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ACA increases district's healthcare costs by $1.68 million

OBAMACARE

by MICHAEL COLEMAN
• Leader & Times

No one knows when, if ever, the Affordable Care Act — dubbed "Obamacare" — will take effect. The federal bill intended to provide health insurance to millions of Americans who admitted they lacked that the entire document, 20,000 pages, contains conflicts and contradictions.

No one knows whether the plan will work. Or if it will be repealed or defunded.

But USD No. 480 Finance Director Jerry Christensen was fitting if he had to deal with it, the Liberal School District would have to spend $1.68 million.

"There is it goes the way we think it will, and if the law is repealed, we will have to deal with it," he said, emphasizing the word "if" with irony. "When people say there's a storm on the horizon, that's because it's coming."

The USD 480 also feels pains of the ACA coming because of the 30-hour rule. The bill requires all

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KU removes prof from classroom

KU

by JERRY PHILLIPS
• Leader & Times

University of Kansas officials and the Kansas Board of Regents have resolved an attempt by a professor to bring a Christian Fundamentalist Church to campus.

The court found Tuesday, "Westboro Baptist Church, Inc. v. Gee" (Case No. 13-2000-CM-00453), Nam-Jin Gee, 34, of 2120 W. 25th Street, and daughters, Naomi, on you Facebook page, Westboro Baptist Church Kansas, Inc. (WBC) and the Board of Regents violated the First Amendment of the United States Constitution when the court ruled Gee's First Amendment rights were violated.

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LARKIN'S BIG NIGHT

Nolan Larkin makes key catches to help the Redskins stay close against Hays in first Western Athletic Conference game of the season.

PAGE 1C

Shooting results in arrest of teen

by JERRY PHILLIPS
• Leader & Times

Police arrested a teenage shooting suspect Friday afternoon in connection with a shooting.

According to statement released Friday from Liberal Police Capt. Pat McClung, officers were dispatched to the 1000 block of Pershing at 2:30 p.m. Friday of Faith Williams for a report of a shooting.

Officers initially reported that he had been shot in the ear by unknown perpetrator from a red Pontiac Grand Prix. McClung noted "The victim was not injured.

Officers arrived from the Liberal Police Department and Seward County Sheriff Department located the suspect vehicle minutes

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Woman accused of EMBEZZLEMENT from Turpin Water Board

by ROBERT PHILLIPS
• Leader & Times

In the case

Kaylee Dawn Tomlinson, 35, who has worked as a contractor for several years for Beaver County's Rural Water District No. 1, was arrested May 20 on one charge of

• See TOMLINSON/Page 3A

Holmes clarifies county tax on electric bill

by KARRY NELL
• Leader & Times

A change in electric bills that supposed to provide some counterpoint has a simple explanation, according to a Seward County Commissioner.

Carol Holmes, who served as the representative for Ward 2 USD/Holcom district for 12 years before being elected to the county board, said although residential utility bills are exempt from state sales tax, the county commission wanted to make it clear to residents exactly what is levied by that particular county.

"Whatever county sales tax is levied, that is on the residential utility bills. We want everybody to know this sales tax area." Holmes said.

HOLMES

"Whatever county sales tax is levied, that is on the residential utility bills. We want everybody to know this sales tax area."

Holmes said clarifying state sales tax on residential utility bills was a response to a change that was made in 1981.

"Historically, Georgetown Electric Cooperative has asked for the exemption for lower utility bills," he said. "He said, 'We don't have a problem with the cooperative commission. The Legislature in 1981 may have thought that exempted state sales tax on residential utility bills.

Holmes said sales tax rates are set by counties and cities, and the commission wanted to make sure residents knew the added tax Seward County did not have a sales tax in the past, it does now.

Holmes said the Georgetown Electric that the county has a sales tax of 1 and a quarter percent, he said.

Holmes said with a few exceptions most commercial utility rates are taxable by the state, but residential consumers with local providers Black Hills Energy and Kansas Gas Service are not subject to state sales tax.

"There is a city sales tax and a county sales tax," he said. "Whatever the city and the county levies also applies to utilities."

Antelope Park's cross open for firewood cutting, which is free to anybody who wants to work for it. The program provides free firewood for citizens and help keep sheriff cleaned up in the park. Check with the park's caring board to be sent to the correct area for cutting. *Courtesy photo*

Cut your own firewood – it's free

by GRIELLA MERCONDO
• Leader & Times

Fall is officially here, and soon the time for pumpkins and scarfs, hot chocolate, crackling and family time around a fireplace will be here. Not

Antelope Park has an area available for families to cut firewood.

Cutting firewood up last weekend, and from now until "closing," Atchison board member Jerry Gutierrez said. "Anyone who'd like to get some firewood, can come down to the park and meet with the camp host. He'll direct them where they can go to cut firewood, and they can take as much as they want."

People can take as much wood as they can carry, and there is no limit on the amount.

"They can't cut down any trees that are standing, and they need to bring their safety equipment and

• See FIREWOOD/Page 3A

Sprint joins national rivals with upgrade program

by NANCY JEDPRAN
• AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK — Sprint is launching a new program that gives customers the chance to upgrade their phones every year, a move that puts it on par with the four national wireless carriers to target customers who want the latest technology.

Sprint Corp.'s new One Up plan is much similar to Jump from T-Mobile USA Inc., which is the fourth-largest wireless carrier, but requires $10 monthly fee to participate. Sprint's version, Sprint Assurd, includes insurance, or loss.

Like T-Mobile, Sprint is reducing the monthly cost of financing for the new service, which is charging for the three-year contract.

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