

EL AVISO

July 2003

JOAN MCCLELLAND, CFNP RETURNS TO LAS CLINICAS DEL NORTE



Joan McClelland, CFNP, a certified nurse practitioner, with 26 years experience in family practice and Public Health, is returning to work full-time at Las Clinicas del Norte beginning on June 1st. Joan

previously practiced with Las Clinicas between 1993 and 1996. At that time she was hired to be a new third provider in the system and worked in all three clinics, Ojo Caliente, El Rito and Abiquiu. Joan will be returning to care for some of the same patients as in previous years, working at the Ojo Caliente clinic.

Joan received a Masters degree in Science and Nursing in 1992 from the University of New Mexico and a Masters in Public Health in 1985 from the University of Minnesota. She worked in Public Health in the inner cities, doing home visits between 1983 and 1987. Although interested in public health Joan also wanted hospital experience working with chronic problems. From 1987 to 1990 Joan worked in underserved areas outside of Detroit, Michigan, developing programs concerned with infant mortality and maternal child health.

In 1988 Joan came to El Rito, New Mexico, to visit her old nursing school buddy Coleen Atkinson and liked the state. Wanting

to change to another setting and expand skills to provide treatment, she found that a new Family Nurse Practitioner Program was just starting at UNM, with a rural health emphasis. Joan applied and was accepted in the program, graduating in 1992. She then worked in Farmington for a year before being invited to join the Las Clinicas staff in 1993. Joan had special interest in prenatal care and developed a program to provide services for prenatal care to patients until the third trimester, at which point the patients would go to a doctor in Espanola.

Joan left Las Clinicas and El Rito in 1996 to go to work in Shiprock for the Indian Health Service, where she practiced in the OB-Gyn clinic and with outreach clinics on the reservation until 1997. She returned to this area when she started working in Espanola in private practice with Dr. Bob Fritch, where Joan's special emphasis was in prenatal care and family practice. Then in 2000 work took her to the Espanola Hospital Emergency Room and in November 2001 to a new practice in Pojoaque Primary Care clinic with Dr. Fritch again, and Drs. James Delgado and Mario Pacheco.

Andy R. Lopez, Executive Director of Las Clinicas del Norte stated, "We are happy that Joan McClelland is returning to work full-time at Las Clinicas del Norte".

Joan lives in El Rito in northern New Mexico and is very glad to be working in her own community again. Since she always has been commuting to work for the last seven years, she now "hopes to be able to see much more of her friends and is really happy to not have to be driving so much". Joan has →

LAS CLINICAS DEL NORTE: A Community Health Center, Established in 1972

Serving the communities of Abiquiu, Ancones, Barranco, Cañon, Carson, Chili, Cañones, Cañon Plaza, Duranes, El Llanito, El Pueblo, El Rito, Gallegos, Gavilan, Ghost Ranch, La Cueva, La Madera, La Mesa, La Zorro, Las Casitas, Las Tablas, Los Pinos, Medanales, No Agua, Ojo Caliente, Olguin, Petaca, Placitas, Plaza Blanca, Rio Chama, San Miguel, Servilleta, Servilleta Plaza, Silvestres, Tierra Azul, Tres Orejas, Tres Piedras, Tusas and Vallecitos and Youngsville

→ been a member of the El Rito Fire Department since 1997, and has served as the EMS Coordinator since 1999. She grew up in a small town in Minnesota north of Duluth, in a large family with three brothers and 2 sisters. After considering the big cities for a while, she is glad to be a part of a small town again. For Joan being out of doors and hiking are very important and her hobbies include gardening, reading and quilting.

Joan McClelland has stated, "that she is delighted to once again be able to serve patients in both Espanola and the rural areas to the north". Espanola area patients who have Insurance or are on Medicare and Medicaid are welcomed to see Joan at the clinic in Ojo Caliente, 583-2191, or any other of Las Clinicas del Norte medical staff, most of which are bilingual in Spanish and English. Patients from the Espanola area may be seen in the Las Clinicas three-clinic system, which is situated only 30 minutes north in Ojo Caliente or 20 miles north in Abiquiu, with El Rito located between the other two clinics.

Announcements & News Briefs

Farewell to another of our employees. **Ray Galley, PA-C**, has left. Ray has served us well through these years, but is planning to live in Santa Fe where he will be putting his child in school. Also leaving are **Jennifer Aires, LPN**, from Ojo Caliente and **Priscella Carrillo, LPN**, from El Rito. Thank you to all of you from all of us at Las Clinicas. We will truly miss you.

Jessica Vigil has been promoted to handling many of Heidi Tofoya duties, including administrative account billing and financial reports.

Welcome to our new summer students. **Cheryleve Archuleta** is helping in the dental department and **Robert Yanez** is working part-time with our administrative staff, coming to us through Siete del Norte, a Community Development Corporation. We have two new summer students helping in the medical clinics. Here are statements from each of them:

"Although I have met many of you, my name is **Jackie Shaw** and I'm a physician assistant student from Pacific University in Oregon. I have traveled all this way to learn some rural medicine here at Las Clinicas. I have been living at the college in El Rito and working at all 3 clinics during the week. I really love the wonderful people in this small community - thank you all for making me feel so welcome. I hope I have the chance to meet more people in the

community during the rest of my stay. It is hard to believe that I have already been here for 6 weeks! Of all the things I have learned here, I would say the most important is to watch out for the clinicians with the short white coats!"

"Hello, I am **Emilia Ruiz**, and after I graduated from the University of Illinois, I moved to New Mexico with the determination of going to UNM's medical school. I am working here at Las Clinicas in El Rito through UNM's Clinical Education program and I am very happy to be here. Like Corine Herrera, I come from a very large family. I have six sisters and five brothers. Thank you Las Clinicas for this opportunity."

Job Openings: The Nursing department is now looking for a **Health Educator**. Call Thelma Chavez or Julie Hill-Clapp at 581-4728.

Also, a full-time position is open for a **Community Worker (case manager)** to conduct Medicaid enrollment in our service area. Job would require doing community outreach to enroll children in Medicaid, following up on applications and managing databases to track progress. Candidate would need to prepare monthly reports, attend Primary Health Care Assoc-sponsored meetings, have reliable transportation (license, insurance) and be comfortable in doing home and school visits. Some case management services would be included, e.g. distributing information on LCDN services during enrollment process and making community service referrals. Therefore, some knowledge of social service resources is desirable. Resident or former resident of LCDN service area and Spanish fluency needed. Candidate would attend CCS meetings and be supervised by Michael Hill. For more information contact Thelma Chavez or Michael Hill, 581-4728.

⊗ Community Events ⊗

Contact Person, Joan Tollefson, Editor, 581-9103 or 581-4728

Las Clinicas 24-hour Emergency Number – 1-888-678-6160

El Rito

Las Clinicas del Norte Board Meeting – every 3rd Monday, 7 pm, El Rito clinic Community Room

El Rito Library – open Tues, Wed, Thurs, 11 am – 6 pm, and Sat, 11 am – 3 pm.

El Rito Library Board Mtgs. – every 1st Wed, 6 pm at Library
AA Meetings El Rito – Tues, & Thurs, 8m – 9pm, at Catholic Church Parish Hall, open discussion. Contact Ed F. 581-4559

El Rito Fire Dept. Mtgs. – every 2nd Wednesday, 7 pm, at the El Rito Fire Station, open to the public

Tutoring –El Rito Save the Children Ctr, call for info. 581-4516

Recycling El Rito – every 4th Saturday, 9 am – 2 pm, behind the Martins Store Gas Station

Abiquiu

Recycling Abiquiu – 4th Sunday every month, 9 am-2 pm,

Abiquiu Las Clinicas clinic parking lot →

→ **Al-Anon Meetings Abiquiu** – Monday, 5 pm, call for location, contact numbers, 581-4471 or 685-4503

Abiquiu Library – open Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, 12:30 pm – 6 pm and Sunday, 9 am – 12 noon, located on the Plaza

Abiquiu Fire Dept. Mtg. – every 2nd Thursday, 7 pm at Abiquiu Fire Dept.

Ojo Caliente

Ojo Caliente Fire Dept. Mtg. – every 1st Wednesday, 7 pm, Ojo Caliente Fire Dept.

Medanales

Medanales, Rio Chama, Tierra Azul Community Mtg. – every 1st Mon, 7 pm, Medanales Comm. Ctr., ph.#, 685-9416

Northern New Mexico Community College El Rito Campus

Summer has begun and groups have started to come and stay at our beautiful campus.

Schedule

July 2-3 Georgia O'Keefe Art and Leadership Group (All Girls)

July 8-9 Georgia O'Keefe Art and Leadership Group (All Boys)

July 10-12 ENLACE (Group of Latino kids learning leadership skills)

July 17-18 USFS (YCC- youth group using our computer lab for projects)

July 23-24 Georgia O'Keefe Art and Leadership Group (All boys)

July 27-30 Center for Education & Study of Diverse Populations (15-20 Adult students)

These groups will be staying in our dorms and using all of our services. We would like to welcome them all to our college and our beautiful community.

The Northern staff and faculty commend Nicholas Herrera on his book signing. We wish him and his family the best of luck as they promote our community and culture.

We also would like to thank three young men that worked on campus for two weeks thru the Siete de Norte Program. They are Leonard Jaramillo, Jeffrey Martinez and Mario Ortega, job well done young men.

Northern welcomes Diana Trujillo and her family to our community as she will serve as USFS Ranger for the El Rito District. Mrs. Trujillo was a former Northern student in our forestry program. Welcome back!!!

Just a brief note for potential students, please start your financial aid paperwork and enroll for fall classes today.

For more information please contact Dorothy Duran @ 581-4115 or Donald Martinez @ 581-4120.

Don't forget we have a new program for students to take advantage of lots of benefits. This program is called CAMP and for more information please contact Ray David Martinez @ 581-2144.

EL RITO WATER

PLANNING COMMITTEE FORMED

The three local domestic water associations in El Rito and the Northern New Mexico Community College have agreed to work together to address the water needs of the community of El Rito. In early May 2003 a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by all the parties to study the feasibility of creating a Regional water system for El Rito and a Master Study was ordered. Gannet Fleming Engineering, Inc will conduct the Master Study and it will address the short and long-range water need of the community of El Rito as well as consolidating the systems into one association.

The first phase of the Master Study will be to develop a reliable source of water to supply the entire community; this will include upgrading existing systems as well as extending the distribution lines to allow all members of the community to join the consolidated system. The second phase will include the development of a sewage system to cover the community of El Rito.

In late May members of the planning committee met with Governor Richardson and the Governor committed \$ 1 million dollars toward construction of the regional water system.

The members of the planning committee are as follows: Rudy P Maestas, President; Prudencio Chacon, Vice-President; Drew Mendez, Recording Secretary; Neil Brockman, Communication Secretary; Donald Martinez, Financial Secretary; Juan Garcia, Technical Advisor; Jake Vigil and Andy Lopez, Water Rights and support.

The name of the committee is the El Rito Regional Water System. The next meeting is scheduled for July 9, 2003 at 6:00 PM at the Las Clinicas del Norte Conference Room, the public is invited. A community wide meeting to report the finding of the Master Study will be held in late August at the El Rito campus of NNMCC.

Las Clinicas del Norte is funded, in part, by the U. S. Department of Health, Community Health Systems Div., Primary Care Bureau

ABIQUIU PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Abiquiu Public Library had a good turnout for the **Spring Fling Dance and Fundraiser**. The band was great and thanks to Tony again, everything went swell. We cannot express enough special gratitude for those of you who donated your impressive talents and donations for the raffle and door prizes: Amber Archer, Stan and Arlene Bader, Cheryl Hendricks, Curt & Denise Hoffman, Eppie Jaramillo, Los Caminos Bar, Orgullo Band Members, Tito Lopez, Dick Lumaghi, Joyce Suris, Sky Williams and so many others including our volunteer board who gives many hours and efforts. Thank you all very much.

Announcement . . . Because of Your Vote on the bond issue last election; we will be receiving monies for new books in July. Therefore, we invite you to let us know which books you suggest for reading and would like to have at our site. We do the best we can to accommodate everyone's wishes!

The National Forestry Foundation has granted the Mexicano Land Education and Conservation Trust funding for community facilitator training in various Mercedes (Land Grants). Virgil and Isabel Trujillo were selected to initiate participation in Abiquiu reaching out to membership in Canones and El Rito. This will require attendance in workshops and, in turn, holding workshops of their own to interested parties in order to learn to manage our lands and act as liaisons. The first workshop was on forest ecology and community mapping to be held June 28th at NNMCC in Espanola. If you have any suggestions or questions, call 685-0572.

June 8th the Abiquiu Public Library will complete five years since our **grand opening**.

We plan to have a public celebration during the Santa Rosa Fiesta in the Plaza. We also have a great need to activate Friends of the Library to assist us with updating internet policies for our children, book weeding and sales, acquisitions, etc. We especially would like to see a Teen Council of young membership to enhance newer public services. If you have any ideas or think you might enjoy participation, please come in and talk to us.

If you have ever had any thought about sharing the talent that you hold with young people; whether it be an instrument that you play or a craft that you would like to see carried on without loss, this is your chance. . . Please Contact the Library so that we can make that connection. We have the space and would love to try and entertain our children more during the long-hot summer months when they get so extremely bored! Also, if you need a helper with your gardens or yard and are willing to pay a little, the adolescents are wishing for summer jobs.

Our **Summer Reading Program** began on June 18th at 2:00 PM and will continue every Wednesday after that until August 6, 2003. The theme this year is Magical Mystery Tour with characters AbraCATabra, HOUNDini, Mysterloso the owl, Spots to connect the dots on his Domino Decimal System. We have already ordered new children's books relative to this theme. On June 25th, we featured John Polinko, a real Magician/Juggler, He did a great job with all his tricks and juggling. We had a great turn out with over 40 children plus their parents and many other community members. We all had a blast!!! Come in and register for our fun and friendly story time program. Be sure to bring your children, grandchildren and your young hearts!

Congratulations to **Northern NM Community College Outreach Program**.

Participants for completing our fairly new Bilingual Adult Basic Computer Class. They are as follows: Dexter Trujillo, Florence Mata and Amanda Flores, Kenneth Dean Moya, Yvonne Serrano, Theresa Vasquez, Ermelinda Garcia, Jake Gonzales and Juanita Vialpando. A great big gratitude goes to the instructor Marie L. War and NNMCC-El Rito Campus Dean, Dorothy Duran for coordinating this valuable offer. Class tuition is sponsored by Our Lady of Victory Noll Missionary Sisters. Qualifications are low-income and residential status. Call the Library at 685-4884 for more information.

Library Hours

Ph: 685-4884

Sunday – 9:00 am – Noon

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
12:30 pm – 6:00 pm

Closed: Friday, Saturday and Most Holiday

EL RITO LIBRARY

Our hours are: Tuesday 11-6, Wednesday 11-6, Thursday 11-6 and Saturday 11-3

This month's issue of the El Rito Library news is in memory of **Maxine Fine** who passed away in the early morning of June 7, 2003. Maxine worked at the Library for about four years and will be sorely missed. Maxine was instrumental in starting the "Family Resource Center" at the library and I know that she really loved the library and was always looking for new ideas or services that the library could offer our patrons.

Maxine's friend, Flavia Rando, wrote the following: "Maxine Fine, the beloved friend and neighbor of all who knew her, and my dear friend of more than thirty years, passed during the early morning of June 7, 2003. Maxine's luminous spirit, her gentle acceptance, and beautiful heart graced all our lives. Maxine lived a considered life dedicated to her art--her life was one of beauty--she showed us all the beauty of a conscious spiritual life.

Maxine wrote of her life here in New Mexico. "By 1981, I felt that my need to be in a rural environment, closer to nature, could no longer be denied and I moved to New Mexico. I chose to live in rural northern New Mexico...where the stars were the only lights visible at night. It was a difficult transition, but...the years here, and the work I have created, have borne out the rightness of my decision. The environment in which I now live has enriched my inner life to become a deep source for my art." Maxine's dedication, courage, her level of achievement, and excellence have been recognized, she has been the recipient of several national awards for her art, including the Pollack-Krasner Foundation and Gottlieb Foundation grants. On June 6, she learned that she was the recipient of the Astraea Foundation Visual Arts Award.

Maxine felt a great commitment to her adopted home, and worked in her gentle and dynamic way, often through the El Rito Library, to bring together the diverse communities of her beloved northern New Mexico".

There will be a memorial for Maxine. Fine and it is tentatively scheduled for August 10, 2003 at the El Rito Library. Once we get more concrete information

on the memorial, we will have fliers posted around El Rito and the surrounding communities.

Charles Bayly has joined our Library Staff.

Charles lives on Main Street, El Rito, and comes to the library with three years of library experience. Please come by and say hello to Charles and wish him well in his new job (and offer him lots of luck working with so many women) and also say hello to the other staff members. Remember, this is your library, use it - but don't abuse it.

The **New Mexico Heritage Preservation Event** is now available to be lent out in a set of two CDs. The May 10, 2003 event was audiotaped by, Friends of the Library member, **John Caster**. Again, John, thank you for all your help during this Heritage Preservation event. A **Big Thanks** also goes out to **Joan Tollefson** for the many, many hours she put in to make the event so successful. One more thanks goes out to **Bertha Martinez** who brought by the Library some memorabilia that Mr. Max Varoz had accumulated when he was a Principal and Teacher at Placitas Elementary. Bertha also spoke about some of Mr. Varoz's stories that she had heard him talk about and Bertha was a big part of the success of this event.

"A Night on the Town" was a huge success! Maxine Fine had come up with the original idea of turning our community room into a coffeehouse, serving coffees, teas and delicious desserts. If the event was successful, her dream was to continue with future coffeehouses. Well, it was a great success and if anybody is interested or knows of local talent, we would love to host another **"A Night on the Town"**. Just call Joan Tollefson at 581-9103. We would like to thank **John Brandi** for selling his latest book of poetry, *In What Disappears*. John donated 20% of book sales to the library and we raised some money selling all those delicious desserts. A special thanks to **Joan Tollefson** for taking over the event to ensure that Maxine's dream came true. Also, many thanks to **David Genth, John Caster and Lynn Nequin** for helping out. The baked goodies came from: Cilla Mays, Kathleen Vanderbrook, Suzanne Snow, Joan Tollefson, Carol Martin-Davis, Rene Gregorio, David and Sally McDaniel, and David Genth. Again, hats off to all of you for the great job you all did for this event!

Don't forget, if you want to get involved in helping your library with fundraising events, volunteering and publicizing the library, join the **"Friends of the Library"**. Contact Joan Tollefson at 581-9103 for more information.

New Gate! Many thanks to the **Methodist Church** for installing a new front gate at the library.