

NEWS

from



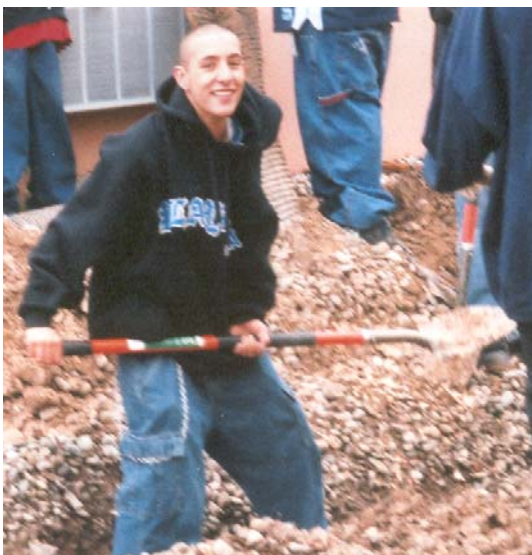
Summer 2005

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Pictured left is Joseph Debary, Mike Gallegos and Richard Gonzales. Joseph and Richard are in high school at Valley High School in Albuquerque and in the CBI program. Mike Gallegos is the Facilities Supervisor and Volunteer Coordinator at Casa Esperanza.

Youth in Philanthropy at work -



Left is Joseph Debary working hard preparing for new drainage pipes from CE parking lot. Above is Harold Sanchez in charge of removing the old drain pipes.

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DIRECTOR'S PAGE

by Eileen Cook

Wait! The Future is Now!

As much as we like to pretend that there's no tomorrow, that life is endless and that we are definitely not getting any older, I have discovered an entire world out there, souls who look at life and, well, me, quite differently. And as part of the huge, "we're it" baby boomer generation, this has been quite a startling experience for me.

I speak of the army of the young. You know, the ones we have to get out of the way for. The ones we need to open our doors for and our minds to. I'm talking about – gasp – the next generation of Casa Esperanza leaders and supporters!

So, with that picture in mind, the Casa Esperanza Board has wisely embarked upon a new venture – a Youth in Philanthropy program (YIP) - to begin this September. We will invite one high school senior, one college undergraduate student, and one young professional (under 30) to become members of our Advisory Board for a one-year term, during which they will have the opportunity to learn nonprofit governance, as well as how to give of their time, talent and purse. Our YIPs will be asked to attend all board meetings and to select a standing committee on which to participate. Each participant will be assigned to a member of our Board of Directors, who will serve in a mentorship capacity throughout the year.

It is my fervent hope that we will cultivate not only future philanthropists, but a new generation of people who will cherish and support the mission of Casa Esperanza. In turn, I believe that our board members and staff will be energized and inspired, and I can't wait!

So, Let's Get Ready.

We have lots of exciting things on our plates at Casa this summer. We are conducting a feasibility study for a capital campaign to see if the commu-

nity agrees that we are ready for a building expansion. We feel ready, that's for sure. Our occupancy continues to be remarkably high, creating the need for waiting lists on many days. The study results are keenly anticipated, and I will keep you posted.

Also keenly anticipated is the outcome of our Pathfinders venture. A program geared toward helping nonprofits benefit from traditional business and entrepreneurial thinking. Sponsored by the National Center for Social Entrepreneurs, the eight-month intensive Pathfinder program is intended to help us increase our financial independence and to develop better internal methods of program evaluations. I tell you, we expect to be more streamlined and self-sufficient - more lean & mean as a business! Updates to follow.

Welcome.

Please join me in congratulating our recently promoted Guest Services Team and Community Outreach Director, Angelica Medina. Angelica was formerly a part of the guest services team, and we are delighted that she agreed to take on the position plus a mountain of additional work. Among her many great gifts is her flair for keeping the famous Tuesday night family dinners alive and flourishing – she's been known to cook tons of additional food if she fears we might run short. Needless to say, our families adore her.

And please welcome our new Administrative Assistant, Anita Harrison, to the staff. Anita came to us in February after twenty years next door at UNM's Children's Psychiatric Hospital. Anita watched as the first shovel of dirt began our construction in 1991 and has watched our progress along the way. She came out of retirement to work with us, and we are very grateful that she did.

Jacky Villa, "Joy Maker"

by Patty Virgen, Guest Services Team Member

Jacky Villa and her mother Lilia Loya-Villa have been staying at Casa since March 11, 2005. Jacky, who recently turned one, was diagnosed with childhood leukemia at seven months. She is receiving chemotherapy on an in-and-out patient schedule at UNM Pediatric Oncology. The first three months were the hardest and she will need three additional years of treatment.

Jacky has become Casa's instant "joy maker" with her radiant smiles and likelihood for blowing kisses to those who reciprocate. Despite her age, condition, and the grueling chemotherapy treatments, she bears it all with quiet and steadfast courage. Even when she is cranky and drained, the persistent coaxing of Casa's staff will often yield one more beautiful, if tired, smile. Jacky has a brother named Karim and a sister Ashley who stay in Roswell with their dad and grandmother and come to visit every other weekend. Jacky's family has decided to move to Albuquerque and is in the process of making those arrangements to do so.

Jacky's Mom was originally referred by their hospital social worker to the Ronald McDonald House next door. When Jacky's mother, Lilia arrived, she learned the RMH was full and came next door to see if we had any available accommodations. Ronald McDonald House and Casa function in many similar ways: we both provide homes for cancer patients and their families. RMH provides housing specifically for child patients and their families. At RMH, families have a limit on their stay for 30 days but at CE, families can stay as long as the patient is in active treatment. It is not uncommon for both houses to share volunteers, in-kind donations and special events as well as families. We both benefit from a long working relationship that assists our families.

Lilia's plan for Jacky is to become strong enough to spend less time in the hospital and more time with her family. Joy comes in many forms: health: family, home, support and life with those for whom you care. Jacky's smile brings us joy through hope.



Jacky Villa and her mother Lilia Loya-Villa

Cancer Services of New Mexico's Fall 2005 Family Cancer Retreat

from Blaire Larson, President, Cancer Services of New Mexico

The Fall 2005 Family Cancer Retreat will provide New Mexico's adult cancer patients/survivors and the family members (up to four people per family) and loved ones who serve as their primary caregivers with a weekend of education, reflection, and rejuvenation in a relaxing and beautiful environment. The retreat will focus on educating participants on the process of surviving, from the difficulties of handling the initial diagnosis, through coping with therapy, through a variety of medical and social topics relating to at-home care and the emotional issues associated with surviving. During the weekend, we will intersperse lectures and discussions on a variety of cancer-related topics with fun activities that provide a break from the day-to-day challenges of living with cancer. The program will be September 16-18, 2005, at the LifeWay Glorieta Conference Center in Glorieta, NM. There is no charge to participate in the retreat. Space is limited, so we encourage interested families to apply as soon as possible. For more information, contact Blair Larson at (505) 259-9583, or go to our website-www.CancerServicesNM.org.

Thinking inside the Box: It seems that "Caja de Esperanza," our fundraising fiesta and auction, has really caught on. More than 400 people attended our third annual event on April 1 at La Posada de Albuquerque, which featured the auction of 27 hand-decorated "hope chests" and bottles of wine donated by Glenn Magelssen of Los Alamos. One chest also held a bottle of 1993 Caymus Cabernet Sauvignon from Napa Valley along with a gift certificate from the wonderful new Napa Valley River Terrace Inn and dinner at the Restaurant Budo donated by Robert and Laura Gustin. By the time the auction stopped, bidders spent nearly \$35,000 in support of Casa Esperanza. The biggest seller? A hand-hammered copper chest created by Lily Curtis which sold for \$1800. A near second was Barbara Romero's "Cactus Flowers" for \$1200, followed by Mike Copeland's for \$1200 and Dee Sanchez' for \$1150. Next year's event is already in the planning stages, so put March 31, 2006 at La Posada de Albuquerque on your calendar. Hope to see you there!



Lily Curtis' hammered copper.



Barbara Romero's Cactus Flowers



Mike Copeland

Mike Copeland's hope chest.

Participating Artists: Donna Spray, Wayne Whiting, Pat Beatty, Mike Copeland, Loretta Martinez, Linda Lomahaftewa, Nocona Burgess, Angus Macpherson, Connie Blake, Lily Curtis, Edna Casman, Virginia Gonzales (wine from Glenn Magelssen and River Terrace Inn in Napa Valley gift certificates from Bob and Laura Gustin), Dee Sanchez, Kay Byrd, Bethe Sailer, Caroline Babbitt, Patsy Delk, Greg Senn, Patricia Brkich (gem stones from Sean Hopkins with Vajda International), OK Harris, Sara Chambers, John Saunders, Barbara Romero, David Micklevitz, Margarito Mondragon, Darryl Willison, and Paul Sanchez. **Sponsored in Part By:** Unpainted Furniture, Albuquerque Monument, Wells Fargo Bank, KOB-TV, Alphagraphics on Osuna, LandAmerica Albuquerque Title, KHFM, Rhombus PA, French Mortuary, Comcast, Talbot Agency, Sandia Investment Group, Sylvain Segal, Life by Design, Cardinal Health, Southwestern Association for Indian Arts, Inc., Cooney, Watson & Associates, The Range Café, UNM Foundation, and Group West Advertising. **Committee Members:** Jody Contreras, Chair, Dara Ambriz, Lee Beckley, Patricia Brkich, Melanie Cravens, J.R. Lopez, Johnese Turri, Greta Weiner, Eileen Cook and Maryle J. Barber. **Special Assistants:** Dick Loyd, Del Norte Jr. ROTC, Casa Esperanza staff and all the extra people who volunteered their time to make this event a great success. **Special Guests:** Steve Stucker, Eyewitness News 4 Today, Emcee; Jim Randall, auctioneer; and Red Ryder, special "spotter."



Far left: CE Board members Leo Moya and Anthony Masciotra. Center: Hole-in-One winner Ward Hunnicutt (left) and Fred Moore. Far right: Fred Moore offering tournament instructions before Shot-Gun Start.



Ace in the hole highlights Moore Memorial golf tourney...

Ward Hunnicutt of Albuquerque wasn't having a particularly good day on the golf course at Tierra Del Sol Country Club on Saturday, June 11, until he got to the seventh hole, that is. Hunnicutt, who was playing in the Eighth Annual "Mike" Moore Memorial Golf Classic, scored a hole-in-one on the course's signature hole, winning him a 2005 Chrysler PT Cruiser convertible sponsored by Auge's Dodge-Chrysler-Jeep in Belen. Jody Contreras also won the raffle for the two Southwest Airlines tickets. This year's event golf has raised over \$10,000 with a total for the eight years of slightly over \$200,000. Fred Moore was this year's chair for the event which is named after his deceased wife, Michelle. Moore said that ingredients for success is planning six months in advance, sponsors who come back year after year, and a terrific team of volunteers who are committed to supporting Casa Esperanza.

Participating Sponsors and Supporters: **Kachina (Media)** KNML 610 Radio, Comcast, Valencia County News Bulletin; **Kokopelli \$2500** Wal-Mart Distribution Center; **Koshare \$1000** Auge's Dodge-Chrysler-Jeep, Tierra del Sol Golf & Country Club, Albuquerque Lighting, High Desert Mortgage Group, Talbot Agency, Inc., Wal-Mart Super Center-Belen; **Shalako \$500** Howard Electric, T. Zane Reeves, French Mortuary, Fred & Edie Moore, Fidelity National Title Co.; **Mana \$100** Steve Dudoich Lawn Maintenance, The Ingles/Company Realtors, Carl's Wood Designs, Union Bank, Coronado Appraisal Services, Sunwest Trust, Inc., United General Title Insurance, Christian Fellowship Church, Casa Crew (Eileen Cook), Sky Management, Inc., Tillery Pontiac Buick GMC, La Merced No. 2550, Michelle Campbell, Small Business Computing, Keller Williams Realty (Shirley Rich), Keller Williams Realty (Paul Billingham), Keller Williams Realty (Annie O'Connell), Baca Auto Sales, Inc., Peter & Lois McCatharn, Carpet Warehouse, Inc., Rio Grande Title Co, Inc., JEI Mortgage Services, Citation Cleaning Systems, Coldwell Banker, The Bank of Belen, Exit Altura Realty, Stewart Title of Valencia, Inc., Baker Insurance Services, Inc, Exit Realty New Mexico, Sid & Helen Eskow, Mustang Roofing, Laurie Hedrich, Sunshine Flowers & Gifts, Peltier, Gustafson & Miller, PA, Barbara Kauffman, Victor & Nancy Scovill, Marty's Muffler Shop, Inc., Peggy Lacey, Bullseye Golf Centers, Gerald Chavez Realty Inc., Sugar Bowl Lanes, Charles & Patricia Hobby; **Non Attending Sponsors (Cash Donors)** John & Delores Sorensen, Buckland Pharmacy, Richard Feldbush, Mary Lee McCoy, United General Title (John Dwyer), Bob & Faye Tucker, Carl & Marie Schauer, William & Ann Hancock, Robert & Sara Cron; **In-Kind for Auction** Zane Reeves & Lori Musil, Fred & Edie Moore, Lance & Kerri Allgood, Barb Wiard, Albuquerque Isotopes, Dr. Dan Dieterichs, Mary Rau, Patricia Brkich, Zane & Roberta Hensley, NM Travertine, Don & Joann Cole, Lily Curtis, Jim Lumley, Midge, Bob & Debbie Cron, T & R Pawn, Richardson Trading Co., Turney's Inc., Helen & Floyd Stake, Michelle Campbell, Suzzane Romero, Bill Baker, Nelda Reed, NM Quilting Society, Mary Ann Howard, Peggy Lacy, Cecilia Rivera; **In-Kind for ditty bags** Midge Cron, Steve Dudoich, Wells Fargo Bank, UNM CRTS, Mike & Martha Gowen, Bullseye Golf Centers, United General Title Insurance; **In-Kind for Raffle** Fidelity National Title; **In-Kind for Trophies and Awards** JBS Business Services, Midge, Debbie & Bob Cron, Panagopoulos "Financial Network," All Sports Trophies, George Trujeque; **Mike Moore Memorial Golf Classic Committee** Fred Moore (Chair), Kerri Allgood, Jane Cotner, Midge Cron, Michelle Campbell, Crystal Dale, Stephen Dudoich, Harry Ford, Rita Garcia, Karen Karnes, Cathy Malone, Leo Moya, Tom Nielson, Edie Redfearn Moore, Ginny Romero, Michael Turri, Eileen Cook, and Maryle J. Barber; **Special Thanks to** Tom Nielson, General Manager, Tierra Del Sol Golf & Country club and staff for providing the facilities and excellent service. **Special Thanks to** all the extra volunteers for their energy and care which goes such a long way in making such a fun and successful event.



Dr. R. Philip Eaton, Executive Vice President for Health Sciences at the University of New Mexico, presents Eileen Cook, Executive Director of Casa Esperanza, with the Building Bridges Community Partnership Award for 2004. The seventh Community Partnership Awards Gala marked 250 years of excellence in service to New Mexico by the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center.

Art for Cancer by Matthew Lutz

One hundred percent (**100%**) of the sale price of the work in my MFA thesis show, *shadows*, (May 20 - August 19, 2005) will go to the organization selected by the purchaser (participants listed below). This has been made possible by the [Jonson Gallery \(1909 Las Lomas NE, Albuquerque, NM 87131 277-4967\)](#), which has generously offered to forgoe its standard commission as a donation to support this benefit. **Why am I donating this work?** I have decided to donate the proceeds of a year's worth of artwork to cancer charities as a result of my relationships with two cancer patients whose lives have encouraged me to persevere following my own injury. My grandfather lost his battle with lung and brain cancer and it was difficult for me to see my hero deteriorate daily. The memory of his death was rekindled when I met a student of mine who persevered despite physical pain and limited mobility from metastasized breast cancer to complete the semester and continue towards her degree. Her fight encouraged me to continue on with my own degree after a life-changing spinal cord injury—to move forward with my goals in life despite the uncertainty of the future. It is in the memory of my grandfather, and in honor of my student's continued battle against cancer, that I donate my work.

Purchase price donations may be made to the following groups:

1. American Cancer Society
2. Casa Esperanza
3. Leukemia and Lymphoma Society
4. People Living Through Cancer
5. Ronald McDonald House Charities
6. The Central New Mexico Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation

(information taken from Matthew's website www.matthewlutz.com)





Lori Seikkula and her daughter, Olivia Selby, place a brick at the Annual Bricklaying Ceremony in May in honor of husband and father Andrew Selby, who lost his battle with leukemia last summer.



Saylor and Sarah Zamora are shown assisting Tillie Shaw of the Clovis Board of Realtors (CBR) collecting cans to benefit Casa Esperanza. Saylor and Sarah's mother, Amanda Zamora, is the former PR Chair for the annual CBR Golf Tournament as well as the current President of CBR. Tillie Shaw is a long time supporter and organizes the annual CBR Golf Scramble (September 10, 2006) to benefit Casa Esperanza. Thanks again girls: every dollar counts in support of New Mexico's cancer patients.

Our Mission

Casa Esperanza is a home away from home for families facing cancer.

“NEWS from Casa Esperanza” is published two times a year by Casa Esperanza, Inc. in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Casa Esperanza (Tax ID #: 85-0356946) is a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation. All contributions are tax deductible. Casa Esperanza does not telemarket, participate in door-to-door solicitation, or campaign via chain letters or e-mail appeals. Casa Esperanza receives a portion of its funding from a contract with the New Mexico Department of Health. Casa Esperanza is a participant in the NM Department of Health Comprehensive Cancer Plan.

Member: National Association of Hospital Hospitality Houses, a professional organization that promotes and assists not-for-profit programs that provide lodging and supportive services in a caring environment for families accompanying ill loved ones away from home. To learn more about NAHHH and other special places such as Casa Esperanza, visit www.nahhh.org.

Member: Albuquerque Cancer Coalition, an alliance of cancer support agencies, hospital treatment centers and governmental agencies to inform, to educate and to advocate on behalf of NM cancer patients and their families.

Member: Chambers of Commerce in Albuquerque, Belen, Clovis, Alamogordo, Los Lunas and the Albuquerque Hispano Chamber.

Member: Albuquerque Better Business Bureau.

~Donate your car, boat or RV to benefit Casa Esperanza. Call 1-800-513-6560 or visit www.donatecar.com and let them know you want to designate Casa Esperanza as the beneficiary of your donation.~

~If you receive more than one newsletter, please share it with someone who will find it interesting and useful.~

Casa Esperanza has a wonderful website maintained by Shelly Lieberman. Be sure to check it out for the most current and up to date pictures and information on past and upcoming events, how to donate on-line (secure site) and how to become involved at CE. Our website is: www.casaesperanzanm.org

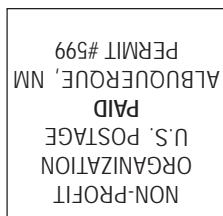
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Eileen Cook	Executive Director
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Lee Beckley	Office Volunteer
Christy Casias	Guest Services Team
Daniel Dinning	Guest Services Team
Mike Gallegos	Facilities Supr & Vol Coord
Anita Harrison	Administrative Assistant
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Mary Loyd	Bookkeeper
Angelica Medina	Gst Serv & Comm Rel Dir
Jeanne Messer	Finance Director
Patricia Virgen	Guest Services Team

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