



1/10/19

***Mayor's Progress Report- Keep Up with Legislative Efforts***

Our legislative session begins on Jan. 15, and this is our opportunity to make it clear that the roads in Eddy County and Southeastern New Mexico need more funding. During the upcoming weeks, our roads committee and the Roadway Safety Integrated Project will be putting together a series of fact sheets and announcements explaining important bills this year that will help fund road repair and providing information about how you can help. Our state delegation, especially Representatives Brown, Townsend and Gallegos, as well as Senators Kernan, Griggs and Fulfer, are introducing legislation that is essential to our safety and the entire state's economy. We will release this information on the City's Facebook page and provide it to local media.

Monday was a great day in Carlsbad, as we celebrated the groundbreaking of a planned massive expansion to Albertsons. We sincerely appreciate Albertsons Manager David Beaty and everyone with the company for building a store that will better accommodate Carlsbad's growing population. We also want to thank and congratulate CASA director Libby Johnston on her well-deserved retirement. Libby served Carlsbad's children for many decades and greatly improved the lives of so many due to her hard work and dedication.

On a sadder note, we join the community in mourning the loss of Daniel Johnson, husband to Carlsbad Municipal Judge Collis Johnson. Daniel was extremely involved in the

community – in fact, he served as president of the state Chapter of the NAACP. We enjoyed working with him on numerous projects. Please keep the Johnson family in your prayers.

School resumed this week, and we felt like it would be an excellent time to celebrate just a few of the many amazing accomplishments of our young men and women over the past year.

- Our CHS band did it again. The band achieved a Superior ranking during the fall competition in Pecos, Texas. Many of these band members are the same outstanding young men and women who participated in the Hollywood Christmas Parade in 2017.
- Zoe Rhoades inspired all of us when she and her family set up the Giving Tree in Carlsbad, near the Carlsbad Convenience Station. Zoe is a student at Ocotillo Elementary School.
- Our local scouts stayed extremely busy. Members of Girl Scouts with Troop 12001 completed a “give and take” cabinet outside of the Community of Hope Center. Members of Troop 12926 helped clean up Lower Tansill Dam. These are just a couple examples.
- Aaron Braddock, a city hall intern and Early College High School student, represented the entire state when he was selected for the United States Senate Youth Program.
- In the spring, outgoing CHS Senior Will Riley organized a successful national “Stand for the Second,” walkout. Will was also a member of our Mayor’s Youth Advisory Council from the 6<sup>th</sup> grade thru graduation. He is also a long standing member of Teen Court. Both Teen Court and our Advisory Council are amazing programs.
- On the sports side, congratulations to Taylor Miterko for signing to play football with Oklahoma State University. Congratulations to the Carlsbad Cavegirl Basketball team for helping Coach John Zumbrun achieve his 200<sup>th</sup> win.
- Our Carlsbad Water Park concluded another successful year. Our lifeguards did a fantastic job. We’re looking to add more lifeguards this year, so if you know of anyone who wants to help save lives over the summer, please send them our way.
- Congratulations to winners Nawal Querashi and Sean Erasido for winning the district-wide spelling bee.
- Congratulations as well to All-State Choir honors, which went to Sydney Rivera, Coltrin Felt, Taleyah Thomas, Aleice Mitchell, Hannah Beason, Hallie "Lee" Dickerson, Nicholas Harvey, Julianne Rhoades, Sydney Brashear, Sydney Kneeland, NiCha Brashear, Clayton Bluth, Davis Dugan, Zachary McAlister, Weston Rhoades, Madison Meyers, Sarah Fessenden, Alexis Mager and Grant Fritschy.

We know that this doesn’t even begin to scratch the surface of some of the accomplishments of our young people, so here’s our pledge – please send us some more exciting youth accomplishments in Carlsbad to [mayor.office@cityofcarlsbadnm.com](mailto:mayor.office@cityofcarlsbadnm.com) and we will do our

best to include them in upcoming columns. To all of our teachers and students, we wish you a great spring semester. Finally, we look forward to working with LaVern Shan and know she will do an exceptional job as interim superintendent.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please call (575)-887-3798.  
“TAKE PRIDE IN CARLSBAD”