



# The Connection

## ARCTIC BLAST

By: Deputy Chief Sperling *This Issue*

**February 2011**

The period from February 1 through the February 9<sup>th</sup> was one of the busiest and most challenging faced by the County Fire Department since the epic snowstorm of December 2006 when more than three feet of snow fell on Santa Fe County. The extremely cold air that blew into New Mexico on the first day of the month, accompanied by blowing snow and life threatening wind chills, put a real pinch on our ability to respond to the avalanche of requests, both emergency and non-emergency, for assistance. Not only did the cold air freeze and burst pipes in homes and business throughout the county, but it also caused residents to turn up their thermostats and really stoke up their wood stoves and fireplaces in an effort to stay warm. With the natural gas shortage and an urgent request from the Governor to conserve by turning down thermostats, we also saw an uptick in the use of alternate heating sources such as electric radiators and propane and kerosene heaters. The result was a excessive number of fires in all four regions. We recorded 17 structure fires and 6 fires outside of structures. Many of the incidents were working fires with heavy structural involvement upon arrival of the first responders. The crews did excellent work under some of the most difficult conditions experienced in many years, with frozen engines and hose lines, frozen and stuck SCBA units, malfunctioning air trucks, and wet and frozen firefighters. It's no easy task to run an effective tanker shuttle operation or deploy multiple hand lines when the sustained wind chill is well below zero. The department and the Red Cross worked well to insure that several families left homeless were well cared for and protected from the weather, and our own Rehab Unit ran almost constantly to provide sustenance and shelter to cold responders. The department also saw 25 water line breaks and 32 alarm checks. Many of the alarm checks were the result of broken and malfunctioning fire sprinkler systems. The crews regularly helped distraught property owners by securing water shut offs and manning the squeegees and mops to assist whenever possible. In addition, the department handled an upsurge in EMS requests brought on by the cold. The total department call volume for the eight days was 212. The exceptional efforts of all involved, and many district and regional members ran multiple fire and EMS calls every day, is noteworthy and speaks to the professional caliber of the Santa Fe County Fire Department. **For more on the response see page 4.**

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## Congratulations New Paramedics! By: Captain Mestas

The Santa Fe County Fire Department is getting a huge shot in the arm for ALS (Advanced Life Support) providers!

The Santa Fe Community college recently held its graduation ceremony Friday January 14<sup>th</sup> 2011 for the 2010 Paramedic class. The class started with 16 students and graduated 15; six of those graduating were from SF County Fire and several from Los Alamos and Santa Fe City Fire. The class began June 7<sup>th</sup> 2010 and ran through October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010. It had an extensive classroom and lab portion which included an intense clinical component that required the students to spend several shifts with local hospitals at CHRISTUS St. Vincent Regional Medical Center and Espanola Valley Hospital. The students spent their time “shadowing” doctors and



nurses learning various aspects of patient care while performing assessments and procedures as directed while under supervision of the hospital staff, as they made rounds in several departments including the Emergency Department. The students were also required to intern for 8 weeks with a preceptor from a different emergency medical service. This provided for further street education which placed the students back in the field where they dealt with patients one on one in the prehospital environment ranging from motor vehicles accidents, cardiac arrests and sick calls. This enables the intern paramedic to practice the skills and knowledge they have obtained while in class.

The final skills testing for the class was January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011 and from here they apply for their state paramedic license.

The class valedictorian was Adam Quinn from county fire and class spokesperson at the graduation ceremony was Pedro Nandino, also from county fire. Nandino thanked the college and all the instructors that participated in the program and to Eve Kwiatkowski the EMSI Program Director and Dave Huckabee the Lead ALS Coordinator. He was especially thankful to his classmates and to the student’s families for enduring along with them the trials and tribulations of the class.

The six paramedic students and their instructors were also recognized at the January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011 County Commission by Commissioner Robert Anaya for the students efforts, successes and for representing the county so well.

I would also like to take the time to acknowledge Adam Stively, a new paramedic addition to the department from the Hondo Fire District. Adam has been a long time volunteer with the department and has been very dedicated to obtaining his paramedic training through a Texas based program of which he has successfully completed. Adam tested out alongside the rest of the paramedic students at the January 12<sup>th</sup> test site at the community college. I would also like to welcome Paramedic Jennifer Shonkwiler who recently signed on to volunteer with the Hondo Fire District.

The entire program was a huge success and congratulations to all the new paramedics. The very best of luck and be safe!



# Fire Protection Grants - Update



## Agua Fria, La Cienega, and Stanley receive grant monies from the NM State Fire Marshal

Santa Fe County Fire Districts received \$222,656 in grant monies from the NM State Fire Marshal-Fire Protection Grant in December 2010. The grants are made available to fire districts with a goal of improving the Fire Suppression Rating Schedule through Insurance Services Office (ISO). Communities must have: an adequate number of well-organized and properly trained firefighters, reliable fire alarm facilities, adequate fire station facilities, adequate training and operational records. To compensate for limited water supplies, many communities have improved their firefighting equipment, training, and management techniques, as well as their fire alarm systems.

The awarded Fire Districts include Agua Fria Fire District-\$57,456 for 18 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA); La Cienega Fire District-\$65,200 for 10 Sets of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), 8 SCBAs, 2 Thermal Imaging Cameras (TIC) and Gas Monitors; Stanley-\$100,000 toward Tanker/Tender.

Santa Fe County submitted eleven (11) applications on behalf of the fourteen qualified Fire Districts and the Fire Prevention Bureau. Thirty-six (36) Fire Departments throughout New Mexico were awarded grant monies totaling \$3,002,961. The departments are required to match the funding by at least 20%. The largest amount of money awarded to any district was capped at \$100,000.

## Pre-Incident Form - Fillable Format

### Pre-Incident Form and Surveys now available in Fillable Format

Pre-Incident Survey or Pre-Fire Plans are essential to the operations and preparations for any Fire Service. They offer an inside glance as the lay-out, hazards, access and egress, emergency shut-offs and fire service connection locations. They also note the emergency contacts. They can be useful in the decision making process for choosing strategies and tactics when responding to emergencies in commercial establishments, as well as special or large assembly buildings such as schools and places of worship. They are essential in keeping firefighters safe in these responses. Insurance Services Office (ISO) requires the plan to be completed on all commercial properties within a fire response district with a visit done annually, at a minimum.

These differ from inspections in which the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) and often times a fire service entity, acting under the authority of the locally adopted life safety or fire code, completes an inspection that gives the owner or occupant official notice of compliance with the required codes and requires follow-up for ensuring deficiencies are remedied in a timely manner.

All Fire Districts within Santa Fe County Fire Department are required to complete the plans for their respective commercial businesses. The forms and the listing of accepted symbols are posted on ER in pdf form. **Chimayo Volunteer Susan Espinoza** has created a fillable form in which you can open the document and fill it in electronically. Then every year, or as changes in the address occur, the plan can be updated. Thanks to Susan for her commitment to ensuring that an easy to use form is available for all fire districts!

## New Year Means Changes in Emergency Reporting

As the New Year is here, don't forget that the ER Incidents begin with 2010 at midnight on December 31, 2010. This also means the Dispatch Number Changes...



**EMERGENCY  
REPORTING™**

02-County, 11-Year, #####-Number that is an incident identification from Dispatch.

REMEMBER the place holder of zeros needs to be entered to your number to total 6 digits...first call of the year will be call 1 preceded with 5 zeros...000001 Therefore call Dispatch is 0211000001



## Emergency Management Partners Come Together By: Asst. Chief Vigil

“We’ve never seen these colors on our monitors before,” Kerry, from the National Weather Service, would say during the February 2, 2011 conference call. My interest sparked up when he continued, “No one in the office worked here back in 1971, the last time these temperatures were seen in New Mexico.” The conference call would end by someone in El Paso reporting to us that rolling blackouts had been experienced in Texas that day. Another voice from Dona Ana County chimed in and stated they had some blackouts as well. The Emergency Management Trigger was pulled!

It was 1500 Hrs on Wednesday, February 2, 2011. The Southern Region was working a structure fire in Edgewood with wind chills below zero. My first Department was with Eagle Nest VFD and I knew what it was like to fight fire in frigid conditions. Everything on the fireground becomes significantly more complex and dangerous. My Emergency Management imagination kicked in- What would an extended wide-spread power outage in these extreme arctic conditions look like? What issues would I be faced with? Where would we locate Mass Shelter & Care (remember the Superdome pictures from Katrina)? How would our fleet of emergency vehicles obtain fuel? I did have a capability for the County Fire Fleet in one location. How many technology dependant medical patients are in Santa Fe County today? (home oxygen concentrators or ventilators, feeding pumps, CPAPs, etc.) How will people obtain food or critical medications if all electronic transactions are down? Are tourists or daily commuters going to be stranded in Santa Fe? This was the short list of concerns. I started pulling resource and call-down lists together.



The Incident Action Plan was copied at 1700 Hrs. That evening remained mostly uneventful, all news at nominal; and my phone linked to the RECC stayed quite. Thursday morning the news started reporting some New Mexico communities were experiencing gas outages. More and more communities were being hit by the hour. The Santa Fe Incident Action Plan Trigger was pulled.

The first call was to the County Manager. The next call was to the City Emergency Manager. What were our shelter options in the City? What large facility was not dependant on Natural Gas? La Cienega! Remember ALL of those smoke checks at the Santa Fe Community College (SFCC). Thank you BioMass!



The next conversation took place with the SFCC Emergency Preparedness Coordinator. I requested activation of the Campus Incident Management Team who I trained several years ago. We discussed staffing requirements, food services and security needs. We established trigger points for implementing our Mass Care Plan. The next call went to the Food Depot, a long time Emergency Preparedness partner. I placed them on stand-by to support the SFCC. The American Red Cross Disaster Services was next in line. Hundreds of cots were going to be needed.

EOC lockers were unlocked and the County Emergency Operations Center was set up by Fire Admin and RECC Staff. By noon the Governor had declared a State of Emergency. Following our County Emergency Management Plan, the Situational Analysis Team was stood-up by a conference call. The Emergency Management Director, County Manager, Under Sheriff and all key County Department Heads participated. Action items included: Early Release of non-essential staff; Conservation measures in County Facilities; RECC call surge plans; EOC Activation Triggers & Staffing for two operational periods were identified; and lastly, Identification of the Mass Care Plan & Shelter activation triggers.

I placed a call to the Christus St. Vincent CEO and shared our plan. Presbyterian Medical Services was already checking on all of their homebound clients. The City Deputy Police Chief, as well as the City Fire Chief, also checked in and were notified that their places at the County EOC were ready. Our Tribal EM partners were delivering wood to their elders.

# Arctic Blast - Emergency Mgt. - continued



Friday we still had not received any requests for assistance. Friday night I visited the Rio Arriba County EOC and sat in on the evening Incident Briefing from their Emergency Manager. Los Alamos Emergency Manager contacted me and offered additional shelter options as they had no evacuees at the time. I called the Taos Emergency Manager, just to check in, and see if they were OK.

The key take home message from all of this: None of this occurred due to written emergency plans. All of this came together by years of developing emergency partners in the emergency planning process. Everyone who I talked to, I knew personally and had worked with prior to this event.

## Training Facility Update *By: Captain Ehl*

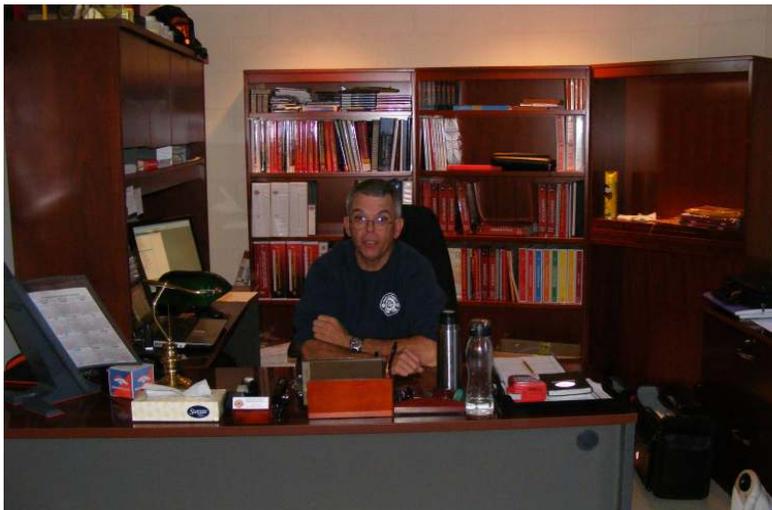
The Training Facility is now staffed full time! Lt. Lovell and I have permanently moved our offices down South. Not to worry though, we are still as accessible as ever.

The new phone number is 505-832-0530 for both Captain Ehl and Lt. Lovell, Address: 5 Martin Road, Stanley, NM 87015.

We are working hard to make the adjustment as seamless as possible. Along with the regular training division responsibilities, we are moving forward with the Phase I work to be performed at the Facility.

The future plans for this training facility are exciting and will rival any other facility in the area. The hard work of Chief Holden and others to make this a reality can not go unmentioned. Countless hours of research, planning, justifying and financing has taken awhile but is becoming a reality to better serve the firefighters and residents and visitors of Santa Fe County.

Look for courses offered at the new facility, however, there is obviously a need for us to remain mobile for trainings for the staff and districts, as needed. As always we are here for the training needs of the department and give us a call anytime if we can be of any help. Come on down and see the progress.





# Vanessa Carrillo

Vanessa Carrillo says she was just thirsty.

Now, she's getting a little unexpected assistance to quench her thirst and pursue medical school.

When the 19-year-old emergency medical technician woke from a medically induced coma the morning of Dec. 15 — a little more than 24 hours after a drunken, wrong-way driver plowed into the ambulance Carrillo was driving on Interstate 25 — the first request the injured teen had was for a sip of her favorite drink.

"I just asked for a Dr Pepper," Carrillo said. "I was thirsty. What else would I ask for?"

Followers of the young girl's long road to recovery took notice.

Mention of that simple request for a Dr Pepper found its way into an article published in the Dec. 16 edition of *The New Mexican*. During the next two weeks, friends and fellow first responders bombarded Carrillo with "probably around 200" Dr Peppers while she recovered.

"It's OK," she told *The New Mexican* from her La Cienega home for a Jan. 1 article chronicling her progress. "You can never have too much Dr Pepper."

Stuart Feltman, vice president of sales for Coca-Cola Bottling Co. in Santa Fe, sent a copy of the Jan. 1 edition of *The New Mexican* to Dr Pepper's national headquarters.

"We were so inspired by this girl after reading that article," Feltman said. "We all have kids, and this really just hit home with some of us about this girl who was doing everything right — she knew she wanted to be a doctor, she was an EMT, she was going to school to follow her dream — and then because of something that was absolutely no fault of her own, all this happened to her.

"We knew we had to do something." Ah, the power of product placement.

While details still need to be finalized during a meeting with the Carrillo family today, Feltman confirmed that 50 cents of every case of Dr Pepper sold during the next month — "at least a month, maybe longer I hope," said Feltman — at the Santa Fe Walmart store and area Quick Stop convenience stores will be put into a fund to help Carrillo with college expenses.

The Hart family, longtime owners of Coca-Cola Bottling Co. in Santa Fe, will pay 25 cents, and that will be matched by Dr Pepper, Feltman said. He wasn't sure if Sam's Club sales would be included, "but I sure hope so, because they sell a lot of Dr Pepper," Feltman said.

Carrillo, who also was an aspiring ballerina and a volunteer with the La Cienega Volunteer Fire Department, has said she wanted to be a doctor ever since she watched firefighters, nurses and other medical professionals care for her mother, who died in 2006, when Carrillo was just 15.

"She knew then she wanted to be a doctor and not only said it, she went out and got certified as an EMT by 17 and was working for an ambulance company, doing everything right to get into medical school one day," Feltman said. "This was a young lady who had it all going for her, and then this happened. We just hope we can help, in some small way, make sure this doesn't derail what she was hoping to do."

Carrillo, who is unable to attend classes this semester, hopes to re-enroll next fall at The University of New Mexico.

The 4-foot-11 1/2 — "don't forget the half," she insisted in a late December interview — 92-pound Carrillo said she is grateful for the generosity of Coca-Cola and Dr Pepper and also of hundreds of complete strangers who have been generous with cards, grocery-store gift cards and other donations to help her family with unexpected expenses.



# Vanessa Carrillo - continued



"I was at Smith's last week, and a man recognized me from the paper and came up to me and wanted to tell me his two daughters admired me," Carrillo said. "Then when he did that, three or four other people recognized me, too, and started coming up to me to talk. I'm sort of shy and embarrassed by all this, to be honest. The generosity has been amazing from so many people I've never even met."

Carrillo singled out a few, including members of the Los Alamos Fire Department, who have been especially generous since the crash. On Dec. 24, a caravan of about 15 first-responder vehicles, including the Turquoise Trail Volunteer Fire Department, which provided an ambulance for Carrillo free of charge, escorted the Carrillo family from University Hospital in Albuquerque to their La Cienega home so she could spend Christmas there.

Last week, Carrillo finally met the two Santa Fe police officers who crawled into her ambulance the morning of the crash and kept her company until firefighters were able to cut her out of the smashed vehicle.

James Valencia, chief of the La Cienega Volunteer Fire Department, set up a fund at First Community Bank, which took community donations for the family.

The driver who hit Carrillo in the Dec. 14 crash, 26-year-old Kylene Holmes of El Paso, died at the scene. A toxicology report released last week from the state Office of the Medical Investigator in Albuquerque stated Holmes had a blood alcohol content of 0.26 — more than three times the legal limit to drive — and traces of marijuana and painkillers in her system. Holmes' passenger, 38-year-old Jennifer Michelle Belvin, survived the crash.

Carrillo had 20 breaks in both legs and 15 in her face as a result of the crash. She also tore a tendon in her arm. She has already begun physical rehabilitation and said therapists have set a target date of Feb. 3 for her to try and put weight on her legs for the first time. For now, she still requires 24-hour assistance from her sister, Desiree, 21, and her father, Larry, and she continues to use a wheelchair.

## Wildland Update

By: Krys Nystrom

Funded by a one of three fuel reduction grants awarded to the Fire Department from New Mexico Association of Counties in 2009, this project was our third thinning project for a total of 16 acres. Combined with the other two thinning projects we have a total of 83 acres treated.

The main objective with the latest fuel reduction project was to open up some meadows and reduce encroachment of pinon and juniper into those meadows. All total the project produced 35 cords of wood. Community support was great, making the job that much easier.

### The goals of the project were:

- Reduce the threat of catastrophic fire
  - Restore forest health and improve wildlife habitat
  - Create a fuel break to protect the neighboring community
- All goals were met and the community now has not only a fire break, but also a place to enjoy walking and horseback riding.



edgewood project  
**COMPLETE**



## *Kids Teaching Kids (and Adults)*

*By: Victoria DeVargas*

This past year the Fire Prevention Office decided to take a different approach to getting the word out about fire safety. In preparation for Fire Prevention Month we got together with the County Public Information Officer, Kristine Mihelcic and the Santa Fe Community College local TV and recorded a Public Safety Announcement (PSA). Using the fire safety house, we walked people through various hazards they may have at home and how to fix them or prevent fires from happening. The difference from this presentation from all the others is that we had some help from Sierra Schonrock (daughter to Lorie and Travis Schonrock) and Jacob DeVargas (son to Victoria and Mateo DeVargas). With their help we showed people how to teach their kids what to do if they wake up to a smoke detector alarm. Sierra showed us how to check the door for heat and if the door is hot to stay low, by the bedroom window and call for help if she couldn't get out by herself and how to go out the window if she could open it by herself. Jacob showed us how to check the door for heat and if it was cool - to open it slowly and crawl out of the house to the safe meeting place. Once at the safe meeting place, the kids showed us how to call 911 and give information to the dispatcher. The kids did an EXCELLENT job and on November 30<sup>th</sup> Commissioner Vigil recognized Sierra and Jacob for their assistance in teaching fire safety to the constituents of Santa Fe County. They were each given a Certificate of Appreciation from the Commissioners and a gift certificate to Baskin Robbins from Fire Prevention.



The program can be seen on Comcast Channel 16 and we are currently working on getting it on the County web site in the Video on Demand – County Connection section ([www.santafecounty.org/multimedia/video\\_and\\_audio](http://www.santafecounty.org/multimedia/video_and_audio)).

Thank you Sierra and Jacob for your help - you guys made the PSA a success!

## *Work Place Safety Training*

*By: Victoria DeVargas*

The Workplace Fire Safety Training proved to be quite fruitful in Santa Fe County in 2010. We offered the County 12 classes. Each class had anywhere from 6 to 20 students and departments such as Finance, CSD, GIS, Fire Administrative Staff and the RECC had 95 to 100% staff participation.

This year we are off and running and have the Spring and Fall schedule ready to go. You can find a listing of all available classes on-line at the County Legends intranet sight.

We assisted with the hands-on portion of fire extinguisher use at the Volunteer Academy in September and also had some outside businesses ask for the training. We did trainings with PNM, Small Smiles Dentistry (with City Fire Prevention) and, most recently, Encantado Resort.

The fire extinguisher trainer has been a great addition to our public education program! We have had a lot of positive feedback. Many people like the fact that we don't just focus on how to use an extinguisher; we also discuss evacuation and the importance of drills. There are some challenges as far as cold weather and Red Flag wind days, but we have been able to work around that by scheduling classes in the spring and fall. (We'll just have to wait and see what Mother Nature has to offer us this spring.)





In 2009 we rolled out a pilot public ed program aimed at pre-school (3 to 5 year olds) kids. We introduced the BIC-PlaySafe!BeSafe! program at the Santa Fe Community College Early Childhood Center (20 students). It turned out to be just what they needed for that age group of kids. Soon after that I received a phone call from the Mission Viejo Headstart (20 students) and she had heard about our program and asked if we would provide the program to their pre-school, we did and again, had a great response!

The program is no longer in “pilot” mode and during the months of November and December 2010, the program returned to the SFCC Early Childhood Center and the Santo Nino Regional Catholic School-Preschool classes. Altogether we had 90 students.

The program consists of 4-1 hour lessons on, “My Friend the Fire-fighter”; “Stop, Drop and Roll”; “Crawl Low Under Smoke” and “Matches and Lighters are for Grown-ups”. With each lesson the kids get a certificate to take home and a letter that tells parents what their child has learned for that lesson. We wrap up the program with a graduation where the kids receive a final certificate of completion, a fire helmet and goodie bag.

In 2011 we rolled out the program County wide and the week of January 24th the Presbyterian Medical Services-Arroyo Seco Headstart will be graduating (20 students). In February, the Nambe Pueblo Headstart will begin their program.

If you know of a headstart or pre-school program that may be interested in the BIC-PlaySafe!BeSafe! program, please contact Victoria at 505-995-6529 or [vdevargas@santafecounty.org](mailto:vdevargas@santafecounty.org).



## Types of Responses for 2010

MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	526	7.84%
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overhear - no fire	6	0.09%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	4940	73.59%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	108	1.61%
Service Call	191	2.85%
Good Intent Call	537	8.00%
False Alarm & False Call	395	5.88%
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	4	0.06%
Special Incident Type	6	0.09%

**TOTAL 6713 100%**



# Volunteer Fire Academy Graduates 27!!! By: Captain Jaffa

On December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010 the second Volunteer Fire Academy held its official graduation ceremony. The ceremony was held at the Bryan Fant Performing Arts Theatre at Capitol High School where the graduates celebrated their day with family and friends. The keynote speaker, John Wheeler, Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, gave an entertaining talk on professionalism and service to the community.

This was the first Volunteer Academy to offer certification from the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSA) for the Firefighter I Class, as well as, the Hazardous Materials Awareness & Operations Course. Academy participants were able to travel to the NM State Fire Training Academy for testing and a live burn day.



Congratulations go out to the following members who completed the graduation requirements for Volunteer Fire Academy 2010-2:

*Jeremiah Balliett – La Cienega, Michael Barnes – La Cienega, Kevin Barrows – Turquoise Trail, John Calef – Hondo, Christian Corlett – Turquoise Trail, Duane Dearborn – Hondo, April Di Janni – La Cienega, Loni Jo Dunham – Regional, Christopher Duran – Tesuque, Justine Francisco – La Cienega, Sean Glackman – Stanley, Frank Gonzales – Tesuque,*



*Johnny Gonzales – Glorieta Pass, Austin Hanson – Tesuque, Louis Lovato – Edgewood, Danielle Martinez – La Cienega, Michael Martinez – La Cienega, John Mayer – Tesuque, David McGee – Regional, Antonio Morales – Pojoaque, Daniel Pempel – Edgewood, Albert Perea – Turquoise Trail, Terry Protheroe – Hondo, Will Ross – Tesuque, Edgar Rubio – Regional, Kimberly Sanchez – Regional, and Bryan Wyatt – La Cienega .*



# Upcoming Volunteer Fire Academy By: Captain Jaffa



We are now accepting applications for the Volunteer Fire Academy beginning March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011. We will accept applications through Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup> so there is a short time line. This Academy will be held at the new Santa Fe County Training Facility located at #5 Martin Road, Stanley, NM. This will be the first series of classes to be held at the new training facility which will allow for ample space to practice firefighting skills and “break-in” the new classroom. Classes will generally be held Monday and Thursday evenings from 1830 to 2130 hours and Saturdays from 0900 to 1700 hours. In order to expedite this Academy the Orientation and Firefighter 1<sup>st</sup>-Aid/CPR classes will have Wednesday evening class in place of Saturdays. At this time the class schedule is:

- 1) Wildland Fire Behavior (S130/190, I100, L180) – March 12, 13, 19 & 20.
- 2) Orientation (mandatory for all academy participants) – April 4, 6 & 7.
- 3) Firefighter 1<sup>st</sup>-Aid/CPR – April 11, 13, & 14.
- 4) Hazardous Materials Awareness & Operations – April 18, 21, 23, 25, 28, 30, May 2, 5, & 7.  
IFSAC testing on May 11<sup>th</sup>.
- 5) CEVO III – May 14.
- 6) Firefighter I – Monday, Thursday evenings and Saturdays beginning May 16<sup>th</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>.  
Final testing on July 7<sup>th</sup>, Live burns at the NM State Fire Training Academy on July 9<sup>th</sup> and IFSAC testing on July 10<sup>th</sup>.
- 7) Graduation – Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

Please submit your applications to Captain Mike Jaffa no later than Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup>.



## Nice Job Elvia!!!

As firefighters we spend the majority of our time dealing with things that have gone wrong, so every now and then it’s nice to hear when things are working the way they should. Below is an email that Assistant Chief Moya received about one of those time when things went right, thanks to the efforts of a very dedicated employee.

Chief Moya, Donna:

As you know I’m always quick to point out when things don’t work well. I try and balance that by recognizing when they do. About a week ago I asked Elvia’s (Martinez of Finance, Accounts Payable) assistance on pushing a PO through quickly on a class that is occurring February 17 and 18. It came open on Feb 7, which is a time flash in the purchase order world. I was seriously skeptical we could pull this off, even for a very worthy class. Elvia has already gotten it through the channels and I have an approved PO in hand. I know she has many other customers and a not-so-streamlined system to work with.

I’d just like to let you know she completed this with time to spare, and her work is very much appreciated on our end.

Thanks for your time

Adam Stively—EMS Captain

Hondo District



**Santa Fe County Fire Department**  
**35 Camino Justicia**  
**Santa Fe, New Mexico 87508-8501**

PRESORTED STANDARD  
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# The Connection

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SANTA FE COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT  
35 Camino Justicia, Santa Fe, NM 87508 (505) 992-3070

## UNIQUE THANK YOU!

Over the course of the year the Department receives lots of thank you cards and letters from members of the community that we serve. This one was a little unique. Congratulations to the Med 70 C-Shift crew for assisting a gentleman who was experiencing shortness of breath

Your professionalism definitely made an impact his life. ENJOY THE CAKE!

