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Cover photo courtesy of Jennifer Lazarz
The New Mexico Self Insurers’ Fund, like all of you, has just completed its 2017 Fiscal Year. As I noted in the October issue of the Municipal Reporter, the year started in a very tragic way. Three municipalities experienced the loss of an employee’s life in the first three months of the fiscal year. Those municipalities were the Village of Ruidoso, the Village of Hatch and the City of Alamogordo. The deaths overshadowed the progress the members of the Fund have made in protecting our employees and keeping them safe on the job.

In 2011 the Board of Trustees of the Fund charged the staff and the staff of Safety Counselling with the task of promoting the Fund’s Safety and Loss Control program to the members. In 2011 the members of the Fund reported 742 claims to the Fund. Considering that the Fund insures approximately 7,700 employee’s lives for Workers’ Compensation purposes, that meant that one out of every 10 employees were reporting a work-related injury.

The first step in our process was to get together and set out a goal for reducing the number of on-the-job injuries. After many discussions the staff settled on a goal of reducing the number of claims 10% in four years. After setting the goal the staff set out a plan to meet the goal. It was decided that an experience modifier of 1.30 or greater was unacceptable and that the staff at Safety Counselling would concentrate their efforts to get those members to improve their safety programs and get involved in reducing the frequency of employee injuries. As I recall, for the 2012 fiscal year there were 16 members with an experience modifier of 1.30 or greater. With the emphasis that was placed on these members we have seen the number of members with a modifier of 1.30 or greater fall to four for the 2018 Fiscal Year.

In addition to the concentration on those with high modifiers, the staff began to promote the idea that employees should receive safety training that is directly related to the job that they do. We found it interesting that members were having employees go to classes that had no relevance to their jobs just to meet the goals that have been set by the Board of Trustees of the Fund in order to be eligible for a dividend credit. The Fund has made a concerted effort to get the proper training to employees that has relevance to their job duties.

Our members have made remarkable progress in reducing the number of employee injuries since the 2011 Fiscal Year. In Fiscal Year 2012, claims fell to 706; in 2013 they fell to 643. Fiscal Year 2014 saw an increase to 678 claim but in Fiscal Year 2015 our members reduced the number of claims to 584. This represents a reduction of 158 on-the-job injuries in four years. We have seen a slight uptick in claims in 2016 to 593 claims and for 2017 our claims total stands at 623.

While we have met our goal of a 10% reduction in the number of claims we must remain vigilant and always keep the safety of our employees at the forefront in our operations. Over the nearly 27 years that I have had the privilege to serve the members of the New Mexico Municipal League and the New Mexico Self Insurers’ Fund, I have seen firsthand how on-the-job injuries and tragic deaths affect families of those injured or killed on the job. It is not something I would wish on anyone.

Be safe out there and have a great rest of the summer.
ALL ABOUT BUSINESS REGISTRATION

By: Randy Van Vleck, League General Counsel

**Background**

The business registration system grew from the need to track the number and nature of local businesses for tracking gross receipts. The business registration system provides a two-way avenue of information through the New Mexico Department of Taxation and Revenue (“NMTRD”). The NMTRD develops a database of all places of business that have been registered locally. This registration system enhances NMTRD’s ability to collect state and local gross receipts tax (“GRT”). The registration system also provides municipalities an avenue to verify with the NMTRD that a local business is in the state database and is in fact remitting its local option GRT to the state.

**Statutory Reference**

In accordance with §3-38-3 NMSA 1978, each municipality shall, by ordinance, charge a business registration fee on each place of business conducted within a municipality that is not licensed by the municipality. The business registration fee shall not be more than $35.00 a year and may be prorated for businesses conducted for a portion of the year. There are three exceptions to the registration requirement. First are those businesses that are licensed by the municipality. Second, any sanctioned and registered athletic official who officiates for any association or organization which regulates any public school activity and whose rules and regulations are approved by the state board of education, and any part-time artist whose income from sales of his artwork in the prior taxable year did not exceed $1,000.

**“Place of Business”**

The key language in the business registration language is “place of business.” The statute requires a municipality to register every “place of business within the municipality.” This is different than locations where business is transacted. The GRT registration in short is designed to register “brick and mortar” activities. Under the tax code, GRT is ordinarily paid by businesses at its physical location. The GRT location code is based on physical location of the business. This simplifies the tax collection process.

As expected, there are exceptions to this general rule as well. Gross receipts from the sale of real estate and from construction activities are paid to the municipality in which the sale or construction has taken place.
Indicia of “Place of Business”

There are various factors to be considered in determining where a business’s “place of business” is located. Included are: the location where customers are greeted or met; the address from which billings to customers are sent; the address where payments from customers are sent; the location where the sale of goods is consummated; and the place where inventory or stock is stored.

Business location distinguished

What if the GRT was collected based on location of business activity? This procedure would impact businesses that perform work in multiple cities/counties. Under this scenario, workers or businesses would be required to remit GRT to NMTRD based on varying local rates. Take a plumbing business, for example. The plumber has a business located in Albuquerque, clients are met in Albuquerque, phone calls are received in Albuquerque, bills are sent from Albuquerque, and payments are directed to Albuquerque, but on any given day the business may have jobs in Albuquerque, Belen, Peralta and Tijeras. Under this “what if” scenario, the plumbing company would be required to remit GRT to the NMTRD based on four (4) different tax rates for the municipalities in which work was performed. This is overly complicated system to master. Therefore, the law was simplified to require submission of GRT to NMTRD based on the location of the plumber’s “place of business.”

Other “Place of Business” Issues

What if a company has several business locations throughout town. Take for example a dry cleaning franchise. A single owner may own multiple franchises that operate under the same name but a different locations. For GRT collection purposes each location must be registered and each location must pay a separate business registration fee. And clearly, the GRT must be remitted to the NMTRD to the credit of the municipality in which the business premises is physically located.

Similarly, one may have multiple businesses at a single location. Take, for example a health club and juice bar that are operated at the same location. Should the owner submit one registration or two? They are two different businesses, but they operate at the same location. Because these are two distinct business operations two registrations should be required. This is to verify that each business is properly collecting GRT.

Registration Requirements

§3-38-4.A NMSA 1978 provides: that “prior to engaging in any business, any person proposing to
“Why Gallup?” is a question longtime residents and new transplants to the Gallup community hear often, especially when talking about the city with people who have never visited or are unfamiliar with the region. To an “outsider” the Gallup community is small, with a population of around 22,500. Unlike a major metropolitan area, the skies are wide open and beautiful, and you’ll catch the occasional tumble weed blowing through the area. The town is accessible from four exits along Interstate-40, and is nestled along Historic Highway 66. Gallup, however, is more than numbers, highway exits, and a road through it. Gallup is a real authentic destination and place to live that offers something for everybody both visiting and planning a move to the region.

Why Gallup? History

Gallup was founded in 1881 along the construction right-of-way for the southern transcontinental rail route and was named after railroad paymaster David Gallup. The mainstays of Gallup in its early days were coal mining and the railroad, so Gallup attracted a large number of immigrants to the region for work, laying a foundation for a unique cultural blend of European, Mexican, and Native American heritages. A single road ran along the railroad, which in 1926 was designated as Route 66. As business developed
along the “Mother Road,” Gallup’s downtown began to blossom with traders, restaurants, and more. The town established itself as a quiet, small western outpost and over time gained notoriety on an international scale through the sales of Native American arts, particularly jewelry, pottery, and weavings. This was made possible because Gallup is surrounded on all sides by Native American Tribes - the Navajo, Zuni Pueblo, Apache, Acoma Pueblo, Laguna Pueblo, Hopi Pueblo and more who visit the region. The rich histories of the Native American people throughout the region is carved into the rocks and built into the buildings – surrounding Gallup with rich cultural heritage destinations.

**Why Gallup? The Small Facts are Big Stories**

In 2013 Rand McNally designated Gallup as “America’s Most Patriotic Small Town” and for good reason. Gallup is a central destination to the Navajo Code Talkers in American history- a group of Navajo who changed the course of WWII with their language and dedication to what our country stands for. The town resisted internment of its Japanese residents during the war, which later would provide a remarkable backdrop for the unbelievable dedication to this country by Gallup-born and raised second generation Japanese-American Hiroshi Miyamura. Mr. Miyamura received the Medal of Honor for his actions in the Korean War and still resides in town.

Other small facts: Gallup’s Lexington Hotel sign is one of the oldest neon signs in New Mexico (erected in 1931 and restored in 2003). This sign is right along Route 66 in the heart of a town that was designated a number nine in the “Top 10 Western Towns of 2017” by True West Magazine. It doesn’t stand lonely as the only neon sign in Gallup. Other signs dot the landscape as you drive through the area of Route 66 nearest to the historic El Rancho Hotel. The El Rancho opened in 1937 as a hub for the movie industry in the area and was home to the stars during the late 1930s and 40’s and is still beautifully adorned and open for operation.

**Why Gallup? It’s a destination that can provide life changing experiences.**

It seems cliché to say a destination can provide a life-changing experience, but when you examine the wealth of opportunities for outdoor adventures, art lovers, and culture seekers, a guest or new resident to the community will emerge with a new sense of awe for the authentic culture, real people, and very real Native American art and artisans in Gallup.

Love the outdoors? Visit the most gorgeous red rocks and views in the region by hiking Red Rock Park

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or the Hogback. Less than a 10-minute drive from downtown you’ll find the High Desert Trail System, the easternmost access point to over 22 miles of biking, running, and hiking you can’t find anywhere else.

Drive 50 minutes south or east and you can explore 25 miles of adventure in the Zuni Mountain Trail System - a breath-taking region of hiking that switches from ponderosa pine forest to meadow grasses and back. Speaking of breath-taking? Take a hot air balloon ride over the gorgeous Red Rocks in our area at the Red Rock Balloon Rally or the Route 66 Ride, Flight and Cruise and catch a glimpse of Anasazi footholds, foxes, coyote and more.

Arts and Culture are your thing? Come visit for the Nightly Indian Dances from May-September every year, a free experience right in the heart of Downtown Gallup. Visit for the 96th Annual Gallup Inter-tribal Indian Ceremonial for the parades, pow-wows and more the week of August 4-13. Come meet internationally award-winning and acclaimed artists at the Gallup
Native Arts Market in Downtown Gallup from August 10-12. Shop from one of our 1,000 artists or hundreds of traders in the region because you’re at the source of Native American Art. Over 70% of the world’s authentic Native American-made art comes from the Gallup region. Grab some Zuni Oven Bread (a type of sour-dough baked in outdoor ovens, or enjoy some Navajo Fry Bread or a Navajo Taco). Get some enchiladas and prepare yourself for the heat from the red or green chile.

So really, why NOT Gallup?

Gallup’s people are some of the most welcoming, interesting people you could meet in a town that is rife with history and cultural diversity. It is a real, true destination that has something for everyone. You’re invited to answer the question “Why not Gallup?” and experience your next life-changing adventure.
NEARLY FIVE MILLION YOUTH ARE OUT OF SCHOOL AND WORK. HERE’S HOW THREE CITIES ARE PLANNING TO REENGAGE THEM.

By Christie Joesbury

When it comes to reengaging disconnected youth with education and employment, three cities are reaching the same ambitious goals via different routes.

As the saying goes, “If you don’t know where you’re going, any road will get you there.” To create a roadmap and plot a clear course, collaboratives focused on reengaging opportunity youth in the cities of Philadelphia, Seattle and San Diego all recently set or refreshed ambitious goals to reach by the year 2020.

This positions these cities as leaders among the localities grappling with the national challenge of nearly five million youth ages 16-24 out of school and out of work. Notably, the three collaboratives operate somewhat differently and arrived at varying goals by different methods.

Philadelphia

Philadelphia’s Youth Network Alliance (PYN) Project U-Turn brings together city leaders, nonprofits, educators and administrators from many sectors to create education pathways for disconnected youth; an advisory group helped PYN update goals originally set several years ago. A new goal statement calls for increasing the number of young people who reengage to 70 percent (from 54 percent among the 2008-2012 cohort) and reducing the number of students who disconnect from high school from 25 percent to 20 percent.

San Diego

The San Diego Workforce Partnership (SDWP) serves as the local workforce development agency, with city and county officials in governance roles. In April 2017, SDWP convened the Flip the Script Summit to announce new goals to develop pathways to reconnect 55,000 young people. The Flip the Script plan calls for cutting the rate of youth disconnection to 7.3 percent by 2020 (from 9.7 percent in 2015). This would reengage 10,800 young people. Flip the Script also seeks to halve the gap between the neighborhoods, so that no neighborhood falls more than 4.4 percent above the countywide average disconnection rate of 9.7 percent. This would focus efforts on communities with high need such as Vista City, where the disconnection rate currently stands at 18.6 percent.

Seattle

The Road Map Project, a project of Community Center for Education Results, focuses on creating opportunity for youth in South Seattle and South King County, Washington — an underserved area with high rates of childhood poverty and disconnection. The
Road Map Project brings together educators, parents, students, administrators and city officials to advocate for changes in housing, health and education as well as periodically update driving goals. In its first specific statement of goals for Opportunity Youth, the Road Map Project foresees reengaging 70 percent of drop-out youth within two years of leaving high school, up from a baseline of 42 percent in 2014. Additional goals include supporting 50 percent of youth who reengage to earn a Diploma or GED within two years (up from 20 percent), and ensuring that 60 percent of reengaged youth who earned a high school credential will enroll in higher education, building from a baseline of 31 percent. The Road Map Project set these ambitious targets to close the gap between students in the project area and high-performing Washington schools.

Emerging Lessons

As proves true for many other policy areas, setting goals for reengaging youth allows cities to build an agreed-upon strategy and share a common vision to help disadvantaged young people thrive. Cities can learn from Philadelphia, San Diego, Seattle and others to set locally-relevant goals for reengagement outcomes. Recent developments in these three cities suggests attention to three guiding principles:

Cross-system collaboration promotes good goal setting. Lead organizations in each city involved and consulted existing and new community partners across multiple sectors. They also ensured that youth and families lent their voices to shape solutions around a common vision. City leaders played a role on the front end, positioning them to help influence resource allocations that will contribute to reaching the goals. With goals in hand, the lead organizations will facilitate alignment of practice and policy across partners for a coordinated approach. They will achieve ongoing coordination through convenings, newsletters, reports and regular meetings to track and share progress.

An up-to-date, close examination of local data supports goal setting and future success measurement. Before setting any goals, the local collaboratives had to study who exactly constitutes the opportunity youth population, where those youth live, and the extent to which current programs and policies meet youth needs. All three collaboratives used internal or external research to evaluate their starting points. Project Road Map set 2020 performance targets by analyzing

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100+ MESKERS FOUND IN NEW MEXICO

When we document 100 Mesker facades in a state, we celebrate it. It’s an arbitrary milestone that has little to do with the historic number of installations but it’s been a tradition on these here pages for some time. Thanks largely to Roger Waguespack’s research efforts, New Mexico is the latest state to join the 100 club, with 108. On a sad note, only 29 of them (27%) survive. Hopefully, this ratio can be improved in the future.

Historically, New Mexico was not a large purchaser of Mesker products, ranking 21st nationwide with a combined estimate of approximately 843 facades. Owners favored fronts offered by Mesker Brothers Iron Works which netted a total of $89,069.21 in receipts between 1885 and 1908 for approximately 726 facades. The best year was 1906, with $9,527.31 in net receipts. The projected number of Mesker Bros. installations rank #13 on the company’s charts but the expenditures were #15. Not bad given a comparatively low marketing effort of 15,685 catalogs distributed in the state from 1888 to 1909, with 3,194 in 1907 as the top mark. While the number of catalogs may seem high, it ranks just 41st. In contrast, George L. Mesker & Co. claims to have sold only 117 facades in the state, which ranked 33rd among the states.

On the next pages is the breakdown of the 108 facades in New Mexico (download the Excel inventory for a complete listing):

- 99 by Mesker Brothers Iron Works (MB)
- 8 by George L. Mesker & Co. (GLM)
- 1 with components by MB and GLM (both)
- 62 complete “house fronts” (56 MB, 6 GLM)
- 79 demolished (73 MB, 6 GLM)
- 61 are one-story in height (56 MB, 5 GLM), 45 are two-story (41 MB, 3 GLM, 1 both), 2 are three-story (MB)
- 30 towns (23 with MB, 2 with GLM, 5 with both)—Silver City has the most surviving facades with 7; Aztec has 5 and Raton has 4. Roswell had at least 25, the largest number of buildings with Mesker Brothers Iron Works material of any community in the country, but they were all demolished.

And below are some favorite examples of surviving Meskers from the Land of Enchantment, appearing alphabetically by town (again, huge thanks to Roger who provided all the images):
Above: 919 N. New York Ave, Alamogordo, NM. The paint scheme does not do this great Mesker Brothers Iron Works facade any justice. The large end panels feature the ubiquitous baroque-inspired dolphin or fish design. Image courtesy of Roger Waguespack.

Left: J.M. Randall Building (1907), 117 S. Main St, Aztec, NM. A rarity in the Mesker world, featuring components from both Mesker companies. At the time of this post, it is the only known such example in New Mexico and one of only 28 in the country. The storefront and second story bay windows are by George L. Mesker & Co. but the cornice is by Mesker Brothers Iron Works. Image courtesy of Roger Waguespack.
121-123 S. Main St, Aztec, NM. Adjacent full “house fronts” by Mesker Brothers Iron Works. Facade on the right with “dolphin panels.” Image courtesy of Roger Waguespack.
113 Main St, Clayton, NM. Close up view of the decorative awning bracket, manufactured by Mesker Brothers Iron Works. Image courtesy of Roger Waguespack.

Rawlins Building, 515 Railroad Ave, Las Vegas, NM. Classic example of a Mesker Brothers Iron Works complete metal "house front," with great integrity. The current owners are planning to rehabilitate the building and facade. Image courtesy of Roger Waguespack.
Mesilla Valley Store, 2060 Calle Principal, Mesilla, NM. One of only three confirmed surviving facades with components by George L. Mesker & Co. in the entire state. Image courtesy of Roger Waguespack.

34 S. First St, Raton, NM. Great and intact example of a Mesker Brothers facade, including the patented storefront columns. Image courtesy of Roger Waguespack.
MUNICIPALITIES JOIN MANUFACTURERS TO INSPIRE NEXT-GENERATION WORKERS

By Finance New Mexico

Young people can be hard to impress, but students from Albuquerque’s Academy of Trades and Technology (ATTHS) charter school were visibly stoked by a tour of Rader Awning during 2016 Manufacturing Month events.

Before-and-after shots of the 15 ATTHS students who visited the factory where Rader manufactures awnings, shade panels and fabric products illustrate what can happen when young adults get a close look at the world of manufacturing: a transformation from bored detachment to delighted engagement.

It’s the kind of transformation that inspires New Mexico Manufacturing Extension Partnership (NM MEP), the organizers and sponsors of local Manufacturing Month, to focus on introducing a fresh generation to careers in advanced manufacturing. And it’s the kind of transformation municipalities are helping facilitate, with the long-term goal of encouraging local investment and growth.

Closing the gap

U.S. employers have long warned that more than half of the 3.4 million manufacturing jobs expected to open by the mid-2020s could remain empty if companies can’t find workers with the computing, technical, problem-solving and math skills required in the modern “factory.” A 2015 study by the Manufacturing Institute and Deloitte LLC concluded that a domestic talent deficit of this magnitude would mean that customers won’t get the products they need from American companies.

National “Mfg Day” is observed on October 6, but New Mexico MEP extends the celebration to the entire month of October to highlight New Mexico-made products and introduce young people to the many career opportunities available in the field.

The nonprofit organization’s outreach to high school and college students includes career fairs, manufacturing facility tours and school presentations. More than 4,600 students participated in New Mexico Manufacturing Month events last year, and 200 — including the group from ATTHS, some of them described as “at-risk” — attended private tours of 11 facilities where wood flooring, herbal supplements and remedies, organic cosmetics and architectural lighting are produced.
New look at life

Rader Awning was the first stop for ATTHS students on Oct. 18; the second was OGB Architectural Millwork. Students quietly shuffled through the welding, sewing and upholstery work areas at Rader until the end, when company co-owner Jill Mowery-Litt entertained questions.

Through ATTHS social worker Dana Flores, one student asked to talk to a company welder he had noticed on the tour. The welder explained how he had made poor choices before heeding life-altering advice to study welding. He perfected his craft through correspondence courses to earn certification.

By the time they visited OGB’s facility, where employees design, engineer and create quality woodwork, the students were at full attention. Company president and tour leader Rick Thaler talked about how he acquired woodworking skills as a teenager in the construction trades. Eager to learn, he refined his skills and earned promotion to more demanding positions, eventually buying the business. OGB Architectural Millwork now employs 58 people creating $8.5 million in revenue.

In a post-tour session, students discussed what types of training they would need to forge their own paths to good-paying employment in manufacturing. According to New Mexico MEP state director Jennifer Sinsabaugh, the shift in attitude, from negative to positive, was palpable.

Manufacturing Month 2017 will be celebrated all October, with most facility tours taking place between Oct. 9 - 20. Mayors and city councilors have demonstrated support for their local businesses by joining facility tours and reading proclamations. Municipal leaders are, again, encouraged to participate, as well as suggest local manufacturers and schools that would benefit from participation. Email mfgday@newmexicomep.org with suggestions or to obtain more information.

Finance New Mexico partners with the New Mexico Municipal League on the Grow It! project and other economic development initiatives. To learn more, go to www.FinanceNewMexico.org and www.GrowItNM.org.
Accommodating Workers with a History of Substance Abuse
Employers don’t have to accommodate any alcohol or illicit drug use in the workplace, but they must be careful not to discriminate. Read more here

How the Best Leaders Energize People Every Day
People cannot force inspiration in others, but they “can create the conditions that foster inspiration,” says Kristi Hedges, a leadership coach. Read more here

Is Your Municipal Advisor Qualified
If you work with a municipal advisor, you should be aware that by September 12, 2017, any individuals providing municipal advisory services must have passed the “Series 50” exam developed by the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (MSRB). Click here to see who has passed the exam.

State of the States: Navigating Trends in Local Compliance
Although the Trump administration says it will roll back regulations at the federal level, that doesn’t mean your HR and compliance teams can rest easy. Click here to hear what to expect and how to prepare.

Cloudcroft Municipal Court Clerk Carlene Briggs celebrated her 80th birthday during the 2017 Municipal Judges Professional Development Conference held July 12-14 in Ruidoso. Also pictured is Cloudcroft Municipal Judge Jack Smith and a birthday cake presented by the Judicial Education Center.
IN THE NEWS

QUESTA MUNICIPAL JUDGE MICHAEL RAEL SR. ELECTED PRESIDENT OF JUDGES ASSOCIATION

Questa Municipal Judge Michael Rael Sr. was elected President of the New Mexico Municipal Judges Association on July 13 during the Association’s annual Professional Development Conference in Ruidoso. He will serve as President until next June.

Grants Municipal Judge Elise Larsen was elected First Vice President and Española Municipal Judge Stephen Salazar was elected Second Vice President.

Rael was first elected Municipal Judge in Questa in 2000. He also served as the Association President in 2009.

The New Mexico Municipal Judges Association is comprised of all municipal judges in the state. The Association is a professional affiliate of the New Mexico Municipal League.

TWO RECEIVE CMC DESIGNATIONS

Jamie A. Wall, Clerk of the Village of Fort Sumner, and Stephen Ruger, City Clerk of the City of Rio Rancho, have received the Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) designation from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC).

The CMC designation program is designed to enhance the job performance of the Clerk in small and large municipalities. To earn the CMC designation, a Municipal Clerk must attend extensive education programs. The designation also requires pertinent experience in a municipality. The program prepares the participants to meet the challenges of the complex role of the municipal clerks by providing them with quality education in partnership with 47 institutions of higher learning. The program has been in existence since 1970 and has helped thousands of clerks in various municipalities.

Founded in 1947, IIMC is a professional association with more than 10,000 members in the US, Canada and 15 other countries. IIMC’s primary goal is to actively promote the continuing education and professional development of municipal clerks through extensive education programs, certification, recertification, publications, networking, annual conferences and research. IIMC also engages in municipal research administration, enhances critical professional skill development and fosters a spirit of mutual assistance and good fellowship among municipal clerks around the globe. IIMC is governed by a 26-member Board of Directors.

For more information please visit our website at www.iimc.com or contact us at hq@iimc.com or (909) 944-4162.
TAOS – Five civil servants receiving the certified public manager designation were among the 33 New Mexico EDGE graduates recognized during the New Mexico Association of Counties annual conference June 22 in Taos.

Large group of people in black, white and turquoise shirts

New Mexico EDGE graduated 33 people during the New Mexico Association of Counties’ annual conference in Taos. Joanne C. Hethcox, Luna County; Robert Martinez, Santa Fe County; Joe E. West, Chaves County; and Susan Trujillo, Taos County; earned the New Mexico Certified Public Manager designation with the culmination of 60 classes, 18 hours of assessments and a supervised capstone project. (NMSU photo by Jane Moorman)

NM EDGE, which stands for Education Designed to Generate Excellence in the public sector, is a nationally accredited program administered by New Mexico State University’s Cooperative Extension Service.

Joanne C. Hethcox, Luna County budget and procurement director; Robert Martinez, Santa Fe County public works deputy director; Joe E. West, Chaves County road operation director; Susan Trujillo, Taos County treasurer; and Dianne Maes, Sandoval County manager, completed 60 approved classes, 18 hours of assessment and a supervised capstone project to earn the designation.

They have also earned the first two tiers of certified public official and certified public supervisor designations of the New Mexico Certified Public Manager program.

“This was an amazing cohort of dedicated professionals and we are excited to have another cohort ready to begin in July,” said Mary DeLorenzo, NM EDGE program director. “We now have a total of 12 people who have completed this prestigious designation.”

The success of the NM EDGE program has been the collaboration between NMSU, NMAC and the association’s affiliations, who participate in the design of the curriculums for the various certifications. During the last 14 years, the program has grown from the original four county college elected official designations of commissioners, clerks, assessors and treasurers, to include the three-tiered designation of the certified public manager and 11 specialization certifications.

“New Mexico EDGE, a unique program of our land-grant university, affords participants the opportunity to enhance their leadership skills and education,” said Dean Rolando Flores of NMSU’s College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences. “Our commitment at NMSU to be an engine for economic development takes many shapes, including the mission of NM EDGE to help have better government through education.”

The longstanding partnership between counties and the Extension Service has provided many programs for the citizens in agriculture, family and consumer science, youth development and, now, courses in governance.

“The success of the Extension Service is dependent on our collaboration with county government across the state,” said Jon Boren, director of CES. “NM EDGE is important to all of us, CES and the county governments. We look forward to the continued partnership to provide vital continuing education courses to our public servants.”

During the ceremony, the late JoLynn Queener, Curry County former county clerk, received the certified public official designation posthumously. Her husband, Rick Queener, accepted the diploma.

Receiving certification diplomas during the Thurs-
day luncheon of NMAC’s annual conference were:

- Catron County: Keith M. Riddle, county clerk, certified public official; Sheri Riddle, chief deputy treasurer, certified public official.
- Curry County: Candace Morrison, county assessor, certified public assessment officer.
- Eddy County: Ima Lee Mellard, county appraiser, certified public supervisor and certified advocate in public ethics; Charlene Powell, safety officer, certified professional risk manager.
- Lea County: Paul W. Clark, deputy assessor and personal property specialist, certified public assessment officer; and Shannon Lathrop, GIS analyst technician, certified advocate in public ethics.
- Lincoln County: Amanda Garcia, 911 addressing coordinator; certified public official.
- Los Alamos County: Sgt. Erika Bustos, shift supervisor, certified jail specialist.
- Rio Arriba County: Linda J. Padilla, county clerk, certified advocate for public ethics.
- Santa Fe County: Leroy Catanach, tax clerk, certified treasury official; George R. Gurule, GIS mapper, certified advocate in public ethics; Steven Justin Reese, project manager; certified public supervisor; Jerome Roybal, development review specialist, certified public official; and Julian Juan Sena, GPS technician and rural addresser, certified GIS specialist.
- Taos County: Jeanna Elam, accountant, certified public official; Natalie M. Evans, GIS technician, certified GIS specialist; Jonathan Montoya, accountant, certified public official; Candyce O’Donnell, county commissioner, certified county commissioner; Melecia Ortega, collection coordinator, certified public official; Sasha L. Sanchez, appraiser, certified public official; Antonia Feliz Santistevan, adult and juvenile detention centers manager, certified jail specialist; and Elsa Vigil, chief procurement officer, certified public supervisor.
- Torrance County: Tracy L. Sedillo, county treasurer, certified advocate for public ethics and certified treasury official; Victoria Sedillo, office manager, business/personal property and livestock, certified public official; and Amanda Tenorio, finance director, certified public official.
- Valencia County: Danny Monette, county manager, certified public official.
- State of New Mexico Treasurer’s Office: Leo R. Marquez III, chief financial officer, certified treasurer official, certified public official and certified public supervisor.
- New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration: Michael P. Steininger, certified treasury official.
Nearly 5 Millions Youth are Out of School
Continued from page 11

the achievement across several indicators of student performance in top school districts. The Flip the Script team coordinated researchers from the University of Southern California, Measure of America, the University of San Diego, and 211 San Diego to create its analysis. Cities seeking to emulate successful practices could start with recent analyses of U.S. Census data by Measure of America. Consulting the National League of Cities’ (NLC) guide Sharing Data for Better Results can help cities navigate any roadblocks they hit in their efforts to share data among various partners and stakeholders.

Continuously evaluating and adjusting goals over time ensures relevance and partner engagement. Project Road Map released its first action plan in 2014 and followed with an updated plan in January 2017 to reflect new student indicators. Project U-Turn released new goals in 2017 after making progress under its initial plan to improve the graduation rate, which moved the Philadelphia figure from 52 percent in 2006 to 66 percent in 2016.

In recognition of the hard work and national leadership that these examples provide, the Reengagement Network hosted by NLC’s Institute for Youth, Education, and Families will continue to monitor progress against these three cities’ ambitious goals, report back periodically on progress, and assist other cities in establishing goals.

About the author: Christie Joesbury recently joined NLC as a graduate fellow from the Heinz College of Carnegie Mellon University. Her program in studies public policy and management includes a one-year apprenticeship with the NLC Institute for Youth, Education, and Families on reengagement and related topics.
SPECIAL THANKS TO NM MUNICIPAL FIRE CHIEFS, MUNICIPAL CLERKS & MANAGERS/ADMINISTRATORS!

Thank you for your participation in the survey that was disseminated by the NMML back in May. This information was gathered by us in an attempt to assist DFA, PRC/SFMO, NMFA & NMAC with the Fire Fund distribution issue for this fiscal year. Although it is a sensitive issue and time was not on our side, it was of great importance to all those involved and those affected. We want you to know that your input was invaluable and your cooperation was appreciated. Again, Thank You!

William Fulginiti, NMML Executive Director
James Salas, NMFCA President
Jackie Portillo, NMML Support Services Coordinator/NMFCA Liaison
**4TH OF JULY ACROSS THE STATE**

**CHAMA**

In the photo from left to right is, James Woodard, P&Z Board Member, Kathy Bennett, Village Councilor, and Neal King, Village Mayor. Photo courtesy of Mark Fratrick

Photo courtesy of Maria Ulibarri

**RUIDOSO**

Ready for fireworks at the Inn of the Mountain Gods. Photo courtesy of Gina Sterrett

**VILLAGE OF TAOS SKI VALLEY**

In the photo from left to right is, James Woodard, P&Z Board Member, Kathy Bennett, Village Councilor, and Neal King, Village Mayor. Photo courtesy of Mark Fratrick
engage in a business shall pay to the municipality any applicable business registration fee or any applicable business license fee.” Section C of §3-38-4 NMSA 1978 further provides that: any person filing an application for issuance or renewal of any business license or any business registration shall include on the application his current revenue division taxpayer identification number or evidence of application for a current revenue division taxpayer identification number. This number is also referred to as a CRS number (combined reporting system). The CRS number is the common denominator among businesses because it is the number used by businesses to report and pay various state taxes including state and local GRT.

Enforcement Activities

New Mexico statutes §3-38-5 NMSA 1978 provides for two effective means of enforcing business registration ordinances. The enforcement mechanism in subsection A is probably better suited for enforcing violations of business registration ordinances. The ordinance may be enforced by “the municipality having jurisdiction as municipal ordinances are enforced.” Municipal ordinances are enforced through the criminal process in the municipal courts. Since the municipality really cannot revoke a business registration (it is required by state law and is to the benefit of the municipality to register all businesses), the most efficient mechanism to insure compliance is to subject violators to criminal sanctions for failing to register their businesses. The fine can range up to $500 and the violator may be jailed for a period not to exceed 90 days for every violation. Think about it, every day the business fails to register can be a separate offense if your ordinance is so structured. This is a powerful incentive for business owners to comply with the registration requirements.

The municipality may seek to close down the business or to prevent the occupancy of the building or premises of the business that fails to register through the mechanism in subsection B of statute, but that necessitates filing a lawsuit in District Court, and the related attorney’s fees and time delays in getting an adjudication. These civil remedies are quite effective; however, the major consideration is whether a judge will deem the failure to register a business as sufficiently serious a transgression to justify closing the business or preventing occupancy of the business premises. It is probably more effective to simply enforce the business registration ordinance as a criminal violation in municipal court than to resort to the various district court remedies.

The penalties are severe but it is likely that the judge will seek compliance rather than punishment of the business owner. But the mere filing of a compliance lawsuit and the inevitable attorney’s fees may result in compliance.
NEW MEXICO FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

19TH ANNUAL NEW MEXICO FIRE SERVICE CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 2 – 5, 2017 RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO

To: All Interested Fire Service Personnel
From: Chief James Salas, NMFCA President

The New Mexico Fire Chiefs Association will host the 19th Annual New Mexico Fire Service Conference October 2nd – 5th in Ruidoso. The conference program will offer dynamic and timely workshops presented by nationally known speakers. As in years past, EMS Bureau will present a session that offers continuing education credit (CEU’s). There will also be an exhibit hall packed with the latest in fire service apparatus and equipment and valuable door prizes. A pre-conference golf tournament will be held on The Links at Sierra Blanca on Monday, October 2nd. Preliminary Program-At-A-Glance and Registration form are available on the NM Fire Chiefs Association website: http://nmfirechiefs.com and the NM Municipal League website: https://nmml.org/nm-fire-service-conference-2/; Spouse/Guest registration form will also be posted to both websites.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Dr. Sudip Bose is recognized as one of the “Leading Physicians of the World” by the International Association of Healthcare Professionals. He is an Iraq war veteran who received the Bronze Star and was the US Physician selected to treat Saddam Hussein after his capture. Dr. Bose is the founder of The Battle Continues Inc., a nonprofit charity serving injured veterans. Dr. Bose has appeared on Untold Stories of the ER and The Dr. Oz Show as well as many other media outlets. Dr. Bose will present “Keep Your Inner Army Strong” at the Tuesday Opening Keynote address.

Michael Hingson is the author of the New York Times best-selling book “Thunder Dog”. Michael is blind and was on the 78th floor of the twin towers during the 9-11 attack; he was one of the few people in the building that was prepared for an emergency of that magnitude. Michael will present a workshop on Wednesday afternoon and is our Closing Plenary Keynote on Thursday morning. Michael has been on numerous TV shows including Larry King and Animal Planet.

We are also happy to provide you with the knowledge and expertise of two of New Mexico’s experienced Fire Chiefs. Chief Darwin Chenault and Chief James Maxon will each will present important and informative sessions related to recent fire service incidents.

SCHOLARSHIP: In memory of Linda Gaume Jaramillo, this scholarship will be awarded to an individual in the fire service field who requires financial assistance to attend the 2017 NMFSC. This scholarship covers the cost of the registration fee only. For more information and to obtain an application, contact Jackie at jportillo@nmml.org or visit either the NMFCA or NMML website.

LODGING: You can call MCM Eleganté Lodge & Resort directly at 866-211-7727 and refer to the NM Fire Service Conference to receive the conference rates. Conference rates are as follows: Double Deluxe Queen - $79.00, King Studio Suite - $89.00, King One Bedroom Suite - $99.00. Make your reservations prior to the September 17th cut-off date. After the cut-off date, the discounted rates are no longer guaranteed; rooms will be on a space and rate availability basis only. Please note that rooms may sell out prior to the cut-off date. All rates are subject to tax, based on single or double occupancy and include a breakfast buffet.

Don’t forget your Class A’s for Tuesday morning Opening Ceremonies! Hope to see you in Ruidoso!
Is it time to learn a new skill and receive valuable CLE credits?

Sign up today for the MEDIA RELATIONS & PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER TRAINING

During the two-day class, you will learn how to:

- Prepare to be a spokesperson
- Develop key messages for traditional and social media
- Work with the media to broadcast your message
- Understand the rules of engagement, and
- Master effective delivery of your message

You’ll participate in exercises, hear from media experts and practice your interview techniques on-camera. Plus, Law Enforcement Officers will earn 14 hours of NMLEA credits.

Register now Online at www.nmba.org/training to attend.

Wednesday Aug. 9 and Thursday, Aug. 10, 2017  9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

NMBA Offices
2333 Wisconsin St. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87068

The Training is Free and Lunch is Provided for Participants

The New Mexico Department of Transportation is the sponsor for the free, two-day class and the New Mexico Broadcasters Association conducts the class. Instructors include: Melanie J. Majors, New Mexico Broadcasters Association, and Kevin Bruno, Ret. New Mexico State Police.

Law Enforcement Officers will earn 14 hours of NMLEA credits and receive a certificate on completion of the class.

For questions: Phone/ Fax: Melanie J. Majors 505.881.4444/800.622.2414/Fax 505.881.5353 e-mail: melaniemajors@nmba.org