



VILLAGE NEWS

Small Community • Big Possibilities

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BUSINESS IN THE VILLAGE

There have been 100 new small business registrations from January 1 through June 30, 2024, in the Village of Los Lunas.

These businesses include some which are brick and mortar companies, and also include contractors, subcontractors, vendors, name changes, and changes of ownership.

Amazon has opened its doors with about 1,200 employees at that facility and hopes to gear up to about 1,800 at the facility.

Copper State Nuts and Bolts is happening in the Los Morros Business Park. Dunkin' Donuts 2530 Main St. NE is currently underway. The Fairfield Inn 2255 Sun Ranch Village Loop SW will break ground soon.

Danielle Casey, President and CEO of Albuquerque Regional Economic Alliance (AREA), told the Los Lunas Village Council that economic development is doing well especially since the Village and AREA are partnering.

AREA and the Village are in the third year of an economic development partnership. Casey complimented the economic development team and staff at the Village. They are working hard to make sure they

have representation from the public sector as well as private business, said Casey.

Data centers have recently taken the lead in inquiries into the overall market.

The good news is that data centers are environmentally sustainable and always keep an eye on data opportunities.

A very intense six-month ad campaign to promote live.abq.org begins soon and in other markets to tell people about our community.

VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

General Andrew E. Salas will be the speaker at the Village of Los Lunas annual Veterans Day ceremony held Monday, Nov. 11, at Daniel Fernandez Park beginning at 11 a.m.

Jubilation Barbershop Singers will lead several songs.

Members of Daniel D. Fernandez VFW Post 9676 will post and retire the colors.

Other speakers include Los Lunas Mayor Charles Griego, Julian Ortega, Veteran; and U.S. Col. John R. Chavez, U.S. Army Retired.

Refreshments will be served at the end of the ceremony.

HOST STORIES

On Saturday, Oct. 26 at 6 p.m. at the Los Lunas Museum of Heritage & Arts at 251 Main St. SE (under the water tower) author Cody Polston will discuss and sign copies of his new book Ghost Stories of Central New Mexico, which will be available for sale at the event.

Polston is the author of several fantasy, paranormal fiction and nonfiction books. He is also the writer for Ghost Hunter X magazine.

The event is sponsored by Friends of the Los Lunas Public Library.

Refreshments will be served.

For more information, call the museum at 505 352-7720 or access the flyer at the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/yc3xv4fp>.

This event replaces an earlier planned event (and ghost hunt) for the same date and time at the Luna Mansion, which had to be cancelled due to circumstances beyond the control of Friends of the Los Lunas Library.

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THE VILLAGE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Village 2023 annual report is designed as a communications tool revealing how the Village and its devoted teams are dedicated to transparency and accountability. This month we highlight the Village Parks and Recreation Department as taken from the 2023 Annual Report.

Parks and Recreation enriches the quality of life for Los Lunas residents and visitors through safe and well-maintained parks, open spaces, and facilities, and provides high-quality recreational programming for residents of all ages.

In 2023 Parks and Recreation:

- *Provided ongoing maintenance for 37 facilities and 17 parks.*
- *Assisted in grounds keeping for 25 USSSA softball and baseball tournaments.*
- *Over 3,300 youth and adults participated in indoor and outdoor recreation activities.*
- *75,000 visitors to Daniel Fernandez Recreation Center.*
- *Largest ever King of the Hill Half Marathon/10K/5K run with 305 runners*
- *Over 10,000 attendees at special events throughout the year.*
- *Open Space Division held outdoor programs for over 500 adult and youth participants locally and around the state.*
- *Strong presence on social media, with 57,663 visits, 206K reach and 1,076 new likes.*

The Parks and Recreation Department's endeavors stand as testament to their commitment to community enhancement. With a strategic investment of \$600,000 in the construction of a new Building and Grounds Maintenance Building, the department has bolstered its capacity to ensure the continued upkeep and operational efficiency of recreational and village facilities. This addition not only exemplifies fiscal responsibility but also underscores a proactive approach to infrastructure management, safeguarding the longevity of community assets. In tandem with this investment, the completion of the \$7.5 million expansion of the Daniel Fernandez Recreation Center signals a new era of recreational opportunities, fostering social cohesion and promoting healthy lifestyles. Additionally, the \$1.6 million improvements to the Daniel Fernandez Softball Field reflect the department's commitment to providing premier sporting experiences for athletes and spectators alike. As stewards of public well-being, the Parks and Recreation Department remains dedicated to fostering an environment that enhances the overall quality of life for residents of the Village of Los Lunas.

Parks and Recreation partners with a diverse array of organizations, including United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA), Western New Mexico University (WNMU), Los Lunas Consolidated Schools, Youth Sports Organizations, and non-profits throughout the county, with the shared goal of enriching community life through recreational activities. Collaborating with USSSA and WNMU has enabled the Village to host high-quality tournaments and events, attracting both local talent and visitors to our community while boosting our local economy. Partnering with Los Lunas Schools has allowed us to utilize our facilities and engage with youth, fostering a love for sports and physical activity early on. Through alliances with youth programming sports organizations, we've expanded our reach to younger demographics, offering inclusive leagues and programs. Additionally, collaborating with non-profits has enabled us to amplify our impact, leveraging resources and expertise to promote leagues and special events that benefit the entire community. These partnerships exemplify our commitment to providing diverse and accessible recreational opportunities for all residents.

Open spaces in Los Lunas, including El Cerro de Los Lunas and River Park, serve as versatile venues for outdoor programming, offering a wide range of recreational activities, from hiking, archery, skiing, rafting, snowboarding, and community events. The Open Space Division is vital for the Parks and Recreation Department, serving as a dynamic platform for education, maintenance, and outdoor programming.

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PARKS AND RECREATION (*cont'd*)

In 2023, Open Space Division:

- Conducted educational Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) training for 94 youth and adults and conducted OHV patrols in excess of 375 hours.
- Participated in local school programs and special events interacting with over 1500 youth reviewing the safety of rock climbing, park rules and OHV laws.
- Performed maintenance on 800 plus check dams, 50 pit tanks, maintain 14 miles of trail. (OHV) training site, 255 Village wide security cameras and 350 cyber locks.
- Issued 189 warnings/citations for illegal parking, overnight camping.
- Partnered with the Santa Fe Police Department to assist their officers in rope rescue training.

Through the Open Space Division, the Village secured \$25,000 in grant funding from the New Mexico Game and Fish Department for OHV Partrols, and \$10,000 for OHV Promotional Items to help promote OHV safety within Los Lunas and surrounding areas. An additional \$32,000 in grant funding was secured from New Mexico Outdoor Recreation Division to provide local youth with new outdoor recreation opportunities. By prioritizing the preservation and utilization of open spaces, the Parks and Recreation Department ensures that residents have access to enriching educational experiences and sustainable recreational opportunities in their natural surroundings.

IMPORTANCE OF FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

Fire Prevention week should not just be a week but be practiced all year round.

The theme of Fire Prevention Week 2024, Smoke alarms: Make them work for you!, emphasizes the critical role of smoke alarms in fire safety.

Install smoke alarms on every level and room of your home and workplace, ideally at least ten feet away from any cooking equipment.

Fire Prevention Week (FPW) is an annual observance aimed at educating the public about fire safety, which should be practiced all year round. The theme Smoke alarms: Make them work for you!, emphasizes the importance of having functional smoke alarms in homes to prevent fire-related fatalities.

Established in 1922 by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) (<https://www.nfpa.org/events/fire-prevention-week>), it commemorates the Great Chicago Fire and serves as a reminder of the devastating effects of fires on communities. The week encourages individuals and families to take proactive measures to protect themselves and their homes from fire hazards.

This week also encourages workplaces to review their fire safety plans and other safety (<https://safetyculture.com/topics/workplace-safety/>) (<https://safetyculture.com/topics/fire-safety/>) procedures to assess if they are still usable for possible incidents.

Employers and managers are encouraged to create and promote informational events such as drills and training (<https://safetyculture.com/training/>) (<https://safetyculture.com/topics/fire-safety/fire-drill/>) seminars to reorient workers on proper fire mitigation, evacuation (<https://safetyculture.com/checklists/emergency-evacuation-plan/>), and prevention practices, ensuring their safety should a fire break environment and streamline compliance with our EHS solutions.

PARADE REGISTRATION

Registration is now open for the Village of Los Lunas Electric Light Parade.

The parade will be held on December 7, on Main Street from Smith's Shopping Center to Don Pasqual.

Contact Parks & Recreation at 505 352-7661 or email dfycrecept@loslunasnm.gov for registration information.

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

The 45th annual Holiday Bazaar hosted by the Crafty Ladies of Peralta Methodist Church, 25 Wesley Rd, in Peralta - will be held on Friday, Nov. 22nd from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

A wide variety of themed homestyle decor and seasonal decor, including ornaments and more, plus baked goodies will be available.

The Methodist Men will offer Frito pie and breakfast burritos and drinks for sale.

Space is limited, so no tables will be rented to outside vendors. Info: 505 865-9334.

HISTORY OF VETERANS DAY

Veterans Day is a public holiday that is dedicated to honoring anyone who has served in the United States military. The holiday began as a day to remember the end of World War I and was declared a holiday by President Woodrow Wilson in 1919.

Originally known as Armistice Day, the holiday became Veterans Day in 1954.

A BIT OF LOS LUNAS HISTORY

"A Cultural & Economic History of Los Lunas" was written by Los Lunas Library Director Cynthia Shetter and can be found on the Village website loslunasnm.gov. This newsletter runs excerpts from Shetters writing. Starting with this month's newsletter, we will begin telling you about the Mayors of Los Lunas.

Mayors of Los Lunas:

Don Antonio Archuleta (1883-1955) Served 1928 - 1930

Antonio Archuleta was born in Los Lunas in June 1883. He married the former Veneranda Gauna of Los Lentes and their union was blessed with three children were born: Nina, Rose, and José, better known as Figo. After Veneranda's death, Don Antonio traveled as was the custom among many townspeople to take the baths in Hot Springs, New Mexico. There, he courted and later married Isabelita Trujillo, who became his life partner in marriage as well as in business. The couple had four sons, including Telesfor, Agustín, Salomon, and Antonio Jr.

On August 7, 1928, Don Antonio earned the distinction of being elected the first Mayor of the Village of Los Lunas. The meetings in those years were not held on a regular basis but convened when issues arose that demanded the attention of the Mayor and Board of Trustees. Mayor Archuleta's administration enacted the first ordinances that set the foundation for municipal government in Los Lunas.

Don Antonio Archuleta's term as mayor was one instance of public service; he also served as a Justice of the Peace, the Chairman of the Board of Education Other from 1925 to 1926 as Valencia County Sheriff.

Emiliano Castillo, Sr. (1871 - 1953) Served 1930 - 1932

Emiliano Castillo, Sr. was born May 28, 1871 in Pajarito, New Mexico to Jose and Lupita Castillo. His siblings were Francisco, Macedonio and Maria. He also had a half brother and sister—Leonard and Lucinda.

He was orphaned at age 11 and was raised by Louis B. and Henrietta Busch Huning. Mrs. Huning was his educator as well as guardian. She taught him how to speak German as well as English. He helped at the Huning mercantile and became an authority on livestock.

Emiliano married twice; he and his first wife Sofia Chávez were parents to Josefita, José and Luis—then Sofia died in childbirth. On November 28, 1901, he and Anna Weber, a native of Krausendorf, Germany, were joined in matrimony. She had emigrated to the United States upon answering an ad placed in a German newspaper by the Hunings of Los Lunas. Emiliano and Anna's children were named Oswald, Hattie, Fred, Emiliano, Jr. and Anita.

For half a century, Emiliano Castillo, Sr. engaged in business in Los Lunas, as well as a brief stint in the mining town of Kelly near Magdalena. During his career, he served as Superintendent of County Roads, was a member of the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District Board, and was elected to the Valencia County Commission. Three of his sons were later to be Mayor — José, Fred and Emiliano, Jr.

LOCAL EVENTS

OKTOBERFEST

October 19
Badlands Drive-In
Corner of NM Hwy 314 and Morris Road
Noon to 6 p.m.Hwy 314
Bring the whole family because it's Family Friendly
Food Trucks Music Beer Wine

ELECTIONS PAST

Of Valencia County and Beyond
Through October 23 at the Village Museum of Heritage & Arts
Under the Downtown Water Tower

HALLOWEEN BASH

October 26
5 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Los Lunas Train Station
101 Courthouse Rd SE
505 352-7661

GENERAL ELECTION

Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024
Vote absentee, early or in person.
Call the Valencia County Bureau of Elections for more information
505 866-2073

VETERANS DAY

Monday, Nov. 11, 2024
Special program at Daniel Fernandez Park 11 a.m.
All Village offices closed Monday
Monday garbage pickup on Tuesday, Nov. 12.

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Village Offices closed Thursday, Nov. 28 & Friday, Nov. 29, for Thanksgiving Holiday.
Thursday garbage picked up Wednesday, Nov. 27.
Friday garbage picked up Monday, Dec. 2.

Attend a Village Council Meeting

6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6 and 20
660 Main St. NW
Main Street and Don Pasqual
Meetings will be virtual and in-person. Check Village website for agenda loslunasnm.gov.