

Photo by Laird Graeser

San Marcos Association Community Dispatch • May 27, 2020

San Marcos Association, P.O. Box 722, Cerrillos NM 87510 – Website: sanmarcosassociation.org

Dennis Kurtz, President - Janet McVicker, Vice-president - Gail Buono, Treasurer - Karen Keeney, Secretary

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Who We Are

The San Marcos Association (SMA) (http://www.sanmarcosassociation.org/) is a Registered Organization with Santa Fe County, a non-profit community service organization, established in the 1980s to protect the rural, residential character of our community, and to follow relevant County policies and plans. We advocate for property owners and residents of the area in matters of public service, utilities and the general welfare of people.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic developed in New Mexico, our monthly in-person meetings have been temporarily suspended. At this time, the SMA encourages neighbor-to-neighbor outreach, to help everyone in the community to weather this crisis. While we continue to plan a new SMA website and events in "real time," we offer this Community Dispatch and urge you to

Forward this Dispatch to your friends and neighbors

Reply to mailto:TheSMAssoc@gmail.com if you would like to be included on our mailing list, or if you wish to be permanently removed.

SMA is non-profit, non-partisan and will NOT share its mailing list without your permission.

Answers to Questions About Voting by Election Day, June 2

Voting for the New Mexico Primary Elections this year will take place **on or before June 2**, with the addition of some safeguards for the health of voters and poll workers. This Primary Election will select party candidates for numerous leadership posts that affect you and your community.

At SMA, we have heard many questions and concerns from our neighbors. Here are some answers. We reference the **Santa Fe County Clerk website**, which offers more information at https://www.santafecountynm.gov/clerk/elections information or by phone, at 505-986-6280. Help is also available in Spanish.

The League of Women Voters of Santa Fe County is another source of non-partisan (unbiased) help for voters, including a free down-loadable voters' guide to the candidates. See https://www.lwvsfc.org/

1) How can I vote in this primary election?

First, thank you for participating in the New Mexico Primary Election, Tuesday June 2. If you have voted early, thanks again! If you have not yet voted, read on:

In order to vote in this election, you must be a registered voter, and you must choose a major party (Democrat, Libertarian or Republican) that can provide your ballot. You may vote in person at any polling place on June 2. For more on that, see below. (Early voting has already closed for this election, but you may consider that next time).

In consideration of the Covid Crisis, you may be voting for the first time by absentee ballot. You must have requested an absentee ballot by Thursday May 28. It is likely that you received information about requesting an absentee ballot from the New Mexico Secretary of State and did so by mail or on-line. However, if you have not requested a ballot yet, that option is no longer available for this election. We encourage folks to go to their polling place.

2) I have an absentee ballot, but I forgot to mail it in. When is it too late?

Your completed absentee ballot must be received by voting officials by 7:00 pm on June 2, 2020. You can mail it in the envelope included, though it may be too late to do so by the time you read this. Or you may drop it off before 7:00 pm in one of two places: 1) Santa Fe County Clerk's Office, at the entrance to the new County Building at 100 Catron Street. Phone: 505-986-6280 OR 2) on Election Day, at any County polling place, such as Turquoise Trail School on NM 14 or the Santa Fe County Rodeo Grounds on Rodeo Road. This should be quick.

3) What if I lost my absentee ballot or changed my mind about voting by mail?

If you can help it, do not lose your absentee ballot! You can take your ballot to the polling place or the County Clerk's office on Election Day, instead of using the mail, if you prefer. BUT, if you cannot find your absentee ballot, or if you ordered it by mail, and it does not arrive in time, you should go to a polling place and explain what happened. You will be asked to sign an affidavit to confirm that you are only voting once in this election. Then you can vote on site.

4) Where are the polling places for voting in person Tuesday, June 2?

You can get a full list of Santa Fe area polling places at the website of the County Clerk (see above). While there are fewer polling places open during this Election, two popular sites nearby include the Turquoise Trail Charter School on NM 14 and the Santa Fe County Rodeo Grounds on Rodeo Road. These sites are open 7:00 am to 7:00 pm. Others are noted below.

VOTING CONVENIENCE CENTERS (VCC's) PRIMARY ELECTION June 2, 2020

CHRISTIAN LIFE CHURCH 121 Siringo Road, Santa Fe
EL CAMINO REAL ACADEMY 2500 S Meadows Rd, Santa Fe
GALISTEO COMMUNITY CENTER 35 Avenida Vieja, Galisteo
GLORIETA PASS FIRE STATION #2 366 Old Denver Hwy, Glorieta
GONZALES COMMUNITY SCHOOL 851 W Alameda St, Santa Fe
LA CIENEGA COMMUNITY CENTER 136 Camino San Jose, Santa Fe
MAX COLL CORRIDOR COMMUNITY CENTER 16 Avenida Torreon, Santa Fe
MONTEZUMA LODGE
431 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe
NAMBE COMMUNITY CENTER 180 A State Road 503, Santa Fe
NINA OTERO COMMUNITY SCHOOL 5901 Herrera Rd, Santa Fe
POJOAQUE MIDDLE SCHOOL 1797 State Road 502, Pojoaque
SALAZAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 1231 Apache Ave, Santa Fe
SANTA FE COUNTY FAIR BUILDING 3229 Rodeo Rd, Santa Fe
SANTA FE COUNTY FIRE STATION (LA TIERRA) 6 Arroyo Calabasas Rd, Santa Fe
ST. JOHN'S METHODIST CHURCH 1200 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe
TESUQUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 1555 Bishop's Lodge Rd, Santa Fe
TOWN OF EDGEWOOD ADMIN OFFICE 171 A State Road 344, Edgewood
TONY E. QUINTANA ELEMENTARY
20 E. Sombrillo Road Highway 106, Espanola
TURQUOISE TRAIL CHARTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 13 A San Marcos Loop, Santa Fe

5) Should I be afraid to vote in person during the Covid crisis?

If you think you could be sick, of course, you should call your doctor, and you should not mingle with other people, under any circumstances. The push to vote absentee should ease the chance of crowds on Election Day. For generally healthy people, recommended safe practices include: wear your mask, follow polling place guidelines, and as much as possible, keep a distance of at least 6 feet from other voters and poll workers. And it's good to wash your hands before and after. Voting booths will be set up at a distance, in keeping with state recommendations.

6) Your vote counts.

It is not too soon to plan ahead for the fall election. Participate and encourage others to vote! Check your registration, order an absentee ballot if you prefer, and send it in early. In 2020, that's a sure way to vote.

Who's Running for County Commission District 5?

Most residents in the San Marcos Neighborhood live in Santa Fe County District 5. There are two candidates for the Board of County Commissioners from this District. Here is a summary of each of them, and directions to their websites for more information. SMA is non-profit and non-partisan; this information is provided in alphabetical order, for educational purposes only.

Hank Hughes

For the past 30 years, Hank Hughes has focused on developing housing and services for people experiencing homelessness, first as executive director of St. Elizabeth Shelter and now as executive director of the New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness. Hank states that he would bring the same dedication to the role of County Commissioner, representing District 5. His website is https://www.hank4santafe.com

Hank states, "We need a County Commission that is ethical and effective. With all that is happening in national politics, we need leadership at the local level that is responsive to our needs as citizens and is effective at getting things done." His stated priorities include protection of land and water and moving quickly to put more solar energy into the electric grid. Before beginning his career in community service, he was educated and employed in environmental engineering, with a focus on water quality. He is also focused on providing better roads in the District, more affordable housing, and support to assure that County's new behavioral health crisis center is a success in addressing substance use problems and overall mental health.

In addressing the COVID-19 crisis, Hank supports leadership as modeled by Governor Lujan Grisham. He would listen to the health experts to develop policies that save lives, and then, when the time is right, work to use all the resources at our disposal to get our local economy up and running again. Hughes has received many endorsements for his candidacy, including from *The New Mexican*, Sierra Club, and retiring County 5 Commissioner Ed Moreno.

Floyd J. Trujillo

Floyd J. Trujillo for District 5 has a website at http://floydforsantafe.com/ He is a native Santa Fean with more than 20 years of experience working in information technology and management across public and private sectors, currently for the New Mexico Finance Authority. Floyd has served on the Turquoise Trail Charter School Governance Council for 18 years, and is currently Council President, as well as President of the school's Foundation, which he co-founded in 2003. The school ranks high in achievement and in student diversity, serving pre-K through middle school.

Floyd states: "One of the lessons that I have learned in working with local governments is the power of bringing people and organizations together in order to collaboratively make positive changes. I want to build on the County's successes and enhance partnerships—with the cities in the County, as well as with the State, in order to ensure that we are meeting the community's needs." In his role with TTCS, he has worked hard to ensure that all students, no matter their social economic status have the opportunity to learn in a safe, innovative, and vibrant space. As commissioner, Floyd wants to focus on infrastructure and to make sure that the County has its own "Green New Deal," a commitment he has demonstrated in adopting solar technologies and other energy-saving strategies at TTCS.

He adds, "In a time when trust in the government is at an all-time low, I strongly believe that the most important skill for elected officials is the ability to listen to people in order to truly understand what they are most concerned about."