

News-Sun

JAL ■ EUNICE ■ HOBBS ■ LOVINGTON ■ TATUM ■ SEMINOLE ■ DENVER CITY

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50 cents

Community News

Sunday, Dec. 5,
NorthGate Free Will Baptist Church is hosting The Toney Brothers in concert at 6 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend at 7201 N. Grimes Street in Hobbs (one block south of Kansas).

Waste Management and the City of Hobbs will go from block to block in a residential community clean up from Bender north on Saturday, Dec. 11. Residents in this area can haul unwanted items to the curb such as couches, tires, paints, tree limbs, etc. If you need assistance in getting your items to the curb, contact the Parks and Recreation office at 397-9291 by Wednesday, Dec. 8.

Fifth Judicial District judge Mark Sanchez will be sworn into office at 3 p.m. at the Lea County Courthouse in Lovington on Dec. 3.

The **Lovington Chamber** of Commerce's annual electric light parade is Dec. 6. Parade starts at 6 p.m. Call the chamber at 396-5311.

Saferide has begun operations. Saferide is operating weekends from 9:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. between Thanksgiving and New Year's. Call 391-2957 for a ride.

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OIL PRICES

West Texas intermediate



	Price	Change
Spot	\$86.75	+ 2.64
Posted	\$83.25	+ 2.75
Sour	\$78.00	+ 2.75
N. Gas	\$4.269	+ .089

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SUBMITTED PHOTO

Fourteen members of the Hobbs Municipal Schools pilot violin program will perform during the New Mexico Junior College Band Christmas Concert at 3 p.m. Dec. 5 in Watson Hall. The students – all fourth graders in the district's gifted education class – are now in their second year of music instruction from Yau-Sun Wong, NMJC professor of music. The 14 children will perform two songs. Instructors and students who will appear at the NMJC Band Christmas Concert are Wong, Izzak Mendoza, Rylan Martin, Isaac Pena, Alexa Mosely, Cayden Skaggs, Jaden Lee, Jay Nelson, Katelyn VanHooshier, Derek Warner, Cole Buchanan, Heaven Massengill and instructor Margaret Whitley

Jal to replace section of sewer system

LEVI HILL
NEWS-SUN

For the past two years a section of main trunk sewer line in Jal has repeatedly backed up and caused sewage to pool near a residential area off Commercial Drive.

Last week the line stopped flowing again, but no amount of work could fix it. Beginning today, city workers should be replacing 100 feet of the line in hopes of permanently fixing the problem.

"We don't know what the problem is," said public works director Van Myrick. "It has been a periodic thing every couple of months, this time we can't clean it. That the line collapsed

is probably a good assumption."

Line cleaning equipment used to try to reopen the line became stuck and is still in the line and larger equipment, borrowed from the City of Hobbs, was also unsuccessful in clearing the line, Myrick said.

The 8-inch line, which Myrick said could be as old as the 1940s or 1950s, is made of red clay and will be replaced with a 100-foot section of PVC pipe.

The line is too deep for a backhoe to excavate, so an excavator is being rented from Merryman Construction to dig up the old line. Myrick said he anticipates the work taking two days to complete.

"Right now we don't have a lot of cost in material, about \$1,000," he said. "Most of the cost has been labor, manning the pump 24 hours a day."

City crews have had to constantly monitor a pump system that has been used for the past two weeks to flow the sewage around the stop in the line so it can be sent to the city's waste water treatment plant.

Myrick said no Jal homes have been affected with back flow on their toilets, but a low spot in the system near the former El Paso Natural Gas offices on Commerce Drive has leaked and left residents of the area smelling sewer.

Much of the city's sewer system is

antiquated, and Myrick said he is hopeful the new city manager, Curtis Schrader, can help find funding to replace the system.

Schrader, who begins work on Dec. 20, said he will be looking at a mix of grant and low-interest loan funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for the work.

"Probably the best opportunity will be USDA rural utilities service," he said. "The USDA doesn't do 100 percent grants anymore. They try to split it based on the income and economic criteria of the community. We could expect maybe 65 percent in grant and 35 percent in loan."

Junior Service League giving shoes to needy students

BETH HAHN
NEWS-SUN

About 200 children in the Hobbs area will receive a new pair of shoes this week, just in time for Christmas.

The Junior Service League of Hobbs is providing the shoes to students in Hobbs who have been identified by the school counselors as having a need.

The "Superstar Shoes" project is new for 2010.

"In past years, we have had a Toy Workshop program, where school counselors have made recommendations for kids who need gifts for the holidays (and) we were also giving gifts to Head Start," said Lisa Allen, public relations contact for the Junior Service League. "There are so many great organizations in Hobbs that are filling this need, though, that we have felt motivated to change our focus."

After seeing an article in the Hobbs News-Sun about the Hobbs Municipal Schools' Mentorship Program, the Junior Service League contacted the program's coordinator, Marisol Cardenas.

Cardenas talked with the school counselors and said the biggest unmet need in the schools was shoes for underprivileged students.

"The Junior Service League was really happy to find a need that we could meet," Allen said.

Allen praised Cardenas and said the Superstar Shoes project could not happen



KIMBERLY RYAN/NEWS-SUN

Erica Hart, member of the Junior Service League, packs a pair of socks alongside a pair of shoes to be given out to a needy child.

without her.

"She made the Superstar Shoes program run smoothly, gathering information and creating spreadsheets of the kids who have a shoe need. She knows these kids, and it's obvious that she cares for them," Allen explained.

"I work with some of these kids every day and can see those with a real need," said Pam Hightower, a JSL member and Sanger and Jefferson Elementary Schools' Reading Specialist. "I have heard the kids talking to each other about getting shoes. They are very excited."

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Newman endorsed by state GOP leaders

BETH HAHN
NEWS-SUN

A day after news that former Hobbs mayor Monty Newman could head up the state Republican party hit the airwaves and Internet, he received backing from six prominent GOP members.

A letter signed by governor-elect Susana Martinez, U.S. Rep.-elect Steve Pearce, Albuquerque mayor Richard Barry, secretary of state-elect Dianna Duran, state House Republican leader Tom Taylor and state Senate Republican leader Stuart Ingle was posted on two political websites Wednesday.

The letter is addressed to state

SEE NEWMAN, Page 4 Newman



Tatum native announces candidacy for state GOP secretary

BETH HAHN
NEWS-SUN

A second Lea County native is throwing his name into the mix for a state Republican party position.

Bob Cornelius of Tatum announced Wednesday that he is running for secretary of the state Republican party.

"I have been blessed by the opportunity to work for and alongside some of the greatest conservative leaders in our state," he said in a statement e-mailed out Wednesday afternoon. "I have



Cornelius

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DRESS A LIVE DOLL & DRESS A CHEVY

November is a month of Thanksgiving and Watson Chevrolet is partnering with the Hobbs Jaycees in support of Dress a Live Doll. For each new vehicle purchase in November Watson's will sponsor a child this Christmas as part of the Dress a Live Doll initiative. While your helping us support Dress a Live Doll, Watson's will help you dress your Chevy with 15% off any of our hottest Chevy Accessories either on your new truck or current truck. Help us reach our goal of 30 kids this month!

