

# Eddy County News Letter

February 2022  
Issue #17

## Contents

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

## February Highlights

- 1<sup>st</sup>- National Dark Chocolate Day
- 2<sup>nd</sup>- National Groundhog Day
- 3<sup>rd</sup>- National Day the Music Died Day
- 4<sup>th</sup>- Bubble Gum Day
- 5<sup>th</sup>- Ice Cream for Breakfast Day
- 6<sup>th</sup>- National Chopsticks Day
- 7<sup>th</sup>- Send a Card to a Friend Day
- 8<sup>th</sup>- National Kite Flying Day
- 9<sup>th</sup>- National Pizza Day
- 10<sup>th</sup>- National Cream Cheese Brownie Day
- 11<sup>th</sup>- National Shut-In Visitation Day
- 12<sup>th</sup>- Global Movie Day
- 13<sup>th</sup>- National Tortellini Day
- 14<sup>th</sup>- Valentines Day
- 15<sup>th</sup>- Singles Awareness Day
- 16<sup>th</sup>- National Pancake Day
- 17<sup>th</sup>- Random Acts of Kindness Day
- 18<sup>th</sup>- National Caregivers Day
- 19<sup>th</sup>- National Chocolate Mint Day
- 20<sup>th</sup>- National Muffin Day
- 21<sup>st</sup>- Presidents Day
- 22<sup>nd</sup>- National Margarita Day
- 23<sup>rd</sup>- National Banana Bread Day
- 24<sup>th</sup>- National Chili Day
- 25<sup>th</sup>- National Clam Chowder Day
- 26<sup>th</sup>- National Pistachio Day
- 27<sup>th</sup>- National Strawberry Day
- 28<sup>th</sup>- National Chocolate Souffle Day



Photo Credit: Michele Robertson

## MESSAGE FROM EDDY COUNTY LEADERSHIP...

And just like that, January is over and the groundhog will be letting us know how soon Spring will begin.

Eddy County Facilities has some new employees to introduce:

- Custodian, Sabrina Mendez was hired back in August and is assigned to the Eddy County Sheriff's Office. Sabrina and I worked together at NMSU Carlsbad and I am so glad we got the opportunity to get her on our team.
- Facilities Manager, Trent Moore started in November and has been a great addition to the team. He has a strong HVAC and plumbing background along with a strong commitment to customer service.
- Maintenance Technician I, Alejandro Serrano also started in November. We were shorthanded in that spot for quite a while and it's good to have Mr. Serrano on board working with Josef to whip the grounds and parking lots back into shape.
- Custodian, Katy Oaks started working for Eddy County just after the New Year's Holiday. She lives in Artesia and is already doing a great job establishing her routines at our 5 buildings up there.

Eddy County Facilities Department hopes everyone's New Year is off to a good start. There is so much activity going on in each of the buildings that Eddy County Facilities staff serves daily. Many of the facilities are being utilized to their limits and the continuing COVID situation has really amplified some of the challenges that go with working in buildings built before (and after to some extent) 2000. To help identify and strategize the solutions to these challenges, The Eddy County Facilities Master Plan will soon be underway and is expected to take approximately 10-16 months to complete the entire scope of work. Those efforts will include facility condition assessments, space utilization analysis, stakeholder engagement, and capital improvement strategies.

Some facility related accomplishments to note so far in the current fiscal year are new roof coatings for the Administration Bldg and a large chunk of the "old jail" area of the Eddy County Detention Center, several new pickups to replace some old ones, parking lot resurfacing at the Eddy County Health Office in Carlsbad and Eddy County Extension Office, and some site drainage and xeriscaping improvements at the Eddy County Health Office in Artesia.

I, for one, am so appreciative to the entire Eddy County Facilities team. We continue to get pulled in a few directions at once and our priorities and efforts are constantly shifting to keep each of our buildings open to serve the public. Our facilities team does this with the grace and sophistication of a fine symphony orchestra most of the time and the intensity of a heavy metal garage band the rest of the time. I am a big fan of both styles.

Remember to be thankful and show appreciation for all the blessings in your life every day.

Eddy County Facilities Director,  
Brian Stephens

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'B. Stephens'.

# Updates & News

---

- Commission Approves Purchase of AEDs
- Holiday Hours

## Eddy County Commission Approves Purchase of AEDs, Cardiac Monitors, and Automated CPR Compression Devices for Fire & Rescue Units.



An AED, or automated external defibrillator, is used to help those experiencing sudden cardiac arrest. It's a sophisticated, yet easy-to-use, medical device that can analyze the heart's rhythm and, if necessary, deliver an electrical shock, or defibrillation, to help the heart re-establish an effective rhythm.

With changes made at Eddy County Fire & Rescue, including positioning of staff in divisions, Eddy County Fire & Rescue response has increased to EMS calls for service. Staff are arriving on scene well ahead of the ambulance and can begin diagnosis of patients prior to ambulance arrival with the installation of advanced cardiac monitors in staff units and AEDs in all fire apparatus.

“We believe this purchase allows this lifesaving equipment to be readily available to citizens throughout the county and available at the highest percentage of calls,” says Jarod Zuniga, Deputy Chief of Administration and Fire Marshal for Eddy County Fire and Rescue.

In addition to cardiac monitors and AEDs, Eddy County Fire & Rescue will be placing automated CPR compression devices in staff vehicles. “These devices, once placed, will handle all patient compressions without stopping and will operate even while moving and loading the patient which gives the best chances for survival,” says Zuniga.

---

## The Eddy County Administrative Offices will be closed Monday, February 21, 2022 in observance of Presidents Day

Sheriff's Deputies will remain on duty and a Road Department crew will be on call.



# Employee Spotlight

---



## **This month's employee spotlight is Dawn Reid**

Dawn began her employment with the Eddy County Sheriff's Office September 22, 2008 as a Records Clerk and was promoted to Records Supervisor in March 2013, where she currently remains. She has been employed with the Eddy County Sheriff's Office for 13 years and 4 months.

Her favorite things about working for Eddy County is the fact that we are a "family" oriented county entity, the opportunity to work with truly some of the best Eddy County citizens, not just within the Sheriff's office, but throughout every department and/or division within the entirety of Eddy County. "I am very blessed to be working for Eddy County as it offers great pay, excellent benefits, and so much opportunity to grow, expand, and reach a foreseeable goal of retiring from Eddy County", says Dawn.

Some of Dawn's hobbies include hunting, fishing, farming, traveling, gardening, prayer group, and attending as many roping's with her husband as she can.

In her spare time she loves spending time with her husband, spoiling her precious grandchildren, and taking care of her elderly parents, while trying to live life to the absolute fullest each and every day and not ever take anything for granted.

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](mailto:jstrong@co.eddy.nm.us)

## Eddy County Service Awards

- Richard Bannister- 20 years
- Tim Satterfield- 5 years
- Sherri Kurimski- 5 years

# Eddy County in the Community

## Eddy County Passes Illegal Dumping Ordinance Why It's Important for Our Community



Illegal Dumping at Lake Avalon

Eddy County and our citizens have always taken pride in our beautiful public and private lands. While we know that litter and illegal dumping have always been a problem and an eyesore, it has increased significantly and become much more of a nuisance in recent years. Because of this, Eddy County Commissioners approved an Illegal Dumping Ordinance at their regularly scheduled Commission Meeting on February 1, 2022.

While Eddy County understands this ordinance won't eliminate the problem completely, it is our hope that it will begin to deter people from illegally dumping through enforcement with possible fines and jail time. There are many trash disposal options available throughout Eddy County for public use, including within the Cities of Artesia, Carlsbad, and the Village of Loving.

Those locations are:

- City of Artesia Transfer Station, 2507 Pecos Ave.
- Artesia Convenience Station, corner of Fairgrounds & 13th St.
- Sandpoint Landfill, 164 Landfill Road
- Carlsbad Convenience Station, 301 E. Plaza
- Happy Valley Drop-off Station, across from shooting range on Happy Valley Road
- Loving Transfer Station, 45 Higby Hole Road
- Eddy County Convenience Station, 410 E. Derrick Road

Eddy County Commissioner, Ernie Carlson said, "This ordinance will now allow Eddy County Code Enforcement to issue citations where they could not before. This is a great move for the County and our citizens and is long overdue. Now we have a chance to stop people from throwing trash in their neighbors yards."

The ordinance is expected to go into effect the first week of March 2022.



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

### COMMISSIONERS

Steven McCutcheon, Chairman  
District 4

Fred F. Beard, Vice Chairman  
District 3

Ernie Carlson, Member  
District 1

Jonathan A. Henry, Member  
District 2

Sarah Cordova, Member  
District 5

### COUNTY MANAGER

Allen Davis

### ELECTED OFFICIALS

Gemma Ferguson  
Assessor

Darlene Rosprim  
Clerk

Jay L. Francis  
Probate Judge

Mark Cage  
Sheriff

Laurie Pruitt  
Treasurer