


THE TAOS NEWS

LIFESTYLES

Search ... 

ADVANCED SEARCH
(/SEARCH/HTML)

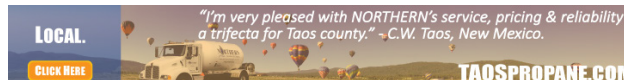
Staci Matlock
Taos News editor
editor@taosnews.com
(mailto:editor@taosnews.com)

AMALIA CASE (/AMALIA-CASE/) NEWS - (/NEWS/) TEMPO - (/TEMPO/) SPORTS - (/SPORTS/) OPINION - (/OPINION/)

LIFESTYLES - (/LIFESTYLES/) CALENDAR - (/CALENDAR/) OBITUARIES (/OBITUARIES/)

MARKETPLACE (HTTPS://ELMERCADO.TAOSNEWS.COM/) MAGAZINES - (/MAGAZINES/)

ARCHIVES (HTTPS://TAOSNEWS.NEWSPAPERS.COM/) CLASSIFIEDS (/CLASSIFIEDS/)



(https://banners.taosnews.com/www/delivery/ck.php?oaparams=2_bannerid=1488_zoneid=2_cb=908063be28_oadest=http%3A%2F%2Fnorthernnewmexicogas.com%2F)

ANCIANOS

Taos Elders and Neighbors Together: support to live independent lives



(uploads/original/20180816-173505-75056.jpg)

Courtesy TENT

Rose Gordon talks with Taos residents about her experiences with hospice in India.

Posted Friday, August 17, 2018 11:42 am

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Open meeting on
Wednesday, Sept. 5 at 2:30
pm
Valverde Commons, 405
Valverde Commons Drive
<http://www.taoselders.org/>
(http://www.taoselders.org/)
(575) 224-6335
TaosElders@gmail.com
(mailto:TaosElders@gmail.com)

By Cindy Brown For The Taos News

Our society has not developed many successful models to help people stay in their homes as they age and become less able to live on their own, says Dr. Atul Gawande in his book "Being Mortal: Illness, Medicine, and What Matters in the End." In a society, where aging is treated like a disease and a problem, the focus is often on keeping people safe, rather than supporting them in continuing to live a meaningful life. As Gawande describes it, "to keep shaping the story of their life in the world."

A group of Taosños read the book and were inspired to create a new organization to help people continue to live independent and meaningful lives. Called Taos Elders and Neighbors Together, or TENT, the founders say it "is a developing nonprofit community of elders and neighbors supporting one another. It is a virtual village with a volunteer-based support network that will connect members to various resources needed for them to live comfortable, dignified and vibrant lives in their own homes as they age."

How it works

In this model, people can join the organization for a fee and then get services such as transportation, social activities, small home repairs, and in-home assistance provided by volunteers.

After two years of research and planning, TENT is ready to launch its services this fall. Organizers will host a meeting Sept. 5 at 2:30 pm at Valverde Commons in Taos to allow potential volunteers, donors and members and to learn more about the organization and sign up. They expect that services will be available beginning in October.

"Social contact is so important," says Bette Myerson, secretary of the board of directors. "Elders get isolated if they are not connected and don't have social relationships. TENT offers social events and check-in phone calls, along with other services like transportation to doctors and to the grocery store, minor home repairs and caregiver relief." Other possible services include some computer support and assistance with meal preparation.

Debbie Branom, publicity coordinator adds, "They are simple-sounding services, but it is the sort of assistance that elderly folks really need. For example, they might not feel comfortable making minor repairs in their homes alone and would appreciate the help."

Village to Village Network

TENT is based on a model established in 2010 called the Village to Village Network, which helps people get the assistance they need to stay in their homes. The first organization known as Beacon Hill Village opened more than 15 years ago, and now a network of 200 similar nonprofits operate and another 150 are in development. According to the website (vtnetwork.org) the overall vision is "Through innovation, collaboration, advocacy and inclusion, the Village to Village Network expands opportunity, choice, support and care for all older people."

The Taos group has joined the Village to Village Network and have relied on their models and assistance as they establish TENT. "Village to Village and other peer organizations have answered so many of our questions," says Myerson. "The network is an invaluable tool to help

LEGACY ARTIST
POMONA HALLENBECK

PAINTING MINIATURES - AUGUST 5-11
WONDER OF WORDS & WATERCOLOR
WITH POET LAUREATE JOAN LOGGIE - AUGUST 19-25
PHOTOGRAPHY & PAINTING - SEPTEMBER 9-15

(https://banners.taosnews.com/www/delivery/ck.php?oaparams=2_bannerid=1494_zoneid=1_cb=4b494143599_oadest=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ghostanch.org%2Ffir)

Tempo Weekly Events

y 2018 -- THU 13 KARAOKE at Gutters Bowl
Gutters Bowling Al... | Taos, NM

WED 12 Movies on The TCA Big Screen: LE...
Taos Community Aud... | Taos, NM

WED 12 Art n' a Glass
KTADS Solar Center | Taos, NM

WED 12 Kate & Mark
Adobe Bar at the T... | Taos, NM

WED 12 Art Sessions
The Historic "East... | Taos, NM

WED 12 Kitty Jo Creek
Taos Mesa Brewing | Taos, NM

WED 12 Mark Asmus: My Taos, Your Taos - ...
The Historic Taos ... | Taos, NM

WED 12 Yoga in the Park
Kit Carson Park | Taos, NM

WED 12 Susan Barnett: Spirited Images - T...
The Encore Gallery... | Taos, NM

WED THU FRI SAT SUN MON
12 13 14 15 16 17

🔍 See all events | ➕ Add your event

**Save money,
Install solar**

PHOENIX
SOLAR
INSTALLATION

GET

(https://banners.taosnews.com/www/delivery/ck.php?oaparams=2_bannerid=1550_zoneid=22_cb=afba7e0c0b_oadest=http%3A%2F%2Fphoenixmechanical.net%2f)

(<http://www.5-ships.com>)
5-ship-print-a-
taos-tradition-for-
over-20-
years,44284)