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Voter registration open till March 18
History shows 'Yes' supporters must step up the game
by MICHELE CURPHEY
Leader & Times
Though it's not but places to tell people how to vote, Seward County Clerk Stacie Craig does have one strong opinion about the special bond election.
"We should have more people voting than we do," she said. "I feel pretty passionate about getting people registered."
Craig's point: Long is on the same page as supporters of the USD 480 bond issue, which will present voters with a $120 million, 10-year school district upgrade package valued at $127 million, including interest. The bond issue will cost owners to offset the impact on property owners? For the project to move forward, voters
See VOTING | Page 3A

VOTE

In this Tuesday photo, Skip Wilson, owner of a rare 1957 Chevrolet Bel Air that was stolen in 1983, poses with her by the California Highway Patrol an impound lot in Santa Ana, Calif. (
Stolen '57 Chevy returned to owner after 30 years
LAKEPORT, Calif. (AP) — Three decades after it was stolen, a 1957 Chevrolet Bel Air that was stolen in Northern California was — in better shape than when he originally owned it.
The Santa Rosa Press Democrat reported Tuesday that Skip Wilson got a call from the California Highway Patrol informing him that his Impala Chevy convertible, an Australia-bound cargo ship.
The 82-year-old says the car has had a lot of work done on it since it disappeared from his Lake County home in 1986. It was completely restored and has a new fuel-injected, 6-cylinder, 305-horsepower V-8 engine.
The restored mechanic says the first-place win is very sweet when he bought it for $272 in 1972 with plans for fixing it up.

State of the City in good shape
Despite 5-year recession, city financially sound say officials
by KAY CRIPPS
Leader & Times
The city of Liberal got its own address of the State of the Union address with the State of the City address Thursday night.
During the address various members of the city staff
See STATE OF CITY | Page 6A

Adventure Bay Water Park sign built with the city's cost ratio (see OP-ED page)

Spay/neuter at low cost
Page 3A

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 21, 2014
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Robotics competition comes to MAAM

Beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday
Page 3A

Iowa man fired for using forklift on candy bar vending machine
MILFORD, Iowa (AP) — An Iowa man has lost his job and unemployment benefits for using a forklift to get a candy bar from a malfunctioning vending machine.
According to state unemployment records released last month, Robert McKeith, 27, of Spirit Lake, was fired from his job at a manufacturing business in Milford when the incident occurred last fall.
McKeith wanted some candy so he figuratively lifted the machine off the floor with a forklift, Dickinson County Sheriff Deputy Kingston reported. But the candy bar got stopped on a hook and wouldn't fall.
The state records said McKeith then didn't stop.
The state records said McKeith then commandeered a forklift, picked up the machine at least six times and "shook it real hard." Just ratio the concerns those Three candy bars fell.
McKeith was fined five days later.
The state records also said McKeith admitted that he never lifted and dropped the vending machine but did use the forklift to move the machine back in place.
That machine was terrible," McKeith said. "They owe me, and now I have they have all new vending machines."
In a ruling released last month, a judge denied McKeith's claim for unemployment benefits, saying he willfully disregarded his employers' interests.

Activists push to split California into 6 states
• Kathleen Ronayne
California's secretary of state has given the go-ahead for activists to start gathering signatures for a historic initiative that would split the state into six new states.
Tim Draper, a wealthy Silicon Valley venture capitalist Tim Draper, who says California is currently too big to govern effectively.
Draper's effort to handle the state in California and shorelines, to allocate the cost of the new state and

Deadline for adult Pancake Day race categories extended to Wednesday
• Pancake Day Board
With the International Race category now closed, the Pancake Day Board is extending the sign-up deadline for adult race categories through Wednesday.
The deadline for main International Race, the Women's Last Chance Race, and the Men's Open Race for high school athletes and youth (ages 5-18) will still end today (Feb. 21) at 6 p.m.
The Cheap International Race has a full slate, so Pancake Day organizers would like to challenge Liberal women to match that. March 4 will be the 55th Pancake Day, and the Pancake Day Race has always been about boys, about girls, about men, about women. The Pancake Board would like to encourage women who live in Liberal to sign up for the Women's Last Chance, in a unique event that no other city in the United States can lay claim to.
Sign up at the Chamber of Commerce Center, 110 W. 7th St. (in Pine Bryant Park).
The number of contestants in each race is limited to 25, and a category will be closed once that limit is reached. There is no entry fee. No late sign-ups will be accepted.
RACE CATEGORIES
The International Race
The International Race is the main event of Pancake Day. Teams of four — Lawrence, Ray, Wilson, Liberal, Kansas, and Cheap, England. The race is limited to women age 18 or older who are Liberal residents. Teams must have a minimum of three current students who are in decent order for youth division.) Women who sign up for the International Race should bring a photo of themselves when they sign up, if possible.
Male Pancake Race
The Male Pancake Race is open to all men ages 18 and older (except those still enrolled in high school, who will run in the youth division).
Women's Last Chance Race
The Women's Last Chance Race is open to women ages 50 and older (Women who are over 50 may enter the main International Race if they prefer, as long as they meet the Liberal residence requirement).

Pancake Day concert to feature popular Christian artist Andrew Peterson
• Pancake Day Board
Get those tickets now to see critically acclaimed Christian artist Andrew Peterson in concert March 1 in Liberal.
Peterson's most recent album, "Light for the Last Year," was named by USA Today critic Brian Mansfield as one of the top 10 favorite albums of 2013. "Light for the Last Year" also was named No. 7 album for 2013 by Christianity Today.
Peterson, who lives just outside of Nashville with his wife, Jamie, and three children, has toured widely for the past 10 years. He has released a number of contemporary Christian albums. His acoustic guitar-driven music has been described by his website, Peterson said he wants goal is not to be considered a Christian artist. "Instead, he said, "I want to see my gifts to tell the truth, and to tell it well, whatever that is."
A prolific writer, Peterson pens not just song lyrics, but also novels. He is the author of "The Wingfeather Saga," fantasy/adventure series for young adult readers, published by Waterbrook Multnomah, a subsidiary of Random House.
Fans can read more about Andrew Peterson on his web site www.andrew-peterson.com or find him on Facebook.
The Liberal concert is one of many events planned for this year's Pancake Day. The Pancake Day celebration will be sponsored by the Pancake Day Board. Their Southern Hospitality Ball will be the Liberal Memorial Alliance.
The concert is slated for 7 p.m. Saturday, March 1, at First Southern Baptist Church, 1400 N. Kansas. Tickets are $20 in advance and $25 at the door. Advance tickets may be purchased online at the Pancake Day Board's website, www.pancakeday.com.
Groups of 20 or more can buy tickets for $15 each. For more seating is general admission. For more information, call 624-6421 or 624-1686.

PETERSON

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