



Meet Michael Gardner, Workforce Solutions Veterans Rep

Michael Gardner is the new Department of New Mexico Workforce Solutions Veterans Representative. He is available to serve Lincoln County Veterans online anytime or in-person on Mondays at ENMU-Ruidoso. He has an associate degree in funeral science. He served in the U.S. Navy from 2001-2011, and worked for MidAmerica Mortuary Service in Kansas from 2012-2014, Lucas Funeral Home in Texas from 2019-2021 and has been with NM Workforce Connection JVSG since 2022. Michael is married with four children. He is originally from Maine, joined the Navy and has traveled the world. When his wife retired in 2021 they moved back to Tularosa, her hometown. He enjoys anything outdoors, gardening, and time with family. He has three dogs, three cats, four chickens and a hamster.



CTE Director John Rucker Named NMACTE Administrator of the Year

Director of Career and Technical Education (CTE) John Rucker has been named New Mexico Association Career and Technical Education (NMACTE) Administrator of the Year. This award recognizes administrative CTE professionals at the school, district, county, state or federal level who have demonstrated leadership in ensuring teacher and student success and have made significant contributions toward innovative, unique and effective career and technical education programs. John has built a program that has spread into many areas of the community, the college, and local high schools. Nominated by Education Department Chair Cleo Mow says, "One accomplishment that stands out is that he recently started the SkillsUSA competitions for high school and college students. Another recent accomplishment is the corrections mobile lab where he partnered with the Lincoln County Detention Center to offer construction trades certificate program. John oversees the development and support of the following programs; renewable energy, occupational safety and health, construction, EMS, fire science, Wildland Fire Science, Math for Construction, and Nursing. Additionally he has worked to increase the number of local students receiving their nurse assistant certificates."



Eastern New Mexico University Unveils New University Branding

ENMU Portales unveiled new academic and spirit marks in January. The new academic mark was chosen due to the symbolism in its design of the "M" of the New Mexico state flower, the Yucca. Other symbolisms that made this design stand out include the tradition of the ENMU mark and a united and strong/enduring concept. The new spirit mark refreshes the greyhound dog head, which many constituent groups have an affinity for. The redesign features increasing ENMU school colors, refining the lines and small details, improving the neck, and making it look more like a Greyhound dog. There was also an affinity for bringing back the full-body Greyhound, an ENMU staple for over 80 years.



Upcoming Events

February

5 Monday

- SkillsUSA meeting, Rm201, 5:30-7p



7 Wednesday

- Feed Your Brain: Stephanie Long presents *Work in Progress: The Wingfield Heritage House Museum*, Learning Commons, 12p

Stephanie Long
Museum Manager & Curator,
Wingfield Heritage House Museum



Work in Progress:

The Wingfield Heritage House Museum



This spring, a new museum will open in Ruidoso. Renovation has been completed on the Wingfield House and work is underway to turn it into a museum. This discussion will cover the history of the house and the Wingfield Family, as well as the status of the project and how community members can get involved.

Learn More Feb. 7 · Noon to 1 p.m. · ENMU-Ruidoso Learning Commons

- Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce/Lincoln Co. Day Legislative Reception, Drury Plaza Hotel, Santa Fe, 5:30-8:30p

9 Friday

- Region IX Crisis Prevention Training, Rm 106, 8a-12p

13 Tuesday

- NM Higher Education/Adult Ed/PTK Day at the State Capital, Santa Fe, 8a-3p

16 Friday

- ENMU Board of Regents Meeting, Rm201, 1p

17 Saturday

- ENMU Alumni Assoc. Meeting, Rms201 & 202
- Tunstall Lecture Tour, Rm106, 10a-1p