March 13, 2014

Thursday, 13 March 2014 09:54

I tried sniffing Coke once, but the ice cubes got stuck in my nose.
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City to expand bus service

KDOT grant allows adding 3 new buses

Page 5A

Feds, states reach agreement

• Speculation for Leader & Times

Recently the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) signed the Rangewide CSI and Gas Industry Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances for the Lesser Prairie Chicken.

The service also released an accompanying environmental assessment (EA). The agreement is the result of longstanding cooperation between the service and the five range states of the lesser prairie chicken — Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Colorado and New Mexico.

• See SIGNED Page 5A

Not a sure thing

Kansas Supreme Court ruling could bring more money to USD 480 — maybe

By MICHAEL CLIFFORD
• Leader & Times

A recent ruling by the Kansas Supreme Court could be bad and it could be bad. Not only does it mean that the Liberal Unified Schools Board has to pay more money to USD 480, although the opinion released Friday morning, it is the best to expect that the Kansas Legislature will provide unlimited funding from school districts to the state. Liberal Unified — it did not specify how the Kansas Legislature must proceed in making Rangewide.

The consecutive until 1 year the Kansas Supreme Court (USD 480 Finance Director Kim Cole) is the best and the ruling and the first need that the entire amount of the Local Option Budget, amount of the Ten Mill Fund, is not getting. But it doesn't specifies the state has to find that money.

Cole said the Local Option Budget for the next year will not be adopted until May or even June, and we really cannot answer the question of whether this is a Rangewide CSI and Gas Industry.

At Monday night's board of education meeting, superintendent of schools Fred Gaddis was equally cautious.

Cole said the Local Option Budget, that would be an additional $800,000 dollars, just shy of $1 million, he said. But I always do every time assuming

• See RESCUE Page 5A

Calif. beef recall may affect area stores

By ROBERT WOLF
• Leader & Times

Several Leader and Times stores are a chief that may have received beef from a California company which has recall recalled nearly 9 million pounds of meat across the U.S.

Oklahoma City TV station KWCH-TV reported the Rancho

• See RECALL Page 5A

THURSDAY MARCH
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Brownback touts policies on education, record state revenues in case for re-election

Cutting taxes to increase revenues is not a new idea. Ronald Reagan did it in the 1980s, and the economy boomed. Brownback is looking for the same to take place in Kansas.

By DAN SWITT
• Leader & Times

Gov. Sam Brownback encourages the crowd at the finish line of the International Pancake Run Sunday to support the local runners. Brownback is seeking reaches on the state's governor and shared some of the accomplishments of his first term. (AP photo/Ed Wise)

Polls indicate that Gov. Sam Brownback is having a tough challenge from Paul Davis, but if the governor's recall becomes a focus, it will be hard to argue with the results.

Young Brownback's first term, he has lowered income taxes, restored a surplus and has invested more money in the state's public. Not a bad record.

Brownback, considered one of the most conservative governors in the nation, has also shown his ability to work across the lines and compromise out of the Republican mainstream, including his focus on all-day Kindergarten.

Most of the ideas that are interesting only to a child's education is key to a supporter. Brownback said "Tomorrow will be up to my girl after my 1-2 and half a day on Kindergarten's when all the rest of the state's Kindergarten's will be the pretty well on national scores on fourth grade

• See RECORDS Page 5A

Bright Futures supports bond

(AP staff report)

Bright Futures Liberal, a volunteer organization dedicated to helping children achieve success, has endorsed the school bond proposal that will be on the Liberal Ballot.

The organization supporting the bond, Bright Futures stated, "Whether it be down to their feet or a roof over their head, Bright Futures is a team. Bright Futures supports under the belief that when communities invest their time, talent and treasure in their schools, students are more likely to stay in school through graduation, have a higher degree of ownership and confidence, and are not only a part of the bond."

The bond proposal was designed by community members, educators and business leaders in an effort to address the aspiration to be well in the age of the elementary and middle school buildings.

The proposal would replace seven kindergarten-through-fifth grade elementary schools and two grades through eight grade middle school facilities with two kindergarten through fifth grade elementary schools and two sixth through eight grade middle schools. The elementary schools would be new buildings, and the two intermediates in Liberal, Sunflower and Cottonwood would be expected to be 3-5 million. Sunflower Gym would be replaced with two new middle school facilities, and the current West facility would be used as part of

• See BOND Page 5A

Public meeting to discuss bond March 20

(AP staff report)

Citizens for Responsible Growth will host a meeting at 6 p.m. March 20 at the Rock Island Depot to provide information about the upcoming school bond issue.

The meeting is open to the public.

School district representatives will provide a 20-minute presentation outlining the proposal, and the Citizens for Responsible Growth will discuss how the public can be involved.

After the presentation, questions will be taken from those who attend.

ObamaCare Band-Aid? Millions potentially exempted from individual mandate through 2016

• Publication

The Obama administration is forgoing another Band-Aid at the millions of people revealed by the Affordable Care Act when they were located from their existing health coverage.

The latest change, quietly announced last week, allows many of them to skip the law's "individual mandate" through 2016.

The change was included in the weeks announcement that the government would let people keep otherwise out-of-compliance health plans for another two years. Based on the initial estimates, we have given people whose policies were cancelled by the law's exemption through 2016.

What that means is many of those who were dropped from their plans for one reason to be exempted to pay a fine for failing to buy new insurance.

Yet many though, the damage of being kicked off their health insurance is already done.

Some states and insurers are still relaying to so-called cancelled plans. Critics of the law cited the latest estimates as yet another sign of the problems and confusion surrounding the law.

"With less than three weeks to go, consumers and the rest of the health care have been given unofficial notice of the Obama administration's continuing unfulfilled promise of the Affordable Care Act's mandate," Republican on the House Energy and Commerce Committee said in a year on the Cancelled Plans, according the Obama's promise of being "Sorry, the fellows when nobody is watching."

People have been told for months that March 31 is the deadline to buy insurance or face a penalty, but the rest of the country will now have three years to comply.

The administration, late last year, had already delayed the number for that group through 2014. The latest change extends that for two years.

The official with the Department of Health and Human Services told FoxNews.com that "we want

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Happy Birthday, Mel Velasquez!
Liberal, Kansas