

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

Volume 10 Number 9

December 2006

Village Accepts 1,525 Acres of El Cerro De Los Lunas for Open Space

In a special meeting held November 21 at the base of El Cerro de Los Lunas on the village's west side, the Los Lunas Village Council voted to accept the donation of 1,525 acres of the hill for open space in the community.

The land donation was made to the village by Huning Limited Partnership.

The meeting was held as part of a public event which included the announcement of the donation by Jack Huning, a managing partner of Huning Limited Partnership.

The property is to be used as open space for walking, hiking, jogging, nature study, water conservation and similar uses. It is believed to be one of the largest donations of land to a New Mexico municipality.

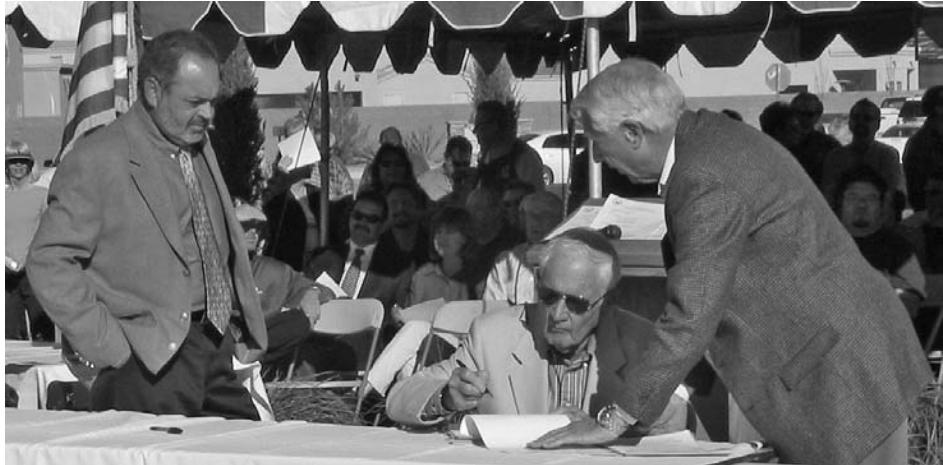
Jack Huning said that dedicating El Cerro de Los Lunas as public open space ensures the historic landmark is preserved for future generations to enjoy.

"This preserve will provide miles of trails, more than fifteen hundred acres of open space, and spectacular views to enjoy for years to come," said Huning.

Village Administrator Phillip Jaramillo said, "The village is thrilled to have such an historic landmark as part of the community's recreational opportunities. People will enjoy it for generations."

Benefits of the donation to the village include:

- Preserving the land in perpetuity for recreation, open space, water quality enhancement and land conservation as well as preventing other development.
- Ensuring public access for all to enjoy the beauty.
- Providing an outdoor classroom which can teach natural systems, geology, ecology, botany, archaeology and history.
- Giving the village of Los Lunas control of the



Jack Huning, Huning Land Trust managing partner, seated, signs the agreements to donate 1,525 acres of El Cerro de Los Lunas to the village. At left is Village Mayor Pro Tem Gerard Sais with attorney Pat Hurley at right.

use and preservation of the geographic, historic and cultural backdrop to the village which long defined the western edge of the community.

Housing Starts Increase

The number of building permits issued by the Village of Los Lunas continues to climb.

As of October, 2006, the village issued 381 residential building permits during 2006. In 2005 488 residential permits were issued.

Previous totals include: 103 in 2004; 73 in 2003; 114 in 2002; 106 in 2001; and 71 in 2000.

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

Morris Road-Hwy. 314 Gets Signal; Roadwork Continues in Village

Work is proceeding on the \$635,000 project which will result in a new traffic signal at the intersection of Morris Road and Highway 314.

The new Valencia County Courthouse is currently under construction at this intersection. The entrance for a New Mexico prison is at the west end of Morris Road. The east side of Morris Road is an entrance to the village.

Several other road projects are beginning or will soon start. They include:

- New pavement, estate or regular sidewalks, curbs and gutters on Juan Perea, Calle Quieta, Calle Margarita, Don Carlos, Orchard, Simpson, Sandoval and Lancelot.

- Installing water and sewer on Nieto and Beck as well as paving, sidewalks, curbs and gutters.

The total price for the above projects is a little over \$1 million.

- The bids should be awarded in December for improvements to Los Lentes Road and Trujillo Road. Between Camino de Higinio and Highway 314, Los Lentes will be widened and curb and gutter built with sidewalk added where possible. On Trujillo Road some of the dangerous curve will be realigned to increase the safety of the road.

November Cleanup Collects 1640 Pounds of Trash

November's cleanup in the village included four groups — the Municipal Court Group which collected 23 bags; the New Mexico Women's Academy, 25 bags; San Clemente Catholic Church Youth Group, 13 bags; and Pack #309 Cub Scouts, 21 bags.

Eighty-two bags of trash were picked up for a total of 1640 pounds of trash. Marie Marquez, cleanup coordinator, thanks newly hired animal control assistant Mark Leeder for picking up the bags after the cleanup.

Attend A Council Meeting!

The Los Lunas Village Council meets twice a month in the council chambers in the Administration Building on the corner of Don Pasqual and Main Street.

Meeting dates for 2006 are:

December 14 & 28

Meetings begin at 6 p.m. Once in a while meetings are rescheduled so check with village officials at 839-3840 to be sure a meeting has not been changed.

The agenda will be available at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the scheduled meeting from the bulletin board in the lobby of the Administration Building, at 660 Main Street NW, Los Lunas, NM; the Los Lunas Library located at 460 Main Street NE; and posted on the village website (address: www.loslunasnm.gov).

LL Recycling Center Proves Popular Place

The village's recycling center is used by many Village of Los Lunas residents.

Located to the north of the Village Administrative Building and accessible via Don Pasqual, receptacles are available at the center for newspaper, aluminum, magazines, cardboard, plastics and office paper (can be placed with newspaper).

In addition, appliances and branches can also be left in the recycling area.

Folks using the center are encouraged to keep it as tidy as possible when dropping off recycled material, said Village Public Utilities Director Betty Behrend.

Central Dispatch To Be In LL

The police department in Los Lunas will be the site for the new central dispatching offices which will be used by the county and all the municipalities in Valencia County.

The State of New Mexico is paying for an upgrade to the village's facilities so that all emergency dispatching will be done out of one facility effective December 31, 2006.

Previously each municipality and the county maintained their own dispatching facility and hired the dispatchers to man it.

Los Lunas Police Chief Nick Balido says he thinks the consolidation will facilitate emergency response in the county.

People who are currently dispatching for the different entities have been invited to continue their jobs at the new facility.

**VISIT THE
VILLAGE WEBSITE
www.loslunasnm.gov**

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