

**Support the Valencia Regional Medical Center**  
Visit the Village website at [www.loslunasnm.gov/vrhc](http://www.loslunasnm.gov/vrhc) to let Valencia County Commissioners know you want their support of the new medical facility in Los Lunas. *Los Lunas Loves Lovelace*

## VILLAGE OF LOS LUNAS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



*Small Community.  
Big Possibilities.*

**Administrative Offices:**  
**505 839-3840**

[www.loslunasnm.gov](http://www.loslunasnm.gov)

## New Strip Mall Plus New Business Openings

Dirt is being moved as the first step for construction of a new strip mall on the west side of Los Lunas in front of Lowe's. Watch the progress!

Now open for business in the Village are:

Computers 101, 1930 Main Street NW Suite 10, Monique Valenzuela, 573-4943, [computers101NM@gmail.com](mailto:computers101NM@gmail.com); and

Rancho De Valencia Mexican and New Mexican Restaurant, 325 Main Street SW, Julian Torrez, 916-5351.

Fidelity National Title has moved to 203 Sandoval Road SW, 866-6666.

Economic Development Manager Ralph L. Mims assists those interested in doing business in the village. He is available at 505 839-5654 (direct line), 505 604-4156 (cell), or e-mail at [mimsr@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:mimsr@loslunasnm.gov).

## **Planning Continues for Medical Center in LL; County Mill Levy Support Still Sought**

Planning continues for the Valencia Regional Medical Center (VRMC) on the west side of Los Lunas with construction expected to start in summer 2014 and an opening date of winter 2015.

An extensive amount of information is available about the facility at [www.loslunasnm.gov/vrhc](http://www.loslunasnm.gov/vrhc).

As Darin Miller of Miller Development + Architecture continues to plan the facility, people are encouraged to contact Valencia County Commissioners to express support for allocating the mill levy collected since 2007 to VRMC.

Allocation of mill levy funds to VRMC in Los Lunas would result in a facility with more services including birthing services as well as satellite services in the county. Valencia County voters approved a mill levy in 2006 to support a medical facility in the county. The funds are controlled by the Valencia County Commission.

You can find easy instructions on communicating with Valencia County Commissioners to express support of the allocation of mill levy funds to the Valencia Regional Medical Center in the upper left corner. No funds have been spent on any medical facility in the county.

Lovelace Health System has agreed to manage the new facility and its programs.

Miller is working with Lovelace Health System on reviewing area studies about medical and hospital care to map out construction without mill levy support.

The full \$55 million VRMC project would be 110,000 square feet with 85,000 square feet for a hospital and 25,000 square feet of clinic space. It is projected the full VRMC project would create 500 local construction jobs and 450 full-time medical jobs. The VRMC budget is estimated at \$40 million a year, including \$14 million for salaries and benefits.

## **Police Add TipSoft Alerts**

The Los Lunas Police Department has added the TipSoft Alerts module to LLPD's current Tipsoft program.

Last November LLPD began accepting text message tips by adding the TipSoft software to the department's online arsenal. Since then, tips received via text message have lead to the apprehension of criminals and provided officers with information related to crimes.

With the Alerts module LLPD can communicate with the public regarding events in the area such as crimes, fugitives, Amber Alerts, road closures, and many other emergencies through SMS text or email.

Sign up by going to [loslunasnm.gov/police](http://loslunasnm.gov/police). Click on the TipSoft Alerts Signup link on the right side of the screen. Then input the requested information. A confirmation message is sent once signed up. Then you start receiving text or email notifications.

# Summer Youth Workers Clean Up Village Areas

If you see a group of young people cleaning areas in the Village through August 2 then they are probably part of the 2013 Summer Youth Program.

Twenty students were hired, along with two supervisors, to clean up trash in Los Lunas during the morning hours when it is cool beginning in early July.

Participants were given an orientation which included safety, filling out forms for the Village, and work permits, if necessary. This year the students will be transported to various areas in a bus recently donated to the Village by Rio Metro.

## LL Police Department Open House A Success

Over 100 people attended the June 22 Open House held at the Los Lunas Police Department where officers and staff gave tours and answered questions.

Tours included explanations of different divisions within the department and uses of various equipment.

People enjoyed hamburgers and hot dogs thanks to the donation of a \$150 gift card from the Los Lunas Walmart Security Department. The open house generated positive feedback from community members.

Police Chief Roy Melnick said, "Thank you to all employees and citizens who attended our open house. The Police Department and its employees strive every day to meet our mission of building relationships, solving problems, and making a difference."

## Watch Where You Put Signs

Lost, and even found, animals seem to call for people to create a sign announcing that the animals have been lost or found.

According to the Village Municipal Code, signs for lost/found animals or anything else should not be attached to or painted on any tree, rock, or other natural object, utility pole, light pole, sign structure or sign, standpipe, fire escape or any man-made object not intended to support a sign in the Village of Los Lunas.

People should be careful about placement of signs for anything. Inappropriately placed signs may be removed with or without notice.

The sign ordinance is available on the Village website at [loslunasnm.gov](http://loslunasnm.gov).

## Download Ebooks through the Library

Now you can download ebooks, audiobooks, and more for your computer, mobile device, or ebook reader through the Los Lunas Public Library -- go to [loslunasnm.gov](http://loslunasnm.gov) and then Library under Departments.

## Griego Chosen Mayor Pro Tem

Longtime Los Lunas Village Councilor Charles Griego was chosen by his fellow councilors to serve as Mayor Pro Tem for a year beginning Spring 2013.

Griego was first elected to the village council in 1982 when council candidates ran at large in the municipal limits. He has won re-election every four years since then including since 2002 when the village council seats were districted due to population growth.

He has served several times as Mayor Pro Tem while on the council.

The Mayor Pro Tem fills in for the Mayor when the Mayor is not able to perform his duties.



**Charles Griego**

## Recovery Academy Helps Clean Up

The New Mexico Men's Recovery Academy group assisted the Village in June in cleaning up the pond on the west side of the freeway ramp.

The group has done an excellent job assisting with litter eradication and beautification and will continue their volunteer services, said Marie Marquez. "We are very fortunate they are partnering with the Keep Los Lunas Clean & Beautiful program."

## Attend A Council Meeting!

The Los Lunas Village Council meets twice monthly in the council chambers in the administration building at Don Pasqual and Main Street.

Upcoming 2013 meeting dates are: July 25  
August 8 & 22 September 12 & 26 October 10 & 24  
November 7 & 21 December 5 & 19

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

## VILLAGE OFFICIALS

*Robert Vialpando Mayor  
Councilors  
Charles Griego Richard Lovato  
Amanda Perea Gerard Saiz  
Municipal Judge Henry Perea  
Police Chief Roy E. Melnick  
Fire Chief Atiliano "Lito" Chavez  
Village Administrator Gregory Martin*

# **A Community that Works™ — An Economic Development Update**

## **Education Key Driver for Economic Development**

*By Ralph L. Mims, Economic Development Manager*

Having a well-educated, available labor force in the Village of Los Lunas is key to enhancing our local economic development. Whether attracting new businesses to our community or fulfilling the hiring needs of existing businesses, a vibrant work force enables businesses to grow and thrive.

Living in Los Lunas means an opportunity to get an education from preschool to an associate's degree including the new nursing program at UNM-Valencia Campus. Producing medical personnel from the local educational facility is important to the Valencia Regional Medical Center expected to open in 2015.

The Los Lunas School System includes two high schools, one of which will be brand new when reconstruction is finished.

Combining our local schools with the surrounding colleges and universities, including New Mexico Tech, the UNM main campus, and CNM, there are more than 35,000 students in attendance every year.

That's a lot of choices for current and future business. This is very attractive as I market our community

### **All Welcome to LiveWork Meetings in Los Lunas**

The Branding Guy Jim Glover will present "The 7Cs of Successful Social Media/Inbound Marketing" at the Tuesday, July 23, LiveWork meeting at the Los Lunas Transportation Center at the corner of Courthouse and Juan Perea Roads. The meeting is from six to 7:30 p.m.

LiveWork meetings are open to the public and anyone and everyone interested in or wanting to know about working at home or working in a mobile environment is invited to attend.

The Los Lunas LiveWork program provides start-up support to home-based and mobile entrepreneurs by offering knowledge, strategy, tactics, and inspiration to start such businesses in our community.

Glover, who is with The Idea Group of Santa Fe, LLC, is a branding and marketing consultant

On July 23 he will share how to use social media to create brand attention and attract new customers. He points out that social media has become a vital part of any successful integrated marketing campaign and any business, home based or mobile, can use social media to their advantage..

*Remember*

*LiveWork Los Lunas —Your Home for Success  
www.liveworkloslunas.org*

to business prospects

The goal for the Village is continuing to encourage great education to residents, young and old. We are lucky to have a superb school system educating our work force. As we move forward, everyone needs to support our schools and continue to build our talented labor force. This will attract new companies and keep local job opportunities growing.

Reminder: The Village is hosting the 2013 Rural Forum, the state's top economic development conference (see article page 4) Here is an opportunity to support your community by volunteering as an ambassador to ensure that every attendee, sponsor and guest speaker enjoys a memorable time during their stay in the Village.

If you are interested in volunteering during August 6 - 8, please contact me — Ralph L. Mims, MCP, Economic Development Manager of the Village of Los Lunas, Community Development Department; direct line: 505 839-5654, fax: 505 352-3593, cell: 505 604-4156, or e-mail: [mimsr@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:mimsr@loslunasnm.gov).

### **Signs Easier On Eyes**

Did you know there are 541 stop signs in the Village? The Village's Community Service Department counted the stop signs as part of the retroreflectivity project.

Most signs throughout the Village will be replaced to increase the retroreflectivity which increases the ratio of the amount of light returning from a sign versus the amount hitting the sign.

Retroreflectivity provides nighttime guidance, guidance especially needed by older drivers.

In addition to the increased retroreflectivity, street signs are now being designed with upper and lower case letters rather than just upper case.

The Village has 919 street signs, 396 speed limit signs, 17 bike lane signs, 46 pedestrian crossing signs, and six yield signs.

Signs are being changed gradually. Total cost for changing out the signs is \$50,000.

Signs not changing include parking/standing/stopping, Adopt-A-Highway, and those with blue or brown backgrounds.

### **Trash Pickup Alert**

Trash pickup for Labor Day, Monday, September 2 will be Tuesday, September 3. The trash pickup for Columbus Day, Monday, October 14, will be on Tuesday, October 15.

## **Rural Economic Development Forum in Area in August**

Put a Tiger in Your Tank is the theme for the 2013 Rural Economic Development Forum sponsored by the Village of Los Lunas, UNM-Valecia Campus (UNM-VC), and the Small Business Development Center at the Valencia Campus.

An opening reception is scheduled at The Luna Mansion, Main Street, Los Lunas, from 6 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, August 6.

The events on Wednesday, August 7, begin with welcoming remarks and then a talk by Ed Burghard, CEO of the Burghard Group and creator of Strengthening Brand America.

Wednesday's breakout panels feature discussions on Branding/Marketing, Success Stories, and Best Practices. New Mexico Economic Development Cabinet Secretary Jon Barela speaks during lunch.

Wednesday's day events and the Thursday morning events are at UNM-VC.

From 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday a group forum will be conducted at Isleta Resort Hotel (formerly Hard Rock) to discuss community issues and solutions. This will be followed by a dinner.

Topics for Thursday, August 8, are "Selling the Retailers" discussing how to attract retailers to communities, and "Mayors Forum" where New Mexico mayor discuss the management of communities.

Additional information is at [nmruralforum.org](http://nmruralforum.org). Local contact is Village Economic Development Manager Ralph L. Mims at 505 839-5654 (direct line), 505 604-4156 (cell), or e-mail at [mimsr@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:mimsr@loslunasnm.gov).

Volunteers are needed to help with the event. Sponsors and exhibitors have a chance to connect with more than one hundred attendees.

## **Pool Open Through Aug. 3**

The Los Lunas Swimming Pool, located off Los Cerritos near the Los Lunas High School football field, will be open to the public through Saturday, August 3.

Hours of operation are

- Monday through Friday — first session 12:30 - 3:15 p.m. and second session 3:30 - 6:15 p.m.

Saturday — first session noon - 2:45 p.m. and second session 3 - 5:45 p.m.

Family swimming is Tuesday and Thursday 6:30 - 7:45 p.m.

Aqua Aerobics/lap swimming is Monday, Wednesday and Fridays 6:15 - 7 p.m.

Admission prices vary according to age.

The Los Lunas Schools System and the Village of Los Lunas partner so that the pool is open.

*Village of Los Lunas*

## **National Night Out**

**Tuesday, August 6 5 - 8 p.m.**

**Daniel Fernandez Park**

**• Entertainment • Food • Games**

**Everyone Welcome!**



*Lots of activities plus food are available at the National Night Out held this year on August 6. Last year people participated in action activities under the Daniel Fernandez gazebo.*

## **Remember, Reflect and Rejoice!**

### **1st Annual Juried Art Show**

The Los Lunas Museum of Heritage & Arts is accepting submissions for the 1st Annual Juried Art Exhibit. To submit work for consideration please pick up an application at the museum or

visit [www.loslunasnm.gov/museum](http://www.loslunasnm.gov/museum).

The theme for the show is the 85th anniversary of the Village of Lunas.

Submissions must be

Post Marked/Delivered by September 15, 2013

Exhibit — Nov. 2 - Dec. 7, 2013

### **Los Lunas Museum of Heritage and Arts**

251 Main Street S.E. Under the Downtown Water Tower  
(505) 352-7720 [www.loslunasnm.gov/museum](http://www.loslunasnm.gov/museum)

*July 20 at the Museum — Baldwin G. Burr speaks about "The Baron of Arizona," the first attempt at "jointure" between Arizona and New Mexico, 2-4 p.m.*