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ART

## Follow the farolitos!

Celebrate the season with Kit Carson Road museums, galleries and businesses



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While visiting the Couse-Sharp Historic Site for live music by Charlie Rafferty, check out the future Lunder Research Center being constructed in the former Mission Gallery site next door.

RICK ROMANCITO/TAOS NEWS



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Get your kicks pre-Saint Nick this Saturday (Dec. 21) from 4-6 p.m., along Kit Carson Road's Historic District galleries, museums and businesses. Expect little farolitos and at least two bonfires, but lots of treats and sweets, all free and open to everyone.

To join in on this "last minute Christmas Holiday fun," Rob Nightingale of Wilder Nightingale Fine Art suggests folks park in the free Town Municipal Parking lot at Quesnel and Kit Carson Road and walk up and down to the main events.

Start off at the Couse Foundation/Couse-Sharp Historic Site (better known locally as the "Couse House") at 138 Kit Carson Road, which will be offering cookies and hot spiced cider. Wander around the "construction site" interior and check out the forthcoming Lunder Research Center (opening in 2021), planned for the former, circa 1915 Joseph H. Sharp studio and Mission Gallery. Eanger I. Couse and Sharp were founding members of the Taos Society of Artists, cementing a hundred years of Taos' reputation as an art and culture center of the Southwest.

"Then stroll along the street lit by holiday farolitos," a press release states. "Visit the shops. Bring your family and friends." Here's just a little of what participating merchants, galleries and lodgers are offering.

- **The Couse Foundation/Couse-Sharp Historic Site, 138 Kit Carson Road.** Cookies and hot spiced cider with live music by Charlie Rafferty, beguiling the air with Irish pipes and Celtic woodwinds. Visit [couse-sharp.org](http://couse-sharp.org) or contact [dkoenig@couse-sharp.org](mailto:dkoenig@couse-sharp.org) or (575) 751-0369.
- **Casa Benavides Bed and Breakfast Inn, 137 Kit Carson Road.** Cake and refreshments are just across the street from the Couse House, at this classic Taos bed and breakfast. Established in 1989, owner Tom McCarthy Taos is also promoting ROOTS - Taos Tree Project and T-shirt sales benefiting those in need in Taos. Visit [casabenavidez.com](http://casabenavidez.com). Contact [info@casadenavidez.com](mailto:info@casadenavidez.com) or call (575) 758-1772.
- **Untitled Fine Art & Untitled Editions, 125-133 Kit Carson Road.** Holiday refreshments, also featuring small fine art gifts starting at \$10. Visit [untitledfineart.com](http://untitledfineart.com). Contact [bast@laplaza.org](mailto:bast@laplaza.org) or (575) 758-3969.
- **David Anthony Fine Art, 132 Kit Carson Road.** Holiday refreshments. Featuring the Virginia Leavett collection as well as aspen, bird and fish boxes. Visit [davidanthonyfineart.com](http://davidanthonyfineart.com). Contact [dmapes@davidmapes.com](mailto:dmapes@davidmapes.com) or (575) 758-7113.
- **OptiMysm, 129E Kit Carson Road.** Homemade holiday cookies, hot apple cider and 20 percent discount all day at this metaphysical shop. Visit [optimysm.com](http://optimysm.com). Contact [taosmetaphysicalshop@gmail.com](mailto:taosmetaphysicalshop@gmail.com); (575) 741-8545.
- **Palaski Fine Art, 129 Kit Carson Road.** Holiday fun. Contemporary fine art photography; edgy realism, surrealism, magical realism and abstractions. Visit [palaskifineart.weebly.com](http://palaskifineart.weebly.com). Contact [cecepalaski@hotmail.com](mailto:cecepalaski@hotmail.com) or (575) 758-3448.
- **Bryans Gallery, 121 Kit Carson Road.** Hot cider to go with the old pawn and contemporary Indian jewelry and art. Visit [bryansgallery.com](http://bryansgallery.com). Contact [bryan@bryansgallery.com](mailto:bryan@bryansgallery.com) or (575) 758-9407.

- **Parsons Gallery of the West, 122 Kit Carson Road.** See a stunning array of small works by all the gallery artists. Visit [parsonsalt.com/home/parsonswest](http://parsonsalt.com/home/parsonswest). Contact [parsons@parsonsalt.com](mailto:parsons@parsonsalt.com) or (575) 737-9200.
- **Heritage Fine Art, 122 Kit Carson Road.** Refreshment and music; come visit the artists at this all-gallery annual holiday Christmas party. Visit [heritagefineartstaos.com](http://heritagefineartstaos.com). Contact [treemenanebtm@icloud](mailto:treemenanebtm@icloud) or (575) 751-7348.
- **The Ranch at Taos, 119A Kit Carson Road.** Cookies and refreshments, plus an all-day, all-artists sale with 20 percent off all jewelry including Rosa Kilgore's. Visit [theranchattaos.com](http://theranchattaos.com). Contact [theranchattaos@hotmail.com](mailto:theranchattaos@hotmail.com) or (325) 647-5736.
- **Wilder Nightingale, 119 Kit Carson.** Coffee apothecary, a bonfire and goodies, including "Embracing Winter - New Pastels by Kathleen Smith." Visit [wnightingale.com](http://wnightingale.com). Contact [info@wnightingale.com](mailto:info@wnightingale.com) or (575) 758-3255.
- **Angie Coleman Studio, 117 Kit Carson Road.** Visit with Angie in her studio - she's always at work and loves to share. Visit [angiecolemanfinearts.com](http://angiecolemanfinearts.com). Contact [acoleman@taosnet](mailto:acoleman@taosnet) or (575) 779-4658.
- **Kit Carson Home & Museum, 113 Kit Carson Road.** A bonfire and hot chocolate in the courtyard. The gift shop will be open. Visit [kitcarsonmuseum.org](http://kitcarsonmuseum.org). Contact [info@kitcarsonmuseum.org](mailto:info@kitcarsonmuseum.org) or (575) 758-4945.
- **Fine Art Atelier & Gallery, 108 Kit Carson Road.** Light refreshments and cookies. Celebrate the season with Patience Heyl. Visit [fineartworkshopstaos.com](http://fineartworkshopstaos.com). Contact [patiencefineart@gmail.com](mailto:patiencefineart@gmail.com) or (719) 338-0081
- **Monastery of San Juan Diego Gift Shop, 108 Kit Carson Road.** Cheese and crackers. The Benedictine monk community of Taos just opened an exquisite shop last week in Cabot Plaza Mall, featuring a host of spiritual and inspiring items. Call (575) 751-8531.
  - **Dragonfly Blue Gallery, 109 Kit Carson Road.** Refreshments and an evening of ekphrasis. Pop in for the poets and writers waxing lyrical about artwork that inspires them; singer-songwriter Tenny Walsh performs as well. Visit [dragonflyblue.com](http://dragonflyblue.com). Contact [dragonflyblue@gmail.com](mailto:dragonflyblue@gmail.com) or (909) 784-8490.
  - **Greg Moon Fine Art, 109 Kit Carson Road.** Hot cider and refreshments to warm people up. "Don't forget that art makes a great gift that gets passed down for generations," Moon reminds us all. Visit [gregmoonart.com](http://gregmoonart.com). Contact [info@gregmoonart.com](mailto:info@gregmoonart.com) or (575) 770-4463.
  - **Copper Moon Gallery, 105 Kit Carson Road.** Refreshments and farolitos in Diana Miller's welcoming and cheerful gallery. Visit [coppermoongallerytaos.com](http://coppermoongallerytaos.com). Contact [info@coppermoongallerytaos.com](mailto:info@coppermoongallerytaos.com) or (575) 758-8833.
  - **Two Graces Plaza Gallery, 105 Barela Lane, off Kit Carson Road.** Twenty percent off their "carefully curated inventory" the entire day, with a wide selection of Pozzi Franzetti rusted metal sculptures. Visit [twograces.com](http://twograces.com). Contact [theplazagallery@gmail.com](mailto:theplazagallery@gmail.com) or (575) 758-4101.