



VILLAGE NEWS



Small Community • Big Possibilities

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NEW BRIDGE OVER RIO GRANDE

Work is expected to begin in October on a new bridge across the Rio Grande.

The New Mexico Department of Transportation bridge project area is on NM HWY 6 / Main Street between milepost 35.21 (Carson Drive intersection) and milepost 35.80 (Edeal Road intersection) with a total project length of 0.59 miles and a structure length of 966 feet.

The existing bridge is the only Rio Grande river crossing in Los Lunas, and is one of only two primary river crossings in Valencia County.

The current bridge will remain in place while the new one is constructed. The project is expected to take about two years.

LOS LUNAS CHAMBER

The Los Lunas Chamber of Commerce continues to have monthly luncheons on the 3rd Thursday of the month. Visit www.loslunaschamber.com for more information on time and location.

VILLAGE PROJECTS CONTINUE

Road and infrastructure projects are continuing in the Village of Los Lunas. Here's just a few:

General park improvements to be made at the end of summer 2019 when park usage slows down;

- Artistic Park - shade structures
- Heritage Park - shade structures
- Buena Vista Park – fencing

Budgeted amount for the three projects is \$200,000.

Camino Del Rey Improvements are budgeted for \$297,333 and will repave the roadway from Angel Wings to Castillo Road, including replacing non-conforming ADA sidewalks and storm drainage.

This project is scheduled to begin in September 2019.

Two projects will improve deficient roadways surfacing, striping, and/or equipment used to move pedestrian or vehicle traffic.

1) Franklin's Earth Moving will add turn lanes and medians in front of the New Mexico Corrections Department prison on Morris Road as part of the Morris Road / Camelot Boulevard project. Construction cost is an estimated \$207,813.

2) Bixby Electric has been awarded the HAWK signal improvements on NM 314 and Otero. This will replace the current pedestrian crosswalk signal with an updated version not previously available. Cost will be \$100,051.

Construction will get underway in September with completion expected in November.

Village officials continue to work on the I-25 Interchange East-West Corridor Project. The purchase of rights-of way is currently ongoing. The search for financing continues. A contract for design should be in place by the end of the year.

ARTS & CRAFTS, BAKE SALE

The women of Valley Lutheran Church host an Arts and Crafts / Bake Sale – Christmas Shopping Extravaganza Saturday, Oct. 26, 2019, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at NM HWY 47 and Otero Road.

Twenty-five percent of the profits will be donated to a Valencia County non-profit.

Christmas Shopping is provided by local vendors. Homemade baked goods and potted plants are for sale. A raffle with donated items will be held.

Food served includes made-to-order burritos from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.; pumpkin and apple pie all day; and lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with pizza and Frito pie.

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FIREFIGHTERS RECEIVE BADGES

Six members of the Los Lunas Fire Department received their official service badges at an August Village Council meeting.

Receiving their badges were Jonathan Rosas, Jeriko Garcia, Matthew McKay, Javier Rubio, Douglas Traile and David Sanchez.

The Village Council chambers was filled with family members and friends for the event.

These firefighters have 3,384 combined training hours and responded to an average of 463 calls each.

Fire Chief John Gabaldon says all Village firefighters continue to learn on each shift with the department training program.



Six firefighters received service badges.

JURIED ART SHOW DEADLINE

October 12, 2019, is the deadline for entries in the Los Lunas Museum of Heritage & Arts adult juried art show which has the theme "Frontiers of New Mexico."

Entries must be original work and may be any medium as long as the work portrays the theme.

Abstract and non-representational works are welcome.

More information and the application are available on the Village website under Departments/library/museum.

Village Administration Office: 505 839-3840

MUSEUM ART CATALOGUE AVAILABLE

The catalogue for the Los Lunas Museum of Heritage & Arts exhibition of traditional and contemporary Hispanic arts held in spring 2019 is now available at the reduced price of \$15!

The 125-page four-color book contains photos and text about all the art and artists who participated in the exhibition.

Books can be purchased at the museum at 251 Main St., SE (under the water tower) or can be shipped by the museum (shipping costs apply; inquire for more information).

Besides the exhibition catalogue, the museum also sells a large selection of books on topics of New Mexico history, and a variety of items with a southwestern or New Mexico motif.

CREDIT UNION CELEBRATES 10 YEARS

The Los Lunas branch of Sandia Laboratory Federal Credit Union celebrates ten years in the Village 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28, 2019.

There will be free food, giveaways, activities for the whole family, a ceremony, and a special frozen treat for the first 100 people who stop by. Information about credit union services and products will be available.

The Los Lunas branch has seven employees, manager is Rumaldo Garcia. Sandia Laboratory Credit Union has 354 employees.

Everyone is invited to attend at the event at the branch located at 2700 Palmilla Rd NW, phone 505 293-0500.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT ANOTHER SUCCESS

For the second year in a row at National Night Out, Albertsons Market Place provided enough food and drink for more than 1,000 people plus Albertsons employees did the cooking and serving.

Also at the event, approximately 700 kids were given backpacks and school supplies to start off their school year.

Los Lunas Police Chief Naithan Gurule thanked everyone who assisted in making another National Night Out a success.

Albertson's generosity provided Los Lunas police officers with the opportunity to have uninterrupted conversations with a variety of community members.



Free backpacks to 700 children at National Night Out.

FARMING FOR SNAKE RANCH

The Sichler Family has been farming in New Mexico's Middle Rio Grande Valley since the first Sichlers emigrated from Germany in 1868, and purchased farm land in 1872.

Fifth and sixth generation farmers Chris Sichler and son Steven operate a 650-acre farm in San Antonio, New Mexico, and sell the products under the name Snake Ranch.

Snake Ranch Farm Store™, filled with products grown in San Antonio and other New Mexico farms, is located on Vallejos Road in Los Lunas. The street address is 232 Main St. NE, but you turn onto Vallejos and go north a short block.

In addition to the Snake Ranch Farm Store™ in Los Lunas, there is the Snake Ranch Farm Store™ at 88 Highway 380 in San Antonio which is run by Paula Sichler.

Products grown on the Sichler farm in San Antonio include alfalfa, field corn, watermelons, cantaloupes, honeydew, pumpkins, summer squash, zucchini, cucumbers, tomatoes, winter squash, bell peppers, jalapenos, yellow hot peppers, sweet corn and, of course, chile.

The Snake Farm Ranch Store™ in Los Lunas, phone 505 865-6543, is open Monday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Website sichlerchile.com.

The Snake Ranch Farm Store™ in Los Lunas is also called the Los Lunas Market and is where Ernie Sichler Farms (originally owned by Chris's father Ernie) was located. The Los Lunas Market is managed by Chris and Paula Sichler's son and business partner, Steven Sichler.



Village Administration Office: 505 839-3840

NEW MCDONALD'S ON MAIN STREET

Welcome to the third McDonald's restaurant in the Village of Los Lunas, located at 1720 Main Street NW, in front of Home Depot."

Dean and Tanea Cantrall are the franchise owners of the restaurant which seats 122.

This is the second McDonald's they operate, the other is at the intersection of Wyoming and Harper in Albuquerque.

Tanea says she has only had positive experiences in Los Lunas while building and opening the store.

"Everyone has been so friendly here," she says.

The Cantralls are familiar with the greater Los Lunas area as Dean has relatives who live here and his grandparents lived in the area for a number of years.

The store will have 50 part and fulltime employees who are a variety of ages including high schoolers who could walk to work from their school.

If you are interested in a job at McDonald's just text APPLY to 36453.

The link that shows up allows people to apply for a job at any McDonald's including the new one in Los Lunas which shows up as Main St Home Depot.

The McDonald's menu offers a wide variety of foods for every time of the day or night. Check out the website at mcdonalds.com for the menu, information about the food and many other topics.

Tanea Cantrall says McDonald's is all about customer service and speed of service and the new restaurant will provide that customer service with the speed of service.

The new restaurant has a double lane drive-through with two order points to speed up service.

The new McDonald's is open 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. seven days a week, phone 505 565-2178.



The new McDonald's seats 122.

COMMUNITY CAREER FAIR

A Community Career Fair will be held at Goodwill, 201 Desert Willow Road, Thursday, Sept. 26, 2019, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. with a variety of employers including Burritos Al instante, Comfort Keepers, Isleta Resort and Casino, Walmart Distribution Center, and Ben E Keith Foods.

Workforce Connections representatives are expected to be there also. Employers wanting to secure a spot at the career fair or a job seeker with questions can contact Jonna Toledo, job developer (working out of the Los Lunas Goodwill) at jtoledo@goodwillnm.org or 505 944-0289.

Job seekers attending the fair are encouraged to bring resumes and dress for an interview.

LOS LUNAS LIBRARY

505 839-3850

The Los Lunas Public Library offered many activities for children and teens during the summer. Check out the library on Facebook for fall happenings. Stop by the library at 460 Main St. NE to check out a book, DVD or CD.

And try out the Los Lunas Library app for your smart phone. Go to this link for more information: <https://tinyurl.com/y5vmktux>.

www.loslunasnm.gov

BLOOMING MONDAYS, TULIP TUESDAYS

Blooming Mondays and Tulip Tuesdays are coming to Los Lunas at Bloom Flowers & Gifts, located at 1402 Main Street Suite E.

Penny Griego, new owner of Bloom Flowers & Gifts, said the idea for the early week specials came from the concept of Taco Tuesdays.

On Blooming Mondays there are specials on flowers and gift items. Tulip Tuesdays feature purchasing any color tulip for an arrangement or a hand-held bouquet.

Bloom Flowers & Gifts has a wide variety of flowers, plants and gift items including stuffed animals, elegant jackets, picture frames, bird houses, greeting cards, candles, jewelry, crosses, and much more. Many items are made by local artisans.

Penny Griego took over Bloom Flowers & Gifts on March 9. Previously she owned and operated the Luna Mansion, and worked as interim director of sales and in business development / marketing at Isleta Resort and Casino.

Griego was considering retiring to devote time to the many area organizations she belongs to before she decided to take over Bloom Flowers & Gifts.

She is active in or with University of New Mexico development board, Ambercare Foundation, Partners in Education, Hispano Chamber of Commerce, and National Women in Business Association.

She is currently part of a group trying to bring back a Boys and Girls Club to Valencia County. She has helped with Red Cross and Honor Flight.

For the last 34 years, Griego has had a floral design wholesale company called Ribbons and Lace Floral which she now operates out of Bloom Flowers & Gifts.

Consultation for weddings and funerals is available at Bloom Flowers & Gifts as is wire service sending items all over the United States.

Bloom Flowers & Gifts is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, phone 505 865-7338, located at the northeast corner of Main Street / NM HWY 6 and Los Cerritos Road, website BloomFlowersLosLunas.com.



Penny Griego loves flowers.

LOCAL EVENTS

Business Watch

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

Sept. 14, 2019 8 a.m. – noon
Community Cleanup Day
Meet at Village Administrative
Building
660 Main St. NW
Call 505 839-5658 to volunteer

Sept. 21, 2019 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
10th Annual
Arts and Craft Sale
Jubilee Active Adult Community
West on NM HWY 6

Sept. 28, 2019 8 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Pancakes for a cause
"Clothes for Kids"
Sponsored by Los Lunas Rotary
Club
Ribs Restaurant 120 Nelson Lane

Sept. 28, 2019 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Book Sale by Friends of the
Library and Museum of
Heritage & Arts
Los Lunas Public Library
460 Main St. NE

Attend a Village Council Meeting
Sept. 19 Oct. 10 & 24
660 Main St NW
Main Street and Don Pasqual
Meetings begin at 6:00 p.m.

LA VIDA FELICIDAD GOLF TOURNAMENT

The second annual La Vida Felicidad Golf Tournament is Friday, Sept. 13, 2019, at Isleta Golf Course, 4001 Highway 47 SE, Albuquerque, with tee time at 8 a.m.

To be a sponsor or register, go to lvfnm.org or charitygolf@lvfnm.org on the internet.

The format is four-person team scramble and cost is \$500 per team.

MUSEUM OF HERITAGE & ARTS HAPPENINGS

Main Street and Luna Avenue 505 352-7720

PRESENTATIONS

Saturday, Sept. 21, 2019 2 – 4 p.m.
The Preservation of the Abo Ruins &
Frederico Sisneros
By Donna Deiner & Dixie Boyle

EXHIBITS

New Mexico Watercolor Society Exhibit
Through September 21, 2019

2018 Juried Art Show Winner
Gerald Armijo Art Exhibition
Opening reception Saturday,
Sept. 14, 2019 2- 4 p.m.
On display through Nov. 2, 2019

The Los Lunas Museum of Heritage & Arts has a new app. Go to this web page for more information: <https://lineupr.com/loslunas/museum/>.