



VILLAGE NEWS

Small Community • Big Possibilities

Volume 22 - Number 3 - March 2018

GRIEGO CONTINUES AS MAYOR

Charles Griego begins his second four-year term of office as mayor of Los Lunas this month.

He was re-elected to the position in early March.

Also re-elected to four-year terms were Village Councilors Gino M. Romero, District Two, and Paulette S. Montoya, District Four.

Re-elected to a four-year term as municipal judge was Avilio Chavez..



Charles Griego

HELP CLEAN UP LOS LUNAS

Are you or a group you belong to wanting to help improve the Village?

Do you want to clean and beautify a neighborhood or certain area in Los Lunas?

You can make a difference by helping clean up the Village.

Visit the Village website at loslunas.gov for information about cleanups.

Or call the Village Solid Waste Department at 505 352-7699 to schedule a cleanup event.

Upcoming special cleanup events are

- Saturday, April 7, 2018. 7 a.m. - 12 p.m. Community cleanup event at the Village Administrative Building, 660 Main St. NW.

- Saturday, April 21, 2018 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. Great American Recycling event which is intended for collecting recyclables as well as items not usually taken on a regular basis. This includes used motor oil, used clothes, and

electronics (televisions have a charge of \$20). Held at the Village Administrative Building, 660 Main St. NW.

- Saturday, Sept. 22, 2018 7 a.m. - 12 p.m. community cleanup event at the Village Administrative Building, 660 Main St. NW.
- Saturday, Nov. 3, 2018 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. Great American Recycling event which is intended for collecting recyclables as well as items not usually taken on a regular basis. Held at the Village Administrative Building, 660 Main St. NW.

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, 660 Main St. NW, on Saturday, April 28, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.



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LUNA PAINTING IN MUSEUM

A painting of Maximiliano Luna, a Los Lunas native who served with the Rough Riders, now hangs in the Village Museum of Heritage and Arts thanks to the painting's artist and the Valencia County Historical Society.

Village resident Brent Thomas created the portrait in 2015 for the cover of a book about Luna written by University of New Mexico-Valencia professor Richard Melzer.

Thomas's portrait shows Luna as a captain in Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders during the Spanish-American War.

Thomas has presented the painting to the Valencia County Historical Society which asked that the Los Lunas Museum display the painting. It now hangs in the museum.

There is also a memorial to Luna on Highway 314 near the railroad tracks in Los Lunas.



Rough Rider Maximiliano Luna

VILLAGE RECYCLES 848 TONS IN 2017

The Village's recycling program diverted 848 tons of mixed recyclables out of the landfill in 2017.

That 848 tons included cardboard, 509 tons; plastic, 67; paper, 120; metal, 65; aluminum, 4; and glass, 81.

All recyclables are from the Village recycling center at 315 Don Pasqual NW and the cardboard route which services 87 businesses in the Village.

The tonnage of recycling has increased over the last seven years. In 2011, 612 tons was collected; 2012, 650 tons; 2013, 714 tons; 2014, 741 tons; 2015, 778 tons; 2016, 847 tons; and 2017, 848 tons.

The seven-year total is 5,192 tons.

The Village recycling center accepts cardboard; paper; plastics 1 to 7; aluminum; tin; metal; white goods; glass (no windows or fluorescent bulbs); and electronics.



Recycle at 315 Don Pasqual NW

BUSINESS INCUBATOR SUPPORTED

A feasibility study to determine the viability of a business incubator in Valencia County has shown that Los Lunas and the county have great entrepreneurial spirit and could support such an incubator.

The study was commissioned by the Village of Los Lunas and City of Rio Communities in conjunction with the United States Department of Agriculture.

Incubation Operations, Training & Applications (IOTA) conducted the study which included focus groups, interviews of a wide variety of area citizens, and visits to local businesses.

Business incubators help new and startup companies develop by providing services such as management training or office space.

Different types of business incubators include public and kitchen.

The Village will follow up on the study over the next months.

Contact person at the Village is Economic Development Manager Ralph Mims, 505 839-5654, or mimsr@loslunasnm.gov.

LOS LUNAS CHAMBER MEETS

The Los Lunas Chamber of Commerce continues holding a monthly luncheon on the third Thursday of the month from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at Teofilio's Restaurant in Los Lunas. Visit www.loslunaschamber.com for additional information.

NEW VRECC BUILDING NOW OPEN

The new Valencia Regional Emergency Communication Center (VRECC) building on Don Pasqual behind the Village Administration building is now operational.

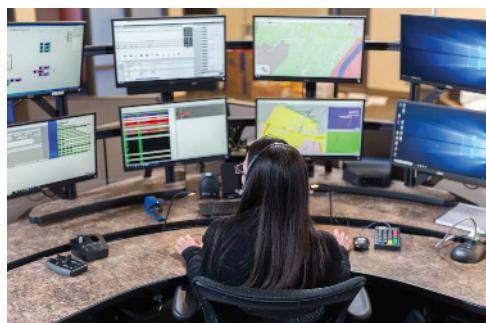
The \$3.2 million, 11,490 square foot VRECC building has 13 work stations, with the capability of increasing to at least 18.

The VRECC is home to Valencia County's 911 services.

Operators handle emergency calls from across the county dispatching police, emergency medical services, and fire equipment with firefighters.

The new building is created with the continued growth of the area in mind as well as changes in technology.

The facility was constructed to serve all of Valencia County's residents for at least the next several years.



VRECC operator at her station.

105 DWI ARRESTS IN 2017

The Village Police Department's Driving While Intoxicated unit made 105 DWI arrests in 2017.

The unit consists of two officers, Sergeant Charles Files and DWI Officer Ryan Gray, who are highly trained in the detection of impaired driving.

Both men have specialized training in the field of drug recognition, which allows them to identify signs and symptoms associated with drug impairment.

The Village's DWI Unit constantly analyzes state and department data to identify patterns of impaired driving incidents, and to effectively plan enforcement activities.

TOILET DYE KITS

The Village Utility Billing Division has ordered toilet dye testing kits to aid water customers in determining if their toilets may need maintenance to prevent continuous water use.

The kits are from the Norlab Company in Ohio.

Village customers can ask for a kit as long as the supply lasts.

Contact the Utility Billing Division at 505 839-3841 if you would like a kit.

EASTER EGG HUNT MARCH 28

The Village's annual Easter Egg Hunt will be Wednesday, March 28, at Daniel Fernandez Park, 1103 Highway 314 SW.

Special guest will be the Easter Bunny.

The event is free and open to the public and doors open at 4 p.m.

Hunt times are 0-3 years, 4:30 p.m.; 4-7 years, 4:45 p.m.; and 8-13 years, 5 p.m.



Easter Egg Hunt

MEMORIAL DAY RUNS

On Saturday, May 26, which is Memorial Day weekend, the 7th annual 5K and 10K race and separate kids' fun run to support local organizations will be presented by Los Lunas Invested in Veteran Events, Inc.

This fundraising event supports military veterans and organizations in Valencia County such as the VFW, Blue Star Mothers, American Legion, Military Order of the Purple Heart, and Wounded Warrior Project.

Detailed information, including the registration form and fees, race courses and descriptions, and contact information can be found at <https://runsignup.com/Race/NM/LosLunas/7thAnnual-BelieveinHeroesMemorialWeekendRun>.

NURSE OFFERS CARE

Preventative care and chronic disease management is the goal of the new business opened in Los Lunas by Registered Nurse Debbe.

The business is located at 1930 Main Street NE #9, phone 505 659-4608.

Debbe wants people to be healthy, be well, and be in control of any diseases they have.

To do this, Debbe helps with chronic disease management, high blood pressure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, asthma, heart disease, and other illnesses.

Debbe also offers basic health care tips to increase the quality of life.

In addition, she can help with quitting smoking and losing weight.

Senior discounts are available and Debbe will work with physicians when required.

Debbe will help patients who can't afford medication.

Call Registered Nurse Debbe at 505 659-4608 to find out more about preventative health care and chronic disease management.



Nurse Debbe

MUSEUM OF HERITAGE & ARTS HAPPENINGS

Main Street and Luna Avenue
505 352-7720

EXHIBITS

Through April 14, 2018
5th Annual Student Juried Art Show

Through April 7, 2018
Civil War Exhibit

TOURS

Call Museum 505 352-7720
or stop by to sign up

March 24, 2018
Old Los Lunas:
Historic Buildings in Our Backyard
(\$20 Includes Tour & Lunch at
Teofilo's)
RSVP-Limited Space

SPEAKERS

Saturday, March 17, 2018 2 p.m.
Rio Abajo Agriculture by Maggie
McDonald

Museum Open
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Tuesday - Saturday

LOCAL EVENTS

Friday, March 16, 2018
13th Annual Community
Health & Wellness Fair
9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Daniel Fernandez Recreation
Center
Call 505 352-7719 for
information
Everyone welcome

Saturday, April 14, 2018
Friends of the Library and Museum
Book Sale 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Los Lunas Library Parking Lot
460 Main Street SE
1503 Main St. SW

Last Wednesday of the month
Business Watch
Cops and Business Folks meet at
Benny's Restaurant 8:30 a.m.
1503 Main St. SW

Los Lunas Public Library
460 Main St. NE

Adult Coloring Night
Every Tuesday 5-6:30 p.m.

Wii Games
Every Friday 3 p.m.

Attend a Village Council Meeting

March 29 April 12 & 26
660 Main St NW
Main Street and Don Pasqual
Meetings begin at 6:00 p.m.

FRIENDS OF LIBRARY, MUSEUM

The Friends of the Los Lunas Library and Museum of Heritage and Arts does many things including holding sales of used books and magazines, to support those facilities.

The current Friends board consists of president Jim Rickey; vice president Kirsti Whistler; treasurer Stephanie Williams; and secretary Jean Martin.

Other board members are Doris Vialpando, Tammie Nolde, and Cynthia Shetter, ex officio as Village library director.

Board members and directors serve for a one-year term and were recently elected.

The Friends has a Twitter account, @JRHuning01, and a Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/llplfriends/>.