



# VILLAGE NEWS



Small Community • Big Possibilities

Volume 23 - Number 4 - April 2019

## LL RANKS NUMBER SEVEN

A new study from Smart Assets ranks the top ten places to retire in New Mexico and the Village of Los Lunas came in Number Seven.

Study criteria included income and sales taxes, the number of local doctor's offices, and opportunities for recreation and social life.

Those communities ranking higher were 1. Taos; 2. Silver City; 3. Santa Fe; 4. Ruidoso; 5. Los Alamos and 6. Corrales.

## MUSEUM NOW HAS DIGITAL SIGN

A digital sign has been installed at the Los Lunas Museum of Heritage & Arts which will announce museum, Los Lunas, and community events. The museum is located under the downtown water tower at Main Street / NM Hwy 6 and Luna Avenue.

## EASTER EGG HUNT

The Village's Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be Wednesday, April 17, 2019, at Daniel Fernandez Park, 1103 NM Hwy 314 SW.

The event is free and open to the public beginning at 4 p.m.

Those attending can take a picture with the Easter Bunny and hunt for thousands of eggs.

### Egg hunt times are:

- 0 - 3 years of age - 4:30 P.M.
- 4 - 7 years of age - 4:45 P.M.
- 8 - 13 years of age - 5:00 P.M.

## CLEAN UP OUR COMMUNITY

Mayor Charles Griego has signed a proclamation encouraging people to clean up Los Lunas and Valencia County as part of the effort by the Valencia Association of Local Elected Officials (VALEO) to clean up our communities.

Clean Up Valencia County Day is April 13, 2019, and everyone is urged to pitch in that day and the rest of the month to make all of Valencia County a better-looking place to live and work.

## RECYCLE APRIL 27

Great American Recycling items can be brought to the Village Recycling Center, 315 Don Pasqual, behind the Village Administration Building Saturday, April 27, from 8 a.m. to noon.

Items that may be recycled include used oil, antifreeze, paint, aerosol cans, cardboard (no chipboard, wave board, wavy exterior or pizza boxes), plastic (#1 and #2), metal, aluminum, tin, glass, electronics, batteries and clothes.

Televisions are accepted with a payment of \$20.



*Museum of Heritage and Arts digital sign.*

CHARLES GRIEGO

MAYOR

[griegoc@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:griegoc@loslunasnm.gov)

GINO M. ROMERO

COUNCILMAN

[romerog@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:romerog@loslunasnm.gov)

NAITHAN GURULE

POLICE CHIEF

[ngurule@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:ngurule@loslunasnm.gov)

PHILLIP JARAMILLO

COUNCILMAN

[jaramillop@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:jaramillop@loslunasnm.gov)

CRUZ MUÑOZ

COUNCILMAN

[munozc@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:munozc@loslunasnm.gov)

JOHN GABALDON

FIRE CHIEF

[jgabaldon@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:jgabaldon@loslunasnm.gov)

CHRISTOPHER S. ORTIZ

COUNCILMAN

[ortizc@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:ortizc@loslunasnm.gov)

AVILIO CHAVEZ

MUNICIPAL JUDGE

[avchavez@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:avchavez@loslunasnm.gov)

GREGORY D. MARTIN

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR

[marting@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:marting@loslunasnm.gov)

## SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM

Registration is ongoing for the Village's summer recreation program at the Daniel Fernandez Recreation Center.

The program is conducted Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Buses provide transportation to and from field trips only. Drop off and pick up transportation is not provided.

The cost is \$45 per child and the first 300 registrants are accepted.

A child must have completed at least kindergarten to be eligible for the program which takes children up to the age to 12.

Those registering must have proof of age in the form of a birth certificate or report card.

The summer recreation program is a service to children in the Los Lunas School District.

## SUMMER OUTDOOR ADVENTURE PROGRAM

The Village Open Space Division will accept registrations July 1, 2019 for the summer Outdoor Adventure Program at Daniel Fernandez Recreation Center, 1103 NM Hwy 314 SW.

Only the first 20 registrations will be accepted, all others will be placed on a waiting list.

The Outdoor Adventure Program is for children 8 to 12 years of age. It will be held July 29th- August 2nd at the Los Lunas Riverside Park from 8 a.m. to noon.

The cost is \$40 per child due at the time of registration.

Village Administration Office: 505 839-3840

## MELLOY AUTO GROUP LOS LUNAS NOW HERE

The name Melloy is well known in Albuquerque to anyone who wants to purchase a vehicle.

That name has come to Los Lunas as the dealerships owned and operated by Brad Francis are now owned and operated by the Melloy Auto Group Los Lunas.

Los Lunas Dealer Principal Pat Melloy is the third generation in the automotive business.

It began with his grandfather in Iowa, followed by his father in New Mexico, and now Pat. Succeeding generations are ready to be part of the business.

The Los Lunas operation is three dealerships – Chevrolet, Chrysler/Jeep/Dodge/Ram, and Ford – which the Melloy group took over in August 2018.

In addition to selling vehicles, the Melloy Group services vehicles. Melloy in Los Lunas also does an extensive fleet vehicle business. The dealerships work together to be sure that customers are satisfied.

Pat Melloy says the vehicle market is "good" at this time. The group sold 175 cars in January 2019 and hopes to increase the monthly total to twice that. There are 105 employees now, 100 in August 2018.

Pat Melloy says he wants to appeal to more than the Valencia County area. He said there is a large market wanting to buy a vehicle and Melloy in Los Lunas has lots to choose from.

The growth in Los Lunas, people and business, brought Melloy to Los Lunas and the purchase of the dealerships.

Pat Melloy intends to maintain a relationship with the community and its citizens. He expects to continue to support community activities. He is looking forward to presenting a used vehicle to a student with perfect attendance at both Los Lunas and Valencia High Schools.

The Melloy Auto Group Los Lunas sales departments are open Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. The service and parts departments are open Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Located on Emilio Lopez Road NW west of Los Lunas High school, adjacent to I-25.

Chevrolet sales phone number 505 273-8494 and service number 505 273-8539. Chrysler sales number is 888 854-4533 and service is 888 631-1355. Ford sales number 888 901-5077 and service number 888 871-6162.

Each dealership, Chevrolet, Chrysler and Ford, has its own building. The dealerships are available on the internet at [melloychevrolet.com](http://melloychevrolet.com), [melloyford.com](http://melloyford.com) and [melloycjdr.com](http://melloycjdr.com).



Melloy Auto Group Los Lunas Chevrolet dealership.



Melloy dealerships offer comfort and vehicles.

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



## LL WALMART REMODELS

The Los Lunas Walmart has undergone an extensive remodel resulting in inventory in different places and a new way to pick up online orders.

A new addition to the store is the online order pick up tower, a sixteen-foot-tall orange tower where online orders can be picked up.

This is in addition to the grocery pick up service where customers order online, set up a time to pick up their order, and drive up to the west side of the Walmart to pick up the order.

Currently being considered is grocery delivery which is being done by other Walmart stores in the country.

The store remodel included switching to LED lighting in the produce department and moving items. Some items have been grouped together because they go together like peanut butter, jelly, and bread. A new Hispanic items aisle includes tortillas. Coverings have been added on what were previously open display cases.

If you find yourself getting confused, use the Walmart app to find items or ask a store associate.

Store manager Caren Nicholson says the remodel was done to accommodate demand from the community and to feature and fit in new items. Nicholson, Los Lunas manager for three years, said she appreciates the support of the customers at the Los Lunas store.

About 300 full and part time associates work at the Los Lunas Walmart which is located just west of Interstate 25 at 2250 Main Street NW. Open 24 hours a day, phone 505 865-4611. The Walmart website is [Walmart.com](http://Walmart.com).



*Orange tower dispenses online orders.*

## WALK FOR PEOPLE, PUPS

The Pilot Club of Los Lunas Pilot Walk for People and Pups will be held Saturday, April 13, 2019, at the Village Riverside Park which is off Main Street just east of the Rio Grande.

Walk time is 10 a.m., registration is \$20, and a dog is optional as people may walk without a canine companion. There are three different walks -- .75 to 2.3 miles.

Other activities include Best Hat for Dog and Person contest and dog trick and game contest.

For information call 505 859-9397.

## BELIEVE IN HEROES RUN

The 8th Annual Believe in Heroes Memorial Run will be Saturday, June 1, 2019. The 5k and 10k races, as well as kids' fun run, begin and end at the Starlight Theater parking lot beginning at 7:30 a.m. on Sun Ranch Village Loop.

The event is presented by L.I.V.E., Inc., (Los Lunas Invested in Veteran Events) and raises funds supporting Veteran organizations in Los Lunas and Valencia County such as the VFW, Blue Star Mothers, American Legion, Military Order of the Purple Heart, and Wounded Warrior Project. Past runs have raised over \$90,000 for the groups.

Detailed information, including the registration form and fees, race courses, descriptions and contact information can be found on <https://loslunasvets.com>.

## ROSS DRESS FOR LESS NOW OPEN

Ross Dress for Less has opened in Los Lunas at 2353 Main St. SE, the space previously occupied by Staples, in the shopping center at the intersection of Main Street / NM Hwy 6 and NM Hwy 47.

The store carries clothing, footwear, bedding, furniture, jewelry, beauty products, toys, and housewares.

Ross Dress for Less is the nation's largest off-price retail chain with buyers who search the globe for the best brands and latest styles and work directly with manufacturers to negotiate the best deals!

When you visit the store, you will notice no window displays, mannequins, fancy fixtures, or decorations. The money saved from doing this is passed on to the customers.

The Los Lunas Ross Dress for Less is open 8:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Phone number 505 865-6103. Website [rossstores.com](http://rossstores.com).



## KEEP CRIME OUT

You can keep crime out of your neighborhood by remembering the adage "If you see something say something".

Report suspicious activity to the Los Lunas Police Department by calling 505 865-9130 or using a mobile device which has the stopit App downloaded. The access code for the Stopit App is loslunaspd.

## KING OF THE HILL

More than 300 men, women and children of all ages participated in the March 2019 annual King of the Hill 5K/10K and Half Marathon trail run on El Cerro de Los Lunas Preserve. Race results can be found at <https://www.athlinks.com/event/king-of-the-hill-166931>.

Village organizers have already started planning for the 2020 races.

## LOS LUNAS LIBRARY EVENTS

460 Main St. NE 505 839-3850

Tuesdays 5 - 6 p.m.  
Adult Coloring Night

Thursdays 10:30 a.m. - noon  
Preschool Story Hour

Thursdays 3 - 4:30 p.m.  
Xbox gaming

## MUSEUM OF HERITAGE & ARTS HAPPENINGS

Main Street and Luna Avenue  
505 352-7720

### EXHIBITS

Ayer, Hoy, Y Mañana  
Yesterday, Today,  
and Tomorrow:  
An Exhibition of  
Traditional Hispanic Arts

### TOURS

Historic Los Lunas Tour  
Saturday, April 27, 2019  
Travel back in time  
touring five historic buildings

## ROUTE 66 MUSEUM

The Village continues to work on a Route 66 Museum which will be on property west of the Luna Mansion near where the Country Inn used to be.

The Village has received National Endowment of the Arts Our Town project grants to facilitate creating the museum.

The UNM School of Architecture and Planning will provide four different architectural designs and historic preservation classes thanks to a grant.

The Village will fund constructing a mobile digital kiosk that allows people to access certain archival materials

Route 66 dipped down into Los Lunas between 1926 and 1937 before heading west to California.

## SUN RANCH VILLAGE LOOP SHOPPING CENTER

Sun Ranch Village Loop in Los Lunas has a movie theater, restaurants, motel, tire shop and now it has a strip mall shopping center which is available for office space or retail.

The Plaza at Sun Ranch has about 10,000 square feet of space, but approximately half of that is leased to TBE CrossFit which offers functional fitness for everyday living in classes in a group setting. The remaining space is available for lease.

The center is set up for six leasing spaces. On either end is a larger space which consists of about 1,150 square feet. In between these two end spaces is an area that could hold four offices or shops that would be a minimum of 800 square feet.

Address for the shopping center is 2210 Sun Ranch Village Loop SW. The center is on the south side of the horseshoe-shaped road. Contact person for more information about The Plaza at Sun Ranch is Shawn Kiehne, 505 991-4240.

## LOCAL EVENTS

Friday, April 12, 2019  
Village Health Fair  
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Fred Luna Multigenerational Center  
Don Pasqual Road  
Health, wellness and safety  
for seniors, families, caregivers

Saturday, April 13, 2019  
Book Sale 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Los Lunas Library Parking Lot  
460 Main St. NE  
Sponsored by Friends of the  
Library and Museum

Friday, April 19, 2019  
Good Friday  
Village Offices Closed  
Garbage pickup Thursday,  
April 18

Saturday, April 27, 2019  
Take Back Drugs Day  
Bring unused/expired drugs  
Village Administration Building  
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Don Pasqual and Main Street

Monday, May 28, 2019  
Memorial Day  
Village Offices Closed  
Monday Garbage pickup  
Tuesday, May 29

Last Wednesday of the month  
Business Watch  
Cops and Business Folks meet at  
Benny's Restaurant 8:30 a.m.  
1503 Main St. SW

### **Attend a Village Council Meeting**

April 25, May 9 & 23  
660 Main St NW  
Main Street and Don Pasqual  
Meetings begin at 6:00 p.m.



**Sun Ranch Village Loop Shopping  
Center.**