiciendola con mucha salud, con ese espiritu jovial, generoso y creativo que la caracteriza y seguir compartiendo su sonrisa y experiencias con todos los que la rodean.**

**God Bless her and Long life to Silvia.**

## Wagon Mound Bean Day

**August 31 - September 3,  
2018**

There are many events held throughout the Bean Day weekend which include a Parade, 3 days of Rodeos, 2 nights of Dances, 3 days Open Mic performances in the Park, Mud Bog Races, a Car Show, Softball Tournament, Horseshoe Tournament, Bean Cleaning.

## Cleveland Roller Mill Museum

Saturday and Sunday, September 1 & 2 from 10 AM to 5 PM

**Location:** Cleveland Roller Mill Museum, hwy 518 - mile marker 31 in Cleveland, NM (2 miles NW of Mora)

**Ticket(s):** \$5 entrance to mill museum; free to arts and crafts area; \$3 parking per carload. **Tickets at:** the entrance

**Information:** <http://www.clevelandrollermillmuseum.org>  
or (575) 387-2645

60+ artists, native foods, baked goods, dance exhibitions, and continuous musical entertainment.

The Cleveland Roller Mill Museum, a 3-story adobe water-powered historic flourmill, will be in continuous operation. There are 3 tours daily. See the schedule on the web page below.

## Local Supporters Advertisements



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**"We wish you a good and wholesome life."**

**Please visit [www.mvchs.org](http://www.mvchs.org)**



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Or via email to: [hr@mvchs.org](mailto:hr@mvchs.org)

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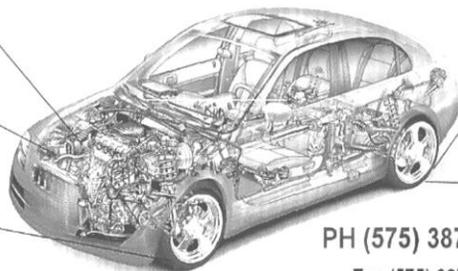
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