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Clawson Clan to perform at Picnic in the Park Wednesday

The Clawson Clan will be performing at Picnic in the Park at the Seward County Community Building and then at 12:00 pm, Kelly and Jeremy Harris will perform. For more information, contact the Recreation Office at 626-3133.

**EVERY WEDNESDAY**

Chamber to host Legislative Brownbag Roundtable discussion

The Liberal Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Legislative Brownbag Roundtable discussion on the Common Core Curriculum at noon Thursday at the depot. The discussion panel will consist of Kansas State Senator Jim Barnett, State Representative Reed Hedg, USD 480 Superintendent Paul Lachin, USD 480 Superintendent Efren Argo and USD 480 staff Donna Argo. Comments and questions will be taken from the audience. Public is invited to bring a lunch. Coffee and tea will be provided. This event is sponsored by JCS.

**THURSDAY**

Join First Southern Baptist Church for Ride of Life

Come join First Southern Baptist Church as its Ride of Life goes to Kansas Adventure Park (Wild World) on experience of excitement of a day at the park. Kids will enter Worship Rally at the main gate and make their first stop at Coaster Alley for Bible study. Children age 4-years old through sixth grade are invited to ride the ride of life. Lunch will be provided at 12:1 pm and the park gate will open each night at 6 with a closing time of 9:45 p.m. There will be a family night at 7 p.m. Friday, July 26. There will be a kick-off and pre-registration at 6 p.m. Sunday in Blue Bonnet Park with hot dogs, sno-cones, bouncies and fun.
For more information, call 624-8186 or visit: www.fbcliberal.com.

**PRE-REGISTER SUNDAY**

K-State Extension office to host pie-baking contest during 5-State Fair

The K-State Extension office will be hosting a pie-baking contest during the Five-State Fair Prizes will be awarded in each adult category for best entrant will win a prize.
The contest will be at 6 p.m. Sunday, July 28 at Activity Center. For details and rules go to the Fair Book online at: www.fivestatefair.com or call 624-5604. Fair Books can also be picked up at the extension office, the Seward County courthouse or the Activity Center.

**CRANK OUT THE PIES**

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# Malin puts prior vote on car purchases in reverse

Seward County

County commission rescinds previous vote to buy local, wants to support decisions of Community Corrections' board

By ROBERT TIRSCT
•Leader & Times

The Seward County Commission reversed a week-old made at supervision meeting Monday with similar division amongst the board.

Last week, after a long time with commissioner Randy Hinkle voting with the majority, gave Cimarron Bluffs Community Corrections board the ability to purchase a vehicle for new vehicles from an out-of-town vendor at a higher price.

On June 27, the board voted 2-1, with Hinkle on board, to purchase four used Dodge Avenger at a lower price from local Dodge dealership.

Monday's vote came following a long discussion, and the talking started with commissioner Carl Wettstein, who voted against the CBC's board, joined by county commissioner Cy Wettstein, had contacted the board members and the Community Corrections board at the meeting to purchase the Impala from Cody.

"I talked to some other people on the board and the reason that they had selected the Impala is last year, we bought an Impala," Lamunderke said. "It was a used car that we bought from Jim Dunnavy that was good. $17,500 for a 2010 model. The employees thought it was a good vehicle.

Wettstein said he had talked to people with county around Tim Dispenhoech, who informed her that the board could legally rescind the previous decision.

Hinkle questioned Dowell as to what could be done with the $5,500 CBC's would have to pay, and commissioners stuck with the board.

"I could the $5,000 be used for something else in Community Corrections?" Hinkle asked.

Howell said the manner used to buy the vehicle, "it would be a violation of the statutes."

"It wasn't out of the state budget," he said. "It would come to that account. It could be used for other purposes in that budget."

Commissioner Doug LaGrange said he voted the way he did because of what he felt was most important – the integrity of the bidding process.

"I have employees who local vendors would continue to place bids in, and we accept the lowest bid."

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# Kansas survivalist faces trial over grenades

By SCHANNON HELZINSKI
•Associated Press

WICHITA. ... As a survivalist who feared the world economy was on the brink of collapse, Ryan Wesley Mathews filled the bathroom of his Topeka apartment with a stockpile of explosives, including hundreds of hand grenades, clothing, hunting knife and other items – all neatly packed in duffel bags.

Now, the 42-year-old veteran of both the U.S. Army and U.S. Marines faces a trial on charges of possession of unregistered destructive devices after authorities discovered eight hand grenades found during a FBI search prompted by a tip from his former girlfriend.

U.S. District Judge J. Thomas Marten will hear arguments beginning Monday on whether he should bar most of the evidence found in

See TRIAL/Page 5A

# BBBS: The Kerry and Ofelia File

By VICTORIA CALDERON
•Leader & Times

For nearly six years, Big Brothers Big Sisters executive director Kerry Sobel has been satisfied to her job in Liberal.

Ofelia is a very funny outspoken 10-year-old girl. She is a month A-Honor Roll student at Cottonwood Middle grades in the fall. Otherwise she wasn't always this way.

Ofelia was having trouble with school. Now, about doing very well in school. Sobel observed about Ofelia's changes since she begun the program. She was even student of the month in her class.

"Ofelia's changes have also been noticed by her grandparents, who have been very supportive of her," her grandmother Kaiser stated. "She's been more outgoing since she's been in the program. She's been a little really shy. I used to work out of Good Samy. I'd take her out there sometimes and she would cry. She was always scared of people."

Sobel also realized that Ofelia did not have much opportunity to meet foreign. Through their bonds together, Sobel got her out of her comfort zone and introduced her to people and new things. Kerry tried to introduce Sobel brings Ofelia to events in the community and helps her get involved.

"She loves do everything together bowling, swimming, watching movies, going on outdoor-type, road trips and stuff like that," Kaiser said. "I think that's one of Sobel also knows it is important for Ofelia to be brought into the community and be involved in the program's moments, staying out of trouble and obtaining a college education."

As for Sobel's motivation for joining the Match program, it all stemmed from her experience with Saint Joseph. She moved on the board when she realized she wanted to be more involved by becoming a Big Sister.

"I'm there when I show Ofelia and she's been a part of our family ever since," Sobel said.

Kerry said Sobel has benefitted Sobel's life in many ways. The most the most rewarding part was "impact that I have on her life." Sobel said. "Ofelia, Knowing that she's changed I get to experience Ofelia's growth and development. I've been there not only as a Big Sister but as the director. I know that I can see the impact that I have. I know that I can see the difference."

Ofelia isn't afraid to be honest and show her sassy but grateful attitude in front of Sobel. "Lots. We go to Sonic, we go to the movies, we go to the school when thinking about some of their jewelry accessories together.

Ofelia said that she and her mentor's memory from their Match was "the very first time we brought her to the Sonic and we had a great time. We laughed and got to spend time together."

Ofelia has high hopes for Ofelia's future.

"I told her that she needs to go to school and then travel the world," Sobel said.

"Travel to China, New York, Oklahoma," Ofelia chipped in. She last getting laughter from her family and Sobel.

There are now Match mentors up to the number they need, but there is a day after Ofelia's 13th birthday.

"I always joke with her and tell her that I'm the only Big Sister present the one girl," Sobel said.

Ofelia agreed wholeheartedly with that statement.

Not only has Ofelia been integrated into Sobel's life, but her entire family's life, as well. Sobel considers Ofelia's family her family. Stop have three children, and Ofelia replied "Make that four."

Sobel said that she joined the Match as the BBBS program. Sobel then

Big Brothers Big Sisters is a mentoring organization whose mission is to improve children's lives. From kids living in abusive homes to kids having academic trouble, children from all walks of life are welcomed into the program.
Anyone can make a difference in a Little's life, simply by spending 30 minutes a week with them.
The following is a list of statistics that demonstrate how much this program affects children by giving them a mentor to look up to:
**86%** said their mentors made feel better about themselves
**86%** reported their mentors helped them make better choices throughout their lives
**84%** said their mentors taught them the importance of helping others
**77%** reported doing better in school because of their mentors
**76%** said they learned right from wrong from their mentors
**52%** agreed that their mentors kept them from dropping out of school
**86%** reported improved grades
**87%** reported increase in self confidence
**71%** reported improved student attitude

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