April 11, 2013

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TIMES PAST

1963 – Don Hall resigns from coaching LHS hoops

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THURSDAY APRIL 11, 2013 VOL. 126 - NO. 107 16 PAGES
SERVING THE HOMES OF 'ASSASSINS' CAST MEMBERS $1

Hooker official pleads no contest to killing 2 stray dogs

Town council denies Osborne's request to be reimbursed fine, defense fees

By ROBERT PRECE and ANDREW PHILLIPS
• Leader & Times

The Hooker (Okla.) City Supreme Court ruled Friday that a Hooker man killing two stray dogs last December in the small Texas County town had fair trial.

Texas County Court Clerk M. Denise Hills said Forrest "Frosty" Osborne, 52, of Hooker, Okla., was convicted in Hooker, Okla., on March 8. On that date, he also pointed a cash bond of $2,500 prior to sentencing and was released.

Hills said Osborne retained to court after the trial, but before sentencing. She said the city reporter mistakenly entered a plea of "no contest" instead of "guilty" in the Hooker municipal court and was fined $500 on each count.

It is a move that surprised many Hooker residents. Osborne then sent in a request to the Hooker Town Council to reimburse him for the fine and fees (S1,200), which would cover his fees, court costs and attorney's fees.

The town council denied the request with the council denied the request, according to a resident at the city clerk's office.

Osborne's troubles began when he shot and killed two stray dogs on Oct. 7, 2012. The dogs were in Osborne's Pentanoville home, and a few days afterward, many in the community were upset.

The public outcry immediately got Texas County Sheriff Rick Caddell involved in the investigation. Soon after three months, that investigation resulted in Osborne's arrest March 8 on two counts of animal cruelty.

Witnesses said Osborne had shot dead toward the school when he killed the dogs — thus jeopardizing children.

See OSBORNE/Page 5A

City says goodbye to outgoing commissioners

By ROBERT PRECE
• Leader & Times

Dean Anspach and Roy Warren took their seats as part of the new Liberal City Commission Tuesday evening, but it was time to say goodbye to the two outgoing commissioners they replaced.

Mayor Jim Lawrence and commissioners presented a plaque to outgoing mayor Jim Longo's wife, Terri, for the absent commissioner. Commissioner Jim Lawrence, Harrison talked about Longo's service on the board.

"Jim was instrumental in the whole commission," Harrison said. "Much as everyone regrets Anspach's that you get knocked out of office, I'm sorry that you couldn't be with us today." Longo's absence was due to a family emergency, Harrison said. Harrison also praised Warren for his Girl Scout and Boy Scout service.

See GOODBYE/Page 6A

'BE THE DINOSAUR' EXHIBIT OPENING RECEPTION SET FOR FRIDAY

The Baker Arts Center will have an opening reception from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday for its current "Be the Dinosaur" exhibit from Arcadia Exhibits Traveling Exhibits. Virtual technology simulations let participants "Eat" the dinosaur. The exhibit is free and open to the public. The center is located at 424 N. Pershing in Liberal. For more information, call 624-2271. Visit www.bakerartscenter.com for more information. Visitors get outside the front and back rooms' viewing wheels while watching the ANIMATED video screen as they slide through the back of dinosaur at the "Be the Dinosaur" exhibit recently at the Baker Arts Center. Courtesy photo

'Assassins' takes shot at gun control debate

Play dives into the mind of a killer

By GABE MATT
• Leader & Times

Why did they do it?

Four of the most pert questions asked after a tragic shooting occurs, and the newest production of Fine Arts Department at Seward County Community College/Area Technical School is seeking to share the answers.

"Assassins" will take the stage tonight and shows the audience the mindset of four men who shot and killed the president. Some successful, starting with John Wilkes Booth.

Booth is considered FC's 23, according to director Alison Bridger Chambers, and with the signing Adam once gun control, this was her way of shooting for "two birds with one stone."

For Chambers, the idea hits close to home. The mother of one of her college friends worked as a nurse at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn. Mary Sherlach was one of the victims of the shooting. Twenty children and six adults were killed in the massacre.

"I felt like I needed to do something to set

See ASSASSINS/Page 5A

John Wilkes Booth portrayed by Francisco Parraga, forces his accomplice to take down the machine after he assassinated President Lincoln during a scene of "Assassins" a play that will take place at Seward County Community College/Area Technical School. The performance attempts to shed light on the mindsets of nine separate assassins who tried to kill presidents. Some succeeded, 147 prevailed.

High Plains DOWNLOADS

LHS to present annual Academic Banquet Thursday April 18

Liberal High School will be presenting its annual Academic Banquet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday April 18. Dinner is at 6:30 and the awards begin at 7.

Tickets can be purchased through the Chamber of Commerce at (620) 624-0213.

THURSDAY, APRIL 18

Hospital to host open house to celebrate completion of $22 million expansion

Southwest Medical Center invites all area residents to attend the grand opening of Liberal's updated Medical Office Building. After a year-and-a-half project at NM 2010, the building project has resulted in the construction of the Medical Office Building, updated infrastructure, and an expanded emergency room, laboratory and diagnostic imaging space in the hospital's 1,100 sq. ft. addition.

Opening ceremony and a ribbon cutting will take place outside the hospital at 11:00 a.m. Guided tours of the Southwest Medical Center and the Medical Office Building will be available from noon through 2 p.m.

Lunch and entertainment will also be provided for visitors starting at 12:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

SWMC Gift Shop offering 30% discounts in April

The Southwest Medical Center Gift Shop is offering a 30 percent discount on gifts for the month of April. The shop is also offering a chance to win a free $50 gift card to Southwest Medical Center. All are eligible to sign up for the free gift card. The drawing will be on April 30.

UNTIL APRIL 30

College board members meeting with job candidates

Seward County Community College/Area Technical School Board members will have the opportunity to meet with a candidate for the position of Dean of Career and Technical Education at noon on Friday, April 12 in the Boardroom of the SCCC/ATS Student Activities Building (SAC).

This is a no action meeting.

FRIDAY AND MONDAY

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