

Remains of a pressure cooker believed to be used as a bomb that exploded during the Boston Marathon.

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McAlester News-Capital

SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS | FRIDAY APRIL 19, 2013



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MCALESTER

Group plans to clean up around local highways

By MJ BRICKEY STAFF WRITER

Saturday, the Twin Cities Revitalization Project is participating in the Oklahoma Department of Transportation Trash Off.

"We will meet at Hartshorne City Hall at 9 a.m.," said Regina Peoples, president of project. "We are providing trash bags, water and gloves. There will

SEE HIGHWAYS | PAGE 3A



Scan the QR code for the Week of the Young Child video



TONIGHT'S FORECAST

Mostly clear, with a low around 36. Northwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming light and variable in the evening. More weather — Page 2A.

FROM THE BIBLE

"Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.' So we say with confidence, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?'" Hebrews 13:5-6

ALMANAC

Thursday's Lake Eufaula level: 586.57' Sunrise Saturday: 7:12 a.m. Sunset Saturday: 7:18 p.m.

OKLAHOMA LOTTERY

PICK 3 4/7/13 5-5-4 POWERBALL 4/6/13 04-07-08-29-39-24

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KTC enacts disaster drill

By JEANNE LEFLORE STAFF WRITER

A tornado disaster drill took place Thursday at Kiamichi Technology Center.

The drill was staged to train emergency personnel and staff of KTC to respond in case of real disaster.

Details of the drill were unveiled as the scenario took place, according to Trent Meyers of Pittsburg County Emergency Management.

Meyers said the participants weren't told what type of disaster would take place until the day of the event.

"We are staging the events as if a tornado hit the north side of the

building," Meyers said.

"Some things we can't stage, like a telephone pole falling on a building or the roof caving in," Meyers said.

Debris was strewn about the north half of the building at KTC where the drill was held. Some

SEE DRILL | PAGE 5A

SAND BAGGERS



Staff photo by KEVIN HARVISON

Work continues for the city of McAlester to prepare local public pools for opening day. Pictured from left, Mark Temple gets a bag of sand from Billy Jack Russell Tuesday at Jeff Lee Pool. Fresh sand is being replaced in the sand filter system. The projected pool opening dates for Jeff Lee and J.I. Stipe pools is May 25. Pools at Ike Hutchison Park at Fourth and Krebs streets, Chadick Park at Chadick Avenue and Third Street, and Komar Park at B Street and Comanche Avenue, are scheduled to open the following week.

City may close some pools

By MJ BRICKEY STAFF WRITER

Some city swimming and wading pools are subject to closure this summer.

City of McAlester Manager Pete Stasiak said the city is looking to close pools with the least use, adding nothing is set in stone at this point.

McAlester Community Affairs Director Mel Priddy said the three pools most likely to be closed are wading pools at Michael J. Hunter Park at Fourth Street and Chickasaw Avenue, and at B and Jefferson Park, as well as the Mullen Park swimming pool at A Street and

Springer Avenue.

Stasiak said closing the three pools is tentative.

"This is not the first time we've had to do this," Priddy said. "We had to do this the year before last."

Priddy said despite the closures, there will be plenty pools for people to use.

He said his operational budget for pools is \$138,000 and includes pay for pool employees, chemicals, cleaning and repairs and other operation costs.

Priddy said the city makes some money on pool admission fees and concession stands sales, but those funds don't come close to offsetting the operational costs of the city

pools and wading pools.

Priddy said the city's swimming pools are set to open the last Saturday of May, on May 25. They are at Jeff Lee Park at Third and Fillmore Avenue, and the J.I. Stipe Recreation Center in Rotary Park at 801 Ninth St.

Wading pools slated to open the following week are at Chadick Park at 500 S. Third St., Komar Park at B Street and Comanche Avenue, and Ike Hutchison Park at Fourth Street and Krebs Avenue, according to Priddy.

Contact MJ Brickey by email at mjbrickey@journalist.com.

Choctaw Nation Powwow planned at Expo

By JEANNE LEFLORE STAFF WRITER

More than a thousand people from around the country are expected to attend the free Arrowhead Powwow set for Saturday at the Southeast Expo Center, organizers say.

Choctaw Nation Chief Gregory Pyle and Dist. 11 Councilman Bob will lead the grand entry at 6:30 p.m., according to event Chairman Dena Cantrell of the Choctaw Nation.

"They will also take part in an Honor Dance which will be held for them after the grand entry," Cantrell said.

The event is open to the public.

"We welcome everyone

SEE POWWOW | PAGE 3A

Canadian 4H'er receives honor

By JAMES BEATY SENIOR EDITOR

Canadian 4-H Club member Elisabeth Willis is more than one in a million. She's one in six million.

4-H, which is called the nation's largest youth development organization, has more than six million members — with 4-H clubs in areas ranging from rural farming and ranching places to urban neighborhoods.

Willis, who is a junior and 4-H Club member at Canadian High School, was set to receive the 4-H Club's prestigious National Youth in Action Award

SEE HONOR | PAGE 2A



Staff photo by JEANNE LEFLORE

Members of the Local Emergency Planning Committee meet Wednesday at the Southeast Expo Center.

Committee sets up disaster training

By JEANNE LEFLORE STAFF WRITER

Final plans for Thursday's disaster scenario at Kiamichi Technology Center were set during a Wednesday's meeting of the Local Emergency Planning Committee.

Members of the LEPC met for their monthly meeting at the Southeast Expo Center.

Several agencies, including local fire and police departments, McAlester Regional Health Center and Carl Albert Mental Health Center, took part in the scenario, according to Trent Meyers, director of Pittsburg County

SEE COMMITTEE | PAGE 3A



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