January 26, 2014

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Man, teenage girl shot early Friday

Man transferred to Wichita hospital in serious condition

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CRIME SCENE

Woman accused of EMBEZZLEMENT faces arraignment Tuesday

By LARRY PHILLIPS
Leader & Times

It started last year with a simple phone call and resulted in the arrest of Kaylee Green Yeakum, 30, of Chapin, Okla.

The chief allegedly embezzled money from the Sterling County Rural Water District No. 1 in Sterling, where she worked as a bookkeeper.

After months of investigation, interviews and preliminary court hearings, Green Yeakum, 30, of Chapin, Oklahoma Center Jersey, agreed to provide a consulting report, which would be used in the prosecution of the potential loss from the alleged embezzlement.

Judge Jeff Bates released Jerry Hallman, district attorney, and a provided the following timeline of events:

• The water board president, Roger Hallman, received a phone call Feb. 7, 2013, from the Bank of Hartne City advising that the bank had found a check from the Sterling account was deposited to a balance of approximately $200.

• After meeting with bank representatives and reviewing the bank statements, Hallman contacted the Hartne County Sheriff's office on

• See EMBEZZLEMENT, Page 3A

City, school district hash out details for bond issue

'We want to do things the right way'

By MICHAEL COLEMAN
Leader & Times

Since the Liberal City Commission approved a resolution Jan. 7 to place a half-cent sales tax special election, the idea of a school bond issue for USD 480 has been a topic of conversation. The two entities agreed to consider both the collaborative effort appears to be the best way to go, and the two entities agreed to work together on the issue of a 2007 sales tax vote to support Liberal's recommended schools.

With the election several months away, the two entities are working on a memorandum of understanding that will be the interlocal agreement that will pull out the plans through.

"We want to do things the right way," said the school district are engaging, said City of Liberal Finance Director Jim Wilson. "We want to do things the working book and both to ensure the final agreement is something both entities can live with.

Ford said the "bug" he referred to included many aspects:

• Who will be the entities involved in preparing this working with USD 480.

• Who will be the entities involved in preparing this working with USD 480.

• How and Associates the management fees

• See CITY/SCHOOL, Page 7A

INSIDE
SUNDAY JANUARY 26, 2014
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Kan. high court upholds Hugoton homicide verdict

TOPEKA (AP) — The Kansas Supreme Court has upheld the felony murder conviction of a southwest Kansas man in the August 2009 stabbing death of his mother.

In a unanimous decision Friday, the court rejected arguments that Michael Martine Jr. of Hugoton, Kansas, should have been given a new preliminary examination in Stevens County District Court.

The high court concluded the prosecutor did mischaracterize testimony from Martine's sister but said the incorrect statement was not intentional. Justice Dan Biles wrote that the evidence against Martine was overwhelming.

Martine was convicted after calling 911 to report he had stabbed his mother, Lorraine, in their Hugoton home.

Kicker Country Stampede reveals #BestLineUpEver

CMT Announces Randy Houser, Lee Brice, Easton Corbin, Will Hoge & The Railers to round out star-studded lineup

• Special to the Leader & Times

NASHVILLE, TENN. — Just when you thought it couldn't get any bigger or better, Kicker Country Stampede announced its star-studded line-up for its fifth year ever. Its announced six-pack of country superstars — Randy Houser, Lee Brice, Easton Corbin, Will Hoge and The Railers will hit the stage from 20-27 in Manhattan, in addition to previously announced country superstars Luke Bryan, Eric Church, Florida Georgia Line, Thompson Square, Jason Aldean, Tyler Farr, Lee Brice, Jon Pardi, Sarah Darling, & Dogwood Wish and Logan Mize.

Tickets for the event are currently available for the discounted price of $125 until Feb. 28. Dedicated and reserved seating tickets for the Stampede, a limited number of campsites are available starting at the $125 price point. Tickets are available before they sell out. (Every Target patrons must purchase a four-day ticket to the Stampede, a reserved or weekend VIP ticket to enter the campgrounds.)

Tickets are limited and camping is a huge attraction so be heard online at www.countrystampede.com or by calling 800-970-4151.

Country Stampede is an annual four-day countryfest and lifestyle festival presented by Sam Hall, sponsored by Bud Light, and held in Kansas Stadium, Central Park and Aggie Park in Manhattan, Kansas. Gates are held from Upside and Salina and two locations within Stadium Suites Club. Lineup is subject to change.

The event features multiple live stages with performances from today's top up-and-coming country artists, family-friendly entertainment, camping and much, much more.

Follow Kicker Country Stampede on Twitter @KickerCountry and like them on Facebook at facebook.com/countrystampede.

Gun flight: Smith & Wesson, Ruger quit California over stamping requirement

By MARY CHARGIN-WOLF
Leader & Times

A year-and-half-long gun-magazine-stamping law enforcement has driven Smith & Wesson and Sturm Ruger out of California, and Colorado-based Magpul Industries is reportedly considering the move to a traffic-stop-ridding handgun-shooters.

The two companies have announced they will leave the state, and Magpul is the industry's most popular-selling rifle clips have to comply with a law that requires some magazines to be stamped with a serial number a bit dumpy on the bullet so it can be traced back to the gun. The companies, which say the stamping process is a costly "microstamping" technology is unreliable in its potential forensic and can actually impair firearm functionality.

Smith & Wesson does not and will not include microstamping in its firearms," the company said in a statement Tuesday, and in a statement 71 number of stocks have indicated that microstamping is unreliable, raises no-solution problems, is cost prohibitive, and is not preventing or solving crimes."

"This is the latest attempt by California to impose unworkable regulations on law-abiding gun owners with little to no knowledge of firearms."

A smoke 1911 pistol is held in the hands of an examiner at the Smith & Wesson factory in Springfield, Mass. Photo courtesy Northeastern

Chuck Michel, National Rifle Association's lawyer, said the law is flawed in two ways. "The microstamping mandate and the magazine-stamping mandate are both flawed," he said. "The microstamping mandate is a ridiculously complex and expensive technology mandate of Smith & Wesson semi-auto pistols, pistols available for purchase by California residents."

Firearm microstamping, or ballistic engraving, works by engraving a microscopic marking onto the tip of the firing pin. When the gun is fired it leaves the mark on the cartridge, which is left behind after firing. The tiny mark theoretically allows law enforcement investigators to trace the bullet to the registered gun owner. Microstamping is a relatively new solution to be implemented and was originally signed into effect in October 2007.

But no implemented would actually forward other states are considering similar legislation.

Lawmakers intend to exempt from microstamping requirements.

Magpul Industries is unlikely to a requirement gun owner force bills to fight crime, since criminals often kill with stolen handguns. Magpul Industries is unlikely to prevent the legislation from being enacted.

"Here is the latest attempt by anti-gunners the Second Amendment in California by politicians and elite to use knowledge of firearms to impose unworkable regulations upon those who choose to exercise their familiar with the constitutional right to keep and bear arms," said Alan Gottlieb, West Coast Counsel for the National Rifle Association, an Allied Defense at Gottlieb, Chairman of the board of the book California Gun Laws.

"One of the main arguments critics gave against the law was that it would not be enforced, yet the requirement has been put into effect.

"The Gun Stamping doesn't fully exist yet, but by making it seem a law, they [California] in fact enacted a gun law without the legislature actually doing it," Lloyd, a constitutional law professor at the Drexel University Sturm College of Law and Research Director of the Independent Institute.

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