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SERVING THE HOME OF DR. LANCE STOUT

Liberal bids farewell to Dr. Lance Stout

LEFT: May 2013 Superintendent Dr. Lance Stout visits with well-wishers Thursday afternoon at his going-away reception. Stout will be stepping down from the superintendent's school position to take a similar superintendent job at a district in Independence, Mo. LT photo/Chris Lawrence

Parks and Rec superintendent Damian Popp smiles at her desk Tuesday afternoon. Popp was hired in April after finishing her master's degree in Sport Management in December 2012. LT photo/Chris Lawrence

Parks and Rec welcomes new sports director

By ROBERT PRICE
• Leader & Times

Sports provide a variety of activities for people of all ages to enjoy in life, and Liberal's Park and Rec office offers many of those sports to local people.

Sports also provide a variety of ways to change of outlining sporting events for the community through Parks and Rec.

Damian, a 2007 graduate of Liberal High School, was hired in April to become the new sports supervisor in the city department, and after finishing her UHS education, where she enjoyed time on the playing field, she continued her sporting life at the next level, playing soccer at Cowley Community College in Arkansas City.

Popp then transferred to K-State in Manhattan, where

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The quilt that came home

Liberal native stumbles on local artifact

The women stitched each star by hand, piecing printed diamonds into an orderly geometric pattern. Butter-yellow anchored the differently hued stars, some pastel, some intense. Finally, they added their names, 104 in all, embroidered in colored thread on white cotton.

It was a quilt top and a labor of all ages — most likely a farewell gift presented to Pauline Wright of Liberal by her friends and neighbors. Wright and her family moved shortly after Christmas, taking the quilt top with them. Years later, the quilt top was lost, it seemed, misplaced. Draped over a Kansas-bound Mitchell with bad dreamings, one star seemed to fall from the sky and disappear into the wilderness of an antique shop's hallway.

"It's just wrapped up in it," said Chris McCabe, who found the quilt top in a Mitchell shop. McCabe had traveled to Hound Dog, Texas, with her two daughters. Though the twenty-population town is small, it is home to a surprisingly eclectic antique hub in northeastern Fort Worth between San Antonio, Houston and Austin. Antique dealers from all over the country come to Hound Dog, surrounding the town's one square mile.

"It was so late, and we were just looking, looking and looking," McCabe said. "I saw the look of this quilt top," said McCabe, a quilter herself. Even so, she was not particularly interested in the quilt top. Wright's family was an expansive one — until her daughter added 75 miles to Liberal, Kansas.

McCabe was disappointed, and easily shuffled what looked a closed book. "All I did," she said, "I placed it cool with the seller, because I

See QUILT TOP Page 5A

ABOVE: Chris McCabe and her mother, Margaret Wright, pose for a photograph in Liberal. The antique quilt top held by Liberal Tim antique mill was first donated to the Gertrude Museum. Courtesy photo

RIGHT: Chris McCabe and her mother, Margaret Wright, pose for a photograph in Liberal. The antique quilt top held by Liberal Tim antique mill was first donated to the Gertrude Museum. Courtesy photo

didn't want have to change our KGFW. Then took it for $25.

The quilt top, McCabe felt, "was a treasure, a steal. After a little would would be interested in something like that, and what were the chances that I would come across it? I'm a quilter, and my two daughters said I must not leave it behind, and I couldn't stand to call my mother."

Wright, who lives in Hutchinson, Kansas, was delighted by the news of her daughter's unexpected find.

"I just wanted to show it to as many people as

L&T story by Rachel Coleman

2013 Beaver grads celebrate

ABOVE: Graduates from the 2013 Beaver High School ceremonies toss their caps in the air after finishing commencement exercises Sunday.

LEFT: 2013 graduate Kalia Hunter hugs her mother after giving her a graduation rose. Photos courtesy Herald Democrat, Brett Lawson