



NEWSLETTER

for the
EAST MOUNTAIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Third Quarter 2013

Tijeras Celebrates Its 40th Anniversary *plus* Talk About the Turquoise Trail

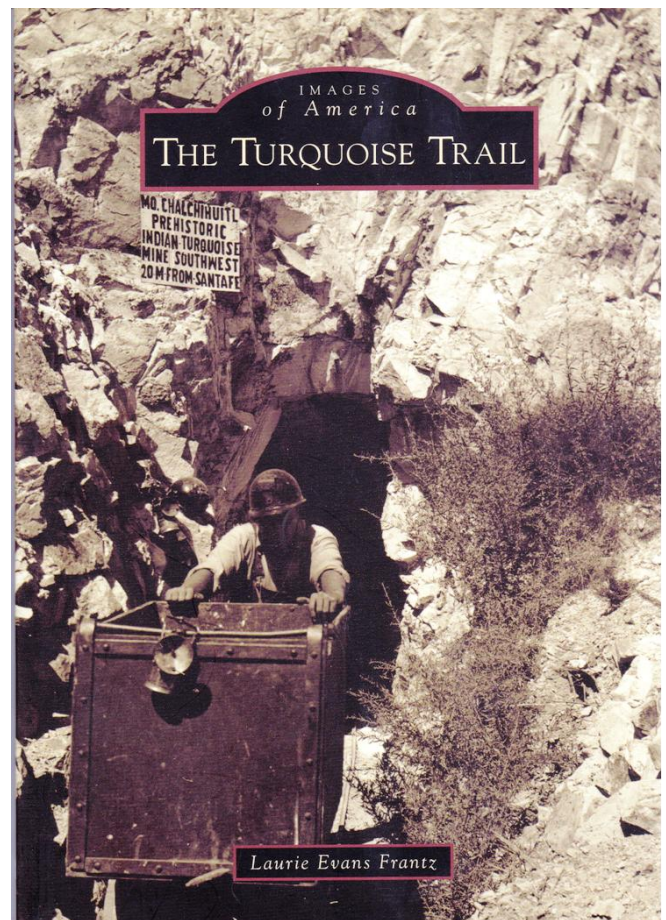
Join us this month as:

The East Mountain Historical Society helps the Village of Tijeras celebrate 40 years of incorporation by exhibiting our historic photos of the East Mountains – including Tijeras – from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, August 17 at the historic little church.

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On August 25 we host EMHS member Laurie Evans Frantz, whose book *The Turquoise Trail* (at right) has been released as part of Arcadia Publishing's "Images of America" series.

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View from Carlito Springs looking down on what is now Tijeras – before the cement plant went in.

Photo from the EMHS archives

EMHS To Display Historic Photos at Celebration

To help the Village of Tijeras celebrate its 40th year since incorporation, the East Mountain Historical Society will display our exhibit of historical photographs of the East Mountains from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, August 17, in the historic church next to the library in Tijeras.

In a project inspired by the anniversary, EMHS will also sell copies of the *History of the Village of Tijeras*, a booklet created by member Kathy Rich, which complements information compiled by past president Anabel Sanchez with area photographs from the EMHS archives. (The photo above, of the cement plant hill before it was mined, graces the booklet cover.) EMHS will also sell copies of Chris Wilson's inventory of East Mountain historical buildings.

The village celebration starts at 11 a.m. with a welcome from Tijeras Mayor Gloria Chavez in Luis Garcia Park, located between the church and the library. The village promises a fun community event with music, vendors, food and a silent auction, and encourages everyone to bring lawn chairs and umbrellas and stay a while.

Lined up to perform are the Mariachi Alma Group, The Territorial Brass Band, and a group called Jus Cuzz. Trail Rider pizza will be selling food, along with other vendors who will offer hot dogs, corn on the cob and more. The village will also be serving free ice cream.

Treasures of the Turquoise Trail

Author Laurie Frantz To Talk About Trail's History at EMHS Event Aug. 25

Ancient turquoise mined near Cerrillos has been found in archeological sites as far south as Mexico City, and long-ago traders moved that distinctive gemstone along what is known as the Turquoise Trail.



Today, the Turquoise Trail is a nationally-designated Scenic Byway 65 miles long, covering NM 14 from I-25 at Santa Fe to I-40 in Tijeras, and including NM 536 (Sandia Crest Road).

It includes the once-bustling mining towns of Golden and Madrid (in photo at left), other towns long faded from the landscape and of course, Cerrillos and its mining district, known not only

for turquoise, but a variety of ores, including silver, lead and gold.

EMHS member Laurie Evans Frantz has put together dozens of photos of this historic byway into her recently released book, *The Turquoise Trail*. **The East Mountain Historical Society will host a talk by Frantz as a free public program at 2 pm. Sunday, Aug. 25, at the historic church in Tijeras** (west of the library in Tijeras). Frantz will also sell copies of her book.

Frantz says she got into this project after someone at Arcadia Publishing traveled the Turquoise Trail as a tourist and thought it would make a great book. "I was the only person who had the time and inclination to put it together," she says. "I was the administrator of the Scenic Byways program, a federal grant program that designates outstanding stretches of road, and the Turquoise Trail is a national Scenic Byway."

As a state employee, Frantz had traveled almost every road on the New Mexico highway map. Her first state job was as an excavation archaeologist and ceramic analyst for the Office of Archaeological Studies, Museum of New Mexico. She transferred to the Department of Transportation as a survey archaeologist, then went to DOT's planning department, where she eventually administered the Scenic Byways Program.

"The book fills a gap for people who want to know about the history of the Turquoise Trail," Frantz says. "It can serve as a travel companion. It puts historic photos that most people don't have access to in one place. Many of these personal photos get donated to libraries or collections where most people aren't going to see them." Among the photos in the book are all of the 1895 photos of Golden that were published in [our last newsletter](#).

The book is part of Arcadia's "Images of America" Series. The first run of 1,200 copies is almost sold out.

News and Notes . . .

We were saddened to hear of the death of renowned archeologist Linda Cordell, author of two dozen books on Southwestern archaeology and editor of *Tijeras Canyon*, the definitive archeological history of the mountain crossroads.



According to the *Santa Fe New Mexican*, Cordell taught archaeology at The University of New Mexico, the California Academy of Sciences, and the University of Colorado at Boulder, and she had been a senior scholar at the School for Advanced Research in Santa Fe since 2006. Her death was discovered at the end of April after she failed to show up to speak at the Galisteo Basin Symposium at the New Mexico History Museum.

Linda was a friend of EMHS who led us on a fabulous members-only tour of Tijeras Pueblo in October 2010 and generously shared with us first-hand stories about the archeological dig she led at the pueblo in the 1970s, some of which can be found in the [article](#) your editor wrote about the tour in 2011.

At left: Cordell leading EMHS on a tour of Tijeras Pueblo.
Photo by Denise Tessier

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