

Eddy County News Letter

November 2020

Issue #02

Contents

- Message from our Leadership
- Updates & News
- Employee Spotlight
- Eddy County in the Community

November Highlights

- 1st- Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 2nd- National Deviled Egg Day
- 3rd- Election Day
- 4th- National Candy Day
- 6th- National Nachos Day
- 8th- World Cappuccino Day
- 10th- Marine Corps Birthday
- 11th- Veterans Day
- 13th- World Kindness Day
- 14th- National Pickle Day
- 18th- Mickey Mouse Birthday
- 21st- National Stuffing Day
- 22nd- National Cranberry Relish Day
- 25th- National Parfait Day
- 26th- HAPPY THANKSGIVING!
- 27th- You're Welcomegiving Day
- 28th- Small Business Saturday
- 29th- Electronic Greetings Day
- 30th- National Mousse Day



MESSAGE FROM EDDY COUNTY LEADERSHIP...

Greetings Eddy County,

November should be a time of thanks giving. The past eight months have been challenging on many fronts, which might make some of that introspection regarding the aspects of our lives that we can be thankful for somewhat harder to find. But I think if we each look closely enough; we'll find we have an abundance to be grateful for. It has been one of my objectives to keep Eddy County "open" and working through the continually changing conditions. I'm grateful that our employees have stepped up to manage their daily job responsibilities to the best of their ability, given the work practices that have been implemented to reduce risk and exposure. I'm grateful that the budget that was put together, approved, and implemented will allow the County to provide the expected services to you, our customers, across the County.

You are probably aware that the number of COVID virus cases in the County continues to increase. The rate of increase has grown as well. Last July, the average number of positive cases averaged about 5 per day. In August the average was 8, in September that number was 12. To date for October, our average has been 22 positive tests per day. I hope that you're also aware of the efforts by Eddy County to limit exposure, to have those with possible exposure tested, and to try to isolate individuals while they recover. The objective for the County is to provide a safe work environment for our employees and citizens who enter our facilities.

Each of us has a responsibility and a role to play in contributing to a safe work environment and community. We need to look out for one another, be respectful and considerate of our family, friends, and co-workers, doing our part to insure we have a safe work place and county. Simple actions by each of us make a significant collective difference. Those simple actions include staying home when you're not feeling well, washing your hands frequently, and being aware of potential close contact situations (i.e. being aware of social distancing and face masks as you engage with the public). Thank you for doing your part helping prevent the possibility of spreading the virus in Eddy County.

It won't take long for November to turn into December. We'll celebrate Thanksgiving and look toward the year-end holidays. Remember that it's important to take time for yourself and recharge a little bit. Each of us needs to do our part to stay healthy in all senses of the word. So, make the time to take care of yourself and your families. And we'll do our best to take care of each other. We have much to be grateful and thankful for here in Eddy County. And I'm grateful and thankful that each of you are part of our Eddy County family. Take care...

Eddy County Manager,
Allen R. Davis

Updates & News

- Eddy County Public Works
- Flu Season
- Holiday Reminder

Eddy County Public Works



The Public Works department wants to remind citizens that the Eddy County Convenience Stations located on Derrick Road, in Happy Valley, and the Artesia Fairgrounds are now open from 6:00 AM- 6:00 PM.

Road updates include completion of Bounds Road, Hagerman Cutoff, the Joel Subdivision, and the Sherrill Acres Subdivision. Red Road is currently out to bid and designs are underway for Cherry Lane.

As NMDOT continues work on Highway 285, Eddy County has begun designs for upgrading/improving Old Cavern Highway and Black River Village Road. Discussions are underway with the Bureau of Land Management for repairs and improvements to Longhorn Road, Buck Jackson, and Twin Wells Road. These upgrades and improvements towards alternate routes have been made possible because of a partnership between NMDOT and Eddy County. The County is still seeking partnerships with area industry to match another \$5 million in order to complete alternate routes as Highway 285 construction progresses, and improvements of Highways 128 and 31 begin sometime next year.

A huge thanks and shout out to the Eddy County Public Works Department!



Flu Season



Flu season is here. People can catch the flu year-round, but flu season is generally between October and May.

Why should you get a flu shot? Flu can strike the healthiest of people. Getting your flu shot doesn't just help keep you and your loved ones healthy and safe – it reduces stress on our healthcare system. Don't leave it to chance, and don't wait – get your flu shot today. [Find your nearest provider here.](#)

Thanksgiving Holiday

The Eddy County offices will be closed beginning at Noon on November 25, 2020 thru November 27, 2020 in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Eddy County wishes you a happy and healthy Thanksgiving!



Eddy County Service Awards

Dametra Kartchner, SO
Administration and Records
Secretary- 10 years

Todd Kartchner, Public Works
Carlsbad- 5 years

Serapio Valles, Public Works
Carlsbad- 5 years

Wes Hooper, Community &
Administrative Services Director- 5
years

Employee Spotlight



This month's employee spotlight is Eulalia Stroman and her staff at Eddy County DMV- Artesia, who recently received this letter from a citizen.

Hello Ms. Stroman,

I hope this finds you well. I was so impressed with you and your colleagues today. There were a lot of things going on in m head (not just the usual voices) and getting my car title was making me nervous because I kept worrying that I would forget some document that mattered. You made all that go away.

Your colleague was very welcoming and I thought the systems you had in place really helped to protect our health. Even though my appointment was to get my car title, which had some time constraints, you also took care of my realID license and did not bat an eye. I really like smart people who anticipate what is needed and make it look easy.

The technique you used to mark items with a red "x" for me to complete, your clear explanation of what you were doing and what would be next, gosh, that was all gold. All the stuff you were doing seemed pretty complicated to me, but you shined that all up and made my part easy.

I suspect that this is all "normal" for you, but that assessment does not diminish my appreciation for your friendly demeanor, thoroughness, and solid professionalism. when I think about all my experiences with people in customer service job, particular those serving in complex positions with lots of regulations and rules, it make me appreciate you even more.

Kind Regards,
Eddy County Citizen

If you've experienced an Eddy County employee or department that has gone above and beyond to serve you, we want to know!
Email your experience to jstrong@co.eddy.nm.us

Eddy County in the Community

Eddy County
101 W. Greene Street
Carlsbad, NM 88220
575-887-9511
EddyCounty.org

COMMISSIONERS

Ernie Carlson, Chairman
District 1

Steven McCutcheon, Vice Chair
District 4

Jonathan A. Henry, Member
District 2

Larry E. Wood, Member
District 3

Susan Crockett, Member
District 5

COUNTY MANAGER

Allen Davis

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Gemma Ferguson
Assessor

Robin Van Natta
Clerk

Jay L. Francis
Probate Judge

Mark Cage
Sheriff

Laurie Pruitt
Treasurer



The Eddy County DWI Program continues to help keep Eddy County roads safe through prevention and education when it comes to impaired driving.

The program recently kicked off their 'Social Norming' campaign that focuses on 'Be The One and Don't Be The One' emphasizing personal choice. The campaign focuses on Social Norming to change attitudes, behaviors, and perceptions surrounding drinking and impaired driving. The DWI Program has contracted digital billboards in Artesia and Carlsbad which started in early July. The NMSU Carlsbad campus has graciously agreed to spread the message and will also advertise these messages digitally.

The program also just completed its Red Ribbon Week, the nation's oldest and longest drug awareness program. Though this year's program was done virtually due to COVID, it didn't stop Cindy Sharif and her staff from getting the message out. It even garnered national attention with a story published by MSN. You can find that article [HERE](#).

As the holidays are approaching, Cindy has this message for Eddy County citizens, "The holiday season is known for being merry and bright, but it is also known for being the deadliest season when it comes to impaired driving. DWI related crashes and deaths spike from Thanksgiving to New Year's. In 2019 on New Mexico streets and highways during November and December, there were 33 people killed in alcohol involved crashes. Every holiday season, lives are lost due to impaired drivers. Tis the season, celebrate it safely! Driving? Not even one Drink! 0.00 is the legal limit if driving."

Be the One to give the gift of life, Don't Drink and Drive!

