



VILLAGE NEWS

Small Community • Big Possibilities

Volume 23 - Number 5 - May 2019

VILLAGE PROJECTS UPDATE

Work on various projects in the Village continues with some finishing this spring/summer and others scheduled to begin soon.

Projects expected to be completed include:

- New right turn lane from Main Street / NM HWY 6 onto NM HWY 314 which eliminates the parking spaces on the north side of Blake's Lotaburger.
- Improvements to NM HWY 314 on the Village's south side with new sidewalks, drainage, and curbing.
- Connection of Camelot Boulevard to Morris Road with streetlights and new base asphalt roadway.

The new traffic light at Main Street / NM HWY 6 and Los Morros Road is now operating. Be careful when going that way.

Projects that have started or will start soon:

- Landscaping beautification on the Village's Interstate 25 exit 203. Extensive landscaping will be placed on the area around the ramps onto south and northbound I-25. Sequoia Landscaping was awarded the contract at \$695,000.

• Reconstruction of Camelot Boulevard from Entrada Lane to Valley View Drive. There will be lane closures.

• Panza and Panay Drives in Artistic Homes near I-25 will be rebuilt. Two new water lines are being constructed in the Village.

TLC Plumbing is working on the water line extension on the north end of the Village on a \$1.9 million contract. A communication line is being installed along with the 18-inch water line. The water and communications lines will provide redundancy in the Village's systems.

Sundance Mechanical & Utility Corp is installing an 18-inch water line that will serve the future Central Rail Park and future residential and/or commercial development off NM HWY 6 on the west side of the Village. Sundance was low bidder at \$357,057.



These parking spaces are now a driving lane for turns onto NM HWY 314 at Blake's Lotaburger.

CHARLES GRIEGO
MAYOR
griegoc@loslunasnm.gov

PHILLIP JARAMILLO
COUNCILMAN
jaramillo@loslunasnm.gov

CHRISTOPHER S. ORTIZ
COUNCILMAN
ortizc@loslunasnm.gov

GINO M. ROMERO
COUNCILMAN
romerog@loslunasnm.gov

CRUZ MUÑOZ
COUNCILMAN
munozc@loslunasnm.gov

AVILIO CHAVEZ
MUNICIPAL JUDGE
avchavez@loslunasnm.gov

NAITHAN GURULE
POLICE CHIEF
ngurule@loslunasnm.gov

JOHN GABALDON
FIRE CHIEF
jgabaldon@loslunasnm.gov

GREGORY D. MARTIN
VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR
marting@loslunasnm.gov

BELIEVE IN HEROES RUN

The 8th Annual Believe in Heroes Memorial Run is 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. Past runs have raised over \$90,000.

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

LOS LUNAS SCHOOLS GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 8th Annual Los Lunas Schools Golf Tournament in support of the Renaissance Program will be Thursday, June 6, at the Isleta Eagle Golf Course, 11001 Broadway Boulevard SE, Albuquerque, with tee time at 8 a.m.

Cost for an individual player is \$125; four-player team, \$500; hole sponsor, \$150; and mulligans, \$5. Golf entry fees include a breakfast burrito, range balls, green fees, lunch buffet/awards banquet, and a chance to win prizes.

The Renaissance Program is a national initiative encouraging academic excellence, academic improvement, and citizenship. The program helps recognize the efforts and performance of students and staff at Los Lunas Schools.

LOS LUNAS CHAMBER

The Los Lunas Chamber of Commerce holds a monthly luncheon on the third Thursday of the month from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Teofilo's Restaurant.

FACEBOOK AWARDS GRANTS, HOLDS MEETING

The Facebook Los Lunas Data Center awarded 13 Community Action Grants and held a community meeting about Facebook in Los Lunas recently.

Facebook Community Development Regional Manager William J. Marks spoke to and answered questions from a crowd of people who filled the Village of Los Lunas Council Chambers.

Marks has a goal of building relationships and partnerships in Facebook's data center communities in Prineville, Oregon; Eagle Mountain, Utah, and Los Lunas.

Facebook's Community Action Grants is a program created to address needs in Valencia County by putting the power of technology to use for community benefits, connecting people online or off, and improving STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) education.

Those receiving grants include:

Katherine Gallegos Elementary School, \$14,800, to support computer and robotics kits for the school coding club.

Los Lunas High School JROTC, \$5,000, participation in the High-Altitude Balloon Challenge and Sea Perch STEM competitions.

Los Lunas Public Library. \$10,531, after-school programs that encourage STEM learning among area youth.

New Mexico MESA Inc., \$5,925, computer coding starter kits and workshops in eight different schools in Valencia County.

Belen High School, \$31,586, Promethean Interactive Whiteboard Technology.

Village News MAY 2019

Belen Middle School, \$29,634, Arduino coding exercises for students, in partnership with New Mexico MESA Inc.

Belen Public Library, \$14,600, a Computer Learning Lab to provide basic computer skills and workforce development training to patrons of the library.

El Ranchito de Los Ninos, \$3,000, fund computers and IT support for high-risk children in foster care.

Explora Science Center, \$9,600, 10 family STEM events through the Explora Community Science program.

Rio Communities Optimist Club, \$3,500, support STEM camps for Valencia County students.

Rural Education Advancement Program \$15,000, STEM workshops and competitions at local schools.

UNM Valencia, \$13,299, the summer technology program.

Valencia County Literacy Council, \$13,500, literacy and tutoring programs.



Facebook Regional Manager
William J. Marks

LIBRARY/MUSEUM HAVE PHONE APPS

The Village of Los Lunas Public Library and Museum of Heritage & Arts now have phone apps to keep up with what's going on at the two facilities.

Library Director Cynthia Shetter said the Apps were developed in response to the recent Village Quality of Life Survey. Respondents said they didn't know what activities were held at the library and museum, so these were developed to keep people better informed.

Information on the apps includes location/staff, calendar of events, and quick links for both facilities. Library URL is lineupr.com/loslunas/library while the museum url is lineupr.com/loslunas/museum.

If you have question, call the library at 505 839-3850 or museum at 505 352-7720.

HIKING IN LOS LUNAS

Looking to get some exercise and enjoy nature? Here's a few hiking suggestions in the Village:

Riverside Park Trail is a 1.2 mile trail that goes through the Rio Grande bosque south of the Main Street / NM HWY 6 bridge. When you include the return trip along the ditch bank, the total distance is 2.3 miles.

North Bosque Trail System starts across Main Street / NM HWY 6 and heads north on the trail system.

El Cerro de Los Lunas has three main trails open to the public, Overlook Trail, the Bowl Trail and the Trailhead. Entrance to the park is on NM HWY 6, three miles west of Interstate 25.

The Village website, loslunasnm.gov, has maps of these areas. Look under Community Services Division/Open Space Department/Hiking Trails.

ASAP MVD NOW ON WEST SIDE

The increase in the amount of activity on the west side of Los Lunas has resulted in ASAP MVD opening a second location in the Village.

ASAP MVD has been at 3457 Main St SE / NM HWY 47 on the east side of the Village since June 2003. The new location is at 1003 Main St SW.

Folks at ASAP MVD help people through difficult situations that involve the New Mexico Motor Vehicles Department such as mechanic's liens or title problems.

Los Lunas ASAP MVD has these services – driver's license and renewal, identification cards, written test and road test, vehicle registration, vehicle titles, license plates, commercial driver's license (CDL), and CDL written test.

In addition, ASAP MVD employees offer notary services, vehicle identification number inspections, and dealer batch work.

The office is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Phone 505 200-0900.

ASAP MVD is a family run business that offers an alternative to people who want to get motor vehicle projects done in a timely fashion.



ASAP MVD now open on west side.

Village News MAY 2019

QUALITY OF LIFE ASSESSMENT SURVEY

Almost 1,000 people, 965 to be exact, participated in the Village's Quality of Life Assessment Survey which was distributed via Survey Monkey between Feb. 1 and March 31, 2019.

The purpose of the survey was to identify community priorities and the level of satisfaction related to parks and recreation, the library and cultural services, and transportation.

The majority of respondents were two-person households (32%) and the majority were in the 35-44 age group, followed by 55-64, and the smallest age group was 20-24.

Topics surveyed included programs or projects people wanted if funding were available and people's use and evaluation of currently available projects/programs.

Village officials will use the survey results as an aid in making decisions about future programs and projects in the municipality.

To see full Quality of Life Assessment Survey results visit the village website, loslunasnm.gov.

FARMERS MARKET NOW OPEN

The Los Lunas Farmers Market is open from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. every Tuesday, May through October, weather permitting, at Heritage Park on Lambros Loop across from Smiths Grocery Store.

Shoppers will find fresh locally-produced vegetables, fruit, honey, eggs, meat, bread, and more, in a friendly environment that supports the local economy, agriculture, and community.

Valencia County Extension Service staff periodically do cooking demonstrations.

Check with vendors on what food cards are accepted such as EBT cards.

www.loslunasnm.gov

LOS LUNAS LIBRARY EVENTS

460 Main St. NE 505 839-3850

Tuesdays, 5 p.m.
Adult Coloring

Fridays 3 p.m.
Video Games

Saturdays Noon
Knitting Club

MUSEUM OF HERITAGE & ARTS HAPPENINGS

Main Street and Luna Avenue
505 352-7720

ART SHOW AND PRESENTATION

Saturday, May 11 1 p.m.
Crypto Judaica of New Mexico
Art Show and Presentation
Followed by a showing of
Challah Rising in the Desert

DON'T BE A DISTRACTED DRIVER

Distracted drivers are not only found in big cities like Albuquerque but can also be found on the roads in Los Lunas and Valencia County.

Los Lunas Police Chief Naithan Gurule points out that drivers who use cell phones are four times more likely to get into crashes that injure themselves or someone else.

Using a cell phone while driving impairs driving ability, the same as having a blood alcohol level at the legal limit of .08 percent.

Nearly 80% of all crashes and 64% of all near-crashes involve driver inattention during the last three seconds before the incident. Drivers on cell phones are twice as likely to miss a traffic signal. Don't be a distracted driver in Los Lunas and everywhere else, urges Chief Gurule.

VILLAGE BUSINESS BRIEFS

McDonald's and Aspen Dental office are being built in front of Home Depot on Main Street.

Building continues on the Harbor Freight store on Emilio Lopez with summer 2019 projected opening.

Workers are transforming Henrietta's Restaurant into the Range Café for a late summer 2019 opening.

Another manufacturing facility by Accurate Machine and Tool is going up on Sand Sage.

A six-unit shopping center has spaces available for lease in the Sun Ranch Village area.

Facebook purchased the remaining more than 400 acres in the Huning Business Park!

For more about what's happening in economic development in Los Lunas visit acommunitythatworks.com.



Henrietta's being remodeled to become the Range Café.

CHECK FOR LEAKS, CRACKS

Summer is fast approaching. Check your landscaping systems to ensure there are no leaks or cracks in your water system.

Leaks or cracks could result in being billed for water you are not using, but is leaking onto your property.

LOCAL EVENTS

Memorial Day
Monday, May 27
Village Offices Closed
Monday Garbage pickup
Tuesday, May 28

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

May 23 June 6 & 20
660 Main St NW
Main Street and Don Pasqual
Meetings begin at 6:00 p.m.

FINDING YOU

HeritageQuest® Online is a comprehensive treasury of American genealogical sources that is available through the Los Lunas Public Library.

HeritageQuest® is rich in unique primary sources, local and family histories, and finding aids. You can search 18th or 20th Century, European or Native American, farm or factory, East Coast or West Coast, and much more.

HeritageQuest® delivers an essential collection of genealogical and historical sources, with coverage dating back to the 1700s, that can help people find their ancestors and discover a place's past.

To access the HeritageQuest® website, visit the Village of Los Lunas home page at loslunasnm.gov and find DEPARTMENTS to look for About HeritageQuest® under the LIBRARY section.