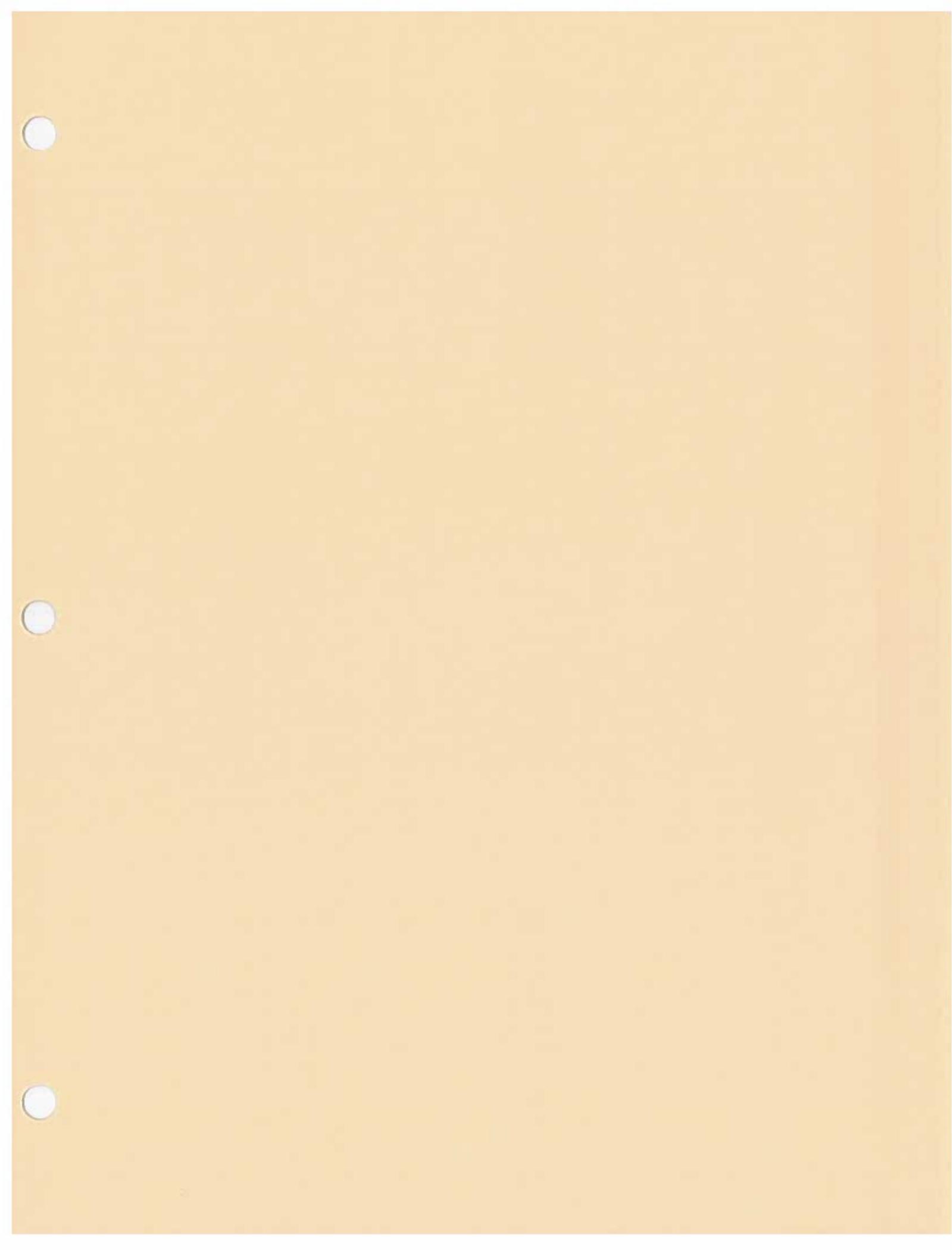


V. Discussion/Information Items/Presentations

**B. Matters From The Commission and Other
Elected Officials**

1. Elected Officials Issues and Comments

2. Commissioner Issues and Comments



Henry P. Roybal
Commissioner, District 1

Miguel M. Chavez
Commissioner, District 2

Robert A. Anaya
Commissioner, District 3



Kathy Holian
Commissioner, District 4

Liz Stefanics
Commissioner, District 5

Katherine Miller
County Manager

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 17, 2015

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Julia Valdez, Constituent Services Liaison, Manager's Office

VIA: Katherine Miller, County Manager *KJM*

RE: A Proclamation Remembering And Honoring Linda Pedro For Her Outstanding Contributions And Achievement For Disability Rights In Santa Fe County And The State Of New Mexico (Commissioner Stefanics and Commissioner Roybal)

ITEM AND ISSUE:

This is a Proclamation to recognize Linda Pedro, an advocate for people with disabilities and community activist in Chimayo (Commissioner Stefanics and Commissioner Roybal)

BACKGROUND

Linda Pedro was a long-time resident of Chimayo who had a strong interest in justice for people. After a life-changing accident in 1966 which left her confined to a wheelchair as a quadriplegic, she was further challenged by a system that tried to force her into an institutionalized facility and would have put her 5-year-old son into foster care. She fought back and eventually won the right to care for him at home.

She was a champion spokesperson whose testimony was heard during the passing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

She went on to become an activist for various social and civil justice issues in her community.

Linda Pedro succumbed to deteriorating health problems on January 13, 2015 at the age of 68.



SANTA FE COUNTY PROCLAMATION

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SANTA FE COUNTY

A PROCLAMATION REMEMBERING AND HONORING

LINDA PEDRO

**FOR HER OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENT
FOR DISABILITY RIGHTS IN SANTA FE COUNTY AND THE
STATE OF NEW MEXICO**

WHEREAS, Linda Pedro was born to James Allander and Reyna Maria Martinez on April 6, 1946 in Colorado;

WHEREAS, Ms. Pedro is best known as a leader for the disabilities rights movement in New Mexico, she is also remembered as a mother, an artist, a political candidate, a spiritual mentor, a community organizer, an environmental activist and an advocate for the cultural traditions of Northern New Mexico;

WHEREAS, in 1966 Ms. Pedro became disabled when her neck was broken in a car accident, leaving her paralyzed with only partial use of her arms. She had been a passenger in an old Volkswagen Beetle, with her husband driving. Volkswagen had issued a recall due to a faulty steering column, but they had not received the news. While they were traveling through Arroyo Hondo, the steering column failed, sending the vehicle off of a cliff, injuring them both;

WHEREAS, Ms. Pedro challenged the Social Services Department in Federal District Court to change the way in-home care was provided, when the state threatened to put her son Daniel in foster care. In 1978, Ms. Pedro's case prevailed and she went on to stay in her home and raise her son. Her change to the way in-home care was provided became the national model;

WHEREAS, from her home in Chimayo, New Mexico, Linda continued to campaign for disabilities rights, but she never let her disability define the scope of her activities, she spent her life doing things that she had been told were impossible, which included:

- Her run for State Senate on the La Raza Unida ticket, challenging the incumbent of Rio Arriba County;
- Hosting countless Native American Church prayer meetings and founded the first non-native branch of the NAC, the American Church of God;
- Pioneering recycling in Rio Arriba County, as an Environmental activist;
- Organizing her community to challenge drug abuse, by bringing together people in a multi-faith procession from Española to the Santuario de Chimayó to protest the area's rampant drug abuse;
- Being an Obama campaign coordinator (The "Obamanos" slogan was born at a campaign meeting in her living room);
- Being a Board member of the New Mexico Governor's Commission on Disabilities;
- Raising her son, Daniel, and a half dozen other children who at various times came to live in the Pedro household;
- Founding the Galleria Guadalupana, being an artist, a promoter of art, and preservationist of traditional culture, ;
- Being an archivist, a chronicler and a story teller, who uncovered and preserved the history of both her family and community.



WHEREAS, most of all, Linda Pedro challenged prevailing assumptions about people with disabilities — that a person with a disability couldn't be a parent, would always be dependent, and could not and should not make their own decisions. She redefined a person with a disability as being foremost, a person, with authority to make their own choices and to shape the world around them;

WHEREAS, Ms. Pedro, a long-time resident of Chimayo, attained her wish to pass away in her home;

WHEREAS, Ms. Pedro is survived by her husband, Bobby Pedro, son, Daniel Pedro, daughter-in-law, Lynn, grandson, James, granddaughters, Courtney and Caitlin; and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County is saddened by Linda Pedro's passing on January 13, 2015, and would like to express their heartfelt condolences to her family, friends, and colleagues.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, by this proclamation, the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County recognizes Linda Pedro for her activism, generosity, wise counsel, unquenchable sense of humor, sincere friendship, and devoted love for her community.

Linda Pedro Community Activist

**APPROVED, ADOPTED, AND PASSED ON THIS 24th DAY OF FEBRUARY
2015**

Robert A. Anaya
Chair
Commissioner District 3

Miguel M. Chavez
Vice-Chair
Commissioner District 2

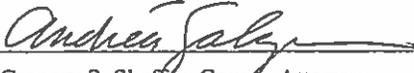
Henry P. Roybal
Commissioner District 1

Kathy Holian
Commissioner District 4

Liz Stefanics
Commissioner District 5

Katherine Miller
County Manager

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Gregory S. Shaffer, County Attorney

ATTEST:

Geraldine Salazar, County Clerk



Henry P. Roybal
Commissioner, District 1

Miguel M. Chavez
Commissioner, District 2

Robert A. Anaya
Commissioner, District 3



Kathy Holian
Commissioner, District 4

Liz Stefanics
Commissioner, District 5

Katherine Miller
County Manager

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 17, 2015

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Orlando Romero, Constituent Services Liaison, Manager's Office *OR*

VIA: Katherine Miller, County Manager *KM*

RE: A Certificate of Acknowledgement Honoring Devin DeVargas For His 2015 High School Honors Performance Series At Carnegie Hall.

ITEM AND ISSUE:

This is a Certificate of Acknowledgement honoring Devin DeVargas. Devin is a senior at Pojoaque Valley High School.

BACKGROUND

Devin DeVargas, a senior, auditioned this fall for the *Honors Performance Series* and was accepted after a review by the *Honors Selection Board*. Acceptance to the elite group is a direct result of the talent, dedication, and achievements demonstrated in his application and audition recording. Devin will join other performers from 49 US States, several provinces in Canada, and several foreign countries for a special performance at world-famous Carnegie Hall, a venue that marks the pinnacle of musical achievement.

He is the son of Victoria and Mateo DeVargas, Victoria is a county staff member who works in the Fire Prevention Department.

Certificate of Acknowledgement

The Santa Fe Board of County Commissioners hereby recognizes

Devin DeVargas

2015 High School Honors Performance Series

His performance as a First Bass with the Honors Choir at the world-famous Carnegie Hall is a direct result of his talent, dedication, and achievement.

We are honored to acknowledge his accomplishment.

Therefore, the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County presents this Certificate of Appreciation on this 24th day of February 2015

Robert A. Anaya, Chair
Commission District 3

Miguel M. Chavez, Vice-Chair
Commission District 2

Henry P. Roybal
Commission District 1

Kathy Holian
Commission District 4

Liz Stefanics
Commission District 5

Katherine Miller
County Manager

