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Bright Futures seeking donations of school supplies
The Liberal Bright Futures organization is accepting donated school supplies now through Saturday, Aug. 17. Supply drop-off locations include Wal-Mart, The Beer Planter, Dillon's, Walgreens, Spencer Brownell and Jerry Farmer & Associates. All supplies will be distributed to students who are in need in the Liberal community.

NOW THRU AUG. 17

Cardinals Class of '59 reunites
The Tyrian Class of '59 will be having a reunion Saturday at Miller's Cafe. An invitation is extended at 7 p.m. for all Cardinals to come by, say hello and reminisce with them.

SATURDAY

SW Kan. Widows and Widowers Support Group starting up Oct. 3
The Southwest Kansas Widow and Widowers Support Group will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. the first Thursday of every month starting Oct. 3 at Spencer Brownell & Co., Inc.
For more information, call Dion Prosser at 620-629-1618.

1ST THURS. OF EVERY MONTH

Memorial Library to host camp out
The Liberal Memorial Library will be hosting a camp out at 2 p.m. Wednesday. Staff, parents and children will gather in a tent and learn about camping. Activities will include sharing scary stories, singing songs and, of course, eating smores.

WEDNESDAY

Liberal man faces 32 months in prison
By LARRY PHILLIPS • Leader & Times

A Liberal man has been sentenced to 32 months in prison on charges initially stemming from a 2012 arrest in Liberal.

Jorge Alaniz, 19, is facing jail time after pleading no contest to one count of aggravated battery, a felony, according to Seward County Attorney Craig Kuchar.

He was sentenced to prison Aug. 2 for 32 months, a departure from the 38 months Alaniz had originally been granted in October of 2012 on a charge of indecent solicitation of a child. He was released on bond but was extradited back to Seward County after a November 2012 arrest in Cimarron County, Okla.

Alaniz was then charged with aggravated indecent solicitation of a child in Seward and Texas County, Okla., officials said and he was being held on that charge. He was also facing additional charges in Seward County for aggravated sexual battery, solicitation, criminal sodomy, promoting obscenity to minors and attempted sexual exploitation of a child.

See ALANIZ/A Page 5A

Girl Scouts help local agency

Girl Scout Troop No. 60005 leader Michele Braddard, far right, recognizes troop members who worked on projects that helped them earn their Bronze Award. Others working on the project got hours toward their Bronze Award. Braddard's daughter, McKenzie, second from right, was one of the young ladies who finished their hours for the Silver Award with the project. Jeff Jones/Leader & Times

Scouts learn leadership through community service
By ROBERT PIERCE • Leader & Times

Thanks to some area Girl Scouts, a local agency has a new phone system and a supply of food can be sheltered for an extra week.

Starting in October 2012, members of Troop No. 60005 worked with the Family Crisis Center Domestic Violence Services agency on the two projects, and the results were recognized at a ceremony last week.

None of the girls have either finished or are working on hours for their Bronze Award, and a drama team began working on their Silver Awards with two finished and six still working on the Gold Award.

Ginger Abrams, director of LMC/CNS, said the Girl Scouts have made a great difference in her agency.

"They have done some absolutely wonderful things for our agency," she said.

Girl Scout leader Michele Braddard and her troop, taken on a special community service project each year after working with the Liberal Animal Shelter in 2012, the girls took on the task of helping LMC/CNS this year. Some of the smaller projects included sewing drapes at the Liberal Senior Center, community Thanksgiving dinner, Relay for Life, Liberal Animal Shelter and several projects for the Liberal Good Samaritan Society.

For the Bronze Award, the girls planted a bee-garden planting flowers and collecting seed from Walnut and Northfork Parks, and they also made a presentation shopping list aids from LMC/CNS and two seasons from Good Sam and Walmart, planting at Travelodge Park. The results showed a three good weeks

See SCOUTS/Page 5A

City to propose 4.8 mill levy increase
By ISBELLA MARCIANDO • Leader & Times

The Liberal City Commission meeting at 6:30 p.m. tonight will be the first time that the public hears the 2014 budget, proposed by Interim City Manager Kim Thomas, consisting of tax revenues for budget year 2014 in excess of last year.

The budget proposes revenues of $22,170,000, a mill levy decrease of $1,481,992, and a mill levy increase of 4.8 mills, from 34.1 to 38.9 mills. The increase is $102 mill increase and would result in an increase of $101,019 from last year's budget.

Chris Ford, finance director, explained that the increase is due to ever-increasing operational costs, every effort has been exhausted to keep the mill levy increase as low as possible. Changes at the local fuel floor are now for citizens, some changes have to be made. The city has had not increased in the past seven years.

Then, the number of skills necessary for the funding of the dollar request is likely to change, but the bottom dollars will not change.

Property tax dollars requested will be used for the general fund, which an ordinance is required to be adopted to levy the requested property taxes in excess of the prior year levy amount.

There will also be coverage of Liberal Memorial Airport's Land Rehabilitation Project (LRP) Improvement Project, which would allow for improvements to the runway so that aircraft will have access to the nearest section of all lanes, as well as improvements to the Taxi Lane Pad. The fees will be presented for Public Update, Airport manager tonight. The total project cost for the "Improve A-B-C" project is

See BUDGET/Page 5A

LPD's David Odle graduates from FBI National Academy

Capt. David Odle recently graduated from the 253rd Session of the FBI National Academy. The National Academy is a professional course of study involving graduate and undergraduate level courses in criminal justice and international law enforcement issues.

The National Academy is dedicated to the improvement of law enforcement standards and has long been a leader in the field of law enforcement education. Participants are drawn from every state in the nation and more than 70 countries around the world.

A wide range of courses were presented during the 10 week course of study that concluded on June 14th at the FBI training facility in Quantico, Va.

These courses included: behavioral science investigation, interviewing for law enforcement leadership, forensic and criminal law, terrorism, and the management of death investigations and threats in law enforcement.

The program is designed to support schools and enhance the professional development of law enforcement leaders by facilitating excellence in education and forging partnerships throughout the law.

In addition to the class instruction, the students had the opportunity to listen to presentations by many of the leaders across the country. This allowed the students to gain insight into the best practices and the contemporary issues of law enforcement personnel.

The physical challenges at the Academy were not as demanding as the

See ODLE/Page 5A

Liberal Police Department Capt. David Odle recently graduated from the 253rd Session of the FBI National Academy. A wide range of courses were presented during the 10 week course of study that concluded on June 14th at the FBI training facility in Quantico, Va. Courtesy photo