



Sheriff Manuel Gonzales III

BERNALILLO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

"COMMUNICATOR"

FEBRUARY 2018

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Hello residents and visitors to Bernalillo County. Please enjoy our February 2018 issue of the "communicator."

We continue our effort to work with you, our community and visitors of our county to continue to provide you with the superior service you have come to expect.

The newsletter is intended for residents and visitors of the County of Bernalillo, the Sheriff's East Area Command, North Valley Area Command, and South Valley Area Command. The purpose of our newsletter is to keep an open line of communications between you, the citizens, and us, the deputies, who are sworn to protect you and your property.

Please feel free to forward this newsletter to any of your neighbors who are interested news, crime fighting tips, and communication from the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office. If any person wishes to be placed on the internet e-mail distribution list please forward that request via e-mail to tgartenmayer@bernco.gov

NEWS FROM THE EAST AREA COMMAND

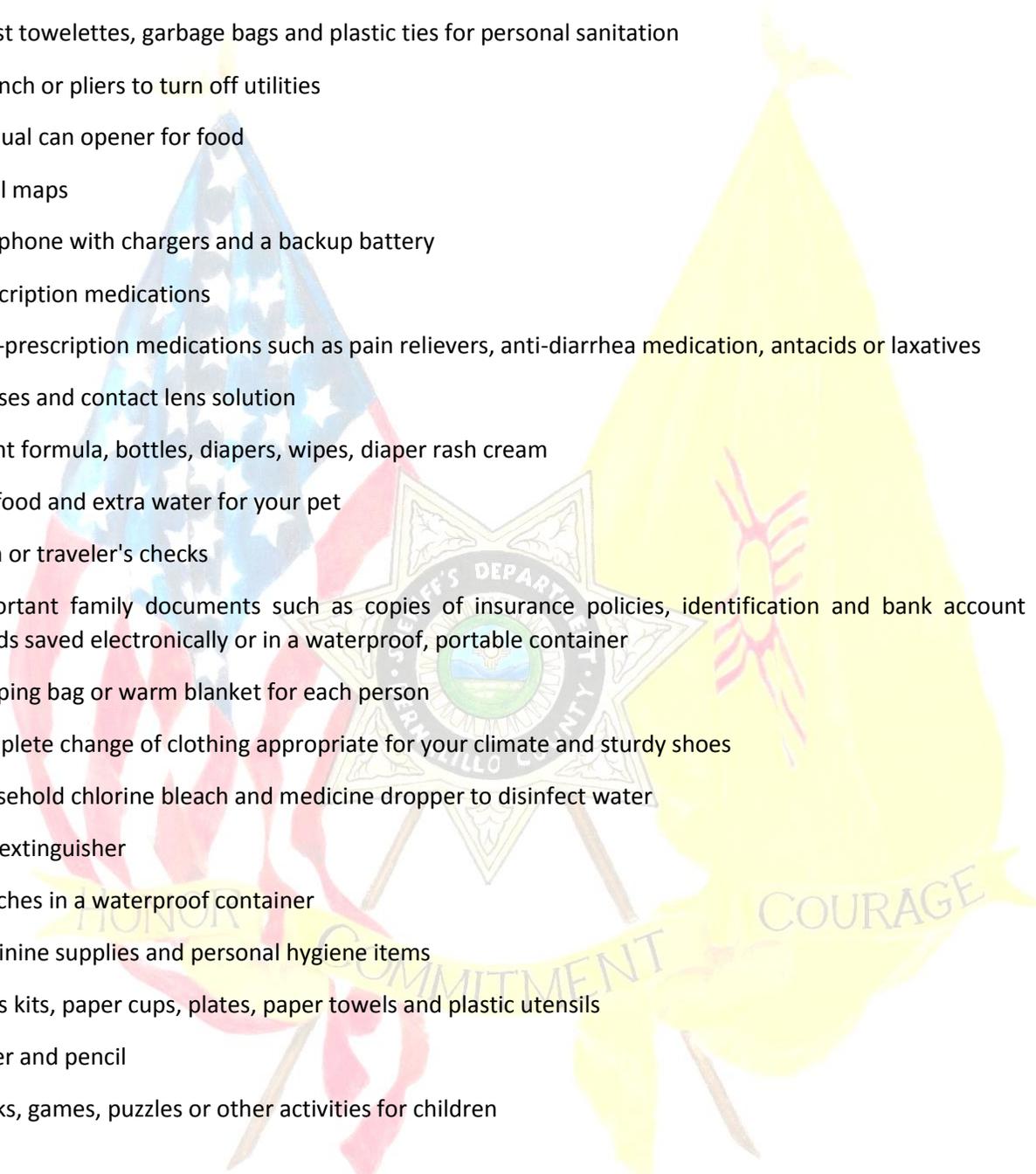
Fire season is nearly upon us here in the East Mountains. With our serious lack of measureable precipitation, we are facing some dangerous conditions, and an extended fire season. With the increasing possibility of wildfire, everyone who lives and works in the East Mountain Area of Bernalillo County should adopt the mindset of what needs to be done “when” a fire occurs, and not “if”.

The Bernalillo County Office of Emergency Management, in conjunction with the Sheriff’s Department, Fire Department and many other government and civic agencies, will be hosting a Community Wildfire Preparedness Meeting at the Los Vecinos Community Center (478 NM 333, Tijeras) on February 28, 2018 at 6pm. There will be short presentations from key agencies on what to expect from each when fires threaten the region. In addition, there will be information stations set up in the venue for specific details on the responsibilities of each agency, and what you can expect them to do in the case of a wildfire. I would encourage all to attend, and please, spread the word. Not everyone reads the Communicator, but there will be great information presented, and all would benefit.

In the case of Emergency evacuations due to fire (or any other reason), time is of the essence. There is not always the opportunity to pack what you need, especially when your safety is threatened by a critical incident. I talked about this in preparing for winter weather, but I would like to reiterate the benefits of preparing a “go-bag” to keep handy in the case that you must leave your house at a moment’s notice.

Please consider the inclusion of the following items to ensure that you have what you need when you evacuate (information from Ready.gov):

- Water - one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
- Food - at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert
- Flashlight
- First aid kit
- Extra batteries
- Whistle to signal for help

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- Dust mask to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
 - Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
 - Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
 - Manual can opener for food
 - Local maps
 - Cell phone with chargers and a backup battery
 - Prescription medications
 - Non-prescription medications such as pain relievers, anti-diarrhea medication, antacids or laxatives
 - Glasses and contact lens solution
 - Infant formula, bottles, diapers, wipes, diaper rash cream
 - Pet food and extra water for your pet
 - Cash or traveler's checks
 - Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records saved electronically or in a waterproof, portable container
 - Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person
 - Complete change of clothing appropriate for your climate and sturdy shoes
 - Household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper to disinfect water
 - Fire extinguisher
 - Matches in a waterproof container
 - Feminine supplies and personal hygiene items
 - Mess kits, paper cups, plates, paper towels and plastic utensils
 - Paper and pencil
 - Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children

Keeping a kit with the items listed ready to go, will make it easier for you to successfully evacuate your residence, and afford you the opportunity to ensure your family's wellbeing for a short period of time, until you can reach an established shelter or family members house, where more long term plans can be implemented.

As always, if you have questions, please feel free to call me at the East Area Command at 468-7420, or email me at jkingsbury@bernco.gov.

NEWS FROM THE **CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION**

The Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department is fully committed to the investigation of all cases involving crimes against children, crimes against the elderly, and sex crimes. In this commitment, the Criminal Investigations Division is fortunate to have a group of dedicated investigators with the drive and compassion to conduct investigations for some of those most vulnerable to victimization within our society. These men and women are known as the Special Victims Unit.

One example of this extraordinary commitment occurred in early October of 2017 when a detective received a case involving the delayed report of a sexual assault involving a juvenile. The Detective investigated the incident and apprehended the offender, which is not uncommon. What were uncommon were the continued efforts of the detective who took it upon himself to remain in contact with the victim and their family even after the arrest of the offender. The detective learned the victim's family did not have the means to get them to various medical and counseling appointments, so he took it upon him-self to assist for the welfare of the victim. In addition, the detective took the investigation to the next level by meticulously reviewing over 3,000 pages of social media content and 2,500 media files contained within cellular data, recovering critical evidence to strengthen the case and increase the chance of successful prosecution.

Another example occurred in the latter part of October of 2017 when an SVU Detective received a report of five siblings who were being victimized by a caregiver. Not only did the detective work the case to the point of apprehending the offender, but gained a confession from the offender as well. Although this might be considered the end of the case for some, the detective spearheaded a campaign amongst her colleagues to collect donations for the children and their family. The result was the detective being able to present the family with a generous cash donation, groceries, and Christmas presents for the family, with the desire to make the lives of the children better after a traumatic experience.

Professional law enforcement requires many things but among the most important are empathy and compassion. The efforts of the men and women of the Special Victims unit are second to none and are a prime example of professional law enforcement efforts the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department strives to provide to the Community on a daily basis.

NEWS FROM THE

SOUTH AREA COMMAND

The South Valley area has received valuable citizen and neighborhood tips about suspicious activity in the past few weeks. Most of these tips have proven to be factual and detectives have been able to secure search warrants for stolen cars, drug houses and other law violations. While tips are always appreciated, please make sure to keep your personal safety in mind when obtaining descriptions or license plates of would be criminals. **Your safety and that of your loved ones is the most important thing to us at the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department.**

NEWS FROM THE ADVANCED TRAINING BUREAU

Our most recent graduates of the Bernalillo County Regional Training Academy have continued to progress in their Field Training Officer program. The purpose of the Field Training and Evaluation Program (FTO) is to train new deputies so that each is prepared to function as a solo patrol deputy at the conclusion of their training cycle.

The training cycle consists of over 12 weeks of intensive on-the-job training and daily performance evaluations. Training is conducted and staffed by specially trained field training officers and patrol sergeants. Field training officers have the dual responsibility of providing police service in their assigned area commands, as well as conducting training and evaluation of the new deputy. These daily observation reports (DORs), completed by the Field Training Officer, are scored and reviewed by both the trainer and trainee. Field training sergeants are responsible for the supervision of all personnel assigned to their teams and for coordinating and supervising the on-the-job training of recruit deputies.

Deputies are required to meet specific performance standards in 30+ performance categories before being certified for solo patrol duty. As the deputies near the completion of their probationary period, the FTO program administers a formal review of all DOR's and deputies who have performed at an acceptable level are recommended for retention as permanent employees.

Program Objectives

To train and evaluate all recruit deputies in preparation for solo patrol duty.

To achieve a +90% success rate for all recruit officers trained.

To train newly appointed field training officers and sergeants in preparation for their new duties.

To provide information and training to outside agencies in the development and implementation of the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office Model of the Field Training and Evaluation Program.

CRIME REDUCTION AND SAFETY TIPS

PERSONAL SAFETY TIPS

GENERAL SAFETY TIPS

- Pay close attention to your surroundings, avoid "automatic pilot"
- Walk with a purpose; project an assertive, business-like image.
- Use common sense; plan your route to avoid uninhabited parks, parking lots, garages and alleyways.
- Stick to well-lit areas.
- Develop a plan before you see trouble. Crossing a street or entering a store may get you out of a potentially bad situation.
- If a car follows you or beckons you while you are walking, do not approach it. Instead, turn and quickly walk the opposite direction.
- Consider wearing clothing and shoes that you can move freely and quickly in, especially when walking or waiting for the bus.
- Carry minimal items; overloading yourself can make you appear vulnerable.

SAFETY ON THE STREET

- Before you leave home decide what you actually need to take with you rather than automatically taking your entire handbag or wallet out of habit. For example, if you are going to the grocery store for a few items, you can carry cash, a single check, or credit/debit card, I.D. and keys in a pocket.
- Wear clothing and shoes that are comfortable, low profile and appropriate for the weather. This may not be the most fashionable choice but it is the safest.
- Always plan your route and stay alert to your surroundings. Avoid shortcuts. Walk confidently. Scan your surroundings and make eye contact with people.
- If you must carry valuables like important papers, jewelry, cash etc., chose to wear clothes with inside pockets or use a small bag with a long thin strap to be worn under your coat or clothes.
- Never carry a wallet in back pocket of pants or jacket or sweater pocket. All cash should be carried in front pockets of pants.
- Carry your keys and ID separately. If someone gets your keys and ID, they may go to your home or business and access that location with the keys.
- If you must make a large, cash purchase, plan ahead and take a companion along. There really is safety in numbers. If you do not drive or cannot get a ride use a taxi rather than a bus to minimize waiting time.
- If you use bank machines (ATM's) choose one located in a well-lit, busy spot like inside a grocery store. Put your card and cash away before leaving the machine.
- Do not display large sums of cash and do not carry any more cash than is necessary. Use checks where possible. Most stores accept checks, check cards and debit cards as well
- Never leave your purse unattended, even if it is in a shopping cart.
- Carry your purse very close to you preferable with the strap over your shoulder and the purse to the front of your body. Do not dangle it from your arm.
- Avoid walking alone at night. As much as possible, walk or travel with a friend, even during the daytime.

SPOT AND AVOID POTENTIAL TROUBLE

- Be aware of your surroundings and know who is nearby.
- Pay attention to the uncomfortable feelings that often warn us of potential danger.
- Do not be afraid to cross the street, return to a business, or ask for help based on a "funny feeling". You may be right!

RESPONDING TO A CONFRONTATION

- If a robber grabs your bag, resist the impulse to play tug of war. If you hang on, chances are you will be knocked down, hit or kicked and the robber will get your bag anyway.
- Victims sometimes tell a robber they have no money. This technique may backfire. It is safer to give up a few dollars. Carry a little money in an accessible place for just this purpose. Keep it separate from other funds.
- If someone demands your property and displays or implies in any way that they have a weapon, hand the bag or wallet to them.

NEWS FROM BERNALILLO COUNTY

As the primary Law Enforcement Agency in Bernalillo County we are required and take great pride in dedicating full-time sworn detectives to investigate Sex Crimes, Crimes against Children, Crimes against Special Victims, and tracking of Sex Offenders. The Sheriff's Department currently monitors all registered sex offenders who reside in Bernalillo County.

What many citizens may not realize is that the Sheriff's Department consists of several divisions tasked with conducting specific duties. The following is a brief breakdown of each specialized unit and the Division they fall under:

FIELD SERVICES DIVISION

- NORTH VALLEY PATROL
- SOUTH VALLEY PATROL
- EAST MOUNTAINS PATROL
- VILLAGE OF LOS RANCHOS PATROL
- SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS
- DARE/ GREAT
- AIR UNIT
- TRAFFIC INVESTIGATIONS
- DWI
- K-9 UNIT
- S.W.A.T.
- CRISIS NEGOTIATIONS
- BIKE PATROL

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

- HOMICIDE
- VIOLENT CRIMES
- SPECIAL VICTIMS UNIT
- SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION AND TRACKING
- CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATIONS
- GANG UNIT
- WHITE COLLAR CRIMES
- NARCOTICS
- PROPERTY CRIMES
- GHOST/ MISSING PERSONS UNIT
- REGIONAL COMPUTER FORENSICS LAB RCFL)
- INTERSTATE CRIMINAL ENFORCEMENT TEAM (ICET)

JUDICIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

- CIVIL PROCESS SERVERS
- DISTRICT COURT SECURITY
- JUVINILE JUSTICE SECURITY
- EXTRADITIONS

SUPPORT SERVICES

- ACADEMY TRAINING
- RECRUITING
- IN-SERVICE TRAINING
- FIREARMS RANGE
- FLEET MANAGEMENT

HONOR

COMMITMENT

COURAGE

2nd Annual
BERNALILLO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff's Ball

Sheriff Manuel Gonzales III

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 3, 2018
HOTEL ALBUQUERQUE
AFTER PARTY | CASA ESENCIA

6:00 PM COCKTAILS • 7:00 DINNER
DRESS: SEMI-FORMAL

~2018 BENEFICIARIES~
TEN-82 Corporation
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central NM

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
BERNALILLO COUNTY
Sheriff's Ball

WE WILL BE FOREVER ON DUTY TO ENSURE YOU ARE SAFE AND CARED FOR.

If you would like the "Communicator" to highlight a particular area or division of our Department please forward those requests to Administrative Assistant Terri Gartenmayer at tgartenmayer@bernco.gov

WE ARE PROUD OF OUR DEPUTIES AND ONCE YOU KNOW MORE ABOUT THEM WE ARE SURE YOU WILL BE PROUD OF THEM TOO!