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# Town of Bernalillo

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## Office of the Mayor P r e s s R e l e a s e

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 11, 2009

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### TOWN OF BERNALILLO

## 2009 VETERANS DAY SALUTE & SOUTHWEST READING ROOM OPEN HOUSE

The Town of Bernalillo 2009 Veterans Day Salute and Southwest Reading Room Open House will be held Saturday, November 14, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the Martha Liebert Public Library located at 124 Calle Malinche behind Town Hall.

Mayor Patricia A. Chávez, the Town Council, Veterans Advisory Committee and the Library Board cordially invite residents and businesses to stand with their friends and neighbors as we recognize, honor and salute Bernalillo veterans, active service men women, and their families. We encourage and welcome community leaders, federal, state, and local dignitaries to participate and help us honor these patriots.

Pre-dating Albuquerque by almost 200 years, Bernalillo and its residents are part of a historic, growing, vibrant, and economically stable community. Community residents have long served and died protecting this country and our way of life.



It is appropriate that these patriots are recognized at the opening celebration of the new Southwest Reading Room at Martha Liebert Library. It is another example of how Bernalillo honors its past and present. It has always honored and valued its veterans, its rich southwest legacy and strenuously guards its historical buildings and traditions for future generations. The centuries long and ongoing contributions by its veterans, public servants, and community leaders from the Southwest, will be captured for perpetuity in our Southwest Reading Room collection. Currently, the Southwest Reading Room is home to an extensive collection of books authored by numerous individuals that have dedicated their craft and skill to documenting life in the Southwest.

**Angie Lopez**, the well regarded Los Lunas songwriter and author of *Blessed Are the Soldiers*, will provide the keynote address along with remarks by **Colonel Will Reese**, Kirkland Air Force Base and other officials. Joining in salute are prominent participants: **Sgt. Evan Larsen**, 44<sup>th</sup> Army Band Bagpiper Champion; Color Guards from the NM National Guard, local V.F.W. Post 4243 and Post 69; and **J.D. Garcia**, a local vocalist, will lead the National Anthem. Troops from the Bernalillo Boy Scouts and Cub Scout Pack #707; and, the Placitas Cub Scout Pack #708 will be represented. Local and other New Mexico authors will also be in attendance to help salute our veterans and active military men and women and their families.

Authors will be present and available to discuss their recent published work in the Southwest Reading Room at the Martha Liebert Public Library. Notable authors include **Carolyn Barnard**, *A Vegetative Key to the Grasses of New Mexico*; **William W. Dunmire**, *Gardens of New Spain: How Mediterranean Plants and Foods Changed America*; **Father Virgil Furfaro**, *A Tormented Soul* (soon to be released); **Gloria Zamora**, *Sweet Nata*; and **Ray Michael Baca**, *Brotherhood of the Light*.

Help ensure that the names of all veterans or active military personnel born, raised, or residing in greater Bernalillo area are included, to RSVP, or to obtain more information regarding the **2009 Veterans Salute and Southwest Reading Room Open House**, November 14, 2009, 10:00 a.m. at the Martha Liebert Public Library, 124 Calle Malinche, please call Felicia Rodriguez at 505.771.7121.

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Office of the Mayor – Press Release