Billy's Blue Duck BBQ
You only see that the money is not the most important thing in life when you have it.
Thursday Prime Rib
44 Village Plaza • Liberal, KS 620-626-4400 Monday - Saturday
BILLY'S BLUE DUCK BBQ VOTED AMERICA'S BEST RESTURANT 5 YEARS STRAIGHT.

Woman wounded in early Sunday morning shooting

By LARRY PHILLIPS
• Leader & Times

Gunfire erupted shortly after midnight Saturday at a residence in south Liberal which left one woman with a minor gun shot wound, according to a report released by Liberal Police Capt. Pat McClurg.

"On Sunday ... at about 12:16 a.m., officers responded to the 400 block of South Roosevelt Avenue for a report of multiple gun shots," McClurg noted. "Responding officers found a 28-year-old female who was injured as a result of the shooting. She was taken to Southwest Medical Center by a private vehicle with minor injuries."

The woman "has since been treated and released," McClurg added.

He also reported several parked vehicles were damaged by gun fire. One of the vehicles was impounded by police as evidence, according to an independent report to the *Leader & Times*.

McClurg's report noted witnesses had

See SHOOTING/Page 3A

Use of food stamps rises in Seward County

Page 6A

Local authors donate to library

Page 3A

Kansas mom pleads no contest in 6-year-old daughter's death

WICHITA (AP) — A Kansas woman whose 6-year-old daughter died in a Wichita house fire last summer has pleaded no contest to three counts of aggravated child endangerment.

The Wichita Eagle reports 28-year-old Ruthie Lee Bell of Wichita also pleaded no contest to two counts of aggravated interference with parental custody on Monday in Sedgwick County District Court.

Prosecutors say Bell left 6-year-old Ja'Kara Dickson and her two sisters, ages 4 and 7, alone before the fire broke out at their home July 11.

Authorities have said Ja'Kara was playing with a lighter when she accidentally set her clothes on fire, then caught her bed on fire when she pulled off the burning clothes. She died three days later.

Bell is scheduled to be sentenced June 25.

Seward County man dies in fire

• L&T staff report

A fire has claimed the life of a rural Seward County man Wednesday, May 7, according to a report from Seward County Fire Chief Mike Rice.

"Seward County Fire Department responded to a structure fire in the 5000 Block of Road O," Rice noted. "The fire was under control at (6:34 p.m.), on May 7,

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TUESDAY MAY 13, 2014
LEADER & TIMES
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City to give up property for school expansion

By ELLY GRIMM
• Leader & Times

The Liberal City Commission will be taking on a rather light agenda at their meeting tonight.

The first item on the agenda will be the discussion of real estate. The recommendation is for the commission to sell a piece of property at 11th Street and Calvert in northeast Liberal back to Park Properties, Inc. for the construction of facilities for USD 480.

The school district has negotiated with Park Properties, Inc. to buy the property as part of the school expansion project.

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Coffee with a candidate:

• Special to the Leader & Times

Please come have coffee with Shannon Francis, candidate for State Representative for the 125th district, from 5 to 6 p.m. Wednesday at Spencer Browne's Coffee House located at 7 Village Plaza, next to the North Pizza Hut.

Francis wants to listen to what is important to the voters in this district. He wants to know what their priorities are.

FRANCIS

County to conduct special work session tonight

• Special to the Leader & Times

The Seward County Board of Commissioners will be conducting a special work session tonight at 6:30 at the Seward County Commission Chambers (located in the Seward County Administration Building). They will be discussing issues relating to the Event Center/Fairgrounds Complex.

Feds mum on Kansas prairie chicken law

TOPEKA (AP) — The federal agency that listed the lesser prairie chicken as threatened isn't responding publicly to a new Kansas law declaring that only the state can regulate the grouse within its borders.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service spokeswoman Claire Cassel said Monday the agency declined comment.

Gov. Sam Brownback signed the prairie chicken measure late Friday. It takes effect this week.

The law is a protest against possible restrictions on farming, ranching and oil and natural gas production.

The measure covers the lesser prairie chicken and the larger, darker and more abundant greater prairie chicken.

Geithner, in memoir, suggests White House asked him to bend truth on deficit

• FoxNews.com

In this July 25, 2012, file photo, then-Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington. Two of President Barack Obama's closest first-term advisers will soon spill insider details on the administration's handling of the early days of the Great Recession, the White House's cautious response to the Syrian civil war and the genesis of clandestine talks with Iran. The memoirs from former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and Geithner will be the latest installments in an often awkward Washington ritual: one-time confidants signing big book contracts to examine a presidency that is ongoing and policy decisions that still are being implemented. AP photo/Scott Applewhite

Former Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner claims in his new book that the White House on more than one occasion tried to put words in his mouth or outright asked him to bend the truth.

In his memoir, "Stress Test: Reflections on Financial Crises," Geithner recalls a Sunday talk show prep session in 2011 during which top White House adviser Dan Pfeiffer wanted him to say Social Security "didn't contribute" to the federal deficit. Geithner wrote that he objected.

"It wasn't a main driver of our future deficits, but it did contribute," Geithner wrote, explaining his own reasoning. "Pfeiffer said the line was a 'dog whistle' to the left, a phrase I had never heard before. He had to explain that the phrase was code to the Democratic base, signaling that we intended to protect Social Security."

After the anecdote began to generate attention on Monday, a source close to Geithner clarified to Fox News that the former secretary "does not believe he was encouraged to go out and mislead the public on the Sunday shows."

The source said all the former secretary was trying to get across was that Pfeiffer wanted him to "send a signal" to liberals about the president's commitment to not allowing major cuts to Social Security.

White House Press Secretary Jay Carney also defended Pfeiffer, reiterating the White House position that Social Security is not the "main driver" of the deficit, when compared with health care-related entitlement programs. "That, I'm sure, is the point that Dan was making," Carney said.

Still, the episode and others in the 544-page book,

See GEITHNER/Page 5A

Energy savings bill fails amid election politics

WASHINGTON (AP) — A widely popular, bipartisan energy savings bill fell victim in the Senate on Monday to election-year politics and the Obama administration's continued indecision on the Keystone XL oil pipeline.

A procedural motion to end debate and bring the measure to a floor vote without amendments fell five votes short of the 60 votes needed for approval.

The legislation would tighten efficiency guidelines for new federal buildings and provide tax incentives to make homes and commercial buildings more efficient. It easily cleared a procedural hurdle last week but stalled after Republicans demand for votes on the Canada-to-Texas pipeline and on new administration-proposed greenhouse gas limits for coal-burning power plants.

Republicans are united in favor of the pipeline and against the new power plant regulations, while Democrats are deeply divided on both. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., used a parliamentary maneuver to block Senate votes on the pipeline and power plant rules as part of the energy savings bill.

Reid said Monday that Republicans were "still seeking a reason" on the energy bill by insisting on the Keystone amendment and other votes. He said he had agreed to a long-standing request from pipeline supporters for a separate vote on the pipeline if its supporters would let the efficiency bill sail through unamended.

Minority Whip John Cornyn, R-Texas, called Reid's maneuver disappointing. "The Senate used to be a place of great debate and accomplishment. Now it is run like a dictatorship shutting out the voices of millions of Americans," he said.

Election-year politics loomed on all sides.

Democrats said Republicans were

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