



VILLAGE NEWS

Small Community • Big Possibilities

Volume 26 - Number 4 - April 2022

DON'T BE FOOLED!

Individuals are visiting people in the Village of Los Lunas impersonating employees with the Water / Sewer Division.

The only time a Water / Sewer representative will make contact at your property is when a work order is called in by you as the customer to the Utility Billing Division or through the non-emergency dispatch number.

Once a work order is submitted, a Water / Sewer technician will arrive at your residence in a Village-marked vehicle.

Do not allow any person on your property who is not in a Village-marked vehicle. The representative will not enter the residence, but only service the meter at the location.

If you have any further questions, please reach out to Water / Sewer Supervisor Ray Vigil Jr. at 505 363-0847 or Water / Sewer Assistant Supervisor Joseph Sanchez at 505 328-0707.

NEW DEPUTY CHIEF

Longtime Village police officer Charlie Files has been appointed deputy police chief following the retirement of Village Deputy Chief Vince Torres.

Files has been with the LLPD for the past 14 years, since retiring from the U.S. Coast Guard in 2007.

NEW ADDRESS

The mailing address for the Village of Los Lunas is now 660 Main Street NW Los Lunas, NM 87031.

Please update your records with this change of address.

The mailing address had been P.O. Box 1209, Los Lunas NM 87031.

EXTRA TRASH PICKUPS

The Village will pick up two special large pickup loads each calendar year (January – December) at each Village address at no charge.

Additional pickups per address within the calendar year will be charged a fee which is the cost of collection and disposal.

Please call 505 352-7632 for questions and information.

BELIEVE IN HEROES RUN

Saturday, June 4, 2022, is the 10th Annual Believe in Heroes Memorial Run fundraising running event beginning at 7:30 a.m.

This annual 5k, 10k race and kids fun run begin and end at the Starlight Theater parking lot on Huning Ranch Loop.

The entire event is presented by L.I.V.E., Inc., (Los Lunas Invested in Veteran Events) and raises funds supporting various veteran organizations in Los Lunas and Valencia County such as the VFW, Blue Star Mothers, American Legion, Military Order of the Purple Heart, and Wounded Warrior Project to name a few. The past events have raised over \$110,000 for veterans.

Detailed information, including the registration form and fees, race course descriptions and contact information can be found on the website and Facebook: www.loslunasvet.com and <https://www.facebook.com/LosLunasVet>.

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EMERGENCY CALLS IN LL, VALENCIA COUNTY

The Valencia Regional Emergency Communications Center (VRECC) responded to 104,417 calls during 2021. That's an average of 286.1 calls a day and 11.9 calls per hour.

July was the busiest month with 9,344 calls averaging 301.4 calls per day.

Los Lunas represented the highest number of calls dispatched with 33.1% of total calls.

Annual VRECC total calls by agency:

Village of Los Lunas Fire Department – 3,861

Village of Los Lunas Police Department – 30,739

AMR (Ambulance) – 13,889

Belen Fire Department – 2,981

Belen Police Department – 13,604

Bosque Farms Fire Department – 597

Bosque Farms Police Department – 4,306

Peralta Fire Department – 510

Peralta Police Department – 3,378

Rio Grande Estates Fire Department – 1,051

Rio Communities Police Department – 2,589

Valencia County Fire Department – 6,216

Valencia County Sheriff's Office – 20,696

VRECC fire calls answered by agency in 2021:

Village of Los Lunas – 1,119

Belen Fire Department – 817

Bosque Farms Fire Department – 150

Peralta Fire Department – 145

Rio Grande Estates Fire Department – 196

Valencia County Fire Department – 1,815

Total calls processed by VRECC by month in 2021:

January – 7,797; February – 7,690; March – 8,244; April – 8,873; May – 9,342; June – 9,044; July – 9,344; August – 9,300; September – 8,787; October – 8,897; November – 8,667; December – 8,432.

Number of fire calls each month in 2021 in Los Lunas:

January 2021 – 63; February 2021 – 91; March 2021 – 80; April 2021 – 99; May 2021 – 96; June 2021 – 85; July 2021 – 109; August 2021 – 94; September 2021 – 105; October 2021 – 104; November 2021 – 99; December 2021 – 94.

Percentage of fire calls in Valencia County 2021:

Los Lunas, 26%; Valencia County, 43%; Belen, 19%; Bosque Farms, 4%; Rio Grande Estates, 5%; and Peralta, 3%.

VRECC law enforcement calls answered by agency in 2021:

Village of Los Lunas Police Department – 30,739

Belen Police Department – 13,604

Bosque Farms Police Department – 4,306

Peralta Police Department – 3,378

Rio Communities Police Department – 2,589

Valencia County Sheriff's Office – 20,696

Number of law enforcement calls each month in 2021 in Los Lunas:

January 2021 – 2,307; February 2021 – 2,713; March 2021 – 2,432; April 2021 2,964; May 2021 – 2,836; June 2021 – 2,550; July 2021 – 2,852; August 2021 – 2,850; September 2021 – 2,469; October 2021 – 2,421; November 2021 – 2,222; December 2021 – 2,123.

Percentage of law enforcement calls in Valencia County 2021:

Los Lunas, 41%; Valencia County, 27%; Belen, 18%; Bosque Farms, 6%; Rio Communities, 3%; and Peralta, 5%.

VRECC medical calls in 2021 by agency:

Village of Los Lunas Fire Department – 2,742

Belen Fire Department – 2,164

Bosque Farms Fire Department – 447

Peralta Fire Department – 365

Rio Communities Fire Department – 855

Valencia County Sheriff's Office – 4,401

Number of medical calls each month in 2021 in Los Lunas:

January 2021 – 199; February 2021 – 172; March 2021 – 234; April 2021 – 204; May 2021 – 234; June 2021 – 248; July 2021 – 243; August 2021 – 241; September 2021 – 233; October 2021 – 231; November 2021 – 337; December 2021 – 266.

Percentage of medical calls in Valencia County 2021:

Los Lunas, 25%; Valencia County, 40%; Belen, 20%; Bosque Farms, 4%; Rio Communities, 8%; and Peralta, 3%.

LOS LUNAS POP WARNER FOOTBALL & CHEER

Pop Warner (home of the 10U SW Regional Champions and National Cheer Qualifiers) helps young athletes benefit from team sports and activities in a safe and structured environment through football and cheer

This includes teaching fundamentals, skills, and knowledge while emphasizing the importance of academic success. New Mexico Pop Warner is currently registering for football for ages five through twelve and cheer for ages three through fifteen online at [www.loslunaspopwarner.org](http://loslunaspopwarner.org) for the fall 2022 season.

The cost for returning football players is \$150; new football players is \$175; sideline cheer is \$250; competitive cheer (year round) is \$350.

A Football uniform will be provided for each player. Players are responsible for their own equipment (helmet, shoulder pads, mouthpiece). Cheer uniform and accessories are provided (this does not include shoes or socks). If you have any questions, call 505 977-4345.

TOP OF KING OF THE HILL

Nearly 300 runners participated in the annual King of the Hill races held in March 2022 on the El Cerro Open Space. Four races were held -- 1/2 marathon, 10K, 10K rucksack, and a 5K.

The winners include:

- 5K -- 1. Robert Johnson, Albuquerque; 2. Lee Lucero, Santa Rosa, NM; 3. Juan Sanchez, Anton Chico, NM.
- 10K -- 1. Jonah Ruybalid, Albuquerque; 2. Matthew Hubbard, Albuquerque; 3 Kevin Jackson, Albuquerque.
- 10K rucksack. -- 1. George Ullea, Albuquerque; 2. Clifford Matthews, Albuquerque; 3. Larry Reeves; Albuquerque.
- Half marathon -- Jeff Cuno, Gypsum Co.; 2 Derek Logan, Belen; 3. Andrew Murphy, New Mexico.

STREETLIGHT UPGRADE

The Village is replacing 650 streetlights with new LED lights throughout North and South Los Lentes, Mountain View, Rancho Valencia, Huning Ranch, Valley View, and along Otero Street, Chavez Lane, Canal Boulevard and Grant Boulevard.

NEW PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING

Affordable Solar has completed the remaining installation of the Public Works Building / Offices on NM Hwy 314 just north of Morris Road.

The new public works offices encompass the original First Choice Building which was gutted and rebuilt to today's energy-efficient standards, including a 21.05kw solar electric system mounted on a carport shade structure.

This system can be expanded to an electric fleet charging system for future public works electric vehicles.

Officially the new public works offices are utilizing renewable energy today. This is the third solar electric system installed in the public works department in the past three years which helps combat greenhouse gas emissions and reduce collective dependence on fossil fuel.



Carport shade structure at new Public Works building.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

THRIFT STORES

Businesses continue to recover from the effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic. The Village has a variety of shops including second hand / thrift stores. Here's a few:

Hidden Treasures & Thrifty Finds Indoor Flea Market

260 Courthouse Road
505 379-7672
Not only a thrift store serving the community, Hidden Treasures also helps people coming out of incarceration find jobs.

Leftovers Etc
604 Main St NE
505 865-3300

Goodwill

201 Desert Willow Rd NW
505 944-0286
Goodwill Industries of New Mexico provides free employment training and help finding a job in the community. Goodwill also frequently hosts community job fairs open to all local employers

Main Street Antiques & Vintage Market
920 Main St NE
505 866-5159

NO TEXTING WHILE DRIVING IN LL

It is 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 officers 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 pursuant to the provisions of the ordinance.

SEWING MACHINES & SERGER SERVICE

Rocken JV Design is now offering sewing machines and serger service!

Clean, oil & adjust: \$95 for a serger or \$75 for a sewing machine.

Call 505 300-7696 to make an appointment. Located at 959 NM Hwy 314 in Los Lunas. A certified tech is on site and there is same day service.

TIDBITS FROM THE LOS LUNAS LIBRARY

- Live chat. Ask a question and chat with a library staff member. You can access this page from the library's web page at <https://www.loslunasnm.gov/103/Library> - click on "ask us" blue icon on lower left of screen—
- Visit the library's FAQ page where you can look up answers to common questions or submit a question.
- Text a question to the library. Simply text from any phone service and your question will pop up at the library. The number to text to is 505 376-4008.
- Book sales: The Friends of the Library and Museum of Heritage & Arts offers books for sale on shelves at the front of the library. Get a bag of books (using plastic bags located there) for only \$3. 10% discount for members of The Friends.

PURCHASE FOR THE LIBRARY

The Friends of the Village of Los Lunas Museum of Heritage & Arts has approved a \$1,150 grant to the Los Lunas Library for the purchase of a media cabinet and various gaming materials for the library's teen room.

The library is planning a variety of activities for the summer reading program and has requested funding from The Friends of the Library, using funds previously generously donated to The Friends by Meta (Facebook).

ROAD, RIGHT-OF-WAY IMPROVEMENTS

Road and right-of-way improvements are going on throughout the Village!

Construction on the South Los Lentes/Aspen to Morris Road project includes new sidewalks and storm drainage.

Improvements to Entrada Road include repaving and repairing any ADA sidewalk deficiencies.

Improvements have been completed on Cinder Road, Rivas Road, Desert Willow and sections of Blue Sage and Sand Sage.

Other streets still scheduled for improvements this fiscal year are: Appaloosa Road, Mesa Cruzada / Mesa Loop, Willow / Nieto Road, Mission Road, Camino de Higino, Pandora Drive, Don Diego Street / Main to South Los Lentes, Gerald Chavez Lane, Kingsbury Circle and Coronado Lane.

The construction of Edeal Road/NM Hwy 6 Intersection improvements, which includes a new signalized traffic intersection with turn lanes and a concrete median, is expected to begin soon.

Construction is underway for landscaping improvements on Main Street / NM Hwy 6 between Canal Boulevard and Los Cerritos Road in front of the New Mexico State Campus. Work will include sidewalk replacement, irrigation, trees, plants, rocks, park benches, and lighting. These improvements should be completed this summer.

The construction of a multi-use trail along NM Hwy 6 from Sun Ranch Road to Jubilee Boulevard, including signage, striping, drainage, landscaping, and lighting, is scheduled to begin in June. The multi-use trail on the east side of NM 314 from Romeroville Road to Griego Road is scheduled to begin this summer.

LOCAL EVENTS

Friday, April 15, 2022

Good Friday Holiday

Village Offices Closed

Friday, April 15 2022

Garbage collected

Thursday, Feb. 14, 2022

Saturday, April 23, 2022 2 p.m.

Talk by John Taylor about the Civil War in New Mexico

Museum of Heritage & Arts

Under the Downtown Water Tower

Attend a Village Council Meeting

6 p.m. Thursday, April 7 & 21, 2022

6 p.m. Thursday, May 5 & 19, 2022

660 Main St NW

Main Street and Don Pasqual

Meetings will be virtual and in-person. Check Village website for agenda loslunasnm.gov.

AT THE MUSEUM

• April 2, 2022, through April 30, 2022, is The Civil War in New Mexico exhibit at the Village Museum of Heritage & Arts, located at Main Street and Luna Avenue under the downtown water tower, phone 505 352-7720.

• The Civil War presentation includes information about the Civil War in general as well as the Civil War in New Mexico in particular.

Many Village museum presentations are available on the museum Facebook page.

Visit the museum in person Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. through 5 p.m. or virtually on Facebook.

AIRPLANE RIDES FOR YOUTH

The EAA Chapter 530 is offering Young Eagle flights on Saturday, April 30, 2022, at Mid Valley Park on NM Hwy 314 south of Los Lunas.

The flights are free to those ages eight to seventeen from 8:30 a.m. to noon at the south end of the field at the EAA hanger.

Breakfast and lunch will be served for a \$5 donation.

For more information call Lee at 775 842-9144 or Rose at 505 865-5516.