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LEADER & TIMES
JULY 26, 2013
FRIDAY JULY 26, 2013
\$1

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Calling all churches for Gospel Songfest

WEDNESDAY

SAURDAY

Sutherland reaches lofty heights



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

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

Sutherland, 27, is the son of a former Liberal resident and a former member of the Liberal High School football team. He was born in Liberal on Oct. 15, 1985.

He graduated from West Point in May 2013 with a commission in the U.S. Army. He is currently assigned to the 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Ky.

Sutherland's father, Don Sutherland, was a member of the Liberal High School football team in the 1960s. He was also a member of the Liberal High School basketball team.

Sutherland's mother, Mary Sutherland, is a former member of the Liberal High School cheerleading squad. She was also a member of the Liberal High School volleyball team.

Sutherland is the second person from Liberal to graduate from West Point. The first was Don Sutherland, who graduated in 1968.

College increases mill levy 1.3 mills

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

By Bob Schmitt
The Board of Education of the Liberal Public Schools has approved a 1.3 mill increase in the property tax rate for the 2013-14 school year.

The increase is necessary to offset a 10 percent reduction in state aid and a 15 percent drop in county property valuations.

The board also approved a 1.5 percent increase in the millage rate for the 2014-15 school year.

The board will meet again on July 27 to discuss the proposed budget for the 2013-14 school year.

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

By Bob Schmitt
Kansas Attorney General Steve Beshear has acknowledged that the state's "Hard 50" initiative may not fully work as intended.

Beshear said that the initiative, which requires a 50 percent majority to pass certain measures, may be too difficult to pass.

He said that the initiative may be too restrictive and may not allow for enough flexibility.

Beshear said that he will continue to work with the legislature to find a way to make the initiative work.

Come to concert, dance with country music star Heath Wright

Country music star Heath Wright will be performing at the Liberal High School gymnasium on Friday, July 26, at 7 p.m.

Wright will be performing with his band, the Heath Wright Band.

The concert will be followed by a dance.

Tickets are available for purchase at the Liberal High School office.

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