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Town of San Luis

N E W S L E T T E R

September 2020 — FREE

Coming to a Park Near You



The Town of San Luis is pleased to announce installation of the biking/walking trail and bike path features starting the first week in September. The park will remain closed during installation which should take about two weeks to complete. Once completed, the park will be open for use again. Of course, social distancing and mask-wearing measures will remain in place for public health safety.

The first phase, demolition of the old gym, took place in mid August. Phase two is installation of the walking/biking path and the children's bike playground. Future phases are a splash pad, concert stage, bike pump track and possible a skate board course—all designed to make a great outdoor play park for our San Luis kids and families.

The San Luis Board of Trustees is eager to make a positive difference in our community with this outdoor play park effort. Thanks to a grant from the Colorado Health Foundation this walking/biking path phase to the San Luis Community Park is now becoming a reality.

The Town of San Luis was also awarded a grant from the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) to purchase the adjoining 614 Main Street property in March 2020 as additional land for the park. This purchase adds .75 acres of land to the park area. There are future plans for restoration of the 1939 Helen Vigil adobe home. The use being considered is a bed and breakfast. The funds from the bed and breakfast will be used to help develop and maintain the park.

STAY INFORMED! Register for email updates from the Town of San Luis • www.townofsanluisco.org

Celebrating Labor Day



Labor Day 2020 will occur on Monday, September 7. Labor Day pays tribute to the contributions and achievements of American workers and is traditionally observed on the first Monday in September. It was created by the labor movement in the late 19th century and became a federal holiday in 1894. Labor Day weekend also symbolizes the end of summer for many Americans.

Why Do We Celebrate Labor Day? Labor Day, an annual celebration of workers and their achievements, originated during one of American labor history's most dismal chapters.

In the late 1800s, at the height of the Industrial Revolution in the United States, the average American worked 12-hour days and seven-day weeks in order to eke out a basic living. Despite restrictions in some states, children as young as 5 or 6 toiled in mills, factories and mines across the country, earning a fraction of their adult counterparts' earnings and wages.

People of all ages, particularly the very poor and recent immigrants, often faced extremely unsafe working conditions, with insufficient access to fresh air, sanitary facilities and breaks.

As manufacturing increasingly replaced agriculture as the wellspring of American employment, labor unions, which had first appeared in the late 18th century, grew more prominent and vocal. They began organizing strikes and rallies to protest poor conditions and compel employers to renegotiate hours and increased pay.

On September 5, 1882, 10,000 workers took unpaid time off to march from City Hall to Union Square in New York City, holding the first Labor Day parade in United States history.

The idea of a "workingmen's holiday," celebrated on the first Monday in September, caught on in other industrial centers across the country, and many states passed legislation recognizing it. Congress would not legalize the holiday until 12 years later, when a watershed moment in American labor history brought workers' rights squarely into the public's view. On May 11, 1894, employees of the Pullman Palace Car Company in Chicago went on strike to protest wage cuts and the firing of union leaders.

In the wake of this massive unrest and in an attempt to repair ties with American workers, Congress passed an act making Labor Day a legal holiday in the District of Columbia and the territories. On June 28, 1894, President Grover Cleveland signed it into law. More than a century later, the true founder of Labor Day has yet to be identified.

Source: History.com

Town of San Luis Awarded Design by Community Charrette Grant



Housing Colorado

Voice and action for affordable housing.

A Design Charrette is an intensive, hands-on pre-development workshop that brings people from different disciplines and backgrounds together to explore architectural and development options for a particular area or site.

The "Design by Community" Affordable Housing Design Charrettes Program series began at the 2010 Housing Colorado Now Annual Conference. Housing Colorado and University of Colorado Denver College of Architecture and Planning have continued to offer this program on an annual basis, serving communities throughout the state of Colorado.

Many of the projects that have participated in the Design Charrettes Program have made significant progress in their affordable housing development.

The Design Charrettes Program will provide an opportunity for the Town of San Luis to benefit from pro-bono, pre-development services for an affordable housing project just west of Centennial School. The Town owns 20 acres north of the Senior Citizen's center which will be developed into small affordable home sites.

A team led by architects and landscape architects will create af

fordable housing concepts for this 20-acre site.

Additional team expertise will include planners, engineers, finance experts, developers, and construction professionals. Collaboratively, these experts will be working with the San Luis community to create unique design solutions for the San Luis site. These experts will work with community volunteers to create unique design solutions for affordable housing for San Luis.

We are looking for volunteers interested in affordable housing, to be part of the Design by Community Charrette Program. Do you have an interest in architecture, landscape and community planning? Then join us as a volunteer. Due to COVID, this year the Charrette will occur over a 10-week period. Teams will meet virtually for 2-3 hours each week. For more information on the program or if you would like to become a volunteer please email Town Manager, Susan Sanderford at townofsanluis@icloud.com.

Thank you to Town Manager, Susan Sanderford for her grant writing skills, making this \$20,000 Charrettes Design Program opportunity possible for San Luis.

San Luis Board of Trustees Vacancies

The Town of San Luis has two open positions on the Board of Trustees. The Board meets the 1st and 2nd Tuesdays of every month. There will be special meetings as well. You must be a San Luis resident for no less than 12 consecutive months, live within the town limits, be a registered voter, and be a minimum of 18 years of age.

The Board is looking for energetic folks who are ready to roll up their sleeves and desire to make a positive difference in our community. If selected as a Trustee, the position serves a two-year term until April 2022.

If interested please send a letter of intent listing your qualifications, vision for the Town of San Luis and why you would like to become a Town Trustee to Town of San Luis, P.O. Box 200, San Luis, CO 81423. You can also deliver it to the town hall located at 408 Main Street; or email your letter of intent to townclerk@townofsanluisco.org.

Please consider stepping up and helping to make a positive difference in your hometown!

Town of San Luis Employment Opportunity

The Town of San Luis is seeking applicants to fill the position of Town Maintenance Worker. This position works under the general direction of the Town Manager, Mayor and Board of Trustees to perform a variety of maintenance tasks throughout the town. Receives work orders from the Town Board, Town Manager and Trustee Supervisor. Principal duties include maintenance and repair of town property, using a variety of machines, tools, and equipment; operates snow removal equipment to maintain town street and sidewalks; cuts grass and trims weeds on town property and parks, using lawn mower and weed trimmer.

Position must provide quality customer service with a positive, can-do, team player attitude. Ability to operate tractor, backhoe and other maintenance equipment a must. For a complete list of duties please pick up a Town Maintenance Job description with an application at the Town Hall, 408 Main Street.

Job Type: Part-time (25 hours per week)

Salary: \$12.00 per hour to start.

Experience: 1 to 2 years maintenance work.

Closing date for applications: September 18th, 2020, 4:00 pm

Drug testing and background check will be required.

Applications may be picked up at the Town Hall, Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. For more information call: 672-3321.

Town Hall Meetings

Currently Town Hall Meetings will be by conference call until further notice. If you would like to attend by phone please email townclerk@townofsanluisco.org

Town Hall Meeting - 6:00 pm

The 2nd Tuesday of each month

Board of Trustee Work Sessions - 6:00 pm

The 1st Tuesday of each month

Subscribe to Our Local Newspapers!

For more local and Costilla County news, be sure and subscribe and support our two area local newspapers.

La Sierra

P.O. Box 591
San Luis, CO 81152
\$22 per year in Colorado
\$25 out of state
Maria Martinez, Publisher
lasierra@gojade.org

Costilla County Free Press

P.O. Box 306
San Luis, CO 81152
\$22 per year in Colorado
\$24 out of state
Iva Gallegos, Publisher
costillacountyfreepress@gmail.com

Virus Information

Colorado HELP line 1-877-462-2911

(English and Spanish) for
Colorado general information.

Colorado updates and guidance:

<https://covid19.colorado.gov>

**CDC updates and
guidance:** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus>

Small Business

www.choosecolorado.com

Volunteer or Donate

www.helpcoloradonow.org

Safer at Home

All of Colorado and San Luis are still under the "Safer at Home" phase of the COVID-19 pandemic.

What Does This Mean for the General Public?

- Strongly advised face coverings and staying 6 ft apart in public.
- No gatherings over 10 people.
- Sick people may not go to work.
- Limit non-essential travel.

What Does This Mean for Older Adults and Vulnerable Populations?

- Continue to Stay at Home except when absolutely necessary.
- Utilize special industry hours for vulnerable populations.

What Does This Mean for Seeing Friends and Family?

- People should still limit interactions except with immediate household.
- If you do see limited family or friends outside of your household, be extra cautious to stay 6 feet apart, wear face covering, and limit contact.
- Stick to solo and non-contact recreation activities like running, walking, or hiking in your local community. Do not travel outside of your local community for recreation. Avoid contact sports or equipment.

The Town of San Luis asks all citizens to continue with the above safety measures to prevent any spread of the virus to family, friends and neighbors.

Support San Luis Businesses

ASC Electronics	672-0362
BeLeaf Wellness	206-3361
Family Dollar	672-0377
Carson Construction	298-0727
Central Oil	672-3840
Ernie's Barbershop	588-9942
GT's Trash Service	672-3601
Gus's Liquor Store	672-3331
Jacales Art Gallery	588- 6831
J&J Self Storage	672-3660
La Casa Canna Bis	672-4220
Mondragon's Tire	672-3325
Mrs. Rio's Restaurant Thai Kitchen	672-0211
Painted Sage	(303) 919-9937
Piccadilly Pizza	672-0340
R&R Market	672-3346
Romero Funeral	589- 9200
San Luis Inn	673-3399
San Luis Music	680-3933
San Luis Propane	672-4204
Sonia's Convenience	672-4461
Speedway Garage	672-9903