

Bernalillo County



Board of Commissioners

Maggie Hart Stebbins, Chair, Dist. 3
Debbie O'Malley, Vice-Chair, Dist. 1
Art De La Cruz, Member, Dist. 2
Lonnie C. Talbert, Member, Dist. 4
Wayne A. Johnson, Member, Dist. 5
Tom Zdunek, County Manager
468-7000
www.bernco.gov

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, March 20, 2013
Female Entrepreneurship
"The good, the bad & the beautiful"
3401 Monroe St. NE. Albuquerque

Saturday, April 6th, Dist. 4
Eubank Blvd. Phase 2 Ribbon Cutting
More information coming soon!

Saturday, April 20th, Dist. 2
Hand in Hand Event
Westside Community Center
10 am to 12 Noon

Sunday, April 21st, Dist. 2
South Valley Pride Day
Westside Community Center

Sunday, April 28th, Dist. 4
Day In Paradise
Paradise Hills Community Center

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Administrative

Tuesday, March 12th @ 5:00 pm
Tuesday, March 26th @ 5:00 pm

ZONING

Tuesday, March 26th @ 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.



BERNALILLO COUNTY RETAINS AAA BOND RATING

The bond ratings are in, and Bernalillo County retains its AAA credit rating—the highest rating possible. All three bond rating agencies—Fitch, Standard and Poor's, and Moody's gave the county AAA ratings. **"This is an A+ in the financial world,"** says Commission Chair Maggie Hart Stebbins. **"This puts Bernalillo County in the top tier of counties in the United States that have received an AAA rating. This accomplishment is a testament to the county's ability to responsibly managed taxpayer resources during these challenging economic times."**

Bond ratings are important to government agencies because the higher the bond rating, the lower the interest rates that the county will receive when selling bonds to finance voter-approved bond projects. **"This is a big deal,"** says County Manager Tom Zdunek. **"The county is selling a \$17.8 million bond package to finance road, library, parks and public safety initiatives. The county will incur less debt over time because of lower interest rates directly related to the AAA rating."** The county will have 15 years to pay back the \$17.8 million to investors who will bid and purchase the bonds. The cash will be used to finance projects that Bernalillo County voters approved during the 2010 and 2012 general obligation bond elections.

NEW NEIGHBORHOOD COORDINATOR



Originally from Missouri, Darrell Dady has lived in seven states but only wanted to return to two of them...Florida and New Mexico. He has now done both when he and his wife, Amanda, moved back to Albuquerque in December, 2009.

Darrell earned a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education in 1972 and taught in public schools for three years, later returning to college in 1975 to study Mass Communications and Radio Broadcasting. He worked full-time in that field for 11 years before moving into hospital work acting as a Patient

Account Representative, assisting patients and their families with the financial obligations that many people often face at times of crisis in their lives. He has also worked in sales for many years, helping customers in myriad of ways with various products and services. He has also worked in public relations and concert promotion. When time permits, Darrell is active with several hobbies, including playing the saxophone and collecting automobile license plates.

Most recently, Darrell was the assistant to former Bernalillo County Commissioner Michael Wiener. Darrell will perform many of the same duties for his new customer base—the 80-plus county-based neighborhood associations and their members, as he points out available county services and programs which are meant to assist, educate and improve the lives of all Bernalillo County residents. He looks forward to continuing his work for the many residents of Bernalillo County.

CULTURAL SERVICES NEEDS YOUR INPUT!

Bernalillo County's Cultural Services Office is working with Creative Albuquerque to assess the county's cultural assets through community meetings and a survey. Below is information on the survey and the link to participate. A meeting in your community will be scheduled soon, and announced via e-mail, in the newsletter and the county's website.

We hope that you will take the time to help us conduct this cultural assets inventory and map of the unincorporated areas of Bernalillo County. This survey should take approximately 20 minutes. It is available to all residents and business owners in the UNINCORPORATED AREAS (outside the city limits) of Bernalillo County, via SurveyMonkey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/UnincorpBernCoCulturalAssetsSurvey>. Please complete the survey by March 30.

For questions or to obtain digital or hard copies, contact: Joni Palmer at joni@creativeabq.org or (505) 268-1920, or Bernadette Miera at bmiera@bernco.gov or (505) 468-1279.

OPEN SPACE MARCH PROGRAMMING

This March, there are some wonderful Open Space events to experience, and it is also time to apply for the Master Naturalist Program. Please see the attached *Open Space Program of Events* for a complete listing of the county's Open Space activities this year. You can sign up for the workshops this month at www.bernco.gov/openspace. Please call Open Space Coordinator Colleen McRoberts at (505) 314-0400 or calangan@bernco.gov for information about these workshops or programs.

Master Naturalist Program

Accepting applications now through March 29

The training will take place in June and July
at Bachechi Open Space, 9521 Rio Grande Blvd. NW

Junior Naturalist Summer Camp

Accepting applications now through March 22

The camp will be held July 15-25 (Mondays-Thursdays)
at Bachechi Open Space, 9521 Rio Grande Blvd. NW

Edible Landscapes

March 9, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

at the Gutierrez-Hubbell House, 6029 Isleta Blvd. SW

Soil Science and Composting

March 16 from 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

at the Gutierrez-Hubbell House, 6029 Isleta Blvd. SW

There's Music in the Air

March 23, 1—3 p.m.

at Bachechi Open Space, 9521 Rio Grande Blvd. NW

EUBANK BOULEVARD, PHASE 2 BALLOON RELEASE AND CELEBRATION PLANNED

A balloon release ceremony that will highlight the roadway's improvements and spotlight the other county facilities in the area is planned for Saturday, April 6. The event will take place at the corner of Eubank Blvd. and Paseo del Norte in the lot across from the BCSO Lt. William Sibrava Memorial Substation.

Along with the recent improvements made to Eubank Blvd., north of Paseo del Norte, the county's Parks and Recreation Department has constructed improvements over the past 10 years for Altamont Little League, North Domingo Baca Tennis Courts, Ben Greiner Park, and Big Sky Hang Glider Park. All four of these facilities are linked along the arroyo, which the widened Eubank Boulevard bisects. Complete reconstruction of Eubank Blvd. between Paseo Del Norte and Wilshire Avenue was finished in January. The segment between Paseo del Norte and Corona Avenue is now a two-lane divided roadway with a landscaped center median, curb and gutter, bicycle lanes, an asphalt paved multi-use pedestrian trail, and storm drainage improvements. The road between Corona Avenue and Wilshire Avenue is now an undivided two-lane residential roadway with bicycle lanes, storm drainage improvements, and a paved multi-use pedestrian trail. The total project cost of the design and construction of Eubank Blvd., Phase 2 was \$2.1 million and the four-month project was completed on schedule.

More details about the April 6 event and balloon release will be coming soon. Hope to see you there.

EAST MOUNTAIN TRANSFER STATION GREEN WASTE RECYCLING EVENT MAR. 30 – APR. 14

Spring is almost here, and summer is just around the corner. Now is the time for East Mountain residents to make their homes fire safe and create defensible spaces.

With our drought conditions, the risk for wildfire is increased. Defensible space is essential to protecting a resident's home. It is the buffer that's created between the home and the grass, trees, shrubs, or any other wildland area that surrounds it.

Within 30 feet of the home or any structure, it is important to:

- Remove all dead plants, grass and weeds (vegetation)
- Remove dead or dry leaves and pine needles from the yard, roof and rain gutters
- Trim trees regularly to keep branches a minimum of 10 feet from other trees
- Remove branches that hang over the roof and keep dead branches 10 feet away from the chimney
- Remove or prune flammable plants and shrubs near windows
- Remove vegetation and items that could catch fire from around and under decks

As the property is cleared, the GREEN WASTE THAT RESULTS CAN BE DROPPED OFF AND RECYCLED FOR FREE at the East Mountain Transfer Station located at 711 Highway 333, in Tijeras, NM. **Hours of operation are 8 a.m.—4 p.m. seven days a week.**

BERNCO TEXT ALERTS FIND YOU!



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 technology. That means residents get the information they need, wherever they are.

The Nixle service is reliable and bears no cost to the county or to those who choose to use it. 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.

Through Bernalillo County's Nixle text alert service, users can receive texts about severe weather, fire danger, road closures and much more.

Those who use Nixle 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 to sign up today, go to www.nixle.com.

MARCH IS WOMEN AND CREATIVITY MONTH

EVENT #1

**SELF-GUIDED TOUR OF WOMEN ARTISTS
PUBLIC ART COLLECTIONS**
Sunday, March 10, 1—4 p.m.

This event is being held in collaboration with the City of ABQ's Public Art Program and the **Bernalillo County Public Art Program.**

Carrusel de San Ysidro
Isleta Blvd. & Arenal SW

Isleta Bus Stops
Isleta Blvd. & Lopez SW

A Friend and Protector of our Community
4th St. & La Chamisal SW

PRESENTED BY: Bernalillo County Public Art Program; Nan Masland, Director
For more information or to register, e-mail namasland@bernco.gov.

EVENT #2

**UP-CYCLED ART LECTURE
AND TIN COLLAGE WORKSHOP**
Monday, March 18, 5:30—7 p.m.

Attend this brief lecture on up-cycled art and learn about the history of using recycled materials in fine art. View examples of contemporary women artists using up-cycled materials in public art. Then create your own masterpiece out of a recycled tin. Supplies will be provided, but feel free to bring your own tin with a lid and collage papers if you prefer.

The event is FREE but limited to the first 20 participants who sign up. **Call now to reserve your seat at (505) 314-0467.**

April is **National County Government Month** and Bernalillo County will be showcasing this year's theme, **Smart Justice: Creating Safer Communities.**

Look for more information about how Bernalillo County is making our county a safer place to live and visit.

Look for **National County Government Month** activities and information at www.bernco.gov and in the April newsletter.

HEADS UP! NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH GRANT SOLICITATION APRIL 7

The Bernalillo County Neighborhood Outreach Grant Program has scheduled its second solicitation, or Request for Qualifications (RFQ), for FY 2013. The 30-day RFQ solicitation period opens on **April 7, 2013**, and runs through **May 7, 2013, at 4 p.m.** Neighborhood associations can request and submit a proposal during this 30-day period.

Associations **must make a formal request** to the Bernalillo County Purchasing Department for the grant packet in order to submit a proposal. Requests for the grant packet will not be accepted until the opening of the solicitation on **April 7, 2013**. Recognized neighborhood associations in the City of Albuquerque and in the unincorporated area of Bernalillo County are eligible to apply. A non-mandatory, informational meeting will be held April 16 at 2:30 pm in the Vincent E. Griego Chambers, One Civic Plaza N.W. – Basement, 5th & Marquette.

Need Assistance or Resources?

Call Neighborhood Coordination Specialist Darrell Dady at (505) 468-7364
or e-mail ddady@bernco.gov