

Lantern Launch Lights Up The Pojoaque Valley on November 27

Glowing Lanterns Rise Skyward During Annual Event Hosted by Buffalo Thunder Resort & Casino

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO, USA, November 21, 2019 / EINPresswire.com/ -- (Santa Fe NM) Thousands of prayers, wishes, promises and dreams will float toward the heavens once the Northern New Mexico sun sets on Nov 27, carried there in brilliantly lit paper lanterns. The visual effect, according to event management, will create an unforgettable spectacle of lights for miles around that won't soon be forgotten.

The 2019 Lantern Launch takes place at the Towa Golf Club at <u>Buffalo</u> <u>Thunder Resort & Casino</u> the night before Thanksgiving. Already one year in the planning, it's an event unlike any other.

"We're expecting thousands of people from our community to join in this

spectacularly beautiful ceremony," according to Ken Lathrop, Director of Marketing for Buffalo Thunder. "The visual impact is awe-inspiring."



The 2019 Lantern Launch Takes Place on November 27 at Towa Golf Club

BuffaloThunder RESORT & CASINO

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just north of Santa Fe, New Mexico.



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Lathrop said that each person attending actually becomes part of the Lantern Launch ceremony itself, making it an interactive community experience. Attendees are each given a lantern, a special lighter and a marker upon admission, and they use these materials to write messages on their individual lanterns before simultaneously launching them to flight.

Lantern messages are as unique and creative as the individual participant, added Lathrop, and can vary from messages to loved ones who have passed away, to hopes and aspirations for the future, to wishing upon a star and even prayers for health and happiness.

The history of the sky lantern itself can be traced back to 300 BC in ancient China where they were used for strategic communication during battle. Since then, sky lanterns have evolved and

become synonymous with mid-autumn festivals around the world. Made from a thin paper shell, there is an opening at the bottom. When lit, the flame heats the air inside the lantern, thus lowering its density and causing the lantern to rise into the air. The sky lantern is only airborne for as long as the flame stays alight, after which the lantern sinks back to the ground.



Jennifer Smith, Food and Beverage Manager for Buffalo Thunder, has been working tirelessly behind the scenes making ready for the Lantern Launch.

"Since this is held the night before Thanksgiving," Smith said, "Everyone is in town gathering with family and friends to celebrate so it's already a special time. Add in the popularity of this lantern ceremony, and it will be an event you will always remember."

The Lantern Launch gets underway at 4pm, and tickets will be only be sold at the door on the day of the event. Tickets are \$15 for attendees aged 13 and older; \$5 for those attending between the age of 5 and 12; and free for those under 5 years old. A portion of the ticket sales will benefit The Sky Center, which is the Suicide Intervention Project of Northern New Mexico.

No coolers will be allowed, but Smith said that hot chocoloate, cider, tamales and grab and go sandwiches will be available for purchase. A DJ and music will provide entertainment leading up to the actual launch of the lanterns, and blankets and heaters are also available for an additional fee.

Smith added that last year's attendance was 1200, and a record breaking crowd of 2000 is already anticipated for this year's event. Pueblo police and fire marshalls will be on site to oversee safety and security.

For more information, visit https://BuffaloThunderResort.com.

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About Buffalo Thunder Resort & Casino: Link: https://BuffaloThunderResort.com

Buffalo Thunder Resort and Casino is located and operated by the Pueblo of Pojoaque just north of Santa Fe, New Mexico. Opened in 2008, Buffalo Thunder joined the ranks of the casino elite of New Mexico, included its sister casino, Cities of Gold. Art from Native contributors statewide, and from many different Pueblos, are displayed proudly throughout the casino.

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About The Sky Center: Link: http://nmsip.org

The New Mexico Suicide Intervention Project (NMSIP) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization established in 1994, and is dedicated to the increasing concern of youth suicides in Santa Fe County and Northern New Mexico. The Sky Center is our primary program and houses all of our services. Our mission is to reduce the risk of youth suicide in Santa Fe County and Northern New Mexico. Where there is Help there is Hope. If you are concerned about a young person, please encourage them to call The Sky Center at 505-473-6191.

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