



VILLAGE NEWS



Small Community • Big Possibilities

Volume 20 - Number 4, April 2016

A LESSON ON FIRE SAFETY

Spring is a great time to fireproof any building, home, business, store, etc., says Los Lunas Fire Chief John Gabaldon.

Make sure brush, trash, and woodpiles are cleared away from buildings.

Gabaldon says the village has averaged a house fire a month since the year started. Damage to homes has been minimal because of precautions taken by residents.

Remember to close (but leave unlocked) doors when escaping a fire. A closed door minimizes the amount of oxygen feeding the flames.

Everyone should practice EDITH, Exit Drills In The Home, urges Gabaldon. Fire drills are held in schools. Families should hold fire drills to practice safe escape.

The Village Fire Department inspects homes in Los Lunas and make recommendations on fire safety with no charge or obligation.

In addition, the fire department will install two smoke alarms at no charge thanks to a program with the Red Cross.

For more information contact the fire department at 866-2116 or check out the Village Fire Department page on the Village website, loslunasnm.com.



A LESSON PREVENTING FIRE

CHARLES GRIEGO
MAYOR

griegoc@loslunasnm.gov

GINO M. ROMERO
COUNCILMAN

romerog@loslunasnm.gov

NAITHAN GURULE
POLICE CHIEF

ngurule@loslunasnm.gov

PAULETTE SANCHEZ-MONTOYA
COUNCILWOMAN

montoyap@loslunasnm.gov

GERARD SAIZ
COUNCILMAN

saizg@loslunasnm.gov

JOHN GABALDON
FIRE CHIEF

jgabaldon@loslunasnm.gov

CHRISTOPHER S. ORTIZ
COUNCILMAN

ortizc@loslunasnm.gov

AVILIO CHAVEZ
MUNICIPAL JUDGE

avchavez@loslunasnm.gov

GREGORY D. MARTIN
VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR

marting@loslunasnm.gov

GOT DRUGS? TAKE-BACK DAY

Anyone can bring unused or expired medication for safe disposal, with no questions asked, to the Village Administration Building lobby, Don Pasqual and Main Street, on Saturday, April 30, between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

The National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day provides a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about potential abuse of medications.

LLPD HOLDS SPECIAL OLYMPICS FUNDRAISER

The Los Lunas Police Department with the Belen Police Department hosted a Special Olympics fundraiser at Marisco's Altamar in Los Lunas in early April.

All the money raised in Los Lunas went to local Special Olympics athletes.

FLUSHING FIRE HYDRANTS HELPS WATER SYSTEM

Ever wonder what's going on when you see a Village Fire Department employee with a fire hydrant spewing water?

Flushing the water system through Village fire hydrants on a routine basis removes sediment from lines and keeps the entire distribution system refreshed.

The Village maintains several miles of water lines throughout the service area and Village policy is to flush the entire system semi-annually.

Periodically "flushing" fire hydrants is an important preventive maintenance activity.

Although it may appear to waste water, the process is part of the routine maintenance necessary to maintain the integrity of the water system and to deliver the highest quality water possible.

Residents in the immediate vicinity of the work may experience temporary water discoloration. This discoloration consists of harmless silt and precipitates and does not affect the water's safety.



Village worker flushes fire hydrant

If you experience such discoloration, run all water faucets for a minute or two or until all discoloration disappears.

Avoid washing white clothes for at least 24 hours.

This same water line preventive maintenance should be used in your home.

The home's water heater should be drained and flushed at least once a year to keep it working efficiently and to protect water quality.

If there is no water use for a week or more, run all the faucets for a minute or so before using the water to clear out stagnant water.

Contact Ray Vigil, Village water/sewer supervisor, at 505 352-7657 with questions.

Or call the Village utility billing division office at 505 839-3841 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (except holidays).

JUBILEE COMMUNITY CLEANUP

Some 40 bags of trash plus other items were collected during a community cleanup held by the Jubilee community on the west side of Los Lunas March 5.

Jim Schnitzler organized the cleanup in conjunction with the Village's Keep Los Lunas Clean & Beautiful program, coordinated by Marie Marquez.

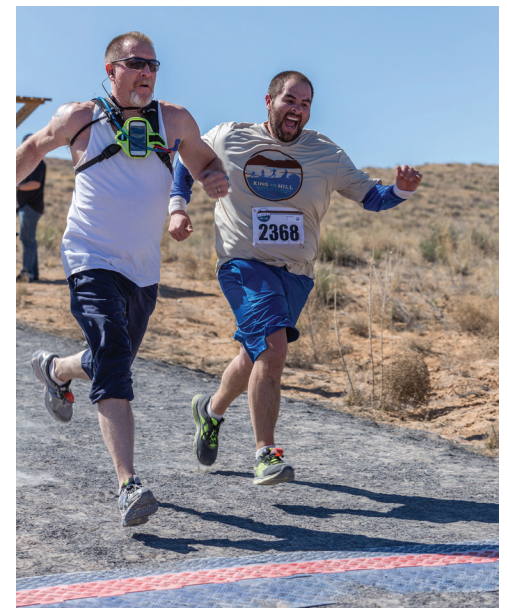
The 37 volunteers were briefed on safety and assigned specific areas so that the cleanup went smoothly.

KING OF THE HILL RESULTS

Almost 200 people participated in the second annual King of the Hill races on El Cerro de Los Lunas in March.

The top ten finishers in the 5k were Wayne Chick, Los Lunas; Elias Salazar (no hometown listed); Brett Eller, Albuquerque, Elvis Bitsilly, Albuquerque; Eric Maldonado, Belen; Omar Espino, Albuquerque; Thomas Eriacho, Yah-Ta-Hey; Eric Jojola, Bosque Farms; Deborah Valencia, Belen; and Yvette Vigil, Peralta.

The top ten finishers in the 10k were Benjamin Johnson, Albuquerque; Patrick Sweeney, Manhattan Beach, Ca.; Arnoldo Arrieta, Los Lunas; Michael Wells, Albuquerque; Jesse Espinoza, Belen; Benjamin Willis, Albuquerque; Ryan Roanhorse, (no hometown); Dustin Larson, Albuquerque; Derek Logan, Belen; and David Benavidez, Belen. The full list of results are on the Village website, loslunasnm.gov.



King of the Hill racers cross finish line

LL POLICE 2015 REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

The Los Lunas Police Department 2015 annual report can now be found on the Village's website, loslunasnm.gov.

Here's some interesting information from the report:

- LLPD officers handled 20,642 calls for service, the most of all agencies in Valencia County and a 3% increase from 2014.
- In 2015, the LLPD began a partnership with area business owners creating a business watch group that meets monthly to discuss problems and create solutions.
- Over a two year period the LLPD reduced citizen complaints by 65%.
- 2015 Officer of the Year was Ryan Gray while 2015 Civilian Employee of the Year was Rhonda Sanchez
- LLPD supports a wide variety of events across the community.

MEMORIAL TO LOS LUNAS HERO

A memorial to one of Los Lunas's best-known citizens of the late 19th century has been installed on the walkway that runs parallel to Highway 314 by the railroad tracks.

Maximiliano Luna was born in Los Lunas June 16, 1870.

He served as a captain in the New Mexico National Guard from 1897 to 1898 and as a captain in the first U.S. Volunteer Cavalry (the well-known Rough Riders) in the Spanish-American War in 1898.

He was a volunteer with the U.S. Volunteer Infantry when he drowned in the line of duty at Agno River, Luzon, Philippine Island, November 18, 1899.

National Guard Camp Luna in Las Vegas, New Mexico, was named in his honor in 1929.

The plaque on the Los Lunas memorial calls Luna "a New Mexico Hero and Martyr."



Memorial for Maximiliano Luna

COMMUNITY RECYCLES AT EVENT

Recycling was the theme as people in 115 vehicles brought items to the Great American Recycling Event in March.

Items collected included:

- 8 cubic yards of metal
- 30 gallons of mixed paints
- 4 four-yard bins of glass estimated at 500 pounds
- 5 five-yard bins of plastic, 1,300 pounds
- 5 four-yard bins of cardboard, 1,330 pounds
- 17 gallons used oil
- 2 gallons household cleaners
- 14 televisions



Families brought items for recycling

SODA CAMPUS STARTS RECYCLING

The School of Dreams Academy, 1800 Main Street NE, is recycling on the school site with the Village providing containers for paper, aluminum, and cardboard.

SODA Principal Mike Ogas has agreed to keep the school site clean.

Public Works Director Michael Jaramillo says all parties involved are excited to participate in this recycling endeavor.



LLPD Police report now available

VILLAGE BUSINESS RIBBON CUTTINGS



A grand opening, pictured above, which included celebrating the Chinese New Year was held at Thrive Wellness, 2240 Main Street NE. Pictured below is the grand opening of Sports Paradise, an indoor sand volleyball complex located at 201 Stover Road SE, behind Weck's Restaurant. League play is now going on at Sports Paradise. Contact Charlie Guess at 505 239-2461.



YOUR VILLAGE SEWER BILL

The average calculated sewer rates are reflected in the April Village utility statement.

This charge is calculated using water usage from October thru February inclusive.

The meter reads for this time period result in a calculated average and are charged according to the sewer rate increase effective January 1, 2016.

Contact the utilities office at 505 839-3841 with any questions.

Village Administration Office: 505 839-3840

OTHER BUSINESS NEWS

The grand opening of Assured Imaging will be Saturday, April 16, 2016, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., at 1400 Main Street NW, Suite K, phone 888 233-6121.

The Los Lunas Chamber of Commerce is coming back to life. The Chamber closed down during 2015, but area business owners are working at reviving it.

Several chamber events will be held this year. Watch for more news.



STUDENT ART SHOW DISPLAY ENDS APRIL 30

The Museum of Heritage and Arts student juried art show "Seasons" ends April 30.

Art show winners in each category (first, second and third place) are:

Elementary school: Taylor Wright, (first and second), and Ava Trujillo.

Middle school: Ciera Stastny, Nadia Vaquera, and Celeste Wagar.

High school: Jessica Madrid (first and second), and Lachelle Olguin.

Honorable mentions — Grady Chavez and Tara Cederstrom (elementary), Trinity Chavez and Lyric Morris (middle school), and Angelina Martinez and Jessica Madrid (high school).

LOCAL EVENTS

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

Book Sale 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Los Lunas Public Library
Courtyard
460 Main Street NE

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

Cops & Kids Fun Run/Walk
Starlight Cinema
2226 Sun Ranch Loop SW

ATTEND A VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING

April 14, May 5 & 19
660 Main St NW
Main Street and Don Pasqual
Meetings begin at 6:00 p.m.

EVENTS AT THE MUSEUM OF HERITAGE AND ARTS

Through April 30
3rd Annual Juried
Student Art Show

Saturday, April 30, 2 p.m.
Author Don Bullis
Talks about and signs his book
New Mexico Historical Encyclopedia

Museum of Heritage & Arts
251 Main St. SE 505 352-7720
Under the Water Tower
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Tues-Sat



Kids had a good time finding eggs during the Village egg hunt.