

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Artesia Lobo Speedway
 Richard F. Martin
 PO Box 1172
 5 Miles South on 285 or
 2 ½ Miles West on Four Dinkus Rd.
 505-513-2482

Big M Answering Service
 Larry Reynolds
 PO Box 69105
 2308 Kermit Hwy
 Odessa, TX 79761
 Ph: 432-333-5878
 Fax: 432-580-5758

Carlsbad KOA
 Connie Manthei
 2 Manthei Rd.
 Carlsbad, NM
 Ph: 505-457-2000
 Fax: 505-457-2090
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Eddy County Fair Association
 Joel Bell
 PO Box 3273
 Carlsbad, NM 88221-3273
 505-513-1831
jdb@pvtm.net

Elected Officials Appreciation Dinner



Where can you see the Mayor's tie defaced, the president of a company wear a dubious balloon hat and a rendition of YMCA performed by a state representative complete with hard hat? The Annual Elected Officials Appreciation Dinner obviously.

The dinner was held on April 14th at the Artesia Country Club, in showing appreciation to our elected officials.

GREATER ARTESIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
 PO BOX 99
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 ARTESIA, NM 88211-0099
 505-746-2744 800-656-6251
commerce@pvtmnetworks.net
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Newsletter ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

A date has been set for the Chamber Annual Awards Banquet for June 2nd with Former Secretary of Commerce Don Evans as the guest speaker for the night.



Don L. Evans was the 34th Secretary of the U.S. Department of Commerce under the Bush administration from 2000-2004. His cabinet agency had 40,000 workers with a \$5.8 billion budget focused on promoting American business both at home and abroad.

As a former Oil and Gas executive he believes in free enterprise, corporate accountability and corporate stewardship. His main mission as secretary was a positive working climate for U.S. and world economic growth. President Bush and Don Evans shared the same belief that government does not create wealth and prosperity; people do. It is government's role to create the right conditions in which America's business will flourish.

The awards banquet is held each year to show our appreciation to the membership and to honor business and individuals who make a difference in our community. The banquet will be held at the First Baptist, TLC Center. Tickets are \$20.00 per person for chamber members and \$25.00 per person for non-chamber members. Doors will open at 6:00 p.m. with the program beginning at 6:30. Please remember that tickets will not be sold at the door.



NMSU @ AVTC Summer/Fall Classes to Begin

The Artesia Vocational Training Center has their Summer/Fall class schedule available now. These classes are available to take here in Artesia at AVTC located at 3205 W. Main. Classes which will be offered at AVTC include:



- NEC 2005 Update class** – May 7th
- EPA Certification Class** (refrigerant handling procedures)-June 11th & 18th
- Effective Communication Skills** – June 1 to July 27th
- General Composition** – June 1 to July 27th
- HVAC classes** – Fall 2005 (semester begins August 22nd)
- Educational Psychology** – Fall 2005
- Computer Drafting Fundamentals** – Fall 2005
- Word Processing Applications:** MS Word 2000 – Saturdays – September 24th, October 8th & November 19th
- CNA (Certified Nurse's Assistant)** – Sept 27th to October 26th

Community Service Classes including Computer classes are planned, but not yet scheduled. If you want more information or have any questions please call Gaelyn Mann at 746-4627.

Heritage Business of the Month

The Artesia Trailblazers hosted another Heritage Business of the month - Bennies' Western Wear.

Bennies Western Wear came into fruition in 1947 when a young local man named Bennie Mason decided to purchase a small boot repair shop located at 411 W. Main in downtown Artesia.

Bennie became proficient in repairing boots while working for his grandparents. Soon he was not only doing repairs but also selling everything from handmade boots, belts, to even ladies purses and saddles.

Bennie continued to expand his business and in 1957 he moved two blocks west next door to the current location. Then in 1961 he built the structure we see today.

Bennies Western Wear has become an institution in downtown Artesia and the Mason family has been a great part of the fabric of Artesia for 57 years.

Today Bennies Western Wear is in the hands of Jimmy Mason and his



Cinco de Mayo is scheduled for Saturday, May 7th at Heritage Plaza. The event will include a Parade on May 5th, Music Entertainment, Arts & Crafts Booths, Food Booths, Biker & Car Shows and much more. For additional information contact the Chamber at 746-2744.

Cottonwood Winery



The Artesia Trailblazers were in attendance for the Cottonwood Winery ribbon cutting ceremony Tuesday, April 19th. Owner Dale Taylor celebrated alongside his guests while they were served refreshments and sampled from his collection of New Mexico wines.

Weekly Monitor

The Chamber has recently started a new service called the Weekly Monitor. The Monitor is an online service that emails chamber members news from around the town regarding upcoming events, activities and meetings.

The Monitor started out as an experiment and has proven a success. If you, your business, group or church have an activity that you would like the community aware of please call us at 746-2744.

School's Out Summer Splash

Artesia MainStreet's 8th Annual School's Out Summer Splash is scheduled for 1-4 p.m. on Friday, May 27, at Central Park. It promises to be another fun celebration of the arrival of summer for everyone. As always, water, music and food will be the entertainment for the afternoon. If you are interested in having a booth to sell food or other items, or to pass out information about your organization, please call Artesia MainStreet at 746-1117 or the Chamber at 746-2744.

Artesia Drug & Crime Coalition

The Law Enforcement Action Group is chaired by Randy Pitts. This group meets regularly on the first and third Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. at PVT.

Faith Based Action Group chaired by Susie Taylor. They meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. at Trinity Temple.

The Legislative Action Group is a large group of citizens concerned with the impact which state laws have on local communities and with alternative plans for executing those laws. They are also interested in becoming proficient in the area of lobbying and its implications for our community.

The Treatment Action Group is chaired by Trudy Fogg. They meet on the second Monday of each month at 100 Hermosa Drive, Suite E.

The Special Events/Fund Raising Action Group is chaired by Richard Price. Their current project is "The Freedom Experience" a "No Drugs No Gangs Drink More Milk" production.

The Student Action Group is currently being reorganized with the help of faculty and administration at Artesia High School. This new group will consist of fifteen or more students who will meet and work with a nucleus of adult advisors to design their own programs and activities for the youth of Artesia.

The Prevention/Intervention Action Group is re-forming as a group of interested counselors, teachers and parents who are concerned with finding programs which will reach students before they become actively involved with drugs and alcohol.

For more information about these groups contact Susie Troublefield at 746-2744.