

Volume 2,
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May 2016

The City Voice



May 2016 Edition



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THINGS to COME by J.J. Murphy, City Manager

School is out and the heat is rising. That means that the City is entering another busy season this Summer, with numerous events and activities scheduled to entertain the young and the old. Be sure to make the City Parks and Rec offices one of your first stops when planning out your child's summer activities or looking to reserve a location for one of your events.

There are many new projects in the works for the city of Hobbs, New Mexico, all of

which will increase the amount of Summer activities and make our Parks and Rec office even busier. An indoor recreation facility and a newly renovated City Park are on the list of projects this Summer. It is thanks to meaningful public-private partnerships with organizations within our community that this is all possible. They have been a great example of how coming together truly increases opportunities and makes our community stronger.

As I stated in our previous

Newsletter, "our town is still growing and has the best to come."



OUR MISSION IS S.E.R.V.I.C.E.

- SAFETY
- ENGAGED TEAM MEMBERS
- RESPONSIVE
- VISIONARY
- INCLUSIVE
- CUSTOMER DRIVEN
- ENHANCE QUALITY OF LIFE

Upcoming Events

May 28 - ALL POOLS OPEN

Open 7 days a week until August

June 6 - Swim Lessons begin

Contact the Parks and Rec office at 575.397.9291 to register and for more information.

June 6 - City Commission Meeting, 6 p.m.

June 18 - Lea County Aviation Day

June 20 - City Commission Meeting, 6 p.m.

July 28 - Titanic Artifact Exhibition opens at the Western Heritage Museum



Your Part in Preventing Wildfires

Due to recent high winds, please be aware of the different levels of fire warnings issued by the National Weather Service. A Red Flag Warning is issued for weather events that may result in extreme fire behavior that will occur within 24 hours. A Fire Weather Watch is issued when a weather conditions could exist in the next 12 to 72 hours.

A Red flag Warning is the highest alert. During these times, the public is urged to be extremely cautious, because a simple spark could cause a major wildfire. A Fire Watch is one level below a warning, but a fire danger is still high. Factors that influence the spread of wild fires are:

- Weather (Wind, Temperature, and Relative Humidity), Fuel, and Topography.
- Wind increases the rate and the direction of the spread of fire.
- Relative Humidity and Temperature mainly effect fuel.

Types of Weather Pattern that cause a watch or warning include low relative humidity, strong winds, dry fuels, the possibility of dry lightnings strikes, or any combination.

Tips to help stop Wild Land Fires:

- Dispose of smoking materials in an appropriate container and make sure it is completely extinguished. Do not throw these items into any open area as they may start a fire that will spread rapidly.
- Do not throw cigars or cigarettes out of your vehicle when traveling.
- Do not burn or trash without appropriate approval from your local fire department.
- Proceed with caution when using outside grills or cooking equipment during these times. If you must use outside cooking equipment, make sure you have some type of extinguishing agent nearby (e.g., water hose, bucket of sand, fire extinguisher).



Join your Hobbs Police Department
for coffee, doughnuts, & open discussion
on Wednesdays 7-9 AM for
Coffee with Cops

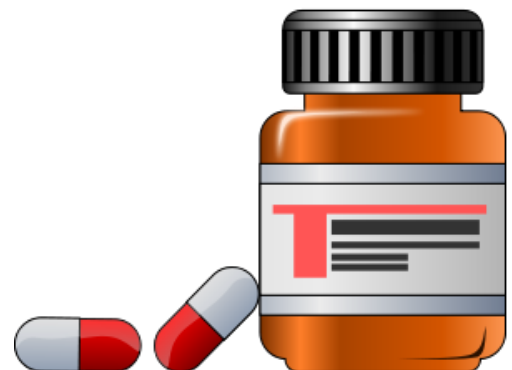
Call (575) 391-4169 for more details

National Take Back Day

The Hobbs Police Department, the Community Drug Coalition of Lea County and Walgreens teamed up for the Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA) Annual National Take Back Day. Citizens brought their unused, unwanted, or expired prescription medications to the HPD/CDC booth in front of Walgreens located at 1401 North Turner or the Walgreen's at 801 West Joe Harvey, located at the corner of Joe Harvey and Grimes on Saturday, April 30th from 10:00am to 2:00pm. The service was free and anonymous with no questions asked. Including both location, over seventy-two pounds of prescription medication was given for destruction.

Annually, during Take Back Day, Americans turn in over 120 tons of prescription drugs at nearly 4,100 sites nationwide operated by the DEA and more than 3,000 law enforcement agencies.

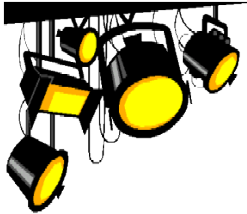
The medications are picked up and destroyed by the DEA. The Hobbs Police Department want to thank all of those who participated in any way. You have helped to make our City that much cleaner and safer!



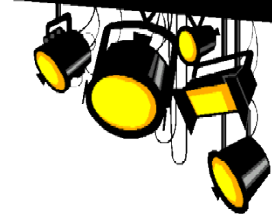
Hobbs DOWNTOWN SLAM & JAM

The second Hobbs Downtown Slam & Jam was held last month, and it definitely went out with a bang! With over 180 teams participating in the 3v3 Gus Macker Basketball Tournament, there was a mud volleyball tournament, a free concert, a talent show, numerous nonprofit organizations that participated by hosting a booth near the 12 different food and beverage vendors. It was truly the place to be April 23rd and 24th as basketball teams from as far as Michigan travelled to compete. The City of Hobbs is truly thankful to the Gus Macker organizations, the community, businesses, and sponsors of Hobbs, and all of those who came out and enjoyed the Hobbs Downtown Slam & Jam with us. We look forward to improving and hosting an even better event for our community next year!

The winners of the Talent Show, hosted by Center of the Arts were as follows:



First Place - Monique Ford
Second Place - Aurianda Guerrero
Third Place - Destiny Awaits
Honorable Mention - Ashley Jenkins



City Announces New/Return of Hobbs Fire Chief Manny Gomez



The City of Hobbs announced the selection of retired Hobbs Fire Chief, Manny Gomez, as the next Fire Chief. Manny Gomez previously served as Fire Chief for the City of Hobbs for 12 years, with a total of 22 years fire service. Gomez was one of four candidates interviewed for the position of Fire Chief after the resignation of former Chief Eric Enriquez.

Gomez previously lived and served in Artesia, and has lived in Hobbs since 1991, where he and his wife Yvonne have raised their two children, Andre and Emme. Before coming to Hobbs, Gomez served as a firefighter at the Artesia Fire Department and then the NASA White Stands Test Facility between 1985 and 1991. Gomez holds a Bachelor's in Business, an Associate's in Fire Science, and an Associate's in Criminal Justice. He is a Desert Storm veteran and has completed numerous National Fire Academy courses in areas such as Executive Fire Officer, Leadership, and Incident Management System requirements. Gomez has stayed involved with the City of Hobbs since his retirement as an independent contractor for the City.

"I am eager to return to the comradery I experienced before in the Hobbs Fire Department," said Gomez. "I look forward to the strategizing each and every day in this position to make the community as safe as possible while serving with the troops to deliver the highest quality of service. I appreciate the support from my family first and foremost, as well as am thankful to the City Manager J.J. Murphy, Mayor Sam Cobb, and Hobbs City Commission for the opportunity to reunite myself with the Hobbs Fire Department. I can't wait to hit the ground running."

City Manager J.J. Murphy stated, "Manny Gomez is an ideal leader for the position of Hobbs Fire Chief. I expect him to motivate and inspire the Hobbs Fire Department employees. I am happy to have him rejoin the leadership team of the City of Hobbs after being gone for 3 years. He will continue to uphold a high level of service and excellence that is expected of our EMS and firefighting professionals."

Gomez's first day in the position will be June 6th.

*Lea County Regional Airport
Hobbs, NM*

Saturday, June 18th 2016

Airplanes, Helicopters and More!

Games, Activities, Food



2nd Annual

FlyHobbs

Aviation Day and Fly In!



Entry is FREE!

Lea County Regional Airport

6601 W. Carlsbad Hwy

Hobbs, NM

Saturday, June 18th 2016



One of the best family events in Lea County!

Event will include a raffle for free United Airlines tickets, games, military aircraft, helicopters, airplanes, food trucks, and much more.

Gates are Open

8 am. to 1 pm.

www.flyhobbsaviationday.com





Water Conservation Period

The Water Conservation Period (WCP) will be from May 15th until September 15th this year. Water restrictions during the WCP include domestic and commercial water usage for garden, lawn, or other exterior watering or sprinkling application. Such water usages may be applied from the water mains of and upon the premises of a property's designated days. A property owner's days to water are designated by the number of their address; odd numbered addresses water on odd calendar dates and even numbered addresses water on even calendar dates between the hours of 4:00 am – 8:00 am or 7:00 pm – 11:00 pm. You must pick one of these times, not both. If a particular property has two addresses, the address listed on the consumer's account with the City's Utilities Department shall control the day. For months with 31 days, no watering shall be done on the 31st day of the month.

Additional water-wasting regulations during this period include:

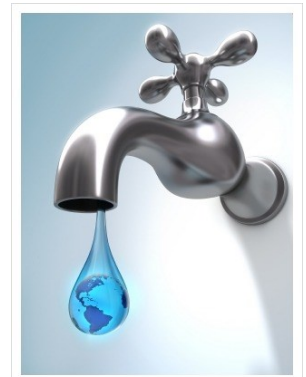
- No person, firm, corporation, municipal, other government facility or operation shall waste, cause, or permit any water to be wasted.
- Water wasting activities that are prohibited include:
 - ⇒ Landscape watering on the incorrect day and/or during both time slots
 - ⇒ Allowing water to escape from any premises onto public property, such as alleys or streets, or upon any other person's property
 - ⇒ Washing vehicles, structures, driveways, sidewalks, parking areas, or other impervious surface areas with an open hose
 - ⇒ Operating a misting system in unoccupied non-residential areas
 - ⇒ Operating a permanently installed irrigation system with a broken head or emitter, or with a head that is spraying more than 10% of the spray onto the street, parking lot, or sidewalk
 - ⇒ Failing to repair a controllable leak, including a broken sprinkler head, a leaking valve, a leaking faucet, a leaking toilet, or a leaking supply line or pipe

A fine may incur if the regulations related to the WCP are not followed.

The WCP was first established in Chapter 13.20 of the City of Hobbs Municipal Code as an attempt to curb wasted water in the city, particularly during the hottest, driest months of the year when rainfall is at its lowest. During the last calendar year of 2015, over 350,000,000 gallons of water were saved.

If you need help adjusting your irrigation system, please give us a call and we will be happy to help you comply with this new law.

For Billing and Customer Service, call (575) 397-9216. For Emergency, Weekend, Holiday, and After Hours Service, call (575)397-9315.



Team Belize

During Spring Break, it is common for many to travel to destinations of sunshine and tropical weather. That was partially the truth for a few of our Hobbs Police Officers and Firefighters. HPD Sergeant Scott Keenan, HPD Sergeant Thomas Stoddard, HPD Lieutenant Danny Garrett, HFD Captain Travis Collins, and HFD Captain Keith Akin traveled along the Caribbean coast to Belmopan, Belize. The skies were blue, the waters clear, and the sun warm. None of that was what these men were there for, though. Members of the Hobbs Fire and Police Departments were in Belmopan to educate these Belizean police officers through a mission trip coordinated by Crosswinds Community Church.

These men traveled to a place of relaxation to conduct Belmopan's first responders on subjects such as defensive tactics (Garrett), weapon retention on the ground or on one's back and standing takedowns (Stoddard), usage of EMS/CPR/First Aid equipment (Collins), and overall first response services and techniques. Captain Akin was also a member of the crew who worked on building a new home for underprivileged girls who have been or are at risk of being victims to sex trading. This crew put up the walls and siding of a house that will be well-protected and isolated from further abuse and kidnapping. The Hobbs first responders were able to work with the Belize Police Force and Jungle Patrol, a force that resembles Border Patrol for the United States. Each day began with Scripture, which was something the Belize team greatly welcomed. It stimulated discussion and reminded both sides of why they were there. Scott Keenan commented on the Belizeans being "community-oriented individuals." However, he explained that although the Hobbs team was there on a mission trip that that there was an understanding between everyone that "We believe what we believe. We're accepting you, but I'm not pushing anything on you."

The group explained that there didn't seem to be a single leader among themselves, but that the group seemed to function as one. It didn't matter what the subject was, what level of equipment the Belizeans possessed, or what their experiences were, because both sides were able to relate. As Thomas Stoddard stated, "They go on the same calls and deal with the same situations." It was one First Responder to another. The Police Officers in Belize also happen to be the EMS.

Between the diet of chicken, beans, and rice, packed 15-16 hour long days, recording and reviewing over 20 hours of the class on film back at the hotel, and experiencing how grateful the Belizeans were of the training and equipment that American agencies are required to have, each missionary felt that although they were guests in a foreign country the Belize team made them feel like they were at home. During the ceremony at the end of the week, the Belizean Officers sang the American Anthem, declared one hour of every day to defense tactic training for every member, and at the end when the Jungle Patrol about-faced, they ripped the badges off their uniform and handed them to the members of the Hobbs team, saying "You are now Jungle Patrol."

To get away from the television, cell phone, and all constant daily distractions provided the Hobbs team a time to "reboot." They returned feeling lower stress levels and a different prioritization system, having experienced what it is like to travel to a third world country without the endless diversions we feel every day. Strong ties between the multiple Hobbs citizens that did not exist prior to the trip are now helpful with preparations for next year's trip. Canine Officer, Matute, has been left in charge of continuing the defensive tactics training in Belize and these dedicated Police Officers and Firefighters are already looking forward to another trip of breaking down barriers and strengthening bonds that will result in a stronger police force and safer areas. These individuals know that without constant challenge and growth there will be no progress, and they are respected for their commitment.

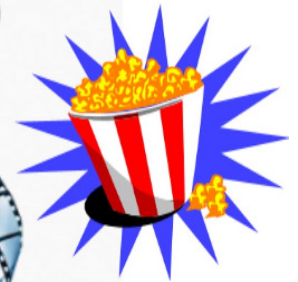
Parks and Rec 2016 Summer Activities

Spring 2016 - Log on to set up your account to register for Swim Lessons and Specialty Classes. Registration opens online April 28 and in person at the Parks & Recreation office on April 29th. With this service we will also keep you posted on upcoming events so you never miss out, and we also send you a link to our NEW online flipbook!

<http://activenet.active.com/hobbsnm>



**FREE
EVENT!**



* ALL DATES, TIMES, AND EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. *

All Pools Open, May 28th - Grab your suit, kids and sunscreen and visit our outdoor aquatic facilities for the coolest time in town! Open 7 days a week, until August.



Dog Daze of Summer September 10th - Bring your pooch to the pool for a howlin' good time. With a shot clinic, pet info booths, contests and more, we guarantee a good time for you and Man's Best Friend!

Hooked On Fishing, Aug. 6th - Join us at Harry McAdams Park for a Fishing Derby hosted by NM Game & Fish and Parks & Recreation! Prizes will be awarded in several categories for ages 11 & under.



Warrior Award



May

I am recommending Officer Kirk and K9 Sam for their exceptional work during the month of April 2016, which so happens to be K9 Sam's first month on Patrol.

During this month, K9 Sam and Officer Kirk were directly involved or assisted in obtaining nine search warrants leading to the recovery of illegal narcotics and/or contraband, to include; Marijuana, methamphetamine, Crack Cocaine, syringes, and other paraphernalia.

K9 Sam and Officer Kirk were also utilized to locate offenders that had ran from Officers. On April 20th, Lea County Sheriff's Department requested assistance due to a subject that had fled from them. K9 Sam had tracked the subject for over a mile and found him hiding in some bushes. Hector Aguilar was identified and arrested. On April 28th, K9 Sam was deployed after a subject was observed inside of a closed business and had ran from Officers. K9 Sam tracked a subject, Ubaldo Anchando, and found him lying in some bushes. He was charged with Commercial Burglary and Resisting, evading, obstructing an Officer.

During this month, Officer Kirk and K9 Sam made a total of 19 arrests.

This type of work not only shows both of their commitment to the Hobbs Police Department, but their dedication to the citizens of Hobbs and keeping them safe." - Nominator of K9 Sam and Officer Jeremy Kirk, Captain Shane Blevins



We're on Twitter!

Do you have a Twitter account? Do you follow the City of Hobbs on Twitter?! Well, you should! We share up-to-the-minute photos, Periscope videos, and notices throughout the week to keep you informed and help you to manage your week. Whether it is a construction notice or news about the latest award given to a City of Hobbs employee, you will be the first to know once you've followed our Twitter account!

So log on and follow the City of Hobbs [@CityofHobbs](#)

Other City of Hobbs Departments on Twitter:

Hobbs Police Department [@HobbsPolice](#)

-receive information about current news on investigations and activities going on within HPD)

Hobbs Parks and Recreation Department [@CityofHobbsNM](#)

-stay up to date with Parks and Rec activities during the Summer and throughout the year!

Hobbs Public Library [@HobbsLibrary](#)

-keep up with the multiple programs for multiple age and interest groups

Rockwind Community Links [@RockwindGolf](#)

-find out about and keep in touch with one of the world's top golf courses and all it has to offer



J.J.'s Final Thought:

"Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning."- Benjamin Franklin



The City of Hobbs will be hosting the New Mexico Municipal League Annual Conference on August 30 – September 2, 2016. Approximately 600 – 800 attendees from cities, towns and villages all across the State will be traveling to Hobbs to view our beautiful city during this conference!