

Bernalillo County



Board of Commissioners

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468-7000

www.bernco.gov

MAY UPCOMING EVENTS

Fusion Theatre

"Pay What You Wish"

Performance of
"Humble Boy"

Saturday, May 11th
at 2 pm
The KiMo Theatre

Tour de Bosque

May 10-12

EPA Public Meeting/Hearing

May 16, MVCC
5:30 pm

National Public Works Week

May 19-25

PUBLIC MEETINGS

ADMINISTRATIVE

Tuesday, April 9 @ 5:00 pm
Tuesday, April 23 @ 5:00 pm

ZONING

Tuesday, April 23 @ 3:00 pm

**COUNTY PLANNING
COMMISSION**

1st Wednesday of each month 9 am

The above meetings are held in the
Vincent E. Griego Chambers in the
basement of the City/County
Government Building.



April Is National County Government Month

This year's theme – Smart Justice: Creating Safer Communities

Bernalillo County's more than 670,000 residents rely almost exclusively on local government to provide a safe living environment.

This fiscal year, the county will spend some 37-percent of its nearly \$500 million dollar budget on public safety. The community programs and services that the county provides are the focus of this year's effort to highlight county government. The National County Government Month theme for 2013 is -- Smart Justice: Creating Safer Communities.

National County Government Month has been celebrated each April since 1991 to raise public awareness about county government's roles and responsibilities and, clearly, Bernalillo County addresses public safety in many powerful and creative ways. Here are several examples:

Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office

The Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) currently employs more than 300 deputies and is expected to respond to some 60,000 service calls this year. Recently, BCSO participated in a county gun buy-back program. Nearly \$80,000 was spent to successfully remove more than 600 unwanted and unused guns from the streets. The program was sponsored by District 1 County Commissioner Debbie O'Malley.

- BCSO has also invested in a five-person mountain bike unit
- A new Cold Case Unit targets criminal investigations that have not been solved within their first year
- The county also encourages residents to do what *they can* to fight crime by participating in the growing Neighborhood Watch Program

Department of Substance Abuse Programs

At the county's Department of Substance Abuse Programs, there is a wide range of services to reduce alcohol and drug abuse. They include the Metropolitan Assessment and Treatment Center's detox facility and aftercare services, addiction treatment programs for current and newly released inmates at the Metropolitan Detention Center, the Milagro Program that offers substance abuse aftercare for pregnant and postpartum women, Renee's Project which provides permanent housing and other supportive services to homeless female addicts with minor children, and an anti-DWI program. The Department of Substance Abuse helped 7,536 people last year.

Article Continued on Page 2

Need Assistance or Resources?
Call Neighborhood Coordination Specialist, Darrell Dady, at 468-7364
or e-mail ddady@bernco.gov

Bernalillo County Fire & Rescue Department

Bernalillo County's Fire & Rescue Department was established in 1958, has grown from a single station, volunteer, department to a fully-paid, 12 district agency with 225 firefighters answering more than 12,000 calls a year. The department recently invested in two state-of-the-art bariatric rescue units designed to transport larger sized patients to hospitals. A third unit will be purchased in 2014. Two new East Mountain fire stations will open next summer.

Animal Care Department

Animal Care is in the process of implementing an equine rescue/therapy program for inmates at the Metropolitan Detention Center and a \$1.5 million animal adoption center at the Youth Services Center that will be staffed by youths housed there during the day. Animal Care has also begun using certified therapy dogs in the county's substance abuse programs to improve the recovery and decrease recidivism of the programs' in-house residents.

Animal Care's Pro-active Enforcement Team (P.E.T.) project is dedicated to reducing animal cruelty while increasing the prosecution of offenders who mistreat animals. Some research indicates that animal cruelty and child abuse go hand-in-hand. Bernalillo County Animal Care and Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office work together to patrol areas where there is a high volume of people reporting suspected animal cruelty.

Graffiti Removal Program

There's an old expression that says "a picture paints a thousand words," but when it comes to graffiti, Bernalillo County is doing everything it can to "stop the presses." The county funds a highly effective and popular graffiti removal program. Experts say graffiti is the most common type of property vandalism and that it can destroy neighborhoods.

When an area is repeatedly hit by graffiti, citizens often feel the area is dangerous and serves as a welcome mat to more serious crime. Last year, there were 2,870 graffiti field calls and 17,577 staff-identified graffiti markings that were cleaned up. The graffiti cleanup crew responds to calls every day of the week--usually within six hours after a call comes in. **To report graffiti in Bernalillo County, call 24-ERASE (243-7273).**

Community Custody Program

The Metropolitan Detention Center's Community Custody Program (CCP) provides an innovative approach to incarceration. The program provides an opportunity for screened, low-risk inmates to serve their sentences or pre-sentences outside of the jail walls in the community. Inmates in the program are monitored on a daily basis to ensure the public's safety. Inmates in the CCP program live at home while getting the help they need to overcome challenges that have kept them from being successful, productive citizens. This includes getting their GEDs and receiving substance abuse counseling.

All CCP participants are randomly drug tested twice a week and monitored for alcohol consumption on a daily basis. They are supervised 24/7 via GPS tracking. If participants violate CCP rules, they will lose their CCP privileges and can be returned to the Metropolitan Detention Center.

The program requires participation in community service such as the "clean team" and are often seen throughout Bernalillo County cleaning up and improving the appearance of various sites around the city. They also work at the Roadrunner Food Bank and other locations learning valuable job skills. CCP officers assist the inmates in the program with exploring and securing employment opportunities.

Nearly 10,000 inmates have participated in CCP since 2007. It costs \$17 a day to supervise a participant in the CCP program compared with \$52 per inmate per day to incarcerate an offender at MDC.

Neighborhood Association Grant Program

Bernalillo County's public safety efforts are aided by the county's Neighborhood Association Grant Program. For example, the Tres Volcanes Neighborhood Association on the Northwest Mesa has sought and received a \$200 grant to reduce local crime by putting lights and signs on cars that are used to patrol areas that could otherwise be defaced with graffiti and garbage.

Also, in honor of National County Government Month, Bernalillo County is partnering with Youth Development Incorporated's Education, Employment and Training Division give young people a chance to explore public safety careers by riding along with firefighters, deputies and animal care officers for a day. The students will write essays about their experiences that will later be posted on the county's website, bernco.gov.

National Public Health Week

To learn more about public safety programs in Bernalillo County during National County Government Month, sheriff's deputies, firefighters, animal care officers, and members of the 24-ERASE team will be at the following public events: Eubank Boulevard construction project Phase 2 Ribbon-Cutting; Hand-in-Hand—County Government event; South Valley Pride Day Community Celebration, and A Day in Paradise Community Celebration. *See the April Calendar of Events below for Event details.*

April Calendar of Events

Lisa Wren Walraven Art Show

Friday, April 05, 2013

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

1 Civic Plaza NW, 10th Floor

Eubank Boulevard Ribbon-Cutting Phase 2

Saturday, April 06, 2013, 9 am – 10:00 am,

8100 Eubank Blvd. NE

Feria de Salud, A Day of Free HealthCare

Saturday, April 6, 2013, 10 am – 2:00 pm

National Hispanic Cultural Center,
1701 4th Street, SW

Day in Paradise Community Celebration

Sunday, April 28, 2013, 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Paradise Hills Community Center

South Valley Pride Day Community Celebration

(SEE INSERT FOR EVENT DETAILS)

Bernalillo County is proud to celebrate National Public Health Week from April 1-7

Bernalillo County takes a comprehensive approach to public health which is critical to the quality of life and economic development. Bernalillo County also supports strong public health with the following themes:

Public Health is Parks and Recreation - The availability of excellent parks and recreational opportunities results in reduced medical costs, children that are more active, and less obesity.

Public Health is Arts and Culture - New Mexico's 200 nonprofit arts organizations support hundreds of jobs and brings millions of dollars to the state's economy. Public art and art organizations support vibrant communities and encourage new investment.

Public Health is Education - Graduation from high school leads to increased earnings and longer lives. Fifty-two percent of high school graduates report excellent or very good health, compared to 38 percent of non-graduates.

Public Health is Access to Healthy Food - The availability of neighborhood markets featuring fresh food lowers obesity. Culinary entrepreneurs not only contribute to a robust economy but can also increase access to healthy foods.

Public Health is Transportation - People living in neighborhoods with sidewalks are more likely to be active. Medians and other traffic calming efforts reduce the number of crashes involving pedestrians.

People with safe places to walk close to home are more likely to meet recommended daily exercise levels.

For more information visit
www.bernco.gov/publichealthweek

**The International District Community Walk is Saturday, April 6 at 2:00 pm
Southeast Heights Center for Family and Community Health, 8200 Central Avenue SE**

Sponsored by the Bernalillo County Office of Health and Social Services; community leaders and staff from UNM's Southeast Heights Clinic. Take an active part in Public Health Week by taking a stroll with friends and family through the International District. It's a great way to exercise and learn more about our community.

BernCo Water and Well Workshop

Bernalillo County Public Works Natural Resource Services will be hosting a free well workshop to educate all residents of Bernalillo County about their water wells. The workshop will be held at Los Vecinos Community Center on Saturday, April 20, 2013. There will be two sessions and up to 20 residents can register per session. Session One will be 8 - 11:30 a.m. and Session Two will be 1 - 4:30 p.m.

For more information or to sign up, please email or call Sara Chudnoff at 505.224.1614 or schudnoff@bernco.gov

If you are interested in this topic, but cannot attend the workshop there is a free webinar available at www.privatewellclass.org.

Spring Weather Terms and Definitions for a Prepared Community

Here are some important words of advice from Bernalillo County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

Spring is in the air in Central New Mexico! That means WIND!! Below are some weather terms and definitions to help keep everyone safe!

A high wind watch means conditions are favorable for a potentially damaging high wind event in and close to the watch area. Sustained wind speeds of at least 40 mph or gusts of 58 mph or more can lead to property damage. Monitor the latest forecast at weather.gov/abq or listen to NOAA weather radio or your favorite media outlet.

Red flag and high fire danger situations mean that weather conditions are ripe for a catastrophic fire. High winds, dry fuels, and low humidities are the hallmarks of red flag conditions. **No Open Burning Is Permitted** during these times.

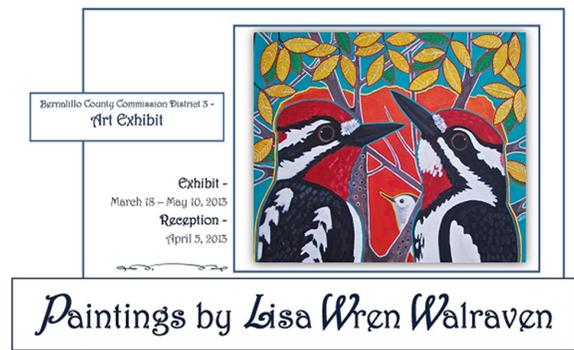
District 3 Art Show featuring Lisa Wren Walraven

This show is the 24th in a series of exhibits showcasing the talent and creativity of District 3 artists. **Lisa Wren Walraven** developed her passion for nature and *all things wild* as a child watching birds come to the feeder her parents hung in the yard at their home in Ohio. Moving to Bisbee, Arizona, and inspired by the stark southwestern landscape and wonderful light of the desert, she began her painting career.

Her media include encaustic, collage, papier mache, and acrylic paint. Her work has been shown in galleries in California, Arizona, North and South Carolina and has appeared in publications, such as *The Birdwatchers' Digest* and Audubon Society newsletters, as well as brochures and posters for the U.S. Department of Game and Fish. Through her bright, bold, stylized renditions of birds, animals and landscapes, Lisa hopes to convey a sense of joy, happiness, and most of all, an appreciation for the natural world.

Commissioner Hart Stebbins invites you to an opening reception to preview these paintings on **Friday, April 5th, from 5-6:30 p.m.** at the County Manager/County Commission offices located on the 10th Floor of One Civic Plaza NW, Suite 10111. Exhibit runs through Friday, May 10th.

**For more information, please call
505-468-7108 or email jhartley@bernco.gov**



*Bernalillo County Commissioner Art De La Cruz
presents*

SOUTH VALLEY PRIDE DAY 2013



WHERE THE COMMUNITY COMES TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE CULTURE!

APRIL 20-21, 2013

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY CENTER, 1250 ISLETA BLVD. S.W.
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87105

FREE EVENT

Call 505.314.0176 or visit www.berneo.gov
for more information 

BERNALILLO COUNTY 
WE'RE MORE THAN YOU THINK

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

8 A.M. – 12 P.M.
COMMUNITY CLEANUP

8 A.M. – 12 P.M.
**SOARING THE SOUTH VALLEY
CELEBRATING BIRDS AND PLANES**
DURAND OPEN SPACE
4750 ISLETA BLVD. S.W.

10 A.M. – 12 P.M.
**HAND-IN-HAND
MEET BERNALILLO COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

1 – 11 P.M.
SOUTH VALLEY PRIDE DAY SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT
TOM TENORIO SOFTBALL COMPLEX
2900 ARENAL ROAD S.W.

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

11 A.M.
PARADE BEGINS
BLAKE ROAD AND ISLETA BOULEVARD S.W.

11 A.M. – 6 P.M.
COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

**OUTSTANDING CITIZEN CELEBRATION
ARTS AND CRAFTS VENDORS
SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT
GAMES FOR CHILDREN
OPEN SPACE TOUR
CHILI COOKOFF
LOCAL CUISINE
LIVE MUSIC
CAR SHOW**