



VILLAGE NEWS



Small Community • Big Possibilities

Volume 25 - Number 2 - February 2021

TEST AND VACCINATE

It's now been a year since the COVID-19 pandemic began its deadly march around the world.

People want this dreadful pandemic to end, as soon as possible. People want life to return to some form of "new and improved" normal.

For this to happen, we need Valencia County out of its current "red" designation, and into the so-called "green" designation (as of Feb. 1, 2021). For that to happen, we need to increase COVID-testing beyond just those with symptoms, and we need all to get vaccinated when the opportunity is presented.

You can still register for a COVID test at curative.com, see illustration page 2. There is also a less intrusive saliva test available, allowing more people to get tested, on a quicker basis.

You can order a kit sent to your home at vaulthealth.com, and perform the test in the safety and convenience of your own home.

Either way, we encourage you to get tested, regardless of your current health status, because healthy people without symptoms need to be tested frequently to bring the Valencia County infection rate below the 5% gating criteria.

Once we hit that target, Valencia County should be able to begin "re-opening."

Also, please register for and please get vaccinated against this debilitating and deadly disease.

Herd immunity is the eventual cure for re-starting our economy, schools, services, and former ways of life, and achieving that goal requires all recommended people to participate in the immunization process.

Go to cv.nmhealth.org/covid-vaccine to register and get in line for when the opportunity occurs for your demographic to be vaccinated.

Eventually our entire community and society will need to work on recovery. But it will require every individual doing their part. Please consider taking these two actions, as soon as possible.

SEWER CALCULATIONS

The Village of Los Lunas sewer average calculations for single family residential accounts will be reflected on the March statement once February's usage is registered. This will be the new sewer averaging rate for the year until calculated again in February 2022 per Ordinance 13.08.120.

JUBILEE LOS LUNAS RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD

See March 2021 Village Newsletter.

BINGO FOR ALL AGES

The Los Lunas Recreation Division has been sponsoring virtual bingo for all ages.

It is free, no fee, but registration is required. There are non-cash prizes.

Participants must have a valid e-mail address and reliable Internet connection.

Register at this link: <https://secure.rec1.com/NM/los-lunas-nm/catalog> (click on either youth activities or adult activities).

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COVID-19 Testing at No Cost to You!

Painless, self-administered oral swab test
Results delivered electronically within 48 hours of receipt at the lab

Daniel Fernandez Memorial Park

1103 State Rd. 314, Los Lunas, NM 87031

Schedule an appointment at cur.tv/loslunas
or locate a testing site near you at curative.com

facebook.com/CurativeInc @curativeinc @curative

curative 



VALENCIA COUNTY MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM

The Valencia County Extension Master Gardener (VCEMG) program, sponsored by the Cooperative Extension Service, New Mexico State University, is going on now.

The program serves the educational needs of Valencia County's urban (non-commercial) horticultural community.

Local experienced gardeners are provided specialized horticultural training in exchange for a minimum of 40-hours of volunteer service throughout the following year as directed by the Extension Agriculture Agent or Interim VCEMG Agent Advisor.

The program offers an opportunity for experienced gardeners to gain research-based knowledge, while sharing their knowledge and expertise in the community.



Master Gardeners present \$1,000 scholarship to Chelsea Romero.

- Always roll up the windows and lock your car, even if it is in your driveway, garage, or in front of your home.
- Never leave the vehicle title in your car. If stolen, it makes it easier for the thief to dispose of your vehicle. It can also make you a target for identity theft.
- Be alert when approaching your car, have a plan of action, and have your keys in your hand. Check around, under, and in your vehicle for suspicious individuals.

JUBILEE TIME CAPSULE

Jubilee Los Lunas, a retirement community off NM Hwy 6 on the west side of Los Lunas, now has a buried time capsule on the property which is scheduled to be opened in 20 years.

Residents put a variety of items in the time capsule before burying it on New Year's Eve 2020.

A special ceremony was held at Jubilee that evening attended by variety of people including the mayors of Los Lunas, Belen, Rio Communities, and Bosque Farms.

The burying of the time capsule was also part of a documentary filmed by Eric Metzger, an award winning documentarian. The film is a conglomeration of more than 25 cinematographers who filmed the everyday lives of people under the Donald J. Trump presidency.

COLD WEATHER PRIME TIME FOR WARM-UP THEFTS

The term "Warm-Up Theft" is a widely used term among car thieves to describe the stealing of a car that has been left running and unattended to "warm-up."

During the winter months, many motorists are tempted to leave their vehicle running to warm up the interior prior to getting behind the wheel. However, this practice is one that causes two problems.

First, leaving a car unattended and running is a violation of the Village of Los Lunas Municipal Code Ord. 12-12-18, which can result in up to a \$500 fine and, second, the practice of leaving your vehicle running and unattended provides for a quick and easy target for car thieves.

Following these simple tips will help keep you from being left out in the cold:

- Never leave your car running or the keys in the ignition when you are away from it, even for "just a minute."
- Keep valuables out of sight or in the trunk. Purses, credit cards, and cell phones in plain view only help attract thieves.

REMAINING 2021 VILLAGE GARBAGE PICKUP CHANGES

Holiday Observed

Presidents Day
Easter Holiday
Memorial Day
Independence Day
Labor Day
Veterans Day
Thanksgiving
Day After Thanksgiving
Christmas Eve
New Year's Eve

Regular Trash Pickup Day

Monday, February 15
Friday, April 2
Monday, May 31
Monday, July 5 (observed)
Monday, Sept 6
Thursday, Nov. 11
Thursday, Nov. 25
Friday, Nov. 26
Friday, Dec 24
Friday, Dec. 31

Will Be Picked Up On

Tuesday, Feb. 16
Thursday, April 1
Tuesday, June 1
Tuesday, July 6
Tuesday, Sept 7
Friday, Nov. 12
Wednesday, Nov, 24
Monday, Nov. 29
Thursday Dec. 23
Thursday, Dec. 30

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

COVID-19 has made it a tough year all around. The pandemic has been deadly for people while businesses have also suffered.

Many Los Lunas businesses are struggling as they continue to serve customers. Here's just a few:

Metro Barbershop LLC - 959 Highway 314 SW. 505 582-2198.
Specials for seniors 60 plus and kids 10 and under.

GoodFellas Pizzeria - 959 Highway 314 SW. 505 916-5654.
The website says it all – Real Food, Real Pizza, Fun Games.

Village Café - 223 Hwy 314 SW. 505 865-2830.
Red chile barbecue brisket sandwich or green chile barbecue brisket sandwich – you chose.

Main Street Dentistry - 705 Main St. SW. 505 865-3395.
Provides full dentistry services from dental implants to general care and cleaning while making your visit comfortable and easy.

Andrew Spears, Financial Advisor, Edward Jones - 3459c Highway 47. 505 865-0303.
Focus areas include retirement savings and income strategies, insurance and annuities, and college savings.

There are many businesses in Los Lunas to frequent. Please do so.

DRIVE-IN THEATER TO OPEN

The Los Lunas Drive-In Theater was scheduled to open the first weekend in February.

The number of cars at the drive-in is limited due to continuing mass gathering restrictions.

There were concessions as well as a food truck during the opening weeks.

Tickets will be available at losunasnm.gov.

The drive-in theater is located at the former Badlands BMX Park on NM Hwy 314. Construction was completed in November.

WORKFORCE TRAINING CENTER IN LOS LUNAS

Construction of a new workforce training center in the Village of Los Lunas is expected to begin early in 2022.

The new training center will be located at 1020 Huning Ranch East Loop SW, directly west of La Vida Felicidad.

The center will offer classes and training focused on manufacturing and industry as well as soft skills that local business owners say are needed in the workforce. Also offered will be hands-on training for skills such as welding and computer.

Plans for the center include a large bay area where the university can bring in equipment such as large plastic injection molds so students can use machines that are on factory floors.

The Small Business Development Center will have space at the training center. SBDC will also maintain its offices at the UNM-Valencia campus in Tome.

The center will be built on nine acres donated to the University by the Huning Ltd. Partnership. The new campus, which is west of Interstate 25 and south of NM Hwy 6, is roughly halfway between NM Hwy 6 and the future I-25 interchange connecting a new roadway to NM Hwy 47.

LIBRARY CURBSIDE PICKUP RETURNS

The Village Public Library has resumed contactless curbside pickup.

To help stop the spread of COVID-19, the library will remain closed to the public and will open in phases as the New Mexico Department of Health relaxes restrictions.

If you would like to participate in curbside service, please follow these steps:

Step one - Place your items on hold here: <https://www.loslunaspubliclibrary.org> or call 839-3850 for staff assistance.

Step two - library staff will prepare the items you requested and will call you to arrange a pickup date and time.

Step three - On your assigned pickup date, arrive at the library at the assigned time.

Choose a designated pickup parking space. These curbside spaces will be marked 1 through 4. After you have parked, call the library at 839-3850 and let staff know what space number you are in.

Library staff will bring bagged items to your vehicle. Please have your trunk or back door open so staff can easily drop off items with no contact.

Please note: Staff will practice social distancing and will not accept returned books at curbside. This helps conserve personal protection equipment as well.

Returning books should be placed in the book drop located next to the front doors of the Los Lunas Library.



MUSEUM EVENTS

The Village Museum of Heritage and Arts continues to offer a variety of events via social media.

New Mexico Navy on museum Facebook page. Presentation by John Taylor on Feb. 13, 2021.

Unusual and Strange Signs on museum Facebook page. Presentation by Richard Melzer on Feb. 27, 2021.

Several Museum Galleries are open for 25% capacity of visitors through February. These include Women of Valencia County and Historical County Maps.

In early February the museum had a virtual Facebook presentation entitled "You ROCK" with photos of rocks with Valentine's Day messages by local artists.

THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATION

The Village of Los Lunas has a department called Administration and here's what it does.

The Administration Department's mission is to enact ordinances, regulations, and policies consistent with the Laws and Statutes of the State of New Mexico aimed at the betterment of the community.

The Administration provides professional management leadership to the Village Council and staff to better deliver services to the citizens and customers of the Village in the most economical and efficient manner possible.

The Administration Department works closely with the Mayor and Council to formulate policy and set goals for each department.

Greg Martin oversees this department which handles financial, investment, travel and per diem, procurement, and open records policies for the Village, IT, utility billing and provides human resources, payroll and accounts payable services for employees of the Village.

LOCAL EVENTS

Monday, Feb. 15, 2021

PRESIDENTS DAY

Village Offices Closed

Monday Feb. 15, 2021

Garbage Pick Up

Tuesday Feb. 16, 2021

Attend a Village Council Meeting

6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 11, 2021

6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 25, 2021

660 Main St NW

Main Street and Don Pasqual

Meeting may be conducted virtually.

Check agenda on Village website
loslunasnm.gov

8TH ANNUAL STUDENT JURIED ART SHOW

Los Lunas Museum of Heritage and Arts announces the 8th Annual Student Art Exhibition with the theme "Celebrations of New Mexico."

This program spotlights the creativity of children K-12 attending schools in the Valencia County area

Students' artistic achievements will be juried into the exhibition and notified if accepted into the art show with the grand opening reception in April 2021.

Start your Celebrations of New Mexico Art project ASAP. This is free to all students. Awards will be given to top winners.

To participate in the Student Art Exhibition, area teachers, parents or students must review the Official Guidelines on the entry forms that can be picked up, mailed, or emailed.

Call or email if you're interested in an application as the deadline to enter is March 26, 2021.

Museum phone number is 505 352-7720. Email: ortizr@loslunasnm.gov. Located at 251 Main Street SE, under the downtown water tower.