



Town of Bernalillo

"The City of Coronado"

PATRICIA A. CHÁVEZ

Mayor

**Volume 4, Issue 12
December 26, 2009**

MAYOR'S UPDATE

Town Hall Looks At The New Year

I am thankful for the blessings of the year past, and I look forward to the New Year—2010 will be an exciting year as we move to finish several critical projects and initiatives. As I reflect on the challenges and the accomplishments of 2009, we have learned and grown in many ways. We have made adjustments along the way and we will continue to factor in community input and staff recommendations on how we can improve the well-being of Bernalillo for all our citizens.

The amount of work and coordination it takes to run a growing community like Bernalillo along with all its events including our peak holiday season is unbelievable. With minimal staff to run everything from water/waste utilities, to public safety, to MVD, to community services like the library, parks and recreation, our Town employees wear many hats.

You have seen them and know them well. I thank our employees for all their hard work and continued efforts to deliver the best service to our residents and businesses. Please join me in a 'tip of the hat' to all our employees who dedicated themselves 125% in 2009 to the welfare and safety of everyone who lives and works in this historic and nurturing community we call home.

It is a privilege to be your public servant. Best wishes to you and your families and all of our businesses for health, safety, and well-being throughout the holidays and in 2010.

MAKE BERNALILLO GREEN!

The 2010 recycling schedule from Waste Management is now available. With single stream recycling, you can put everything in one container to help green our environment!

Call Waste Management at 505.892.1200 to obtain a bin and schedule; or, call the Bernalillo Water Department at 505.771.7120/7122 for more information on Bernalillo's curbside recycling service.

POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMAND UNIT



The Town of Bernalillo Police Department received its new mobile command unit in October of 2009. The new unit was funded by the 2009 Recovery Act:

Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant program and Town of Bernalillo Bond proceeds. The total cost of the unit was \$132,600.00.

The unit will be used for all special events within the Town and will also be used for DWI checkpoints and other traffic operations. The command unit is available to all public safety agencies in Sandoval County.

SHERIFF'S POSSE ROAD UPGRADES

The Town of Bernalillo has completed another safety enhancement project. Approximately 22,369 sq. ft. of temporary roadway improvements, including sub-grade preparation and asphalt to connect Sheriff's Posse Road to Venada Plaza Drive was completed this week in a Town investment of \$49,000.00. The alternative ingress/egress connection provides safer, SIGNALIZED connectivity access for residents; and, fire and police. The speed limit remains 25 MPH.

Prior to this improvement, the only access to homes and businesses was through Hwy 550. The 550 intersection is not currently signalized and the high traffic volume during peak traffic times limits vehicle access in either direction from Sheriff's Posse Rd. The Town continues to work with New Mexico Department of Transportation to explore signalization at this location in the future. The permanent improvements to the Sheriff's Posse/Venada connection will be completed when the development of Corazon del Bosque occurs in the future. In the meantime, the Town is assuring that public safety access in this area is no longer compromised.

NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS:

- Calendar of Events
- Christmas Parade Winners
- Employment Opportunities
- Firefighter Training Applied
- Housing Staff Serves Tenants
- Mayor's Update
- New Year's Resolution Support
- PD Command Unit
- Recycle—Make Bernalillo Green
- Saturday w/Mayor Chávez
- Sheriff's Posse Road Upgrades
- Shoppers Happy w/ Stroll

SATURDAY WITH THE MAYOR

The next Saturday morning with Mayor Patricia A. Chávez is scheduled for Saturday, January 2, 2010 from 10:00 a.m.—noon in the Council Chambers. To sign up for a 10 minute session with Mayor Chávez or for further information, call Ida Fierro at 505.771.7128.

While this forum provides residents who work, Monday—Friday, with an opportunity to meet on issues or concerns, other times and other venues are also available. You can also present questions or concerns at 505.771.7129, by fax at 505.867.0481; or mail to:

Patricia A. Chávez, Mayor

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CHRISTMAS PARADE WINNERS

Mayor Patricia A. Chávez congratulates all who participated in helping make Bernalillo's holiday events another resounding success. Everyone was a winner; from the children's choirs who help make our Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony warm and special, to the shoppers and arts and crafts vendors, to the heartwarming good old fashioned bonfire with warm cider and bizcochitos at the end of the Christmas parade, to the 26 'floats' entries. The parade float winners were as follows:

Youth Category

- 3rd Place—Bernalillo Middle School Basketball
- 2nd Place—Bernalillo Middle School Cheerleaders
- 1st Place—PMS Bernalillo Head Start

Commercial Category

- 3rd Place—Rose's Pottery House
- 2nd Place—DC Entertainment
- 1st Place—Bernalillo Feed

Non-Commercial Category

- 3rd Place—Sandoval County DWI
- 2nd Place—UNM Los Alamos/Bernalillo
- 1st Place—Eddie Torres

Vehicle Category

- 3rd Place—Mosses
- 2nd Place—Chevy Club
- 1st Place—Bikes

The **BEST OF THEME** winners were:

- 3rd Place—Our Lady of Sorrows
- 2nd Place—Youth Conservation Corp (YCC) - authentic adobe float with a working 'horno'.
- 1st Place—The Bernalillo Public Schools and the 'Bus of Lights'



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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

- Police Officer
- Public Works Director
- Utility Worker—Water
- Lab Technician—Waste Water

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan 1 New Years Day (Town Hall Closed)
- Jan 11 Council Meeting, Town Hall; 6:30 p.m.
- Jan 12 ESCAFCA Meeting, Town Hall; 3:00 p.m.
- Jan 12 P & Z Meeting, Town Hall; 6:30 p.m.
- Jan 25 Council Meeting, Town Hall; 6:30 p.m.

Housing Staff Serves Tenants



The Bernalillo Housing Services staff hosted its annual "Tenant Appreciation Christmas Dinner" on December 17, 2009 at the Town of Bernalillo Recreation Center in Rotary Park. Mayor Patricia A. Chávez extends a special thanks to Housing staff organizers: Patricia Taraddei, Lora Romero, Christina Sanchez, Paul Hernandez, Debbie Chavez and Rick Bela and their families who also helped prepare the wonderful feast. "My wish for residents and staff, alike, is that you experience healthy and safe holidays and a prosperous 2010", expressed Mayor Chávez.

Housing residents and all in attendance agreed it the food was delicious especially the roast turkey, red chile and "camote" (sweet potato) pie. A Mariachi band, with members who are also tenants, serenaded the audience in full mariachi dress. To add to the festivities, Santa Claus appeared at 7:00 p.m. to distribute presents to nearly forty children from the 100 children living in Housing complex. Children not present that evening received their gifts from staff the following week.

Bernalillo Firefighters Train for All Circumstances

Firefighters Mike Carroll and Lawrence Gutierrez recently completed the Fire Academy in Crowley Texas with FF Carroll graduating at the top of his class of 25 cadets. Both completed the NFPA and New Mexico State Fire Fighter Standard on Fire Fighting, plus an additional 468 hours of drills and tests. Mayor Patricia A. Chávez asks you to join her in congratulating and applauding FF Carroll and FF Gutierrez in their accomplishments.



In addition to FF boot camp and firefighting skills training on ladders, the training includes overall management of live fire burns; important training considering their role at events like the Christmas Parade and Bonfire. Mayor Patricia A. Chávez and Chief Estrada see this training as critical for the ongoing safety and protection of Bernalillo residents and businesses.

New Year's Resolution Support!

Jason Soto, Recreation Director and our entire team there can help all of us kick off those New Year's resolutions with some friendly, physical group activities. Consider joining all or some of the activities in 2010:

Badminton—Mon. & Wed., 9:00—11:00 a.m.

Shuffleboard—Tuesday, 9:00—11:00 a.m.

Music & Dance—Tuesday, 11:00 a.m.—noon (Line & Couples Dance (learn & participate in performances of New Mexican, Mexican, Country and Oldies Dance)

Pickle Ball—Tuesday, 2:00—4:00 p.m. (Similar to tennis, but played on a small court with a paddle and waffle ball)

** Most programs are geared toward adults of any age including seniors

Contact Jason Soto at 505.238.0689 for more information.

SHOPPERS HAPPY WITH STROLL

The first annual Bernalillo Arts & Crafts Holiday Stroll and NM Wine Museum Open House was a success in spite of (or possibly because of) the cold weather.



A diverse group of local artisans made their artwork available for sale.

The New Mexico Wine Museum is housed in a 1920's terrone barn building recently restored by Bernalillo's Youth Conservation Corp. employees. In 2010, the Community Services department will initiate the solicitation and house the collection of wine-making artifacts of years past in the museum. Residents and visitors can then come view and reminisce the historic winemaking traditions of Bernalillo and the region. Contact Carla Salazar, Ida Fierro, or Felicia Rodriguez at 505.771.7128 for more information.