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Man found not guilty in Garden City shooting

GARDEN CITY (AP) — A Garden City man has been found not guilty of attempted murder and other charges in a shooting after a condemnation hearing ruled he was insane.

Casey Allmendinger was Friday morning before finding Miguel Herrera not guilty in the June 2012 shooting of Jesus Ramirez-Ramirez, 19.

Finney County District Attorney Susan Thompson was charged with attempted murder, aggravated use of a weapon to cause a bodily disturbance and causing unwarranted fear by a person with a firearm.

Garcia was sitting in a car when altercation began after someone in the car threw a beer can at a passing truck. Herrera was driving. Prosecutors said Herrera and Allmendinger chased the truck for about 20 miles. Both backed down the other car and opened fire.

22 GARAGE SALES LISTED INSIDE TODAY

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DOWNLOADS

Seward County 4-H Benefit Trap Shoot set for Sunday

The Seward County Sharp Shooters trap team is hosting a benefit trap shoot for the Seward County 4-H Shooting Sports Club on Sunday at the Liberal Gun Club on east Tucker Road to raise funds to buy equipment for the 4-H Shooting Sports Club.

Entry fee is a $10 donation per person and will be for 100 targets. Shooters will be divided into male and female with a total of 75 targets – 25 trap at 16 yards, 25 skeet and 25 trap at 27 yards.

There will be cash prizes for adults and plaques for youth as well as other prizes of door shots. Food and drinks will be available at the Gun Club, and everyone should bring a lawn chair.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. with practice available for 30 per 25-target round. The competition will start at 10:30. Shooters may bring their own shells. Any shell larger than 6 or 20 and 1-1/2-ounce shells will be checked for pressure.

SUNDAY

New Beginnings Church to offer Vacation Bible Xtreme

New Beginnings Church in Liberal presents this year's Vacation Bible Xtreme. Children who have completed kindergarten to 6th grade and will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, July 17, to Friday, July 19. Dinner is included each night and all activities will take place on campus.

On Saturday July 20, from noon to 4 p.m. will be the awards celebration and Family Fun Day which includes free food, fun and games.

Come on out and join us for XTREME fun, food, games, challenges, worship and massages.

Call the church office for more info and pre-pre-registered online.

PRE-REGISTER NOW

First Christian hosting fun family day cookout on Sunday

First Christian Church is having an afternoon of laughter, fun, food, games and a cook-out in the parking lot at 1:00 until 5:pm on Sunday. The fun starts at 3 p.m. with the cookout at 5.

For more information, call 624-2405.

SUNDAY

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Growing in Liberal a mixed bag this summer

Vegetable gardens soak up rain, trees and lawns still stressed

By MICHAEL COLEMAN
Leader & Times

After several years of drought-like conditions, Liberal has looked greener this summer. Lawns, trees and other outdoor crops, flowering bushes and daylilies flower doesn't mean things are flourishing in southwest Kansas.

"Everything looks so beautiful," said Liberal resident Susan Strang. "But that's mean. I'm getting much produce out of my garden," Strang said of the Community Garden, which she supervises as part of her job at Liberal Parks and Recreation Department, in southwest Kansas.

"It seems like they're doing really well, but of course, a lot of the Liberal area is irrigated and being fed by rivers and ponds," she said.

The Community Garden, operated by Liberal Parks and Rec, is at the corner of Tyler Ave. and Pine Street, about 17 plots. Strang fed back such, for the most part, to the people who have gardens but don't have space to do so at home. A 501 (c)3 organization, the city provides free water from April 1 to late October.

Overall, gardens have fared better this summer than home and grass, said Kelly Stevenson Agricultural Agent with K-State Research.

"It seems like they're doing really well, but of course, a lot of the Liberal area is irrigated and being fed by rivers and ponds," she said. "It's mostly the Community Garden that's more stressed, almost every farm, if farm is to be counted by environmental determinations," she said.

Mayor Gardenier Inc. Stockland agreed.

"We have had shrubs that I have seen like your Texas Ivy, Boxwood, we had total a toll. Some of the trees had leaves in the formative stage and while the leaves didn't fall them, it stunted them. They just don't look right," he said. "I'm afraid that with a dry summer overall, which we ought to have, that the damage done to the trees might not make it through the next winter."

Stockland said applying fertilizer to struggling trees is a bad idea.

"If you do that, there will be lots of new growth and it will be susceptible to insects, cold, the damaged environment," he said. The best choice is to "make sure they get plenty of water, and then wait

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Bazaar Days are here

Shoppers read over sale items earlier today in downtown Liberal as Bazaar Days kicked off with 20 participating retail stores across Liberal taking part in the annual event, where shoppers can sometimes find discounts up to 70 percent. People who purchase at one of the participating stores can turn in their receipt at the Chamber of Commerce and be part of a drawing featuring where numerous gift cards will be given away. The sale goes on through tomorrow as well. (LT photo/Cecelia Fortenberry)

Wright to bring small town country to county fair

WRIGHT'S WEIGHT

There's a thousand little towns you can never travel about out in the Heartland" is the opening line to one of Shelly Wright's favorite songs.

And why not? Because right in the middle of Seward County, Kansas, is a little town that you have ever imagined what life was like in the country with homes, cows, backwoods, dances and the Hickory Bucket and the owner of the general store who knows everyone by name. Wright will be here to check it all out Saturday morning with him at the place.

Shelly Wright has always called Nate "home" where he still has life-long friends and lives at the same ranch on which he grew up this Sunday.

"I'm a little bit of a Nate Dogg, a little bit of a Nate and embrace its ways — a church of Heartland cows that he and his dad raised for food and Hoosier college basketball.

According to Shelly, "I was painfully shy as a child and couldn't stand the thought of singing in my church, much less in front of people.

"As the story goes, Heartland's pastor given to him when he was 5, "I feel like the typical little boy, he got

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