



VILLAGE NEWS

Small Community • Big Possibilities

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YOUR GARBAGE PICKUP DAY MAY CHANGE

Starting March 31, the Village of Los Lunas is adjusting its trash pickup days.

As a result, the garbage for many households will be picked up on different days of the week starting the week of March 31.

It's been several decades since Los Lunas has changed the day when garbage is collected at Village households.

Growth of the Village has meant that more households and businesses need solid waste collection services than ever and the duties of the Solid Waste Division have grown. Responsibilities include managing solid waste collection services, residential drop-off recycling center, and recycling events, in order to ensure the proper disposal of residential and commercial waste, special pick-ups, and community clean-ups. To keep up with these changes, garbage collection routes will be updated this month.

A detailed map of garbage collection routes after March 31 can be found on the Solid Waste Division page of the Village website, loslunasnm.gov

The Solid Waste Division provides once a week residential curbside collection and up to six days a week

commercial solid waste collection and disposal.

All solid waste personnel maintain commercial driver's licenses and are cross trained in the operation of various refuse equipment to maximize daily workload efficiency.

All solid waste refuse trucks are equipped with cameras and GPS monitoring systems.

The Village of Los Lunas Solid Waste Division will be implementing the following policies for residential trash pickups:

- All trash bins must be placed at the curb by 7 a.m. on the scheduled day of pickup.
- Do not block or place your trash bin in the proximity of any mailboxes, vehicles, or fences. The trash bin must have a clearance of four feet in any direction.
- If there are multiple trash bins at one residence, please separate them with a minimum of 2-3 ft. separation from each other.
- Do NOT pile trash; up against, around, or on the top of the trash bin.
- At the driver's discretion, any overloaded or heavy trash bin may result from the operator failing to dump. Drivers will take photos and notes of the occurrence for any future reference.

Prohibited items include the following:

- Branches
- TV's
- Rocks
- Dirt
- Paints
- Motor oil
- Hazardous waste
- Metal
- Ashes
- Tires

Failure to abide by these policies could result in a trash bin not dumped on the scheduled day of pickup. To return within the same week an additional fee will be accessed to the account.

Damaged trash bins shall result in the operator moving past the unit.

Please call the Village of Los Lunas Solid Waste Division to report a damaged trash can and request a replacement.

If you have questions or concerns and would like additional information about the Village of Los Lunas Solid Waste Division, call 505 839-5658.

Open Monday thru Friday, 7 a.m. - 4 p.m. Mailing address is 660 Main St. NW.

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VILLAGE ANNUAL REPORT

A MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

The Village produces an annual report about what is occurring throughout the community and Village offices. It is filled with handy information.

Over the next months the Village newsletter will have excerpts from the 2024 Annual Report which is available on line at <https://www.loslunasnm.gov/1199/Annual-Reports>.

We start with a message from Village Administrator Gregory D. Martin.

This document is designed as a communication tool demonstrating our commitment to transparency and accountability in the use of public funds to provide world-class municipal services.

2024 has been another notable year in terms of growth and progress for the Village of Los Lunas.

As our population continues to grow, we continue our status as the second fastest-growing municipality in New Mexico.

Los Lunas has emerged as a prime location for a growing technology and logistics industry, with companies like Meta expanding its Los Lunas Data Center, and Amazon beginning operations of its new ABQ2 Fulfillment Center, which has helped spur other industrial, manufacturing, commercial, and residential growth as well.

In order to keep up with the demand for current and future services, the Village continues to plan and construct several key infrastructure and facility projects, including extending water and sewer lines to the Central New Mexico Rail Park and other local neighborhoods, improving several local roads and pedestrian pathways along major transportation corridors, and completing several studies and preliminary designs for a new indoor aquatics center and new public library.

We are now in search of funding to make these highly-desired and needed facilities a reality.

Of course, the most anticipated transportation infrastructure project in the region is the I-25 Second Interchange and Los Lunas Boulevard Corridor Project.

This critical new roadway connection will extend from I-25 on the west to Hwy 47 on the east, relieving congestion on Main Street and provide faster and safer routes in and around Los Lunas and Valencia County.

Phase one includes a new full interchange off I-25 near the Central New Mexico Correctional Facility, a new four-lane river bridge across the Rio Grande, and one new travel lane in each direction from I-25 to Hwy 47.

Phase two, once funded, will add a second travel lane in each direction. The full project will be a limited access road and will include the longest river bridge in New Mexico.

I am pleased to report that in 2024 we reached several important milestones for this project:

- (1) obtained all required environmental clearance and needed certifications,
- (2) secured funding to move forward with bidding phase one, and
- (3) advertised for bids for phase one.

We anticipate awarding a bid and beginning construction in spring 2025.

In conclusion, 2024 has been another year of extraordinary growth and success! Thanks to stable leadership, a progressive and visionary governing body, and a dedicated team of exceptional employees, the Village of Los Lunas is poised and prepared for another productive and successful year in 2025!.

TAX FORMS

The Los Lunas Library now has the following on the magazine rack at front of the library:

- Federal form 1040 in English and Spanish (Espanol)
- Instructions for federal form 1040 in English and Spanish (Espanol)
- New Mexico instructions and forms in a single packet, in English.

SPRING FLING

Friday, March 21, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Spring Fling Night (for kids 13 and older plus adults).

“Enjoy a night of creativity for family & friends”. \$15 nonrefundable entry fee.

Registration and payment required by March 17.

See this flyer: <https://valenciaextension.nmsu.edu/documents/Spring-Fling-Night.pdf>

To register or for more details call the Valencia County Extension extension office at 505 565-3002.

VILLAGE ARTICLE AND COMMENT GUIDELINES

The Village of Los Lunas social media site articles and comments containing any of the following forms of content shall not be allowed:

- 1) Comments not topically related to the particular social medium article being commented upon;
- 2) Comments in support of or opposition to political campaigns or ballot measures;
- 3) Profane language or content;
- 4) Content that promotes, fosters, or perpetuates discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, age, religion, gender, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, national origin, physical or mental disability or sexual orientation;

- 5) Sexual content or links to sexual content;
- 6) Solicitations of commerce;
- 7) Conduct or encouragement of illegal activity;
- 8) Information that may tend to compromise the safety or security of the public or public systems; or
- 9) Content that violates a legal ownership interest of any other party.

These guidelines must be displayed to users or made available by hyperlink. Any content removed based on these guidelines must be retained, including the time, date and identity of the poster when available.

KING OF THE HILL

Saturday, March 8th starting at 7 a.m., Los Lunas 2025 King of the Hill Race at the El Cerro trailhead on route 6 (across from Amazon).

Link to register: www.loslunasnm.gov/kingofthehill.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

YVONNE GUARDIAN

1202 MAIN ST NE

STE 100

505-274-8503

yguardian01@yahoo.com

MASSAGE THERAPY

LEGACY EVENT CENTER LLC

201 STOVER RD SE

505-918-4800

legacyec24@gmail.com

VENUE CENTER

LOS LUNAS AUTO MALL LLC

3469 MAIN ST SE OFFICE 2

LIZET MARTINEZ CHAVEZ

&

YUNI MARTINEZ ESCOBAR

505-302-1335

loslunasautomall@mail.com

ENTER STUDENT ART SHOW

The Los Lunas Museum of Heritage & Arts at 251 Main St. SE (under the water tower) is accepting submissions for this year's student art show with the theme, "Tales Through Time."

Open to artists ages 18 or younger living in Valencia County. No entry fee.

Deadline to apply is April 19. Prizes will be awarded to the winners.

See this Facebook post with more info: <https://tinyurl.com/4unsf5eu> - scroll right for more information.

You can pick up applications at the Los Lunas Museum, open Tuesday thru Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

For more information call the museum at 505 352-7720.

www.loslunasnm.gov

A BIT OF LOS LUNAS HISTORY

“A Cultural & Economic History of Los Lunas” was written by Los Lunas Library Director Cynthia Shetter and can be found on the Village website loslunasnm.gov. This newsletter runs excerpts from Shetter’s writing. This month we continue telling you about the Village mayors.

Mayors of Los Lunas:

**Robert Vialpando (Born 1949)
Served 2009 - 2014**

Robert Vialpando, a life-long resident of Los Lunas, was born on February 4, 1949, to Tony and Nina Vallejos Vialpando.

After graduating from Los Lunas High School in 1967, he attended New Mexico State University to study studio art.

He is a former radio personality, whose program on KARS 860 AM was a regular feature broadcast from Belen for seven years.

His interest in public service began in the early 1980s, and in 1982 he was elected to one term on the Village Council.

In 1992, Robert was again elected to represent the residents of his district, a position he held until assuming the responsibilities of mayor upon the retirement of Louis F. Huning in 2009.

He was elected to his own term as Mayor of Los Lunas in 2010, at a time when the community boasted a population of 14,835. Robert is married to Doris Pareo Vialpando, who formerly taught drama at Los Lunas High School and presently owns Shanti Yoga. They have two children, Demetrio Vialpando and Jessica Montaño.

LIBRARY TIDBITS

The Los Lunas Public Library offers a wide variety of in person and online services.

Computer or smart device help is available at the Los Lunas Library, by appointment. Call the library at 505 839-3850 for more information or to make an appointment.

Free notary service is available during normal business hours at the Los Lunas Library. For more info call the library at 505 839-3850. It is advisable to call first to ensure someone is available.

On-line access to a variety of magazines on Flipster, thru the Los Lunas Library. See this Facebook post: <https://tinyurl.com/2p8mkbjn>

Different ways you can access e-books and audiobooks digitally thru the Los Lunas Library, including:

- New Mexico Library to Go
- Libby
- Hoopla
- Tumble Books
- Teen Book Cloud

Use this link for the above services:

<https://www.loslunasnm.gov/1242/E-Books-Audiobooks>

SENIOR COALITION

On Tuesday, March 11th at 10 a.m., the Valencia County Senior Coalition meets at the UNM Valencia Workforce Training Center, located on Huning Ranch East Loop.

Guest speakers will be from the Better Business Bureau and Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP).

For more info call 505 557-2686 or e-mail andreamansfield@lvfnm.org.

LOCAL EVENTS

Attend a Village Council Meeting

6 p.m. Thursday, March 13 & 27, 2025

6 p.m. Thursday, April 10 & 24, 2025

660 Main St. NW
Main Street and Don Pasqual Meetings will be virtual and in-person. Check Village website for agenda loslunasnm.gov.

LOS LUNAS SCHOOLS TOURNAMENT

Friday, May 30th is the 12th Annual Los Lunas Schools Golf Tournament at Isleta Golf Course.

Early Bird registration at \$550 for a team of 4 is open and lasts through April 15th.

For detailed information and how to register visit <https://www.llschools.net/news-media/events-and-news> and click on “LLS Golf Tournament”.

The tournament supports the school district’s Renaissance Program.

VALENCIA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY EVENTS

- March 15, 2025 - Route 66 in Los Lunas by Patty Guggino: 2 p.m., Los Lunas Museum of Heritage & Arts.
- April 23, 2025 - Historic Geology Experiments in New Mexico in Water Management and Atomic Energy Applications by Paul Parmentier: 2 p.m., UNMVC Workforce Training Center.
- May 18, 2025 - Annual Road Show and Personal Antiques Display: 2 p.m., Los Lunas Transportation Center.