



County Manager's Monthly Memo

From the Santa Fe County Manager

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2014

Board Of County Commissioners Upcoming Schedule

- April 29 at 1 p.m.
- May 13 at 2 p.m.
- May 27 at 1 p.m.
- June 10 at 2 p.m.
- June 24 at 1p.m.
- July 8 at 2 p.m.
- July, 29 at 1 p.m.
- August 12 at 2 p.m.
- August 26 at 1 p.m.
- Sept. 9 at 2 p.m.
- Sept. 30 at 1 p.m.

All Meetings are held on Tuesday in the County Commission Chambers at 102 Grant Ave.

All meetings are broadcast live at www.santafecountynm.gov and on Comcast Ch. 28 or you can listen live on Que Suave AM810

SFC Partners with Masters Program *Everyone Wins*

Santa Fe County and the Masters Program teamed up for the first time to offer invaluable hands on experience and community benefits. The Masters Program is a blended academic program, combining high school level courses and dual credit college courses. Students have the choice of participating in several different community service projects including a public lands course. The Charter School is located on the campus of the Santa Fe Community College.

The partnership included a 12 week course with the Masters Program and the completion of more than half a dozen projects around various public lands. The 12 week course, met weekly for class on Friday afternoons at various locations around Santa Fe County. In total 12 students learned about public lands and helping to improve them.

Projects consisted of trail building and maintenance, erosion control, building of dams, identification and removal of non-native trees, fire prevention and thinning of trees, building and repairing fences and many other beautification ventures throughout the county.

Carole Branch, Santa Fe County Volunteer Coordinator said, "When students are introduced to public lands, they learn how to protect, maintain and restore our trails, parks and rivers." She continued, "The program is a win—win for everyone."



Images of Students working on various projects.

Chimayo Fire Station Gets Solar Photovoltaic System

The Santa Fe County Chimayo Fire Station got a new 4.1 kilowatt roof-mounted solar photovoltaic system. The system will generate approximately 50% of the fire station's annual electricity demand. The system is estimated to decrease the Fire Station's electric bills by approximately \$700 per year, based on current electricity prices.

Consolidated Solar Technologies installed the solar system that is expected to generate solar power for the next 25-30 years. The project costs approximately \$14,000 and was funded by District 1 Capital Funds and a New Energy Economy grant.

A ribbon cutting ceremony will be held at the Chimayo Fire Station on Sunday, May 4 at 1:30 p.m. The community is invited to attend, celebrate and enjoy refreshments and entertainment.

Santa Fe County Family Self Sufficiency Program Helps Economic Independence

The Santa Fe County Family Self Sufficiency Program, better known as the FSS Program helps provide participants with support services to become more economically independent and self sufficient. The program offers families an opportunity to build savings and plan for the future by establishing an interest bearing account on behalf of the family participating in the FSS program. Participants set goals and have five years to complete their goals. (Goals are typically school or work related, or buying a house, or becoming financially stable)

The FSS program is implemented through a contracts between the Santa Fe County Housing Authority and participants living in County Public Housing or a Housing Choice Voucher participant. Public Housing and the Housing Choice Voucher Program each have their own FSS Program within those two main programs. During the term of the contract, the Santa Fe County Housing Authority matches what they pay their landlord in rent, into an escrow account. The matching money comes from a United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grant. The amount of their rent is based on their income, payment standard, rental amount, allowances, and deductions. In addition to the monetary contributions, participants are also required to attend a mandatory training once a month. The continual savings and monthly trainings are the annual demonstration measurements that participants are still working towards attaining their goals.

If participants finish their goals prior to the five year deadline, they receive their escrow account money upon completion. However, if they don't complete their goal or attend the monthly training, they forfeit their escrow savings.

In total about 35 families participate in the FSS program at any given time. The program is only available to residents living in County Public Housing or participating the Housing Choice Voucher program.

Santa Fe County has recently assisted three participants through the process of meeting their savings goals and with that money they were able to purchase a home!

For information on the Santa Fe County Housing Program contact 992-3060. Residents must first apply for Public Housing or the Housing Choice Voucher program and get on waiting list for the FSS program.

You can also visit www.santafecountynm.gov/housing_services for more information on our Housing Authority Program.

Santa Fe County “Road Diet” Project Wins Big

Santa Fe County recently received an award for Low Carbon Transportation. The award was part of the 2014 Sustainable Santa Fe Award Winners.

The “Road Diet” project was a bike lane retrofit on Tesuque Village Road that eliminated a road lane to create two bike lanes. It was considered by Sustainable Santa Fe the most significant bike lane retrofit since the 2012 Metropolitan Bicycle Master Plan.

MORE ON THE ROAD DIET FROM SUSTAINABLE SANTA FE

The road was restriped between the Tesuque River and US 84/285, eliminating one of the three travel lanes and creating bike lanes. This road segment can now be integrated into “State Bike Route 9” which represents a mix of city, county and state roads as well as a short trail segment that together make a wonderful non-motorized alternative to US84/285, both for long-range and local travel.



Kitchen Creations Classes Starting Soon!

Kitchen Creations is a cooking school for people with diabetes. The cooking school classes are brought to you by the New Mexico Department of Health, diabetes prevention and control program and New Mexico State University Cooperative Extension Service.

The cooking classes include a series of four cooking classes. During the classes participants will learn about the following:

- Learn to plan healthy meals
- Prepare delicious dishes that manage carbohydrates
- Reduce fat, sugar and sodium in cooking without cutting taste

In addition to preparing and tasting healthy dishes, class participants will also receive a workbook and recipe books.

Class Schedule:

(All classes will be held at 3229 Rodeo Rd. In the County Fairgrounds from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.)

Friday, April 25

Friday, May 2

Friday, May 9

All classes and materials are free!

**Pre-registration is required.
Register by calling the Santa Fe
County Extension Office at
505-471-4711**

Seats are limited

**People with diabetes have first
priority.**

Dates to Remember 2014 Primary Election

The Santa Fe County Clerk, Geraldine Salazar wants to remind voters that the New Mexico Primary Election will be Tuesday, June 3, 2014. On Election Day, all polling places will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. There are several dates before the election that voters should keep in mind.

Voter Registration: New Mexico has a closed Primary: only registered Democrats can vote in the Democratic Primary and only registered Republicans can vote in the Republican Primary. The last day to register is Tuesday, May 6. If you are new to the county, have changed your name, address, or political affiliation, you must re-register. Please note: if you re-registered and failed to indicate a political party, even if you have been a Democrat or Republican on previous registrations, you are currently listed as Declined to State (DTS) and cannot vote in the Primary. Your Voter Information card lists your party if you indicated a political party. If you have questions or wish the Clerk's Office to send you a Voter Registration Form, call 505-986-6280.

Absentee Ballots: You can apply for an Absentee Ballot now or any time up until Friday, May 30, although we encourage voters not to wait until the last minute. By law, however, we cannot send out Absentee Ballots until Tuesday, May 6; the last day we can send out Absentee Ballots is Friday, May 30. To apply for an Absentee Ballot, you can go online (<http://www.santafecountynm.gov/userfiles/ABGeraldine.pdf>) to print an application, or call the County Clerk's Office (505-986-6280) to request an application.

Early Voting at the Clerk's Office: You can vote early at the Clerk's Office beginning Tuesday, May 6 through May 31, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., including lunch hours. Voting will also occur on Saturday, May 31, **ONLY** from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.. The Clerk's Office will be closed Monday, May 26, in observance of Memorial Day.

Early Voting at Alternate Sites: The County has early voting at the following sites:

Old Edgewood Fire Station
25 E. Frontage Rd, Edgewood

Ken and Patty Adam Senior Center
16 Avenida Torreon, Eldorado

Santa Fe County Fair Building
3229 Rodeo Rd, Santa Fe

Pojoaque County Satellite Office
5 W. Gutierrez, Suite 9, Pojoaque

Early voting at these sites begins Saturday, May 17 and ends Saturday, May 31. Days and hours for these sites are as follows: Tuesday through Friday, from noon until 8 p.m., and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.. These sites are closed on Sundays and Mondays.

For more information, consult the County Clerk's Web page (<http://www.santafecountynm.gov/clerk>) or call the County Clerk's Office (505-986-6280).

Reminder Santa Fe County is in Burn Restrictions

Santa Fe County residents are reminded, we are currently in burn restrictions. The Santa Fe County Fire Department by approval of the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) issued emergency Ordinance 2014 - 3 at the March 25, 2014 BCC meeting declaring hazardous fire conditions and imposing restrictions on open fires, smoking and other ignition sources.

The Ordinance bans open fire of any kind. To view the Ordinance in its entirety visit

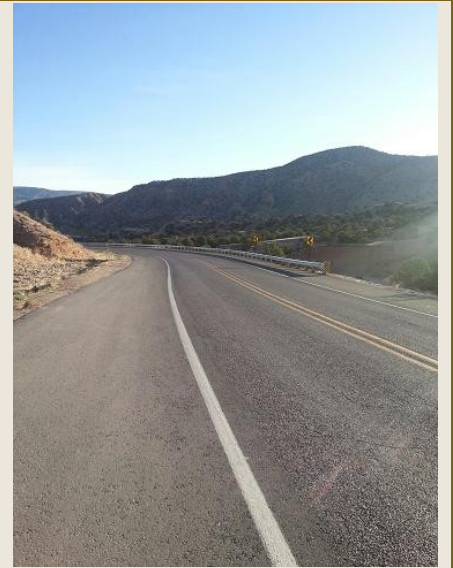
www.santafecountynm.gov/ordinances_and_resolutions



Juan Medina Road (CR 98) Project Invaluable for Walkers Making Santuario Pilgrimage

Santa Fe County recently completed a significant road project on Juan Medina Road (County Road 98) to improve public safety for non-motorized traffic off the roadway. Santa Fe County completed two eight foot shoulders on the east and west sides of Juan Medina road in two phases. In November 2013 the second phase of the Juan Medina Road project was completed. According to Commission Chairman, Daniel Mayfield, these road improvements will significantly enhance public safety for area communities, commuters and all travelers especially during high use times.

In addition to the shoulders, guardrails were added and new striping was done. The total project cost was \$2.3 million. The second phase of the project was funded through Gross Receipts Tax.



What's Happening in Brief at SFC

Thank You!

I would like to thank and recognize all of our Regional Emergency Communication Center Telecommunicators for all they do and their hard work as 911 operators. I would also like to thank and recognize all of our Correctional Officers and nurses for a job well done. I am very excited as a County we are able to celebrate our own employees in conjunction with their respective national recognition celebratory weeks. National Telecommunicators Week was April 13 – April 20 and National Correctional Officers Week is May 4 – May 10 and National Correctional Nurses Week is May 6 – May 12. Please take time to thank our Public Safety employees!

Spring 2014 Amnesty Day at BuRRT, Saturday April 26

A quick reminder on Saturday, April 26, in conjunction with the Great American Cleanup sponsored by Keep Santa Fe Beautiful, the Buckman Road Recycling and Transfers

Station will host Amnesty Day for city and county household residents allowing residents to bring unwanted items at **no charge**. For more information visit www.santaferecycling.org.

Prescription Drug Take Back Event in Santa Fe County April 26

Residents are encouraged to get rid of unwanted, expired and unused medication on Saturday, April 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at six collection sites in Santa Fe County at various locations from Pojoaque to Edgewood. Law Enforcement Officers will be manning the take back.

Visit www.santafecountynm.gov for full list of locations.

Living Wage Ordinance

The Santa Fe County Living Wage Ordinance goes into effect on Saturday, April 26, 2014 for businesses located throughout Santa Fe County,

outside of the incorporated boundaries of the City of Santa Fe, City of Española and the Town of Edgewood. Please Note the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) is currently reviewing an amendment to the Living Wage Rate (tipped employees) portion of the Ordinance. Amendments to this section of the Ordinance have been proposed and the section is suspended until action is taken at the May 27, 2014 or subsequent meeting of the BCC.



**County Manager
Katherine Miller**



Stay Connected With SFC



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Address:
102 Grant Ave
Santa Fe, NM 87501-2061

Phone:
Santa Fe County Main Line

(505) 986-6200

Frequently Called Numbers:

Santa Fe County Assessor’s Office – (505) 986-6300

Santa Fe County Clerk’s Office – (505) 986-6280

Santa Fe County Treasurer’s Office – (505) 986-6245

Santa Fe County Sheriff’s Office – (505) 986-2455

SFC Adult Correctional Facility – (505) 428-3861

www.santafecountynm.gov

Other Important Numbers

Building Permits 505—986-6225

Fire Questions/ Burn Permit—505-992-3070

Utilities—505-992-9870

Public Works / Roads—505-992-3010

Human Resources—505-992-9880

Community Services—505-992-9849

Attorney’s Office—505-326-6279

Teen Court—505-995-9555

Animal Control—505-992-1626

Courage.

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505-992-9880
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