#### Congratulations to our Scholarship Recipients

Meet the winners



#### Kenneth Martinez

Kenneth Martinez is the son of Kenneth & Julie Martinez. He is attending New Mexico Highlands University in Las Vegas, NM and is pursuing a degree in Mechanical Engineering.



Latricia Sanchez Latricia Sanchez is the grand-daughter of Onesimo Sanchez. She is attending Luna Community College in Las Vegas, NM and is pursuing a career as a Dental Assistant.

## Annual Meeting Recap Thanks for joining

The La Jicarita Annual Meeting was held on September 14. We had a sizeable turnout, thank you to all who joined. This year was an election year and we'd like to welcome Sally Valdez as our newest board member. We awarded scholarships to two deserving students and as always look forward to hearing about their further accomplishments as they continue their education. Congratulations to all the door prize winners, especially those who won the final grand prizes!

If you were not able to join this year, we do hope you can attend the next meeting in 2020.



55 State Highway 518 Iora, NM 87732 LAJICARITA NEWS Winter 2019

### Working together to stay connected

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- Annual Meeting Recap





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# **Honoring Joseph Valdez**

## A brief history

Joseph Valdez has always called Mora home. He was born and raised here, his children were born and raised here, and he is proud to call it home.

Joseph has three grown children and six grandchildren who all live within 100 miles of Mora and he considers himself blessed to be able to have his family so close. He also feels blessed to reside in Mora, where Joseph says the community is tight-knit, quiet and safe.

As a Veteran of Foreign Wars, Joseph began his military career in 1970 when he was drafted and spent nine months training before being deployed to Vietnam. He served one year in Vietnam at the fire base. Joseph has been a real cowboy all his life and is still one today.

Joseph became a board member for La Jicarita in the '80s and served until just this last year. He joined the board because he believed they would be able to better the coop and community, and he feels they have done just that during his time on the board. He recalls how when he first joined the board things were not as they are today. He believes the cooperative has been able to progress and improve with the help of good management and the board members working together. Joseph also feels that the investments the coop made have resulted in better equipment and new buildings. Most importantly, however, La Jicarita invests in the community and its people by building and providing the advances needed to move forward. That's exactly how Joseph sees the community improving in the years to come, as well. He feels the community needs to continually be striving for improvements to stay current with advancements.

## "Overhead, underground and now fiber, we need to continue moving forward with new advancements so we can keep up."

Joseph Valdez was a valued and highly regarded member of the La Jicarita board. His wife, Sally Valdez, was just elected at the Annual Meeting as the newest board member. Joseph would like to wish coop board members the best of luck in the future.

#### Joseph Valdez (4th from left) at the La Jicarita Appreciation Day in 2013





It was a spooky Halloween at La Jicarita! Can you identify the LJRTC staff?

#### What is New Mexico 811?

New Mexico 811 is a free service that you use before you do any kind of digging to make sure you don't damage underground lines. Please give at least two working days' notice before you start digging and it will help you avoid costly or dangerous buried lines by alerting the owners of lines in the digging area. New Mexico 811 is not responsible for the actual marking of the lines. Calling 811 before you dig will allow dispatching to locators from the utilities in your area to mark the buried lines. The service is free and easy! You can dial 811 from your phone or use the online web portal to submit your ticket requests at **nm811.org** or for additional information call **(505) 260-1990**.



#### Fiber-to-the-Home Update November, 2019

We'd like to inform residents of the Guadalupita community and surrounding area of our current telecommunications construction. Our team will be scheduling your fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) equipment installation. This process requires our plant personnel to access your residence to complete the fiber connection. Please be advised that the equipment installation is necessary if you wish to maintain your services with LJRTC, as the existing copper plant will be retired. We ask for your assistance in providing us with information to your existing buried facilities and utilities located on your property. There is no cost for receiving a fiber connection and your existing monthly billing will remain the same.

If you have any questions or need more information, please call: Michael J. Leyba, Operations Manager at (575) 387-2216.