



# VILLAGE NEWS

Small Community • Big Possibilities

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## LLPD OFFICER RECOGNIZED AS NM'S DRUG RECOGNITION EXPERT

The New Mexico Drug Recognition Program has selected Officer Raymond Torres of the Los Lunas Police Department as the New Mexico Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) of the Year for 2021.

Throughout 2021, Officer Torres continuously sought out and identified drug-impaired drivers and removed them from New Mexico's roadways. Officer Torres' enforcement evaluations alone accounted for over seven percent of the state's total enforcement evaluations for 2021.

Officer Torres has been called upon by members of his own agency, as well as surrounding agencies, to assist in impaired driving investigations.

In 2021, Officer Torres maintained a 100% accuracy rate in determining the specific drug category, or categories, a suspected drug-impaired driver was under the influence of, as corroborated by toxicology results.

Officer Torres has been certified as a New Mexico Drug Recognition Expert since 2018. He is currently assigned to the Los Lunas Police Department's DWI unit, and serves the Los Lunas Police Department and State of New Mexico as a Standardized Field Sobriety Testing / DWI Instructor.

He utilizes his instructorship to emphasize the importance of the DRE Program to members of his own agency as well as surrounding agencies in SFST refreshers and basic SFST classes which he leads or assists with.

Officer Torres will be recognized at the New Mexico DRE Committee Meeting in March 2022 and has been invited to attend the 28th Annual Conference on Drugs, Alcohol and Impaired Driving in San Antonio, Texas, in August 2022.

## 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.

## SEWER AVERAGE

The sewer average calculations for single family residential accounts will be reflected on the March statement once February's usage is registered.

This will be your new sewer average / rate for the year until calculated again in February 2023 per Ordinance 13.8.120.

## VILLAGE GETS TRANSFER STATION PERMIT

After three years of work, the Village has obtained its Transfer Station Permit which is good for the next 20 years.

Public Works Director Michael Jaramillo points out that it has been 20 years since the last permit renewal and many changes have occurred including new requirements for the solid waste division which will be met on a daily and yearly basis.

Jaramillo congratulated previous solid waste employees for keeping the Village on track with the New Mexico Environment Department requirements. He thanked Village consultants MolzenCorbin and Associates for preparing the 819-page two-volume permit and Village attorney Larry Guggino for reviewing the permit's legalities.

In addition, Jaramillo thanked current and future solid waste employees for performing job tasks today and into the future; and obtaining, holding, and maintaining all the required certifications to operate the transfer station and recycling center.

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# LOCAL DWI PROGRAM

*This is the second and final part of a series about the local DWI program. The first part is in the January 2022 Village newsletter available on the Village website [loslunasnm.gov](http://loslunasnm.gov).*

Within the last nine fiscal years (July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2021) while the DWI Program has been offering supervised probation services, there have been 1,921 clients / cases referred to the Compliance Program.

- 248 offenders monitored / tracked during FY21 by three compliance officers
- 86 cases closed successfully (completed all probation requirements)
- 39 cases closed unsuccessfully (did not complete probation requirements)

## Enforcement

Village of Los Lunas / Valencia County Underage Drinking Taskforce includes the police departments from Belen, Bosque Farms, Isleta Pueblo, and Los Lunas, New Mexico State Police Special Investigations Unit, and Valencia County Sheriff's Department.

A total of 20 operations was funded through the VLL / VC Local DWI program this year, including thirteen underage enforcement operations and seven saturation patrols with participation from the police departments from Belen, Bosque Farms, Isleta Pueblo, and Los Lunas, and Valencia County Sheriff's Department. The following combined statistics resulted:

(4) DWI's	(2) Possession of controlled substances (Meth and heroin),
(4) Open Containers	(1) Possession of Drug Paraphernalia,
(1) Aggravated Assault	(23) Driving on a Suspended / Revoked License,
(15) Misdemeanor Warrant Arrests	(44) No Driver's License
(7) Felony / Warrant Arrest	(9) Evading Arrest
(161) Speeding Violations	(99) No Insurance
(108) No / Expired Registration	(18) No Seatbelt
(2) No Child Restraints	(2) Child Neglect
(1) Runaway Recovery	(103) Other

## Prevention Services

Providing technical assistance and collaborative support by engaging in community collaborations and partnerships that support several shared community wide initiatives / projects. Collaborative work to decrease Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE), substance abuse, DWI, underage drinking, and violence while increasing resilience, access to mental / physical health care and treatment.

The VLL / VC prevention program partners with OSAP, Community Core Team, and other community partners to conduct a community assessment and develop an updated strategic plan to guide community-wide prevention work.

- Delivered: 47 sessions of Botvin Life Skills, 37 Sessions of Life Skills with the majority of these sessions taking place virtually due to COVID-19.
- Couldn't go into the schools in FY21 limiting the number of students reached.
- Coordinated the Village of Los Lunas / Valencia County Police Athletic League (VLL/VC PAL) program which has over 150 active youth members with 21 youth graduating from the evidence-based substance abuse and bullying prevention curriculum and mentoring program.

## Screening

The VLL / VC DWI program does not request funds for the screening component and is able to fund the program through fees collected for screening. As every offender convicted of a DWI is required to receive a screening, the VLL / VC DWI program continues to provide screening to fill this need within our community.

- 87 total offenders screened (March 2020-June 2021 all were screened virtually).

## Treatment

46% of clients make less than \$20,000 annually. VLL / VC provides free treatment / Auricular Detox services onsite, filling an important gap in service in the community.

In FY20 the program completed the process to become a recognized treatment provider through SAMHSA allowing the program to provide treatment for out-of-state clients and to be recognized on SAMHSA's nation-wide treatment provider list.

LADAC is bilingual and has 35 years in the addictions field and LSAA has 20 years (55 years of combined experience).

The program works closely with the Judicial Community. An overwhelming majority of the clients who go through the VLL / VC DWI program's treatment program report their counseling experience to be positive and they regularly express great appreciation for the counselors and compliance officers.

- 100 offenders were referred to treatment

2881 total treatment hours provided (groups stopped in March 2020 and have not resumed so most of the hours listed are individual session hours).

## 2022 GARBAGE PICKUP DAYS

Holiday Observed	Regular Trash Pickup Day	Will Be Picked Up On
M.L.K. Jr Day	Monday, Jan 17	Tuesday, Jan. 18
Presidents Day	Monday, Feb. 21	Tuesday, Feb. 22
Good Friday	Friday, April 15	Thursday, April 14
Memorial Day	Monday, May 30	Tuesday, May 31
Independence Day	Monday, July 4	Tuesday, July 5
Labor Day	Monday, Sept. 5	Tuesday, Sept. 6
Veterans Day	Friday, Nov. 11	Thursday, Nov. 10
Thanksgiving	Thursday, Nov. 24	Wednesday, Nov. 23
Day After Thanksgiving	Friday, Nov. 25	Monday, Nov. 28
Christmas Holiday	Friday, Dec. 23	Thursday, Dec. 22
Christmas Holiday	Monday, Dec. 26	Tuesday, Dec. 27
New Year's Holiday	Friday, Dec. 30	Thursday, Dec. 29

## VILLAGE APPOINTMENTS MADE

The Los Lunas Village Council voted affirmatively on a four-zero vote to retain Gregory D. Martin as Village administrator at the Jan. 13, 2022, Village Council meeting. Mayor Charles Griego recommended Martin.

Martin has been Village Administrator since April 2012. Immediately prior to arriving in Los Lunas Martin served as assistant town manager at Strasburg, Virginia. He also spent three years as city manager at St. Johns, Arizona.

He attended school at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, where he earned a bachelor's degree in Spanish translation and a master's degree in Public Administration.

The Village Council approved the appointment of John Gabaldon as fire chief by a vote of four-zero as recommended by Mayor Griego.

Gabaldon was appointed chief in 2016. He was hired as a career firefighter in the department in 1988.

The Village Council approved the appointment of Frank Lucero by a vote of four-zero as Village Police Chief following the retirement of Police Chief Naithan Gurule.

Village Councilman Cruz Muñoz will serve as Mayor Pro Tem after the Council voted four-to-zero for his appointment.



## VILLAGE RECEIVES BUDGET AWARD

Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) has announced that the Village of Los Lunas has received GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its budget.

The award represents a significant achievement by an entity. It reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting.

To receive the budget award, the entity had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. These guidelines are designed to assess how well an entity's budget serves as:

- a policy document
- a financial plan
- an operations guide
- a communications device

Budget documents must be rated "proficient" in all four categories, and in the fourteen mandatory criteria within those categories, to receive the award.

When a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is granted to an entity, a Certificate of Recognition for Budget Presentation is also presented to the individual(s) or department designated as being primarily responsible for having achieved the award. This award has been presented to Rebekah Klein, Village Finance Director.

There are over 1,700 participants in the Budget Awards Program. The most recent Budget Award recipients, along with their corresponding budget documents, are posted quarterly on GFOA's website. Award recipients have pioneered efforts to improve the quality of budgeting and provide an excellent example for other governments throughout North America.

Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) advances excellence in government finance by providing best practices, professional development, resources, and practical research for more than 21,000 members and the communities they serve.

# KING OF THE HILL MARCH 5

King of the Hill 2022 has been scheduled for Saturday, March 5, 2022.

King of the Hill offers 100% trail running at 5k, 10k, and half marathon distances.

The races take place in the beautiful and challenging trails of El Cerro de Los Lunas Preserve.

The course features beautiful views and large elevation changes on the 10k and half marathon courses. The event has grown every year, and this is the 6th annual so it could be the biggest and best yet!

Entry prices vary with type of race, distance, and day of entry. Check the Village website, [loslunasnm.gov](http://loslunasnm.gov), for specific prices. Entry is also possible on that website.

Interested in sponsorship opportunities? Contact Marcos Castillo at 505 352-7662.

## VALENTINE'S DAY IN LOS LUNAS

Celebrate Valentine's Day throughout the month of February with thoughtful gifts from these awesome businesses in Los Lunas.

**JV Design**  
959 NM-314  
505 386-8810  
Now offering embroidery services among their customizable metal art and gifts.

**Bloom Flowers & Gifts**  
1402 Main St SW  
505 865-7338

**Europa Food. Farm. Festival**  
2105 NM-314  
505 328-3874

**Manny's Pastries**  
515 Main St NE  
505 865-7082

**Ramos Flower & Gift Shop**  
2211 Main St SE  
505 916-0339

**Teri's Sweet Garden**  
120 Main St SW  
505 865-5834

## NEW HOME DEVELOPMENT IN LL

D.R. Horton hosted a grand opening for their newest development in Los Lunas, *Inspiración at Fiesta*, in early February. Located at 1672 Tierra Verde Loop in Los Lunas, the development consists of 55 lots with five different floor plans available.

Featuring one- and two-story layouts, the homes range from 923 square feet to 1,868 square feet and are designed to maximize outdoor living space.

"Los Lunas is growing with an influx of new businesses and residents, and we're thrilled to have a new development available to provide a variety of homes that suit the needs of each family," said Kristen Gamboa, Senior Economic Developer at the Village of Los Lunas.

She continued, "If you've been looking for a new place to call home in Los Lunas, or if you're looking to relocate to our thriving community, we invite you to attend this grand opening celebration with D.R. Horton."

For more information about *Inspiración at Fiesta*, visit <https://www.drhorton.com/new-mexico/albuquerque/los-lunas/inspiracion-fiesta>.

## LOCAL EVENTS

Monday, Feb. 21, 2022

Presidents Day

Village Offices Closed

Monday, Feb. 21, 2022

Garbage collected

Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2022

Attend a Village Council Meeting

6 p.m. Thursday, February 10 & 24, 2022

6 p.m. Thursday, March 10 & 24, 2022

660 Main St NW

Main Street and Don Pasqual

Meetings will be virtual and in-person.

Check Village website for agenda

[loslunasnm.gov](http://loslunasnm.gov).

## AT THE MUSEUM

The Camino Real 8 art exhibit is Feb. 5, 2022, thru March 19, 2022, at the Village of Los Lunas Museum of Heritage & Arts, located at Main Street and Luna Avenue under the downtown water tower, phone 505 352-7720.

April 1, 2022, through April 30, 2022, is The Civil War in New Mexico exhibit at the museum. Opening reception is April 1 from 2 to 4.

Other upcoming museum exhibits include:

- 9th Annual Children's Art Show
- Viola Luna, winner of the 9th Annual Juried Art Show
- 10th Annual Juried Art Show
- Trains by the Southwest Railroad Club



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Village of Los Lunas

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