



VILLAGE NEWS

Small Community • Big Possibilities

AMAZON OPEN IN LOS LUNAS

A multi-billion-dollar company has opened a new hub in Los Lunas promising more than a thousand jobs.

Amazon has finished building its more than one million square foot fulfillment center, its second in central New Mexico, and is hiring.

A spokesperson for the Village of Los Lunas said they're excited about what this could mean for the community's growth. "It's put us on the international map," said Victoria Archuleta, Senior Economic Developer, Village of Los Lunas.

"In Los Lunas, we are a very rapid growing community. We're the fastest growing community in the state of New Mexico and a large part of that is thanks to the big companies that have had a presence here. First was the Walmart Distribution Center, followed by Meta," said Archuleta.

The company is promising to bring more than 1,000 jobs to the area and will be hiring in increments of 200-250 employees.

The Amazon fulfillment center is located west of the Meta Data Center and the Walmart Distribution Center, off NM Hwy 6.

Amazon first broke ground in 2021. They say their grand opening is scheduled for August 13.

People interested in applying to work at Amazon should go to the Amazon website.

WORK ON GETTING AQUATIC FACILITY

Village officials continue working on developing a plan for funding a new aquatic center in the community.

Councilman-Hunsaker, a Colorado company hired by the Village, conducted a feasibility study that included a full site analysis of a possible facility located at Daniel Fernandez Memorial Park. The company also estimated costs to design, build, and operate such a facility.

The market demographics indicate there are 914,700 residents within an hour's drive of the proposed site.

A pool facility could include a water slide, children's play area, and a deep-water activity area plus there could be opportunities for fitness. A natatorium could offer recreational swimming and lap swimming.

Work continues on identifying possible funding sources.

CHARLES GRIEGO
MAYOR

griegoc@loslunasnm.gov

DR. JAMES RUNYON
VILLAGE COUNCILOR

runyonj@loslunasnm.gov

CHRISTOPHER S. ORTIZ
VILLAGE COUNCILOR

ortizc@loslunasnm.gov

GINO M. ROMERO
VILLAGE COUNCILOR

romerog@loslunasnm.gov

CRUZ MUÑOZ
VILLAGE COUNCILOR

munozc@loslunasnm.gov

AVILIO CHAVEZ
MUNICIPAL JUDGE

avchavez@loslunasnm.gov

FRANK LUCERO
POLICE CHIEF

flucero@loslunasnm.gov

JOHN GABALDON
FIRE CHIEF

jgabaldon@loslunasnm.gov

GREGORY D. MARTIN
VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR

marting@loslunasnm.gov

THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Village's 2023 annual report is designed as a communications tool revealing how the Village and its devoted teams are dedicated to transparency and accountability.

The Police Department works to build relationships, solve problems, and make a difference by delivering continuous public safety-related services to the community.

In 2023 the Los Lunas Police Department:

- Responded to almost 38,000 calls for service.
- Responded to 9,000 traffic-related calls throughout the year, including 6,500 traffic stops, 877 crashes, and 137 hit-and-runs.
- Issued over 300 e-citations for speeding through the automated speed enforcement program, which began in November 2023.
- Onboarded seven new police officers and two civilian employees.
- Promoted seven current employees to various ranks within the department.
- Participated in 20 community events.

The Los Lunas Police Department is a forward-thinking and proactive public safety organization committed to providing comprehensive police services 24/7, 365 days a year to the community it serves.

With a dedicated team of 51 members, including 45 sworn officers and 6 civilians, the department is driven by a mission centered on building relationships, solving problems, and making a positive difference.

The department's highest priority is ensuring public safety by protecting life and property. It emphasizes the importance of respecting and safeguarding the rights and dignity of all individuals, conducting citizen contacts with integrity, respect, and fairness.

The Los Lunas Police Department is committed to excellence in service delivery and employs training, technology, and innovation to achieve this goal.

Recognizing the interdependent relationship with the community, the department remains sensitive to the community's priorities and needs. It diligently enforces municipal, state, and federal laws impartially throughout the community, upholding the principles outlined in the State of New Mexico and the U.S. Constitutions.

The department places a strong emphasis on acknowledging the individual worth of each team member and fostering a positive working environment. Embracing a community policing philosophy, the Los Lunas Police Department actively engages with the Village, forging stronger partnerships with residents and businesses alike.

Officers are encouraged to establish connections within their assigned neighborhoods and business areas, facilitating open discussions about problems and collaborative solutions.

This approach ensures a more responsive and community-oriented approach to law enforcement, reflecting the department's commitment to enhancing the overall well-being of Los Lunas.

JUBILEE ARTS & CRAFTS RETURNS

The Annual Jubilee Arts and Crafts Fair is back this year on Sept. 21, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Jubilee Villa in Los Lunas, 500 Jubilee Blvd. located 1.8 miles west of I-25 on NM Hwy 6.

The Fair will present 60 crafters from around New Mexico who will display their items that include, but are not limited to, jewelry, painting, pottery, soaps, clothing, cards and many other handmade creations.

There will also be a raffle with gifts donated by sponsors from Los Lunas and Albuquerque to support the fair. A food truck will be available. Admission is free.

The profits from this Fair will be donated this year to the University of New Mexico, Valencia establishing a Scholarship awarded bi-annually to a qualified student.

Funds will also be given to the Los Lunas Fire Department to help develop the OSCAR 360 camera system that provides comprehensive scene documentation in schools and provides real-time access during both routine and emergency operations.

The Fair was started 17 years ago by a few residents wanting a way to give back to Valencia County. There were five crafters and about \$300 was donated to a local organization.

Since then, this Fair has been held every year, has grown to 60 crafters, and donates \$8,000 to \$9,000 yearly.

This Fair has been considered by several crafters to be "One of the best Craft Fairs in New Mexico."

2023 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

The 2023 Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report), as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), is now available on the Village website, loslunasnm.gov.

This report provides details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by the New Mexico Environment Department / Drinking Water Bureau (NMED/DWB).

It is a comprehensive report of last year's water quality for the Village of Los Lunas and reflects how committed the Village of Los Lunas is to provide this information so that you are aware of the contaminants in your drinking water.

Where does my water come from?

The Village of Los Lunas provides excellence in quality and service to customers at a minimal cost while protecting the environment and exceeding all quality standards.

The Village is supplied by ground water pumped from the Santa Fe Group aquifer in the Albuquerque Basin by four wells located within the Village of Los Lunas.

Daily and weekly operations include administration, 24-hour on call emergency response, maintenance and inspection of water/sewer utility distribution and collection systems and water treatment facilities, laboratory sampling, and fiscal reports.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers and/or Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) / Centers for Disease Control (CDC) for guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants.

More information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). Your health is important to the Village of Los Lunas so please contact a physician with any health concerns.

SPEAKER SERIES CONTINUES

The Valencia County Historical Society continues to provide speakers at public events.

The following events are free and open to the public:

- KARS Radio/860 AM; Richard Melzer, speaker; Belen Public Library; Aug. 24.
- The Impact of Roy Rogers on TV; Chuck Hornung, speaker; Los Lunas Museum; Sept. 21.
- Field trip To Santa Fe 2926, a 1944 steam locomotive housed in Albuquerque; John Taylor, speaker; Albuquerque; Oct. 19.
- Mattie Silk Thompson, the famed Madam of Denver; Donna Pedace, speaker; Los Lunas Museum; Nov. 10.

LOS LUNAS SCHOOLS HOLDING SPECIAL ELECTION

Los Lunas Schools is holding a Special Election in 2024 to help fund technology.

The district approved a resolution for the special election following the loss of the crucial 3 Mill Levy in November 2023.

The 3 Mill Levy dedicates a small percentage of property taxes for the district to maintain and stay up to date with technology.

How 3 Mill is used today?

- District school buildings require new cabling and network equipment at least once every 15-20 years for 15+ district sites.
- Servers, Wi-Fi equipment, and network equipment must be refreshed periodically, typically at least every 5-8 years.
- Staff PCs, audio/visual components.
- District Server Infrastructure (40-50 servers).
- Wi-Fi Infrastructure.
- Annual warranties for core network components in the event of a hardware failure. The 3 Mill Levy maintains current taxes.

The Election is mail-in only. Ballots must be postmarked by August 13, 2024.

A BIT OF LOS LUNAS HISTORY

"A Cultural & Economic History of Los Lunas" was written by Los Lunas Library and Museum Director Cynthia Shetter and can be found on the Village's website loslunasnm.gov. This newsletter is running excerpts from Shetter's writing.

When the State of New Mexico widened NM Hwy 6 / Main Street in 1985, the south end of the Bernie Gonzales Clinic was torn down. The Village purchased the building and renovated it and then moved the public library from the west rooms of the former community center making more room for the police department and municipal court.

The public works, community development, and the chamber of commerce offices were located in the former Nicanor Artiaga home west of the renovated public library.

The administrative offices, council chambers and the water department were across the street in the fire department.

In the mid 1990s, the Village administration department moved into new facilities, located at 660 Main St. NW, which had enough room to accommodate these departments, plus the Los Lunas Village Council Chambers.

Since that time, the police department has been renovated and expanded to accommodate the staffing needed. In efforts to keep downtown vital, the Mayor and council worked with legislators to receive Capital Outlay funding to renovate the fire department and the public library in FY 2003-04.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Get those smiles ready for back to school!



HALTON ORTHODONICS
725 Main St NW, Los Lunas,
NM, 87031
505-866-9296



FAMILIA DENTAL
1620 Main St NW, STE D, Los Lunas, NM, 87031
847-915-3015
New location



**Rio Grande
Children's
DENTISTRY
& Orthodontics**

**RIO GRANDE CHILDREN'S
DENTISTRY &
ORTHODONTICS**
106 Main St NE, Los Lunas,
NM, 87031
505-865-1999

AspenDental

ASPEN DENTAL
1700 Main St NW, Los Lunas,
NM, 87031
505-404-3058
New Dentist – Welcome
Dr. Navbir Aurora!

LOCAL EVENTS

Monday, September 2

Labor Day
Village Offices Closed
Monday, September 2
Garbage collected
Tuesday, September 3

Farmers Market

Tuesdays 4 - 7 p.m.
Heritage Park on Lambros Loop
Across from Smiths Grocery
Fresh locally produced items

Thursday, October 31

Halloween is Coming!
Get Your Costume Ready

Attend a Village Council Meeting

6 p.m. Thursday, August 8 & 22
6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 12 & 26
660 Main St. NW
Main Street and Don Pasqual
Meetings will be virtual and
in-person. Check Village website for
agenda loslunasnm.gov.

FAMILY HISTORY / GENEALOGY

The Los Lunas Library and Museum of Heritage & Arts has the Library Edition of Ancestry.com that can be accessed from the public access computers. If you'd rather research from home, you can access HeritageQuest using your Los Lunas Library Card.

Ancestry Library Edition provides access to billions of historical documents, millions of historical photos, plus local narratives, oral histories, indexes and other resources in over 30,000 databases that span from the 1500s to present.