



# VILLAGE NEWS



Small Community • Big Possibilities

Volume 25 - Number 5 - May 2021

## Help the Village Get Greener

Sign up for the electronic version of the Village newsletter

The Village electronic version is available on the Village website [loslunasnm.gov](https://www.loslunasnm.gov)

People are encouraged to sign up to receive the electronic version beginning in July 2021

To sign up for the electronic version, go to:

<https://www.loslunasnm.gov/list.aspx>

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Welcome to the Business Roundup where you learn about businesses in Los Lunas.

COVID-19 has been tough on everyone. The pandemic has been deadly for people while businesses have also suffered. Los Lunas businesses look forward to serving customers. Here's just a few:

### **Massage by Sarena**

Offers a New Service!  
959 NM Hwy 314  
In addition to traditional and Ashiatsu massage, Sarena officially operates a float tank! This sensory deprivation float tank has many benefits:

- Creates calm and total relaxation
- Eases anxiety
- Relieves bone, joint, and muscle ache
- Improves immunity
- Reduces pregnancy pain
- Promotes mental clarity and focus
- Speeds physical training recovery

Book your COVID-19 safe appointment today at 505 514-8568.

### **The Branch Bistro & Bookstore**

2357 Main St SE 505 565-1543  
Pouring into the community one cup, one prayer, and one Bible at a time, The Branch has something to satisfy every palate, from fresh baked goods, incredible sandwiches, gourmet salads, and locally roasted coffee! They also offer gluten and dairy free options.

### **Sakura Japanese Habachi Grill & Sushi Restaurant**

1400 Main St NW Ste H  
505 433-4014

Offering lunch and dinner specials, Sakura serves delicious food for the whole family.

### **Burritos Alinstante**

1138 Main St. NE 505 565-8570

Home cooked food straight from the heart of New Mexico.

Whether you're new on the scene or a regular of +30 years, Burritos Alinstante has just the thing that'll hit the spot.

### **TJ's Restaurant**

643 Hwy 314 SW 505 866-5123  
Delicious New Mexican food just right around the corner!

### **Ribs Hickory Pit BBQ**

120 Nelson Lane 505 866-0000  
Serving only the best USDA choice beef and grade A pork, all the meats are carefully seasoned and slowly smoked for up to 16 hours with hickory from Missouri and East Texas, which is carefully blended with local oak to produce just the right smoke.

CHARLES GRIEGO

MAYOR

[griegoc@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:griegoc@loslunasnm.gov)

GINO M. ROMERO

COUNCILMAN

[romerog@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:romerog@loslunasnm.gov)

NAITHAN GURULE

POLICE CHIEF

[ngurule@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:ngurule@loslunasnm.gov)

PHILLIP JARAMILLO

COUNCILMAN

[jaramillop@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:jaramillop@loslunasnm.gov)

CRUZ MUÑOZ

COUNCILMAN

[munozc@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:munozc@loslunasnm.gov)

JOHN GABALDON

FIRE CHIEF

[jgabalton@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:jgabalton@loslunasnm.gov)

CHRISTOPHER S. ORTIZ

COUNCILMAN

[ortizc@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:ortizc@loslunasnm.gov)

AVILIO CHAVEZ

MUNICIPAL JUDGE

[avchavez@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:avchavez@loslunasnm.gov)

GREGORY D. MARTIN

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR

[marting@loslunasnm.gov](mailto:marting@loslunasnm.gov)

## 2021 FACEBOOK COMMUNITY ACTION GRANTS

The 2021 Facebook Community Action Grants recipients have been announced.

The Facebook Community Action Grants program was created to address needs in Valencia County by putting the power of technology to use for community benefit, connecting people online or off, and improving STEM education.

Facebook has committed to building strong partnerships within the community, and embracing the opportunity to have a positive local impact.

Congratulations to these exceptional organizations, and many thanks to all who applied!

2021 Facebook Los Lunas Data Center Community Action Grants Recipients:

- All for Animals \$22,820 supports upgraded field technology for animal control officers serving Valencia County.
- Belen Public Library \$9,900 funds virtual and hybrid programming to support the community's use of technology for education, career readiness, and daily life.
- CASA Partners 4NMKids \$10,000 supports Chromebooks accessible to volunteers and CASA foster children.
- Community Wellness Council \$10,000 supports the Council's Resource Connector, a program designed to use technology to address community mental health issues..
- Explora Science Center & Children's Museum of Albuquerque \$7,500 supports Explora's Community Science program, providing underserved and diverse pre-K to 8th grade Valencia County students with experiential STEAM learning.
- Gil Sanchez Elementary School \$20,660 supports Swivl smart cameras to elevate engagement for students and promote a flipped classroom concept.
- Girl Scouts of New Mexico \$10,000 supports virtual and in-person STEM programs that provide opportunities for first-hand exploration in science to 100 girls of all ages in Valencia County.
- NM MESA \$10,000 supports the organization's goal to bridge the digital divide by creating a video campaign series to train students and teachers in digital media skills.
- Rural Education Advancement Program \$30,000 provides programs to motivate students to pursue college degrees and careers in STEM fields.
- School of Dreams Academy (SODA) Education Foundation \$39,737 creates a STEM research hub to help provide equitable opportunities for all student populations to complete STEM research and become innovative and forward-thinking.
- T-N-T Boxing and Mentoring Club \$12,273 supports the computer lab for tutoring and homework assistance, classes and programming, and provides a safe place.
- United Way of Central New Mexico \$6,000 supports teacher mentors, video interviews with employers, employer video partnerships, and increased teacher and employer connections..
- Valencia County Literacy Council \$10,000 helps create virtual platforms that can be utilized by students on their smartphones or other devices.
- Valencia Shelter Services \$10,300 will help to implement workshops for clients and educate them on how to interact with the services available to assist with their needs.
- Wilderwood Equine Therapy and Rescue \$1,100 helps autistic teens and adults live strong, independent lives and a nine-month curriculum with focus on STEM careers.

Los Lunas Mayor Charles Griego said, "I'm excited to offer my sincere congratulations to the 2021 Facebook community grant recipients.

"The projects from schools and organizations supported by the grants will help to improve our community, and I look forward to the impact and benefit they will have for students, families, and local residents."

## WATCH FOR CHILD ABUSE

April was National Child Abuse month but every month is a time to fight child abuse.

Here's important information in a state where child abuse rates are very high, points out Village Police Chief Naithan Gurule.

Know what child abuse is:

- Physical and sexual abuse clearly constitute maltreatment, but so does neglect, or the failure of parents or other caregivers to provide a child with needed food, clothing, and care.
- Children can also be emotionally abused when they are rejected, berated, or continuously isolated.

Domestic Violence is child abuse:

- Depression, fear of a certain adult, difficulty trusting others or making friends, sudden changes in eating or sleeping patterns, inappropriate sexual behavior, poor hygiene, secrecy, and hostility are often signs of family problems and may indicate a child is being neglected or physically, sexually, or emotionally abused.
- Keep your children healthy. Denying children food, sleep, or healthcare is abuse by neglect.

## WELL NO. 7

The new Water Well #7 treatment facilities are under construction.

These facilities are designed to process and remove arsenic from Village water production.

The goal is to have the facilities operational and producing water by January 2022.



## VILLAGE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Another in a continuing series about departments in the Village,

The Village of Los Lunas Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department provides 24-hour service with paid and volunteer personnel to ensure the safety and peace for a good quality of life in the Village.

Services provided include public fire education for the children of the school district and other groups upon request.

The department provides a fire prevention program conducting inspections on new and existing commercial buildings as well as apartment and residential buildings.

## RENTAL, UTILITY ASSISTANCE

The State of New Mexico is granting \$170M of federal aid to New Mexicans for rental and utility assistance to households experiencing financial hardship due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

The rental assistance and utility assistance program will take applications starting April 5, 2021 through August 2021.

Renters across the state are eligible for the program -- except for residents of Bernalillo County, Dona Ana County, and those who live in a pueblo or tribal area. Those two counties, as well as tribal governments, will administer their own Rental Assistance Programs.

Those seeking assistance should review the current FAQ at [www.RentHelpNM.org](http://www.RentHelpNM.org) to learn more about eligibility and documentation needed for their application. The help desk phone number is 1 833 485-1334.

The State of New Mexico will either pay the landlord and/or the utility provider directly depending on the financial assistance request by the applicant.

Landlords and utility providers are encouraged to download a W9 and submit it to DFA via [ERAVendor.Relations@state.nm.us](mailto:ERAVendor.Relations@state.nm.us) as soon as possible to ensure a streamlined process for receiving payment information.

## NEW AT THE VILLAGE LIBRARY

New on-line services from the Los Lunas Library. Current Library Hours: Monday noon – 5 p.m.; Tuesday 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.; Wednesday & Friday; 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Thursday 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Sunday Closed.

- Live chat. Ask a question and chat with a library staff member. See this link: <https://tinyurl.com/48yzr4s>. You can also access this page from the library's web page at <https://www.loslunasnm.gov/103/Library> - click on "ask us" blue icon on lower left of screen.

Visit the library's FAQ page where you can look up answers to common questions or submit a question: <https://loslunasnmlibrary.libanswers.com/>

- Text a question to the library. Simply text from any phone service and your question will pop up at the library. The number to text to is 505-376-4008.
- NOTE: please be patient as library staff may be occupied when you submit a question.
- Video of the new on-line services from the Los Lunas Library (when library is open).
- Video of the book signing of the Casey Luna biography and interview with Luna at the Los Lunas Museum of Heritage & Arts. Go to this link to view the video: <https://tinyurl.com/xd77yvkd>.
- The book, "Casey Luna: A Colorful Life in Business, Politics, and Motor Sports Championships," is available for sale at the museum.

The museum and the museum shop are open to a limited number of visitors at one time. Open Tuesday thru Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.,. For more information, call the museum at 505 352-7720. Museum is closed Mondays.

## LITERACY VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED

The Valencia County Literacy Council still needs volunteer tutors.

Subjects to be tutored include Early Literacy (zero to five years), Adult Basic Literacy, and English as a Second Language (not required to be bilingual).

Volunteer requirements include being 18-years old; ability to read, write and speak English; able to tutor students two to three hours a week; and able to plan and prepare for tutoring sessions,

Visit the [valencialiteracy.org](http://valencialiteracy.org) or contact Executive Director Cassandra Montano at [edirector@valencialiteracy.org](mailto:edirector@valencialiteracy.org), or call 505 859-3414.

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



## 8TH ANNUAL STUDENT ART SHOW

The Village Museum of Heritage and Arts held its 8th annual Student Art Show earlier this year with the theme "Celebrations of New Mexico." Winners are:

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

**BEST OF SHOW:** Daniel Kiehne  
- homeschooled - 6TH grade  
- Title of Art - Native Celebration

**FIRST PLACE** tie between two:  
Sofia Valdovinos – homeschooled – 6TH  
- Rosie Watching Balloon Fiesta  
Jade Chavez – Gil Sanchez  
Elementary – 6TH  
- Pyramid Peak

**SECOND PLACE:** Daisy Sanchez  
- Desert View Elementary – 6TH  
- They Have Come

**THIRD PLACE:** Rayven Ward  
- homeschooled – 5TH  
- Lake Sunset

**HONORABLE MENTIONS** three:  
Elanor Boatwright – Katherine  
Gallegos Elementary – 4TH  
- Balloon Fiesta  
Kace Green – Valencia Art Academy  
- Kindergarten  
- Balloon Fiesta  
Isabella Griego – KGE – 4TH  
- Lucky Leprechaun

### MIDDLE SCHOOL

**BEST OF SHOW:** Kairi Rodriguez  
- Los Lunas Middle School – 8TH  
- Baile Folklorico

**FIRST PLACE:** Cesar Quinonez  
- Belen Middle School – 8TH  
- La Bota de Nuevo Mexico

**SECOND PLACE:** Kenya Gomez  
Parra – Valencia Middle School – 8TH  
- The Sanctuario de Chimayo

**THIRD PLACE:** Cohen Ahner  
- VMS – 7TH GRADE  
- New Mexico Harvest

**HONORABLE MENTIONS** three:  
Lily Genson – VMS – 7TH  
- The Stops Along The Way  
Izabella Cotinola – St. Mary's School  
Middle – 8TH  
- Albuquerque Skies  
Alexandria Pennello – VMS – 7TH  
- Masks On

Village Administration Office: 505 839-3840

### HIGH SCHOOL

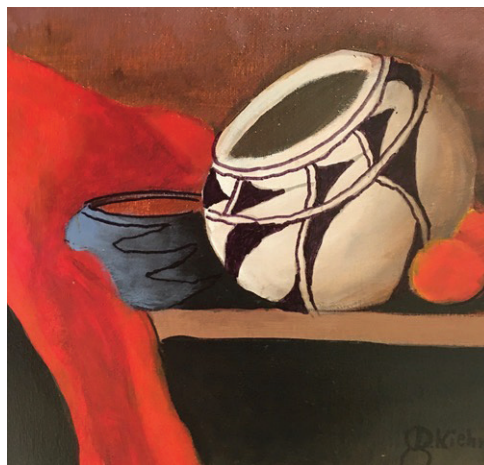
**BEST OF SHOW:** Guiniviere Mayse  
- Homeschooled – 11TH  
-- Matanza of a Lifetime

**FIRST PLACE:** Eliana Barela  
- LLHS – 11TH  
- Celebrating Holy Mary, Blessed Mother

**SECOND PLACE :** Taylor Wright –  
BHS – 11TH  
- Celebracion de la Cultura Nuevo Mexicana!

**THIRD PLACE :** Paisley Borenham  
- Homeschooled – 12TH  
- Celebration of New Mexico #3

**HONORABLE MENTIONS** three:  
Tia Bernal – LLHS – 12TH  
- Ivy Cup  
Ismael Ottley  
- Homeschooled – 11TH  
- Welcome to New Mexico  
Sophia Garcia – LLHS -10TH  
- Pueblo Shadows



*Best of Show*

## LOCAL EVENTS

*Saturday May 15, 2021 1 - 4 p.m.*

*Luna Mansion*

Main Street / NM Hwy 6 and  
NM Hwy 314

Book Signing for Eloisa Bergere  
Brown's Memoirs

"The Tale of Two Eloisas: Los Lunas  
to Santa Fe & Beyond"

**Monday, May 31, 2021**

**MEMORIAL DAY**

Village Offices Closed

Monday, May 31, 2021

Garbage Pick Up

Tuesday, June 1, 2021

Watch for:

New Mexico's Navy

at the Museum of Heritage & Arts  
May 2021

**Attend a Village Council Meeting**

6 p.m. Thursday, May 6, 2021

6 p.m. Thursday, May 20, 2021

660 Main St NW

Main Street and Don Pasqual  
Meeting will be conducted virtually.

Check agenda on Village website  
[loslunasnm.gov](http://loslunasnm.gov)

## COVID-19 VACCINE:

**REMEMBER  
YOUR**

**SECOND DOSE!!**

## THINGS TO REMEMBER WHEN WALKING

Walk on the sidewalk if there is one, points out Village Police Chief Naithan Gurule.

If no sidewalk, walk facing traffic. If there is no sidewalk and you must walk on the road, be sure to walk facing traffic.

Be safe. Be seen. Brightly colored clothing makes it easier for drivers to see you during the daytime.

At night, you need a flashlight or special reflective material on your shoes, cap, and jacket or on your arms or legs that bounce the car's lights off you and back to the driver.

This light should caution the driver that there is something or someone moving and they should slow down and be careful.

Darting out in front of a parked car is dangerous. The driver of the car coming down the street can't see you!

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