

News-Sun

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2010

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Community News

THE ENVIRONMENTAL

Improvement Board's hearing officer will take public comment on the New Energy Economy and New Mexico Environment Department's greenhouse gas proposed rules for the record on Sept. 1 between 2-8 p.m. at the Lea County Event Center. A hearing officer will take comments on both proposals and will bring a court reporter so the full board does not have to travel but can read the transcripts. The rules would impact the oil and gas, mining, electric generating and transmission and dairy industries.

ZUMBA INSTRUCTOR

Chantell Wittman offers free Zumba classes for teens at 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Hobbs Teen Center. Other community members can attend the class for \$5 at the door. For more information call 399-9276.

PARISH FAMILIES at

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church, 914 S. Selman, will host the annual Family Fair this weekend. The fair will be open from 4-10 p.m. today and 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday. Mexican plates and tamales will be on sale as well as games, activities and entertainment. A raffle will be held with a \$1,200 prize.

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OIL PRICES

West Texas intermediate		
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Rachel Redd from Hobbs Animal Clinic poses with Uno, a 7-year-old pit bull who donates blood to help save the lives of dogs.

Pit bull Uno gives blood to help other dogs This pit is a lifesaver

LEVI HILL
NEWS-SUN

Most of the time pit bulls make news for maulings and killings, but 7-year-old Uno isn't a life-taker. He's a life saver.

Uno donates his blood to save the lives of other pets in need of blood transfusions. Not unlike humans, dogs have different blood types and like the O-negative blood-type in humans, Uno has a universal blood type that can be used with all other dogs.

Dogs have antigens in their blood that can reach negatively in other dogs. Dogs like Uno have antigens that are less likely to cause a reaction, making them, for lack of a better term, universal donors.

"He has given to a Yorkie, a Border Collie

mix and a German shepherd," said Uno's owner, Amanda Green of Hobbs. "I think its kind of funny that these tiny dogs are getting blood from a Pit bull."

Uno is no light-weight. At 80 pounds his friendly greeting when meeting someone new is enough to knock a person down, but Uno is a gentle giant. He isn't just a blood donor, he is a certified therapy dog that visits the sick and elderly in hospitals and nursing homes.

The blood donor aspect of Uno's life came while Green was working at Hobbs Animal Clinic and a patient dog was in need of a blood transfusion. Veterinarian Don

SEE UNO, Page 4



KIMBERLY RYAN/NEWS-SUN

Boxing fans

Spectators take photos and video of several boxing matches during a charity boxing event, Battle of the Badges, Saturday at the Hobbs Teen Center.

Hearing delayed for tattoo murder suspect

KELLEY MCMILLAN
NEWS-SUN

When Hobbs police issued a warrant last year for Phillip "Ed" Harrison's arrest following the Sept. 26 shooting death of 31-year-old Orlando Martinez, Harrison was nowhere to be found.

Harrison was located and arrested in Kentucky in May after America's Most Wanted aired the case on its show.

Harrison is no flight risk now, Harrison's attorney Todd Holmes told Magistrate Jack Bailey Tuesday when he asked that his client's \$70,000 cash bond be lowered.

"He's going to come back, he's going to fight this case," Holmes said via telephone conference in court.

Harrison was scheduled for a preliminary hearing Tuesday morning but

Judge Bailey granted a continuance to allow time for a Hobbs Police Department investigator in the 2009 killing at the Pleasurable Pain tattoo studio to return to Hobbs from a trip.

Assistant District Attorney Diana Luce said at the hearing the state is concerned Harrison could take off.

"We do believe he is a flight risk," Luce said.

Holmes said Harrison, who suffered a stab wound to the neck during the incident, was acting in self-defense.

"It seems like the pieces of evidence are coming together for a very strong



Harrison

self-defense case," Holmes told Bailey during the phone conference. "... Eddy Harrison was more than likely going to be a victim himself of attempted armed robbery."

Holmes said Harrison left Lea County after voluntarily meeting with investigators regarding the shooting and before the warrant was served.

"He just tried to relocate because of the danger of the people who broke into his shop," Holmes said.

Bailey ruled to leave bond at \$70,000 on the second degree murder charges and an additional \$3,000 on a felony possession of a firearm charge.

Harrison remained in police custody Monday evening.

A preliminary hearing will be rescheduled for next week.

Planning Board recommends against cell phone tower

BETH HAHN
NEWS-SUN

Hobbs Planning Board members are sending a unanimous recommendation to the Hobbs City Commission to deny a controversial cell phone tower.

Planning Board members voted 5-0 to deny an application from Alltel for new cell tower during a special meeting Tuesday.

The meeting started about 15 minutes late and was attended by about a dozen residents as well as Hobbs city commissioners Carl Mackey and Garry Buie.

Planning Board chairman Tres Hicks said the late start was due to a

"technical issue."

"We're trying to get a member that's not able to be here to teleconference in," he said.

The absent member was Sam Cobb, but the board needed about 15 minutes to decide to deny the application.

"The citizens have made it clear they don't want a cell tower in that area," board member Don Caviness said. "It isn't compatible with the neighborhood, it isn't compatible with the city's comprehensive plan, it isn't compatible with the beautification corridor."

"The neighborhood doesn't want it

there and I think we've heard that message loud and clear," he added.

City planner Joe Dearing said the city received a petition with more than 100 signatures on it calling for the denial of the tower permit.

Alltel applied to install a tower on the 3400 block of North Lovington Highway, next to an alley along Northwest Drive.

During a June 15 meeting, several residents expressed concern about the tower's location, including whether it could fall on a home, aesthetics and effects from wireless signals on health as well as other communication and electronic devices.

City attorney Mike Stone said representatives from Alltel asked that the Tuesday meeting be delayed until August. Representatives from the company did not attend Tuesday's meeting and did not provide information requested by the Planning Board — including possible alternative sites for the tower.

Stone said it is possible the tower issue has taken a back seat for the company during its transition from Alltel to AT&T.

Stone said Alltel can appeal Tuesday's decision to the Hobbs City Commission.

Project wish list formed

Hobbs prioritizing projects for state, federal funding

BETH HAHN
NEWS-SUN

Hobbs officials are beginning to build a wish list for state and federal funding in 2011.

City officials put the list together earlier this month.

Projects on the list are prioritized by city commissioners during the fall and submitted to state and federal legislators for consideration for grant funding.

Hobbs city commissioners will review the list and could rearrange the priorities.

The top five priorities are:

- Emergency Operations Center
- The city is requesting \$9.6 million for an Emergency Operations Center, which will house combined dispatching for Hobbs and Lea County emergency services.

■ Sewer improvement program

The city is requesting about \$9.5 million to continue to replace reinforced concrete sewer lines in south Hobbs.

City utilities director Tim Woomer said the program is a continuation of what the city started more than a year ago after a series of sewer line collapses along Grimes Street.

"We'll just keep doing that until we replace all of the concrete pipe," he said.

■ Southeast by-pass

The city is requesting \$16

SEE PROJECTS, Page 4

WATSON The Best Buy Leader

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2010 Chevrolet Silverado Ext. Cab. List Price was \$32,920 price with rebates is \$25,274.

price included rebates and GMAC bonus cash OAC, see dealer for details.

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Mark the date

TODAY

Salvation Army Tour

Lea County Hearts and Hands Against Hunger will take a tour of the Salvation Army in Hobbs at 520 E. Main at 2 p.m. The public is invited.

THURSDAY

Swearing in ceremony

A formal swearing in ceremony for District Judge James Templeman will be held at Pannell Auditorium in Lovington at 4 p.m. Templeman was recently appointed to the bench.

GOP Pig Roast

The Lea County Republican Pig Roast will be at 6 p.m. at the Lea County Event Center. Speakers will be Steve Pearce and Susana Martinez. Tickets are \$60 per person.

Ribbon cutting

Hobbs Hispano Chamber of Commerce hosts a ribbon cutting at 11 a.m. at the 1108 W. Marland for Premium Limousine.

Ribbon cutting

Hobbs Chamber of Commerce will

host a ribbon cutting/grand opening for Sister's Boutique, 8605 Denver City Highway, at 11 a.m.

Southern Heights AYP

Hobbs Municipal Schools hosts its Adequate Yearly Progress meeting at Southern Heights Elementary at 6 p.m.

NMHED hearing

The New Mexico Higher Education Department is holding a public hearing on the statewide master plan for higher education from 1-3 p.m. in the Bob Moran Multipurpose room at New Mexico Junior College. This meeting is open to the public.

FRIDAY

Movie Under the Stars

The City of Hobbs will continue its Movie and Concert Under the Stars series with Eddie Money performing at 6 p.m. at Del Norte Park. The movie, "G-Force," rated PG, will follow at dusk. The event is free. Bring lawn chairs.

Family Fair

Parish families at Our Lady of Guadalupe will host the annual Family Fair this weekend. The fair will be open from 4-10 p.m. today

and 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday. Mexican plates and tamales will be on sale. A raffle will be held with a \$1,200 grand prize.

Pan y Dulce

Hobbs Hispano Chamber of Commerce will host a Pan y Dulce at Leaco, 808 N. Dal Paso, from 7-9 a.m.

Bushwhackers shoot

The Monument Springs Bushwhackers, a Hobbs Cowboy Action Shooting Club, is having its three day annual shoot Aug. 27-29. The activities start at 2 p.m. with a Wild Bunch Shooting Match. They will continue Saturday and Sunday starting at 8:30 a.m. with a safety meeting and shooting begins at 9 a.m. This will be held at the Hobbs Gun Range. For more information please contact Ralph Trammell at 575-369-9280.

GUIDELINES

READERS ARE WELCOME to submit items to Mark the Date calendar. The event should have a local connection and be open to the general public. E-mail items to editor@hobbsnews.com.

Projects

from PAGE 1

million to complete a southeast by-pass.

Hobbs previously received about \$673,000 in two grants to complete engineering and environmental studies for the by-pass.

City engineer Todd Randall said the by-pass will connect to U.S. 62/180 and Navajo Drive, then N.M. 18 and the existing south loop.

"There has been some money allocated for this project," Randall said. "Some of the (engineering and environmental) studies need to be re-done."

Wastewater treatment plant effluent discharge system

The city is requesting about \$9.2 million for an effluent discharge system.

Woomer said the discharge system will trans-

port treated wastewater to the Martin Luther King Jr. SoccerPlex and cemeteries for irrigation.

Eventually, the discharge system will take treated wastewater to Ocotillo Golf Course and other public spaces, he said.

"There were limited funds from the state, so we phased our project," Woomer said.

■ Community recreation center

The city is requesting \$32 million for a multi-purpose indoor recreation center.

The recreation center has been on the drawing board for almost two years.

Construction will be partially funded by a grant from the private J. F. Maddox Foundation, but the city has put the project on hold until the local economy recovers or until state and federal grants can be obtained for the center.

City commissioners will review the list during a future meeting.



Invites you to

The Grand Opening of the Renovated Center for the Arts
Saturday, August 28, 2010

Program

3:00 Ribbon Cutting with Hobbs Chamber of Commerce and Hobbs Hispano Chamber of Commerce
Music by Los Navegantes De Durango

4:00 The Wave Worship Praise Band

4:15 Maciolek School of Dance

4:45 Another Chance Praise Team and Dancers

5:30 Wearable Art Fashion Show

6:00 Accidental Harmony

7:00 LCCA Recognitions

7:15 Heather Massengill, Violinist

7:30 A Terrific Trio

122 W. Broadway in Downtown Hobbs 575-397-2787

Uno

from PAGE 1

Newman tested Uno and discovered he was a universal donor.

"It is nice to know too that your dog is giving back to the community," Green said.

The process of a dog or cat donating blood is similar to a person doing it, but it can be much tougher because the animal has to be calm enough to sit still with a needle in their neck for up to 40 minutes.

Uno not only has the universal blood, but seldom requires sedation, which is not recommended by vets, when giving blood. So recently, when a local dog needed blood, Uno came to the rescue.

Veterinarian Rachel Redd at Hobbs Animal Clinic handled the procedure.

"This dog was significantly low on blood," she said. "She is doing well as far as I know. She had a lot more energy and was eating well and didn't appear to have any reactions to the transfusion."

Redd had several cats as a veterinary students that donated blood and in larger cities with animal hospitals in need of blood regularly, it can pay to have your pet be a donor.

"Both my cats were blood donors and they got free food every month, free blood work and vaccines," Redd said.

Local veterinarians don't have the resources to offer those perks, but Redd said Hobbs Animal Clinic offers credits to pet owners who have donor dogs.

Blood transfusions can be costly, as much as \$5,000 in some cases, because blood supplies are often limited in rural areas due of a lack of donors and because donated blood cannot be stored for long periods of time.

A donor dog typically needs to be a larger animal, heavier than 70 pounds, because weightier dogs can spare more blood in situations where it is needed for an anemic animal, Redd said. Pets are never asked to donate more than half a liter of blood in a two-three month period.

Dog owners looking to give back by having their pet become a donor should schedule an appointment with their veterinarian and let them know they want to have their pet's blood tested to see if they are a viable candidate.

"They have to have a good physical exam," Redd said. "They should be negative for heartworm and other diseases that are bacterial and blood-borne."

The pet should also be calm and able to remain so during the process of extracting blood, Redd added.

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