March 17, 2014

Monday, 17 March 2014 11:47

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Train hits car, no one hurt

By LARRY PHILLIPS
• Leader & Times

A train hit a stalled vehicle Friday night, and fortunately there was nobody in the car when it was struck. The incident occurred at 9:30 p.m. on the north end of a Hook railroad crossing, according to a report from Liberal Police Capt. Patrick McCabe.

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Vocal Trash at the BASH

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LEADER & TIMES

Seeking nominations for High Plains Unsung Hero awards

• Staff staff report

The Leader & Times is looking for High Plains Unsung Heroes - people who stand in the background, yet make positive differences in the community, region and beyond.

If you know someone who should be recognized as a High Plains Unsung Hero, send your nominations to the Leader & Times at 1831 N. Kansas Ave., Liberal, Kansas, or by e-mail to news@leadertimes.com. Please have the nomination at 500 words or less, and be sure to include your name and phone number. Anonymous nominations will not be considered.

Once all submissions are received, the nominations will be sent to a panel of judges who will be honored at a reception May 1.

Winners will be eligible for the 2014 Leader & Times Citizen of the Year and the Lifetime Achievement Award winners.

Deadline for nominations for Unsung Heroes will be at noon Thursday, April 17.

Let the MADNESS BEGIN!

Can you bust the tourney bracket? Fill yours out today!

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MONDAY MARCH 17, 2014
LEADER & TIMES
Your daily news & views for 127 years

County to get update on KNRC coalition

By ROBERT PIERCE
• Leader & Times

At the Dec. 16, 2013, Seward County Commission meeting, commissioner Ben Rice and C.J. Robinson reported on a coalition update from the Kansas Natural Resources Coalition (KNRC) on the importance of the county being a part of the coalition.

"The cost was anticipated at $2,500 to continue membership," Rice said. Rice and Robinson have attended KNRC meetings, and Rice has been asked to be part of a committee to develop a group of interest to try to prevent listing a species of bird land as endangered.

In a letter to the commission, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service said it has prepared the listing of the lesser prairie chicken by listing as threatened under the Endangered Species Act on Dec. 11, 2012.

"The American Habitat for Hunters, Inc., has formed a regional multi-state stakeholder center to develop a plan that is intended to provide conservation benefits to the lesser prairie chicken," the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service said in a letter. "The proposed 2013 creation of three components: a habitat conservation plan, habitat exchange agreement, and a habitat quantification

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Seward County

Wichita police and FBI target gang violence

WICHITA, (AP) — The FBI has joined with Wichita police in a bid to rid the city's most violent street gang suspicions.

Under the new partnership, an FBI agent will be assigned to work full-time from the Wichita Police Department's gang unit to restore unsolved homicides and other violent crimes committed by those have a history of violence. The Wichita Eagle reported. The team also includes the Sedgwick County District Attorney's Office and the U.S. Attorney's Office.

"We are leveraging the worst of the worst," police Capt. Scott Hinrichsen said.

"If you are a gang member and you get caught with a pistol in that town, you're going to be prosecuted," Hinrichsen said. "If you have a felony conviction, it will be federal prison."

Wichita police have been trying to crack down on gang violence in recent years with gang and use concerted felony will face prosecution.

Police have been trying to crack down on gang violence in recent years with gang and use concerted felony will face prosecution.

Police Chief Norman Williams said the partnership stems from last June, when the FBI's Wichita Resident Agency of the FBI's Wichita Search dismissed the idea of forming an FBI squad with police to enhance especially police thought was needed. FBI officials had expressed a desire to be fighting gang violence in our FBI's prioritized.

Gang and the FBI is also part of a joint task forces in other cities, including Kansas City, Mo.

Williams said the FBI for the recent arrest of a 27-year-old gang member accused of trying to run over a Wichita police officer with a vehicle.

FBI's Williams said the FBI's connection and expertise were which finding Wichita's gang members. Gang Unit, wanted, captured, and outstanding warrants for more than a with His committed "new citizens," according to a Sedgwick County District Attorney's Office news release attached to Texas. Dixon, who spent months in the U.S. marshals' Top 10 most-wanted list, is being held in Sedgwick County Jail on bonds totaling more than $1.1 million.

The bold move is in position to deal a "tremendous blow to the Wichita criminal gang scenario," Hinrichsen said. "This group will go after the most violent, the most active members and the violence comes."

Baker Arts Center to offer adult glassblowing workshop

• Special to the Leader & Times

Get fired up and learn basic glassblowing techniques to create simple forms such as a paper weight, small bowl or vase.

This workshop will take place at the Liberal High School glass shed and will be taught by Gary Marsh, Baker Arts Center's Glass Studio Director.

The cost is $20 for members and $25 for nonmembers. The class size limited. Call 624-2610 for reservations. Workshop will be held on Saturday, 10-2 p.m. Thursday to reserve space in the class.

Miss Congeniality cited for shoplifting

CONYERS, Ga., (AP) — Days before she was to be crowned Miss Georgia Teen Scholarship Pageant, Clarke County was accused of shoplifting by thought counselor from Rue Clothiers Boutique.

Parker said the 18-year-old from Athens and another 18-year-old attempted to leave the store March 6 with a bag of clothing and accessories worth $1,000 and beauty products worth more than $100 in their purses. Both were jailed.

Parker, who was recently pageant judge were unaware of the incident before Saturday's competition because she wore a mouse different than her legal name.

Parker, who is a 2013 graduate of Athens Academy, which is closed to fellow street outside pageant judge. She had a plethora of troubling a positive self-image. Her talent was clarinet. Amen.

Jack Daniel's opposes changing Tenn. whiskey law

By BRUCE SCHREINER and JEFF SIEGEL
• Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — If it isn't fermented in Tennessee from maple charcoal, it isn't Tennessee whiskey, a new channel oak barrels. Blend through maple charcoal and bottled in Tennessee, it isn't Tennessee whiskey. It's open to interpretation that would allow almost to the point of being meaningless, Jack Daniel, the world's bestselling Tennessee whiskey.

Lawmakers in Tennessee are considering dishing back some of those requirements that they say make it too difficult for craft distilleries to market their spirits as Tennessee whiskey, a distinction that is a major draw to the booming American whiskey business.

Jack Daniel's, the brand behind Jack Daniel's, the brand of a bigger competitor at work — Diageo PLC, the British beverage giant that owns George Dickel, another Tennessee whiskey made about 75 miles away from Jack.

"It really comes to weakens a title a label that we've worked very hard for," said Jeff Cole, a spokesman distiller at the Jack Daniel's distillery in Lynchburg, Tenn. "As a brand, we have a lot of pride in our product. We want to be considered the leadership, and we're very protective of Tennessee whiskey since our foundation is stuck to any of the other products that we compete with."

Republican Rep. Bill Dunn, sponsor of the bill, said he wouldn't do away with last year's law enacted largely on the behalf of Jack Daniel's competitor, Louisville, Ky.-based Brown-Forman Corp. The principal change in the law, he said, allows Tennessee whiskey makers to cover barrels which he said would improve the taste of the whiskey, a move that they can call Brill-and-Tennessee whiskey.

"There are a lot of ways to make high-quality whiskey even if it isn't done in Tennessee," Dunn said. "We gave them the right to call their Tennessee whiskey and not whiskey. Brown-Forman and Jack Daniel's misinterpreted the measure of Diageo's urging, but it would also hurt Jack Daniel's and Tennessee whiskey makers. Diageo picked up on the same theme."

Jack Daniel Diageo, as all of our Tennessee whiskey is made with new oak," said Diageo executive Jim Gallagher, Jr. "It's not a shortcut. Brown-Forman trying to stifle competition and this misrepresented spirit of moonshiners."

"We are not sure what they are afraid of, but we have no intention of trying to cover-based on product. We want to be considered the leadership, and we're very protective of Tennessee whiskey since our foundation is stuck to any

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In this Nov. 27, 2009, file photo, workers view barrels of aging whiskey while on a tour of the Jack Daniel's distillery in Lynchburg, Tenn. Tennessee's Republican-led legislature is considering the state Legislature to dial back the legal definition of Tennessee whiskey, including a provision that requires the spirit to be aged in new oak barrels. AP photo/Mark Humphrey

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Liberal, Kansas