

Village of Los Lunas



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Rio Grande Silvery Minnow To Live in Los Lunas "Refugium"

Rio Grande silvery minnow will live and thrive in a \$1.2 million cutting edge facility designed for breeding and rearing the fish in captivity located on the grounds of the old Hospital and Training School off northwest Main Street.

Ground was broken in mid-April for the facility. Construction is scheduled to be completed in the fall. Fish will be stocked in November and these fish will spawn in the spring of 2008.

The refugium is a unique design that copies the Rio Grande and incorporates the different types of micro-habitats that are needed for different components of the silvery minnow's life cycle.

It will consist of a 10-foot wide by 400-foot long outdoor "stream" that meanders at ground level over a linear distance of 300 feet. The stream will be fenced to prevent predation by birds, snakes and other animals.

Five three-foot-deep ponds will be fed by the stream. Total water area covered by the stream and ponds is a

quarter of an acre. Total water volume in the refugium will be about half an acre-foot or 162,000 gallons.

The indoor hatchery will be a 50-foot by 30-foot building housing 25 40-gallon aquaria that will be used to spawn minnows and five 680-gallon tanks that will be used to hold brood fish.

Historically the silvery minnow was one of the most abundant minnow species in the Rio Grande basin. Today, it is the only remaining native pelagic spawning minnow in the middle Rio Grande.

Historically the silvery minnow occupied 2,400 river miles in New Mexico and Texas. Today, it only exists in a 174-mile stretch of the Rio Grande from Cochiti Dam to the headwaters of Elephant Butte Reservoir which is seven percent of the historic range.

The silvery minnow is a small, relatively heavy-bodied minnow. Adults can reach 3.5 to 5 inches. The back and upper sides are silver to olive and the bottom part is silvery.

State Appropriations Passed by Legislature For Lighting, Main Street Improvements, Interchange

The Village received \$1.07 million in appropriations for community projects during the regular 2007 session of the New Mexico Legislature.

A \$449,287 appropriation will help fund outdoor lighting at Enchantment Little League Complex and the Morris Road Sports Complex.

The Enchantment Little League Complex has six ball fields of various sizes and operates six days a week. The fields are not able to be used after dark because there is not adequate lighting.

The installation of multipurpose lighting will increase practice and game time by making the fields available after dark. The lighting will also make the complex more efficient.

New lighting at the Morris Road complex will make the facility usable after dark.

A \$625,000 appropriation will go toward improve-

ments on Main Street. Village officials had hoped to obtain \$3.2 million for improvements to eight intersections along NM 6, also known as Main Street.

Last year the village requested \$5 million from the Legislature and received \$1.8 million in project funds.

Among the goals of the Main Street improvements are to significantly decrease delays and increase safety for traffic. Up to 28,000 vehicles pass through the village every day on Main Street.

One of the accomplished improvements is the two lane left turn now in effect at the intersection of Highway 47 and Main Street. This allows more vehicles to get through the intersection on a left turn arrow.

Included in the Special Session bill funding transportation projects throughout the state was \$2.3 million for acquisition of rights of way, planning and design for an interchange and arterial river crossing in the village.

Campaigns Clean Up Los Lunas

The Keep Los Lunas Beautiful campaign was helped in February when Rich Naier & Wal Colmonoy Corporation donated ten 55-gallon drums for the Art Can Contest which will be held April 24th.

The presentation of awards for the best decorated cans will be at the Los Lunas Schools Literacy & Art Festival May 1st at the Los Lunas Middle School Courtyard.

On March 13 a Wal-Mart management training group of 11 people donated several hours completing a cleanup in Los Lunas.

These people included Rita Chavez, Vanessa Maldonado, Barbara Rossette, Jennifer Norberto, Robin Cannon, Abel Hison, Luanna Oney, Ray Trepfibio, Carlos Baca, Michael Donald and Thomas Trujillo.

The Wal-Mart crew picked up 28 bags. After the cleanup Sonic Drive-In provided hot dogs and drinks to the group.

Marie Marquez, the coordinator of the village's cleanup, points out that the State Litter patrol is constantly cleaning up the State Highways in the area.

Art students at Los Lunas High School participated throughout March in a graphics contest to design the graphic and/or theme which will go on the Keep Los Lunas Clean and Beautiful van.

Watch for the van in the community with its new design which promotes the litter prevention program.

The Great American Cleanup will be held April 21. See the back page for more information.

Marie Marquez extended her thanks to all the citizens and businesses who help with the cleanups that keep the village looking great.



Members of the Wal-Mart management training group gather for a photograph before beginning their cleanup duties.

Parks and Rec and Others Help in Village Clean Ups

Marie Marquez of the village's Keep Los Lunas Clean and Beautiful campaign says Thank You to the Parks and Recreation Department for all the help given by members of that department whenever.

In addition, Marquez says whenever she reports graffiti to the department, graffiti is removed immediately.

Parks and Recreation staff members also primed the Art Cans donated by Wal Colmonoy (see story this page) before taking them to the schools for decorating.

Marquez is also appreciative of the help she gets from other members of her village department. She says animal control officers and the building inspector are always helpful with monthly cleanups including assisting in picking up the bags of trash.

Pay Your Village Water Bill Online Go To www.loslunasnm.gov and Follow the Directions

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Louis F. Huning Mayor
Councilors

Cecilia CC Castillo Charles Griego

Gerard Saiz Robert Vialpando

Municipal Judge Jeff Aragon

Village Administrator

Phillip Jaramillo Master Municipal Clerk

Chief of Police Nick Balido

Made in Valencia County

The following are excerpts of a column written by Valencia County Chamber President Michael Jaramillo:

"One evening at home I was watching a cable television show called "Made in America" (where) a TV celebrity (John Ratzenberger of *Cheers*) travels around the United States of America searching for what he says makes this country great. He says he found it in the companies and businesses in small and large towns across America. He honors the men and women who work with their hands and skillfully make products that are the backbone of the American economy.

"After an hour of watching this show I realized that we can relate this show to our community. Local business people make an enormous and positive contribution to the quality of life in our community.

"Local businesses create good jobs, and they boost the local tax base, which in turn improves our schools, parks and the quality of life. Most importantly, local businesses are invested in our community.

"If you look behind the scenes at any civic activity that contributes to the common well being of the commu-

nity, you are likely to find a local business person, giving their time and often their money to the common good.

"Local business people are the unsung heroes of our community. They are the leaders, the ambitious hard working people who have ideas and act on them.

"More importantly, local businesses are invested in our community. If you look at the businesses at any civic activity that contributes to the common well being, you are likely to find a local business person giving their time and often their money to the common good

"By keeping money local, we can take charge of our economy. Any time a dollar is spent, it generates a dollar's worth of economic activity and employment. If the same dollar is spent several times, then it generates several dollars worth of employment, behaving as if it were several dollars, not just one.

"Every dollar has the potential to generate benefits several times its face value. So when you go out side of Valencia County to shop you should consider the amount of money you spend and image the possibilities we can gain with every dollar spent in 'Made in Valencia County.'"

WANTED

Los Lunas Police Officers

The Los Lunas Police Department is accepting applications for the position of Police Officer.

Minimum requirements are:

- At least 21 years old
- No domestic violence or felony convictions
- Be able to pass a physical agility and written test

Certified officers are preferred but the village accepts non-certified applications.

- High school diploma or GED

- No DWI convictions during the last 7 years

Certified officers start at \$13.26 per hour on probation. Uncertified start at \$12.25 per hour.

Benefits include 100% insurance, 50% dental, annual and sick leave accrued on a monthly basis, 11 paid holidays with 20 and 22 year retirement plans.

There's more — bike patrol, criminal investigations, community policing, traffic enforcement, and S.W.A.T. as well as educational opportunities.

Pick up your application at the Los Lunas Police Department located in the Village Administration Building, Don Pasqual and Main Street Monday through Friday 8 AM through 4 PM.

Applications are being accepted until all positions are filled so now is your opportunity to help the citizens of Los Lunas while doing something you may have always dreamed of.

And remember — the Los Lunas Police Department is an equal opportunity employer.



New Business Licenses

Issued Since March 1

Botas El Caporal 3455 -1/2 Highway 47, Los Lunas 315-2880.

Corporation Motors Inc. 3484 B Highway 47, Los Lunas 715-0599.

El Paraiso, Inc. 1976 Vista Escondida, Los Lunas 379-1399.

Forensic Behavioral Health Associates 10409 Montgomery Parkway West, Albuquerque 888-5499.

Gemini Collections 860 Calle Don Nicolas, Los Lunas 565-8905.

Hansen & Prezzano Builders, LLC 311 Stover Road Los Lunas 865-3900.

Pepsi Bottling Group, 2121 Claremont NE, Albuquerque 880-5001.

PNR Data Industries 2681 Crimson Clover Rd. SW, Los Lunas 866-9093.

Building Transportation Center Means Some Inconveniences at Station

There are some inconveniences at the Rail Runner Station as the new Intermodal Transportation Center is being built, but village official are providing a variety of services to help people deal with those inconveniences.

Village vans are at the station in the morning and afternoon/evening to shuttle people between the parking lot and the station.

The parking lot currently has 80 to 90 parking spaces but will eventually have 150 after the new construction is completed.

A new sidewalk has been constructed on the north end of the station to facilitate access to the train.

The transportation center will house the Technology and Transportation departments. The center will also have an auditorium which will hold about 115 people. The auditorium will provide another venue for meetings and events in addition to the council chambers.

Traffic Changes; Road Improvements

There's a new traffic signal in the village -- at Morris Road and Highway 314. Be careful going through this intersection -- you might have to stop for a red light.

Work has been completed on Don Carlos and other streets improved this year including Sandoval, Simpson, Orchard, Lancelot, Calle Quieta, and Calle Margarita.

The \$513,299 Los Lentes Road project from Camino Higinio to NM Highway 314 is on schedule.

Roads the village wants to improve in 2007-2008 include Castillo in Carson Park, Chavez, Calle Santiago and Vaughn.

Building Transportation Center Means Some Inconveniences at Station

Also in the center will be space for retail stores. Officials hope businesses which could be frequented by Rail Runner passengers and others will rent the space once the facility is built.

Construction of the center will provide added security for the Rail Runner station area with more people in the area during the day. Cameras will also be placed in the area to increase security.

Under Construction

Work continues on a new addition to the Village Administration Building at Don Pasqual and Main Street so be careful of the construction.

The parking lot on the south side and the drive up window for paying the water bill may still be under construction so watch for signs about parking and paying the bill.

Thank you for your patience during this project.

Lunches will be provided as well as door prizes. Bring your family, friends, neighbors and anyone wishing to donate time to keeping our community looking clean and beautiful. People needing to donate community service time can also participate.

Sign up begins promptly at 7 a.m. with transportation to distant areas. All cleanup supplies provided as well as water. Dress appropriately for the weather. In case of inclement weather the cleanup will take place the following weekend, same time, same location.

GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP DAY

Saturday April 21 From 7:00 AM - Noon

Call Marie or Josie for Details 839-3842

Or Check the Village Website www.loslunasnm.gov

Participants in the Great American Cleanup will gather on the north side of the Village Administration Building this year. Please be careful around the building and the construction site.