

**WILLIE**

*Always smiling ...*

**Bailiff makes sure court runs smoothly**

MICHELLE A. FOX  
NEWS-SUN

At 7:30 a.m. during the week, you will see Willie Henry in District Courtroom 2 getting things set up for each day's events. From moving tables to adjusting microphones, Henry makes sure court can start on time.

"He is here before everyone," said Magistrate Judge Gary Clingman of his bailiff. "He gets everything in order so we can start at 8 a.m."

It has been eight years since 47-year-old Henry left the oilfield to work for the State of New Mexico in the junior probation office. In 1998, Henry left that office with Janie Hernandez, Clingman's clerk.

"I brought Willie along with me," Hernandez said. "He is an all-around nice guy. He is the first to come forward if you need any help."

In Lea County, the job of bailiff is nothing like television bailiffs such as Rusty from Judge Wapner's "People's Court." You will not see Henry in a police officer's uniform and he does so much more than call court into session.

The main part of what Henry does in Judge Clingman's court is deal with people from attorneys to jurors, if someone needs assistance, Henry is there for them.

"He is such a people person," said Hernandez. "He knows so many people from being in the community. People will often stop and talk to him."

For jurors and potential jurors, Henry is the go-to man and the go-between from the judge to them. During a jury trial, Henry makes sure the court is making the best use of their time.

"My job is to take care of jurors," Henry said. "We are utilizing their time. I try to keep them happy and entertained."

And with the ear-to-ear grin that Henry

always wears, it is hard for those around him not to be happy. But don't let the smile and the jokes fool you, Henry is dedicated to and serious about his job.

"Willie is very dedicated to the courts and the concept of justice," Clingman said. "Willie is an ambassador of the court. He is the first person people see when they come for jury."

Henry says he likes his job primarily because of the people he meets. He also likes it because it keeps him on his toes and on his feet.

"Some days in court are really fast and exciting. Others are slow and dull," Henry said. "You have to be paying attention."

Along with dealing with jurors and moving courtroom furniture, Henry also helps enforce rules established by Clingman. When anyone enters Clingman's courtroom, they are asked to tuck in their shirts, turn off their cell phones and take off sunglasses. Henry will not, however, get involved in an altercation between people in the courtroom.

"People get upset at each other sometimes," Henry said. "That is what the sheriff's deputies are there for. I do not carry a gun, but I can hold my own if I have to."

Even the ladies in the District Court clerk's office have been on the receiving end of Henry's helpfulness. When he is not busy in Clingman's courtroom, he is walking the halls helping others.

"He does all our heavy lifting for us," said Lajuan Hayes. "He will do just about anything you ask him to. He never comes in without saying 'what's up' to everybody."

When the day comes to an end, Henry can be found walking jurors to their cars and preparing for the next day. And that is the way he likes it.

"It is all about getting to know people and being friendly," Henry said.



MICHELLE A. FOX/NEWS-SUN

Willie Henry, bailiff for 5th Judicial District Judge Gary Clingman, prepares the courtroom for an upcoming trial.

**Quiznos Sub**  
MMMM...TOASTY!



*The Best Subs in Town!*

**QUIZNOS SUB**

1323 W. Joe Harvy Blvd.  
Hobbs • 492-9961  
Mon - Sat: 10-10 • Sun: 11-9  
Clay Tipton • Ryan Tipton

OUR HAPTOR

AS LOW AS  
**\$39**  
A MONTH @ 4.9% APR  
FOR 24 MONTHS  
ON ALL MOTORCYCLES & ATVs

PLUS UP TO  
**\$200 CASH BACK**  
ON SELECT MODELS

**GARNER'S YAMAHA, L.L.C.**

320 N. DAL PASO • HOBBS, NEW MEXICO 88240

**YAMAHA**

\*Cash back offer good on select models. Finance offer available at participating Yamaha dealers on the Yamaha cash subject to credit approval. 2005 - 2006 on any new 2005 or new year price Yamaha Motorcycles (excluding 1.8L models) and X-Max 660L, 80L, or 1000cc models. Reduced Rate 4.9% APR and \$200 cashback payment effective on these purchases for 24 months. If your Account is kept current, Minimum amount financed \$2,000. For amounts of \$2,001 to \$10,000, \$20 monthly payment for 24 months will apply. Thereafter a Standard Rate payment 11.99%, 14.99%, 16.99%, or 22.99% APR will apply and minimum monthly payments will be required as described in your credit agreement. For Accounts not kept current, the Default Rate 24.99% will be applied to all balances. Minimum Finance Charge \$1.00. Certain rules apply to the allocation of payments and Finance Charges on your promotional purchase. If you make more than one purchase on your Yamaha card, Call 1-888-367-4310 or review your credit agreement for information. ATVs will require 50cc or greater and motorcycles for use only for riders age 18 years and older. Yamaha Motorcycles that are ATVs (ATV) require an approved training course. For safety and training information, see your dealer or call the ATV Safety Institute at 1-888-887-2387. ATVs can be hazardous to operate. For your safety, always wear your seat belt, never ride on public roads, always wear a helmet, use protective and protective clothing. Never carry passengers. Never engage in stunt riding, racing and other high speed activities. Always wear a seat belt. Always wear your seat belt. Professional rider purchase on closed course. Always wear your seat belt. Yamaha Motorcycles. Yamaha Motorcycles.

**4.99% APR\***

ALL PRODUCTS  
ALL MODELS  
LIMITED TIME OFFER  
Followed by a fixed 7.99% APR\*

**GARNER'S  
KAWASAKI**

320 N. DAL PASO  
HOBBS, NEW MEXICO 88240

© 2005 Kawasaki Motors Corp., U.S.A. \*4.99% APR for 24 months — \$0 Down, Low Payments for 24 months followed by Minimum Payments at 7.99% APR after good on any new, not previously registered Kawasaki motorcycles, ATVs, jet skis, watercraft and MULE™ utility vehicles on your Kawasaki Good Times™ credit card, subject to credit approval. Offer ends 05/31/05. Restrictions may apply. See store for details. 4.99% APR for 24 months — \$0 Down, Low Payments for 24 months - Reduced Rate 4.99% APR and lower monthly payments effective on these purchases for 24 months from the date of purchase if your Account is kept current. For purchases up to \$10,000, the monthly payment will be \$49, plus any insurance charges, if applicable. For purchases between \$10,000.01 and \$20,000, the monthly payment will be \$89, plus any insurance charges, if applicable. 1st the end of the 24 months and if your Account remains current, the APR will be 7.99% and the minimum monthly payment will be the greater of \$15 or 2.5% of the "New Balance." Standard Rate 17.9% APR. For Accounts not kept current, the Default Rate 21.8% APR will be applied to all balances. Minimum Finance Charge \$2.00. Certain rules apply to the allocation of payments and Finance Charges on your promotional purchase if you make more than one purchase on your Kawasaki Good Times Credit Card. Call 1-888-367-4310 or review your credit agreement for information. KAWASAKI CARES: Always wear a helmet, eye protection and proper apparel. Never ride under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

**\$0 DOWN, LOW PAYMENTS FOR 24 MONTHS**

THE LEADING EDGE OF | POWER | PERFORMANCE | EXHILARATION | **Kawasaki**  
Let the good times roll!™