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MONDAY MAY 12, 2014
LEADER & TIMES
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Liberal man dies in early Sunday morning wreck

By JOHN VALLES
Leader & Times

A Liberal man died Sunday morning after his car left the road and launched into the railroad embankment, according to a report from the Kansas Highway Patrol.

David Andrew Selby, 35, was traveling eastbound on U.S. Highway 54 near the Wanda Avenue intersection around 2:40 a.m. when he failed to negotiate the curve and entered the west ditch and "traveled into the railroad embankment," the report stated.

He was pronounced dead at the scene, and his body was transported to Miller Funeral Home.

He was not wearing a seat belt, the report added.

Maine woman, 80, goes skydiving on Mother's Day

WATERVILLE, Maine (AP) — An 80-year-old mother of seven from Waterville has fulfilled a nearly 60-year-old dream of skydiving.

Marjorie Bell leaped out of an airplane and with the help of a tandem skydiver floated 10,000 feet to the ground on Mother's Day, one day after her birthday.

Bell tells the Morning Sentinel that she "never felt so free."

She was accompanied on the jump by several family members, including a daughter, a son-in-law and two grandsons.

Bell, a grandmother and great-grandmother, had wanted to jump out of a plane since she was entertained by skydivers on a trip to Florida 20 years ago.

Bell already has plans for her 81st birthday. She wants to go skydiving on Grand Falls on the Maine-New Brunswick border.

Saints salute class of 2014 graduates

Students of the graduating class of 2014 at Seward County Community College/Area Technical School Kansas in the speeches given during the commencement ceremony. The special speaker for the ceremony was SCCCATS alumna Patricia Rodriguez-Bear, who shared her own experiences from school. | AP photo/Ely Crews

Family tests Kan. water law, claims impairment

Kansas considers revised permit for coal plant

By JOHN HANNA
AP Political Writer

TOPEKA — The state's top water-use regulator is considering a revised permit for a coal plant that would allow Sunflower Electric Power Corp. to draw the water again for a new coal-fired power plant in southwest Kansas.

Chief Engineer David Barfield, Division of Water Resources administrator, is taking short cuts to ensure that the Holcomb plant gets water.

Sunflower Electric Power Corp. needs a pollution-control permit from the state Department of Health and Environment for its proposed 895-megawatt plant in Finney County, where the Ogallala aquifer already has another coal-fired plant. The Kansas Supreme Court in December 2010 had eight months ago the Kansas Supreme Court ordered the agency to reconsider its regional, tougher air-quality standards.

Secretary Robert Moser is reviewing a proposed amendment drafted by the agency's legal staff that would allow Sunflower to go forward with the project.

But the Sierra Club and Earthjustice, which represented the environmental group in the lawsuit prompting the court decision, argue the department should not issue the permit before it finishes reexamining the old permit. Both groups also would like state to scrap the project and instead promote development of renewable energy.

"There are ways again trying to take short cuts," said Amanda Graves, an attorney for the Sierra Club, which entered the Sierra Club in the lawsuit over the 2011 permit. "It really has been whatever they can do to ease the way for this coal-fired plant."

Department officials declined to discuss the proposed amendment to Barfield's decision, saying the agency is still reviewing it. The agency also said saying when Moser will decide.

Barfield's draft of the proposed amendment prepared earlier this year, the department's staff said environmental standards that were in effect when the agency issued the 2010 decision to turn coal plant would

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