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MONDAY | MAY 20, 2013 | VOL. 128 - NO. 20 | 36 PAGES | SERVING THE HOME OF ANSA GRADUATES | $1

Graduation week
The LAT will be running photos of area graduates' ceremonies each day this week. Today's photos are from Southwestern Heights, with the following schedule in effect:
TUESDAY – Plains High School
WEDNESDAY – Pioneer High School
THURSDAY – Liberal High School
FRIDAY – Elkhart High School

Seward County

County looks to repair portions of courthouse roof

By ROBERT PRICE
• Leader & Times

A portion of the roof at the Seward County Courthouse could be getting a new look soon.

The county received a bid recently from Lone Star Waterproofing and two out of town vendors to replace the roof at the south area of the courthouse. Jesse White of White's Roofing, who attended the county commission at the Feb. 4 meeting to discuss some of the issues with the roof. Commissioners were told by White that the roof was a matter from the county's maintenance department to look over as well.

The bid White submitted totaled $24,000, or $23,000 lower than proposals from the Feb. 4 meeting at which the board voted unanimously to table the item.

Commissioners also gave consensus to commissioner Jim Rice to meet with White and the maintenance department to look over recommendations for repairing the roof.

That group later met, and a representative from Lone Construction was asked to be present at tonight's commission meeting to offer his recommendations.

More COUNTY Page 8

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Rec department now accepting registrations for swim lessons

The Recreation Department is now accepting registrations through noon, May 31, for the first session of Red Cross swim lessons.

Classes will begin on June 3 and run through June 13. Classes are offered for ages 6 months to 12 years old and adult swim classes on Friday afternoon.

The cost is $20. Each class timeframe is limited, so prompt registration is recommended.

For more information, contact the Recreation Office at 624-0170.

REGISTER NOW

KDOT invites public to view U.S. Hwy. 54 concepts

The Kansas Department of Transportation will host an open house to present a private project on opportunity to review proposals for the planned expansion of U.S. 54 to a four-lane divided highway. The open house events will be from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday at the Rock Island Depot in Liberal, Thursday at Southwestern Heights High School on U.S. 54 Between Kansas and Plains.

Visitors to the open house events will able to look at proposed changes to the highway expansion from Liberal to the Cimarron River, which will be constructed during THROMG, and from the Cimarron River to the junction of U.S. 54 and U.S. 160 east of Plains, which is being designed for construction in 2014 and 2015.

Representatives from KDOT and the design consultant team will be on hand to answer questions and take comments regarding the proposed improvements. There will be no formal presentation at the open house events. Drop-in any time between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. each night.

WEDNESDAY IN LIBERAL

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ABOVE: The Mustangs under class of 2013 crowds their commencement ceremony at 7 p.m. Sunday at the Southwestern Heights High School football field.

LEFT: Senior Mustang Angela Prescod Dee Pinky awards several graduates with scholarships for academic excellence. LT photo/Nicole Gutierrez

School board tackles new business

By RACHEL COLEMAN
• Leader & Times

The academic year is winding down, but work continues for members of the USD 480 school board, which met at 6:30 p.m. tonight at the Education Service Center. Tonight's agenda includes 17 "new business items" along with the usual reports from directors and departments.

See SCHOOLS Page 8

TORNADOES SLAM PLAINS, MIDWEST; 1 DEAD IN OKLA.

A flag flies in the debris of a mobile home after a tornado struck a mobile home park Sunday near Dale, Okla. For the story, see PAGE 5. AP photo/Sue Ogrocki