School workers get raise

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Memorial Day weekend kicks off the 84th anniversary of Carlsbad Caverns National Park’s summer Bat Watch Program. Park, ranger presents nightly, half-hour programs at sunset as rangers dispel myths and extol the virtues of the bats. The nightly number of bats fluctuates for a variety of reasons throughout the season. Bats will split into smaller colonies during dry years in order to ensure enough resources for survival. For more information about bat flight and times, call 575-785-3012.

GABRIELA MUÑOZ
NEW-SUN
For the first time in more than four years Hobbs school employees may see a bump in their pay.

Effective July 1, every employee in the district will receive at least a 3.5 percent increase in their pay.

Depending on their position in the salary schedule, some employees will see a higher increase. Position in the salary schedule depends on criteria such as employee college hours and experience.

The pay increase was due to the district’s growth in the district, said Superintendent Jonathan Sena.

“The state gave us additional funds this year,” Parks said. “They mandated an additional 1 percent raise for everyone, so we came up with the other 2.5 percent. If Parks look at some budgets across the state of New Mexico, some of the other schools are seeing deficits. It’s because they are not growing.”

Elias Moreno, finance administrator, said the final unit value increased by $144 from $3,673.54 to $3,817.55. Each unit is determined by number of units within the area. “The state gave us an increase this year,” State Sena said.

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Russell said. “We are pleased to have a talented group of editors and writers on our team,” Russell said. “I have high expectations for the News-Sun and I know the interests of our readers,” Russell said.

Russell’s recent promotion to publisher has appointed managing editor Todd Bailey to his current position. Bailey assumed the role following Russell’s recent promotion to publisher.

“Todd brings to the News-Sun a dedicated work ethic that is a characteristic of our newspaper,” Russell said.

“We are pleased to have Bailey named new editor of the News-Sun.

CRAIG KINNELL
NEW-SUN
Bryan Gene Guerrero and Ricky Montoya are two new officers and as the department grows residents should come as part of the department’s recruitment efforts. Bryan Gene Guerrero and Ricky Montoya.

These efforts have been felt in the department’s recruitment efforts.

CHRISTIAN BETANCOURT
NEW-SUN
McCall said. “We have a dedicated group of guys and girls,” McCall said. “We have a dedicated group of guys and girls.”

“We have come up with a lot of ideas. They recognize the need and they stepped up to it.”

That increased case load has been felt in the department’s criminal investigations division, Bailey said.

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NEW-SUN STAFF REPORT

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Bailey assumes the role following Russell’s recent promotion to publisher.

Russell replaced Judy Rinner, who stepped down to move to Texas earlier this month.

“Todd brings to the News-Sun a strong appreciation for the area and knowledge of the interests of our readers,” Russell said. “We are pleased to have him leading our team in the news room.”

“I am extremely proud in becoming the next editor of the News-Sun,” Bailey said.

Born and raised in Hobbs, Bailey is a Hobbs High School graduate and an Eagle Scout with former Boy Scout troop 45. This is his second stint with the News-Sun. He began his career in 1997 as a sportswriter and was promoted to sports editor in 2000.

In 2008, Bailey moved to northern New Mexico and worked for the Santa Fe New Mexican as a sportswriter. Bailey also worked as a sportswriter and coordinator at the Santa Fe New Mexican as a sportswriter.

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where detectives have been on duty at a different level and it takes different demands, "McCall said. "Some detectives who handle the more complex cases generate a lot of work load. It's dependent on the type of work you do."

The department has been working hard to find new detections from within to alleviate the workload.

"We hold these guys to some pretty high standards and they do very good work, but there's only some much demand that you can place on a person," McCall said.

As the number of officers in all departments increases McCall said he needs to begin to see the difference it makes in crime rate as well as patrols.

"As the number of officers on the street it will give them more opportunities to get out of the police work rather than wait for a call," he said. "It will be in the neighborhoods and business areas where we need them to be to deter crimes."

McCall believes that as the department adds officers the department will become more effective.

"As we see patterns in crime (criminal investigations) we will do stakeouts and bring in the patrol division to run sting operations," he said.

However, the pay raise, employees would have a substantial raise in their wages, they are happy with the raise.