SENIOR SCENE MAGAZINE





Photo by Tammy Berendzen, read story on senior Nancy Yankura on page 5



OFFERED BY: DIVISION OF SENIOR SERVICES
PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES FOR OLDER ADULTS

DECEMBER 2021



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"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give" -Winston Churchill

"The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched - they must be felt with the heart." -Helen Keller

"No one has ever become poor by giving." -Anne Frank

Well it is the last month of the year and it continues to be a strange one. I want so much for it to be normal, but what is normal? Can we ever go back to what life was 21 months ago? I say no, because so much has changed. But what hasn't changed is our staff and volunteers commitment to giving back to our community. The events below could not have happened without you!

We had almost 300 people? Pick up Thanksgiving meals curbside at the Mary Esther Gonzales Center on November 17. This is wonderful, but it is also crazy to think of the way we had to do it. I enjoyed seeing a lot of you and I hope you enjoyed the meal.

I want to thank everyone, staff and volunteers for your help in our successful vaccination event. Over 500 folks received the COVID-19 vaccination. We also managed to give several flu vaccinations.



Shot clinic photo by Ted Yamada

I would like to wish all of you an enjoyable December. Happy Holidays, and maybe we will even see some snow!



DECEMBER 2021

Disclaimer: The material contained in this publication is provided for general information purposes and is meant to keep our readers informed. The content may or may not be sponsored by the City of Santa Fe Division of Senior Services, so we recommend that readers always refer to the contact and location information listed in each item. If you have questions for Senior Services staff, please refer to page two for the appropriate contact.

Senior Services Schedule for December

Senior Services continues to operate with limited services, due to COVID. We offer lunch at the curbside of MEG Center weekdays 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and we deliver weekday meals to homebound seniors who request them. Our Transportation staff takes seniors to doctor offices, pharmacies, and vaccine appointments, with a reservation made 5 days to 24 hours in advance. Call (505) 955-4700 for Transportation. Call (505) 955-4721 to register with Senior Services and request meals.

Please note: The City of Santa Fe will be closed on December 24 and 31.



Santa Fe County Treasurer Property Tax Outreach Program

Pay your property taxes for the first half of 2021 at the Mary Esther Gonzales Senior Center, 1121 Alto Street on:

Fridays, December 17, 2021 and January 7, 2022 between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

The Treasurer's Office will only accept a check, money order, credit card or cashier's check. Due to security concerns, cash is not accepted. The Treasurer's Office does not contact taxpayers for payment over the phone. For additional information, contact the County Treasurer's Office at (505) 986-6245.

They will accept payment for the second half of 2021 at MEG Center April 8 & 22, 2022.

December Food Distributions



Drive-through grocery distributions at The Food Depot at 1222 Siler Road 7:00 – 9:00 a.m.

Thursday, December 9 & Wednesday December 22.

75 Years for Jimmy and Rosalyn Carter!



They met when he was 3 and she was one day old. On July 7, 2021 Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter celebrated 75 years of marriage — the longest marriage in presidential history. The pair grew up just three miles apart in Plains, Georgia.

Jimmy's mother was a nurse who helped care for Rosalynn.

A Blessing for World Peace

Spirits of the earth and sky may this day find me thankful, generous and kind to myself and to all others. May I begin to create beauty and love where there is pain and holy darkness. May I find at least one thing to smile or laugh about today in this most astonishing and amazing world. Heaven is with me every moment and walking in beauty is my birthright.

-Robert Francis "mudman" Johnson unofficial poet laureate of Polaco street

NEWS & VIEWS

DECEMBER 2021

Cover Story Highlight on a Senior: Nancy Yankura

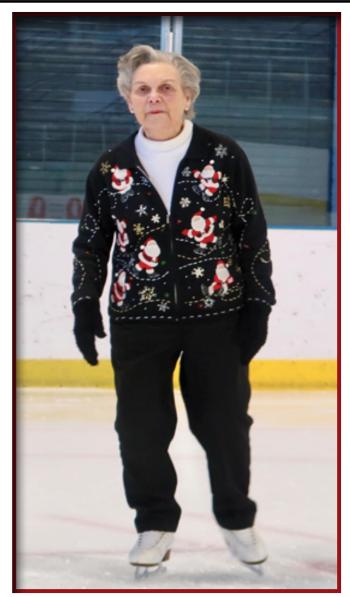


Photo by Tammy Berendzen

"Skating is a fun activity," says Nancy Yankura, age 87. "You don't have to jump and spin to have a good time. It exercises your whole body, strengthens your core and helps with balance," emphasizes this U.S. Figure Skating judge and board member of the Santa Fe Skating Club.

Yankura has been skating since she was six years old, learning at the Paramount Rink in Southern California. "It's still owned by the Zamboni family" she said, "and the Santa

Fe rink [at the GCCC] is just as good as that Zamboni rink – the ice is like glass. It's beautiful."

Yankura is excited about the Skate Club's Exhibition on December 4th at noon. "We're glad to be back on the ice! Each person does their own thing. It's not what you see on TV – nobody's doing quadruple jumps or anything like that. It's not a high level of skating. We have lots of beginners and the kids are cute. You can see a lot of improvement from year to year."

"The first thing we teach is HOW TO FALL SO YOU DON'T HURT YOURSELF. The ice is very hard, and we begin the lessons teaching this skill by falling on the floor. If they can't get up, we don't want them on the ice. I don't recommend BEGINNING to skate at my age, but experienced skaters can still skate with a little caution." Yankura began her skating career in 1940, first competing in ladies' singles events and then moving to ice dancing. "That's where I met my husband," who was her dance partner for many years.

COVID has changed the competition and travel schedules, but Yankura still judges in Albuquerque, Rio Rancho and Santa Fe. There are different levels, tests and competitions for free style, moves in the field, dances and program dances. Until 2019, she judged 3-4 local competitions each year in nearby states, but now focuses her attention locally, promoting skating in her role as a board member for the Santa Fe Skating Club. Before COVID, the club roster had about 65 members. "Now all of us are sitting around out of shape" laughs the figure skating athlete. "We're getting back into shape for the December Exhibition."

Learn to Skate classes are tentatively scheduled to resume in January 2022. For more information about activities of the Club, visit www.santafeskatingclub.org or call Tammy Berendzen, the club's President, at (505) 795-9639. The phone number to reach Ice Rink staff at the GCCC is (505) 955-4033. Audience capacity for the December 4th Exhibition is limited, but it will be video taped for future broadcast on Santa Fe's Community Access Channel.

NEWS & VIEWS

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Santa Fe Public Schools



Dear Santa Fe Seniors

The students, teachers, administration and staff at Santa Fe Public Schools are so happy for the support of Santa Fe voters last month. Because you approved the recent GO Bond & Mill Levy in November's election, we can now move forward continue the renovations.

on plans to continue the renovations, upgrades, maintenance and construction of our school buildings. We continue to make safety our #1 priority, along with being good stewards of our environment. The Santa Fe senior community has always played a huge role in supporting our District initiatives and for that we are most grateful.

This is a very busy time of year and our calendars can fill up quickly. With that in mind, we want to personally extend an invitation to the SFPS State of the Schools Virtual Event on December 13. The State of the Schools gives me the opportunity to share with the Santa Fe community the achievements and challenges of the past year, and to outline our plans for the future. We hope you join us at www.sfps.info.

December is such a special time of year to reflect, celebrate and spend time with family and friends. I must say I am wishing for some snow! Santa Fe Public Schools wishes you and yours the safest and happiest of holidays. May this season bring you all good things.

It takes a community to make a difference. We are stronger together.

Thank you, be well and Happy Holidays! -Superintendent Hilario "Larry" Chavez



Flora's Corner

"Thousands of candles can be lit from a single candle, and the life of the candle will never be shortened. Happiness never ceases by being shared."



-Chinese Proverb

Seeking People to Work for Modest Pay

Occasionally, Senior Services receives calls from seniors who are able to pay a modest amount of money for someone to do yard work or house cleaning or errands or painting a room, etc.

If you are able to do occasional odd jobs like these for a modest fee, and you can show proof of vaccination and are willing to undergo a background check, we'd like your help.

Please call Kristin at (505) 955-4760.

Durable Medical Equipment Loan Bank

Did you know that Senior Services has a free loan bank at the MEG Center where you can borrow medical equipment you might need? We have wheelchairs. walkers. shower/tub canes. chairs, and adult disposable underwear, when available.



If you are in need of any equipment (or you have equipment in good condition that you would like to donate), please let us know. If you are not registered with Senior Services, we will ask you to do that before borrowing, but it only takes a few minutes and it is free to register.

Call Theresa Trujillo at (505) 955-4745 or <u>tptrujillo@santafenm.gov</u>.

NEWS & VIEWS

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City of Santa Fe Transportation Options

Senior Services Transportation (505) 955-4700

(For medical appts., vaccine and pharmacy only) Available Mon-Fri 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Available to seniors age 60 and over Suggested donation: \$0.50 per one-way trip Reserve a ride five days to 24 hours in advance. Drivers and riders must wear a mask (we will provide a mask if the rider does not have one): a maximum of two riders are permitted in vans at a time, sitting six feet apart, and drivers will sanitize van between riders.



Santa Fe Ride

(505) 473-4444

(Will take you anywhere in City limits)
Available 7 days a week
Available for all ages, if disabled
Cost: \$5.00 per one-way ride, regular riders
\$2.00 per one-way ride for paratransit-eligible
Free for veterans

Drivers and riders must wear a mask; a maximum of two riders are permitted in vans at a time and drivers will sanitize van between riders.

- To register as a regular-fee rider with Santa Fe Ride, you must complete an application over the phone. Once it is processed, the applicant will be issued an ID number and can begin to schedule trips, at least 24 hours in advance.
- To register as an ADA paratransit rider, applications need to be partially completed by a healthcare provider so cannot be completed over the phone. The Application is at: https://www.santafenm.gov/santa_fe_ride or can be faxed or mailed.

COVID Vaccine Boosters

If you need help scheduling your COVID vaccine booster shot, call Kristin at Senior Services at (505) 955-4760.

She is missed...



Lourdes Martinez, 92, passed away on September 26, 2021. She was born on September 13, 1929. She married Bernabe Martinez on July 14, 1951 and they had three sons.

Lourdes was a lifelong resident of Santa Fe and her faith in God and in prayer guided her life. She was a lifelong

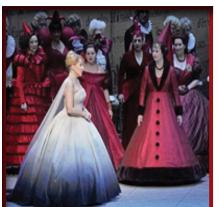
parishioner of St. Anne Catholic Church. She was strong, independent, and walked everywhere. She was a caregiver who also took care of her sister for over 50 years. She stopped working at the age of 90, due to the pandemic, not her age or health. In her later years of life, the senior center was an important place for her where she exercised, had meals and played bingo with her friends.

Prevent Icey Falls

This is the time of year to prepare for slippery ice patches. You can recycle some empty plastic bottles and fill them with sand. Keep them handy in your car, purse or by your outside doors so you can sprinkle the sand on ice before walking over it.



Cinderella Opera on Screen



The Lensic Performing Arts Center and the Santa Fe Opera present a live HD screening of the musical fairy tale Cinderella on January 8.

Screenings are 11 a.m. Live, and 6 p.m. for Encore.

Tickets are \$22-\$28 Live; \$22 Encore, and \$15 Student. For more information, visit the website *lensic.org*, or call 505-988-1234.





Newsletter:

Ask Stan Medicare Questions



Volume 1, Issue 8 November 2021

Dear Stan,

I have Medicare and Fall Open Enrollment is happening now. A stranger who said he was a broker called my husband claiming that he has a private plan with free dental benefits just for him and asked for his Medicare number. I am receiving several Medicare advertisements in the mail.

Recently, I opened an invitation for a free breakfast to learn about a Medicare Advantage plan. There are television commercials offering "money back guarantees" with various Insurance plans. Are there any rules governing Medicare marketing?

Phyllis Carlsbad, NM Report Medicare Related Fraud by calling the New Mexico Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) at

1-800-432-2080

The SMP will provide you with the information you need to PREVENT, DETECT and REPORT Medicare fraud, errors, and abuse.

Dear Phyllis,

Thank you for your questions. You are not alone. Thousands of Medicare beneficiaries are getting mailings, and there are lots of television advertisements regarding Medicare plans for 2022.

Below are some important Medicare rules that private plans, insurance brokers and agents must follow about marketing Medicare private plans. This is not an exhaustive list:

- Agent/brokers cannot say they are from Medicare or use words or symbols or "Medicare" in a misleading manner. They cannot claim they are approved, authorized, or endorsed by Medicare.
- Agents/brokers cannot solicit sales by sending text messages or leaving

voicemail messages. They may call a beneficiary who has expressly given advanced permission to call them.

- Agents/brokers cannot provide meals at marketing/sales events; however, they are allowed to provide refreshments and snacks.
- Agents/brokers cannot come to your home uninvited to sell or endorse health care products.
- Agents/brokers cannot try to sell you a non-health related product like a life insurance policy during a sales pitch for a Medicare or prescription drug plan.

(Continued on page 2)



Here is a link to the Medicare rules agents and brokers must follow when marketing Medicare private plans:

https://www.cms.gov/files/document/agentbroker-dos-donts-92021.pdf.

If you believe an agent or broker is violating these rules, report the behavior to the New Mexico Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP)
Program by calling the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) at 1-800-432-2080.

You may be given a sales pitch or see an advertisement that says an insurance plan will "return a premium to you" or "money back guaranteed." While some Medicare Advantage plans may offer a premium subsidy benefit, it is important to ask questions. Ask the plan how much they will subsidize the Part B premium. If you take prescriptions medications and if you would like to keep seeing your doctors, ask about the plan's list of covered drugs and whether your doctors will be in network.

Keep in mind that there are state-based Medicare Savings Programs (MSP) that can help limited income individuals with their Part B premium costs. If you qualify for an MSP, you will no longer have to pay the \$148.50 Medicare Part B premium (usually deducted from your Social Security check). However, you must meet income qualifications for an MSP. To inquire about the MSP benefit, call the ADRC at

1-800-432-2080 and ask an Options Counselor to screen you.

Now is the time to evaluate your Medicare coverage before the end of the Medicare Open Enrollment Period. The deadline to make changes to your Medicare coverage is December 7. If you need assistance with reviewing your Medicare options, I welcome you to call the ADRC and schedule a Medicare Plan Finder appointment with a State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) counselor. SHIP counselors provide free and objective Medicare plan comparison assistance.

Stan,
SHIP SMP Volunteer Counselor

Medicare Open Enrollment lasts until December 7. To speak with a SHIP Counselor to review your Medicare options call

1-800-432-2080







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This project was supported, in part by grant number 90MPPG0045-01-00, from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. 20201.

RSVP (RETIRED SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM) DECEMBER 2021



Join the RSVP Volunteer Program, if you are 55+ and we will connect you with a volunteer opportunity to fit your lifestyle from more than 40 community-improving organizations. We support our volunteer corps with mileage reimbursement, supplemental insurance, educational events and volunteer recognition. www.rsvpsantafe.org

To learn more about any of the opportunities below, contact Kristin at (505) 955-4760 or kwslater-huff@santafenm.gov.



Habitat for Humanity is seeking vaccinated individuals for a variety of volunteer jobs.

In the ReStore: For the warehouse and receiving bay area (which requires some heavy lifting and moving items of various sizes); for prepping, placing and arranging donated items for display on showroom floor or shelving areas; to work on display and cleanup of boutique items; in the Tool Lending Library (which requires some knowledge of tools and learning their data system).

Their construction site is always open to volunteers wanting to help construct homes in various stages of construction all year round.

In the office, they are always looking for volunteers to take calls at the front desk and conduct data entry and do light clerical work.

They are also seeking Family Advocate volunteers who assist their Partner Families through the home buying process.

All their volunteer positions have flexible schedules, based on their hours of operation.

Please call Kristin at (505) 955-4760 to enroll.

Reminder:

Please turn in your RSVP volunteer hours and miles for October, November and December, by December 27. Thank you!



To all NOVEMBER Senior Volunteers! ¡Feliz Cumpleaños, Voluntarios!

Gloria Pendlay Gilbert T. Fuentes	12/01 12/02
Joseph S. Gonzales	12/02
Josephine Lazarus	12/02
Cordelia Garcia	12/04
Kim Berge	12/05
Pauline Ö. Foral	12/07
Jean W. Marrs	12/09
GT Springer	12/09
Al Webster	12/09
Percilla Lopez	12/10
Mary Jo Read	12/10
Mary Margaret Rael	12/11
Dennis E. Gonzales	12/12
Christine Lovato	12/13
Mary Mumford	12/13
Connie S. Valencia	12/14
Sandra Evans	12/15
Pascal Fromentin	12/15
Eileen Uveric	12/15
Paul Montaño	12/17
Lou Miller	12/18
Patsy Carrillo	12/18
Margaret Trujillo	12/19
Dolores Mose	12/25
Rosario H. Torres	12/25
Raymond W. Willison	12/25
Judy Ruffatto	12/26
Bob Juillet	12/27
Joseph McKenna	12/28
Michelle Springer	12/28
Bob Dorsett	12/29
Susan Fox	12/30
Patricia M. Hummer	12/30
Eileen Levy	12/30

<u>Please note:</u> These are birthdays of actively enrolled volunteers who report service hours to the AmeriCorps Seniors Volunteer Programs





Meeting Needs in New Mexico: Last year more than **4200** Americans of all ages and backgrounds united to meet local needs, strengthen communities, and expand opportunities through national service in New Mexico. AmeriCorps invested more than **\$7.6 million** in federal funding to support community solutions, working hand in hand with local partners to empower individuals to help communities tackle their toughest challenges.

AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers are preparing today's students for tomorrow's jobs, helping communities and families impacted by COVID-19, reducing crime and reviving cities, connecting veterans to services, fighting the opioid epidemic, helping seniors live independently, and rebuilding communities.

AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers served at more than **500** locations across New Mexico, including schools, food banks, homeless shelters, health clinics, youth centers, veterans facilities, and other nonprofit and faith-based organizations. Through a unique public-private partnership, AmeriCorps and its partners generated more than **\$14.2 million** in outside resources from businesses, foundations, public agencies, and other sources in New Mexico in the last year. This local support strengthened community impact and increased the return on taxpayer dollars.

Please join the Santa Fe AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers in the Foster Grandparent, Senior Companion or RSVP programs, by calling (505) 955-4744 or (505) 955-4760.

HEALTH & SAFETY

DECEMBER 2021

31 Healthy Habits to Try in December

Excerpted from www.health.usnews.com

1. Embrace seasonal foods.

One of the greatest foods of the holiday season is pomegranates. They're festive, a good source of fiber and a great combination of crunchy and sweet. Toss them in salads, sprinkle them over yogurt or eat them by the spoonful.



2. Set the tone.

Decide how you want the month to look rather than being dragged along by other people's expectations and decisions.

3. Fit in a body weight workout.

No time for the gym? Download a free 7-minute workout app. You can do it at home to get your heart rate up, get a great workout and leave plenty of time to wrap presents.

4. Take a stand.

The average American sits approximately 15 hours each day. Consider standing for part of your day. Start small by standing for tasks that you do multiple times throughout the day.



5. Store memories.

Find a small jar or keepsake box where your family can record milestone moments, hopes, memories, future goals and more. Tuck it away with holiday decorations and dust it off next year.

6. Heat up the kitchen.

In this busy season, try a meal delivery program like HelloFresh. They do the recipe planning, food shopping, ingredient measuring and delivering to your doorstep, leaving time for the fun part – cooking and spending time together! All boxes include recipe cards that are simple, easy to follow and take no more than 30 minutes.

7. Get your morning movement fix.

Sit on the edge of the bed, roll each ankle in both directions and point and flex your toes five times. Next, stand up, bringing your arms into the air, rising up onto your toes and reaching as high as you can. Repeat 10 times.

8. Keep portions handy.

Keep protein to the size of your palm, grains the size of your fist and eat at least two handfuls of leafy greens every day, to watch your calories.

9. Know what you need.

No matter what the expectations are or how busy your schedule is, listen to yourself and create the space and time for what matters to you.

10. Include a vegetable in every meal.

Don't let the crudité tray at a gathering be the only vegetables you eat this season.

11. Just dance.

Nothing dissipates crazymaking stress like shaking it off. Hit play on your favorite song, grab a partner or go solo and just dance.



12. Steer clear of the food court.

Stash almonds in your purse or car for a great-tasting, convenient, healthy snack to give you energy so you can shop hunger pang-free.

13. Create a 50/10 hour.

Spend 50 minutes of concentrated effort on one task every hour, and use the remaining 10 minutes for a mental break.

14. Be a morning person.

Exercise will get knocked off the to-do list if it's not done first thing. Schedule it before anything else happens for a sense of accomplishment all day.

15. Develop a strategy.

Determine and decide how to handle the parts of the holidays you don't enjoy. Delegate what you can and do what you must.

16. Front-load your diet.

Each morning, blend a 1/2 cup of unsweetened almond milk, 1 scoop of vanilla protein powder, 1 banana, 1/2 cup of dark cherries, 1 tablespoon of almond butter, several large handfuls of baby spinach and a bunch of ice.



RSVP (RETIRED SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM) DECEMBER 2021

17. Take two.



When you are watching TV, use the commercial breaks to do a little exercise.

18. Go nuts.

If you're serving nuts to guests, choose pistachios because they are one of the snack nuts with the lowest fat and calorie content. Thirty pistachios are approximately 100 calories.

19. Breathe.

When things get crazy and you become overwhelmed, take a minute to catch your breath. Sitting down on a chair, feet flat on the floor, breathe in for a count of four saying the words, "I am." Hold your breath for a count of four. Exhale for another count of four, this time saying the words, "at peace." Hold your breath for another count of four. Repeat five times.

20. Treat yourself.

Who said you only have to buy presents for others? After all, you can celebrate you in all of your awesomeness, just as much as you can celebrate the rest of us.



21. Give the gift of health.

It is great to give (and receive) fruit for Christmas because it's such a relief to the onslaught of sugar at this time of year.

22. Focus on presence – not presents.

In this day and age of technology and distraction, sometimes the best gift is someone's full attention. Turn off your phone and enjoy dinner while focusing on those you are with.

23. Stay hydrated.

Winter weather can be rough on skin. Hydrate from the inside out by drinking one glass of water before every meal.

24. Foster conscientious conversation.

Use conversation starters to get more out of your interactions and learn something new about the person you are talking to. Try: What's your favorite place you ever traveled and why? Why did you choose your profession? What is your best holiday memory? When we assume

we know everything about the people we see the most, we miss the characteristics that make them special.

25. Unplug in the morning.

Spend 15 minutes in the morning electronic-free.



26. Grab your Halos.

Halos mandarin oranges are a healthy portable snack for just 50 calories a pop.

27. Conduct a yearly review.

Carve out some time to review the year and think about what the past 12 months have taught you. What were your successes and struggles? What were your favorite moments? Reflecting on the year allows us to gain insight into patterns and habits – and decide how we want to better ourselves moving forward.



28. Sip this.

Instead of wine, beer or liquor, consider sipping on a hot herbal tea. You still get to kick back with a drink, but it won't interfere with your sleep.

29. Pick a habit: one to choose and one to lose.

Setting New Year's resolutions is so last year. Instead, consider the things you do (and don't do) every day. Pick one habit you want to choose to do in 2022 and one habit you want to lose.

30. Take a walk around the block.

When the end of year and holiday craziness gets the best of you, seek a change of scenery.

31. Say what you need to say.

Tell someone you love how much he or she matters to you. Share with them the ways in which they positively impact your life. Spend the last day of 2021 knowing you took the time to celebrate the people who matter most to you.





OnlineCrosswords.net

Find the solution at

This is the Daily Crossword Puzzle #2 for Nov 22, 2021

https://onlinecrosswords.net/2464

Across

- **1**. "Be My Love" lyricist Sammy
- **5**. Rigatoni and fettuccine, e.g.
- 11. Word with ball or shoe
- 14. Spread in a tub
- **15**. One who makes a scene?
- 16. ___ polymerase
- 17. Middle Eastern garments
- 18. Connected
- 19. Uris protagonist
- **20**. "Okay dice, . . . "
- 23. Partite preceder
- 24. Relieved exclamations
- 25. Expose
- 26. They're first on the field
- **28**. Pilots who did not attend flight school
- 31. Friend in need
- 32. Turner family dog
- **34**. Qualifying race
- **37**. "I wouldn't touch that with a . . ."
- 41. Some muscle cars
- **42**. Gielgud's "Arthur" role
- 45. Slayer of Adonis
- **49**. Mile High Center architect
- **51**. Type of type
- **52**. Eat or drink
- **55**. Royal jelly producer
- 57. Sqt. Bilko, e.g.
- **58**. Words with "who do we appreciate?"
- 62. Stuff in a pit
- **63**. Physical discomfort
- **64**. Highlander
- **65**. Special time in history
- **66**. Driveway application
- 67. French infinitive
- **68**. Some postal rtes.
- 69. Bring to a halt
- 70. Put under pressure

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Down

- **1**. On the Atlantic or Pacific
- **2**. Edmonton's province
- 3. Most weighed down
- **4**. Otolaryngologist's concern
- **5**. Anti-smoking device
- 6. Melodic
- 7. Hold back
- **8**. It comes in and goes out
- 9. Fall bloom
- **10**. Moved furtively
- **11**. Driveway cover, perhaps
- **12**. Imaginary
- 13. In good part

- **21**. Fingering
- 22. Sister of Zsa Zsa
- 27. Wall Street grp.
- 29. " were the days!"
- **30**. Group that belongs together
- **33**. Wee salamander
- 35. "NYPD Blue" alert
- **36**. Implants alternative
- 38. Alley of old comics
- **39**. Brief
- correspondence?
- 40. Stretch out
- **43**. Engraving specialists
- 44. Plant's tiny anchor

- 45. Tough on the tongue
- **46**. Progressive movement?
- 47. Classical markets
- **48**. Official decision maker
- **50**. Long-billed wading birds
- **53**. Big name in marches
- **54**. Audio signal receiver
- **56**. Put out vigorously
- **59**. Be parental
- **60**. Holiday event
- **61**. "___ Around" (Beach

Boys hit)



HEALTH & SAFETY

DECEMBER 2021

Your December Financial To-Do List

By Octavio Blanco From www.consumerreports.org

As the end of the year approaches, it's easy to get caught up in the whirlwind of celebrations and family. Here are a few money moves to make to ensure your family's financial health in 2022.

Give to Charity

If you plan to make a donation, check that the charity you choose qualifies for tax-exempt status and that you get documentation of your gift, such as a receipt or bank record. You have until Dec. 31 to make contributions and claim them on your 2021 taxes.



Correct Mistakes in Your Credit Report

Every year, you're allowed one free credit report from each of the big three credit reporting agencies, Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion. You can stagger the reports by requesting one now, the second report in four months, and the third in eight months. That way you can get upto-date reports and remain alert to errors or changes throughout the year.

Freeze Your Credit Report

If you're not actively in the market for new credit, the best way to protect yourself is to put a freeze on your credit reports. That will stop criminals who don't already have your data from opening fraudulent accounts in your name. The fastest and easiest way to freeze your credit is by going online to the websites of each of the three credit bureaus.

Look for Unclaimed Funds

There may be money floating around out there that never made it into your bank account. But to get it, you need to know where to look.

Each state has an unclaimed funds department for money left in savings and investment accounts, forgotten rental deposits, and dividends that never were delivered. To start your free search, check with the National Association of Unclaimed Property Administrators' New Mexico link at www.missingmonev.com

Check Your Auto Insurance Coverage

If you haven't s h o p p e d around for coverage in the past three years, it's worth checking with other auto



insurers to see whether you can save on the premium. Even if you find that the coverage you have is the least expensive, there may still be ways to reduce your premium. Consider dropping collision and/or comprehensive coverage when the annual premium for that portion of coverage exceeds 10 percent of your car's book value.

How Does A Reverse Mortgage Work?

Have you ever wondered how a reverse mortgage works, but didn't know where to turn to get trusted information? The State of New Mexico has created a pilot program to provide accurate and unbiased reverse mortgage information.

You can learn what a reverse mortgage is and how it works in three easy steps using a new web application called HECONOMICS™. HECONOMICS™ also creates a custom 20-page booklet with your information, explanations, and answers to frequently asked questions.

Who should understand the risks, requirements, and benefits of a reverse mortgage?

- Older Homeowners
- Adult Children & Caregivers
- Legal Services
- Senior Advocates
- Housing Agencies

To get help, you can go online to https://nmaging.state.nm.us or call the Aging and Disability Resource Center at (505) 476-4846.



PUZZLE ANSWERS

DECEMBER 2021

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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	Milk is served with each meal. Menu subject to change.	Spaghetti with Meat Sauce Italian Veggies Tossed Salad Garlic Toast Apple Cobbler	BBQ Chicken Breast Pork & Beans Peas & Carrots Carrot Raisin Salad Cornbread Oatmeal Cookie	Pepper Steak Mushroom Gravy Potatoes Au Gratin Broccoli & Carrots Roll Mixed Fruit Jello
6 Sweet & Sour Pork Brown Rice Asian Veggies Egg Roll Chilled Pears	7 Cheesy Chile Dog with Meaty Red Chile Onion Rings Three Bean Salad Tapioca Pudding	8 Baked Chicken Breast White Rice Creamy Mushroom Sauce Mixed Veggies Roll Plums	9 Beef Fajita with Peppers & Onions Fajita Veggies Black Beans Strawberry Shortcake	10 Baked Tilapia Scalloped Potatoes Vegetable Medley Roll Mandarin Oranges
Green Chile Chicken Posole Spanish Rice Five Way Veggies Tortilla Yogurt	Beef Tips over Egg Noodles Steamed Spinach Cucumber & Tomato Salad Roll Whipped Fruit Salad	15 HOLIDAY DINNER Bake Ham Sweet Yams French Style Green Beans Tossed Salad Roll Cinnamon Sweet Rice with Raisins	16 Carne Adovada Refried Beans Country Blend Veggies Tortilla Peaches in Cottage Cheese	17 Breaded Fish French Fries Chuck Wagon Veggies Coleslaw Roll Cherries in Cobbler
Pork Chop Rice Pilaf Asparagus & Mushroom Roll Apricots	Frito Pie with Garnish Mexicorn Spanish Slaw Chilled Peaches	Green Chile Cheeseburger with Garnish Baked Beans Potato Chips Fresh Orange	Tuna Salad Cold Peas Coleslaw Crackers Brownie	ALL KITCHENS CLOSED
Polish Sausage Sauerkraut Buttered Carrots Parsley Potatoes Roll Fresh Apple	Chicken Parmesan over Linguini Broccoli/Cauliflower Breadstick Peanut Butter Cookie Applesauce	Soft Beef Taco with Garnish Chili Beans Calabacitas Pineapple	Turkey Sandwich Garnish Spinach Salad Potato Salad Vanilla Pudding with Cinnamon	ALL KITCHENS CLOSED

Senior Meal (60+) Suggested Donation \$1.50

Lunch is Available M-F at Curbside pickup at MEG Senior Center, 1121 Alto St. 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.



Nutrition **Education Series**

choosing whole-grain foods



10 tips for purchasing and storing whole-grain foods

Whole grains are important sources of nutrients such as zinc, magnesium, B vitamins, and fiber. There are many choices available to make half your grains whole grains. But whole-grain foods should be handled with care. Over time and if not properly stored, oils in whole grains can cause spoilage. Consider these tips to select whole-grain products and keep them fresh and safe to eat.

search the label Whole grains can be an easy choice when preparing meals. Choose whole-grain breads, breakfast cereals, and pastas. Look at the Nutrition Facts labels and ingredients lists to find choices



lower in sodium, saturated (solid) fat, and added sugars.

look for the word "whole" at the beginning of the ingredients list Some whole-grain ingredients include whole oats, whole-wheat flour, whole-grain corn, whole-grain brown rice, and whole rye. Foods that say "multi-grain," "100% wheat," "high fiber," or are brown in color may not be a whole-grain product.

kids can choose whole grains Your kids can choose whole grains at school. Encourage healthier choices at home by adding whole grains into their favorite recipes, meals, and snacks.

find the fiber on label If the product provides at least 3 grams of fiber per serving, it is a good source of fiber. If it contains 5 or more grams of fiber per serving, it is an excellent source of fiber.

is gluten in whole grains? People who can't eat wheat gluten can eat whole grains if they choose carefully. There are many whole-grain products, such as buckwheat, certified gluten-free oats or oatmeal, popcorn, brown rice, wild rice, and guinoa that fit aluten-free diet needs.



check for freshness

Buy whole-grain products that are tightly packaged and well sealed. Grains should always look and smell fresh. Also, check the expiration date and storage guidelines on the package.

keep a lid on it When storing whole grains from bulk bins, use containers with tight-fitting lids and keep in a cool, dry location. A sealed container is important for maintaining freshness and reducing bug infestations.

buy what you need Purchase smaller quantities of whole-grain products to reduce spoilage. Most grains in sealed packaging can be kept in the freezer.



wrap it up Whole-grain bread is best stored at room temperature in its original packaging, tightly closed with a quicklock or twist tie. The refrigerator will cause bread to lose moisture quickly and become stale. Properly wrapped bread will store well in the freezer.

what's the shelf life? Since the oil in various whole-grain flours differs, the shelf life varies too. Most whole-grain flours keep well in the refrigerator for 2 to 3 months and in the freezer for 6 to 8 months. Cooked brown rice can be refrigerated 3 to 5 days and can be frozen up to 6 months.

