

News-Sun

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Community News

LEA COUNTY HOUSING is holding an affordable housing needs input meeting for Eunice today from 10-11 a.m. at City Hall Conference Room. For questions contact Russ Doss at 575-691-9637.

THE HOBBS POLICE Department will be conducting DWI Checkpoints and Saturation Patrols throughout the month of January. These checkpoints and saturation patrols will be conducted at undisclosed locations in an effort to locate persons operating a motor vehicle under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs.

THE LEA COUNTY Commission meets at 9 a.m. today at the Courthouse in Lovington. Agenda items include approval of road recommendations on Matt Drive and approval of rough stock contract for the Lea County Rodeo.

TAKE THE FIRST STEP in achieving your New Year's goal of weight loss by attending the free Weight Loss Surgery Education Seminar on Saturday from 10 – 11:30 a.m. at Knipling Education Conference Center in Lubbock. Participants will have the opportunity to talk with Dr. David Syn, other patients and an insurance specialist.



Want to learn about Hercules? Then become him Learning through acting

KELLEY MCMILLAN
NEWS-SUN
What better way to learn about Hercules than to become Hercules? That's the philosophy of G-Squared — two traveling actors who have also discovered a talent and passion for teaching.



Tankersley
The duo, which has become known locally as the Gregs, holds several week-long sessions with Hobbs fifth and sixth graders each year. Last week the Gregs led Taylor Elementary fifth-graders in a week-long lesson about Greek mythology that culminated in a production of "The Twelve Labors of Hercules," written by the duo and acted out by a group of students who will likely never forget what they learned that week.

"The kid who played Zeus will never forget what he learned about Zeus," said Greg Lawson, one of The Gregs.

Lawson said he and partner Greg Tankersley create each play themselves based on the curriculum the students are studying.

"It's immersion," Lawson said. "It's all day long for four days."

And since different students learn in different ways, Lawson said, "the goal is to get everybody, no matter



TOP: Stacey Tarrango, Alyssa Diaz, Sam Moreno, Lydia Ortega, Odalitz Orozco, Ja'Khai McGaha and Sally Candia play their roles during a production of Hercules last week; **ABOVE:** Nicklaus Boydston performs as Hercules during the production.

how they learn."

Lawson said the students at Taylor read several Greek myths, learned to write the Greek alphabet and got to act out one myth for their classmates and families, all in just four days.

Taylor student Isreabell Villegas, 11, said her favorite lesson of the

week was learning the Greek alphabet because she got to write her name in a different language.

Villegas also learned something else important. Though she was nervous about performing in the play as Medusa, she said she felt

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Record budget possible

Higher oil prices mean a chance to fund delayed projects and fill vacant positions

BETH HAHN
NEWS-SUN
If gross receipts tax revenue and the price of oil continue at current levels, Hobbs could see another record budget for 2011-12.

City finance director Toby Spears said Hobbs' record for the biggest budget was set in 2009 with about \$42.5 million. If gross receipts tax revenue and the price of oil stay at current levels, Spears is projecting about a \$42.6 million budget for 2011-12.

"If oil holds at \$100 a barrel, which is what we're seeing now, we will possibly exceed the record," he said.

But what followed that record 2009 budget of \$42.5 million was the current budget, which is about \$33 million after a drop in oil prices.

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Argument results in stabbing

NEWS-SUN STAFF REPORT
A drunken argument over a bicycle landed one man in the hospital and another behind bars.

Toby Garza, 63, of Hobbs was arrested Saturday and charged with aggravated battery after allegedly stabbing another man in the chest.

According to police reports, Garza and the victim were drinking beer at a home on the 500 block of North Morris when the two men began arguing over a bicycle.

Officers were called to the area at about 9:30 p.m., after the argument broke out.

The victim told police the men argued because Garza had loaned him a bicycle a few days ago and he had not returned it.

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OIL PRICES

West Texas intermediate

	Price	Change
Spot	\$87.87	- 1.24
Posted	\$84.50	- 1.00
Sour	\$79.95	- 1.00
N. Gas	\$4.580	- .156



Fencing club seeks members

KELLEY MCMILLAN
NEWS-SUN
A centuries old sport has at least seven fans in Hobbs, but Brian Henning, organizer of a new fencing club is hoping to find more.

Henning says he has a hunch fencing will be a big hit in the area.

"Everything from Star Wars to Errol Flynn movies, there's sword fighting," Henning said. "It has a romantic quality to it."

Henning and a half-dozen other fencing enthusiasts met in the New Mexico Junior College's training and outreach center Thursday night for the club's first meeting.

Henning said fencing isn't sword fighting, but it is how sword fighters used to be trained. Mostly, Henning said, the sport is fun and good exercise.

Fencers use foils, epees and sabers — not actual swords — so there's no getting cut or stabbed.

Safety comes first, Henning said, and all club members will be required to have a full set of safety gear before they're allowed to fence.

Anyone is welcome to attend club meetings to work on their footwork, however, without having to purchase gear, Henning said.

Henning, a fencer since college, said he decided to create the group because his two youngest children are also interested in fencing and have been going to Midland for lessons.

"Fencing is a good family activity," Henning said.

Henning said he is currently pursuing information from the Hobbs High School athletic program to see if he can offer fencing classes for students to receive credit at the school.

SEE FENCING, Page 4



New fencer Shannon Thompson, left, wears fencing equipment for the first time with experienced fencer Samuel Smith, right.

KELLEY MCMILLAN
NEWS-SUN

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