The future of the SOUTHWEST NEW MEXICO ECONOMY is the focus of four free conferences in Carlsbad and Hobbs, sponsored by the El Paso Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas. The Role of Southeast New Mexico in the Global Economy will be held from 11 a.m. to 4:25 p.m. June 10 at the Pecon Village Conference Center, 711 Muscatoel Ave., Carlsbad.

A second session will be offered from 8:30 a.m. to 1:40 p.m. June 11 at the Lea County Event Center Banquet Hall. Participants can register online to attend the events.

www.dallasfed.org/series/archevents/2013/nm.cf

New, bigger school considered

GABRIELA MUNOZ
NEWS-SUN

Broadmoor Elementary is packed with students and more are on the way.

Principal Lisa Robinson is in the process of antici-
pating approximately 350 students for the 2013-14 school year after pre-enroll-
ment numbers were announced earlier this week.

“We are bracing at the seams,” Robinson said. “We stood right at 400 all last year.”

Maximum capacity of the school is 357 — including temporary classrooms in portable buildings.

The school's crowding issue has been a concern for Hobbs Municipal School
officials and now it is on the state of New Mexico’s radar.

For this school year, Broadmoor was listed as a school eligible to receive funding on the New Mexico Condition Index due to its enrollment and capacity needs.

Schools on the list are eligible to receive partial funding through the Public School Facilities Authority for

See BROADMOOR, Page 3

Multiple Hobbs Splash Pads Open for Youngsters Saturday

CHRISTIAN BETANCOURT
NEWS-SUN

Residents in Southeast Hobbs have wanted a place to cool off for some-
time.

The high school pool may be the closest to their neighborhood of any public pools, but that is still a car drive away.

On Saturday, that changes when a splash pad at Booker “T” Washington Park opens.

An opening ceremony is planned for 11 a.m. Saturday.

An additional splash pad, located at Jefferson Elementary Park, is scheduled to open at 10 a.m.

But for BTW area residents, the splash pad is something parents and kids can be happy about.

“I was so excited, not just because it’s my district, but because the kids will have a place to go without having to drive blocks and blocks and blocks away and in some cases miles away,” said City of Hobbs commission-
er Crystal Mulfino. “They have something right there up the street where mom and dad feel com-

SEE SPLASH, Page 3

Lea health care needs reviewed

BETH HAHN
NEWS-SUN

About two dozen area residents and health care providers met Wednesday with a county-based con-
dult in the Lea County Event Center to discuss needs and success-
s in Lea County.

Consultant Howard Gershon of the New Mexico’s Office in Santa Fe said the process is similar to one he conducted last year in Eddy County.

“In an ideal world, what kinds of health care services would be pro-
vided? What are the gaps between what we have and what we could use?”

In addition to outlining the health care study process, which is sched-
uled to wrap up in May, the bill, he took comments from attendees sit-
ting at tables who attended Wednesday’s meeting.

Hobbs city commissioner Marshall Newman said he was disap-
pointed that there wasn’t more advance notice of Wednesday’s meetings.

“It’s a critical issue and there wasn’t that much publicity,” he said. “I think we could have made more advance notice.”

Gershon said Wednesday’s meet-
ges were introductions to the study process and committee members.

He said he would speak with Lea County several times between the May 27 meeting and the anticipated date of the second public meeting.

One of the most common refrains during the kickoff meeting is how many residents travel to Lubbock for medical care.

Hobbs city commissioner Gary Blais said he is tired of going to Lubbock for services that could be offered in Lea County.

“My family physician understands the situation in Hobbs and refers us to Lubbock,” he said.

SEE HEALTH, Page 5

Veterans hope to restart torch flame

GABRIELA MUNOZ
NEWS-SUN

Every time he drives by Memory Gardens Cemetery in Hobbs, Vietnam veteran Michael Mings feels somber when he sees the flameless torch at the entrance.

“I don’t know what was the last time it operated,” Mings said.

Not only has the torch been without a flame for as long as Mings can remem-
ber, the lettering and nameplates hon-
coring Vietnam veterans who died while in action, have fallen in disre-
pute.

But if Mings, who served in the U.S. Army for four years in the 1960s, and Afghanistan veteran Ivan Cho of Hobbs, have it their way, this will be the last Memorial Day the flame is out.

“It’s pretty obvious that it’s been neg-
lit for a bit,” Cho said of the memo-
rial, located at 2800 N. Del Paso.

“We’re going to redo them (the let-
ters) – make them where they stand unlit.

Mings plans to send down the letters and repaint them black so that they stand out in contrast to the golden

stone of the memorial.

And though Mings has spent count-
able hours working on getting the torch light, the Hobbs native has come to a milestone.

Getting the torch lit will require the involvement of Xcel Energy and cost approximately $2,270.

The cost is expected to cover the replacement of the light in the panel.

For both men, keeping the memorial in good shape is important to them.

SEE FLAME, Page 5

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NEWS-SUN

JAL
Splash pad now means fun for children

The two new splash pads in Hobbs took five weeks to build, three weeks for utility work and two weeks for construction.

"We’re looking to build a third one on Del Norte pool this fall," said Choate. "Del Norte Park is a very busy pool and it gets a lot of people all summer long and it will give one more thing for people to play out on," said Boyd.

Choate said construction for the splash pads took about five weeks, consisting of three weeks of utility work and about two weeks of installation. The BTW splash pad is located at 1301 W . Clinton and the Jefferson pad is at 1301 E. Marland and the Norte park is at 1301 W . Clinton.

"I think it’s going to be awesome for the kids and it’s going to be a real bonus for the neighborhood,” Boyd said. "It’s right in the heart of our district."

"When we went to build the second one, we had to have the baseball field that it’s across the street, you have the park, you have the soccer field and now we have the splash pad, and it’s right in the heart of our district.”

Mullins said the addition of the splash pad at BTW park adds to the other activities children can choose from.

"We’ve been wanting to make a hot spot (for children) to go for all different types of activities," Mullins said. "You have the baseball field that it’s across the street, you have the park, you have the soccer field and now we have the splash pad, and it’s right in the heart of our district.

"I think it’s going to be awesome for all those kids as well as the other activities children can choose from.

"I think we’ve made a hot spot for people to go to and have some fun."

Fellow city commissioner John Boyd, who represents the Jefferson Elementary area, said he is excited about the addition of the splash pad.

"The two new splash pads in Hobbs took five weeks to build, three weeks for utility work and two weeks for construction."

"It's a pretty large and a lot of kids will benefit from it ... probably a couple of thousand kids."

"I'm excited about it, you know, we have the baseball field that it’s across the street, you have the park, you have the soccer field and now we have the splash pad, and it’s right in the heart of our district."

"My district is one more addition,” he said. "My district is one more addition, (for children) to go to for all different types of activities, "You have the baseball field that it’s across the street, you have the park, you have the soccer field and now we have the splash pad, and it’s right in the heart of our district.

"It's going to be awesome for the kids and it’s going to be a real bonus for the neighborhood,” Boyd said. "It’s right in the heart of our district."

"You can choose from.

"We are currently seeking promotional items to be included in the Contestant kit.

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