# May 14, 2014

Wednesday, 14 May 2014 10:25

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## City approves land transfer for school expansion plans

By ELI GRIFFIN
• Leader & Times

Much discussion was conducted over the future of the Liberal City Commission's property at its regular meeting Tuesday night, which took place in Liberal City Hall.

There was discussion of transferring real estate to Park Properties Inc. This property is at 13th Street and Cabrera in northeast Liberal. It is to be used for USD No. 480's North Elementary project associated with the recently passed bond issue.

According to the meeting's agenda, the property is in the southeast of that time activity that had been slated for previous owners.

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## Fun in the outdoors at OK Kids Day

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## Greiners walking the nation praising God

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## Post Office Food Drive nets more than 3,200 lbs of food

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WEDNESDAY
MAY 14, 2014
LEADER & TIMES
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## Rep. Huelskamp pursues prairie chicken protest

TOPEKA (AP) — Kansas Rep. Tim Huelskamp disclosed Tuesday that he's working with other members of Congress on proposals to slash the budget of the federal agency fining the lesser prairie chicken as threatened.

See PROTEST Page 3A

## 911 caller: Where can I buy some marijuana?

HELLBORN, Ore. (AP) — A man recently called a Washington County 911 dispatcher with an unusual request.

"Where can I buy some marijuana this morning?"

When the dispatcher asked him if he wanted to talk to the sheriff's office, the caller said he was interesting, but he had a legitimate question and reported the request.

KATU reports the dispatcher told him to call back if he needed to report a crime. He thanked her and the call ended.

By the time the line at Mary's whan Marijuana Dispensary opened Tuesday morning, one of 910 straight.

## Manning seeking gender treatment, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel OKs move

By MALENE ZIEGER and GEORG CHRISTIN
• Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In an unprecedented move, the Pentagon is trying to transfer convicted Army soldier Pvt. Chelsea Manning to a civilian prison so she can get treatment for her gender disorder, defense officials said Tuesday.

Manning, formerly named Bradley Manning, filed a request with military officials to administer surgery to feminize her. The soldier has asked for hormone therapy and to be able to live as a woman.

The request was the first ever made by a prisoner to the military, officials set up a Monday for the Defense Department. How to treat a soldier who is transgender has been a vexing long-standing military policy. Transgender people are not allowed to serve in the military, but the Defense Department does not provide such treatment. Just Manning is in military custody, officials said, serving her 35-year prison sentence.

Defense officials have said presently that keeping the soldier in a military prison and unable to have treatment could amount to cruel and unusual punishment.

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel has recently gave the Army approval to allow the transfer of Manning to the Federal Bureau of Prisons, which does provide such treatment. Any decision to transfer Manning to a civilian facility has been made, and any such transfer would be subject to the balance the military medical needs with our obligation to ensure. Pentagon press secretary Rear Adm. John Kirby said.

The decisions are just starting discussions about prospects for a transfer, the two officials said.

The Army has been negotiating an agreement with the Bureau of Prisons for use of several hundred beds and the Pentagon would need to enter into a sole-source contract. Under the circumstances, an official in charge of the Army's corrections mission seeks permission to forward process after all military appeals have been completed. The Army's court-martial sentence has been executed. Cases of national security interest are not normally approved for transfer from military custody to the federal prison system.

The former intelligence analyst was convicted of 19 counts of violating the Espionage Act, violating military regulations for giving WikiLeaks secret files and computer fraud, and Defense Department documents, along with forbidden video, while working in Iraq. Manning faces up to 136 years in prison after a military judge sentenced her upheld the conviction, clearing the way for an appeal of the case to the military court system.

After the conviction, Manning announced the desire to live as a woman and asked for the Army to make changes that was supported last month by a Leavenworth, County Kansas judge and that the military did not oppose.

The soldier has been diagnosed by the Army with gender disorder, including her full-life identity of the Fort Leavenworth, Kansas prison — a diagnosis that Manning's lawyer is bringing to court in a civilian forum.

In November, a military doctor who treated Manning at Fort Leavenworth, including hormone therapy, found it was not helpful to the chain of command to treat Manning's condition, and the complaint filed by Manning in March over the delay in getting treatment.

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In this undated file photo provided by the U.S. Army, Pfc. Chelsea Manning poses for a photo wearing a wig and lipstick. A non-unprecedented move, the Pentagon is trying to transfer convicted Army soldier Pvt. Chelsea Manning to a civilian prison so she can get treatment for her gender disorder, defense officials said Tuesday. AP Photo/Cpl. Steven Lee

## Consumers losing doctors with new insurance plans

By KELLY KINNEY
• Associated Press

SALMA — The first thing Michelle Ford did before picking a plan under President Barack Obama's health insurance law was check whether her diabetic specialist would be covered. Ford, a 50-year-old diabetic who has had back surgery and a hip replacement, was pleasantly surprised to find that the insurance was available.

Early 2015, a month gold plan through Anthem Blue Cross would cost her $100 more than what she'd paid under her husband's insurance and seemed like a good deal because the Salma resident would be eligible for tax credits after her insurance card came in the mail. But Ford's California market limited her doctor choices and raised her costs.

"It's not like when you're hurt a doctor for years and years that you can explain to and he knows you," Ford said. "I'm extremely discouraged. I'm stuck."

Across the Ford, for emerging as more Americans who have bought plans with limited doctor and hospital networks, some after websites that mistakenly said their doctors were included.

Under the last trade offset, experts warned that narrow networks could impact patients' access to care, especially in cheaper plans. But a Kaiser Health News review of insurance plans finding their access limited across all price ranges.

The Affordable Care Act, President Obama's 2009 pledge that "If you like your doctor you will be able to keep your doctor, period," underpinned the sales pitch for the health law's coming to the Obama administration is still celebrating a victory with more than 8 million people signing up.

Narrow networks are part of the economic tools off for keeping premiums under control and preventing patients from turning away those with pre-existing conditions. Even before the Affordable Care Act, doctors and hospitals in the Medicaid program were accepting fewer patients — some are unwilling to accept insurance based on certain costs.

Insurance trade group America's Health Insurance Plans said the law has encouraged better differentiating consumer choice in plans. Insurers say that if consumers want low premiums, they can choose a narrow network.

Insurance companies also argue there's wide variation in what doctors and hospitals charge, and narrow networks can help control costs. Some Bible evidence that high-priced hospitals or doctors are actually delivering better care.

Further complicating matters, the trade group says that doctors and health plans often disagree about what it means to be "in-network" doctor, based in a network, or the terms of

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Michelle Ford, who is diabetic and has had a hip replacement, looks out the window of her home in Vista, Calif. AP photo/Lenny Ignelzi

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Happy Birthday, Reid Perry!
Liberal, Kansas