



# BernCo at a Glance E-newsletter

Volume 3 | April 21, 2020



Now more than ever...stay home for those who can't.  
Stay safe, stay healthy and help stop the spread of germs.

- Practice social distancing -- be aware of your surroundings and others near you
- Adhere to the six-foot rule and stay at home except as needed for grocery shopping, medical assistance and exercise
- Limit group contact to five or fewer people
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash
- Stay home if you are sick

New Mexico Department of Health:

- **New Mexicans with COVID-19 related questions should call the coronavirus hotline at 855-600-3453**
- **Non-COVID-19 related questions or concerns, call 833-551-0518**
- **\*\*\*[NMDOH CoVID-19 Public Dashboard](#) -- the data dashboard includes county-by-county breakdowns of positive cases by age, gender and ethnicity.**

Up-to-date information about state mandates and information:

[www.newmexico.gov](http://www.newmexico.gov). **Emergency order extended to April 30.**

Information and resources from the CDC regarding coronavirus COVID-19:

[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).

CDC fact sheets to read and/or download, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/factsheets.html>

The New Mexico Crisis and Access Line (NMCAL) is excited to announce the **NMConnect smartphone app** for all New Mexicans.

The NMConnect App is a nimble tool that can quickly respond to the needs of the community, and make information available to millions of users in an instant.



**[UPDATED Schedule of BernCo Office Hours and Public Access](#)**  
**[Probate Court Reopening on Limited Basis \(click for hours\)](#)**

## Recent BernCo News Releases

*(click each news release below to read in full)*

### **[Property Tax Payments Remain Due](#)**

Following discussions with the State of New Mexico, 2019 second-half property tax payments remain as scheduled by state statute. Payments must be submitted by email, deposited in the county drop box at Fifth and Marquette, or mailed and postmarked by May 10 to avoid any assessed penalties or interest. The Bernalillo County Treasurer's Office does accept the postmark as the payment date.

County Treasurer, Nancy Bearce says the county collects and sends taxes to other agencies such as the University of New Mexico Hospital, Central New Mexico Community College, Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District, Albuquerque Public Schools and the City of Albuquerque. Extending collections could have a direct impact on an agency's ability to operate and its budget. Treasurer Bearce recommends that any resident, or business owner, who is having trouble making their tax payment contact their mortgage or financing institution to discuss assistance or payment options that may be available.

### **[Office of the Assessor Wants to Remind Property Owners of Available Exemptions](#)**

Property owners who have not taken advantage of the head of family, veteran or 100% disabled veteran exemptions and the value freeze program, must do so no later than 30 days after the mailing of the notice of value (NOV) statements.

### **[Bernalillo County - We're Here for You During COVID-19](#)**

The county's CARE campus is still operating, with reduced staff, to provide 24/7 services for behavioral health. The CARE campus provides a variety of programs to reduce the impact of alcoholism, substance abuse, and behavioral health needs within the community. The campus is located at 5901 Zuni, and more information is available at [www.bernco.gov/dbhs](http://www.bernco.gov/dbhs).

## 2020 Primary Election: Request an Absentee Ballot

Clerk Linda Stover with an update on the Primary Election.

**[#BeTheVote](#) [#TrustedInfo2020](#)**

Voters may request an absentee ballot online [here](#).

Call 505-243-VOTE (8683) or via email [clerk@bernco.gov](mailto:clerk@bernco.gov)

Visit [BernCo.gov/clerk](http://BernCo.gov/clerk) and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



## Census 2020: Your Turn to Respond

Now is our chance to help public health officials and emergency responders identify the resources they need to protect our communities.

2020 Census data will inform funding for hospitals, clinics, and emergency services across the country.

Complete the census and learn more at [2020CENSUS.GOV](https://2020CENSUS.GOV).



Are you counted? Have you completed the 2020 Census?

Yes

Select

No

Select

# Community Resources and Information

## BernCo Serves Grab-and-Go Breakfasts and Lunches

**Cost: Meals are free**

Weekly average of meals served is 3000+

BernCo is serving 'grab-and-go' breakfasts and lunches at six county locations. Parents drive-up to the community center with their children in the vehicle and center staff give a breakfast and lunch for each child requested.

Meals are served Mondays – Fridays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (grab and go only):

- Mt. View Community Center
- Paradise Hills Community Center
- Raymond G. Sanchez Community Center
- South Valley Multipurpose Center
- Vista Grande Community Center
- Westside Community Center

## APS Student Meal Pick-Ups

**Cost: Meals are free**

- UPDATE: Hours of Operation: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.
  - Students will receive meals for two days.
- Available to all school-age students under the age of 18 as of Monday, March 16, 2020.
- UPDATE: Students are expected to be in the vehicle when meals are picked up. If they have an online or televised class that conflicts with meal distribution, parents may pick up the meals for them as long as they can show their child's student ID or report card.
- APS requests that you do not bring animals to the Grab & Go sites, including in your cars.

[Visit the APS website for locations.](#)

[Safety Tips for Shopping](#) -- Tip sheet (English)

[Safety Tips for Shopping](#) -- Tip sheet (Spanish)

[How to Properly Clean Your Groceries](#) -- Tip sheet

[Don't Bring Coronavirus Home with You](#) -- Tip sheet

## COVID-19 Update: Mental Health Services Available 24/7



**WHO Recommendations for Staying Active  
During Quarantine**



Whether you are working from home, able to maintain a somewhat normal routine, or you are juggling your regular responsibilities with additional work as a result of the COVID-19 response the WHO has published some ideas for staying physically active during this challenging time. [Click here to read more.](#)

Additionally, several online platforms have been offering expanded free trials for their services that include meditation, yoga, cardiovascular activities, running, cycling, and yes audio books.



## Bernalillo County Water Conservation Plan UPDATE

The Bernalillo County Water Conservation Program is seeking public comment on an update to its Water Conservation Plan. The plan proposes increased water conservation education and outreach, expanded water conservation incentive programs, and the introduction of assistance with agricultural water efficiency. The Water Conservation Program welcomes input from Bernalillo County residents on the draft plan. The plan is posted at: [www.bernco.gov/water](http://www.bernco.gov/water). Comments are due by May 15, 2020.

### New MDC Chief Named

Greg Richardson is the new chief of the Metropolitan Detention Center – effective May 10. The current chief, Ralph Fernandez, will retire effective May 9, 2020. Deputy Chief Richardson began his career in 1987 with the New Mexico State Police. Upon retiring from NMSP in 2007, Richardson filled many roles in the private sector in the training and recruiting sections of several private investigative and security firms. Richardson came to MDC in 2017 as a deputy chief in an administrative capacity overseeing use of force, early warning systems, and training and recruiting.



**For assistance, please contact:**

- Metropolitan Detention Center (general inmate info): (505) 839-8700
- Roads and traffic: (505) 848-1504 or (505) 848-1503
- Animal Care Services: (505) 468-PETS
- Property Maintenance (report a park or facility that needs cleanup): (505) 224-2119
- Schedule a large item pick-up: (505) 892-1200
- Department of Behavioral Health Services customer service: (505) 468-1555
- Court of Wills, Estates and Probate (general info): (505) 468-1232
  - Schedule an appointment: call (505) 468-1229 or email, [probate@bernco.gov](mailto:probate@bernco.gov)
- Unclaimed & Indigent Cremation Program: (505) 468-7295
- Accounts Payable general inquiries: (505) 468-7020
- All other calls: (505) 468-7777 or email, [contactcenter@bernco.gov](mailto:contactcenter@bernco.gov)

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

(click to read and learn more)

- [Glyphosate Moratorium](#)

Website: [www.BernCo.gov](http://www.BernCo.gov) | Email: [info@BernCo.gov](mailto:info@BernCo.gov)