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Sutherland reaches lofty heights



2nd Lt. Tyler Sutherland becomes second person from Liberal to graduate from West Point

By Larry Phillips
2nd Lt. Tyler Sutherland, a Liberal resident, has become the second person from the town to graduate from the United States Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.

Sutherland, 26, graduated from West Point on July 26, 2013, after four years of study and training. He is the second person from Liberal to graduate from West Point, following the graduation of 1st Lt. Tyler Sutherland in 2009.

Sutherland's father, 1st Lt. Tyler Sutherland, is a retired Army officer and a member of the Liberal Town Board. He served in the Army for 20 years and was a member of the 101st Airborne Division.

Sutherland's mother, Mrs. Sutherland, is a member of the Liberal Town Board. She served in the Army for 10 years and was a member of the 101st Airborne Division.

Sutherland is currently assigned to the 101st Airborne Division, where he will continue his military career.

College increases mill levy 1.3 mills

Mill increase forced by reductions in state aid and drop in property valuations

The Liberal School District has voted to increase its mill levy by 1.3 mills, effective July 1, 2013. The increase is necessary to offset the impact of a 10 percent reduction in state aid and a 1.5 percent decrease in property valuations.

The district's budget committee recommended the increase to the board of trustees. The board will vote on the increase at its next meeting.

Kan. AG acknowledges 'Hard 50' may not fully work

By Larry Phillips
Kansas Attorney General Steve Beitzel has acknowledged that the state's "Hard 50" initiative may not fully work as intended. The initiative, which requires a 50 percent majority to pass certain measures, has been criticized for being too restrictive.

Beitzel said that the initiative may not be able to address the state's fiscal challenges. He said that the initiative may not be able to pass the necessary measures to reduce the state's budget deficit.

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Come to concert, dance with country music star Heath Wright

Country music star Heath Wright will be performing at the Liberal Community Center on Friday, July 26, 2013. Wright will be performing with his band, the Heath Wright Band.

The concert will be held from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10.00. The concert is free for children under 12.

Wright is a member of the American Country Music Association and has performed at several major venues.