



# VILLAGE NEWS

Small Community • Big Possibilities

VOLUME 18 - NUMBER 7, July 2014

## Interstate 25 Beautification

Entering Los Lunas from Interstate 25 at mile marker 203, both north and southbound, will be much more interesting when the interstate beautification project is completed.

Construction is set to begin in Fall 2014 and incorporates a metal tree sculpture (indicating the importance of agriculture to Los Lunas) with the Village's new welcome sign (these attractive signs can now be seen at the Village limits). Located at the interstate's off-ramps, both north and southbound, new landscaping will be placed around the welcome tree sculptures.

Metal artwork with neon lighting will be installed on both sides of the bridge, which will present the Village's slogan, "Small Community. Big Possibilities." People driving along the interstate will become better acquainted with what the Village has to offer.



This is Phase One of the project to beautify the entry ways to Los Lunas. This phase will cost \$1.2 million with funding primarily from the federal government through the State Transportation Department.

The Village is seeing additional funding for Phase Two which will include additional sculptures, landscaping and other improvements to the on-ramps for Interstate 25 leaving Los Lunas, both north and southbound.

## Village Projects Will Improve The Community

**The Village's slogan "Small Community. Big Possibilities." comes alive when we talk about the millions of dollars worth of projects to be accomplished in our community.**

Many of the projects have been funded, and will be completed or started during the 2014-2015 budget year, which began July 1, 2014.

The Village's wastewater treatment plant capacity will be expanded with the installation of a second set of cassettes in the membrane bioreactor (MBR) facility. This facility uses a combination of a membrane process like microfiltration or ultrafiltration with a suspended growth bioreactor, state-of-the-art technology widely used in municipal wastewater treatment plants. Project cost is \$1.9 million.

Upcoming road projects include pedestrian and bike lane improvements on Highway 314 (\$2.5 million), improvements to Highway 314 between Main Street and Otero (\$415,000), Courthouse Road improvements (\$825,000), Carson Drive improvements between Cottonwood and Walnut Courts (\$475,000), and improvements to Los Cerritos Road (\$175,000).

*We appreciate your patience and understanding as we make these improvements. Please use caution around construction crews.*

The Carson Drive job has been awarded to Star Paving, and includes new traffic signs, roadway markings, center turn lane, and a mill with inlay. Desert Fox LLC has the contract for the Los Cerritos project between Main Street and Highline Road. It includes sidewalk and pavement improvements as well as new striping.

Recreational areas or buildings scheduled to undergo improvements include the Trans-

portation Center (\$1.2 million), Fred Luna Multigenerational Center (\$600,000), River Park (\$92,000), the Sports Complex on Morris Road (\$235,000), and the remainder of \$475,000 in improvements to Enchantment Little League Fields started last year.

Other projects the Village is working on include upgrading the Village wells (\$304,200), purchasing a recycling commercial bailer (\$345,000), fleet maintenance fuel system line compliance (\$50,000) and digital pump system (\$55,000), regional vital communications project (\$125,000); new fire department exhaust and extraction system (\$40,000), digester cleaning project (\$134,000), purchase of a glass grinder for recycling (\$130,000), and artistic landscaping enhancements to the I-25 interchange at Main Street (\$1.4 million). (See article above.)

As you can see it will be another busy fiscal year but we are excited about the progress we are making and appreciate your patience and understanding as we make these improvements. We remind you to please use caution around construction crews.

# Museum Features Saints and Orphans

Old ways meet new to express over 400 years of Hispanic New Mexican devotional art in "Our Saints Among Us." The exhibit is scheduled to open July 12 through October 25 at the Museum of Heritage and Arts, located at the corner of Main Street and Luna Avenue.

The exhibit is derived from the private collection of Barbe Awalt and Paul Rhett. It includes works in the forms of santos, retablos, bultos, colcha, tinwork, and other media that depicts saints and other traditional themes. More than 24 artists from New Mexico will be featured.

Novelist and Humanities Scholar Alison Moore, along with singer/songwriter Phil Lancaster, combine audio-visual elements, historical fiction, and musical ballads into a collaborative performance that brings the Orphan Train movement alive. This event takes place Saturday, July 26 at 7 p.m. at the Los Lunas Transportation Center, located at the corner of Juan Perea and Courthouse Roads.

The multimedia presentation tells the story of the 250,000 orphans and unwanted children, who were put on trains in New York between 1854 and 1929 being sent all over the United States to be given away. The presentation is sponsored by the Village Museum of Heritage and Arts.

The museum continues its Crafts for Kids Wednesday series in July.

For more information about museum happenings call 352-7720 or visit [loslunasnm.gov/museum](http://loslunasnm.gov/museum).



## Lots To Do For Younger People At Los Lunas Library

The countdown to school starts in August, but there is still plenty to do for younger people at the Los Lunas Library in July. The Los Lunas library is located at 460 Main Street NE.

July 15 & 29, 10:30AM - Wii Gaming

July 22, 10:30AM - Lego Club meets

July 24, 2PM - The Yo-Yo Guy Luke Renner will demonstrate how to "skin the cat" and "walk the dog."

July 31, 2PM - Members of the Los Lunas Police Department will talk about Internet "dos and don'ts."

Wednesdays at 11AM & Saturdays at 12PM - In Stitches meets for those who knit, crochet, bead and more.

The above library events are for all ages.

July 16 & July 30, 2:30PM - A Minute-To-Win-It Tournament for Tweens and Teens

July 17, 2PM - The movie School House Rock will be shown at the Transportation Center, located at Juan Perea and Courthouse Roads.

Check out the library's Summer 2014 newsletter at [loslunasnm.gov](http://loslunasnm.gov).

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

## LLPD Open House A Success

"Visitors to the Los Lunas Police Department June Open House toured the police facility, saw various equipment, and met police officers," said Chief Naithan Gurule who called the event a success.

Visitors included families with children. Food was provided thanks to a \$200 gift card donated by Walmart.

The Los Lunas Police Department Auxiliary, along with several police officers and civilian employees, were very instrumental in the planning and implementation of the open house.



Los Lunas police officer Charles Files demonstrates the inner working of the M-RAP (mine-resistant ambush protected) vehicle at the 2014 LLPD Open House.

The LLPD Auxiliary was proposed and formed by Alexis Lopez, spouse of Officer Mark Gurule. The Auxiliary includes spouses, mothers, children, and other loved ones of officers as well as community members who want to show their appreciation for officers.

Among the services the Auxiliary provides are:

- Participation in public events such as National Night Out, and Cops and Kids Fun Run.
- Providing assistance to officers and their families in times of need.
- Establishing a list that enables officers' family members to communicate important information.
- Showing officers they are appreciated.



# WWII Veterans Visit Washington, D.C.

Several New Mexico World War II veterans flew to Washington, D.C. in June to visit the National World War II Memorial courtesy of the Honor Flight Network, a national non-profit organization dedicated to honoring the service of America's veterans. The veterans also met with elected officials from our state while in Washington, D.C.

A special presentation about this event was made to the Village Council in May.

The Honor Flight Network program flies veterans to Washington, D.C., where they tour the World War II Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, the Iwo Jima Memorial, the National Vietnam Veterans Wall, and the Korean War Veterans Memorial.

More information about the program is available by contacting the Williamson Foundation at 505-814-7800, which is partnering with Honor Flight Network, or online at [honorflight.org](http://honorflight.org).



Main Street Memorial Park in Los Lunas, New Mexico

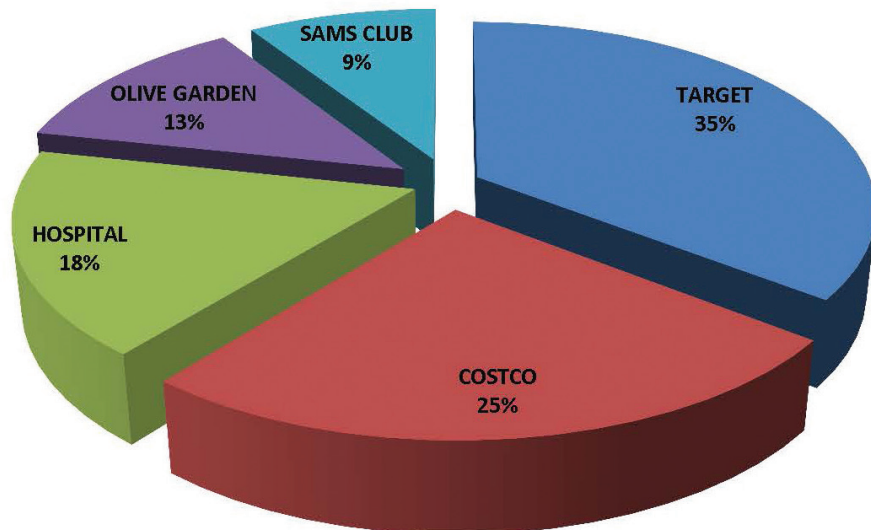
## Survey Shows Community Business Preferences

Nearly 400 people have answered the Village's economic development survey about what businesses people would like to see in the community.

Here are the results so far:

- **Restaurants** - Olive Garden, 35%; Golden Corral, 20%, Red Lobster, 18%; Furr's, 14%; & Flying Star, 13%.
- **Clothing** - Kohl's, 34%; Ross, 25%; Target, 17%; JC Penney, 19%; & Old Navy, 11%.
- **Supermarkets** - Trader Joe's, 34%; Whole Foods, 32%; Sprouts, 22%; Costco, 7%; & Target with pharmacy/grocery, 5%.
- **Ethnic Restaurants** - Italian, 56%; Greek, 22%; East Indian 9%; Chinese, 7%; and Asian/Thai, 6%.
- **Fast Food** - Chic-Fil-A, 37%; Long John Silver's, 17%; Church's Chicken, 16%; Whataburger, 15%; & Dairy Queen, 15%.
- **Quick Take Out** - Einstein Bros. Bagels, 32%; Keva Juice, 25%; Wing Stop, 15%; Wing Basket, 13%; & Satellite Coffee, 11%.
- **Health Care** - hospital or emergency room, 64%; 24-hour urgent care, 28%; UNM clinic or clinics, 5%; pediatric urgent care, 2%; & Lovelace Women's Health, 1%.
- **Educational** - CNM, 40%; UNM branch, 28%; Sylvan Learning Center, 13%; swimming natatorium, 10%; & vocational school, 9%.
- **Cultural Centers** - museum, 27%; night/dance club, 25%; gallery/art, 22%; jazz club, 15%; & library expansion, 11%.
- **Big Box Stores** - Costco, 34%; Target, 34%; Sam's Club, 21%; Cabela's, 6%; & Bass Pro Shop, 5%.
- **Manufacturing** - solar, 34%; wind energy plant, 19%; cabinet manufacturing, 17%; automotive, 16%; & Tesla, 14%

**Top Five** - Target, 35%; Costco, 25%; hospital, 18%; Olive Garden, 13%; & Sam's Club 9%.



The survey can still be filled out. It is available on the village website at [loslunasnm.gov](http://loslunasnm.gov). Economic Development Manager Ralph Mims is coordinating the study. He can be reached at 839-5654, direct line; 604-4156, cell; or e-mail [mimsr@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:mimsr@loslunasnm.gov).



## Local Flavor: A Focus On Local Business

### Luna Mansion

**Dressed in elegance, the Luna Mansion remains a monument to the way good food should be served.**

The mansion has an extensive menu, which includes Early Bird Specials, desserts, wines, and Sunday Brunch. The Spirit Lounge on the second floor has a great list of spirits, juicy burgers, and tasty appetizers.

The restaurant's captivating history is on display throughout the restaurant with a unique touch of refinement and homage to the past.

The Torres family invites you to experience the beauty, history, and memorable flavors The Luna Mansion has to offer.

"Experience The Mansion" at 110 Main Street SW, (505) 865-7333. Open Tuesday through Saturday 4PM to 9PM, and Sunday 11AM to 7PM. The bar is open Tuesday through Saturday 3:30PM to 9PM.

### D'Alicia's

**D'Alicia's Fine Jewelers has been in business for five years at the Albertson's/Big 5 Shopping Center at the Valencia Y.**

Owners Alicia Torrez and Rick Lopez have been in the jewelry business for over 30 years and their motto is "when you look good...we look good!"

D'Alicia's is the only shop in the Village of Los Lunas with a focus on selling jewelry.

They specialize in fine jewelry, estate jewelry, watches, and jewelry repair. The store is beautiful and clean with an amazing variety of jewelry for all occasions.

D'Alicia's addresses all jewelry needs under one roof including repair!

D'Alicia's Fine Jewelers is located at 2357 Main Street SE, Suite A.

# Los Lunas Events

## National Night Out

Tuesday, August 5, 5 - 8PM  
Daniel Fernandez Park •  
Entertainment • Food • Games  
**Everyone Welcome!**

## 2014 Summer Outdoor Adventures

For children ages 8 - 12  
\$35 per child  
Held at Los Lunas River Park  
July 28 - Aug. 1  
Registration through July 25 at  
Daniel Fernandez  
Recreation Center  
Contact Pat Jaramillo of  
Open Space  
(505) 352-7728 or  
jaramillopa@loslunasnm.gov  
for more information

## Your Los Lunas Farmers Market

At Heritage Park (across from  
Smith's)  
Tuesday, 4PM to 7PM  
June 3rd thru October (weather  
permitting)  
For fresh, healthy, locally grown  
vegetables, fruit, honey, eggs,  
meat, bread and more...  
from your neighbors!  
Call George (505) 307-1891  
for more information

**Summerfest, sponsored by  
the Los Lunas Chamber of  
Commerce, will not be held in  
August. The three day event was  
held in June this year. Watch for  
Summerfest in 2015.**

## Los Lunas Business Update

### Businesses opened recently:

- Goodfellas Pizzeria,  
959 NM Hwy 314 SW, 916-5654.  
Owners: Frank and Amanda Khalil.
- Quick Wrench,  
544B Main Street NW, 916-5154.  
Owners: Adam and Chris Vigil.  
Email: quickwrenchauto@aol.com.

Construction is underway on the IHOP Restaurant and O'Reilly Auto Parts near Los Cerritos Road and Main Street.

Potential businesses coming to Los Lunas, include: PetSmart, Buffalo Wild Wings, and Church's Chicken. Plus a shopping center is scheduled to be built in front of Home Depot.

Village Administration Office: (505) 839-3840



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