June 27, 2013

Thursday, 27 June 2013 11:49

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THURSDAY JUNE 27, 2013 VOL. 128 - ISSUE 181 14 PAGES
SERVING THE SHORES OF UNION PACIFIC POLICE $1

WHERE'S THE BATS?

Bee Jays bats disappear in loss to Dodge City

PAGE 1B

16 GARAGE SALES LISTED INSIDE TODAY

hplreader.com

High Plains DOWNLOADS

College offers numerous energy industry safety training courses

Seward County Community College/Area Technical School partners with the Energy Training Council to offer training for individuals working in energy industry areas.

Training topics include Bloodborne Pathogens, Confined Space Awareness, Defensive Safety, Fall Awareness/Awareness, PG Protection, Fire Safety, Hazard Communication, Hearing Conservation, Heat Stress, Lockout/Tagout, Personal Protective Equipment, Slip, Trip and Falls and Substance Abuse.

In addition, the Business and Industry office offers eight-hour OSHA training, four-hour PSS training, Hazmat Awareness, Hazmat Operations, Hazmat Technician, Hazmat Incident Commander, Hazmat Specialist, CPR & First Aid, 10-hour OSHA Construction Outreach Training Program, 30-hour OSHA Construction Outreach Training Program and eight-hour Safe Lift USA training.

Contact us for customized training courses or to schedule customized training for your business, call 620-417-1173 or email psyfield@sccc.edu.

CALL NOW

Businesses invited to share info with new teachers

USD No. 480 is hosting a New Teacher Information Fair from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 6, in the Cottonwood Commons Area.

USD No. 480 is inviting area businesses to share information about their services with approximately 50-70 potential clients.

Everyone is invited to participate in this information fair for new teachers to USD 480. Participating businesses will have the opportunity to meet with new teachers and share their information. To participate and/or help sponsor this event, complete a registration form.

For more information, contact Lora Evans at 624-8211 or levans@usd480.net or Adrienne Chatterpaul at 624-5233 or achatterpaul@usd480.net.

TUESDAY, AUG. 6

County seeking to fill advisory boards

There are still some board openings available to be filled by anyone interested. Should you have an interest in filling one of these boards or need more information, please complete the Application for Board Appointment, which is located on the website at www.sewardcounty.org or contact the county administration office at 624-3212.

Current openings:

1 - Two-year term on the Southwest Kansas Area on Aging

1 - One-year term on the Planning and Zoning Board

These vacancies will be open until filled.

APPLY NOW

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No cop, no stop

A car waits at the railroad track crossing of Pershing Avenue/Wednesday as a special Union Pacific engine carrying UP Police and Liberal Police officers passes by on Tuesday, June 25. Despite the presence of the special Union Pacific Police, cars and pedestrians in the area are being lowered and driving around them since they are completely down. Within a few hours, at least six drivers were ticketed for failing to stop when the signal lights and crossing arms were lowered. *LEF photo/Lonnie Arredondo*

Union Pacific program catches drivers ignoring deadly warnings

By Michelle Arredondo
• Leader & Times

Even with the Liberal police officers painted in plain sight, drivers didn't fall for the ploy and cars and pedestrians were in defiance of crossing arms as they lowered to block railroad crossings.

Union Pacific Railroad Police and local law enforcement officers worked together in a UP engine to observe automatic behavior at the railroad grade crossings in Liberal.

Officers Tuesday afternoon ticketed drivers who were in violation of the public street grade crossings and pedestrian crossings by failing to arrive, not stop and wait for the crossing.

Drivers who were ticketed for violations of the law were informed that the counselor employees dealt with on a daily basis.

These type of activities are executed only every couple of years. In the past, another activity that has been done by the UP Police officers was to stop and ticket drivers who were in violation of the law.

Afterward, it is taken down to the state law and the courts for disposition.

"You see a lot of interesting stuff from

See TRIAL/Page 5A

Liberal

City looks at strategic plan for future

Plan calls for slight changes in 1-cent sales tax distributions

By Victoria Calderon
• Leader & Times

The second item on the sheet agenda at Saturday's special city commission meeting was Strategic Planning. This this look at the thrills of the three-hour work session held Tuesday.

City manager Mark Hall presented a plan on how to improve the distribution of the 1-cent sales tax revenues. The plan started taking shape several years ago, and it was a collaborative effort. The staff came with thoughtful plans, of course, begins with proper preparation.

Hall discussed the distribution of the 1-cent sales tax for the plan. Following is the percentage of the fund for each portion of the plan:

Public Safety, Street Maintenance and Capital Improvements

See PLAN/Page 5A

City receives feedback on Kansas Sampler Festival

Sampler attendence was 4,500 people, down from 2012, which is normal trend

By Victoria Calderon
• Leader & Times

At Tuesday night's city commission meeting a report on the 2013 Kansas Sampler Festival was one of the main agenda items.

Sally Folks, the director of the Convention and Visitors Bureau, presented the report and gave a report about the success of this year's Sampler.

"We had 4,500 attend. That's about a normal trend for Sampler. It's the same buy common in every community," Folks said. "Everything went really well. We had no problems with the weather and have proved it was of our concession."

Folks gave some tidbits by all the vendors that participated in the Sampler. Liberal got plenty of positive reviews from them as well.

"We, as a surprise concession, 'Freddie, couldn't find one'," Folks said.

Although commissioner would like to get the Sampler back, the park and

See SAMPLER/Page 5A

The City of Plains is one stop closer to getting a grocery store that will be placed in the downtown area. *LEF file photo/Dawn Pierce*

Saturday walk-a-thon to raise funds for Plains grocery store

By Robert Mace
• Leader & Times

The football field at Southwestern Heights High School is familiar to the Plains area. It is not just a place for school team, but the facility is available to second-chance first-time runners.

The Saturday afternoon, walkers will take to the track of the field to help raise money for a project in one of the two towns the school represents.

The Community Enhancement Foundation of Plains is holding a walk-a-thon to raise funds for a new grocery to be built and to help get a grocery store in the small Morton County Community.

CEF President Joanne Roberts said

the event will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. at the SWH track, and people can walk together or a team of six or individually.

Registration for the walk-a-thon is $10 per person, and that cost covers a T-shirt and a meal for a person and bring all of the money gets turned

See WALK/Page 5A