



Special points of interest:

- ◇ Spillman Technology Activation
- ◇ Hobbs Public Library's New Program
- ◇ First Two CORE Employees Introduced
- ◇ Fire Chief and Fire Inspector Awards
- ◇ Warrior Award

Employee Spotlight

"That's what team members do! They step up and help each other out," Patricia Miranda explained so matter-of-factly when asked how she and Valerie Rojas were able to motivate themselves to manage all the extra responsibilities when a coworker went on maternity leave.

Every employee of the City of Hobbs has had the pleasure of meeting the members of the Human Resources Department, as these are the individuals who get new employees' paperwork documented and added to the system. It may seem a wonder how one department director and five employees are able to handle the personnel duties of over 500 employees. When one employee went on maternity leave, the entire department was tested and did not skip a beat! Maternity leave is a special time in any parent's life, and these coworkers made sure the entire time went as smoothly as when all hands are on deck. Patricia and Valerie were two employees tasked with the bulk of responsibilities to be handled on their coworker's behalf. Due to appropriately implemented cross training, Valerie and Patricia are familiar with the entire department's duties and processes.



While Valerie went from a part-time employee to a full-time employee, managing the interviewing and hiring of 150+ seasonal employees, and entering new hires into the system, Patricia took on documenting the employee applications and assisted with all work that needed to be done. These changes did not only affect these employees' work life, but their personal lives as well due to the additional responsibilities and Valerie working additional hours. "It was really easy to get things done, because Patricia was always there to back us up," Valerie attributed.

Preparation, team work and distribution of credit is what makes departments successful. These employees not only "back each other up," but they also understand how valuable their coworkers are.

Valerie and Patricia describe their teamwork as "always aware of each other's availability" and "whether someone is out or not, we pick up after each other."

Team work, dedication, and going the extra mile are what make Patricia and Valerie stand out from the crowd! Thank you for your commitment, ladies!

Upcoming Events

September 14 - P.A.C.T. at Coronado Elem.

September 16 - Community Clean-Up
(more on our website)

September 18 - City Commission Meeting at 6 p.m.

September 19 - HPD Citizens' Police Academy begins—reserve your spot now! (more info on HPD's website)

September 25 - P.A.C.T. at Stone Elem.

October 21, 22, 28, and 29 - Parks and Rec's Haunted House

October 28 - City Halloween Carnival from 12–5 pm at Lea County Event Center

October 31 - Safe Stops—Visit us at City Hall during Safe Stops for some treats and ooley-gooley fun!



Spillman Technology is Activated This Week

Lea County reached the completion of Spillman Training on August 31st. This training was for CAD, a computer-aided dispatch system, that will impact all Lea County public safety. As stated on Spillman Technology's website, "Spillman Flex's computer-aided dispatch software is specifically designed and engineered for full multi-disciplinary and multi-jurisdictional dispatching capabilities. Agencies that dispatch for multiple disciplines (Law, Fire, and EMS) can easily share call information, add additional disciplines, and keep all parties informed and up-to-date with the latest call information." For those who do not know, Lea County Communication Authority (LCCA) serves as dispatch for all local law enforcement agencies within Lea County.

This technology is expected to bring all Lea County public safety departments closer by increasing collaboration and all personnel having the same training. With 209 clients across 23 states, Spillman Technologies is recommended for communication authorities or dispatch agencies that service several different public safety agencies, such as LCCA. Spillman outperformed several competitors based on criteria such as quality of proposal, clarity, completeness, and inclusion of requested information; functionality and features of the system relative to HPD, HFD, LCSO, and LCCA; financial stability of the company; and qualifications, reference checks, and experience of the firm and staff assigned to provide support.

On August 30th and 31st, a mock drill of Spillman's CAD software was performed at LCCA without issue. On September 12th, LCCA will go live with Spillman Technologies' CAD system. Representatives from each public safety agency within Lea County will be present to witness and celebrate the launch of this new system.



LCCA Director Angela Martinez stated, "LCCA is proud and excited to adopt our new Spillman CAD system that will propel us into a new era in modern dispatching techniques. We are excited at the level of cooperation between all of the agencies and the Spillman representatives involved to make this Go-Live a true success."



Looking for a quick easy way to pay your Utilities Bill online?

Try the "Online Payments" link on the left side of the City of Hobbs homepage.

Hobbs Public Library Introduces New Program

The Hobbs Public Library works diligently on bringing new innovative programs and activities to your local library. The most recently introduced program is “Got Science?!?” The Science Spectrum in Lubbock, TX staff will bring to the Library youth hands-on workshops like “Crazy Chemistry!”, “Grossology”, “Curious Case of CSI”, “Dissect This!”, and so much more!

In order to hold this program, the Friends of the Library and Library staff did what they do best—they got innovative! Public libraries have a plethora of amenities available to the public, but there is not always funding available for the add-on projects and programs they wish to bring to the public. Putting their knowledge to work, the Friends of the Library filled out the United Way grant application which is making funding for this program possible. The grant was created by a generous endowment by the late Mrs. Belle Solie. The United Way’s mission focuses around 3 core beliefs, including education, income, and health. Obviously falling under the education category, the Friends of the Library detailed their goals with the Got Science?!? program as

“Helping children and youth achieve their potential. The Library is a wonderful after-school extension of the learning process. The target group of 4th through 8th graders has programming during the summer for this age group, but there is no specific program for them during the school year. The hope is that many youngsters in the Library

neighborhood will take advantage of this programming. Oftentimes, they do not have the resources to participate in other costly after-school

programs, such as sports, dance, music. The emphasis of this program will be to allow interested students to experience a wide variety of science

areas which may provide the impetus for their further interest in things scientific. The chosen topics will be intriguing to them, and the additional books and games, etc., will allow them to not only increase their own knowledge, but also to engage their families in the “wonderful world of science....” Providing learning

opportunities outside of the formal classroom setting reinforces not only the necessity of continual learning but also the pure joy and fun of learning—especially when there will be no tests! Any program or activity that increases the understanding of one’s world—whether physical or intellectual—is worth the time and effort spent by both instructors and students.... The mission of the Friends is to provide additional resources and programming for the Library—dependent on the amount of money generated from membership fees and book sales. We also apply for relevant grants, such as this Belle Solie Focus grant.”

The Hobbs Public Library is extremely grateful to the Friends of the Library for their commitment to continuously improve library services with their creativity, innovation, and involvement. It is due to their book sales and numerous other efforts they utilize to add onto this fantastic facility and its amazing staff.

The first program, “Crazy Chemistry!” will be held on September 13 in the Hobbs Public Library meeting room. Space is limited, so reservations will need to be made for each child. Participants are to be in Grade 4 and up. Contact Tonya Allen at (575)397-9328 to reserve your spot or more information.



Hobbs Public Library



The First Two CORE Employees



The City of Hobbs is proud to announce the hiring of the first two employees of the Center of Recreational Excellence (CORE).

Catherine Vorrasi, the recently appointed CORE Facility Director, started with the City of Hobbs on September 5th. She traveled to thriving Hobbs, New Mexico from Tucson, Arizona, where she worked for 2 years as the Sports & Aquatics Director and Director of Sales and Member Engagement at the Northwest YMCA. Originally from Reston, Virginia, Ms. Vorrasi is an Olympic caliber swimmer who still holds several swimming records at the United States Coast Guard Academy. Ms. Vorrasi will spend her time identifying the policies and procedures, rules, job descriptions, and any additional necessities to create a safe, fun, inviting environment at the CORE until its grand opening Memorial Day 2018.

Lindsay Chism McCarter had her first day with the City of Hobbs as CORE Marketing Coordinator on August 17th. Previously gaining organizational experience working in the Communications Department 2 years ago, Ms. Chism brings with her knowledge, experience, and expertise with marketing, advertising, public relations, communications and social media to the CORE. Until the grand opening, Ms. Chism will spend her time leading efforts on all publications/communications related to the CORE, as well as designing the CORE website.

We are happy to bring this announcement to you, the public we serve, and we hope all are as excited about these two new additions to our team. We look forward to more progress and accomplishment in the next couple months as we get the CORE ready for you!



THE CORE
Center Of Recreational Excellence
Opening Spring 2018

Visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/HobbsNMCORE

City of Hobbs • J.F Maddox Foundation • New Mexico Junior College • Hobbs Municipal Schools • University of the Southwest • Lea County

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- Indoor soccer field
- Indoor sports court
- Indoor playground
- Indoor track
- Competition pool
- Warm therapy pool
- Exercise rooms
- Fitness equipment

Fire Chief and Fire Inspector Receive State Recognition

It is special when one person in the organization is recognized for their hard work and dedication, but it's even sweeter when two receive recognition along with a retire from the department! That is what happened when Fire Chief Manny Gomez, Fire Inspector/Investigator Andrew Gonzales, and retiree Richard Cummins received nominations and awards from the New Mexico State Fire Fighters' Association. Chief Gomez received the award Chief of the Year, Mr. Gonzales as Fire Investigator of the Year, and Mr. Cummins the Meritorious Lifetime Achievement award.

The NMSFFA upholds their duty "to protect and serve" in the state of New Mexico, signifying the nominees of the awards as examples of this commitment.

Mr. Gonzales will reach his 20-year milestone with the Hobbs Fire Department this year. He has served as the City of Hobbs Fire Inspector since 1997. As stated in the biography he sent to the NMSFFA, Mr. Gonzales has participated in approximately 50 investigations with 20 of which as Lead Investigator, and over 400 inspections per year. On receiving the award, Mr. Gonzales stated, "I honestly didn't expect or anticipate it. It's a great accomplishment, especially coming up on my 20-year mark. Receiving a nomination for this award serves as a great representation for the City, County, and my career. This is an award for Lea County in general, a good recognition for our year. It's a capstone for me."

Chief Gomez was previously with the Hobbs Fire Departments for 22 years, with 12 years as Fire

Chief. After 3 years in retirement, Chief

Gomez returned to the Hobbs Fire Department and continues development within the department. On receiving this award, Chief Gomez stated, "I am extremely honored to have received this award, just being nominated for this award is an incredible honor. However, few things in life are entirely the work of just one person, and this is no exception, so I thank and pay tribute to the contributions this city and the men and women of HFD have made in my career. This recognition is as much for them as it is for me. I just get to take it home!"



Hobbs Fire Inspector Andrew Gonzales



Hobbs Fire Chief Manny Gomez

Mosquito Spraying

Due to requests continuing to be made, the City of Hobbs will continue spraying for mosquitoes throughout the city. Weather permitting, the City of Hobbs has several areas scheduled to be sprayed in the near future. If you have concerns about the mosquito population in a certain area, please call the number below.

The spraying will take place on property fronts. We ask that citizens remove any standing water on their property in order to reduce the mosquito population.

Report high populations of mosquitoes to the Parks and Recreation office at 575-397-9291.



Warrior Awards

August's Recipients



Photographed: Sergeant White with and former City Manager J.J. Murphy

Sergeant White and Officer Burleson learned that a family at the Inn Place Apartments were living without a working air conditioner in the hot summer heat and the property owner refused to do anything about it. Sgt. White contacted the United Way who agreed to purchase a window unit for the family.

Officer Burleson met with representatives of United Way at Kmart to get the unit, then delivered the AC unit to the family and personally installed it.

Needless to say, the family was very appreciative. The officers went out of their way to make sure this family was taken

care of when all their options had been exhausted.

These events took place June 11, 2017. The temperature on that day approached 100 degrees.



Photographed: Officer Burleson with Police Chief Chris McCall and former City Manager J.J. Murphy



If you see an act you think deserves to be recognized, contact the City of Hobbs Human Resources Department to submit a Warrior Award nomination!



Do you have Facebook?

Be sure to look out for Our Week For You, a week-in-review of the day-to-day work and efforts of the City of Hobbs municipal government.

This publication is posted every Friday evening to our Facebook page at facebook.com/cityofhobbsgovernment/ to keep you informed and up-to-date on weekly activity.

