



# BERNCO at a Glance

JANUARY 2015

Volume 6 • Issue 1

## BERNALILLO COUNTY COMMISSION

Administrative Meetings

Tuesday, Jan. 13, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 27, 5 p.m.

## COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

First Wednesday of month

Wednesday, Jan. 7, 9 a.m.

## ZONING ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING

Second Tuesday of month

Tuesday, Jan. 6, 4 p.m.

Meetings are held in the  
Vincent E. Griego Chambers  
in the basement of the  
City/County Government Bldg.  
One Civic Plaza  
Fifth Street and Marquette NW

County offices will be  
closed on Monday, Jan. 19  
in observance of the  
Dr. Martin Luther King  
Jr. Holiday

BERNCO  
at a Glance

## New BernCo Leaders Ready to Get to Work



Collaboration and better community outreach are among the top priorities for a crop of newly elected officials taking office this month.

Commissioner Debbie O'Malley won the contest to represent District 1, which includes the North Valley and much of the West Side.

Commissioner Wayne Johnson won his second term to represent District 5, which covers the East Mountains and much of the Northeast Heights.

Assessor Tanya R. Giddings won her first general election contest. Giddings was appointed unanimously by the Bernalillo County Commission in 2013 to fill a vacancy.

Probate Judge Willow Misty Parks has been elected to a second term managing the Court of Wills, Estates and Probate.

And Sheriff Manuel Gonzales III has won his first election as the county's top law enforcement official. Gonzales spent 21 years in the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office, starting as a patrolman.

County Manager Tom Zdunek hosted an oath of office ceremony on Dec. 30, 2014 at the Second Judicial District Courthouse, where each of Bernalillo County's new leaders were sworn into their respective offices before family and friends.

Visit [www.bernco.gov](http://www.bernco.gov) for the latest news from Bernalillo County's newly elected officials.

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BERNALILLO COUNTY



WE'RE MORE THAN YOU THINK



Ojito de San Antonio Open Space

## BERNALILLO COUNTY OFFICIALS

### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Debbie O'Malley, Chair, Dist. 1  
Art De La Cruz, Vice Chair, Dist. 2  
Maggie Hart Stebbins, Member, Dist. 3  
Lonnie C. Talbert, Member, Dist. 4  
Wayne A. Johnson, Member, Dist. 5  
Main office: (505) 468-7000

### COUNTY ASSESSOR

Tanya R. Giddings  
Main office: (505) 222-3700

### COUNTY CLERK

Maggie Toulouse Oliver  
Voting  
(505) 243-VOTE (8683)  
Recording & Filing  
(505) 468-1290  
Marriage Licenses  
(505) 468-1243

### COUNTY TREASURER

Manny Ortiz  
Main office: (505) 468-7031

### COURT OF WILLS, ESTATES & PROBATE

Probate Judge Willow Misty Parks  
Main office: (505) 468-1232

### SHERIFF

Manny Gonzales III  
Main office (non-emergency):  
(505) 468-7100

Visit [www.bernco.gov](http://www.bernco.gov)  
for more information

**BERNCO**  
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## New Director for Animal Care Services



Bernalillo County Animal Care Services is proud to introduce its new director, Misha Goodman.

Goodman comes to Bernalillo County from Iowa City, Iowa where she served as the director of Iowa City Animal Services for the past 21 years. Prior to that, Goodman worked for the City of Los Angeles Animal Regulation Department in various positions for 10 years.

As the president, past president and vice-president of the National Animal Control Association (NACA) from 2004 to 2014, she has provided ongoing leadership for the national organization by ensuring training and certification for animal control officers and other personnel involved in animal care, sheltering and enforcement.

Her years of experience and knowledge in the animal care field will be of tremendous value to Bernalillo County residents and animals alike.

## Winter is Here....Protect Your Pets

It's that time of year when we bundle up before heading outside. It's a common



misconception that dogs and cats won't get cold because of their fur. During New Mexico's winters, the best place for your family pet is right inside bundled up next to you. However, if your pets have to be outside, be sure to monitor them constantly and provide them with an insulated, warm shelter to keep out of the cold.

Here are some outside housing tips for your pets:

- **Straw** is an inexpensive insulator that makes excellent bedding.
- Do not use fabric blankets or bedding. Once wet, they ice over when temperatures drop, and become wet again with your animal's body heat.
- The shelter should be tall enough for your animal to sit upright and large enough to be able to turn around and lie down comfortably. Any smaller will cramp, any larger will prevent body heat retention.
- Place the shelter's entrance facing south to southeast to help protect the interior from wind, rain and snow and to maximize exposure to the sun.
- If the opening is uncovered, consider attaching a thick piece of rubber, doormat or carpet scrap cut to size to block the wind, rain and snow.
- Make sure the shelter is as airtight as possible. Consider using caulking and/or sealants on the outside.
- Check your companion animal's water bowl frequently for freezing. Glass and ceramic dishes will crack and break when the water freezes.
- Companion animals kept primarily outdoors, especially in cold weather, may require more food than other animals. Provide additional food to animals that spend a lot of time outside.

Remember - if it is cold for you, it is cold for your pet!

## Construction Projects Updates

- Arenal Storm Drain
  - Design phase is 95 percent complete
- Cordero Mesa Business Park Water Transmission Line
  - Construction is about 97 percent complete
- Fiber-optic Cable Installation Project
  - Rio Bravo Boulevard to Prince Street will begin construction in early 2015; Broadway Boulevard corridor is in design phase
- Goff Boulevard Improvements
  - Construction is about 35 percent complete; project completion date is August, 2015
- North Edith Utility Project
  - In design phase; discussions continue with Sandia Pueblo officials about the location and placement of utilities
- Paradise Hills Trail Project
  - Construction began Dec. 1, 2014
- Rio Bravo Sewer and Water Improvements Project
  - Project completed in early December, 2014
- Rio Grande Indoor Pool Renovation
  - Project completion date is the end of March, 2015
- South Valley Drinking Water Project, Phase 7A
  - Project completed in late November, 2014; hook-up/connection notices will be sent to residents soon
- Sage/Old Coors Intersection
  - Project will advertise for construction bids in January, 2015
- Southwest Valley Flood Reduction Project, Phase 2B
  - Construction is about 80 percent complete
- Sunport Boulevard Extension Project
  - Environmental clearance is in progress
- Sunset Gardens Road Phase 2
  - Construction is about 90 percent complete
- Vista Del Rio Drainage Improvements, Phase 4
  - Design phase near completion; construction will begin early 2015

For more information about these and more projects under way in Bernalillo County, please visit [www.bernco.gov/projects](http://www.bernco.gov/projects).



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### BernCo Hotline Numbers

**TO REPORT A ROAD  
MAINTENANCE  
ISSUE:**  
(505) 848-1503  
(505) 848-1504

**TO REPORT  
GRAFFITI:**  
(505) 24-ERASE  
or (505) 243-7273

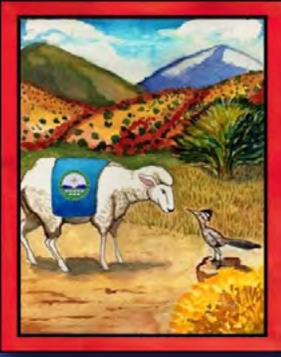
**PARK WATCH  
PROGRAM:**  
(505) 468-7777

Or send an email to:  
[ContactCenter@bernco.gov](mailto:ContactCenter@bernco.gov)

## The New and Improved Paseo del Norte / I-25 Interchange



The Paseo del Norte / Interstate 25 Interchange was completed ahead of schedule and opened to the community in mid-December, 2014. More than 500,000 man hours occurring 24 hours a day, seven days a week; 250 sets of design plans; and \$93 million went into the project. Fewer traffic signals and new overpasses allow for continuous flow of the 154,000 drivers per day that travel through the interchange. The saved travel time is estimated to be about one hour per week or about two days per year for the average driver. Project officials and workers thank the community for its patience during the construction.



## BERNCO BERNIE BOOK COMING SOON

Bernie is getting a book! "The Adventures of BernCo Bernie," scheduled for publication early this year, is a colorfully illustrated bilingual book that will be aimed toward students in kindergarten through third grade.

The book will chronicle the adventures of Bernalillo County Open Space's official spokes-sheep.



Check out the FREE comprehensive calendar and website ABQtodo.

To learn more go to [www.abqtodo.com](http://www.abqtodo.com)

REGISTER YOUR BUSINESS  
OR NONPROFIT, OR JOIN THE  
ARTISTS' DIRECTORY  
BY GOING TO  
[REGISTER.ABQTODO.COM](http://REGISTER.ABQTODO.COM)

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## Winning BernCo Bernie Book Artist is Marisol Baird

Bernalillo County would like to congratulate local artist Marisol Baird for her winning illustration in the BernCo Bernie children's book illustration contest!

The BernCo Bernie book is scheduled to be published in the spring, 2015 and will be geared toward educating young people about the importance and preservation of Bernalillo County's 13 Open Space properties.

BernCo Bernie is a symbolic animal character that represents the eight sheep in Bernalillo County's official seal and who also serves as Bernalillo County's Open Space ambassador. The county launched the BernCo Bernie public awareness campaign in the summer of 2013 to create a greater awareness of the connection between Bernalillo County's agricultural past and its current open space properties and parks.

Baird will receive \$500, along with copies of the book and an annual membership to the Anderson-Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum. She will also be in consideration for work on potential future books.

Learn more about BernCo Bernie by heading to [www.BernCoBernie.com](http://www.BernCoBernie.com) or following Bernie on Twitter @BerncoBernie.

## South Valley MainStreet Wants to Hear from You! Explore New Ideas for Your Community

Bernalillo County Cultural Services and South Valley MainStreet - along with Creative Albuquerque and Working Classroom - will hold community listening sessions beginning this month. These sessions will gather community histories to explore the identity of the South Valley to aid in the development of the "entrada" to the Historic Bridge Boulevard redevelopment. Public comment from the sessions will determine how this key South Valley entrance corridor will look - including public art, building facades and landscape design.

The listening sessions will be held at the National Hispanic Cultural Center, 1701 4th Street SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102.

The meeting schedule is as follows:

- Tuesday, Jan. 27, 6 – 8 p.m.
- Tuesday, Feb. 17, 6 – 8 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 10, 6 – 8 p.m.
- Saturday, April 11, 10 a.m. – noon
- Tuesday, May 12, 6 – 8 p.m.
- Saturday, June 6, 10 a.m. – noon

For more information, contact Bernadette Miera at [bmiera@bernco.gov](mailto:bmiera@bernco.gov).

## NEED Assistance or Resources?

Contact neighborhood coordination specialist Darrell Dady at (505) 468-7364 or at [ddady@bernco.gov](mailto:ddady@bernco.gov).