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PARADE POSTPONED

The annual Christmas Parade in Downtown Liberal has been moved to Dec. 14.

ABBOTT OUT

After three years, Cliff Abbott dismissed as head coach of the Redskin football program

Page 1B

L&T now accepting 'Dear Santa' letters

staff report

The staff at the *Leader & Times* has contacted Santa Claus, and he has agreed to let us collect "Dear Santa" letters and forward them to him at the North Pole. Children are encouraged to write to Santa and send them to us. They can be handwritten and delivered or mailed to: 10 S. Kansas Ave., Liberal, KS 67901 or they can be e-mailed to: santa@lpender.com.

The letters must be received by noon Friday, Dec. 20, so they can be forwarded to Santa in time for Christmas. They will also be published in the *Leader & Times* – exactly as written – on Sunday, Dec. 22.

Fellowship Baptist Christmas show offers **GOSPEL & HOPE** Page 5A

SW Symphony presents Christmas Concert

staff report

A program full of Christmas favorites will be Southwest Symphony Society's gift to the community when the string and orchestra performance "Christmas Concert" presents its annual holiday concert for 2 p.m. at the Showcase Theatre at Seward County Community College. As always, the program is free, with donations the support of the nonprofit community group accepted.

Director Mark Compaan has selected an array of diverse holiday selections, including a special arrangement by the string orchestra, "This Christmas," with drum set and piano.

Compaan and his an earlier interview with the *Leader & Times* that his goal at incoming director is to increase the group's members, as well as its reach into the community.

Gallery through the year, the symphony

See CONCERT Page 5A

FRIDAY DECEMBER 6, 2013
LEADER & TIMES
Your daily news & views for 127 years

PARADE POSTPONED until next Sat., Dec. 14

CHRISTMAS PARADE
WITH A BRAND NEW POINT-TO-POINT ROUTE
14 DECEMBER 14, 2013
DOWNTOWN LIBERAL

Signup time starts per usual at the business where you will ride in the parade, between 1 and 2 p.m. that day, and make sure you're at the Dec. 14 Christmas Parade when the winning name will be drawn. You must be in attendance to win the car. Parade starts at 6 p.m. Here is the following schedule of where the car will be on Saturday:

Saturday
9 a.m.-to 5 p.m. – Folk Art Festival
Noon
Noon-to 5 p.m. – Folk Art Festival

Public invited to 'final four' community meetings

By Michael Stephens
Leader & Times

WHAT ARE THE POTENTIAL FACILITY SOLUTIONS FOR LIBERAL SCHOOL DISTRICT?

The last round of public community talks are planned. Here are updates from the Vision Team and provide a reminder of the presentations and board members from the Board of Liberal USD No. 480. Citizens' input is crucial to determining as a community with plans to improve Liberal's schools, and director of public relations Jason McAfee.

Day	Time	Place	Meal
Sunday	2 p.m.	Seward Co. Ag Building	Chili and cookies provided
Sunday	7 p.m.	Depot	Chili and cookies provided
Dec. 11	6 p.m.	VFW	Light dessert provided by VFW
Dec. 12	Noon	Depot	Soup lunch

Community members, parents, students and staff are encouraged to attend.

Soup, chili provided

The Board is asking for USD 480's community to plan for its facility needs. Board members will provide soup and chili/bean for a special election in the spring, before matching lunch from the Depot and a Friday evening at the VFW.

With plenty of public input, district officials and school board members are hoping to see a good turnout for the series of four meetings and much should fully assemble the final details and recommendations.

"When you include the public in the process, they come up with the right solutions," said Board President Jason Sunday. Sunday said he hopes the community has been keeping up with what is going on. It is not as telling the public what's going to happen. It's people seeing what they want for their kids, and what's best for them.

When people see what they want, what they'll support, Sunday said, "it makes it easier."

Next month's meeting should help move the district toward that positive outcome. Having gathered information from the public, the board will be gathering all over Liberal USD at the series will present a few options for a vote in April. Board members will be asking citizens to vote, that allows people to lock in the options they like best. TLE will be able to collect real-time feedback.

"We'll be able to see what gets the most public support," Sunday said. "It's very important that we have

See MEETING Page 5A

The Chamber of Commerce's Santa's House

will will be open from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at the Third Street Fountain in downtown Liberal. Santa will be there with his elves, with children, and everyone is welcome to bring a camera and take pictures with Santa.

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