Hobbs gross receipts third highest in N.M.
Economy booming

DENISE MARQUEZ
NEWS-SUN

The City of Hobbs received the third highest gross receipts tax distribution in the state this month, falling in between these New Mexico metropolitan areas.

Hobbs received about $7.5 million in August for its share in GRT’s generated from business activity in June, which is the fourth time in the last two fiscal years, the city collected more than $7 million GRT revenues.

The total is $11,000 less than the record GRT amount the city received in May.

According to an article in “Albuquerque Business First,” Albuquerque received $24.9 million, Santa Fe had the second highest GRT distribution at $12.2 million and Hobbs surpassed Las Cruces’ $8.4 million GRT revenue.

Gross receipts are defined by the state as the total amount of money businesses receive

SEE ECONOMY, Page 3

Patent targets teacher shortage

USW, HMS agreement would make it easier for teachers’ aides to become full-fledged educators

GABRIELLA MURPHY
NEWS-SUN

Hobbs Municipal Schools officials are looking at a way to allow paraprofessionals working for the district the opportunity to become full-fledged educators at little to no cost.

An agreement between the HMS district and University of the Southwest is currently in the works to offer paraprofessionals who have been with the HMS district for more than one year and have an interest in pursuing a career in teaching, an opportunity to earn their teaching degree and certification.

“They have some instructional assistants who work in our classrooms who are phenomenal with kids — they are just not degreeed,” said Hobbs Superintendent T.J. Parks.

“You can’t get a teaching degree in two and half years. If you’ve got experience working in the schools already,” Parks said.

The partnership, initiated by USW provost James Smith, was a way for the university to continue their support to the Hobbs district and in their part to aide with the shortage of teachers.

“We want to help prepare teachers for Hobbs schools,” Smith said. “It makes a lot of sense.”

Hobbs duo accused of selling heroin

CHRISTIAN BETANCOURT
NEWS-SUN

A Hobbs couple has been arrested on trafficking and conspiracy charges after a Lea County Drug Task Force investigation revealed they were allegedly selling heroin.

Bennie Carr, 57, of the 200 block of West Brook, was arrested and charged with two counts of trafficking heroin, a second-degree felony and two counts of conspiracy to traffic heroin, a third-degree felony and one count of possession with intent to distribute (PWI) heroin.

Auntie, Culver, 16, was arrested and charged with two counts of trafficking heroin, a second-degree felony, two counts of conspiracy to traffic heroin, a third-degree felony and one count of PWI heroin.

According to court reports, A Hobbs woman and Codie as they suspected the pair was selling heroin.

Agents initiated a traffic stop on the couple at the parking lot of the Hobbs JCPenney.

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