

# Village of Los Lunas



660 Main Street NW P.O. Box 1209  
Los Lunas New Mexico 87031  
Phone (505) 839-3840 FAX (505) 352-3580 [www.loslunasnm.gov](http://www.loslunasnm.gov)

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## More Businesses Arrive in the Village of Los Lunas

To help encourage people to shop in Los Lunas this newsletter will feature businesses that recently arrived, plan to open or changed hands in the village. Village Economic Development Manager Ralph L. Mims prepares the information.

Leigh Van Gilst CPA and Associates is owned by Leigh Van Gilst and recently located to 121 Don Diego SE after almost 20 years as a home business.

Services offered include bookkeeping, payroll, income tax and accounting. The ribbon cutting for the new location was held February 18.

A native of Iowa, Van Gilst has lived in Los Lunas for almost 20 years. She was attracted to the village by the friendly people, good schools and growing business opportunities.

The business phone number is 866-9014 or you can e-mail [leigh@vangilstcpa.com](mailto:leigh@vangilstcpa.com).

Guns & Gold Pawn, located at 3476 Highway 47, is expected to open on April 1 with a grand opening planned for the middle of May.

Owner Jeremy Shawver said he saw a need for a pawn shop since the Village of Los Lunas presently does not have such a store. He feels this is an excellent opportunity to open one.

He is a long time resident of the area, and feels Los Lunas is a vibrant community with a lot of business opportunities.

The business phone number is 239-1895 or you can e-mail: [glsconsulting@msn.com](mailto:glsconsulting@msn.com).

## Officials Join Forces to Fight Drugs

The Village Police Department has joined with area municipal, Valencia County, state, tribal and federal law enforcement agencies to form a partnership to pool resources in the fight against drugs in Valencia County.

The agencies have formed the Valencia County Regional Drug Task Force.

Participating agencies include the police departments from Belen, Bosque Farms and Los Lunas, Valencia County Sheriff's Department, Isleta Tribal Police, State Police, DEA/U.S. Department of Justice, 12th Judicial District Attorney's office, FBI, Department of Homeland Security and the U.S. Marshal's office.

## Council Districts To Be Redrawn

With the release of 2010 U.S. Census figures, Village of Los Lunas officials will be redrawing the village's council districts. This may result in some village residents being in a different council district.

The village council seats were districted after the 2000 U.S. Census showed the village's population had reached 10,034.

After 10,000 population, municipalities, counties and school boards must create districts. Officials then run from these districts.

Criteria for districts include:

- Equal population;
- No dilution of voter strength by ethnic language or minority groups;
- Districts must be compact;
- Districts must be contiguous; and
- Districts must have common community interests such as neighborhoods or cultural /historic traditions.

The census data for New Mexico is expected to be released before April 1.

The village has four districted council seats.

In March 2012 an election will be held for Village Council Districts One and Three.

## RAILROADING IN VALENCIA COUNTY



MARCH 25 - JUNE 18

MUSEUM OF  
HERITAGE AND ARTS

LUNA AVENUE AND MAIN STREET  
UNDER THE DOWNTOWN WATER TOWER

OPEN 10 A.M. - 5 P.M.

TUESDAY-SATURDAY

## **Pardon our Progress . . . An Update on Village Projects**

The following is an update on village projects from Village Public Utilities Director James Blasing.

The Calle de Las Familias project is close to 95 percent complete. This work included utility updates, sidewalk installation, strengthening the structure of the existing street and drainage improvements.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) project on the west side of NM 314 south of Main Street is 75 percent complete. The contractor continues to install landscaping and dress up items. They are close to finishing up the pedestrian improvements at Courthouse Road and NM 314. The project should be substantially complete by mid March and done by about the beginning of April.

The ARRA project on the east side of NM 314 south of Main Street is approximately 80 percent complete. The path is about 90 percent paved and the contractor is about to move on to the railroad-related improvements. Trees are being planted next to the path. Substantial completion is anticipated by the end of March, and total completion by about mid April.

The intersection of Main Street (NM6) and NM 314 is close to 75 percent complete. This has caused the most traffic disruption and Blasing, along with the administration and council, thank the motoring public for the patience displayed during the project..

The contractor has removed the old traffic signals and will be widening NM 314 to add the double left turn lanes to westbound Main Street. A right turn lane from NM 314 to east bound Main Street will also be added. Substantial completion is expected by the beginning of April, and final completion at the end of April.

This sewer force main replacement installation is approximately 30 percent complete. The river flows affect the progress. The contractor is hoping for lower levels of the river to remove old piping directly over the major flow areas. The by-passing system is working well.

The Los Lunas Village Council and employees thank the public for its support.

<b>VILLAGE OFFICIALS</b>	
<i>Robert Vialpando Mayor</i>	
<b>Councilors</b>	
Cecilia CC Castillo	Charles Griego
Richard Lovato	Gerard Saiz
<b>Municipal Judge</b> Jeff Aragon	
<b>Police Chief</b> Roy E. Melnick	
<b>Fire Chief</b> Atiliano "Lito" Chavez	
<b>Village Administrator</b>	Peter Fernandez

## **2011 Clean Up Days Scheduled**

The following is an updated list of the Keep Los Lunas Clean and Beautiful monthly cleanups. A certain area of the village is selected for a cleanup under the direction of Marie Marquez and Josie Navarrette, coordinators of Keep Los Lunas Clean and Beautiful Program.

Any person, agency or organization is encouraged to participate. Vests, gloves and bags are furnished.

Except where indicated the cleanups are 8 a.m. to noon and people meet in front of the Village Administration Building, Main Street and Don Pasqual.

March 26 - Great American Cleanup Recycling Day. Village Administration building back parking lot.

April 9 - monthly cleanup.

May 14 - monthly cleanup.

June 4 - monthly cleanup.

July 9 - monthly cleanup.

August 13 - monthly cleanup.

September 24 – Trek for Trash begins at 9 a.m. and ends at 1 p.m.

October 8 - monthly cleanup.

November 19 - monthly cleanup.

December 17 - monthly cleanup.

Some dates are subject to change due to inclement weather or special events. Call ahead if you are planning to attend to make sure the cleanup is taking place if it's bad weather.

To participate you can contact Marie Marquez at 352-7658 or 730-2217 or Josie Navarrette at 363-9620. You can also email [marquezm@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:marquezm@loslunasnm.gov).

## **Shop Los Lunas**

## **Attend A Council Meeting!**

The Los Lunas Village Council meets twice monthly in the council chambers in the administration building at 660 Main St. NW.

Meeting dates for 2011 are: March 24

April 14 & 28 May 12 & 26 June 9 & 23

July 7 & 21 August 4 & 18

September 8 & 22 October 6 & 20

November 3 & 17 December 1 & 15

Meetings begin at 6 p.m. Meetings may be canceled or rescheduled so check with officials at 839-3840 or the village website at [www.loslunasnm.gov](http://www.loslunasnm.gov).

## Los Lunas Officer Graduates from Academy



Mark Gurule

Los Lunas Police Officer Mark Gurule has graduated from the New Mexico Department of Public Safety Police Academy in Santa Fe.

Gurule lived at the academy four days a week for 22 weeks and received extensive law enforcement training. He previously worked with the New Mexico Department of Corrections where he was certified in the use of law enforcement tools such as weapons and defensive tactics.

Gurule was hired in August 2010.

## The Village of Los Lunas 6th Annual Health & Wellness Fair

*Friday,*

*April 15, 2011*

*9 a.m. to 3 p.m.*

Daniel Fernandez

Youth Center

South Highway 314

*For information contact*

*Debra Sanchez 352-7624*

*or Ginny Adame 352-7723*



## Wasting Water Prohibited

From April 1 through September 30 spray irrigation is allowed in Los Lunas from 6 p.m. to 10 a.m. on all properties.

Shut-off nozzles in the village are required on any hoses used for hand watering, vehicle or equipment washing or other outdoor uses.

Information on the village ordinance regarding no water waste can be found at Chapter 8.24 Water Waste Restrictions under About Us Municipal Codes at [www.loslunasnm.gov](http://www.loslunasnm.gov).

## Citizen Input Needed to Update Village's Comprehensive Plan

The village is looking for citizen input to update the community's comprehensive plan, says Community Development Director Christina Ainsworth.

The comprehensive plan is a plan for the future physical and economic development of the community and sets the directions, policies, strategies and actions for that future.

The comprehensive plan looks out 25 to 30 years.

Elements of the comprehensive plan include land use; economic development; natural resources and environment; urban design; infrastructure and transportation; community services; and special districts.

The village's comprehensive plan was last updated in 1999.

Updating the plan is a very public process requiring a lot of input from the community while the village planning department works to revise the plan.

The input process began in late February with a visioning workshop conducted with the village council.

The council establishes policy in the village.

The Village Planning and Zoning Commission is charged with oversight for the comprehensive plan, explained Ainsworth. Because the planning and zoning commission is a planning body, it will make recommendations regarding the comprehensive plan to the council.

Ainsworth is looking for people to serve on a five to seven member committee to help with creating the new comprehensive plan. If you are interested, call Christina Ainsworth at 352-7659.

A draft of the updated plan is expected to be completed by the fall so that it can be approved by the village council by the end of 2011.

Ainsworth points out that the comprehensive plan is a living document, a vision for the community.

Watch for information about upcoming meetings in this newsletter, on the village website ([loslunasnm.gov](http://loslunasnm.gov)) and in the local newspaper.

## LL Worker Named Lab Tech of Year

Village of Los Lunas employee Thomas Rodriguez was named Lab Tech of the Year for 2010 by the New Mexico Water and Wastewater Association.

Rodriguez works at the village's wastewater treatment plant where he has been employed seven years.

He was presented the award for his professionalism and accuracy in the lab, methods of running the Environmental Protection Agency's tests and ability to keep records.

# **GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP RECYLING DAY**

**Saturday March 26**

**8:00 a.m. to noon**

**North of the the Village  
Administration Building**

**Main & Don Pasqual**

**Call 352-7658 for information**



Items accepted will be glass, clothes, coats, shoes, cardboard, paper, bicycles, plastic, oil (must be water free), aluminum, metal, cell phones, computers, monitors, fax machines, small and large household appliances including televisions (\$10 for large and \$5 small), refrigerators, stoves, freezers (\$10), dehumidifiers, dishwashers, water heaters, dryers, and camping gear.

*Check the Village Website*

*Www.loslunasnm.gov for more info*

## **Did You Renew Your Business Registration?**

Registration is required annually for "all persons, firms, corporations or associations of any character engaged in any of the various pursuits, businesses or occupations," as called for in the municipal code.

*Village of Los Lunas*

# **Cop & Kids Fun Run Saturday March 26**

*Sponsored by the Los Lunas Police Department  
At the Los Lunas High School*



**Track at 8 a.m.**

*Categories include  
5K Competitive, and  
Fitness Walk  
plus Kids*

*Non-Competitive  
\$20 race entry  
includes post-race  
refreshments,  
T-shirt and race*

*Contact Kathy Gurule at 610-1204, the  
Los Lunas Police Department at 660  
Main Street or [www.loslunasnm.gov](http://www.loslunasnm.gov)*

## **Village Police Department Annual Report Available**

The Los Lunas Police Department Annual Report 2010 is now available on the village website. Go to the website at [www.loslunasnm.gov](http://www.loslunasnm.gov), click on Departments, scroll down to Police Department and then click on 2010 Annual Report.

The report includes police programs introduced in 2010, crimes reported by incident and arrest, information about various police programs and citation violations issued in 2010.

In addition, there are many other pieces of information in the report.

**PAY YOUR WATER BILL ONLINE —  
Go To [www.loslunasnm.gov](http://www.loslunasnm.gov)**