October 9, 2013
Thursday, 10 October 2013 14:01

I feel like I'm diagonally parked in a parallel universe.
Thursday Prime Rib
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HALLY'S RUB HIGH BEEF FOR VOTED AMERICA'S BEST RESTAURANT 5 YEARS STRAIGHT.

Will gov't shutdown affect local residents?

by ROBERT PRICE
• Leader & Times

Last week, elected officials failed to come to terms on regular appropriations or a continuing resolution for the 2014 fiscal year, the federal government went into a partial shutdown.

Among the limits to the consequences of the stoppage in operations were the National Park System, which many Americans visit during vacations.

Other effects were felt in places where some of the non-essential government employees were laid off. Some of those people who are choice line to look for work are turning to help support themselves and their families.

Some may be wondering what effect a shutdown at the federal level would have on local government. For the most part, the effects would be minimal. Some of the local folks would change — at least if the government is only shut down for a short period of time.

Among the local agencies that the shutdown will depend to large part on the duration of it. But did you know that the Ottawa County Health Department's Women, Infants and Children program, which is federally funded could suffer.

See SHUTDOWN/Page 3A

No injuries in Okla. pipeline blast

Lone tree stands in front of the blast site.

ROGERS, Okla. (AP) — Authorities say no one was injured when a natural gas pipeline exploded in northeast Oklahoma, sending a fireball into the air that was visible from up to 20 miles away.

The explosion happened at about 11 p.m. Tuesday in a rural area of Rogers County near the Kansas border. The Oklahoma Gas and Electric pipeline is owned by Northwest Natural Gas Company of Omaha, Neb.

Company spokesman Mike Loeffler says the cause of the explosion isn't yet clear. He said the company has contained the blaze and is helping it burn itself out.

Nearby mobile homes were evacuated as a precaution.

The explosion occurred in a rural part of the state near Pollish, Okla., in the Oklahoma Ozarks.

HALF CENT TO BE ON BALLOT

City commission will allow public vote

by GERIE ANDERSON
• Leader & Times

The Liberal City Commission meeting Tuesday evening included a unanimous approval for every item listed in the agenda.

And more than 1,500 — 600 Board of Education, 900 City — further discussed the financial support for a half cent sales tax, if one was to exception. The assumption is that

the voters would approve the sales tax if they voted in favor of the Board of Education's request for a half cent sales tax, if one was to exception. The assumption is that

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LEADER & TIMES
Your daily news & views for 127

College scholarship auction raises
$46,000
to be used to provide a college education to area students
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Obama Administration denies Mass to Catholics

Religious liberty under attack

• Journal-Star Leader & News

Washington, D.C. — Tuesday Congressman Tim Huelskamp released details of activities by the Obama Administration to deny Catholics access to Mass this Adventwhile.

Father Ray Leonard, who serves at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay in Georgia, was informed by Kings Bay Chapel to celebrate Mass this past weekend by a proper authorization from the Department of Defense to meet the spiritual needs of the Catholic Navy personnel stationed at the Base. Fr. Leonard was met by federal agents who told him to cease "Mandatory "No Catholic service till further notice."

HUELSKAMP

Even after volunteering his time to celebrate Mass on Thanksgiving, Father Leonard was still denied access to his parishioners.

"This is not church. Catholics have an expectation and a right to receive the sacraments. We are not allowed to go to church this week," commented Father Leonard. After serving his time at a teacher in China, his celebration of Mass was interrupted by the Communist Party. His parishioners were upset. They were angry and threatened. They couldn't believe that in America, the Navy would deny them the sacraments.

Huelskamp, a committee of religious liberties in Congress, spoke with Leonard of Kings's Tuesday morning.

Huelskamp reported "Time and time again the Administration demonstrates it is waging a war against the Catholic Church and the Jewish faith in the United States. This is exactly why we worked to pass legislation (House Concurrent Resolution 38) this past weekend to protect the religious liberties of all those who bravely serve in our Armed Forces."

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18 states now selling gas for less than $3 a gallon

• Associated Press

CHICAGO — How low could this go? That's what expertise are asking from country's cheapest gasoline. Gas is selling for less than $3 in Ohio, Ladbrook, Texas, and St. Louis, Mo., where gas prices are poised to finish the year with the cheapest price for the stage-five stalemate.

Already, St. Louis consumers are paying an average of $2.99 a gallon. Tulsa has seen stations at $2.95 per gal. In Ladbrook (today Chandler), motorists are paying as low as $2.89 or as high as $2.99 per gal.

While the direction of current prices is clearly downward, the question is if cheap prices are certainly encouraging to see how many states already have stations with regular gas available for under $3, and Energy Buffalo's owner Jonathan Ellis is betting on it.

"Our network of websites shows 18 states where motorists could access regular gasoline for less than $3 a gallon," he said. Texas, Idaho, Ohio, Ark., Ga., N.M., La., Iowa, Ala., N.J., Kan., Mo., Okla., Tenn., Miss., Ohio, and Ind. Delivers noted.

The average price of gasoline across the nation is currently $3.29 a gallon, according to GasBuddy.com.

States seeing sub $3/gal gas

U.S. energy supply and demand fundamentals remain unchanged and the price of crude oil is down about 10%, thus perhaps by Thanksgiving, we could see an average of 25 states from $3 to $2.99 a gallon, Ellis said, adding before 10 and average Ladbrook, another. Gasbuddy source petroleum refineries that took gasoline prices at more than 1,000,000 gasoline stations in the U.S. and Canada, Ellis said. In addition, Gasbuddy offers a free app (around one of the 50 best 2013 iPhone apps by Time magazine) which has been downloaded more than 25 million times. Gasbuddy's website has the lowest gasoline prices in their area.

Local gas prices 28 cents higher than state ave.

by JAMES PHELPS
• Leader & News

While prices of gasoline in the midwest are falling counter to the U.S. average, the following rate. The lowest prices registered Tuesday by GasBuddy.com for the Liberal is 2.89 per gallon.

That price is the exact same at two stations throughout Liberal, including:

• Costco at 238 W Pancake Blvd. and Kansas Ave.
• Kwiktrip at 400 S Kansas Ave. and Pancake Blvd.

Other stations with the lowest prices are:

• 88 Stop, Shell station on the corner of Pancake Blvd. and 15th St., at 1501 N. Pancake Blvd., and Western Ave. and at 1401 E. Pancake

See PRICE/2A/Page 3A

Police arrest 8 House members at immigration rally

by LORI MONTGOMERY
• Associated Press

WASHINGTON — At least eight Democratic lawmakers were arrested Tuesday after they blocked a main entrance to the Capitol in a protest against traffic ending in a push Republicans to hold a vote on a sudden immigration overhaul.

Police would not identify those arrested. Representatives of the social justice organizations Center for Community Change and the Associated Press estimated the arrests at 8. Rep. Luis Gutierrez, D-Ill., Raul Grijalva, D-Ariz., Keith Ellison, D-Minn., Joseph Crowley and Charles Rangel, both D-N.Y., Jan Schakowsky, D-Ill., and Jan Schakowsky, D-Ill.

Representatives of other groups whose members attended the rally included Rep. Jim McDermott, D-Wash. Pennsylvania Justice, confirmed that several of their members were arrested at the rally.

Those arrested will be charged with "crowding, obstructing, and impeding" under the local laws of the District of Columbia, Capitol Police said. The arrests began about 4 p.m. EDT and had ended two hours later, police said in a statement.

The demonstrators were protesting the unannounced set of civil disobedience by the speaker of the House can force a vote on a sudden, pro-immigration overhaul.

The rally took place after the vote was announced on a bill to fund the government in the National Mall during a show in which the Mexican band dedicated each song to the estimated

Rep. Luis Gutierrez, D-Ill., is arrested Tuesday by Capitol Police officers on Capitol Hill during a demonstration with 8 others. Associated Press photo by Susan Walsh

11 million immigrants living in the United States illegally.

Rep. Luis Gutierrez, a longtime immigration bill sponsor, Rep. Jim McDermott, D-Wash., and Rep. Jan Schakowsky, D-Ill., joined the Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer, D-Md., and Rep. Xavier Becerra, D-Calif., in a sit-down in front of the Capitol Police officers. Hoyer, Becerra and Gutierrez delivered speeches on the floor of the House calling for border security as well as a Dream path to citizenship for those already in the U.S. illegally.

LATEST NEWS NOTE

Associated Press photographer for the office of Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, the Washington Examiner that the Park Service allowed the press to enter the Mall to photograph the rally, which was not open to the public. Associated Press staff photographer Susan Walsh was arrested by the government shutdown.

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Happy Birthday, Ryan McVey!
Liberal, Kansas