



# Town of Bernalillo

*"The City of Coronado"*

**PATRICIA A. CHÁVEZ**

Mayor

**Volume 4, Issue 10**

**October 24, 2009**

## **MAYOR'S UPDATE**

### **A Healthier Environment for Bernalillo**

Town Hall has taken a number of critical steps, raised funds and launched several projects and programs to improve the social and physical environment for our citizens. Shortly we will be awarding bids for the street infrastructure and landscape projects on Camino Del Pueblo and Calle Don Tomas, and work will begin soon thereafter.

Aside from the more obvious road infrastructure, ADA compliance and visual benefits of projects like these, there are social and health benefits that we hope to achieve—a healthier environment for our children and all residents. Several medical, environmental, and public health publications site 'walkable communities' as a key component of a healthy environment. For every 30 minutes spent in a car, the risk of obesity increases by 3 percent. 'Walkability' is now also a key recommended factor in finding sites for new schools.

Solid research on the influence of physical and social environments on children's physical activity and obesity points out that improved traffic management and the presence of good sidewalks promoted more walking or biking to school and other destinations. But equally important, is that the physical environment influenced adult perception of a safer social environment which promoted more physical activity and an overall healthier lifestyle for their children.

Our hope is that citizens will see beyond the temporary inconvenience of these street projects to the improvement in our town's overall environment and 'for the greater good of Bernalillo'. Change is not easy but necessary as our town's street and utilities infrastructure age and the benefits of newer technology and science helps advance the quality of life for each of us. We will keep you informed of construction schedules.

## **MVD Office Hours**

Tired of waiting in line to renew your drivers license or registration? Stop by Town Hall to see Diane Prairie and Al Blacconeri at the Motor Vehicle office. Office hours are: **Monday through Friday; 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.** For additional information, contact Diane Prairie at 505.867.4131.

## **NEW FUNDS FOR BERNALILLO**

### **A FEMA/Homeland Security Grant**

The FEMA and the US Department of Home Security recently informed Fire and Rescue Chief John Estrada of its approval of the Town application for funding for new equipment to further support the growing emergency response needs of Bernalillo and its adjoining neighbors. The total grant award is \$185,594.00.

The funds will go toward the purchase of - critical firefighting equipment and an information support system: a) Self contained breathing apparatus (backpacks) worn by firefighters that provide breathable air in dangerous environments. Equally important is its passive alarm system that warns if the firefighter wearing the backpack is injured or overcome by gas or other factors; b) A mobile high pressure air compressor system that produces CGA Grade E breathing air; this mobile system refills empty breathing backpacks on site and will be available to Bernalillo's mutual aid firefighting agencies serving neighboring communities; and c) A public safety information system that brings together the department's field communications and information systems. Location-specific fire and rescue, and routing information will be retrieved and/or updated for future emergency calls. Important site contact, security, power, hydrant, hazardous material, and other essential information is collected and used to build a response strategy that improves with every call. Maximum interoperability is achieved by tying into the central 'geodatabase' system the Town invested in during Q1 2009. The 'geodatabase' approach is essential for improving services to rural areas supported by the Bernalillo Fire department; such as the adjoining Pueblo lands and unincorporated areas including El Llanito and the Bosque. Continued (pg. 2)

## **NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Calendar of Events
- Bernalillo Service Numbers
- Employment Opportunities
- FEMA—Firefighters Grant
- Fire Safety Day— Kids Win!
- Go Green! Recycle
- Halloween Safety Tips
- Holiday Festivities
- Mayor's Update
- MVD
- UNM Computer Course, Anyone?
- Veterans Salute & SW Reading Room Open House



## **VETERANS SALUTE &**

## **SW READING ROOM OPEN HOUSE**

The 2009 Veterans Salute and Southwest Reading Room Open House is planned for Saturday, November 14, 2008 at the Martha Liebert Public Library, 10:00 a.m.

Come visit with neighbors as we honor and recognize Bernalillo veterans, active service men and woman, and their families. Please submit the name(s) of a veteran or active military person(s) born, raised, or residing in Bernalillo.

We will also celebrate the completion of the Southwest Reading Room addition to the Martha Liebert Public Library.

Local authors have been invited to discuss their work. Refreshment will be served. Community members, federal, state, and local dignitaries are invited.

To obtain more information regarding the event, or to RSVP, please call Felicia Rodriguez at 771.7121.

## **INTERESTED IN A UNM COMPUTER COURSE?**

UNM-Los Alamos/ Bernalillo is offering CT 131L "Introduction to Windows." The course begins Friday, October 23, 2009, 3:00-5:00 p.m. at 237 S. Camino del Pueblo. Contact UNM-LA/Bernalillo staff at 505.771.4071.



# PATRICIA A. CHÁVEZ

Mayor

# Town of Bernalillo

## FEMA/Homeland Security Grant

(continued from pg. 1)

Mayor Patricia A. Chávez applauds and congratulates the concerted effort of Chief Estrada and FF Michaela Montañño who put together the funding application. It was well received by FEMA and the proposal was funded to the maximum 95% of purchase price. The grant award total is \$185,594.00. "They are both valued members of Bernalillo's fire department" states Mayor Chávez. "FF Montañño is a volunteer member of the department's ground support team and is an Emergency Medical Technician, a Physician's Assistant and a certified Wild Land Firefighter. Serving as a volunteer firefighter for over 15 years, I appointed John Estrada, Fire Chief in 2006. Chief Estrada has been instrumental in developing the Town's present six member full time department; managing our 22 member strong volunteer fire department; and formulating standard operating procedures and service protocol for a blended operation".

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Town of Bernalillo is accepting resumes and applications for the following positions:

- Librarian
- Parks Maintenance/Utility Worker
- Public Works Director

Certain positions will remain open until filled. To apply or obtain more information, contact Yolanda Mora, HR Director at 505.771.7112.

### FOR PARENTS:

- An adult should always accompany children under 12 yrs. of age.
- Do not use open flame candles in jack-o-lanterns and supervise children when carving a pumpkin.
- Do not hand out homemade or unwrapped candies to children.
- Plan a route for your child to use while trick-or-treating and set an early return time.
- To welcome trick-or-treaters, switch on any exterior lights.
- **Fall Back—Remember to turn back the clock; 1 hr. on November 1**

### TRICK OR TREAT TIPS FOR KIDS

- Do not go inside anyone's house or into a stranger's automobile.
- Do not take shortcuts through backyards, alleys, or parks.
- Walk—don't run; and use the sidewalk.
- When crossing the street look both ways. Do not cross in between cars.
- Trick-or-treat on well-lit streets within your neighborhood and walk in a group.
- When you return home, have an adult examine your treats. Never eat unwrapped treats.

### COSTUME TIPS

- Only purchase and use flame retardant costumes but remember it is still NOT fire proof. Take precaution.
- Children should wear white or reflective clothing or tape, and carry a flashlight or glow stick.
- Costumes should fit properly avoid loose or baggy costumes. Stay away from any open flame.
- Encourage children to wear face paint as opposed to a mask.
- If a mask is worn, make sure that the eye, mouth and nose openings are large enough.

### TIPS FOR DRIVERS

- Look for children darting out between parked automobiles.
- During twilight and evening hours look for children in dark costumes.

### Go Green! Recycle

Order a recycle bin from Waste Management by calling 892.1200. The Town of Bernalillo residential recycling curbside collection service contributes to a clean environment!!

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please call 505.771.7129, fax 505.867.0481, or mail:

Patricia A. Chávez, Mayor  
Town of Bernalillo  
P.O. Box 638  
Bernalillo, NM 87004  
<http://www.townofbernalillo.org>

## HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES IN BERNALILLO

Mayor Patricia A. Chávez asks residents and businesses to save the dates for upcoming community holiday festivities:

**Friday, December 4, 2009, 5:30 p.m.** Annual Christmas Tree Lighting in front of Town Hall. In a candlelight event, come and enjoy children's voices from our local school choirs, and help formally launch the holiday season in Bernalillo. Biscochitos and hot cider will be served.

**Saturday, December 5, 2009, 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.** Bernalillo Arts & Crafts Holiday Stroll/NM Wine Museum Open House at Loretto Park. A diverse group of local artisans will have their artwork available for sale. Get all your special holiday gifts in Bernalillo! Plan to visit the NM Wine Museum and marvel @ the 1920's terrone barn building restored by Bernalillo's VCC personnel for re-adaptive use. Contact Felicia Rodriguez @ 771.7121 for vendor information

**Saturday, December 5, 2009, 6:00 p.m.** 25th Annual Bernalillo Nighttime Christmas Parade starting at Carroll Elementary and moving southbound to Avenida Bernalillo to Rotary Park. The parade theme is "Christmas Night of Lights."

We encourage parents, children, businesses and individuals to enter a float in the parade. The registration fee is \$25.00 with the exception of marching bands who can enter at no charge. The deadline for parade registration is Monday, November 30, 2009. First, Second and Third Place ribbons will be awarded for the best float using the parade theme. The award categories will be: Youth, Commercial, Non-Commercial and Vehicle. The parade line-up begins on Calle Escuela at 5:00 p.m. and judging will begin at 5:30 p.m. All winners will be announced following the parade at the bonfire at Rotary Park.

Indeed there are other ways for folks to participate and support Bernalillo. Volunteers are needed as parade organizers, toy wrappers, or to serve refreshments after the parade.

Another great way to support Bernalillo is by making a contribution to the Children's Christmas Fund. Your contribution of \$25.00 \$50.00 \$100.00 or MORE will be used to buy toys/clothes for Bernalillo children. If you wish to contribute, make check or money order payable to: Town of Bernalillo—Children's Christmas Fund. Mail to: The Town of Bernalillo, Office of Community Development, PO Box 638, Bernalillo, NM 87004.



Additional information, applications and gift forms are available on the town web site at [www.townofbernalillo.org](http://www.townofbernalillo.org). Please contact Carla Salazar @ 505.771.7114 if you have any questions.



**Halloween Safety Tips**  
to help you have a happy and safe day

### FIRE SAFETY DAY—KIDS WIN!

In partnership with Wal-Mart and other neighboring departments, Bernalillo Fire Department hosted a special fire safety day on October 10th in the Wal-Mart parking lot. Along with plenty of hamburgers and hotdogs, kids (and adults) enjoyed hanging with the Isotopes, Lobos, and Smokey The Bear mascots.



Another event highlight was the PHI Air Medical Group helicopter that landed and offered tours to attendees. Our thanks go out to the Bernalillo Police Department and Medical Reserve Corp who put up tents and provided safety education material as well. Sandoval County Fire and Rescue brought their ladder truck and ambulances, and Bernalillo's own emergency response trucks were also on display for the kids to see and enjoy.

The event goal was to educate children and adults on the key points of fire safety. Attendance exceeded expectations. Mayor Patricia A. Chávez extends a special thanks to FF Matt Urioste and all FF personnel who spearheaded the community event.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Oct 26 Council Meeting, Town Hall; 6:30 p.m.
- Nov 3 P & Z Meeting, Town Hall; 6:30 p.m.
- Nov 9 Council Meeting, Town Hall; 6:30 p.m.
- Nov 10 ESCAFCA Meeting, Town Hall; 3:00 p.m.
- Nov 14 Veterans Salute/SW Reading Rm. Open House, Martha Liebert Public Library, 10:00 a.m.
- Nov 23 Council Meeting, Town Hall; 6:30 p.m.
- Nov 26-27 Town Hall Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday
- Dec 4 Official Tree Lighting - Town Hall; 5:30 p.m.
- Dec 5 Arts & Craft Holiday Stroll & Wine Museum Open House, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Dec 5 Nighttime Christmas Parade, Bernalillo Main Street; 5:00 p.m.

### BERNALILLO SERVICE NUMBERS

EMERGENCIES ONLY —911

- Non-emergency Dispatch —891.7226
- Fire Chief—771.7135
- Police Chief—771.5877
- Police Records/Admin—771.5872
- Concerned Citizen Hotline—771.5888
- Animal Control—891.7226
- Investigations—771.5878
- Municipal Business—867.3311
- Ordinances/Records—771.7128
- Waste Management—892.1200