

2026

January Public Newsletter

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celebrate!

Happy Birthday!

Jimmy Bustamante 1/5

Lorenzo Cardona 1/6

Erica Mitchell 1/6

Justin Benavidez 1/11

Dickie Townley 1/13

Jeanie Garcia 1/17

John Anguiano 1/19

Jeri Burns 1/20

Adam Oropesa Jr. 1/23

Rafael Zamarron 1/25

Sarah Gallegos 1/26

Javon Molina 1/26

Jessica Hope 1/30

Israel Mariscal 1/30

City of Artesia Anniversaries

Kevin Hartley 20 yrs.

Jeanie Garcia 17 yrs.

Jason Jarrell 11 yrs.

Lisa Smith 9 yrs.

Anthony Heady 9 yrs.

Francisco Orosco 7 yrs.

Jose Zamarron 7 yrs.

Manuela Ramos 6 yrs.

Gabriel Villalobos 3 yrs.

David Gerle 3 yrs.

Maverick Grimm 3 yrs.

Nathaniel Valenzuela 2 yrs.

Lakevius Turner 2 yrs.

Annette Velasquez 1 yr.

Cristina Salazar Guerrero 1 yr.

Analisa Herring 1 yr.

Arturo Parra 1 yr.

Kyle Cones 1 yr.

Welcome, Linda Williams
& Jordan Williams!

Employee Spotlight

Jayde Burnell

What do you do as a Recreation Supervisor?

I oversee daily operations, programs and services that we provide and manage staff to aid in those areas.

What's your favorite part of working at the Rec Center?

The connections and relationships built with the community and youth.

What programs or services are you most proud of having?

The NFL Flag and Jr. NBA/WNBA programs. The dodgeball tournament is one of our favorite family events. I am also very proud of the hard work our staff has put in to improve the after-school and summer recreation programs.

How will your role change when you move over to the new rec center?

I will be the city representative for the Artesia Recreation Center, Artesia Aquatic Center, and Artesia Center. I will be working closely with the management company as well as city staff to bring in more programming, events, and services for all those buildings as well as looking to bring in some parks programming.

What do you like doing in your free time?

When I am not at work, I'm usually at church where I lead a special needs ministry and help with children's ministry. If I am free, I like to spend time in the mountains with family and close friends.

What inspires you in your daily life?

The biggest inspiration in my daily life is my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. My relationship with Him is what leads me to inspire others and guides me through each day.



Around Town

Dodging Through the Snow
5V5 co-ed dodgeball tournament
1/23 - 1/24 Artesia Rec Center

Dueling Pianos at the Ocotillo
1/29 5:30 PM

Artesia Public Library
Local Author Catherine Palmer 1/27 5:30 PM

Self Defense Artesia Public Library 1/17
10:00 AM

Artesia Senior Center
hosts dances every Saturday night at 7PM

Watch Aquaman at the Indoor Pool Movie Night
at the Artesia Aquatic Center 1/10 6:30 PM

2026 Vision Board Workshop at Artesia Chamber of Commerce
1/25 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

A Look Ahead



- **Legislative Town Hall - 1/12**
 - *Event hosted by the Chamber of Commerce. Meet with local reps before the state legislative session. Ocotillo Performing Arts Center; 5:30pm*
- **Minute with the Mayor - 1/13 & 1/27**
 - *Kith & Kin 8:30 AM*
- **City Council Meeting - 1/13 & 1/27**
 - *City Hall 5:00 PM*
- **Martin Luther King Jr. Day - 1/19**
 - *City offices will be closed in observance*

2026



Artesia Public Library Events

After Hours Game Night for Adults (January 8 @ 6:00)

It's back! An After Hours Game Night just for adults. We have a variety of games to choose from. Bring your snacks and get ready for some fun. Age 18+

Self Defense (January 17 @ 10:00am)

Varsity Academy of Artesia is at the library on the third Saturday of each month for a series of free community self-defense seminars. You are encouraged to attend all of the seminars, as there will be new techniques each month. This is an all ages event.

Teen Tuesdays (January 20 & 27 @ 3:30pm)

Looking for a place to read, study, or just do homework and hang out? Join us Tuesdays from 3:30-5:00pm. Ages 12-17

Children's Story Time (January 20 & 27 @ 10:00am)

For preschoolers ages 3-5 and their families. Includes crafts, reading aloud, alphabet awareness and early literary, fun science facts, music, and more, all organized around a different theme each week.

Toddler Time (January 22 & 29 @ 10:30am)

For toddlers ages 1-3 and their families. Music, creative movement, group activities, play with age-appropriate toys, and social time.

Lunch Bunch Book Club (January 26 @ noon)

The Lunch Bunch has a diverse selection of reads for the year. The selections for this group draw from multiple genres and reading formats. This month's Lunch Bunch selection is *The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman. Books are available at the library and on Libby. Age 18+

Local Author Catherine Palmer (January 27 @ 5:30)

Come meet local author, Catherine Palmer, author of the Miss Pickworth series and many other romance novels. Books will be available for purchase and signing. Sponsored by the Friends of the Artesia Public Library.

ARTESIA ANIMAL SHELTER PUPS OF THE MONTH



HARLEY, 2 YRS.

FEMALE FRENCHIE/LAB



MILLIE, 1 YR.

SHEPHERD MIX



STEVO, 2 YRS.

MALE HELLER MIX



MAGGIE, 4 MOS.

FEMALE SHEPHERD MIX



LIZZO, 2 YRS.

FEMALE SHEPHERD MIX

December 9th City Council Recap

Artesia Animal Shelter

An update was given from the animal shelter. 71 dogs were taken in by the animal shelter in November. The shelter has been making use of grant money to incentivize adoptions, but it's hard to keep pace with the amount of animals coming in. If you'd like to see what pets are available, you can visit their website or go to the shelter in person.

Stack Sports

Council approved an agreement between the City and Stack Sports. This agreement allows parents to register online for sports at the Artesia Rec Center for a small credit card fee. Paying in person is still an option, but we hope this will make it more convenient for busy parents.

PADS

Council approved another software upgrade for the city to allow forms from the city's website to be filled out, submitted, and approved online. This will streamline the approval process for forms like events applications, permits, and licenses. The option to manually fill out forms is still available. We are now working on the digital forms and will announce when the software is available for use.

December 29th Special Council Recap

County Housing Agreement

Eddy County recently allocated \$6.5M to City of Artesia for new housing projects. That money will be used for the purchase and initial development of land near Jaycee Park and land near FLETC. The money also provides additional funding for our housing incentive program. In order to meet the deadline of when the land needs to be purchased, the City called a Special Council meeting to get council approval. Council did approve.

Change to Housing Reimbursement Program

Developers currently can be reimbursed for the expenses of installing utilities. This change now makes it so they can also be reimbursed for the cost of adding roads for new housing developments. Council says this will give an extra push to developers who may be considering building in Artesia.

New Installation at Derrick Floor

Council gave approval to local Scout Troop 228 member, Charles Moreau to install a permanent flag display at the Derrick Floor as part of his Eagle project.

CITY OF ARTESIA JOB OPENINGS

Apply online here: [Open Jobs](#)

- Building Inspector I Electrical
- Community Service Officer (CSO)
- Facilities Maintenance Tech I
- Fire Lieutenant
- Lateral Firefighter
- Police Officer (Certified/Corporal)
- Police Officer (Uncertified)
- Senior IT Tech
- Water Supervisor
- Water Tech



Soar with the stories of
African Americans in Aviation History —
discover what these American aviators achieved and what they overcame.

BLACK WINGS

AMERICAN DREAMS OF FLIGHT

Opening September 10th, 2025
Artesia Historical Museum and Art Center

505 West Richardson Ave. Artesia, NM 88210

(575) 748-2390 | www.artesiamuseum.org



Tuskegee Airmen, 1944 | Photo courtesy of Library of Congress

The extraordinary works of the Tuskegee Airmen caused the black press to publicize not only their achievements, but those of other black servicemen. The press they both received led many to call for the end of racial segregation in American society.



Smithsonian Institution

MetLife Foundation

"Black Wings: American Dreams of Flight" was organized by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service in collaboration with the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum. The exhibition was made possible by the generous support of MetLife Foundation.



PRINT YOUR TRANS AERO MEMBERSHIP CARD

- **Permanent Eddy County residents are automatically enrolled in Trans Aero Medevac's free air ambulance program.**
 - **This means there is no remaining balance that needs to be paid you're flown by Trans Aero Medevac.**



THIS BENEFIT ONLY APPLIES TO TRANS AERO AND NOT OTHER MEDICAL TRANSPORT COMPANIES

- **To request that Trans Aero flies you in an emergency, print out the membership card and keep it with your driver's license or health insurance card. This will make sure that it's seen before you get flown anywhere.**

Trans Aero
MEDEVAC

**EDDY COUNTY RESIDENT
MEMBER**

This card signifies that the holder is a resident of Eddy County, and is enrolled in the Trans Aero MedEvac Membership Plan.

In case of an emergency that requires air medical transportation, please immediately call dispatch at
844-435-4911.

This membership is limited to residents of Eddy County, NM. Certain limitations apply.

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MEMBERSHIP CARD