



# VILLAGE NEWS

Small Community • Big Possibilities

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## NO TEXTING WHILE DRIVING IN LL

It is now unlawful in the Village of Los Lunas for any person to operate a motor vehicle upon a street or highway while using a mobile telephone, or other electronic device, to create, send, or read a text or instant message, or receive or transmit data, including but not limited to photographs, snapshots or electronically transmitted images, or any other data, whether the vehicle is in motion or not.

The exception is use of a mobile telephone for the sole purpose of communicating with any of the following regarding an emergency situation:

- a. an emergency response operator.
- b. a hospital, physician's office or health clinic.
- c. an ambulance company or corps.
- d. a fire department, district, or company.
- e. a police department or sheriff's office, including any law enforcement office and police officers while in the discharge of their official duties.
- f. emergency services officials, first aid, emergency medical technicians and personnel, or any fire safety officials in the performance of duties arising out of and in the course of their employment.

Also an exception is the use of a hands-free mobile telephone when used in a hands-free manner.

The ordinance passed by the Village Council does not authorize the seizure or forfeiture of a handheld mobile communication device.

The handheld mobile communication device used in the violation of the ordinance is not subject to search by a law enforcement officer during a traffic stop made under provisions of the ordinance.

Definitions in the ordinance include:

“Driving” means being in actual physical control of a motor vehicle on a highway or street and includes being temporarily stopped because of traffic, a traffic light or stop sign, or otherwise.

“Driving” excludes operating a motor vehicle when the vehicle has pulled over to the side of or off of an active roadway and has stopped at a location in which it can safely remain stationary.

“Text message, instant message, data, photographs, electronic images and snapshots” means a digital communication transmitted or intended to be transmitted between communication devices and includes electronic mail, an instant message, a text or image communication and a command or request to an Internet site; but “text message” excludes communications through the use of a computer-aided dispatch service by law enforcement or rescue personnel.

Upon the conviction or plea of nolo contendere for a violation of the ordinance the person shall be fined as follows:

1. Every person under first conviction of this section shall be fined \$50;
2. Every person who is convicted or pleads nolo contendere to a second violation of this section shall be fined \$100; and
3. Every person who is convicted or pleads nolo contendere to a third and all subsequent violations of this section shall be fined no less than \$150 or more than \$500.

**CHECK OUT VILLAGE OF LOS LUNAS AND FACEBOOK**



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## THE VILLAGE MUNICIPAL CODE

The Los Lunas Municipal Code is organized to make the laws of the village as accessible as possible to village officials, village employees, and citizens.

It's easy to familiarize yourself with some important elements of this code.

The code is organized by subject matter under an expandable three-factor decimal numbering system designed to facilitate supplementation without disturbing the numbering provisions.

Each section number designates, in sequence, the numbers of the title, chapter, and section. This means Section 2.12.040 is Section .040, located in Chapter 2.12 of Title 2.

In most instances, sections are numbered by tens (.010, .020, .030, etc.), leaving nine vacant positions between original sections to accommodate future provisions.

Similarly, chapters and titles are numbered to provide for internal expansion.

In parentheses following each section is a legislative history identifying the specific sources for the provisions of that section.

This legislative history is complemented by an ordinance disposition table, following the text of the code, listing by number all ordinances, their subjects, and where they appear in the codification; and beginning with Supplement No. 20, legislation can be tracked using the "Code Comparative Table and Disposition List."

A subject-matter index, with complete cross-referencing, locates specific code provisions by individual section numbers.

The Code is up-to-date through Ordinance No. 453, passed October 8, 2020.

During original codification, the ordinances were compiled, edited, and indexed by the editorial staff of Book Publishing Company under the direction of T.A. Mondragon, Village community development director at the time. The code can be found at [loslunasnm.gov](http://loslunasnm.gov).

## BEEHIVES IN OPEN SPACE

Two new beehives now call the Village Open Space their home after the village acquired them to bring more pollinators into the bosque and to use as an education tool.

Once the bees start producing honey, the Open Space Division wants to bring the community into the process, offering to teach about the pollinators' impact on the environment with processing honeycomb.

The Village Open Space Division was established in June 2007 to meet educational and enforcement needs throughout the Village Parks and Recreation Department.

Part of the Village's Open Space is El Cerro de Los Lunas Preserve which contains over a thousand acres of natural open space.

Park Rangers also carry out conservation efforts to protect plant and animal life from fire, disease, and visitor usage along with historical artifacts.

Park Rangers perform duties that help keep the Open Space safe and attractive.

## SPLASH PAD NOW OPEN

The Los Lunas splash pad is now open at Daniel Fernandez Memorial Park at 1103 NM Hwy 314.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions it was closed to the public after construction was completed. The splash pad is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday during this summer. It is closed on Mondays.

No reservations are needed to use the splash pad which will be on a first-come first-serve basis.

Los Lunas Museum of Heritage & Arts  
presents

## New Mexico's Navy



On Exhibit

June 26 - August 21, 2021

Grand Opening

June 26, 2021 2-4 PM

## TAKE CARE DURING HOT SUMMER

It looks like it's going to be a hot summer.

Village Police Chief Naithan Gurule wants to increase public awareness of the leading safety and health risks that increase during the summer months thus decreasing injuries and deaths at homes and workplaces.

Anyone can be at risk for a heat-related illness.

Follow these summer safety tips, like taking extra breaks and drinking lots of water. Moderate your exposure to heat.

Take extra steps to avoid being outside for long periods in the sun and heat, especially during the peak hours of the strongest ultraviolet (UV) rays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dehydration is a safety concern during summer months. Be sure to drink enough liquids throughout the day, as our bodies can lose a lot of water through sweat.

Use a sunscreen 30 minutes before going out. Reapply sunscreen every couple hours after swimming or working in the heat. Limit sun exposure during the peak of the day.

Stay in shade when possible. Do not leave children or pets in vehicle.

Remember to always have adult supervision for children whether in the pool or playing around water. Having someone to help is essential if an emergency should occur, reminds Chief Gurule.

## DRIVE IN HAPPENINGS VARIED

Movies, concerts, and more happen at the Badlands Drive In located at the intersection of NM Hwy 314 and Morris Road.

Go to the Village website, [loslunasnm.gov](http://loslunasnm.gov), to check out what's happening at the drive in and to purchase tickets.

June's features included music for the Summer Concert Series and the movie Iron Man from Marvel Studios.

Advertisers are welcome at Badlands Drive In.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

*This is the first in a two-part series about the 2020 Village of Los Lunas Annual Police Department Report.*

*The second half will appear in August.*

Topics covered include:

- Message From Chief Naithan Gurule
- Organizational Chart
- Your Police Department
- Welcome New Officers
- Civilian Staff
- Employees of the Year
- Alternative Revenue
- Arrest By Type
- UCR Crime Statistics
- Response to Resistance
- Citizen Complaints
- K9 "Perone"
- Community Support
- DWI Unit Statistics
- Service Call Statistics

The Valencia Regional Communication Center (VRECC) dispatched a total of 91,410 calls in 2020.

Los Lunas fire and police represented the highest amount of calls dispatched with 29% of the total calls.

That's an average of 250.4 calls a day and 10.4 calls an hour in 2020.

October was the busiest month for VRECC with 8,254 calls dispatched, averaging 266 calls per day and 11 per hour.

Of the 22,779 calls for service, LLPD responded to, 6,628 were traffic related.

### Total Calls For Service

| Agency | Total  |
|--------|--------|
| VCSO   | 20,142 |
| LLPD   | 22,779 |
| BPD    | 12,862 |
| BFPD   | 3,670  |
| PEPD   | 2,673  |
| RCPD   | 2,384  |
| Total  | 64,510 |

Village Police Department Employees of the Year are Detective Jeremy Shaw, Officer Marcus Taylor; and Sergeant Mark Gurule.

Revenue that comes from sources other than the Village of Los Lunas included:

Bulletproof Vest Partnership \$5,745

State Homeland Security Grant Program \$168,485

Traffic Safety (Operation Buckle Up) \$4,999

Work Innovation Opportunity Act (WOIA) \$11,412

Coronavirus Relief Program \$37,935

## REJUVENATE YOURSELF AT THE RECREATION CENTER

Interested in rejuvenating yourself by becoming physically fit?

Check out all the ways the folks at Daniel Fernandez Recreation Center can help you achieve your goals!

Work out in the equipped weight room, participate in the many classes offered by the aerobics instructors, or come in and play a friendly game of basketball on courts designed for adults and youth.

Daniel Fernandez Recreation Center, located at 1103 NM Hwy 314, is a public recreation facility located inside Daniel Fernandez Memorial Park. The center houses a basketball gym, fitness center, aerobics room, and offices.

## FLUSH ONLY TOILET PAPER

The Village Public Works Department reminds everyone to flush only toilet paper in the toilet.

Do NOT flush sanitary napkins, paper towels, wash rags, baby wipes, unpaid bills, junk mail, a pet goldfish, or anything but toilet paper down the toilet.

## SIGN UP TO GO ELECTRONIC

Sign up to receive this newsletter electronically.

Sign up by going to [loslunasnm.gov.list.aspx](http://loslunasnm.gov.list.aspx).

The current newsletter, and past newsletters, can be found on the Village website at [loslunasnm.gov](http://loslunasnm.gov).

## NEW LOTABURGER OPEN

Blake's Lotaburger in Los Lunas is now bigger and better than ever with the opening of their brand-new store at 111 NM Hwy 314.

Founded in 1952, the New Mexico-owned business has been in Los Lunas since the 1980s, and opened their new location following the teardown of the previous location.

Built by New Mexico-based Brycon Construction, the new 2,834 square-foot building will employ approximately 60 people.

In addition to walk-up, online and delivery orders, the new location will serve as Los Lunas' flagship drive-through Blake's restaurant.

"We're thrilled to reopen in Los Lunas with our new and improved restaurant location," said Ross Brown, VP of Facilities and Development for Blake's Lotaburger.

"With the addition of a drive-through, we'll allow people to enjoy the Blake's favorites they know and love in a quicker, more convenient fashion," added Brown.

The restaurant is open with walk up, online, and delivery orders, as well as drive-through service.

"We look forward to serving Los Lunas with the same great service and incredible local flavors they expect in our new location, and we encourage all to come out and celebrate our new store opening with us," added Brown.



**Blake's**  
**LOTABURGER**

## LOCAL EVENTS

### Farmers Market

Tuesdays 4 – 7 p.m.  
Intersection NM Hwy 6 / Main Street and NM Hwy 6

### Monday, September 6, 2021

LABOR DAY  
Village Offices Closed  
Monday, September 6, 2021  
Garbage Pick Up  
Tuesday, September 7, 2021

### Attend a Village Council Meeting

6 p.m. Thursday, July 22, 2021  
6 p.m. Thursday, August 12, 2021  
660 Main St NW  
Main Street and Don Pasqual Meetings will be virtual and in person. Check agenda on Village website [loslunasnm.gov](http://loslunasnm.gov)

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

The last year has been tough on many businesses.

Here are a few Los Lunas businesses that could use support.

**Melanie Knott Photography**  
601 Main St SE, Suite #50  
505 803-6016

**S & J Sporting Goods**  
544 Main St NW  
505 865-4241

**Quik Wrench**  
544B Main St NW  
505 916-5154

**Andy's Boot Shop**  
1910 Main St NE  
505 865-5888

**Bloom Flowers & Gifts**  
1402 Main St NW, Ste E  
505 865-7338

## EXTRA TRASH PICKUPS

The Village will pick up two large pickup loads each year at each Village address at no charge.

Call 505 352-7632 for information.