



# VILLAGE NEWS



Small Community • Big Possibilities

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## 911 Center To Get New Home

The Village Council has approved the sublease of about 33,000 square feet of property near the Village Administrative Building to the Valencia County Regional Emergency Communication Center (VRECC).

The VRECC is home to the county's 911 services and is currently located in the Los Lunas Police Department.

The Village leases 17 acres of land from the State of New Mexico at Don Pasqual and Main Street where several community buildings are located including the Village Administrative Building, First Choice Health Care and the Fred Luna Multigenerational Center.

A new building to house the VRECC will be constructed just northeast of the Village Administrative Building on a currently vacant lot in front of First Choice Health Care on Don Pasqual.



*VRECC will be constructed just northeast of the Village Administrative Building on a currently vacant lot.*

The VRECC has outgrown its space in the police station due to population growth and increased call volume. Special events such as the Good Friday walk up Tome Hill and the Hispano Chamber of Commerce matanza bring in thousands of people who impact the 911 system.

The new VRECC would have thirteen work stations, an increase over the current nine. This would serve the county for the next several years, said 911 Director Shirley Valdez. It would also be expandable to allow for future growth.

The VRECC was created by a Joint Powers Agreement entered into by the City of Belen, Village of Los Lunas, Village of Bosque Farms and the County of Valencia in 2006. The VRECC is authorized to make capital expenditures for buildings and facilities.

Before construction starts the VRECC board will review plans. In addition, funding must be obtained.

CHARLES GRIEGO  
MAYOR

[griegoc@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:griegoc@loslunasnm.gov)

PAULETTE S. MONTOYA  
COUNCILWOMAN

[montoyap@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:montoyap@loslunasnm.gov)

AMANDA PEREA  
COUNCILWOMAN

[pereaa@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:pereaa@loslunasnm.gov)

GINO M. ROMERO  
COUNCILMAN

[romerog@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:romerog@loslunasnm.gov)

GERARD SAIZ  
COUNCILMAN

[saizg@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:saizg@loslunasnm.gov)

AVILIO CHAVEZ  
MUNICIPAL JUDGE

[avchavez@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:avchavez@loslunasnm.gov)

NAITHAN GURULE  
POLICE CHIEF

[ngurule@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:ngurule@loslunasnm.gov)

ATILANO "LITO" CHAVEZ  
FIRE CHIEF

[Lchavez@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:Lchavez@loslunasnm.gov)

GREGORY D. MARTIN  
VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR

[marting@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:marting@loslunasnm.gov)

# Water/Sewer Rate Increase Effective Jan. 1, 2015

**At the December 18, 2014 Village Council Meeting, the Council approved a five year water and sanitary sewer rate increase to both the base usage charge (0 – 2000 gallons) as well as the per thousand gallon usage charge above the base usage charge. The rate adjustment will become effective January 1, 2015 and will be reflected in the February 2015 utility bills.**

Public Works Director Rudy Archuleta told the council that the rate increases are necessary to generate adequate revenue to meet existing water and sanitary sewer operational and maintenance costs; increasing costs for water supply treatment, sanitary sewer treatment, water distribution and sanitary sewer collection system maintenance; and proactive management for planned water and sewer system capital improvement projects.

The rate increases will be phased in over five years. The average residential water customer (one who uses 6,200 gallons per month) inside the Village limits can expect to see:

- Year One water increase, \$5.56, and sanitary sewer, \$4.70.

- Year Two water increase, \$1.47, and sanitary sewer, \$1.86.
- Year Three water increase, \$1.59, and sanitary sewer, \$2.00.
- Year Four water increase, \$1.71, and sanitary sewer, \$2.17.
- Year Five water increase, \$1.85, and sanitary sewer, \$2.34.

The Village utility bill in Year Five for the average residential customer inside the Village limits (excluding garbage) would be water, \$42.84 (currently \$30.66), and sanitary sewer, \$47.34 (now \$34.27).

Village of Los Lunas water usage and charges are based on a metering system. Both residential and commercial users are charged for the water used per the meter reading.

Village residential sanitary sewer usage is determined by taking the average water usage from the months of November through February.

Village commercial sanitary sewer usage is determined as equal to the water meter reading.

Please visit the Village of Los Lunas website, [www.loslunasnm.gov](http://www.loslunasnm.gov), for additional information regarding the water and sanitary sewer rate adjustment.



*Los Lunas Chamber of Commerce Office has moved.*

## Village Offices / Chamber Move

**Several agencies and village offices have moved locations over the past two months.**

Rio-Metro Transit District moved from the lower level of the Transportation Center, corner of Juan Perea and Courthouse Roads, to the upper level.

The Socorro Housing Authority moved out of the Transportation Center and relocated to Belen.

The Recreation and Open Space Divisions of the Community Services Department moved from the Visitor Center on Lambros Road to the lower level of the Transportation Center.

The phone numbers remain the same for these offices.

The Los Lunas Chamber of Commerce has moved from the Transportation Center to the Visitor Center located at 3447 Lambros Road, formerly known as Lambros Loop.

The contact information for the chamber remains the same - 505 352-3596, phone, and [flynns@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:flynns@loslunasnm.gov), email for Stephanie Flynn, chamber director.

## LLPD Receives \$44,610 Grant

**The Los Lunas Police Department has been awarded a \$44,610 grant to reduce traffic related injuries and deaths.**

The grant was made available through the New Mexico Department of Transportation Traffic Safety Division with funds to be used from October 1, 2014, through September 30, 2015.

The department will conduct sobriety checkpoints, saturation patrols, seatbelt

enforcement and distracted driving enforcement throughout the year to improve traffic safety within the Village.

The funding is broken down into:

- Operation End Driving While Impaired - \$23,700
- Operation Buckle Down/Click It or Ticket - \$6,990
- 100 Days and Nights of Summer - \$8,940
- Distracted Driving - \$4,980.



# You Can Be King of the Hill

The inaugural King of the Hill 5k/10k trail run will be held Saturday, March 14, at El Cerro de Los Lunas, the hill overlooking Los Lunas on the west side.

The 5k run proceeds along the Bowl Trail on the west side of El Cerro with a mostly flat course with a few small hills.

The 10k begins on the same route as the 5k before diverting up a steep hill to meet the Lookout Trail which gives breathtaking views of the Rio Grande Valley as well as the Sandia and Manzano mountains. This route will descend the hill to meet back up with the 5k course to finish.

Both races begin and end at the El Cerro del Los Lunas trailhead three miles west of I-25 on Highway 6 in Los Lunas.

Information about the event is available at the Los Lunas Transportation Center, 101 Courthouse Road, from noon to five p.m. daily.

On run day late registration and packet pick up will be at the trailhead from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. The 10k starts at nine a.m. and the 5k at 9:30 a.m.



Daniel Fernandez Recreation Center, 1103 Highway 314.

## Check Out The Village Parks

Village of Los Lunas park staff recently installed many new park benches as well as trash receptacles at Neighborhood Park, located in the Carson Park subdivision off Carson Drive. A park sign has also been put back up.



Neighborhood Park has new benches and trash receptacles.

Neighborhood Park, with a basketball court, playground and grass field, is one of the extensive number of parks in the Village. Other neighborhood parks with basketball courts, playgrounds and grass fields are:

- Main Street Memorial Park at Don Pasqual and Main Street which also includes a Village Employee Memorial
- Artistic Park at 901 Camino del Rey SW
- Chester Skinner Park at 1660 Heaton Loop SE
- Artiaga Park at 1180 Artiaga SE
- Valley View Park which has native grasses and a nature trail at 922 Grant Blvd. SW
- Villa de Las Rosas Park in the south end of Carson Park has native grasses.

The Village's community parks are Daniel Fernandez Memorial Park, Heritage Park, Los Lunas Sports Plex, River Park, Huning Ranch Park, Buena Vista Park, Enchantment Little League Park, Los Cerritos Park and San Antonio Park.

Check out the recreational opportunities including parks on the Village website at [loslunasnm.gov](http://loslunasnm.gov).

## Weight Loss Challenge at Daniel Fernandez

A weight loss challenge is being held at Daniel Fernandez Recreation Center, 1103 Highway 314, starting this month.

The challenge includes:

- No registration fee
- Half price fitness card for participants
- Weekly weigh-ins
- Weekly participant updates
- Perks for attending aerobics classes at Daniel Fernandez
- Cash Prizes

Call Brittany Perea at 505 352-7719, Daniel Fernandez Recreation Center at 505 839-3845, or look on the village website [loslunasnm.gov](http://loslunasnm.gov).



## Local Flavor: A Focus On Local Business

### C & M Ceramics

**Martha Wallace, and her late husband Charles Wallace, started C & M Ceramics three years ago and now the store offers a wide variety of services and products associated with the ceramics field.**

Martha and her assistant Patsy teach people how to clean the greenware, how to work with clay, and how to paint the ceramics.

The store sponsors classes and is the site for parties where children and/or adults can work with ceramics.

In addition, Martha restores and repairs statues including saints.

C & M Ceramics is located at 959D Highway 314, phone 505 865-4333. C & M used to be one store front to the north but recently moved.

## Little League Registration is Here

**Interested in having your child play little league baseball or softball?**

The local league, Enchantment Little League (ELL), will start registration in January and February.

Visit the league website or Facebook page for specific dates and times.

**Website:** [www.enchantmentlittleleague.org](http://www.enchantmentlittleleague.org)  
**Facebook:** 'Enchantment Little League'  
**Phone:** 505 916-2170

## Los Lunas Events

### Valencia County Hispano Chamber Matanza

Saturday, January 24, 2015  
 Eagle Park — Belen  
 Call 505 864-8091  
 for more information.

### Winter Gardening Series Classes

Thursday, Feb. 19, 2015 7 p.m.

### Early Spring Planting

Thursday, March 19, 2015 7 p.m.

### Get Your Gardening Questions Answered

Valencia County Cooperative  
 Extension Office,  
 404 Courthouse Road NW.  
 For more information  
 call 505 565-3002.

### No Village Holidays in February

All garbage pickups remain  
 on normal schedule.

### Attend a Council Meeting!

January 22, February 12 and 26  
 660 Main St. NW, Main Street  
 and Don Pasqual  
 Meetings begin at 6:00 p.m.

**"Wildlife of the Middle Rio Grande  
 Valley" by Christopher Tafoya  
 (photography).**

**& "Capturing Light" by Barbara  
 Huffcutt Garrett (pastel art)**

January 17 - March 7, 2015  
 Los Lunas Museum of Heritage and Arts  
 251 Main Street SE, 505 352-7720.