

GREATER BELEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
AND VISITOR'S CENTER



# *Chamber Voice*

**MISSION:** *Dedicated to the Growth and Retention of Commerce  
Through Committed Partnerships  
Enhancing Our Quality of Life*

[www.belenchamber.com](http://www.belenchamber.com)

January 2020

US BANK WITH THE GREATER BELEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

PROUDLY PRESENTS

THE ANNUAL SPONSOR APPRECIATION/INSTALLATION/AWARD

# *A Night Under the Stars*

Jan 11, 6:00 PM



## 2019 GBCC Board of Directors

### Executive Board

**Ray Vigil** 505-241-2529  
President, PNM Resources, Inc.

**Sonya Sanchez** 505-610-1294  
President Elect, Sachs Fifth Real Estate

**John T. Ivey** 505-307-1946  
Vice President, Haloed Solutions

**Karla Garcia** 505-864-7401  
Treasurer, Wells Fargo Banks, NM

**Anna Duran** 505-565-8400  
Immediate Past President, SECU

### Board of Directors

**Pete Armstrong** 505-864-2084  
Member, Armstrong Services

**Bobbi Chandler** 505-864-4472  
Member, VCNB/Media 9

**Carl Gallegos** 505-205-3910  
Member, BNSF

**Jennifer Hise** 505-864-1200  
Member, CEMCO, Inc.

**Yvonne Sanchez** 505-865-3624  
Rio Grande Financial Network

**Roderick Storey** 505-865-6623  
Member, NM Gas Co.

**TBD**  
Ex-Officio, Belen Consolidated Schools

**Jon Lechel** 505-925-8547  
Ex-Officio, UNM-VC

**TBD** 505-864-8221  
Ex-Officio, City of Belen

**Rhona Baca Espinoza** 505-864-8091  
Ex-Officio, Executive Director, GBCC

### GBCC Office Team

**JoElla Patterson**  
Membership Specialist, Office Manager

## HAPPENINGS

Bugg Lights Display was more fabulous than even last year, Thank you Ronnie Torres and Team!!!! Frances Zeller and Harvey House volunteers did an amazing job on the light displays, themed Christmas trees. Wow.



## VCNB Best of Valencia County



Congratulations to the many winners from our Chamber Family: State Employees Credit Union, Pete's Café, Adelante, Rutlilio's, Rhona Espinoza, Jennifer Hise, Brett Huff, Ronnie Torres, Hair Innovations, Dr. Cecil Sandoval, David Chavez, P. A., Richard Brower, Dr. Brenda Mack, Pavlos Panagopoulos, Craig Tire, Romero Funeral Home, Wright Choice Learning Center, Garden Gate Spa & Salon, Tome Art Gallery, Hub Furniture, Valencia County News-Bulletin, Pilot Club of Belen, Belen Harvey House Museum and for Service Organization of the Year...The Greater Belen Chamber of Commerce!!!

## PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS



**Dear Chamber Members,**

**Happy New Year! 2020 is here and the Chamber and I want to wish you and your family the best for this new year. My name is Ray Vigil and I am the incoming Chamber Board President for 2020. My family and I have been residents of Valencia County for over 30 years. I am an engineering manager for Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM) in Albuquerque, NM. I am truly excited to take on this wonderful opportunity. I want to personally thank our outgoing President Anna Duran for doing an amazing job in 2019.**

**Please join us as we kick off 2020 with our annual Installation Banquet on January 11 at the Posse Café. We will be honoring our award winners, enjoy a wonderful dinner, have a silent auction, followed by a dance for “A Night Under the Stars”.**

**Reminder that the annual Valencia County Hispano Chamber’s Matanza will be held on January 25<sup>th</sup>. 2020 will be an exciting time for the Greater Belen Chamber of Commerce and we invite you to join us at all of our events during the year. I look forward to meeting you at our luncheons, after-hours events, Scholarship Golf Tournament, Rio Abajo Festival and many other events scheduled throughout the year. The Chamber Board and I are looking forward to an amazing year.**

**Your Incoming Board President 2020  
Ray Vigil**



**Greater  
Belen Chamber  
of Commerce**

# GREATER BELEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**Happy New Year Dear Chamber Family!!**

**For many of us, 2019 was a year of great triumphs and challenges but isn't that what life is? We put our hand to the plow and don't look back. As we look forward, we know we will prevail!!!**



**Rhona Baca Espinoza,  
Executive Director of Greater  
Belen Chamber of Commerce**

**A special thanks to outgoing GBCC Board President Anna Duran for her support of this Chamber's goals and for being a great leader to our Chamber Office Team!! We look forward to the same support with our incoming GBCC Board President Ray Vigil and our wonderful incoming Board of Directors.**

**Our Chamber Office is busy preparing for our Mix~Mingle~Munch event on January 8th at Tome Art Gallery in Tome. It all begins at 5:30pm. The Gallery will provide some delicious food and we will honor our Member of the Month as well!!!**

**Tickets are now on sale for the GBCC *Sponsor Appreciation/Installation Gala* which will be held on January 11th from 6:00-11:00 pm at the Sheriff's Posse Cafe in Belen. Menu is a beautiful steak dinner with all the trimmings! We will have Rick de Rose Photography there to provide photographs of our attendees. A dance will follow. We are asking our Chamber Family to consider donating silent auction items and also attending this beautiful event. We will be celebrating our award winners and you—our Sponsors and Supporters!!! It will be an event you don't want to miss. Call the Chamber office for more information. Only \$35.00 pp. It is always a sold out event. Get your tickets today.**

**Annual Report ads are still available for a \$125.00 each and the Annual Report and Directory will be a professionally published magazine through the Valencia County News-Bulletin. We will be ordering 1000 copies to be distributed. What a deal!!!**

**As we begin our new year, let me take this opportunity to thank you for your support last year and look forward to making new and exciting memories with you in 2020.**

**See you soon!!!**

**Blessings always!**

**Rhona Baca Espinoza**

**Executive Director, GBCC**

**[Rhona@belenchamber.org](mailto:Rhona@belenchamber.org)**

**Visit our website at : [www.belenchamber.org](http://www.belenchamber.org)**





**Greater  
Belen Chamber  
of Commerce**

# TOOLS FOR BUSINESS SUCCESS



Greater Belen Chamber of Commerce provides Tools for Business on its website, with local, state, federal and best-of-the-web resources to start and grow businesses. GBCC wants to be not only the greatest *NETWORKING TOOL* for your business but for our website and office to be your one stop *RESOURCE TOOL* as well. Our goal is to be invaluable to you!!

Tools for Business contains a business start-up kit with all the forms to comply with government requirements, links to funding resources, green business practices, business tax incentives, employer resources, online classes and more. It is also viewable in Spanish. It is an amazing and all encompassing site!!

Click on the following Tools for Business link to enter the Tools For Business environment:

[Tools Business](#)

Call the Chamber office for more information!!!

505-864-8091



**Greater  
Belen Chamber  
of Commerce**



## GBCC Member News & Woohos!

Christian Faith Chapel Food and Toy Drive was a huge success and Bags of food were donated to Belen Food Pantry. The Toy Drive was taken to Belen Police Department and the department will be giving out toys to the needy children before Christmas. Thanks to Ida and Jim Beasely from Christian Faith Chapel for heading up the Food drive and Ray and Lucy Baca for heading up the Toy Drive. Christian Faith Chapel is located just north of Long John Silvers on South Main in Belen.



**Woohoo!!! Our Chamber Members Shine Shine Shine!!!!!!**



Renee Antoinette's School of Dance Studio recently partnered with the Moscow Ballet's 26th Anniversary Great Russian Nutcracker production. The Ballet was presented at the Kiva Auditorium to a packed house on December 15th. Renee Antoinette's students auditioned back in September for different cast positions in the production. Good job Renee Baca-Chavez and Company!!!



# Special Member Info



## Belen Main Street Partnership News

WooHoo!!! BMSP recently received word from New Mexico Main Street that BMSP will be awarded a Capital Outlay Grant of \$530K for the implementation of the First Phase of the Great Blocks on Main Street Plan on Becker Ave!!! Contracts are preparing and the work should begin early this spring!!! Lots going on in our Downtown!! It is so exciting!!!

## Food Fun Folly!!



The Drama team from Los Lunas High School presented Charles Dickens, A Christmas Carol. Vendors of all kinds came and sold their crafts and Montano's Restaurant prepared the most delicious posole for all!!!! It turned out to be a beautiful evening of fun and laughter and lots of good eats!!!!



## Membership Renewals!!!!!!!

H2 Academic Solutions  
506 Becker Ave.  
Belen, NM 87002  
505-453-3621

Buckland Pharmacy  
P.O. Box 729  
Belen, NM 87002  
505-864-7434

David C. Chavez, P.A.  
P.O. Box 1615  
Los Lunas, NM 87031  
505-865-9696

Bella Vida Healthcare  
328 Main Street  
Los Lunas, NM 87031  
505-916-5446

Belen Consolidated Schools  
520 N. Main Street  
Belen, NM 87002  
505-966-5000

Nusenda Credit Union  
P.O. Box 8530  
Albuquerque, NM 87198  
505-998-2601

Valencia Flying Retrieval Society  
P.O. Box 1002  
Peralta, NM 87042

Advanced Environmental Solutions  
2318 Roldan Dr.  
Belen, NM 87002  
505-861-1710

Care Net Pregnancy Ctr.  
601 Main St. Ste. 26  
Los Lunas, NM 87031  
505-565-3838

Mountain Goddess Apotheca  
627 N. Main St  
Belen, NM 87002  
505-210-2776

The Wright Choice Learning Center  
901 W. Vivian Dr.  
Belen, NM 87002  
505-864-2530

La Dos Gringas  
2100 Camino Del Llano  
Belen, NM 87002  
505-569-8888



# Holiday Luncheon Highlights!!!



GBCC December Business of the Month Award went to New Mexico Gas Co.

## December Member of the Month:

### New Mexico Gas Co.

The Greater Belen Chamber of Commerce is honored to present the December Member of the Month award to New Mexico Gas Co. New Mexico Gas Company is a member of the Emera family of energy companies. With headquarters in Albuquerque, they are the largest natural gas utility in New Mexico.

Strategically situated between two large natural gas production basins, they operate in 26 of the 33 counties in New Mexico, maintaining 12,000 miles of pipeline and serving 524,000 customers. To provide the best customer service and support, they have a state-of-the-art Call Center in Albuquerque and 22 walk-in offices in communities across New Mexico. New Mexico Gas Company traces its roots to the Albuquerque Gas and Electric Company, founded in 1917, but the natural gas business as we know it today in New Mexico began when Southern Union purchased franchises in Farmington, Santa Fe and Albuquerque in 1930. We thank NM Gas Co. for being a great support to our community and to our Chamber!!!!



Wow. Local historian Dr. Richard Melzer once again presented an interesting and yet very humorous presentation on the Harvey Girls. The food was once again delicious and we had a great turnout. The Watch Me Grow Pre-School stole the show with their Christmas carols for us.

It was a beautiful Christmas Luncheon at First United Methodist Church in Belen as we celebrated our Member of the Month, New Mexico Gas Co. Thanks to the FUMC and all who attended. We had 45 in attendance!!!!



# Resources & Tools for Business Success



The Greater Belen  
Chamber of Commerce

Gain access to over 600 free and low-cost resources to help you start and grow your business!

## Need help getting your business off the ground?

*Our Start-up Help section includes*

- Business Entity Wizard – to help you choose the right type of legal entity
- All of the necessary forms to create a business entity
- Sales tax, quarterly estimated tax and other forms required throughout the year
- Access to free business plan software
- Links to free one-on-one assistance
- Business License and other local requirements

## Tired of searching the web for answers?

*Find all the resources you need in one place!*

- Local, State, and Federal Programs to help businesses
- Easy Ways to “Go Green”
- Marketing and Selling Resources
- Disaster Preparation and Recovery
- Training programs for Owners and Employees
- Going Global
- Business Plan Resources
- Links for specialized Industries

## Is your business in compliance with HR law?

*Stay up to date on ever-changing state and federal requirements*

- Find all the forms you need to become an employer, hire employees and keep your business in compliance
- Job description tools
- Workplace ergonomic tools
- New Hire Email Service – provides new employees with required forms
- Workplace safety and HR resources

## Need help gaining a competitive edge?

- Information about local and online business training resources
- Using social media to promote your business
- Six Sigma Quality for small businesses
- Links to one-on-one help



Greater  
Belen Chamber  
of Commerce

[www.Resources4Business.info/Belen](http://www.Resources4Business.info/Belen)





US BANK WITH THE GREATER BELEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

PROUDLY PRESENTS

THE ANNUAL SPONSOR APPRECIATION/INSTALLATION/AWARDS GALA

# A Night Under the Stars

Jan 11, 6:00 PM

\$35/PERSON/ \$60/COUPLE

INCLUDES COMPLIMENTARY PROFESSIONAL PHOTO

COCKTAILS/ DINNER/ DANCE FOLLOWING AWARDS

SILENT AUCTION

SPONSOR APPRECIATION/INSTALLATION/AWARDS

*Purchase your tickets today at the Greater Belen Chamber of Commerce Office*

For More Information Call: 505-864-8091





# January

A HAPPY  
NEW YEAR

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
29	30	31 New Year's Eve Office closed	1 New Year's Eve Office closed	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 After Hours at Tome Art Gallery 5:30pm	9	10	11 US Bank and GBCC Gala 6:00 Sheriff's Posse Cafe
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 VCHC 20th Annual Matanza
26	27	28 GBCC Board Meeting	29 BMSP Board Meeting	30 BMSP's News@Noon 11:30am	31	

## February UPCOMING EVENTS

- GBCC LUNCHEON: 11:30-1:00PM Fat Sat's Bar and Grill February 5th
- ANNUAL REPORT/MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 1st

## DECEMBER 2019 TOURISM CENTER ACTIVITY

INCOMING CALLS: During the month of December we recorded 778 calls

WALK-INS/SIGN-INS: We recorded 27 people from New Mexico and 6 from other States, France, and Canada walking into the Chamber for information about events, services, maps, tourist info and directions to property.

DURING THE MONTH OF December: We mailed 6 relocation packages. . There were 1195 hits on the Chamber Web site. And 142 regular visitors on the GBCC Facebook site!!! Come visit our GBCC Facebook page!!!

The Harvey House reports a total of 1000+ visitors from various states. The Exhibits are amazing!!



## SHOP THESE LOCAL MEMBERS-GET A DISCOUNT!

**MEMBER TO MEMBER DISCOUNTS**

Abba Technologies: 20% off an I.T. assessment for Chamber Members. 505-889-3337

Bar Y Pet Hotel: 14 day care for the cost of 13 days Call Bobbie, 864-2251

Bella Vida Healthcare Clinic: Non-insured patients are able to be seen for \$40.00 office visit; sports physicals-\$25 Call 916-5446 for more information

Bethlehem Trading Post: 10% discount on store merchandise. Vendor items may be exception.

Black's Smuggler's Winery: Free Wine Tasting for GBCC Members: Call Tony Black: 388-8117

Images By Rosa: FREE one hour sitting for GBCC members, call 505.250.2982 or email [imagesbyrosa@aol.com](mailto:imagesbyrosa@aol.com) to make an appointment. View the site at <http://imagesbyrosa.exposuremanager.com/>

H2Academic Solutions: 10% discount for Chamber Members. Holly: 505-453-3621

Jazzercise: GBCC Members first month FREE, call 250-2982 or [JazzerciseBelen@aol.com](mailto:JazzerciseBelen@aol.com)

Johnson Chiropractic Clinic, LLC: 10% discount for military and law enforcement and for payment in full at the time of service. Call 505-565-0548

Long John Silver's: Discounts available depending on service: Call 864-4481

Marty's Muffler Shop Inc.: 10% Discount on all repairs 864-8033.

listing. Call 830-2043 or email [info@nmbiz.com](mailto:info@nmbiz.com)

Paradigm Physical Therapy Belen: 10% Discount on One Month Gym Membership, Call 861-1200

Performance Automotive: 10% off on all parts and labor for all GBCC Members: Present card at time of service. Call 505-861-1468 for more information

Professional Contracting: Senior Discount: 505-859-4220: Laura Rosales

Rutilio's: Discounts available depending on service Call 864-0093

Sandia Self Storage– 10% off any size storage unit for the duration of the rental-864-1133

Sew What?! 10% discount on multi-piece orders, 565-2677

US Bank: 20% off standard checks and reorders. *Belen only!* Call 861-1900

Valencia Animal Clinic: 10% off annual vaccinations, 864-4075

Valencia County News-Bulletin: 40% ad Discount on monthly Chamber Page, 864-4472

Wright Choice Learning Center: Discounts available depending on service Call 864-2530

Yucca Self Storage: 10% Discount monthly storage for GBCC Members: Call 861-0382

**The Belen Chamber is Here To Serve You– Call 505-864-8091**

Phone: 864-8091

e-mail: [belenchamber@belenchamber.org](mailto:belenchamber@belenchamber.org)

Website: [www.belenchamber.com](http://www.belenchamber.com)

712 DALIES  
BELEN, NM 87002

Celebrating our February Member of the Month  
Great networking, yummy food, exciting presentation



GBCC CHAMBER Networking Luncheon  
February 8th: 11:30am  
Fat Sats Bar and Grill  
I 25 Bypass!! \$12 pp



Greater  
Belen Chamber  
of Commerce



**Greater Belen Chamber of Commerce**  
***and Visitors Center***



## 6th ANNUAL PET FOOD DRIVE!



Our goal is 2000 lbs. of pet food that will help feed needy dogs and cats in Valencia County. Hills Pet Nutrition is matching, pound per pound, up to 250 lbs. of Science Diet products.

Food and cash donations accepted at 1533 East River Road in Belen until January 3rd and will be donated to the Belen Food Pantry.



Call us with any questions  
(505) 864-4075







# Belén

*The Hub City*

## Miracle on Main Street Festival 2019

Belén • Saturday, November 30, 5 - 9 p.m.



### Take The Train

To the Event: Train #705 arrives in Belén at 5:25 p.m.  
From the Event: Train #708 Departs Belén at 7:43 p.m.  
From the Event: \*Train #710 Departs at 10:30 p.m.  
(\*Train #710 only goes as far north as Downtown ABQ)



# Belén

*The Hub City*

## Miracle on Main Street Festival 2019

Belén • Saturday, November 30, 5 - 9 p.m.



### Take The Train

To the Event: Train #705 arrives in Belén at 5:25 p.m.  
From the Event: Train #708 Departs Belén at 7:43 p.m.  
From the Event: \*Train #710 Departs at 10:30 p.m.  
(\*Train #710 only goes as far north as Downtown ABQ)



**Grand Opening on Saturday, November 30th!**



## **Belén** Miracle on Main Street Parade

*The Hub City*

Winter Wonderland on Saturday,  
November 30th at 5:00 p.m.

**Parade** starts at 6:00 p.m.,  
Carriage Rides, Carousel, Santa,  
& so much more. 505-966-2700

### **Bugg Lights Museum**

513 Becker Avenue  
Holiday evening hours:  
Tuesday, Wednesday,  
Thursday & Sunday  
5:00 to 8:00 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday  
5:00 to 9:00 p.m.  
Until 12/31  
505-861-0217



### **Belen Harvey House Museum**

#### *Harvey House Holiday Lights*

A continued Belen Tradition  
Holiday evening hours:  
Every Friday, Saturday & Sunday  
From 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Until 12/22/19  
104 North First Street  
505-861-0581



**Grand Opening on Saturday, November 30th!**



## **Belén** Miracle on Main Street Parade

*The Hub City*

Winter Wonderland on Saturday,  
November 30th at 5:00 p.m.

**Parade** starts at 6:00 p.m.,  
Carriage Rides, Carousel, Santa,  
& so much more. 505-966-2700

### **Bugg Lights Museum**

513 Becker Avenue  
Holiday evening hours:  
Tuesday, Wednesday,  
Thursday & Sunday  
5:00 to 8:00 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday  
5:00 to 9:00 p.m.  
Until 12/31  
505-861-0217



### **Belen Harvey House Museum**

#### *Harvey House Holiday Lights*

A continued Belen Tradition  
Holiday evening hours:  
Every Friday, Saturday & Sunday  
From 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Until 12/22/19  
104 North First Street  
505-861-0581

