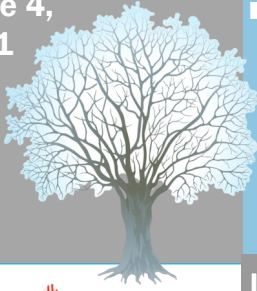


Volume 4,  
Issue 1



# The City Voice

January 2018 Edition



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## In This Month's Newsletter:

- Employee Spotlight
- Upcoming Municipal Election
- Business Registration Deadline This Month
- Ugly Sweater Costume Contest, and Door Decorating Contest Winners
- A message from your Fire Department

## Employee Spotlight

One of the most stressful places for many people to visit is court. The average person does not typically look forward to it because the average person is not typically there for an enjoyable reason. It takes a certain kind of patience and personality to work at a Municipal Court, and that is why their supervisor chose our Municipal Clerks to spotlight this month.

"The Municipal Court Clerks have a combined 49 years of experience between Latrisca Brown, Melissa Benson, Nancy Tovar, Yolanda Harwell, and Mystica Maldonado. Municipal Courts in general see more people than any other courts. In 2016, the Municipal Court handled over 18,000 cases and over 12,500 in 2017. Although the numbers have decreased, the Municipal Court is a very busy place! These clerks don't receive enough recognition for what they do on a daily basis. They are the ones on the front lines everyday assisting the public. A day in the life of Municipal Court consists of servicing anywhere from 30 - 80 people in a given day. After September 5, 2016,

when the hours of operation changed for the Municipal Court, these clerks made sure that we always have two clerk's at the window to assist the public at all times. Sometimes, that means covering for one another and leaving to lunch late or just offering to skip lunch in

order to assist. This has made the Municipal Court more accessible to not only the public but surrounding agencies as well. These clerks work as a team and come together for the greater good of the Municipal Court. These clerks each have something very unique they bring to the table and are truly a great asset to the Municipal Court. I really can't say enough about each individual clerk and what they stand for. They have embraced the new rules, procedures, etc., and are always coming up with new ideas to make their jobs more efficient. Therefore, I

would like to recognize and shine the light on the faces that the public sees on a regular basis. They are the clerks on the front lines of the Municipal Court."

- Shannon Carter



## Upcoming Events

**January 2** - City Commission Meeting at 6 pm

**January 9** - Candidate Filing Day

**January 10** - Father Daughter Dance Tickets on sale! - Dance is on Feb. 2

**January 15** - Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday (City offices will be closed)

**January 16** - City Commission Meeting at 6 pm

**January 21** - 2018 Lifeguard Class (more to come, see inside for details)

**January 31** - Business Registration Deadline

**March 6** - 2018 Municipal Election

**June 2** - CORE "GO Day" - Grand Opening!



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## Upcoming Municipal Election

by Jan Fletcher and Mollie Maldonado



The municipal election process is officially underway! Election Day is *March 6, 2018*. **Candidate Filing Day is Tuesday, January 9, 2018.**

Individuals wishing to run for an elective municipal office must file a Declaration of Candidacy at the City Clerk's Office located at City Hall, 200 East Broadway, on Tuesday, January 9, 2018, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. At that time, the City Clerk will accept the required documentation from individuals wishing to be certified as municipal candidates.

Positions to be filled on the ballot are:

- One City Commissioner for District 2 for a four-year term
- One City Commissioner for District 4 for a four-year term
- One City Commissioner for District 5 for a four-year term
- One City Commissioner for District 6 for a four-year term
- One Municipal Judge at large for a four-year term

The municipal election is open to all registered voters within the City limits of Hobbs.

If you are not registered to vote, or if your name or address have changed, the deadline to register is *February 6, 2018*. Voter registration forms are available in the City Clerk's Office, or you can register online at the New Mexico Secretary of State's website at [www.sos.state.nm.us/](http://www.sos.state.nm.us/).

More information will follow in the next newsletter on absentee voting dates, polling locations and voter photo identification requirements. Also, follow the City of Hobbs City Government on Facebook for continuous updates!





## Business Registration Deadline This Month

by Jan Fletcher and Mollie Maldonado

The calendar year 2018 business registration renewals were mailed to 1,865 businesses on December 1, 2017. The Hobbs City Code requires that all businesses located within the city limits must obtain a business registration each calendar year. Renewals may be obtained in the City Clerk's Office at City Hall or renewed online at [www.hobbsnm.org](http://www.hobbsnm.org) "Citizen Self Service".

Wednesday, January 31, 2018, is the last day business registrations can be renewed without paying a late penalty. Beginning February 1, 2018, a \$10.00 late penalty will be added to all unpaid business registrations.

If your business is no longer in operation, has a new owner, change of address or if you did not receive your business registration renewal, please contact the Clerk's Office at 575-397-9200.

# LIFEGUARD CLASSES

## 2018 SCHEDULE

**January 7, 8, 11 & 13**

**January 21, 23, 25 & 27**

**February 4, 5, 8 & 10**

**February 25, 27, March 1 & 3**

**March 11, 13, 15 & 17**

**April 8, 10, 12 & 14**

**April 23, 24, 26 & 28**

**May 6, 8 10 & 12**

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## We are pleased to announce this year's City of Hobbs Ugly Sweater Costume Contest Winners, and they are....

While the competition was tough this year with many ugly sweaters, we finally narrowed it down to two winners!

**Julia Henry**, from the Engineering/Planning Department, placed first with a truly UGLY sweater ;). The busy design full of bows, bells, and Christmas treats just screams "Christmas Spirit." You can see every bit of work that went into this sweater, and it looks like all that time paid off!

Good Job, Julia!



**Manuel Huerta**, from the Cemetery Division, placed second this year as Nacho Libre! This sweater ensemble was so unique, it's no wonder he won. From the ornaments and stockings to the mask, it's clear to see that this wrestler knew exactly what he was doing. Nicely done, Manuel!



## This Year's Door Decorating Contest Winners!

A Christmas tradition we have done for several years here at the City is to decorate the doors of our offices in different Christmas themes. This year's doors were incredible!

Here are the first, second, and third place winners.



In first we have the **Cemetery** with a door decorated to portray the classic Christmas movie "Miracle on 34th Street." The beautiful twinkle lights and street pole with cotton fluff as snow gave such a lovely touch to the whole door!

In second is **Golf Maintenance** with a Charlie Brown door! The colorful Christmas lights across the door and the small tree with the single ornament really made this theme work. Ain't it funny how the division in charge of the greens has the most barren tree? ;)



Last but not least, in third we have the **Water Office** with a door decorated with "Tim Woomer National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation." The bright colors and lights are delightful to look at, and it's not surprising they placed! Plus, when you get to pick on your Department Head, how can you not be recognized?!



***Congratulations to all our winners and participants this year! We wish all a joyful & prosperous 2018!***

## A message from your Hobbs Fire Department by Brandon Roberts



This time of year possesses its own concerns when it comes to electrical safety in the home, as well as at work. We cannot stress enough the safe use and handling of space heaters and extension cords.



- Never attempt to extend the length of an extension cord by connecting it with another extension cord.
- Space heaters are not very often built to the highest standards, which can lead to a fire in the home. The electrical current which is drawn from the receptacle is generally in the ballpark of 1500 watts, or 12.5 amps.
- When using a cord indoors, or out, the cord should be listed for indoor or outdoor use, and only be used in a temporary fashion.
- If an appliance is plugged in outside, unless it is wired permanently, it should be plugged into a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) receptacle, and use a cord of the appropriate size if the outdoor receptacle is too far away for the appliance.
- Only use bulbs that are *labeled* for use in

enclosed fixtures to prevent dangerous heat buildup.

- Extension cords are not designed to be used permanently as the longer the cord, the more resistance is encountered when supplying power to an appliance.
- If furniture is placed on top of a cord creating a kink for example, this can weaken the protective insulation for the wiring leading to a potential fault between the positive and negative leads, which can arc and ignite the cord, as well as any common combustible in close proximity to the insipient fire.
- The tight winding of extension cords can create weak spots in the insulation. If the cord gets warm during use, this could be an avenue for a fire.
- Moisture can also work its way into electronic mechanisms of appliances, and create malfunctions with the unit. This can create an avenue for heat as the unit could malfunction while plugged in and unattended.
- When storing electrical products, prevent exposure to moisture by using containers or boxes to hold them.

Case in point, unplug outdoor appliances when not in use to help prevent accidental fires. In regards to outdoor use of extension cords, pay attention to the weather, as well as other sources of moisture.

We thank you for taking your time to educate yourself to prepare and ensure the safety of yourself and those around you. For more tips and information, you can follow the Hobbs Fire Department on Facebook or call the Fire Prevention Division at (575)397-9308.