

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

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Reopened Business/Chamber Meets May 16 at Transportation Center

The Family Dollar at 411 Highway 314 SW has reopened after remodeling, renovating and adding a new sign. Their inventory has changed also.

The Valencia County Chamber of Commerce luncheon will be noon Wednesday, May 18, at the Transportation Center, 101 Courthouse Road, with Darren Johnson speaking. His specialty is home based business.

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

*Richard Lovato,
pictured at right,
is now Mayor Pro
Tem of the Village.
He was elected by
the village council
to the position at
an April meeting.*



CELEBRATE JULY FOURTH IN LOS LUNAS

Wednesday July 4
Parade on Main Street
Festivities at Daniel
Fernandez Park
Enjoy the 4th at Home!

Fixed Route Will Deliver Rail Runner Passengers

Rio Metro Regional Transit District Valencia Transit will begin running a fixed route May 21 through southwest Los Lunas to take people to the station at 101 Courthouse Road to catch the morning Rail Runner Express. In the afternoon a bus will pick people up at the station to deliver them along the fixed route in southwest Los Lunas.

The morning route begins in the Huning Ranch subdivision and then heads east of I-25 to take on passengers throughout the subdivisions between Camelot and Canal Boulevards. In the afternoon the route will be reversed.

Rio Metro Regional Transit District Valencia Transit will continue to offer demand-response service in Los Lunas. Passengers should call the dispatch number, 352-3595, preferably 24 hours in advance, to request transportation. Demand-response passengers are only taken within Valencia County.

Demand response as well as fixed routes to the Rail Runner station are run in Belen also.

The Valencia County transit program saw a 43 percent gain in riders from 2010 to 2011 with 50,057 riders in 2010 and 71,778 in 2011.

In addition to the new Los Lunas fixed route starting May 21, the Rail Runner will have an express train every weekday morning.

Rio Metro Regional Transit District Valencia Transit used to be the village transportation program. The changeover to Rio Metro has resulted in more drivers and increased demand response passenger delivery in Valencia County, said Vangie Gabaldon, transportation and rail manager for Rio Metro Regional Transit District Valencia Transit.

Live/Work Meets May 30

Jim Glover of The Idea Company will be the speaker at the Wednesday, May 30, meeting of Live/Work Los Lunas at the Los Lunas Transportation Center, 101 Courthouse Road, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Glover has been working on the branding campaign for the village.

56 Bags of Trash Cleaned Up

During the April monthly cleanup 56 bags of trash were picked up during the four hours worked. Areas cleaned included Juan Perea Road, Main Street from Don Pasqual to Los Morros and behind Smith's Grocery Store.

Eleven community service workers performed the work under the supervision of Jess Weston.

Rio Metro Seeks Citizen Input

The Rio Metro Regional Transit District will hold a public meeting in Los Lunas to obtain input on updating its short-range plan. The meeting will be Wednesday, May 16, 5 p.m.-7 p.m. at the Los Lunas Transportation Center, 101 Courthouse Road.

Rio Metro provides a number of important transit services in Bernalillo, Sandoval, and Valencia counties: operating the New Mexico Rail Runner Express, providing bus service in and to small towns and rural communities, providing demand response transit, and providing funding for eight ABQ Ride bus routes.

Public comments about the plan will be accepted between May 7 and May 30. More information is available at www.riometro.org, and at www.nmrailrunner.com. Comments can also be submitted to comments@mrcog-nm.gov or mailed to Tony Sylvester, Rio Metro Regional Transit District, 809 Copper Ave. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102.

Specialist Checks For Leaks

Water conservation is always important and the village now offers the services of a water conservation specialist to test your water system for any problems such as leaking.

There is no charge for this service which is available by calling the Village Water Department at 839-3841.

In some instances water saving devices can be given to people at no charge. The specialist will need to go on people's property to check the water system.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Robert Vialpando Mayor

Councilors

Charles Griego Richard Lovato

Amanda Perea Gerard Saiz

Municipal Judge Jeff Aragon

Police Chief Roy E. Melnick

Fire Chief Atiliano "Lito" Chavez

Village Administrator Greg Martin

Los Lunas Will Be the Site Of Drums Along the Sandias

The Los Lunas High School football stadium will be the site of the 6th annual Drums Along the Sandias, hosted by the Los Lunas High School Band, beginning at 7 p.m. June 19.

The event will be highlighted by internationally ranked drum and bugle corps. Performing will be the Blue Knights of Denver, Co.; Phantom Regiment of Rockford, Ill.; the Academy of Tempe, Az.; and the Santa Clara Vanguard from Santa Clara, Ca. The New Mexico Adrena-Line Percussion Ensemble and the Ambush Brass will also perform.

A 2 p.m. open-to-the-public rehearsal at the Los Lunas School field will be conducted June 19 by the Blue Knights offering insight into the drum corps.

More information about Drums Along the Sandias is available by calling 1 888 306-DRUM (3786) or at www.drumsalongthesandias.com.

Police Department Receives Goggles

The Los Lunas Police Department will receive twelve pairs of tactical goggles from the Department of Defense (DOD) 1033 program. The goggles are valued at \$62 each for a total value of \$744.

The goggles were given to LLPD at no cost because of the department enrollment in the DOD 1033 program.

The goggles will provide SWAT members with an essential layer of protection to keep their eyes healthy. The 1033 program permits the Secretary of Defense to transfer, without charge, excess U.S. Department of Defense supplies and equipment to state and local law enforcement agencies.

Garbage Must Be Out by 7 a.m.

Garbage carts must be out for pick up by seven a.m. the day of service.

The Village no longer picks up garbage carts set out late. Any late garbage carts will be picked up on the next regularly scheduled pickup day.

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.

Meeting dates for 2012 are:

May 24 June 7 & 21 July 12 & 26

August 9 & 23 September 6 & 20 October 11 & 25

November 15 & 29 December 6 & 20

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.

Come Aid in Los Lunas's Branding Efforts; Join the Branding Alliance/Team Los Lunas

The following was written by Jim Glover of The Idea Group. Glover is working on branding Los Lunas.

These are exciting times for the Village of Los Lunas. The new Los Lunas brand strategy has been developed along with an overarching tagline of "Small Community. Big Possibilities."

This slogan highlights Los Lunas's small size but very desirable quality of life and emphasizes the community's desire to seek out big opportunities for its residents, businesses and visitors.

The Valencia County News-Bulletin applauded the branding endeavor by calling the effort "A Village with a Vision" and praising the accomplishment proclaiming "Viva Los Lunas!"

Marketing Plan Being Developed

A marketing plan that will utilize the community brand strategy is being developed.

The title of the campaign is "Los Lunas, My Village" and it is designed so that people who live and work in Los Lunas can share what they love about their community.

This campaign was recently launched at the 2012 Rural Economic Development Forum in Las Vegas, N.M., and will be used by Los Lunas economic development at the upcoming RECon 2012 conference in Las Vegas, NV to entice and recruit new restaurants and businesses to Los Lunas.

Now it's time to work together to share the brand to create favorable impressions about Los Lunas. There

are two ways you can support this effort: the Los Lunas Branding Alliance and Team Los Lunas.

Los Lunas Branding Alliance

The Los Lunas Branding Alliance will be comprised of individuals, businesses and organizations that support the community branding initiative.

Alliance members will be publically recognized for supporting the brand and will receive Los Lunas branding materials to use in their own marketing efforts.

The more people share the Los Lunas branding message the faster the brand image will be enhanced and grow in the marketplace. There is no cost or time commitment associated with the alliance. All that is required is a desire to help promote the brand.

Team Los Lunas

Team Los Lunas is designed to attract a few Los Lunas residents who want to more actively support the branding initiative.

These individuals will work with the Village to maintain the stature of the new brand and to work with alliance members to develop more collective community branding opportunities.

To Get Involved

If you are interested in joining the Los Lunas Branding Alliance or becoming a member of Team Los Lunas, then please call Community Development Director Christina Ainsworth at 839-3840 or email her at ainsworthc@loslunasnm.gov.

Police Reach Million Mark in Grant Funding

The Los Lunas Police Department has reached the "Million Dollar Milestone" in grant funding as a result of the department submitting grant applications to federal, state or private agencies during the past three years.

Department members are continuously searching for state/federal grants and other alternative revenue sources to supplement the police department's annual operating budget.

Through grant funding, the police department has purchased much needed police equipment, updated police technology, added numerous police programs, added additional police officers and increased the level of training to all members of the department.

Police Chief Melnick points out "Alternative sources of revenues not only relieve the local tax

burden on our community, alternative funding also increases the overall public safety to the community and to the safety of the officers."

When Melnick was appointed Chief of the Los Lunas Police Department in March 2009, he recognized the positive impact grant funding would have on the department, and the community. With that in mind Chief Melnick sent two of his employees, Lieutenant Vince Torres and Detective Johnny Cappelli, to training out of state for advanced grant writing. This training paid off in dollars to the community.

During the last three years the Village of Los Lunas has received and/or anticipates receiving \$1,043,902 in alternative sources of revenue from state, federal, private grants, and from the State of New Mexico federal government transfer program.

Summerfest

JUNE 8 & 9

FREE FAMILY COMMUNITY EVENT

3 DAY CARNIVAL

WITH SPACE WALK INFLATABLES

**DJ, CAR & MOTORCYCLE
SHOW, OUTDOOR MOVIE,
AMATEUR BBQ & DANCE
CONTEST**

HERITAGE PARK — LAMBROS LOOP

FOR REGISTRATION OR INFORMATION CALL

**VALENCIA COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

AT 352-3596 OR EMAIL

VCCHAMBER@LOSLUNASNM.GOV

GRADUATION GIFTS

**CAN BE
FOUND
ALL OVER
LOS
LUNAS!**



Los Lunas Museum of Heritage and Arts Presents



**MY CAMERA IN
NEW MEXICO:
PHOTOGRAPHS BY
CRAIG VARJABEDIAN**

May 12 through July 26, 2012

Ray John de Aragon signs his book
*Enchanted Legends and Lore Of
New Mexico:*

Witches Ghosts & Spirits.
Saturday, May 19 2 - 4 p.m.

Andres Armijo presents
Families of the Rio Abajo.
Saturday, June 9 2 - 4 p.m.

Museum children's program begins June 6
Every Wednesday at 10:30 (except July 4)
Children four to six must be signed up before the first
class. Stop by the museum and see what's offered!

Museum of Heritage and Arts
Main Street and Luna Avenue
Under the Downtown Water Tower 352-7720
Open Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

LL Police Take in 230 Pounds of Unused Prescription Drugs

The Los Lunas Police Department collected 230 pounds of unused prescription drugs during April's U. S. Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA) "National Take Back Initiative."

Citizens were encouraged to take any unused prescription medications to one of the drop-off sites in Los Lunas. This service was completely free and anonymous and no information was recorded.

The goal of the "National Take Back Initiative" is to reduce the amount of prescription drug abuse and increase the awareness of prescription drug abuse.