

# Village of Los Lunas



660 Main Street NW P.O. Box 1209

Los Lunas New Mexico 87031

Phone (505) 839-3840 FAX (505) 352-3580 [www.loslunasnm.gov](http://www.loslunasnm.gov)

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## ***More Businesses Locating Or Relocating in the Village***

The following businesses are among those which have opened or changed ownership recently in the village.

- Bethlehem Bakery & Café, 227B Hwy 314 NW, contact: Margaret Montez, 565-2000.

- Valencia Mail & Office, 2510 Main Street Suite F (Smith's Shopping Center), contact: Michelle Reeves, 565-0949.

- Los Lunas Mail Center, 1400 Main Street Suite C (Los Cerritos Shopping Center), contact Jim Cooper, 573-9205.

- Serianna's Fashions, 2240 Main Street, contact: Gloria Calderon, 865-2825.

## **Human Resources Manager Joins Los Lunas Staff**

Not only has the population of the Village of Los Lunas grown over the last decades, but so has the work force at the village. Now the village has a Human Resources Manager.

Christine L. Nardi most recently worked for SCF Arizona, the largest provider of workers compensation for that state. She spent the last two years as the compliance manager and also worked for 12 years in human resources.

She has a Master's Degree in Business Administration with a concentration in global leadership management from Arizona State. She received her Bachelor of Business Administration from New Mexico State University.

Among the certifications Nardi has earned are Project Management; Professional Human Resources; and Legal Compliance and Risk Management.

"Employee and labor relations are my specialties," says Nardi who is excited about her new position. She said village supervisors and department heads have done a "good job" of handling human resources.

Nardi has two children, a daughter in Albuquerque



**Christine Nardi**

## **Village Council Plans For Future with ICIP**

The Village Council has approved the Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) for 2013-2017. What does that mean for the average citizen in Los Lunas? It means that the council is looking toward the future and planning for that future.

The ICIP is a list of projects that would improve life in the village if those projects are built. It is important to have the list ready should funding become available for the projects.

Top projects for the 2013 budget year are —

- Expansion of the wastewater treatment plant;
- Construction of a westside fire substation;
- Building a water line loop east of the Rio Grande;
- Extension of Morris Road; and
- Beautification of portions of Main Street.

Other 2013 budget year projects include work on municipal parks, railroad crossing quiet zones and expansion of the transportation building.

Top projects for the 2014 budget year include improvements to the municipal court/police department section of the administration building, street overlays and drainage for Los Morros Industrial Park.

The complete ICIP is available on the village's website at [loslunasnm.gov](http://loslunasnm.gov).

## **Live/Work LL Meets Oct. 25**

A Live/Work Los Lunas general meeting will be held Tuesday, October 25, 2011 at 6 pm at the Transportation Center, corner of Courthouse and Juan Perea Roads. The meeting will include an overview of the program, a status update and a guest speaker. The program is now seeking people who would like to start a home-based business, or need help developing an existing business, to enroll in the pilot business development program. Please contact Ralph Mims at 839-5654 for more information.

que and son in Las Cruces. Their is also a grandson in Albuquerque who Nardi is looking forward to spoiling now she is so close. She is married to Richard Ortega.

## Trek for Trash Cleans Up

A total of 73 people helped clean up the Village of Los Lunas during the annual Trek for Trash held in September.

Groups represented included Huning Ranch Subdivision, Girl and Boy Scout groups, El Rancho Del Los Ninos, San Clemente Confirmation students, Church of Latter Day Saints and Municipal Court Community Service people.

Thanks also go to the following businesses who gave donations of water, soft drinks, gift cards and money:

Grandin Testing Lab, Inc., Weck's Restaurant, Bosque Auto Body, Days Inn, Raks Building Supply, Inc., Pepsi Cola Bottling Co., Dion's Pizza, Walmart, Ortega's Plumbing & Heating, Inc., Western Skies Inn & Suites, Tai's Chinese Restaurant, Nail's Spa, Smith's Food & Drug Store, Fox Electric, Jer's Magic Carpets Coffee Shop Los Lunas, and Benny's II.



***Trek for Trash participants prepare to clean up Los Lunas last month.***

## PARDON OUR PROGRESS...

### ***Keeping you informed about Los Lunas projects***

Work is progressing with the New Mexico Department of Transportation on the required environmental criteria for the right hand turn lanes on Main Street, also known as NM 6, at various intersections.

Construction is expected to begin in spring 2012 and last about seven months. The changes are on display at the village administration building lobby, 660 Main Street NW, and on the village website, [loslunasnm.gov](http://loslunasnm.gov).

Special funding was received to revamp the intersection of Main Street and NM 263. This project should start in 2012 and will have to be worked around the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District ditch having water most of the year.

Work has started on site and facility safety improvements to the village water well sites. Expected completion is March 2012.

The village's solid waste transfer station on Highway 6 west of the village is undergoing necessary

## Brand Ambassadors For Los Lunas

*The following was written by Jim Glover of The Idea Group. Glover is working with the village on branding the community.*

You may never be the ambassador to China or even Liechtenstein, but whether you know it or not, you are an ambassador of Los Lunas. A Los Lunas brand ambassador that is.

As a brand ambassador of the Village, you have in your power the ability to positively shape the brand in the minds of fellow residents and visitors each and every day. How so, you ask? Good question.

Let me share a few ways you can become an expert at your new job. Just remember that every positive thing you do makes the Los Lunas brand better.

You can begin by learning everything you can about your community. For instance, Los Lunas has rich history, culture, tradition, art, and outdoor recreation. Are you familiar with "all things Los Lunas?" Can you share this information with other locals or visitors should they ask? As they say, you never get a second chance to make a first impression.

You can also make sure you volunteer and give back to your community at every chance. As brand ambassador, do you encourage your children, family members or friends to participate as well?

Imagine if Los Lunas is known as a community with no passive bystanders and everyone rolls up their sleeves when called to support a good cause. Wouldn't that make your community a more desirable place to live and work?

And yet another way to be a good brand ambassador is to make sure your home or business looks as good as possible. It often doesn't take much to enhance your surroundings by applying simple beautification tips. And few things enhance a community brand better than local pride.

As a Los Lunas brand ambassador every positive thing you do improves the ongoing stature of the Los Lunas brand. I positively guarantee it!

repairs and site improvements. Tipping floor space is being added for operational efficiencies. The station is being enlarged to accommodate future needs.

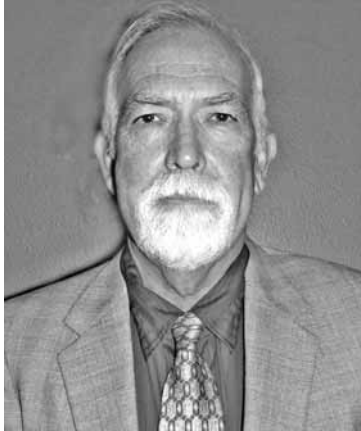
Village Public Utilities Director James Blasing expressed the thanks of administration and staff to everyone for their support when projects are in their construction phase.

## **SHOP LOS LUNAS EVERY DAY**

# Mayor Didn't Heed Grandfather's Advice

Robert Vialpando well remembers spending what we now call "quality time" with his grandfather as Robert grew up in Los Lunas. One of the pieces of advice his grandfather gave him was "Never get involved with politics."

The man who is now mayor of Los Lunas laughs when he tells this story because he hasn't followed his grandfather's advice and is now serving his first full four year term as the mayor of the Village of Los Lunas.



**Mayor Robert Vialpando**

Vialpando was appointed mayor in early 2009 when then-Mayor Louis Huning resigned due to illness. Vialpando ran for the office in March, 2010, and was elected mayor by the voters.

As he approaches his third year as mayor, Vialpando talks about his time in that office.

"I feel fortunate having the staff and department heads who serve at the village, especially village administrator Peter Fernandez," says Vialpando.

## LOS LUNAS MUNICIPAL ELECTION MARCH 6, 2012

Registered Voters in Village  
Districts One and Three Vote  
for Village Council.

Village Council Candidates  
File Tuesday, January 10, 2012  
**Attend A Council Meeting!**

The Los Lunas Village Council meets twice monthly in the council chambers in the administration building at 660 Main St. NW.

Remaining 2011 meeting dates are:

October 20 November 3 & 17 December 1 & 15

Meetings begin at 6 p.m. Meetings may be canceled or rescheduled so check with officials at 839-3840 or the village website at [www.loslunasnm.gov](http://www.loslunasnm.gov).

"When a citizen expresses a concern all I have to do is let the department head know and it is taken care of."

He adds that the village council works well together also which helps accomplish projects.

One of the village projects Vialpando is most proud of is the Transportation Center. "People from all over are impressed with the building," he says.

What is a difficult part of being mayor? Dealing with personnel issues, says Vialpando. He encourages these issues to be deeply investigated before decisions must be reached.

And the future for Los Lunas? Vialpando says he is looking forward to the construction of a west-side fire station. Staff is currently investigating funding sources for this construction.

He sees another Interstate 25 exit with a river crossing in the future to help alleviate some of the traffic problems on Main Street.

And there's the more utilitarian, a water line loop which will ensure water coming from the tap, even in an emergency situation.

Vialpando says he appreciates the support he receives from the citizens. "It's tough when we make decisions people don't like, but folks appreciate the work we do to make a better community."

## ***Tips for Freezing Weather***

The Los Lunas Water Department answered over 320 calls of frozen or broken water pipes during the February 2011 cold snap. Here's some prevention measures before weather turns cold:

- Wrap all exposed pipes located outside or in unheated areas of the home especially pipes that are in external walls or located in north side exposures.

- Remove garden hoses from outside faucets. Insulate outside faucets with styrofoam covers that can be purchased at hardware or home improvement stores.

- Cover vents around the foundation of your home where plumbing may be exposed.

## **VILLAGE OFFICIALS**

*Robert Vialpando* **Mayor**

### **Councilors**

*Cecilia CC Castillo*

*Charles Griego*

*Richard Lovato*

*Gerard Saiz*

**Municipal Judge** Jeff Aragon

**Police Chief** Roy E. Melnick

**Fire Chief** Atiliano "Lito" Chavez

**Village Administrator** Peter Fernandez



# Do NOT Flush These Items Down the Toilet

The Village provides water and wastewater service. The wastewater collection system conveys sewage to the treatment plant while maintaining an acceptable quality through the delivery process.

The Village Utility Department needs your help maintaining the quality of the sewage. The village system sometimes pumps waste to a higher elevation. Certain items in the pump lift station can cause damage to the equipment. The cost of repairs is paid

by the rate payers.

To avoid blockages and damages to private sewage pipes and the public system these items should not be flushed down the toilet: glass; metal; gravel, sand (Including aquarium stone) and coffee grinds; seafood shells; socks, rags or cloths; plastic; sanitary napkins or tampons; disposable diapers; kitty litter; explosives; flammable materials; lubricating oils, grease, cooking oil, paint and strong chemicals; and gasoline or diesel.

## GREAT RECYCLING DAY

**SATURDAY, NOV. 5, 2011 - DON PASQUAL AND MAIN STREET**

**The Village of Los Lunas will host a recycling day Saturday, Nov. 5, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The following will be collected:**

- Electronics
- Cell Phones
- Batteries
- Paper – must be bagged
- Household Appliances
- Oil – must be free of water or other substances
- Cardboard – boxes must be flattened (Master Fibers)
- TVs – minimal charge for a 24" TV - \$5. Anything beyond that size will be \$10.
- Clothes
- Aluminum
- Metal
- Glass — must be in cardboard boxes
- Tires — no rims, no big tires (\$1.50/tire)
- Brass
- Steel
- Bicycles
- Copper
- Radiators



There will be a roll-off bin for those items not accepted.

## Haunted House

October 31 5 p.m. Daniel Fernandez Youth Center

1103 Highway 314 South Los Lunas

Call Parks & Recreation at 352-3584 for more information

## South by Southwest

Views of the Southwest through Midwestern Eyes featuring

Robert S. Rea & Baldwin G. Burr

Through January 7, 2012

The artists both grew up in the small Midwestern town of London, Ohio in the 50's and 60's. They were introduced to the Southwest on separate scouting trips at Philmont Scout Ranch and both loved it.

Los Lunas Museum of Heritage & Arts

251 Main Street S.E. Open 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tuesday - Saturday  
(505) 352-7720 • [www.loslunasnm.gov](http://www.loslunasnm.gov)

