



# County Manager's Monthly Memo

From the Santa Fe County Manager

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER 2014

## Board Of County Commissioners Upcoming Schedule

- Nov. 25 at 11 a.m.
- Dec. 9 at 2 p.m.

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

All regular meetings are broadcast live at [www.santafecountynm.gov](http://www.santafecountynm.gov) and on Comcast Ch. 28 or you can listen live on Que Suave AM810

Santa Fe County Offices and Solid Waste Transfer Stations will be Closed Thursday, November 27 and Friday, November 28 in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Santa Fe County does not have a meeting at the end of December, the first meeting in 2015 will be held on January 13.

Visit [www.santafecountynm.gov](http://www.santafecountynm.gov) and click our events calendar for a full schedule of upcoming meetings, events and closures.

## New Adopt - An - Open Space Signs Are In

*Look for the Signs When You are on the Trail*

The Santa Fe County Open Space and Trails program implemented an Adopt-An-Open space program several months ago. The program is now in full swing and the first of the trail steward signs are scheduled to be installed. The first sign to be installed is at the Rail Trail.

The stewards help assess report and maintain Santa Fe County Open Spaces and Trails. They provide an example of the impact of community involvement on public lands and illustrate the importance and need of volunteer efforts across Santa Fe County. Stewards are a great way to get involved and help create awareness within our community.

Individuals, private businesses, schools, community groups, churches and non-profit organizations can participate and adopt. If you are interested contact Carol Branch, Santa Fe County Community Services 505-992-3053 or [adoptopenspace@santafecountynm.gov](mailto:adoptopenspace@santafecountynm.gov)



Above: Rail Trail Steward Steve Griego holds his steward sign before installation at the Rail Trail.

Below: Carol Branch, Volunteer Coordinator holds the new Adopt-An-Open space sign.

Thank you to our Adopt-An-Open Space Trail Stewards! Below is a list of our current Stewards.

Rail Trail	Steve Griego
Arroyo Hondo Open Space	Dr. Bill Johnson
La Piedra Trail	Peter Olsen
Little Tesuque Open Space	Early College Charter High School Master's Program
Spur Trail	High Desert Landscape
Talaya Trail	Alan Karp



## **Santa Fe County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Funding Seeking Public Input**

Santa Fe County has been soliciting input through public input meetings to discuss community development needs and suggestions for possible community projects that may be eligible to receive Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program funding.

The CDBG program can fund a broad range of activities and program objectives that address the following:

- Be of a benefit to principally low to moderate-income level individuals
- Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or public blight
- Meet community development needs with particular urgency, if existing conditions pose a threat to the health and welfare of the community

The Santa Fe County Board of County Commission (BCC) will seek public input on Tuesday, November 25, 2014, and Tuesday, December 9, 2014 to consider possible community projects that may be eligible to apply for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program funding. The meetings will be held in the Santa Fe County Commission Chambers starting at 5 p.m. Santa Fe County citizens will have an opportunity to submit their proposals for projects during the allocated time at the BCC meetings.

Some examples of community needs are infrastructure improvements, solid waste disposal facilities, roads, and waste water systems. Respondents are allowed one application and may apply for funding provided the project addresses at least one of the above mentioned activities. The program provides for a maximum of \$500,000 in project funding and requires a minimum of 10 percent cash match from Santa Fe County.

All interested parties are invited to attend, submit project ideas and provide supporting data or testimony. Those unable to attend the public hearings or seeking additional information can contact Rudy Garcia at [RGarcia@santafecountynm.gov](mailto:RGarcia@santafecountynm.gov) or 505-992-9865.

### **Examples of past Santa Fe County CDBG projects include:**

- \$300,000 for the La Familia Southside Medical Center
- \$300,000 for the Arroyo Seco Teen Center
- \$300,000 for the Youth Shelters and Family Service Facility
- \$300,000 for the Nancy Rodriguez Community Center
- \$424,759 for the Greater Glorieta Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association Water Line Improvement Project

## Mariachi Buenaventura Visits the Youth Detention Facility

In October Mariachi Buenaventura visited the Santa Fe County Youth Development program and performed for the youth within the facility. Mariachi Buenaventura provided the performance free of charge to give something back to the community. Their hope is to inspire our youth to utilize positive aspects such as music to influence their lives.



Mariachi Buenaventura is Santa Fe, New Mexico's first all-female mariachi group. The ladies have a wide variety of traditional songs, as well as some contemporary pieces.

## Santa Fe County Program Featured in World Literature Today

Santa Fe County Youth Development Program was featured in World Literature Today for the November – December 2014 publication. The article titled “Santa Fe’s Biblioteca Amigos Library” was written by Marilyse Figueroa. The article discusses the journey of how the library at the youth facility came to be and the experience the opening of the library brought to everyone involved.

Mara Taub, a prisoners’ rights activist and volunteer at the youth facility who help found the library, had the following quote in the article:

“Sometimes what we do isn’t so visible, but to see these young people walk out with armloads (of books) ... I could’ve wept.” ~ Mara Taub

Demetria Martinez an activist and writer is also a volunteer who help found the library. County Staff Aaron Garcia and Renee Hernandez were also key in brining the library to life.



## Housing Authority Board Receives Vouchers for Veterans Assistance Supportive Housing Program

The Santa Fe County Housing Authority Board received nine Veterans Assistance Supportive Housing (VASH) program vouchers. The VASH program is a supportive housing program in partnership with the Veterans Administration facility in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and VASH program combines HUD housing choice voucher rental assistance for chronically homeless veterans with case management and clinical services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs at its medical centers in the community.

**Contact Information:**  
**John Herman**  
**New Mexico Veteran**  
**Affairs Health Care**  
**Systems**  
**505-414-0419**

The Veterans Administration facility will refer all eligible HUD-VASH families to the Santa Fe County Housing Authority. All interested veterans must contact the Veterans Administration in Santa Fe to verify if they meet all qualifications.

Please feel share this information with a homeless Veteran you think could qualify.



## Safety Tips From the Santa Fe County Fire Department

### Cooking Safety

Did you know Thanksgiving is the leading day of the year for home fires involving cooking equipment? Here are some tips to help prevent a cooking fire and/or burns this Thanksgiving Holiday.

- Stay in the kitchen while cooking. If you need to leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove
- Keep anything that can catch fire such as oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains at least 3 feet away from the stovetop
- If you have a stove top fire, that is spreading, **GET OUT!** Call 9-1-1 once you are out safely.
- Keep a lid nearby when you are cooking to smother small grease fires. Smother the fire by carefully sliding the lid over the pan and turn off the stovetop. Turn off the burner to remove the heat. Leave the pan covered until it completely cooled
- If you have fire in the oven, turn off the heat and keep the door closed
- To prevent kids from spills and burns, have a "kid-free zone" of at least 3 feet around the stove and areas where hot food or drinks are prepared or carried
- Test your smoke alarms to make sure they are working properly

### Carbon Monoxide Safety

Carbon Monoxide is often known as the "silent killer". It is an invisible, odorless and colorless gas created when fuels (gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, or propane) burn incompletely. Heating and cooking appliances that burn these fuels can be a source of carbon monoxide.

- Carbon Monoxide (CO) alarms should be installed in a central location outside of sleeping areas and on each level of the home
- Follow Manufacturer's instructions for placement and mounting height
- Test CO alarms at least once a month; replace them according to the manufacturer's instructions
- If the audible trouble signal sounds, check for low batteries. If the battery is low, replace it. If it still sounds, call the fire department
- If the CO alarm sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window or door. Call the fire department from an area with fresh air and stay there until the fire department arrives
- If you need to warm a vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately after starting it. Do not run a vehicle or other fueled engine or motor indoors, even if the garage doors are open. Make sure the exhaust pipe is not covered with snow
- During and after a snow storm, make sure vents for the dryer, furnace, stove and fireplace are clear of snow build-up
- Generators should be used in a well-ventilated location outdoors away from windows, doors and vent openings; gas or charcoal grills can produce carbon monoxide-only use them outdoors

*Signs and symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning are nausea, lethargy, and headaches. Extreme exposure may also cause an increase in blood pressure and cause skin to turn a pinkish color. If you experience any of these symptoms and feel better when you leave the home, open windows and doors and call the fire department or your gas company.*

## Congratulations to the NCRTD

The North Central Regional Transit District (NCRTD) received the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Administrator’s Award for Outstanding Public Service in Rural Public Transportation. The Award was presented to NCRTD during the 21<sup>st</sup> National Conference on Rural Public and Intercity Bus Transportation conference in Monterey, California.

In a letter acknowledging the Award, the FTA stated, “This year’s award features rural transit providers who improved the mobility of Americans in rural areas, allowing them better access to employment, training, education and other services that provide ‘Ladders of Opportunity.’ NCRTD’s application successfully addressed all the evaluation criteria, and demonstrated that its services are a vital link in building Ladders for your community.”

David C. Harris, Transit Bureau Chief for the New Mexico Department of Transportation, nominated the NCRTD stating, “I am honored to nominate the North Central Regional Transit District (NCRTD) for the FTA Administrator’s Award. To say that the NCRTD has more than fulfilled the tenets of the New Mexico Regional Transit District Act in its first ten years would not overstate its impact, not only on New Mexico, but more importantly on the communities it serves. It has developed into a model for rural transit within the State and beyond.”

According to Anthony Mortillaro, executive director at the NCRTD, “I think that all the residents of north central New Mexico can share and take pride in this award. When the NCRTD was certified as the first regional transit district in the state of New Mexico ten years ago there were many who dreamed that a more than 10,000 square mile, four-county area of northern New Mexico could be connected by a network of bus transit routes to provide residents of rural areas access to jobs, education, medical and quality-of-life services. This acknowledgement shows that we can make it happen,” he concluded.

## What’s Happening in Brief at SFC

### **Santa Fe Greenway River Restoration and Trail Project Public Meeting**

Santa Fe County will host a Community Meeting regarding the Santa Fe River Greenway River Restoration and Trail Project on Thursday, December 4 at 6 p.m. at the Nancy Rodriguez Community Center (Located on Prairie Dog Loop and Caja Del Oro Grant, across from the Agua Fria Fire Station). The meeting will provide an update of the project design, provide project implementation information, give

an overview of the property acquisition process and discuss how community members can be involved.

### **Senior Services invite residents to utilize Meal Services and Transportation Programs**

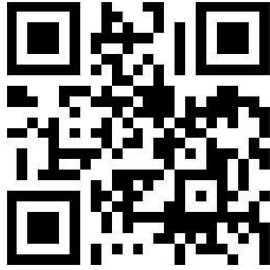
Santa Fe County Senior Services provides congregate meals (lunch service) between 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. at our Senior Centers. The food is made fresh daily and the suggested lunch donation is \$1.50 for individuals ages 60+ or if you are a guest under the age of 60, meals are \$7.50.

Meals on Wheels is a great program offered to qualified homebound seniors. For more information call 505-992-3094.

Don’t forget Santa Fe County Senior Services provides a reliable and affordable mode of transportation to seniors for medical appointments, grocery shopping and miscellaneous errands, just call 505-992-3069 to schedule your ride.



**County Manager  
Katherine Miller**



## Stay Connected With SFC



“Like” us on Facebook

Follow us on Twitter

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

**Phone:**  
Santa Fe County Main Line  
(505) 986-6200

### Frequently Called Numbers:

- County Assessor’s Office – (505) 986-6300
- County Clerk’s Office – (505) 986-6280
- County Treasurer’s Office – (505) 986-6245
- County Sheriff’s Office – (505) 986-2455
- SFC Adult Correctional Facility – ( 505) 428-3861

### 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

## Teamwork.

Join Santa Fe County Public Safety  
and Discover Your Inner Hero.

Sheriff | Fire | EMT/Medic | 911 Dispatch | Corrections

[www.SantaFeCountyNM.gov/Hero](http://www.SantaFeCountyNM.gov/Hero) 505-992-9880



# Visit Us At [www.santafecountynm.gov](http://www.santafecountynm.gov)