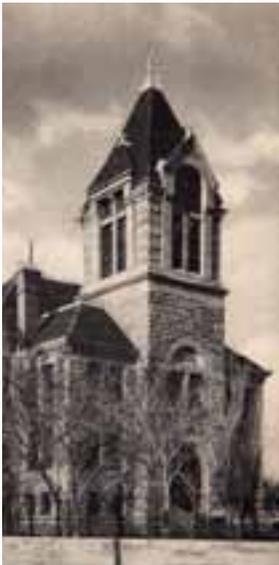


# Popular Annual Financial Report

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2012



2012



**Bernalillo County**  
New Mexico

## 2011 Award



The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada has given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to Bernalillo County for its Popular Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011. This is a prestigious national award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government popular reports.

In order to receive an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting, a government unit must publish a Popular Annual Financial Report, whose contents conforms to program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability and reader appeal.

An Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is valid for a period of one year only. This was Bernalillo County's first award. We believe our current report continues to conform to the Popular Annual Financial Reporting requirements and we are submitting it to GFOA.

Visit Bernalillo County's official website

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

The county's website is your source for information about county policies, services and events. You can also find information on employment opportunities, community events, Board of County Commissioners agendas, meeting schedules, tax information, operating hours, and much more.

Our mailing address is:

**Bernalillo County**  
**One Civic Plaza NW - 10th Floor**  
**Albuquerque, NM 87102**

**(505) 468-7000**

For more information on financial matters of Bernalillo County visit the Finance Division website at:

[www.bernco.gov/finance-division/](http://www.bernco.gov/finance-division/)



**Bernalillo County**  
**New Mexico**

### Publication

The 2012 Popular Annual Financial Report is published by the Bernalillo County Accounting Department.

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## A Message from the County Manager and Deputy County Manager for Finance

To the Residents of Bernalillo County:

Understanding today's financial world can be a difficult task. In an effort to provide our citizens with an easy to read financial report of Bernalillo County's finances, we are pleased to present the Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012. This report provides a summary of the county's revenue, spending and financial condition which represents Bernalillo County's commitment to increase our level of operational productivity and accountability. The report also includes supplementary information on local economic conditions, major accomplishments by the county government, and other reference information for your usage in contacting your Board of Commissioners or county departments.

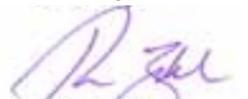
Through easier, more user-friendly financial reporting, the PAFR is another example of our commitment to improve communication with our citizens and increase public confidence in the governing body of Bernalillo County. It is important to demonstrate what makes Bernalillo County a great place to live and work. Bernalillo County's economy is supported by a vast network of for-profit and not-for-profit businesses. It is also important for us to demonstrate the role county government is playing in supporting these activities.

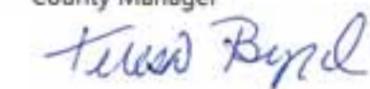
The information in this report is derived from the county's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, which was audited by Moss Adams LLP and received an unqualified (clean) opinion. The CAFR is a highly detailed financial report that is prepared in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). The financial schedules presented in the PAFR have been summarized and combined from assorted financial statements in the CAFR. The PAFR excludes the financial statements of business-type activities and fiduciary funds which are included in the CAFR. This report is for your use in understanding the operations of the county and is not intended to replace the CAFR.

The county has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association for eight consecutive years, and received its first Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting for 2011. Achieving these exceptional financial results has a direct correlation to the county's ability to attain low interest rates on projects that we build. This means that more dollars go to projects versus interest payments, making better use of our funds.

For anyone that requires more in-depth information, the CAFR provides detailed financial information, disclosure notes, supplemental schedules and statistical tables. The CAFR can be viewed at the County Manager's Office at One Civic Plaza NW, or it can be found online at the county's website: <http://www.berncogov/cafr/>.

Sincerely,

  
Tom Zdunek  
County Manager

  
Teresa Byrd

Teresa Byrd  
Deputy County Manager for Finance

## Board of County Commissioners



**Art De La Cruz,**  
Chair  
District 2

South Valley, the west side south of Central, several downtown neighborhoods, Kirtland Addition, Isleta Pueblo and Tohajiilee



**Maggie Hart Stebbins,**  
Vice Chair  
District 3

Highland, Nob Hill, Altura Park, Bel-Air, Parkland Hills and Alta Monte



**Michelle Lujan Grisham,**  
Member  
District 1

West Mesa and North Valley



**Michael C. Wiener,**  
Member  
District 4

North Albuquerque Acres, Sandia Heights, far NE Heights, far North Valley and NW Albuquerque in Bernalillo County including Paradise Hills



**Wayne A. Johnson,**  
Member  
District 5

Four Hills, the near NE Heights, the far SE Heights and the East Mountain Area



# NEW MEXICO CELEBRATES 100 YEARS

Bernalillo County is proud to be a part of New Mexico's history as the state celebrates its centennial.

In an effort to participate and recognize the State of New Mexico's 100 years of statehood, Bernalillo County launched three initiatives. These centennial efforts began in April with the honoring and recognition of over 20 of the county's centenarians and their families at a special birthday breakfast. In August, the Centennial Hall History Exhibit opened highlighting Bernalillo County's development with fascinating original maps, plats, other historical documents and photographs.



The centennial year wrapped up with the Online Family History Project. County residents submitted their family history and photographs via the county's website where the compilation of histories can be viewed. At the end of the project, a book will be created and given to the state archives as Bernalillo County's contribution to celebrating New Mexico's 100 years of statehood.



## The History

President William Howard Taft signed the declaration of statehood on January 6, 1912. Before that, New Mexico had been a territory taken by force in the invasion of Mexico by U.S. troops during the Mexican War of 1846-48. On January 6, New Mexico entered the Union as the 47th state. Arizona quickly followed as the 48th state on February 14. A 47-star flag, donated by a Wisconsin woman in the late 1980s, is stored at the Palace of the Governors in Santa Fe along with two others. The three flags in Santa Fe are among the very few known to still be in existence. A flag does not become "official" until July 4th, so the 47-star version was never officially recognized by the United States because Arizona also became a state before July 4 1912.

New Mexico also made postal history as a commemorative centennial stamp was officially issued. The new Forever Stamp is from an oil painting by New Mexico artist Doug West. It features a view of the Rio Puerco and volcanic peaks in the rugged wilds about 65 miles northwest of Albuquerque. In addition, the New Mexico Motor Vehicle Division issued a special license plate to honor the state's 100th anniversary, which was voted the best license plate in the United States by the Automobile License Plate Collectors Association.



## Did you know?

**1920** - A new state flag is chosen. Dr. Harry Mera, a physician and archeologist from Santa Fe, designed the winning entry. A red and yellow flag featuring a Zia. The colors mirrored the flag of Spanish conquistadors, who in the 1500s settled in what is now New Mexico.

**November 11, 1926** - U.S. Route 66 is commissioned. This famous 2,448-mile highway ran through eight states, from Chicago to Los Angeles. New Mexico had the largest section spanning 487 miles. Route 66 was removed from the U.S. highway system in 1985.



**September 24, 1927** - Charles Lindbergh lands in Lordsburg to dedicate the state's first airport and promote aviation. Another well-known aviator, Amelia Earhart, would also make a stop there.

**Early 1942** - U.S. military leaders needed a place for a laboratory to create a nuclear weapon, which they consider critical to winning World War II. They select a secluded school for boys in the desert of Los Alamos. As it turned out, a small New Mexico town became prominent in the Manhattan Project, the code-name for development of an atomic bomb.



**July 8, 1947** - The public information officer for Roswell Army Air Field issues a press release stating that soldiers had recovered a crashed "flying disk." The next day, a general said the object actually was a weather balloon, but the initial report fueled wild speculation about UFOs and aliens. This became known as "The Roswell Incident".



**May 9, 1950** - A badly singed bear was rescued from the Capitan Gap fire by soldiers from Fort Bliss. The cub was later named Smokey and became the symbol of programs to prevent forest fires.

**May 30, 1968** - Bobby Unser becomes the first member of his Albuquerque-based family to win the Indianapolis 500. His brother Al, and nephew Al Jr., would also become Indy champions.



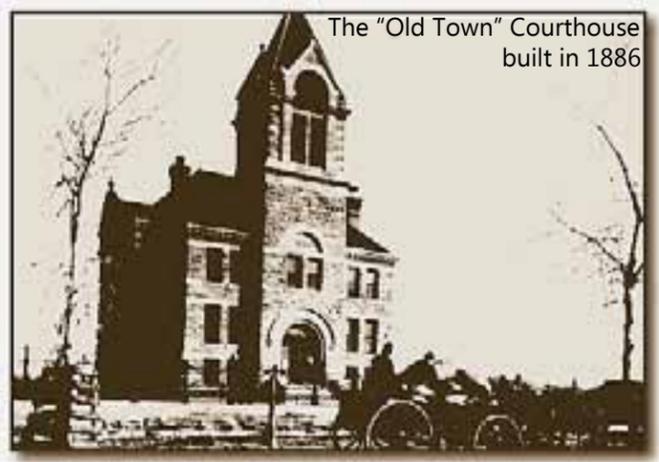
**March 30, 1982** - The Space Shuttle Columbia lands at Northrup Strip near White Sands Missile Range. It was the first and only time a space shuttle landed in New Mexico after a mission.

**July 17, 1997** - The Georgia O'Keeffe Museum opens in Santa Fe 11 years after her death. It is the first art museum dedicated to the work of a woman artist of international stature.

**June 17, 2005** - The Legislature approves the hot air balloon as the official state aircraft. This is a tribute to the annual Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta which began in 1972 and is the largest air show of its kind in the world.



# Bernalillo County Government



The division of counties in New Mexico can be traced back to the time of Mexican rule. The first subdivision of the New Mexico Territory was made in 1837 when two "partidos" or districts were created. In 1844, New Mexico was re-divided into three districts. Eventually, these districts were further subdivided into areas that included boundaries similar to today's counties. One interesting note is that the first Bernalillo County boundaries were much larger than today's boundaries.

When New Mexico entered the union in 1912, the New Mexico Constitution vested the law-making power of the state in the legislature. Bernalillo County derives its authority from the State Constitution. Counties are subject to the will of the legislature, modified only by the state constitution, the courts, and the legislative process.

The county provides sheriff and fire protection to county residents, highways and streets, sanitation, cultural and recreational services, public improvements, building, planning and zoning, and general administrative services. The county also operates the largest jail in the state with a bed count for over two thousand five hundred inmates.

The county has a Commission-Manager form of government in which most of the day-to-day administrative duties are delegated to the County Manager. All legislative power within the county is vested in a Board of County Commissioners (Board), each of whom is elected to four-year terms from single member districts, with a two-term limit. The executive functions are divided; the powers are shared by the Board and five elected county officials: the Treasurer, Assessor, Clerk, Probate Judge, and Sheriff.

**Tom Zdunek**  
County Manager

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**Elected Officials**

**Karen L. Montoya**  
Assessor

**Maggie Toulouse Oliver**  
County Clerk

**Willow Misty Parks**  
Probate Judge

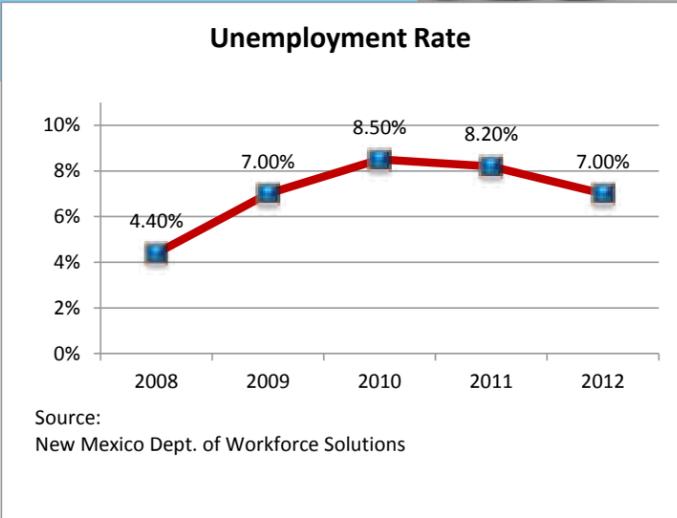
**Dan Houston**  
Sheriff

**Patrick J. Padilla**  
Treasurer



# County Economy

Bernalillo County is dedicated to meeting the needs of a diverse population. Committed to providing quality of life and business growth.



Bernalillo County, which includes the entire City of Albuquerque making up 82 percent of its population, serves as a hub for commerce and industry in the New Mexico. It accounts for nearly half of all economic activity in New Mexico. In the 2012 Forbes List of "Best Places for Business and Careers," Albuquerque placed 84th out of the 200 ranked metro areas in the country and was ranked 73rd in the "Cost of Doing Business" category and 137th in the "Job Growth Expected" category.

With an estimate population of 670,968 in 2011, Bernalillo County is the 92nd most populous county of the nation's 3,143 counties. It comprises 32 percent of New Mexico's

population and 75 percent of the Albuquerque Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) comprised of Bernalillo County and portions of Sandoval, Torrance and Valencia counties.

Forecasts by the University of New Mexico's Bureau of Business and Economic Research suggest the near-term outlook for the Albuquerque economy is gradual improvement in 2012 from the recession that commenced in December 2007. The recovery will gain momentum in 2013 and continue through 2015. It is expected that Albuquerque will post its first year-over year gain in employment in 2012 and gain strength in late 2013 when the rate of job creation will be greater than in other parts of the state.

Non-farm employment growth is expected to increase by 0.9 percent for the year and is projected to increase by 1.6 percent in 2013 and 2.0 percent in 2014. The unemployment rate in June 2012 was 7.0 percent—lower than the national rate of 8.2 percent but still 0.5 percent higher than the statewide rate of 6.5 percent. The unemployment rate for the Albuquerque MSA declined to 6.8 percent in August 2012 and forecasts indicate the rate will continue to slowly decline annually reaching 6.2 percent in 2017.

## Statement of Net Assets

The Statement of Net Assets represents governmental activities (excluding business type activities). This statement provides information on all of the county's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net assets. At the end of the fiscal year, the county is able to report positive balances in all three categories of net assets and for the government as a whole.

Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether or not the financial position of the county is improving.

Below are the three components of net assets and their respective fiscal year 2012 ending balances for governmental activities:

### Investment in capital assets, net of related debt

This component of net assets represents the amount that is unavailable for reducing debt or paying for services because it is the value of the capital assets themselves (e.g., infrastructure, land, buildings, machinery, and equipment), not liquid like cash or equivalents that could be used to pay bills. The county uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens. Although the county's investment in its capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities. The balance of \$357,168,323 represents 58.5% of the county's total net assets.

### Restricted net assets

This component of net assets represents the amount that is available for use only as allowed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws and regulations of other governments, and restrictions imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. Restricted net assets in the amount of \$140,368,833 or 23% of total net assets, represent resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used.

### Unrestricted net assets

This component of the county's net assets is the amount that is available and may be used to meet the county's on-going obligations to citizens and creditors. The balance of \$113,248,057 in this category accounts for 18.5% of the county's total net assets.



### Statement of Net Assets (in thousands)

	Fiscal Years		
	2012	2011	Change
<b>Assets:</b>			
Current and other assets	\$ 363,613	\$ 372,258	\$ (8,645)
Capital assets	572,890	572,720	170
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>936,503</b>	<b>944,978</b>	<b>(8,475)</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>			
Long-term liabilities	268,603	262,956	5,647
Other liabilities	57,115	84,878	(27,763)
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>325,718</b>	<b>347,834</b>	<b>(22,116)</b>
<b>Net Assets:</b>			
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	357,168	344,671	12,497
Restricted	140,369	137,871	2,498
Unrestricted	113,248	114,602	(1,354)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>\$ 610,785</b>	<b>\$ 597,144</b>	<b>\$ 13,641</b>

## Statement of Activities



The Statement of Activities represents governmental activities (excluding business type activities). The statement provides a general understanding of how available resources are used to provide services. These sources of funds are categorized into two forms of revenue: Program Revenues are derived directly from county programs or from outside the county, and General Revenues are primarily raised through property taxes, gross receipt taxes and other revenues not reported as program revenues. Once the county collects taxes and other revenues the monies must be spent efficiently to provide services to the citizens and businesses of the county.

### Efficient use of funds delivers value to the many county services provided

As of June 30, 2012, the county's revenues totaled \$328.2 million, an increase of \$7.1 million from the previous year. The increase was primarily driven by a \$17.2 million increase in unrealized investment gain as a result of the change in fair market value of the investment portfolio. An increase was also recognized in property taxes of \$7.3 million as a result of an increase in the mill levy rate and an increase in the collection rate. An increase in gross receipt taxes of \$3.7 million was a result of a slightly improving economy and an increase in the yearly state equalization distribution. Grant revenues decreased by \$7.5 million due to a reduction in legislative and federal grant appropriations due to the slow recovery of the state and national economy. The decrease in charges for services of \$9.9 million was attributed to a \$10.5 million reduction in fees collected for housing inmates at the Regional Correctional Center which was closed in April 2011 after the termination of the inter-governmental agreement between the United States Marshals Service and the County of Bernalillo.

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012, the county expended \$314.5 million, a decrease of \$11.7 million from the previous year. The decrease was attributed to a reduction of \$2.7 million in capital outlay expense for other entities, a non-recurring settlement agreement of \$3 million for Public Safety from fiscal year 2011, and a reduction of \$5.7 million in general operating expenditures.

### Statement of Activities (in thousands)

Revenues (by sources)	Fiscal Years		
	2012	2011	2010
<b>Program Revenues:</b>			
Operating grants	\$ 22,786	\$ 25,459	\$ 25,361
Capital grants	11,537	16,359	28,114
Charges for services	15,539	25,411	27,822
<b>General Revenues:</b>			
Property taxes	129,586	122,275	127,201
Gross receipts taxes	117,087	113,354	112,555
Other taxes	5,418	5,414	5,602
Investment income	19,404	2,244	15,250
Other	6,932	10,540	14,424
<b>Transfers</b>	(117)	-	-
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>328,172</b>	<b>321,056</b>	<b>356,329</b>
<b>Expenses (by function):</b>			
Public safety	145,585	145,727	154,623
General government	57,591	69,097	64,792
Public works	44,481	43,730	42,123
Health and welfare	43,128	41,952	36,053
Culture and recreation	12,756	13,347	11,958
Interest on long-term debt	10,990	12,421	14,530
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>314,531</b>	<b>326,274</b>	<b>324,079</b>
Change in net assets	13,641	(5,218)	32,250
Net assets beginning of year	597,144	602,362	570,112
<b>Net assets end of year</b>	<b>\$ 610,785</b>	<b>\$ 597,144</b>	<b>\$ 602,362</b>

Readers wanting more detailed financial information should refer to the county's FY 2012 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) available at the Accounting Department's website at: <http://www.bernco.gov/cafr/>

## Statement of Activities - Revenues



Like all governments, the county raises funds to pay for services that it provides to its citizens and businesses. The source of these funds, referred to as revenues, are primarily generated through grants and taxes.



### Program Revenues

**Operating grants** are funds provided from state, federal, or other governments, and private contributions to fund specific programs.

**Capital grants** are funds provided from state, federal, or other governments, and private contributions specifically for capital purposes to purchase, construct or renovate capital assets.

**Service charges** are revenues received from fees charged by the county for services, issuing of permits, licenses, fines and penalties.

### General Revenues

**Property Tax** - The County Treasurer collects and distributes property taxes to other governmental entities and for the county's own operation. Property taxes are received by the county two times a year, due November 10th for the first half of the tax year and April 10th for the second half of the year.

**Gross Receipts Tax** - New Mexico is one of the few states that has a gross receipts tax instead of sales tax. The tax liability belongs to the business instead of the customer. State statute does not prevent a business from recovering the tax from the customer as it would any other overhead expense. Passing the tax to the customer at the time of sale is the prevalent practice.

**Other taxes** are primarily generated from an allocated percent of motor vehicle taxes and fees collected by the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department, Motor Vehicle Division. From the gas tax imposed by the state, each county is entitled to receive an amount equal to its proportionate share of miles of public roads maintained.

**Investment Income** is generated from investment activity of the County Treasurer.

## Statement of Activities - Expenditures

County government must ensure that adequate services are being provided to the county residents and businesses in order to maintain the local economy. A large portion of county's expenditures provides for public safety, health and welfare, public works, and culture and recreation.



**Health and Welfare** is provided through the county's financial support to a variety of social service programs. The purpose is to improve the quality of life for low and moderate income residents of the county. This is funded by a health care gross receipt tax as well as other sources.

**Culture and Recreation** programs are administered by the county's Parks and Recreation Department, which is responsible for providing recreation, leisure, community services and facilities necessary to promote public well being and quality of life for youth, adults, and senior citizens. The department oversees projects to construct and maintain parks, trails, community centers, and also manages the public arts program.

**Public Safety** includes the protection of life and property. The Sheriff's Department and Fire and Rescue Department act to prevent danger, enforce laws and provide public education. The county operates the Metropolitan Detention Center and the Regional Juvenile Detention Center. The Office of Emergency Management coordinates efforts in the event of natural or human caused disasters, including acts of terrorism. The Department of Substance Abuse Programs provides services and activities related to DWI enforcement, substance abuse prevention and treatment, alternative sentencing, compliance monitoring, evaluation and coordination, and planning. Animal Care Services enforces humane animal treatment and promotes responsible pet ownership.

**Public Works** projects involve a wide range of services that includes the design, construction and proper maintenance of roads and storm sewers. They are also responsible for the replacement and repair of fleet vehicles for all county departments as well as maintenance of all buildings and facilities utilized by the county. Other services provided include a comprehensive solid waste management program and an anti-graffiti program.



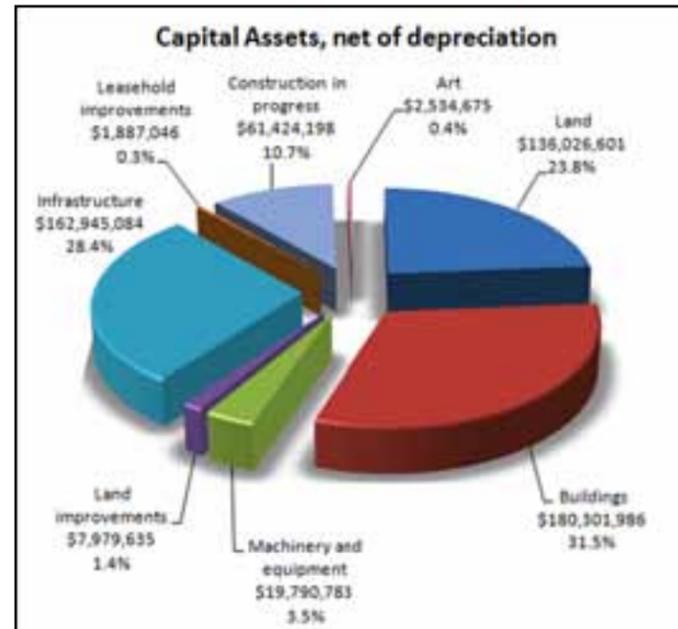
# Capital Assets

The county's cumulative investment in capital assets for its governmental activities as of June 30, 2012 amounts to \$572,890,008 (net of accumulated depreciation). This represents the value of the county's land, buildings, improvements, machinery and equipment, construction in progress, and infrastructure.

Major budgeted projects under construction in fiscal year 2012 include:

- Vista Del Rio drainage project - \$9.6 million
- Black Mesa drainage project - \$8.6 million
- Countywide road improvements - \$4.3 million
- Southwest Valley flood reduction project - \$4 million
- County unpaved roads phase I & II - \$2.7 million
- Sunset Gardens Road reconstruction - \$1.8 million
- Arenal Road and safety improvements - \$1.3 million

**\$573 million**  
in capital assets



# County Debt

On June 30, 2012 the county's outstanding debt totaled \$253 million, excluding compensated absences and other liabilities.

General Obligation (GO) Bonds are direct obligations of the county for which its full faith and credit are pledged and are repaid from taxes levied on property located within the county. The county issues GO bonds to provide funds for the acquisition and construction of major capital facilities, as well as the purchase of library books. The balance of \$109,845,000 represents 43.4% of the county's outstanding debt.

On November 2, 2010, the following GO bond was approved by voters and was unissued as of June 30, 2012:

Purpose	Authorized
Storm Drain	\$ 6,400,000

Gross Receipts Tax Revenue Bonds are limited obligations of the county, repaid solely from gross receipts tax revenues. These bonds are used for the acquisition and construction of major capital projects. The balance of \$142,985,000 represents 56.6% of the county's outstanding debt.

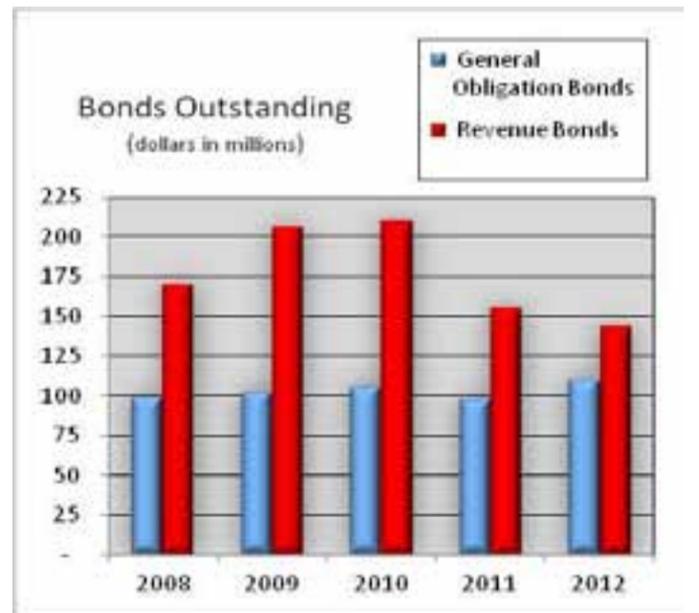
## Short Term Debt

The county issues Tax Revenue Anticipation Notes (TRANS) in advance of property tax collections, depositing the proceeds in its general fund. These notes are used to finance current expenditures pending receipt of property tax payments in November and May.

The county did not issue any TRANS during the year. At the end of fiscal year 2011 the county had a balance of \$20 million in TRANS that matured and was repaid on December 15, 2011.



	General Obligation Bonds	Revenue Bonds
Moody's Investors Services, Inc.	Aaa	Aa2
Standard & Poor's Rating Service	AAA	AAA
Fitch Agency	AAA	AA+



# Property Taxes

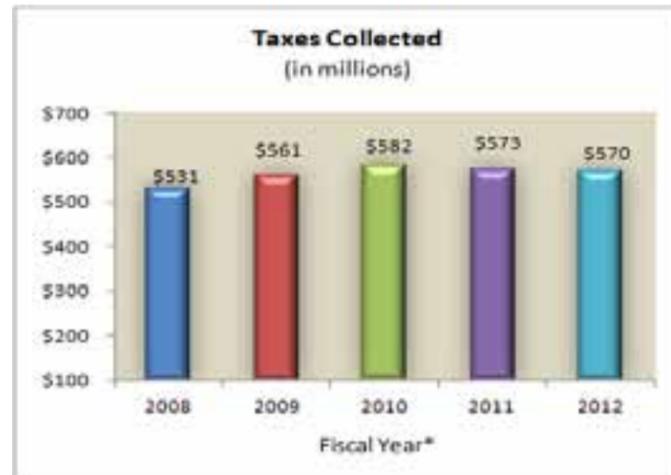
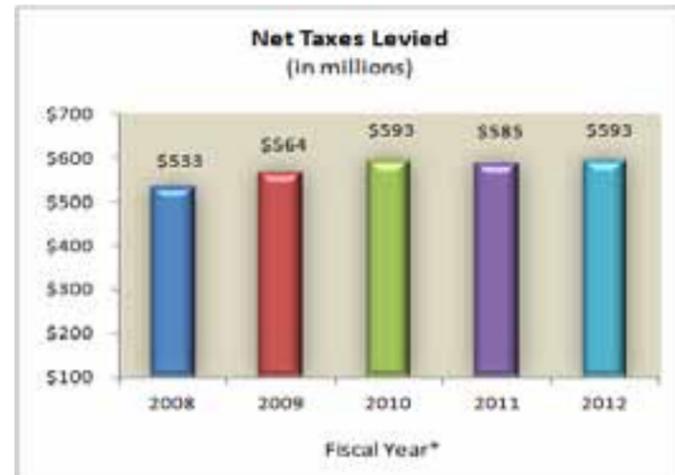
The county is responsible for assessing, collecting and distributing property taxes for other governmental entities and for its own operational purposes. The tax year begins on November 1st and ends on October 31st. In the 2011 tax year (which is reported in fiscal year 2012),

The New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) sets the tax rates each year by September 1st. The county commission subsequently certifies the tax rates and a written order imposing the tax rates is then delivered to the County Assessor.

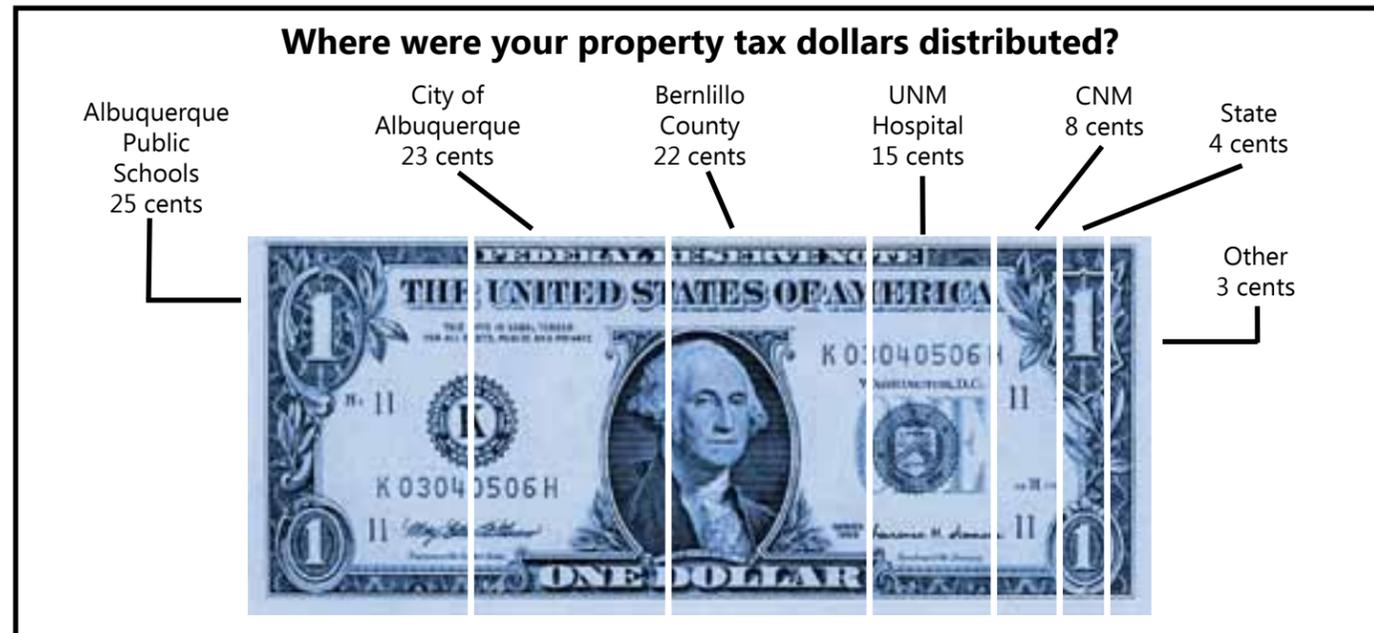
Property taxes increased \$7.3 million from \$122.3 million in FY11 to \$129.6 million in FY12, a 6% increase. The increase-

was attributed to a state imposed increase in the county's operational residential mill levy debt service mill levy. The increase in revenue was also attributed to an increase in the assessed taxable valuation within the county. In addition, there was a slight increase in the current property tax collections in FY12.

Property taxes are anticipated to make up 50 percent of general fund revenue in FY13 and FY14, and are projected to increase by 2.7 percent in FY13 and by 3% in FY14. Even in these uncertain economic times, the county has been a conscientious steward of tax revenue by maintaining sufficient reserve funds and being conservative in revenue projections.



\* The tax year ends on October 31th of the fiscal year



# Grants

The county receives funding in the form of grants from federal, state and other grant funding sources and contributions. A grant is money given to the county for a specific purpose. How the awarded money is to be used is specified in the grant agreement or contract.

For fiscal year 2012, of the total awarded grants, Bernalillo County reported on its governmental activities financials (excluding business type activities) \$34.3 million in grant funding and contributions revenue. Of the total, \$22.8 million was allocated as operating and \$11.5 million was dedicated as capital.

Grant funding was reduced by \$7.5 million dollars from fiscal year 2011. This decrease in grant funds awarded was a direct impact of the continued economic downturn.

A major portion of grant funding received is spent on capital improvements such as roads, buildings, parks, and open space. For example, the Cordero Mesa Business Park Water Line project is 82% funded by grant monies. The construction of the Alameda Recreational Trail also has a large portion of its funding coming from grants.

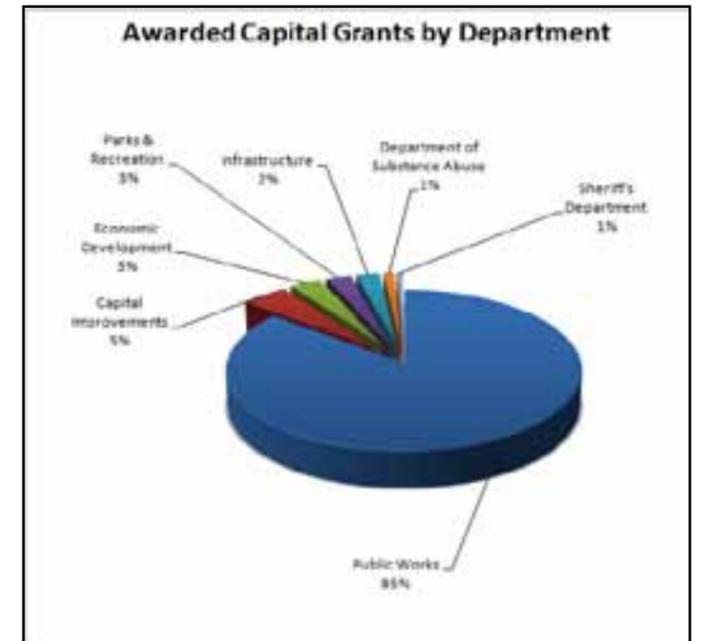
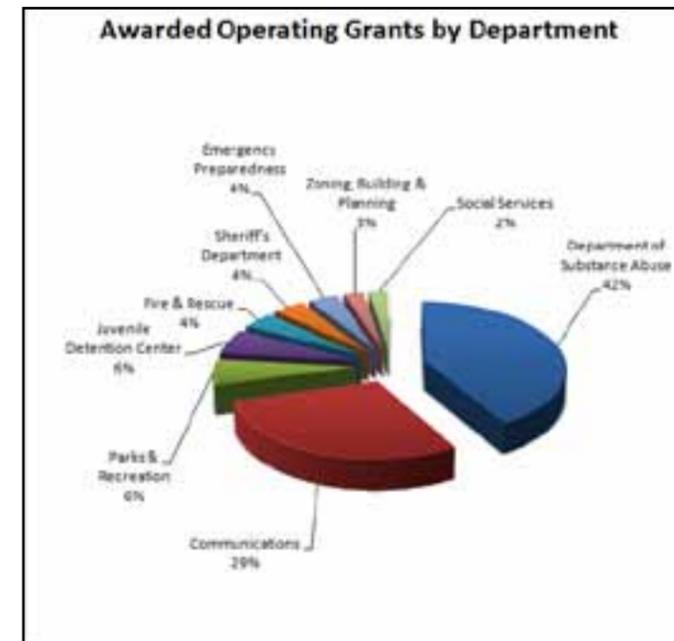
Grant funding is also received for operational purposes to support various health and welfare, emergency management, parks, public safety and other programs. Grant funds are received for the support, education and treatment of substance abuse, including alcohol detoxification and treatment programs. Grant funding is also received for the summer lunch program provided by the Parks and Recreation Department.

## Awarded Operating Grants by Department

Department of Substance Abuse	\$ 9,753,855
Communications	6,773,220
Parks & Recreation	1,462,000
Juvenile Detention Center	1,427,643
Fire & Rescue	968,050
Sheriff's Department	943,691
Emergency Preparedness	903,989
Zoning, Building & Planning	614,826
Social Services	569,035
Metropolitan Detention Center	6,000
	<b>\$ 23,422,309</b>

## Awarded Capital Grants by Department

Public Works	\$ 45,756,668
Capital Improvements	2,500,000
Economic Development	1,647,590
Parks & Recreation	1,346,458
Infrastructure	1,245,883
Department of Substance Abuse	570,000
Sheriff's Department	337,594
Emergency Preparedness	234,000
Operations & Maintenance	133,000
	<b>\$ 53,771,193</b>



## Community Projects

### Lowe's Customer Support Center

Lowe's announced plans for a new Customer Support Center in Albuquerque. The center is expected to create 250 jobs in 2012 and 600 jobs by the end of 2013. Bernalillo County Commissioner Maggie Hart Stebbins noted, "We are pleased to play a key role in bringing Lowe's to Albuquerque. It's no secret that economic development is one of the County Commission's top priorities and we're doing everything we can to help get people back to work. Lowe's has a good reputation, and they are strong partners in the communities where they operate."



### Urgent Text Alerts

With the hectic pace of today's world, urgent information can't wait. Bernalillo County utilizes a communications service that allows us to send important, valuable information directly to residents using the latest in technology. That means residents get the information they need to know, wherever they are.

The service is reliable, with no cost to the county or to those who choose to use this program. Residents within the City of Albuquerque and in the unincorporated areas of the county will receive messages as part of their cell phone text messaging plan. Those who use the service will decide what information they want and whether to have the message sent to a cell phone, e-mail, or simply access it over the web. For more information and/or to sign up today, go to [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com).

### Senior Citizens Get New Buses

Bernalillo County seniors will have access to seven new passenger buses when traveling to senior meal sites. The new buses will replace the 10 year-old buses that currently transport the senior citizens to and from the county's seven senior meal sites. "We are pleased to purchase these buses," says County Commissioner Art De La Cruz. "The accessibility for disabled persons along with the 17-seat passenger capacity will enable us to better serve our senior citizen community." The old buses that are still in good working condition will be reassigned within the Bernalillo County and the remaining will be sold at public auction.



### One of Most Transparent Government Websites

Bernalillo County's website receives another "A" grade and a national award for being one of the most transparent government websites in the nation. "As policymakers, the Bernalillo County Commission has worked hard to make the county more transparent. We will continue this effort to ensure that government is accountable to the public it serves," says Commission Chair Art De La Cruz.

Sunshine Review, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to government transparency, recently released the winners of the third annual Sunny Awards. Sunshine Review awarded 2012 Sunny Awards to governmental entities across the country for making important, relevant information readily available to taxpayers.

Bernco View is the name of Bernalillo County's sunshine portal. The public can access financial and other information by visiting [www.bernco.gov](http://www.bernco.gov). For the 2012 Sunny Awards, editors at Sunshine Review analyzed more than 6,000 government websites and graded each on a 10-point transparency checklist. Editors evaluated the websites on items such as budgets, meetings, lobbying, financial audits, contracts, public records and taxes. The winners of the Sunny Award all received an "A" grade during the extensive grading process.

This is the second year in a row that Bernalillo County has earned an "A" from the Sunshine Review. County Manager Tom Zdunek said, "I want to congratulate our staff for their efforts to make the county a champion for transparency."



### Admiral Beverage Corp. Ground Breaking

Admiral Beverage Corp. has broken ground on a \$15 million construction project that will bring new jobs and economic development to the South Valley in Bernalillo County. Admiral Beverage, which distributes beer and various non-alcoholic beverages in New Mexico, is building the 219,000 square foot distribution warehouse and offices at the corner of Rio Bravo Boulevard and Prince Street SE that will create an estimated 55 construction jobs and 20 new permanent jobs expanding to 40 jobs by the fall of 2013. Admiral Beverage will also move its existing Albuquerque workforce of 185 jobs to this new location.

"I am pleased to work with Admiral Beverage to bring new jobs and opportunity to District 2 and the South Valley," Commissioner Art De La Cruz says. "Bernalillo County has a lot to offer and we're dedicated to working with the private sector to improve the economy. We're also committed to making sure the company and the county work in tandem with the community to create a project we can be proud of."

# Community Projects

## Hiland Theater

Hiland Theater building improvements and infrastructure work renovated the entire block where the old Hiland Theater is located. This was a collaborative effort of the county and the National Dance Institute (NDI). All 20,000 square feet of the building was brought up to code and remodeled for the NDI. The project totally reconstructed the theater to accommodate modern dance performances as well as house much of NDI's administrative functions. New parking, landscaping, HVAC, roofing, as well as asbestos removal was included in the remodel. This performing arts venue has been ranked one of the best in New Mexico due to the new "state of the art" amenities.

Phase I of the project began in 2008, and Phase II was completed in the summer of 2012. Total construction costs were approximately \$4.5 million.



## Ambassador Edward Romero Park

Ambassador Edward Romero Park is a 4 acre site in the South Valley located near Rio Bravo and Second Street SW. The land was dedicated in 2003 by the developer of the Rio Bravo Commons subdivision to the county for a park. It took the county several years to accumulate enough funding for complete design and construction. Phase 1 construction was started and completed in 2008, while Phase 2 construction was started and completed in November 2011. Portions of the site serve as a storm drainage facility, but are naturalized with cottonwood and willow trees, cattails, and other water loving plants. Park features include picnic areas, walking trails, basketball and volleyball courts, open turf, playgrounds, native and xeric vegetation, and a climbing wall.



## New Fire Station

The Bernalillo County Fire Department (BCFD) is proud to present the county's newest fire station. Ribbon cutting and wet down ceremonies were held on Friday, March 2 for BCFD Fire Station 30. Located at 6697 4th Street NW in the Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, this station replaces the old Los Ranchos Fire Station next to the Village Administration offices on Rio Grande Blvd., just north of Chavez Road.

In September 2009, The Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque and Bernalillo County signed an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) regarding fire coverage in the Village. Under the agreement, the Bernalillo County Fire Department would provide staffing and service delivery and the Village would provide the equipment and the facility. Building this new station was part of that agreement. Station 30 is part of BCFD's North Command and its crews will continue to serve residents of Los Ranchos and the North Valley from their new home.



## Robert M. Hawk PB&J Family Services Building

The 7,500 square foot facility provides much needed support services to children and their families. The array of services provided will include: high quality parenting education, counseling, domestic violence safety planning, financial literacy, comprehensive family case management, nutrition education, home visitation, service assessments, and crisis intervention. PB&J collaborates with UNM's Young Children's Health Center to ensure that each child and family receives appropriate medical services and is connected to a medical home. The funding was provided through a State Legislative Grant, 1/16 Health Gross Receipts Tax (GRT), and a General Obligation Bond (facility improvement bond).

## Clinton P. Anderson Open Space

U.S. Senator Clinton P. Anderson Park is a 3.4 acre hybrid park and open space that opened to the public in the summer of 2012. Characterized by a more natural setting than most developed parks, U.S. Senator Clinton P. Anderson Park preserves several large cottonwood trees that have existed at this location for decades and features walking trails, native grasses, a flood-irrigated bosque area, natural play area (e.g. play rocks and logs), shade structures and picnic tables and benches. The total cost of construction was approximately \$550,000. Clinton P. Anderson represented New Mexico in the U.S. Senate from 1949-1973.



## Centennial Summerfest

Bernalillo County and the City of Albuquerque joined together to organize a gigantic New Mexico Centennial celebration on Saturday, June 16 that took over Central Avenue downtown from 2nd to 10th Streets. Centennial Summerfest pavilions engaged visitors in the cultural history of New Mexico's statehood through a daylong celebration of arts, dance, music, cuisine, science, technology and the exciting atmosphere of old Route 66.

Adding to the excitement was a juried art show, featured displays on the Atomic Age, a World stage with performances from many cultures, and a Native American stage featuring traditional and modern Native American music. A Territorial Village in Robinson Park offered chuck wagons with food prepared from Dutch ovens and cooked below ground, period gun fighters, a growers market, and performing artists on the Territorial stage. The Hispanic Heritage stage featured traditional mariachi, flamenco, folk dance and New Mexico music. The Route 66 Rockabilly stage brought the influences of the "Mother Road" with live music and a display of classic cars and hot rods.

The Economic Development and Cultural Services Department at Bernalillo County is committed to a challenging goal - to help get our economy back on track and to enhance the quality of life for all county residents.



International Community Day

"We strive to spur business activity through public-private partnerships that assist business growth. Our department also works to develop cultural programming through exhibitions and events that preserve and promote our rich cultural traditions and our diverse communities through events like International Community Day," says Mayling Armijo, Director of Economic Development. "It is also important to note that county programs such as the Increment of 1 Initiative, Neighborhood Associations, the Arts Board and the Film Office are essential elements to the success in achieving our departmental goals."

### Economic Development

In the few short years, since the Bernalillo County Economic Development Department was created, its staff has made tremendous strides in boosting our local economy. In fiscal year 2012, the department presented four large economic development projects to the County Commission for approval, all of which were approved. The projects include Gestamp Solar/Folium Energy, Admiral Beverage, Lowe's Home Stores, and Friedman Recycling.

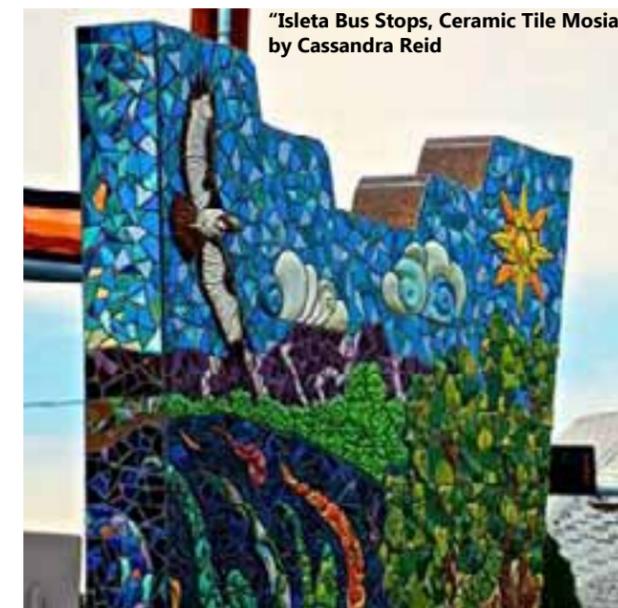
- **Gestamp Solar/Folium Energy** will be designing, constructing and operating two 1-megawatt solar generation facilities in northeast Albuquerque. A significant portion of the generation and control equipment for the project will be secured from Emcore, a local solar module manufacturing company located in the Sandia Science and Technology Park.
- **Lowe's Home Stores** will operate a customer contact center. The site will involve Customer Care, Installed Sales Support, Internet Sales Support, Repair Services and Delivery Service Support programs. Over two phases, Lowes will invest over \$26 million in building improvements, and has already created over 500 new jobs for Bernalillo County residents.
- **Admiral Beverage** is a beer and non-alcoholic beverage warehouse distribution company, which is building a new 220,000 square foot building in the South Valley. This will be one of largest commercial construction projects the metro area has seen in the past few years.
- **Friedman Recycling** will use Industrial Revenue Bonds (IRB) to build a new regional recycling center. IRBs are fundamentally tax subsidies which may include tax exemptions or tax deductions. The IRB process allows companies to access tax exempt financing through the State Board of Finance via a Private Activity Bond. Bernalillo County is the first entity to utilize a Private Activity Bond as a means of stimulating economic development. This economic development mechanism assists companies like Friedman Recycling in acquiring financing at a lower interest rate, making the total project feasible.

Bernalillo County aggressively started using IRBs in 2010, and to date, six companies have utilized the incentive. In total, these six projects will invest \$161,000,000 into our local economy, expecting to create 1,053 new permanent jobs and 417 construction jobs.

The Economic Development team also focuses its efforts on helping local small businesses succeed and grow. For example, the Increment of 1 Program is geared towards assisting a large number of small businesses in creating jobs—even if it only means by an "increment of one." The team meets with businesses to offer financial advice, and often holds free small business summits to spur local growth.

### Cultural Services

The Cultural Services plans and promotes numerous educational programs, exhibitions, performances, celebrations and public art that highlight the cultural uniqueness of Bernalillo County. Among its most popular efforts this year were a series of events that highlighted the importance of history in connection with New Mexico's centennial. The county honored its centenarians with a special birthday party and created an elaborate historical exhibit that included original maps, plats and other historical documents and photographs.



"Isleta Bus Stops, Ceramic Tile Mosaic" by Cassandra Reid



Parkour Gym grand opening

Cultural Services also developed and planned for National County Government Month, which this year focused on community health. The Neighborhood Outreach Grant Program offered another opportunity for Cultural Services to engage with the community. This program funds neighborhood associations' efforts such as public safety, art, senior engagement initiatives and community gardens.

"There are still many challenges that we as a community must face as we continue to climb to economic recovery," says Armijo. "When we approach a crevasse of impossibility, in many instances, the county can be that bridge to recovery for the people and businesses of Bernalillo County. Businesses do not see boundaries, but opportunities."

*Contributed by Marcos A. Gonzales, Economic Development and Cultural Services Department*

### Grow Your Business

Economic development is a priority in Bernalillo County. If your company would like to work with the Economic Development Department, please call (505) 468-1383 to schedule a meeting.

