



VILLAGE NEWS



Small Community • Big Possibilities

Volume 24 - Number 11 - November 2020

COVID-19 PANDEMIC RULES SHOPPING

It looks like we will continue to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic during the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

If you are going shopping then remember the COVID-19 safe rules for going out:

- Individuals are required to wear a face covering or mask in public spaces except when eating, drinking, or swimming, or unless otherwise advised by a healthcare provider.
- Maintain a six-foot distance from others.
- Avoid gatherings.
- Protect vulnerable populations by finding ways to connect without face-to-face contact.

Village Economic Development Manager Ralph L. Mims reminds people to shop in Los Lunas and Valencia County. "When you shop locally you help the whole community, especially now," said Mims.

Show your support for local businesses and restaurants as much as possible.

As you show support, remember that the Village of Los Lunas continues to provide its usual services, but with changes to protect people from the coronavirus.

And remember the at-home COVID-19 safe rules:

- Avoid unnecessary travel and always stay at home when you are sick (except for medical emergencies).

- Wash your hands frequently.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- All meetings should take place remotely whenever possible.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

VILLAGE HOLIDAY EVENTS CANCELED

The Village annual Christmas Electric Light Parade and Village Tree Lighting Ceremony with Santa Claus have been canceled.

The cancellation is due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Holiday events are coordinated and presented by the Village Parks and Recreation Department.

GRANTS AWARDED

Village businesses impacted by COVID-19 public health orders received CARES Act Small Business Grants.

The grants are intended to cover business continuity expenses, business redesign expenses, and all expenses that fit into these categories: non-owner employee payroll, rent, scheduled mortgage payments, insurance, utilities, marketing, installing plexiglass barriers, purchasing web conferencing or other technology to facilitate work-at-home, and employee PPEs.

The Village was able to award nearly the full requested funds to each eligible business.

LIGHT UP THE VILLAGE

Get ready to show your community spirit and what Los Lunas is all about!

The Village of Los Lunas is hosting its third annual Light up the Village contest.

This year, the Community Development Department invites every residence and business within the Village limits to participate in this annual event.

Get your family, neighbors, employees, and pets ready to decorate for the holidays. The best display can win a unique and special prize representing your community spirit.

2020 is your time to shine!

As details become finalized, keep an eye out on the official village social media sites and [loslunasnm.gov](https://www.loslunasnm.gov) for more information on how you can show the wonders of The Village of Los Lunas.

You may also see a glimpse of previous winners and what they have taken home.

Contact Cynthia Lavato with Community Development at 505 352-7670 if you have questions.

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CITIES READINESS INITIATIVE

The Los Lunas Fire Department is looking for volunteers for the Center for Disease Control's Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI), a federally funded program designed to enhance preparedness in the nation's large population centers where more than 50% of the U.S. population resides.

Using CRI funding, state and large metropolitan public health departments develop, test, and maintain plans to quickly receive and distribute life-saving medicine and medical supplies from the nation's Strategic National Stockpile (SNS)(<https://www.cdc.gov/phpr/stockpile/stockpile.html>) to local communities following a large-scale public health emergency.

Initially, the CRI planning scenario was based on a response to a large-scale anthrax attack; however, it became apparent that CRI jurisdictions must be prepared to respond to other public health emergencies.

The Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Reauthorization Act emphasized an all-hazards approach to public health preparedness planning, thereby expanding the scope of the CRI planning to include natural and man-made public health threats.

Part of this planning and preparedness is developing and maintaining plans for a staging area to receive and distribute Medical Countermeasures (MCM) and Points of Dispensing (POD) to dispense the MCMs.

Volunteers are needed to serve functions from traffic control to registration to treatments and more. This video offers more information <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TwBKAPzunT4>.

What is the benefit of becoming a CRI volunteer?

- You and your immediate family are administered prophylaxis ahead of the general public.
- FREE training in Incident Command, SNS and CRI processes.
- Giving back to your community.

What is required as a CRI volunteer?

- Participate in quarterly call-down exercises where you respond with a YES or a NO answer.
- Annual training / refresher in POD activation

How do you become a CRI volunteer?

- Contact gonzalesj@loslunasnm.gov or call him at 505 991-6229 for more information about participating.

SHORT-TERM RENTAL REGULATIONS

The Village Council approved Short-Term Rental regulations at the Oct. 8, 2020, Council meeting.

These regulations allow short-term rentals, like Airbnb, as an accessory use in any residential zone, as long as the owner/operator registers as a business and obtains a short-term rental permit from the Community Development Department.

The new regulations also allow the Village to collect lodgers' tax from short-term rentals, similar to a hotel or RV Park, and they provide enforcement measures if either the renter or the property owner are found to violate any Village ordinances, such as noise or nuisance regulations.

Short-term rental permits can be obtained starting Dec. 1, 2020.

Any property currently operating as a short-term rental must apply for a permit no later than March 15, 2021. Contact the Community Development Department at 505 352-7659 with any questions.

RENEW YOUR BUSINESS REGISTRATION

Now is the time to purchase or renew your business registration for the Village of Los Lunas, says Community Development Director Erin Callahan.

All businesses, multi-national or Mom and Pop, home-based or otherwise, pay the same fee, \$25.

DRIVE-IN MOVIES ON HOLD

The Village's plan to bring drive-in movies to Los Lunas has been put on hold due to issues with the equipment, but work continues on the project.

The drive-in theater would have filled a need for additional things to do in the Village that fall under the public health orders during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The village purchased an FM transmitter so patrons could listen to the sound of the movie on a vehicle's radio.

Capacity of the theater was expected to be about 100 cars.

VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

The Village Parks and Recreation Department held an Indoor Adult Volleyball League this fall!

COVID-19 safe practices were followed.

To see a complete list of what the event entailed, follow this link: <https://www.loslunasnm.gov/245/Volleyball>.

Parks and Recreation staff are being creative working under public health orders while making sure there's recreation available.

Village of Los Lunas recreation division live weekly video update is every Tuesday. Go to this link to see Brittany and Marcos on-line: <https://tinyurl.com/y5qnqt6l>.

NON-PERISHABLES BEING COLLECTED

Members of the Los Lunas Fire Department are collecting non-perishables for food baskets for those in need at Thanksgiving and Christmas time.

Drop off what you can give at fire station #2, 465 Sand Sage.

Any questions contact Vivian Lujan at 505 866-2116.

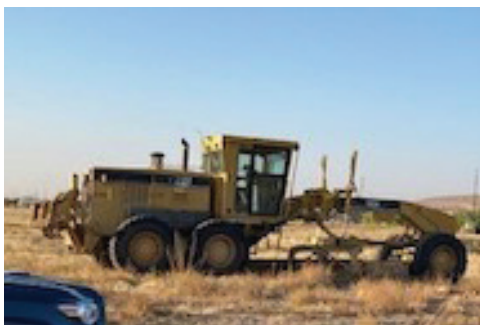
WORK STARTS ON NEW WELL

Desert Fox LLC has started the site development work required for the Village's Well #7 located at 2609 Purple Sage in Los Morros Industrial Park.

The job includes arsenic treatment and water-sewer offices.

The cost is \$687,000 and will be paid by State LEDA (Local Economic Development Act) funds.

In addition, the contractor will be installing all water, gas and sewer lines associated with the three buildings to be constructed.



Moving dirt at Well #7

MORE READING MATERIALS FOR YOUTH, TEENS

The Los Lunas Public Library recently purchased two eBook platforms to provide access to reading materials for the youth and teens of the area.

While adult patrons can download eBooks and eAudiobooks at New Mexico Library to Go: <https://nm.overdrive.com/> the selection for youth and teens is very limited.

To address this limitation, the Los Lunas Public Library purchased access to Tumble Book Library and Teen Book Cloud utilizing New Mexico General Obligation Bond funds.

Tumble Book Library is an online database of over 1,100 titles for grades kindergarten through sixth, and includes unique animated, talking picture books, graphic novels, read-along chapter books, National Geographic videos, non-fiction books, playlists, as well as books in Spanish and French.

The collection is available online around the clock. No downloads, no waiting!

Teen Book Cloud is an online database of eBooks and educator resources perfect for middle school and high school students. The database offers a robust selection of graphic novels, enhanced novels, eBooks, classic literature, National Geographic videos, educator resources, and audiobooks.

The collection is available online around the clock as well.

General Obligation Bond funds are voted upon by New Mexico voters every two years to help support public, school, academic, and tribal libraries in the state in providing services to the public. A GO Bond was on the Nov 3, 2020, ballot in the amount of \$9,500,000.

Library Director Cynthia Shetter says the Los Lunas Public Library is proud to use taxpayer-approved funds to help provide services to youth and teens during the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information on accessing any of these databases, call the public library at 505 839-3850.



Happy Thanksgiving

Please remember to avoid

Drain Disasters

Be kitchen sink smart:

Water that contains fats, cooking oils, and grease can clog your drain, pipes and sewer system.

Use paper towels to wipe grease and food particles off of your pots, pans and plates, and then dispose of these in the trash.

Thank You.



Village of Los Lunas

The Wastewater Treatment Plant

loslunasnm.gov

NEW FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER

Imani Crosby, a board certificated Family Nurse Practitioner, has joined Dr. Joseph R. Aragon, Rodrigo Perez-Resendiz, PA-C, and Celeste Walkos, FNP-C, at Los Lunas Family Practice.

Crosby has been a nurse since 2009. She received her Bachelor of Science Nursing at University of Texas Arlington in 2014 and her Master of Science in Nursing at University of Texas Arlington in 2018.

Originally from Kenya, Crosby came to the United States with her family at the age of six and recently moved from Texas to her new home here in Los Lunas.

Crosby has experience in long term care, home health, pediatrics, emergency medicine, urgent care, inpatient care, behavioral health, and homeless and women's health. Crosby is accepting walk-ins and new patients.

Dr. Aragon continues to see patients in the clinic as well as the increasing population of hospice patients. Celeste sees patients in the clinic while conducting weekly home visits.

Rodrigo performs CDL physicals as well as taking walk-ins and new patients.

Los Lunas Family Practice has been located at 127 Sandoval Rd. SW since 2000. The website for Los Lunas Family Practice is loslunasfp.com. The phone number is 505 865-3373



Imani Crosby

MUSEUM OF HERITAGE & ARTS CLOSED

The Museum of Heritage & Arts is closed to the public to help curb the spread of COVID-19 in the community.

The decision to close was based on current attendance, the recent spike in positive COVID-19 cases, and on Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham's Oct. 19, 2020, announcement to amend public health orders and close state museums and historic sites.

Museum staff will be on site Monday through Friday offering curbside services. In addition, staff will be posting exhibits, and items of historic / artistic content on the museum Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/loslunasmuseum>.

The Museum's Juried Art Show exhibition is scheduled to run Nov. 14, 2020, to Jan. 9, 2021. Due to the closure the exhibit will be photographed and presented virtually until the closure is lifted.

Construction continues on the Museum's event patio on the south side. The patio structure has been installed. There are a few tasks to be completed and the patio may be done by mid-November.

Since March 16, 2020, Facebook posts have reached 90,146 people

If you have any Museum questions or research requests, please call 505 352-7720.

LOCAL EVENTS

Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2020

Veterans Day
Village Offices Closed
Wednesday Garbage Pickup
on Thursday, Nov. 12, 2020

Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2020 11 a.m.

Virtual Veterans Day Event
Facebook / YouTube

Thursday, Nov. 26 & Friday, Nov. 27, 2020

Thanksgiving Holiday
Village Offices Closed
Thursday garbage pickup on Wednesday
Friday garbage pickup on Monday

Thursday, Dec. 24 & Friday, Dec. 25, 2020

Christmas Holiday
Village Offices Closed
Thursday garbage pickup on Wednesday
Friday garbage pickup on Monday

Attend a Village Council Meeting

November 19 December 3 & 17
660 Main St NW
Main Street and Don Pasqual
Meetings begin at 6:00 p.m.
Meeting may be conducted virtually.
Check agenda on Village website
loslunasnm.gov

LLPD AWARDED GRANTS

The Los Lunas Police Department has been awarded the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG 2020) in the amount of \$11,803.

The JAG program is the leading source of federal justice funding to state and local jurisdictions.

The award will purchase a crash diagramming software, and basic motorist assist tools/equipment to help stranded motorists.

In addition, the United States Department of Justice – Office of Justice Programs - awarded the Village funding entitled BJA FY 20 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program in the amount of \$37,935.

Funding will be applied towards equipment that enhances remote work stations and PPE.