

News-Sun

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

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2011

50 cents

Community News

The Hobbs Boys and Girls Club **YOUTH FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP** will be this Saturday at Watson Stadium at 12 p.m.



DIESEL is a very affectionate dog and loves people. He does great on a leash and would love to find his new forever home. Contact Willie Stone at City of Hobbs Animal Adoption Center.

Nova **BELLY DANCE** and Personal Best & Beyond are teaming up to collect canned goods and turkeys for the less fortunate. From 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 19, at the Fletcher Center, 950 E. Snyder, a two-hour workshop on belly dancing will be offered if the person brings five canned goods or one turkey. For more information, call 575-390-8791.

CITATIONS IN EUNICE will be given out starting Thursday to owners of dogs that are chained up to a stationary objects. If you have questions, contact compliance officer Bob Lyle at 394-1029

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OIL PRICES

West Texas intermediate

	Price	Change
Spot	\$102.59	+ 3.22
Posted	\$99.25	+ 3.50
Sour	\$93.75	+ 3.50
N. Gas	\$3.344	-0.060



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Family decked with Christmas spirit before Thanksgiving

HELENA RODRIGUEZ
NEWS-SUN

'Twas the week before Thanksgiving and all down North Fowler, not a creature was stirring, not even a turkey.

But what to passing cars should suddenly appear? A yard already lit up with Christmas cheer.

Robin Noseff is such an early bird when it comes to Christmas spirit, her home at 1901 N. Fowler is already decked — inside and out — for the holidays, and well before the Thanksgiving bird arrives on the table.

By Noseff's standards, she's running a little late this year. She usually begins setting up her Christmas display on Halloween night, but she started this year on the first week of November.

And now, with a little over a week before the Christmas season begins, Noseff only has a few finishing touches to put on her elaborate Christmas yardscape, which includes five moving displays, Christmas music, an old-

fashioned carriage, an angel and a host of other traditional and not-so-traditional characters and scenes, from lighted geese, a pig and an elephant, to the lovable Elmo, Snoopy and Rudolph characters.

"I go all out to celebrate Christ's birthday. I decorate for other holidays too, but not this elaborate," Noseff said. "If I could, I would leave my Christmas decorations up all year long, but my husband says he wouldn't be able to mow the lawn."

Just getting the Christmas display up this year has been a challenge. Noseff said her son-in-law, who does the bulk of the work, along with her husband, recently cracked a bone in his foot. Her daughter, Denise Kinsey, also helps deck the Noseff home.

"I've been out there with the guys too. The only thing I won't do is get on the roof," Kinsey said.

While a few other area residents have

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Robin Noseff has started decorating her house and yard early for Christmas. Noseff's home is located at 1902 N. Fowler.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Joule Unlimited

Joule Unlimited recently visited Hobbs and attended a reception for the company held by the Economic Development Corporation of Lea County. In spring 2012, Joule is planning to build a demonstration plant to produce oil through a micro-organism. The technology is new and the demonstration plant would be the first large scale demonstration of the technology. The plant is expected to create about 20 jobs but could grow to 500 jobs. Pictured are Joule representatives Paula Cloghessy, Phil Cherry, Brian Donovan and John Ward.

Heizer school remodel almost complete

LANCE CRENSHAW
NEWS-SUN

The remodeling of the Heizer campus is near completion, with some minor remodeling set to take place next summer.

At Tuesday's school board meeting, projects manager Bruce Hardison gave the board an update on the campus, which is set to be reopened next school year.

"There will be some work done throughout the winter, including installing a new set of doors in the back," Hardison said at the meeting. "By time the facility is ready to open, it will be a very nice campus."

Hardison said during next summer, new carpet will be installed as well.

Also discussed at the board meeting was an update on the Eagle Trust Foundation.

According to superintendent T.J. Parks, the committee has awarded 10 mini-grants so far to staff in the district.

"I have nine more mini-grants sitting on my desk waiting for approval," Parks said. "We also have a meeting with local legislators on Nov. 29 to discuss the committee, and we are in the process of filing for a 501-C3 organization, which is non-profit and tax exempt status."

The Eagle Trust Foundation was founded with hopes of enhancing education in Hobbs.

Parks also noted at the meeting that he planned to attend a meeting held by the state legislative education council today.

"On the agenda, the council planned to have a study of the

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State fines GEO \$1 million

LANCE CRENSHAW
NEWS-SUN

The state is fining the private prison operator that owns and runs the Lea County Correctional Facility \$1.1 million for not adequately staffing the prison.

New Mexico Corrections Department acting public information officer Shannon McReynolds said the state has reached an agreement with Florida-based GEO Group to pay the settlement.

"We have reached an agreement whereby they will give us an offset amount totaling \$1.1 million on our billing between now and June 30 of next year," McReynolds said. "They (GEO Group) are also required to spend another \$200,000 for recruitment and retention of staff."

According to the Associated Press, records show that of the four privately run prisons that house New Mexico inmates, LCCF has struggled the most to keep correctional officers on the job.

The facility's employee vacancy rate hovered above 20 percent for 12 of the 14 months for which there was data — between January 2010 and March of this year. That includes seven consecutive months — September 2010 through March 2011 — when the vacancy rate was

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KIMBERLY RYAN/NEWS-SUN

American Education Week

Fourth graders sing festive songs during a performance Tuesday in honor of National Education Week at Broadmoor Elementary.

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