October 10, 2013

Thursday, 10 October 2013 14:02

I get enough exercise just pushing my luck.
Slow Smokin BBQ
Home of the BIG WOODY!
44 Village Plaza • Liberal, KS 620-626-6400 Monday - Saturday
BILLY'S BLUE DUCK BBQ VOTED AMERICA'S BEST RESTAURANT & TRAVEL STRAIGHT!

How steady is your shot?

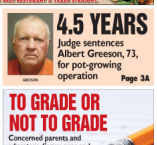
• Sarah's the Leader & Times

The Southeast Kansas Skills and Shoot Club will host its annual Sporting Clays weekend at the Liberal Shooting Range.

At 10 a.m. Saturday, there will be a Forgy Shooter competition. The event is open to all shooters and is sanctioned by the National Sporting Clays Association. Fee for this shoot is $50 for non-members and $35 for members. You will need approximately 100 rounds of ammunition for this shoot.

At 1:30 p.m. Sunday, there will be a team pistol shoot. This is a two-hour, twelve-round handicap shoot. Participants will shoot a 22 caliber pistol, 22 centerfire pistol, 38 or 9mm pistol. Fee for this shoot is $15 for

See SHOOTS Page 5A



4.5 YEARS

Judge sentences Albert Greeson, 73, for pot-growing operation

Page 3A

TO GRADE OR NOT TO GRADE

Concerned parents and educators discuss pros and cons of competency-based grading being implemented at LHS.

Page 6A

City to purchase new Jaws of Life

by GRELLA MARCONDES
• Leader & Times

Along with the $282,500 Board of Education approved at its Monday October meeting, the Liberal City Commission meeting also covered the

Third Reading of Ordinance No. 4418 for adoption of 2012 Edition of the Benefited Traffic Ordinance (BTO).

The BTO passed 5-0, and it will go into effect on Saturday.

See CITY Page 6A

THURSDAY OCTOBER 10, 2013

LEADER & TIMES

Your daily news & views for 127 years

Hunter Education

Class being offered for those seeking to earn a hunter safety card.

Page 3A

Appeals court won't stop Keystone in Okla., Texas

Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper takes part in a discussion at the Canadian Business Council in New York Sept. 11. Harper said he "won't take no for an answer" after the Obama administration rejects the Canadian Keystone XL pipeline in a Texas Coast. (AP Photo/Kathy Willens, File)

OKLAHOMA City (AP) — A federal appeals court Wednesday cast a lower court's decision to stop the construction temporarily stop construction of what is intended to be the southern end of the Keystone XL pipeline from Oklahoma to Texas to otherwise along the Gulf Coast.

The Sierra Club, Clean Energy Partners of Oklahoma and the East Texas Tab Regional Planning Commission had sued to stop the project, claiming it would cause potential significant environmental hazards and disrupt a Texas aquifer. The groups had sought an order that would have stopped work on the pipeline while the lawsuit was pending. The 10th Circuit court denied that request last year.

In a split decision, a panel of judges on the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in Denver upheld the ruling, saying the groups could't prove that potential harm to the aquifer would outpace economic evaluations of the Keystone pipeline's backers would use.

Referring to the lower court decision and the judge, Tymkovich said the panel found that the lower court judge "was significantly [illegible] in August 2012 hearing. Tymkovich said spent in [illegible] and it was "underpinned that further delay [illegible] cost hundreds of millions of dollars to the project."

The court also said that the Sierra Club and the other groups could not show that they would suffer harm in losses if the pipeline builder obtained a wine the lawsuit. The judges also [illegible] the lower court.

"Sierra Club's potential harm was 'self-inflicted' because of its own [illegible] delay," Tymkovich said.

The Keystone pipeline was designed to carry tar sands oil from Canada's oil sands to Texas refineries. It would cross Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. Concerns were raised in Nebraska by plans to route the line through the Ogallala aquifer.

Because the Keystone XL pipeline will cross the Canada-U.S. border, federal approval is required. President Barack Obama rejected the original and staged construction of the pipeline in 450-mile northern portion from Canada to Nebraska.

Judge William J. Martinez said in a [illegible] that the lower court didn't adequately assess whether the Sierra Club and the others could win their lawsuit, and whether the pipeline builder would have sent the case back for more proceedings.

The Sierra Club and allied pipeline critics argument that environmental assessments were insufficient. He said the pipeline will cross water five times each mile — a total of 2,227 times — and that the pipeline would increase the risk impact of building the pipeline.

The construction right of way 50 feet wide, Martinez said. Various negotiation and appeal which were continued are filed in Martinez wrote.

Kansas to stop using federal food stamp grant

TOPEKA (AP) — A Kansas social services agency is ending its practice of using federal grant funds to encourage low-income residents to sign up for food assistance.

Dennis Freed, spokesperson for the Kansas Department for Children and Families, told the Topeka Capital-Journal Wednesday that the decision is consistent with the state's position that it shouldn't be the agency that is asking about taxes and benefits.

"We simply do not believe taxpayer funds should be used to encourage people to be on welfare," Freed said.

The grant program awarded federal funds to the groups across Kansas that used it to help low-income residents sign up for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. The groups were notified by the state on Sept. 30, and Freed said the funds will not be renewed. Groups will have to find alternative funding sources to continue their outreach.

One group, Catholic Social Services in Dodge City, was to receive $10,000 in grant funds. Debbie Stagg, the agency's director, called Friedle's description of the assistance program an "unfortunate."

Stagg said most people who receive food assistance in Southwest Kansas are working, and they need to rely on the assistance temporarily.

"The majority of people are working, and they're trying to feed their children. In recent years, we've seen a

See SNAP Page 6A

Fossil hunter wants Kansas state fossil

LAWRENCE (AP) — A Lawrence teaching artist hopes a fossil hunter for nearly three decades will get the state of Kansas to recognize a sea fossil.

Stan Dietrich, 68, has been trying for 12 years to get the state to recognize the Xiphactinus as the state fossil, dedicating one last year to the cause before giving up. The Lawrence Journal-World reported Friday that he has a new idea: Make the fossil a dinosaur. Dietrich wants Kansas to select the monstrous a large, swimming reptile that roamed the state's inland sea when it was covered by an inland sea millions of years ago.

"This is my last try," he said. "If this does not succeed, I'm going to stop by the time after my 80th birthday. I'm tired of some people who are [illegible] people who are never willing to compromise."

Dietrich, a retired oil operator and antique collector, has been trying to get the state to recognize the Xiphactinus since 1983. Last year, 29 years ago, he has a 17-inch-tall fiber-reinforced skeleton prepared to display to help his public presentations. He has also prepared a dozen representatives while also preparing his other 20-foot-long monstrous for display.

Dietrich, who is a friend of the of Kansas University's Natural History Museum and Biodiversity

See FOSSIL Page 5A

Fossil hunter Alan Dietrich, in pictured Dec. 2 in Lawrence with a fossil he examined for discovered around Ness City, Ness County, Dietrich, 68, has been trying for 12 years to get the state to authorize a state fossil. Dietrich wants Kansas to recognize a large, swimming reptile that roamed the state of Kansas when Kansas was covered by an inland sea millions of years ago. (Photo/Lawrence Journal-World/Nick Krug)

Vol. 128 • Iss. 142 • 10 Pages

Happy Birthday, Shane Jackson!

Liberal, Kansas