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#### Short meeting for Alfalfa County commissioners

#### By Stacy Sanborn

Alfalfa County commissioners Garret Johnson, Mike Roach, and Nate Ross handled their usual business items (previous meeting minutes, M&O warrants for payment, blanket purchase orders) before signing the P-card (State of Oklahoma purchase card program) paperwork.

They then signed temporary appropriations for County General, Cash, Highway, and Sales Tax accounts for FY 24-25 and then declined to enter into an agreement for predator and rodent control. However, they did sign an engagement letter from Angel, Johnston, and Blasinggame, PC, for the Alfalfa County Educational Facilities Authority.

After that, they signed the resolution for officers' salaries, followed by a private property access easement for District 3. It is for the SE 80 acres of 11-23-10 to clean out and remove trees from the right-of-way.

There was no new business, and the meeting adjourned.

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HAWLEY CEMETERY

MEETING

Mon, May 27<sup>th</sup>

**10:30 a.m.** (Hawley Cemetery, north of Nash, OK)

The Alva Review-Courier / Newsgram is published Wednesday by Martin Broadcasting Corp. 620 Choctaw St. Alva, Oklahoma 73717 Marione Martin, President Telephone Numbers: Alva Review-Courier 580-327-2200 Newsgram 580-327-1510 FAX 580-327-2454 www.alvareviewcourier.com E-Mail: manager @alvareviewcourier.net news@alvareviewcourier.net Entire Contents Copyright 2024

# Woods County accepts court settlements in tax protests

#### **By Marione Martin**

Woods County has settled 2022 and 2023 tax protests with DCP Midstream, according to County Assessor Renetta Benson. She said the county won't be handling DCP protests in the future since they have been bought out by Phillips 66.

The Woods County Tax Roll Correction Board met Wednesday morning with Chairman Randy McMurphy opening the meeting. Other board members present were Benson and Joe Shirley.

Board members approved minutes from the Sept. 11, 2023, meeting that had to be corrected. They also approved Jan. 12, 2024, minutes.

First, Benson presented two changes to the 2022 tax roll involving two Alva hotels with one owner. In a protest that went to court, the hotels wanted to change their assessed valuation to an income approach since business has been slow. The court case lowered their assessed value which lowered their net taxes by \$18,935 in 2022. McMurphy wanted to know if the owner would want to go back to a property basis if business gets better. Benson said they probably would, but "we're not going to go back and forth" although she acknowledged it is a loophole in the law. Since the change was a court decision, the board approved the new assessed value for 2022. This will affect the amount of tax going to several entities including the Alva Public Schools.

Next Benson presented four items on DCP Midstream protests for 2022. The taxes were listed according to school districts affected, but the tax changes are distributed among the county government, E911, the health department and other entities besides the schools. Board members approved the court decisions lowering net taxes for DCP in the amount of \$3,755 for J-4M which is a Major County school district that overlaps county lines. In the Alva school district boundary, taxes were lowed \$416. In the Waynoka district, taxes were lowered \$2,480. The Freedom school district area was hit hardest with taxes decreased by \$7,170. The 2022 total decrease in taxes for DCP was \$13,821.

On the 2023 tax roll, Benson presented a change due to an error. A Woods County farmer made some changes to his assessment, but the assessor's office failed to remove one item. The change reduced the net assessed value by \$13,858 which resulted in lowering the farmer's taxes by \$1,033. The board approved the change.

DCP Midstream's 2023 protest also went to court, resulting in a decision that lowered their taxes by \$13,900. Benson's report again showed the changes divided into school district areas although the tax decreases are shared by several entities including the schools. The board members approved the court-ordered decreases. The Major County J-4M school district area had a net tax decrease of \$3,885. The Alva school district area was lowered by \$423. The Waynoka district went net tax went down \$2,469, and the Freedom district was decreased by \$7,123.







The Nescatunga Arts Festival is sponsored by the Nescatunga Arts and Humanities Council, Inc., in cooperation with the Alva Chamber of Commerce, the City of Alva Tourism Committee, the City of Alva and the Alva Recreation Complex.

# Hail 101: How hail forms, how fast it falls

#### By Marione Martin Like many people in the state, I

watched the allevening TV weather coverage of severe Sunday storms night. As one severe storm entered Woods County, satellite ΤV my signal disappeared. Through a recently downloaded app on my phone, I was still

able to follow coverage from one of the TV stations. It appeared the possible tornado was passing to the south of Alva but there was still the possibility of large hail. Luckily, the small amount of hail at my house was very small.

When we first moved to Alva from the hills of southern Missouri, I immediately saw the difference in the landscape. The flat land and sparsity of trees produces spectacular sunsets. Then I noticed the weather. First it was the almost constant wind. In the first couple of years, we endured storms with very large hail that took out nearly every window in our new home.

With forecasters talking about tennis ball size hail Sunday night, I decided to look up more information. Here's Hail 101 from NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration):

#### What is hail?

Hail is a form of precipitation consisting of solid ice that forms inside thunderstorm updrafts. Hail can damage aircraft, homes and cars, and can be deadly to livestock and people.

#### How does hail form?

Hailstones are formed when raindrops are carried upward by thunderstorm updrafts into extremely cold areas of the atmosphere and freeze. Hailstones then grow by colliding with liquid water drops that freeze onto the hailstone's surface. If the water freezes instantaneously when colliding with the hailstone, cloudy ice will form as air bubbles will be trapped in the newly formed ice. However, if the water freezes slowly, the air bubbles can escape and the new ice will be clear. The hail falls when the thunderstorm's updraft can no longer support the weight of the hailstone, which can occur if the stone becomes large enough or the updraft weakens.

Hailstones can have layers of clear and cloudy ice if the hailstone encounters different temperature and liquid water content conditions in the thunderstorm. The conditions experienced by the hailstone can change as it passes horizontally across or near an updraft. The layers, however, do not occur simply due to the hailstone going through up and down cycles inside a thunderstorm. The winds inside a thunderstorm aren't simply up and down; horizontal winds exist from either a rotating updraft, like in supercell thunderstorms, or from the surrounding environment's horizontal winds. Hailstones also do not grow from being lofted to the top of the thunderstorm. At very high altitudes, the air is cold enough (below -40°F) that all liquid water will have frozen into ice, and hailstones need liquid water to grow to an appreciable size.

#### How does hail fall to the ground?

Hail falls when it becomes heavy enough to overcome the strength of the thunderstorm updraft and is pulled toward the earth by gravity. Smaller hailstones can be blown away from the updraft by horizontal winds, so larger hail typically falls closer to the updraft than smaller hail. If the winds near the surface are strong enough, hail can fall at an angle or even nearly sideways! Wind-driven hail can tear up siding on houses, break windows and blow into houses, break side windows on cars, and cause severe injury and/or death to people and animals.

#### How fast does hail fall?

This is a very complicated answer. The fall speed of hail primarily depends on the size of the hailstone, the friction between the hailstone and surrounding air, the local wind conditions (both horizontal and vertical), and the degree of melting of the hailstone. Early research assumed that hailstones fell like solid ice spheres and showed very high fall speeds, even for very small hailstones. However, recent research outside of NSSL using 3-D printed casts of real hailstones suspended in a vertical wind tunnel has repeatedly shown that natural hailstones fall more slowly than solid ice spheres. For small hailstones (<1-inch in diameter), the expected fall speed is between 9 and 25 mph. For hailstones that one would typically see in a severe thunderstorm (1-inch to 1.75-inch in diameter), the expected fall speed is between 25 and 40 mph. In the strongest supercells that produce some of the largest hail one might expect to see (2 inches to 4 inches in diameter), the expected fall speed is between 44 and 72 mph. However, there is much uncertainty in these estimates due to variability in the hailstone's shape, degree of melting, fall orientation, and the environmental conditions. However, it is possible for very large hailstones (diameters exceeding 4-inches) to fall at over 100 mph.

#### What areas have the most hail?

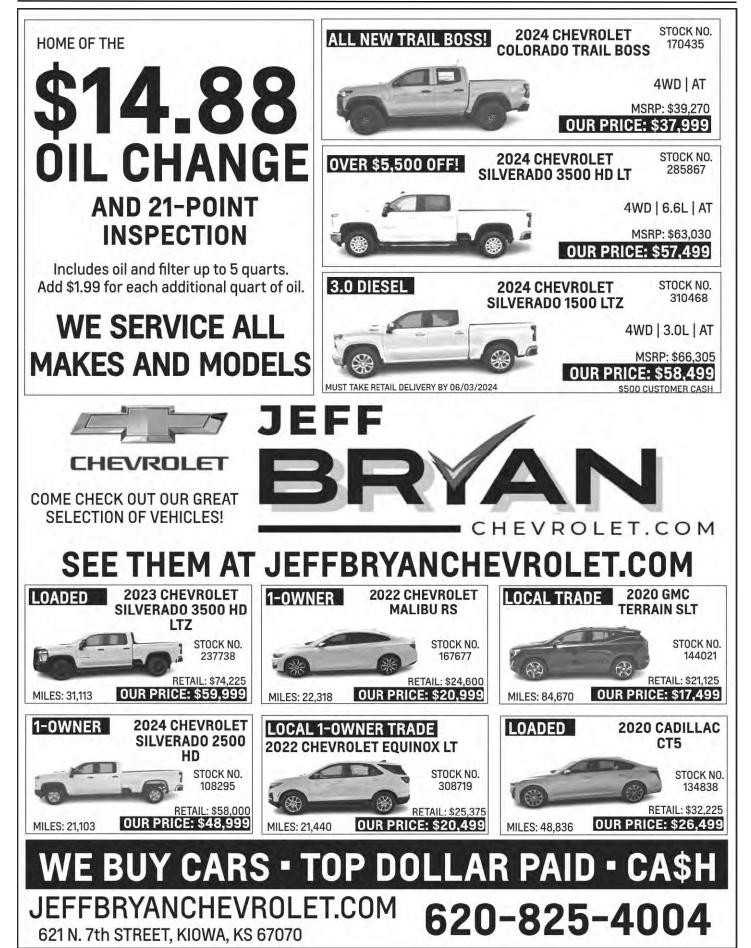
Although Florida has the most thunderstorms, Nebraska, Colorado, and Wyoming usually have the most hailstorms. The area where these three states meet – "hail alley" – averages seven to nine hail days per year. Other parts of the world that have damaging hailstorms include China, Russia, India and northern Italy.

When viewed from the air, it is evident that hail falls in paths known as hail swaths. These occur as storms move while the hail is falling out They can range in size from a few acres to an area 10 miles wide and 100 miles long. Some storms, instead of producing large hail, instead produce copious amounts of small hail. Storms like these have produced hail drifts that, when captured in clogged drainage channels, formed piles of hail several feet deep. Hail that completely covers roadways is especially hazardous because if deep enough, a vehicle's tires may not touch the roadway at all, with the vehicle instead driving on the hail, which acts exactly like an icy roadway in the winter.

#### How large can hail get?

The largest hailstone recovered in the United States fell in Vivian, South Dakota, on June 23, 2010, with a

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# Cherokee school board winds up year-end tasks



Allen Poe (left) is sworn in as the new Seat 4 representative on the Cherokee Public School Board of Education. *Photo by Desiree Morehead* 

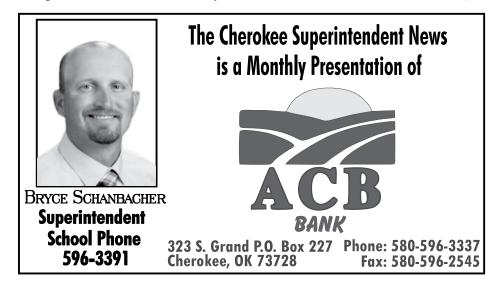
#### By Kathleen Lourde

The Cherokee school board handled end-of-year business at its regular monthly meeting May 9.

The board approved the consent agenda, consisting of April 8 meeting minutes; the general, building and child nutrition funds' encumbrances, purchase orders and warrants; the treasurer's and activity fund reports; FCCLA fundraiser selling calendar dates to raise money for a trip to Seattle; and the resignation of teacher Debra Lohrding.

Superintendent Bryce Schanbacher reviewed the financial reports and other consent agenda items.

"We're just trying to get the year closed out, so there aren't a lot of expenses this time of year," he said. In the general fund, "everything's pretty much the same monthly expenses; the electric bill was a little over \$7,200 this past



month, which is maybe a little bit less than where it was this time last year," he said.

He expressed regret about Lohrding's resignation. "I don't think anyone, including her, wanted to see that (resignation) happen, but it's what is best for her family at this time," he said. "We really hate to see her go. She's an excellent teacher, and I hope everything works out to get her back."

#### **Finances In Good, Not Great, Shape**

Schanbacher talked about his estimates for the school's financial status at the end of the year. "Right now, barring unforeseen circumstances, we will probably finish the year with our general fund somewhere around \$1.3 million," he said. "That is down a little from last year's \$1.4 million. We've had some unexpected costs - bus repairs, insurance premiums rising again – but that's still healthy. We've also had a decrease in gross production revenue of about \$600,000." However, the school had planned for that decrease, and has still ended up very close to where the school was last year, financially.

The building fund and child nutrition funds are both in good shape, he said.

"All in all, right now, we're in good shape. I won't say we're in great shape, but we're in good shape. There will be some cuts on the programs funded by ESSER funds. Our after-school had a grant and the summer school will run this summer through June, but that was being funded with ESSER funds and that will go away unless we can come up with a grant or something to replace it." The two programs require more than \$100,000 to run, he said.

#### Personnel

After returning to open session after an executive session, new board member Allen Poe, filling Seat 4, was sworn in and Hailey Rieger was hired as a fourthgrade teacher for the 2024-25 school year.

"This week is Teacher Appreciation Week, so I want to personally thank all the teachers and administrators for a great year," said Schanbacher. "There are always challenges, but this has been

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# Freedom school board accepts Pierce resignation, hires Wilkerson

#### By Kathleen Lourde

The Freedom Board of Education held its regular meeting Monday, May 20, where they accepted the resignation of Christan "Cheyanne" Pierce. Superintendent Freida Burgess read from Pierce's resignation letter and, in response to questions from the board, said that the letter did not give a reason for her resignation, but in conversations with Pierce she had only been told that Pierce's health was a factor. The resignation was accepted.

Tammy Wilkerson was hired as a member of support staff for the remainder of this fiscal year and for next fiscal year. "Tammy started here a couple months ago," said Burgess, "and she's doing a very good job. She's conscientious and very good support." The hiring was approved.

A list of adjunct classes – the same as last year – was also approved, as was a list of extra-duty contracts.

Brooke Meyer was approved as an adjunct instructor for anatomy and physiology at Northwest Technology Center for FY2025. Meyer has filled this role for several years.

No action was taken on an agenda item regarding hiring a teacher for FY2025.

#### Finances: Basically, Same as Last Year

The school has received its temporary appropriations for FY2025, consisting of \$157,941 for the general fund, \$127,412 for the building fund and \$48,958 for child nutrition.

"I don't think the numbers changed at all" from last year, Burgess said. Responding to questions from the board, she said that funding was not received for teacher pay raises, although she is still in conversation with politicians representing the area and hopes to receive a one-time funding for that. Because the school is "off the formula," she doesn't expect them to receive anything beyond a one-time payment for teacher pay raises.

"Nothing we can do about it," said one of the board members, "except approve it." The temporary appropriations were approved.

Milk bids were approved, as was the contract with OSIG for vehicle insurance. This last "went up another \$6,000 to \$74,405," said Burgess. She also received an email stating that all deductibles are going up to \$25,000. "Boy, that's the business to get into," said Phil Kirkpatrick.

A list of fundraisers was approved. "It's mostly the same fundraisers that we've done for the last two or three years," said Burgess. "What are butter braids?" asked Robert Babcock. After a moment, Burgess said, "Well, if you don't know, you need to buy some," and the board members chuckled.

The board also approved:

• FY2025 contract with Oklahoma Department of Career and Technolo-



gy Education for secondary career and technology education programs,

• acceptance of approved concurrent enrollment post-secondary credits and AP courses as credits towards high school graduation and

• acceptance of dual enrollment credits, including math and science, from Northwest Technology Center.

Personnel approved to use the signature stamp for official signatures (with permission before use) were Shane Morris, Robert Babcock, Kyle Rhodes, Freida Burgess and Bryant Weber.

#### Hefty Consent Agenda

A huge amount of business was handled via the consent agenda. This consisted of the usual past meeting minutes, treasurer's report; and encumbrances and warrants for both the FY2024 and FY2025 general, building and child nutrition funds. This time, though, it also included the following for FY2025:

• payroll dates and class schedule, along with 15 activity absences; calculation of school days by the hour method; maintain a minimum of 1,080 hours per school year and state minimum of 165 instructional days (same as last year);

• the student and staff handbooks, and the crisis management handbook;

• designation of Rachel Spellman-Hughes, the Woods County treasurer, as district treasurer;

• moving activity funds to FY2025, along with sub-accounts;

• lease purchases for HVAC;

• worker's compensation insurance via OSAG;

• acceptance of dual enrollment credits from Northwest Technology Center and concurrent enrollment college courses toward high school graduation requirements; and

• sharing of contract expenses with Optima Publish Schools with Renaissance STAR Assessments for RSA screener.

The consent agenda also designated, for the 2025 school year, both Frieda Burgess and Bryant Weber as receiving and purchasing agent; and authorized representative and fund custodian for all local, state and federal programs, including but not limited to e-rate, child

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a really great school year with our Capturing Kids' Hearts program."

#### **Student Activities and Achievements**

The elementary school is wrapping up its year with field trips, said Elementary Principal Keela Patterson. "We wrapped up state testing on Monday, thank goodness," she said.

The fourth grade had its science fair that Wednesday morning, and the next day the elementary held its Accelerated Reading party, which included students shopping in the Chiefs Store.

Tuesday of that week was Super Kids Day when elementary students played games outside all day. The awards assembly was the next day at 8 pm.

"I want to stay thank you to all the parents, teachers and students," Patterson said. "We've had a really great year."

The best news, Patterson said, is that the elementary received a \$40,000 OATT grant that will all go toward technology for the school. "We're very excited about that," she concluded.

Junior High and High School Principal Lane Pruett ran through a list of recent student achievements. Among these, were the following:

• The Lady Chiefs track team was named the Class A State Academic champions. Lady Chiefs state qualifiers include Carson Schanbacher (sixth place in the 1600-meter relay), Cheaney Berry (third place in 100-meter hurdles and in the 300-meter relay), Elyce Rollin (sixth place in discus), Tessa Littlefield (eighth place in pole vault), Kynli Patterson (fourth place in discus), Veronica Castro (sixth place in 1,600-meter relay), Talyn Allison (sixth place in 1600-meter relay).

• Chiefs state qualifiers include Kai McHenry (state champion in the 400-meter dash, fourth place in the 200-meter dash, third place in the 800-meter, fourth place in the 1600-meter relay. He also broke two school records this year in the 200 [21.97] and 400 [49.53]). Also qualifying were Zack heller (third in 800-meter relay, fourth in 1600-meter relay), Hudson Wilson (fourth in discus), Hunter Wimpee (third in 800-meter relay), fourth in 1600-meter relay), Joel Parker (3200-meter relay), Tyson Ream (third in 800-meter relay, fourth in 1600-meter relay), Baler Gibson (3200-meter relay).

• At the state speech and debate con-

test, Xander Jackson was state champion in monologue interpretation (his sixth all-state award); Maryanne Heim was the first state champion in oral interpretation (a new event); Aaron Tidwell and Sophie Cantellay were state champions in dramatic duet; Kayce Shelton was state runner-up, standard oratory; Anna Kiner was state runner-up, informative oratory; Davin Budy was third place, original oratory; Maryanne Heim and Xander Jackson were finalists, dramatic duet; Alec Tidwell was a finalist, standard oratory; and Alec Tidwell and Aaron Tidwell were finalists in humorous duet.

• Numerous students won Superior/I ratings at the state vocal solos and ensembles contest, including the Cherokee Men's ensemble (Xander Jackson, Alec Tidwell, Arron Tidwell, Hudson Wilson), Olivia Cortright, Gracia Jackson and Kacey Shelton.

• Fine arts class students' paintings are on display at City Hall in the Cherokee Mainstreet Art Show and Cherokee Crystal Art Walk.

• Cherokee FCCLA attended the state convention, where 2024 state champions included Hope Jordan, Kynli Patterson, Addy Bickerstaff, Kaylee Eckhardt and Hannah Hensley. State runners up included Alissa Pfleider, Autumn Mc-Mahan, Ryan McDonald, Zowie Stout, Jennifer Salinas and Carson Schanbacher. Other honors from the convention included Davin Budy's election to state first vice president for the 2024-25 term, and the Cherokee school district being named the most supportive district in Oklahoma for FCCLA's outreach projects, Citizens Caring for Children and the Pearl House.

• The sports banquet was Monday, May 13. The next day was the junior high/high school awards, and that Wednesday was the baccalaureate. Semester tests for grades 7-12 were Wednesday and Thursday, and the last day of school was May 16, which was also when the eighth grade promotion was observed. High school graduation was Friday, May 17.

#### **Other Board Business**

The board also approved:

• Resolution for Schools and Libraries Universal Services (e-rate) for 2024-

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### From Page 4 Marione

diameter of 8 inches and a circumference of 18.62 inches. It weighed 1 lb. 15 oz.

#### **Estimating Hail Size**

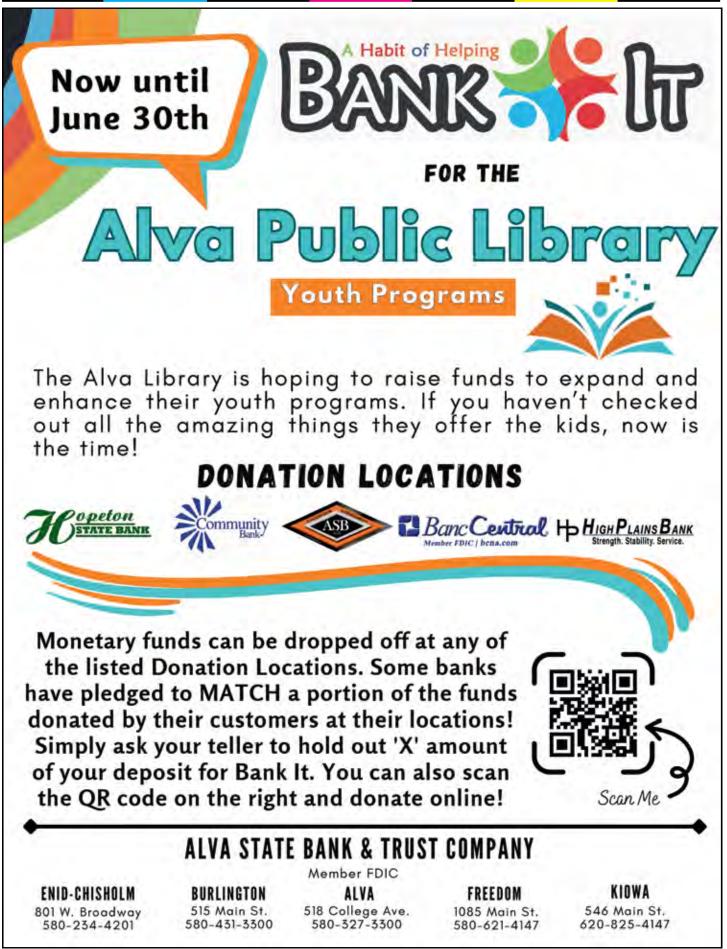
Hail size is often estimated by comparing it to a known object. Most hailstorms are made up of a mix of different sizes, and only the very largest hail stones pose serious risk to people caught in the open. When reporting hail, estimates comparing the hail to a known object with definite size are good, but measurements using a ruler, calipers, or a tape measure are best.

a tape measure are best. Pea = 1/4 inch diameter Mothball = 1/2 inch diameter Penny = 3/4 inch diameter Nickel = 7/8 inch Quarter = 1 inch — hail quarter size or larger is considered severe Ping-Pong Ball = 1 1/2 inch Golf Ball = 1 3/4 inches Tennis Ball = 2 1/2 inches Baseball = 2 3/4 inches Tea cup = 3 inches Softball = 4 inches Grapefruit = 4 1/2 inches



#### Alva Review-Courier/Newsgram





### Senate Review Transparent process for budget negotiations

#### By Senator Roland Pederson



This past week has moved slowly with the 2024 Budget Summit negotiations between the governor, the House of Representatives leadership, and the Senate leadership. The transparent

approach has allowed all to view these negotiations and to see how the citizens of Oklahoma's tax money is projected to be spent.

On March 19, the Senate released its proposed budget in Senate Resolution 31, which was nearly three weeks before the House openly released its proposed numbers. As a result, budget negotiations stalled early on. Numbers from the Senate did not change even after the appropriations chair changed.

We have also made headway with the conference committee process. As expected, requests for conferences have been a process, and it has not gone very quickly. This process will continue until the end of the session.

During session, we have had the pleasure of honoring fellow senators who will not be here next year by either terming out of office or not choosing to run again. All of those not returning have dedicated their time in office, and for that, I am thankful to each of them. It is an honor to serve along with them, and each will be truly missed.

On Tuesday, we had our annual Legislative Blood Drive. Along with the competitive spirit of the Senate versus the House, blood donations are even more important because of the tragic weather emergencies that we have experienced over the last month.

Thursday, we honored the Hmong American Association of Oklahoma with Hmong Day at the Capitol. A special program to honor Hmong Vietnam Veterans who served as our allies in the Vietnam War was presented. The Hmong people and culture were celebrated, honored, and recognized for their contributions to the United States past and present.

I want to congratulate Marshall Reigh from Medford for receiving Game Warden of the Year from the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Department. Marshall is a second-generation game warden and grew up in Yale. He attended Northern Oklahoma College and finished his bachelor's in criminal justice with a biology minor at Northwestern Oklahoma State University. He began his career with the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation in 2004 as the Grant County warden. I appreciate his dedication to wildlife preservation and for promoting good stewardship of our environment.

In closing, I want to take a moment to congratulate all the high school and college graduates for their achievements, and I wish them great success in their future endeavors.

If I can be of service to you or your family, please reach out to my office. You can reach me at 405-521-5630 or Roland.Pederson@oksenate. gov.

#### Murdock's Minutes Welcoming students to the Capitol By Sen, Casey Murdock



This week granted us yet another chance to celebrate the exceptional talents of our local studentathletes. It was my privilege to recognize the Texhoma girls' track team in the Senate. These young

ladies had an incredible season, which ended with them securing the title of Class A state champions, a testament to their dedication, hard work and skill. I appreciate them making the trip to the Capitol and wish them the best of luck in their future academic and athletic endeavors.

We also welcomed seventh- and eighth-grade students from Woodward Public Schools this week. I always enjoy getting to visit with their teacher, Sonya Covalt, who not only impacts these students daily, but educates them on the importance of taking an active role in local and state government. I appreciate them visiting each year and appreciate

Need an ad? Call us at 580-327-2200 or email: sales@alvareviewcourier.net stacy@alvareviewcourier.net Woodward Schools for promoting civic engagement among our youth.

Our final group this week was from Felt Junior High. I had the privilege of recognizing these up-and-coming community leaders in the Senate Gallery as they visited the Capitol to learn more about civic engagement and state government processes. I was incredibly impressed by these students and look forward to seeing their leadership in our community in the years to come. I appreciate them making the trip as well.

I've also continued meeting with various groups and individuals to discuss economic development projects throughout Northwest Oklahoma. I look forward to sharing more on these efforts as we work to promote our local businesses, improve our infrastructure, and more.

It is an honor to serve as your voice at the Capitol. Please contact my office at Casey.Murdock@oksenate.gov or 405-521-5626 if I can be of assistance to you.



Mr. Hodgden, a native of Woodward, is with the Hodgden Law Firm and has practiced law for over 25 years. He and his firm provide legal services to individuals, businesses, and banks across Western Oklahoma. His practice focuses on oil and gas law, real property law, estate planning and probate, business planning and title examination. Cody earned his undergraduate degree in Economics from Oklahoma State University in 1992 and his Law Degree from Oklahoma University School of Law in 1995.

For more information, contact 580.327.7649. There is no charge to attend this informational meeting.





### Carl's Capitol Comments Immersed in state budget process

#### By Rep. Carl Newton



We are deep into the budget process at the state Capitol with a series of public budget summits being held between House and Senate leadership and the governor. Although

frustrating at times, I'm pleased that budget leaders are all in the same room at the same time. This process tests those involved, but it's important everything be done openly. I've been able to be more involved in the process than ever this year, and I really enjoy the challenge and the opportunity that presents. I've gotten to voice my concerns and opinions to the major decision makers.

There were some slowdowns as leaders from each chamber and the governor expressed differing views on tax cuts. The House and governor believe we could cut income tax this year. The Senate president pro tem, however, has made it clear that aside from the state's portion of the grocery tax eliminated earlier this year, he is not interested in allowing his chamber to vote on further tax cuts.

With that off the table, budget leaders are focusing on going line by line through appropriations for each state agency. It's a laborious process, but for those interested in how taxpayer dollars get spent, it's worth the time to listen.

I want to commend the budget chairs from each chamber: Rep. Kevin Wallace, R-Wellston, and Sen. Chuck Hall, R-Perry, as well as the vice chairs and our fiscal staff. The House Pro Tem, Kyle Hilbert, R-Bristow, is also very involved.

This is hard work and long hours, but achieving a balanced budget that benefits Oklahomans is a worthwhile goal.

Also last week, I had a page serve in my office at the Capitol.

Heath Laubach, a junior at Mooreland High School, is the son of Robert and Shirley Laubach. Heath is a member of the National Honor Society and has been on the Superintendent's Honor Roll for the past four years and is on the Dean's Honorable Student list. He's a member of FFA and has already received a Washington Leadership Conference Scholarship. He's a threetime state runner-up in prepared public speaking and won third place in the FFA Greenhand Quiz. He's also a West Watkins Grant recipient.

Heath plans to attend Oklahoma State University to major in agribusiness with a pre-law option. He then hopes to go to the Texas A&M College of law to focus on either agricultural or corporate law. He hopes to one day represent Oklahoma farmers and ranchers and even one day to serve in the state Capitol.

It's always a treat for me to have pages in my office, and it was especially a pleasure to have a young man interested in one day representing his fellow Oklahomans.

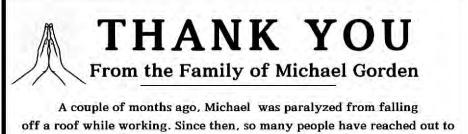
As always, if I can help in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me. You may reach me by email at carl.newton@ okhouse.gov, or phone me at 405-557-7339. God bless you and the State of Oklahoma.

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25. This resolution authorizes filing the Form 471 application for funding year 2024-25 and the payment of the applicant's share upon approval of funding and receipt of services.

• Contracts with vendors for school

year 2024-25, (Alcohol and Drug Testing Inc. for random drug testing of bus drivers and students in extracurricular activities; Today's Therapy Solutions for physical therapy services; Chas W. Carroll PA for financial services, esti-



off a roof while working. Since then, so many people have reached out to offer thoughts and prayers, cards, and monetary donations, including that from the pizza fundraiser.

Our family is so touched and grateful for this outpouring of love, and can't thank everyone enough for their generosity. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

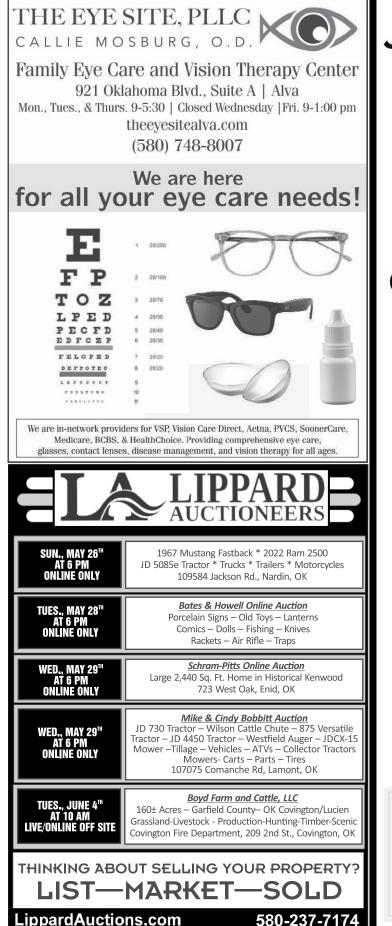
Michael, David "Flash", Sunny, & Dustin Gorden

mate of needs and OCAS; Shanna Ream of Northwest Speech Services LLC for speech pathology services four days a week; Going Places Occupational Therapy; and CCOSA District Level Services for 2024-25, which provides a lot of professional development other administrative resources.

• District transfer capacity numbers (20 for preK; 32 for kindergarten, first and second grades; 36 for third grade; 32 for fourth grade; 35 for fifth and sixth grades; 29 for seventh grade; 26 for eighth grade; 31 for ninth grade; 28 for 10th grade; 33 for 11th grade; and 23 for 12th grade).

• School portrait agreement with Horton Studios Inc. for school year 2024-25.

ACTION ADS Alva Review-Courier 620 Choctaw, Alva 580-327-2200 May 22, 2024



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#### Jason Kletke Estate Sale Good used machinery

**Machinery viewing location:** From the Corner of Flynn and 14th Streets in Alva (by Alva swimming pool), go 2.5 miles north on County Road 430 to Jefferson Road. Then go 3.5 miles west. Follow paved road to a curve that goes north and then a curve back to the west; then go 1.5 miles to where the machinery is located.

#### **Machinery for Sale**

ITEM	PRICE
2016 Land Pride 15' Batwing mower; excellent condition	\$10,000.00
Krause 24' Chisel (double fold)	\$7,500.00
Ratzliff 50' 5-bar Harrow	\$2,500.00
Great Plains 30' folding drill	\$3,000.00
Baker 40' cultivator (folds up)	\$1,000.00
Baker 26' cultivator (folds up)	\$800.00
Crustbuster 18' disk (single fold)	\$1,500.00
Crustbuster 21' disk (single fold)	\$2,500.00
(2) JD 6-bottom plows (semi-mount)	\$500/ea.
Case 5-bottom drag plow	\$400.00
14' speed mover (dual tires with tilt cyl.)	\$1,500.00
12' speed mover	\$800.00
Jantz combine trailer with hay rack	\$1,000.00
Rhoman pup grain trailer, gooseneck with loop hitch, crank slide gate	\$2,500.00
Krause 16' chisel (rigid)	\$500.00
Land Pride 3-point posthole digger with new 12" auger, PD25	\$800.00
(2) Ford 1953 Jubilee tractors	\$1,000/ea.
(2) 18.4x38 duals	\$500.00
JD-506 5' mower, 3-point	\$300.00
Snowco seed cleaner	\$750.00

This machinery is priced to sell! Give me a call if you want to buy any of this machinery! Dean: 580-327-7246

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#### Sunday night storms bring heavy rain, strong wind and damage By Marione Martin

Woods County Emergency Management reports damage to a barn northwest of Alva and power lines down from Sunday night storms.

Blaine County Emergency Management reports damage to a nursing home and mobile home in the Hydro area. Two people were injured. Two barns were damaged in Geary.

Canadian County Emergency Management reports up to 20 structures received some level of damage in Sunday night's storms. No injuries were reported.

Custer County Emergency Management reports at least 10 homes were damaged between Custer City and Hydro. Three homes were damaged in Butler. Two people were injured. Weatherford Emergency Management, Fire, Police, and EMS assisted with search and rescue efforts.

More than 5,700 homes and businesses were without power Monday morning as a result of storms that began Sunday evening. Areas with the highest number of outages are Custer and Tulsa counties.

The Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management is asking residents impacted by the storms to report damages to their property at damage.ok.gov. Reporting damage helps

#### See Storms Page 22



Additional Strology, Net Delative 2-venice during and Shop. Features a pond area for recreation w/ trees, fishing, wildlife, deer, quail, & turkey. Location: From Burlington, Okka. Go 1 mile west to County Road 560, then 1.5 miles South to the property. Address: 32312 County Road 560, Burlington, OK. 73722. - **PRICE: \$345,000.00** 



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May 22, 2024	Alva Review-Courier/Newsgram			Page 21	
ATTENTION AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AN					
WED., MAY 22	THURS., MAY 23	<b>FRI., MAY 24</b>	MON., MAY 27	TUES., MAY 28	
Sweet & Sour Meatballs Chinese Fried Rice Carrots, Broccoli Yeast Roll w/Margarine Peanut Butter Cake w/Peanut Butter Frosting	Cheeseburger on Bun Lettuce, Tomato, Onion & Pickles Potato Wedges Mandarin Orange Dessert	CLOSED	CLOSED Memorial Day	Beef Enchilada Casserole Spanish Rice Tossed Salad w/Dressing Chips, Salsa Peaches	
WED., MAY 29	THURS., MAY 30	FRI.,MAY 31	MON., JUNE 3	TUES., JUNE 4	
BBQ Pork Potato Salad Baked Beans Biscuit w/Margarine Double Orange Jell-O	Pizza and Wings Pea Salad Mixed Fruit Chocolate Chip Cookie	CLOSED	Stuffed Baked Potato w/ Ham, Chicken, Cheese, Margarine, Sour Cream Vegetable Soup w/Crackers Applesauce	Breakfast Casserole Supreme Peaches Biscuit w/Cream Gravy Margarine Mini Caramel Rolls	
<b>PEOPLE FROM</b>	<b>ALL WALKS OI</b>	F LIFE EAT AT T	HE SENIOR CIT	<b>IZENS CENTER</b>	
Keep Ar ST					
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Say Thanks to a VETERAN!					
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⇒D	AY (~	HOLD	For Your Health Since 195 <b>ER DRU</b> ALVA, OKLA. (580) 327-	JG Hallmark	

### From Page 18 Storms

local and state emergency managers better coordinate response and recovery efforts. Residents can report damage to homes, businesses or agriculture through the online survey.

The severe thunderstorms Sunday night brought heavy rainfall to the Alva area. The Oklahoma Mesonet reports Alva received 1.92 inches of rain while Cherokee had 1.35 inches. Freedom had 0.88, Medford 0.61 and Fairview 0.10. The largest amount of precipitation was recorded by the Mesonet was at Stillwater with 2.59 inches.

Strong wind was also a factor in Sunday night storms. The Mesonet record a high gust of 49 mph at Freedom while Cherokee reached a wind speed of 55 mph. Alva had a high of 46 mph, Fairview 44 mph and Medford 47 mph. El Reno had the highest gust recorded at 58 mph.

#### Woods and Barber counties to cooperate on bridges

#### By Marione Martin

Woods and Barber counties are working together to improve bridges along the state line. Monday the Woods County Commissioners signed a memorandum of understanding that had already been signed by Barber County, Kanas. This agreement will facilitate bridge inspections and repairs on the border between the counties.

Chairman Randy McMurphy, District 2 commissioner, opened the meeting Monday with District 3 Commissioner John Smiley and District 1 Foreman Damien Starks present. County Clerk Shelley Reed also attended.

After approving the minutes, the commissioners voted to transfer appropriations from Highway CIRB to Highway personal services in the amount of \$17,732.33 for District 1 and \$17,732.34 for District 2.

The commissioners approved using the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's procurement process for right of way acquisition services for a District 1 bridge project on NS-490 across the Salt Fork Arkansas River.

An ACCO solid waste request for all three districts was also approved.

Blanket purchase orders were approved and signed.

# Are you ready for the third annual ruck march Saturday to help veterans and fill food banks?

- Adding a half-marathon this year on Stateline Road
- Starts with registration at Kiowa, ends at Hardtner

American Legion 175

#### By Yvonne Miller

Wear your patriotic or camo garb and walking or running shoes or boots; bring your American flag, bottles of water and a backpack full of non-perishable food. Join the third annual Memorial Stateline Ruck March along Stateline Road just south of Kiowa, Kansas, that connects with Highway 8. Stateline Road goes west to Hardtner, Kansas, for 11 miles.

The event starts bright and early Saturday. Organizer Pake McNally said he'll be set up at Kiowa's Community Building at 5<sup>th</sup> and Main Street at 6 a.m. Registration for the ruck march starts by 7 a.m., and people will proceed south to Stateline Road.

For all you half-marathon runners, don't get excited that this will be an official race this first year. McNally of Hardtner said they are just starting the race this year. There will be no prizes or rules. Finishers get a free t-shirt. He'll have signs denoting the half-marathon distance alongside the road.

Bicycles are allowed this year. If people get tired there will be vehicles to

pick them up, McNally said.

He recommends walkers and runners fill their bags with 20 pounds of nonperishable goods. The donations will be divided equally between the north and south food banks in Barber County. Regarding the donated food items, no expired food will be accepted.

Some of the monetary donations go to the American Legion Post 175 and Sons of the American Legion at Hardtner. Early finishers will enjoy brunch items. Then, grilled brats and hot dogs will be served. People who didn't participate in the ruck march are welcome to come and eat, and make a donation of canned foods or money. Bring a lawn chair and visit. T-shirts are available to purchase.

"I want everyone to enjoy the ruck march and see it grow each year," McNally said.

He plans to add more attractions to the event next year.

"I know 11 miles sounds intimidating, but it's an extra challenge for folks," he said. "It should be a good time."

# Woods County Excise Board has routine meeting

**By Marione Martin** Members of the Woods County Excise Board met Wednesday morning, May 15, for a regular meeting. Chairman

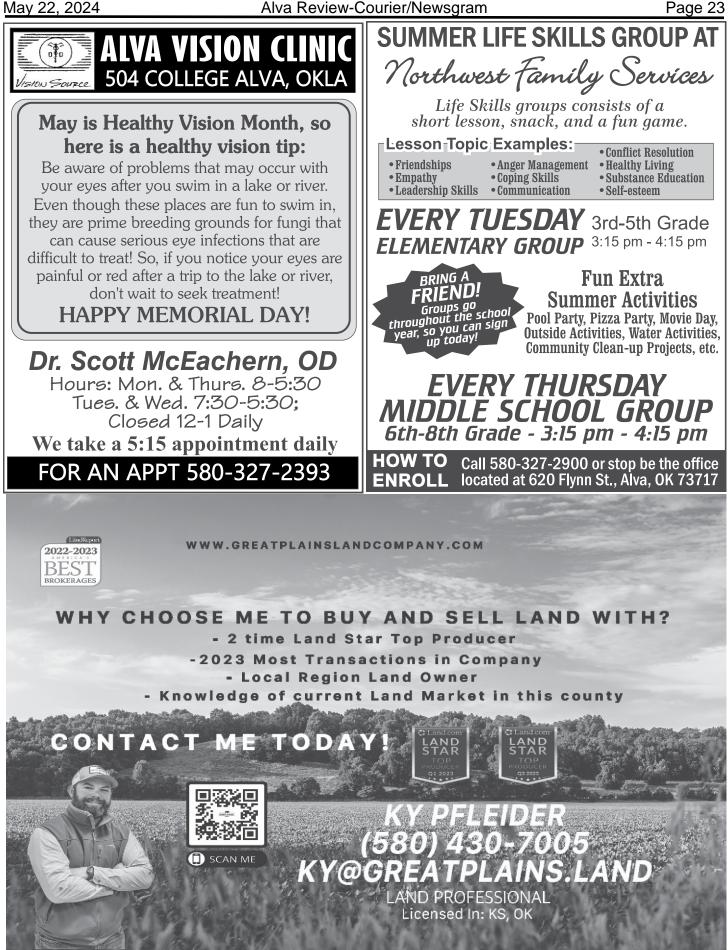
May 15, for a regular meeting. Chairman Joe Shirley opened the meeting with board members Chris Olson and Bob Seivert present. County Clerk Shelley Reed also attended.

After approving minutes of the April meeting, the board voted to approve a monthly appropriation that was inadvertently left off the agenda last month. The Sheriff's Revolving Fund of \$115 was approved.

Seivert, seconded by Shirley, moved to approved the following monthly appropriations with the motion carrying: District #1 \$131,106.52; District #2 \$129,909.58; District #3 \$134,106.52; CBRI D#1 \$10,484.89; CBRI D#2 \$10,484.89; CBRI D#3 \$10,484.90; Enhanced 911 \$87,103.71; Assessor's Fee \$239.00; County Clerk's Lien Fee \$2,769.78; County Clerk's Preservation Fee \$1,690.00; Sheriff's Revolving \$170.00; Treasurer Resale \$3,760.17; Sheriff Commissary \$57.40; Sheriff's Service Fee & CHS \$6,183.00; Mortgage Tax \$85.00; Sheriff Grant \$19,370.00; Federal Rescue Plan Act of 2021 \$6,749.44; Local Assistance & Tribal \$433.15; Court Clerk RM & Pres \$219.25; Mechanic Lien Cash Bond \$4.92.

Three transfers were acknowledged by the board. Highway CIRB were transferred to Highway personal services in the amount of \$15,724.00 for District 1 and \$15,723.99 for District 2.

District 1 Highway M&O funds of



# From Page 22

\$100,000 were transferred to Capital Outlay for the purchase of a grader.

Insurance Benefits Sales Tax FICA in the amount of \$21.81 was transferred to Election Board Sales Tax Part-Time Salary to correct an error.

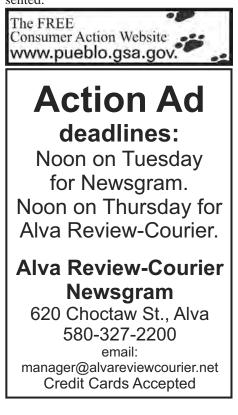
There was no new business, and the meeting was adjourned.

## From Page 8 Freedom

nutrition, general fund, building fund, sinking fund, activity fund, bond funds, alternate minutes clerk, encumbrance clerk, student information, and signer for all activity funds payments.

Bryant Weber was also designated minutes clerk. Christy Gregory was designated student information and receiving agent and signer for activity funds payments, as a district funds custodian and receiving agent.

"Nothing has changed on most of this" since last year, said Burgess. The consent agenda was approved as presented.



# Woman charged over threatening text messages

#### **By Marione Martin**

A man who said he tries to keep the peace in the Nescatunga community felt compelled to contact the Alfalfa County Sheriff's Office after receiving some "very gruesome and violent" text messages from a resident.

On May 13, William Baca spoke to Deputy Caleb Roberts at the Sheriff's Office about a woman named Katharine Stalick. Undersheriff Gary Mast also joined in the conversation. Baca said he has received some very gruesome and violent text messages from Stalick aimed at Anthony Bruno. Bruno is Stalick's next door neighbor in Nescatunga. She has had issues with Bruno on multiple occasions.

Baca let the deputies read the text messages and agreed to print them out, providing the deputies with a copy. He said he's tired of the drama, doesn't want to be roped into the middle of all their issues and felt it necessary to make law enforcement aware of the threatening text messages from Stalick. Baca said he was sitting outside visiting with Bruno a few days ago, and Stalick came flying around the corner in her vehicle and flipped them off as she sped by.

The affidavit in the case lists a few of the text messages from Stalick to Baca: "Yes Rose and tell her those dogs are being killed tonight." "Next time I see Chauncey's dog on my property I'll kick it till it's a bloody mess. Then I will call the sheriff and tell them to get her \*expletives\* over to my property to clean it the \*expletive\* up. Every little speck of massacred nasty dog will be removed from my road by that drunk \*expletive\*."

The affidavit states that referring to Bruno, Stalick texted, "\*Expletives\* If I come within stabbing distance, I'll gut him and smile while his entrails fall out, it's a few seconds before Brain realizes body is dead so I'll happily be making eye contact as the life is drained out."

Katharine Marie Stalick, 38, of Jet, has been charged with threaten to perform act of violence, a felony. This crime is punishable by imprisonment for a period of not more than ten years.

#### Near one-year Kiowa resident Howard Lacy voices complaints to city council By Yvonne Miller police chief. Once the chief checked

At the May 13 Kiowa City Council meeting, Kiowa resident Howard Lacy appeared on the agenda under new business. He voiced complaints about the Kiowa District Hospital (KDH) and Kiowa Police Chief.

Members present were President Brian Hill, Janet Robison, B.J.Duvall and Jason Thayer, with Tom Wells by speaker phone.

Lacy pointed out that Mayor Bill Watson and Police Chief Travis Peterson were not in attendance at this meeting, and they were in his discussion. He claimed that "last August the hospital refused so see me, my children or even my wife." He said his plan was to be on the agenda and explain what was going on to the hospital board.

"Unfortunately, we were given a letter that said we were not permitted to speak or even possibly be at that meeting," he said. So, he used the Open Meetings Act to show that would be a violation of the act itself and of his civil rights. He said he discussed it with the police chief. Once the chief checked it out, he allegedly told Lacy "You are not to be on the hospital grounds. If you take even one step on the hospital grounds, I will arrest you."

Lacy claimed that when he contacted Mayor Watson, he told him there would be no arrests made.

Lacy also claims that he saw the police chief out taking care of a dog attack across the street from his (Lacy's) home at 320 S. 6th St and he "tried to give him a heads up" that the mayor had stopped the threat of arrest. Lacy alleged that's when the police chief told him in front of the neighbors' family and his own (including children), "Our mayor Bill does not know his head from his ass."

"That showed his disrespect to the council and the mayor," Lacy said. He ultimately requested that the council take away the police chief's gun and badge.

# From Page 24 Kiowa

Mayor Watson arrived at the meeting directly after those comments.

Lacy had spread numerous documents around to the media and other entities involved. Councilmember Jason Thayer asked him specifically for the letter "documentation" KDH sent to Lacy telling him he could not attend a hospital board meeting. He did not provide that alleged letter at the meeting, nor had he provided a letter like that to the Newsgram.

Lacy had provided the Newsgram with several letters, such as one dated Aug. 22, 2023, from KDH to Lacy that said, "We find it necessary to terminate our patient relationship with you and will, therefore, be unable to offer your primary medical care. Thirty days from the mailing date of this letter will be the effective date of termination of our medical services." The letter stated, "Until then we will continue to be available to serve you should you have medical needs that require urgent emergency medical attention."

Lacy told the council, "We've been completely trespassed by the hospital." When asked about the details of why his patient relationship was terminated with KDH, Lacy said he had his Patient Bill of Rights. City Administrator Ty Piper wrote a letter to Lacy dated May 7, 2024, that said, "After review of records and communications with KDH personnel, you have not been 'trespassed' from the hospital grounds and are free to access the facility."

In the last two weeks Lacy contacted KWCH-Channel 12 in Wichita about his complaints. They sent a photojournalist to do an interview at Lacy's home out in the yard, which this Newsgram reporter attended and recorded. Lacy told the Newsgram that Channel 12 agreed to attend the May 13 council meeting.

After Lacy made his presentation to the council, this Newsgram reporter passed him a note asking why Channel 12 was not present at the meeting. "They are awaiting to see if Travis will willingly resign or how the vote turns out in regards to Travis' job," Lacy wrote. At press time, the KWCH website had nothing about Lacy's complaints.

Lacy told Channel 12, the Newsgram and Kiowa City Council that the Kansas attorney general is now involved, along with other state and federal agencies. The KWCH reporter asked Lacy his biggest worries. He said, "My heart condition – my kids, my wife – if anything were to happen and we were on our way to the emergency room and could get arrested before we could receive treatment. It scares the hell out of me."

Lacy said he brought his family to Kiowa from Duluth, Minnesota, "where crime was so high. We love it here. People here are just amazing. Like a dream town – full of nice, friendly people."

At the end of the meeting, the council held executive sessions, but took no action afterward.

In interviews about his complaints, Lacy said the issue started last August. He bought the house in May 2023 and moved his family to town. He describes himself as a disabled veteran on Medicare; his two minor sons have Medicaid. His wife has private pay with BCBS.

The KWCH journalist asked what Lacy wants to see happen.

"I'd like to see Travis replaced," Lacy said. He said he would also like to see the hospital take his family as patients if needed. "We got a letter from them saying they would see the kids, but not if the parents are around. But then again, they can't see the kids unless the parents are around for insurance purposes."

# Trump hush money trial enters new phase after defense rests without testimony from former president

By Michael R. Sisak, Jake Offenhartz, Jill Colvin and Colleen Long

NEW YORK (AP) — Donald Trump's hush money trial moved into a new phase Tuesday, drawing closer to the moment when the jury will begin deciding his fate after testimony concluded without the former president taking the stand in his own defense.

"Your honor, the defense rests," Trump lawyer Todd Blanche told the judge. Trump's team ended with a former federal prosecutor who was called to attack the credibility of the prosecution's key witness, one of two people summoned to the stand by the defense. The Manhattan district attorney's office called 20 witnesses over 15 days of testimony before resting its case Monday.

The jury was sent home for a week, until May 28, when closing arguments are expected, but the attorneys returned to the courtroom to discuss how the judge will instruct jurors before deliberations, a sort of road map meant to help them apply the law to the evidence and testimony. The two sides haggled over word choices, legal phrases and how to describe various campaign-related issues.

Trump, the first former American president to be tried criminally, did not answer questions about why he did not testify.

Trump had previously said he wanted

to take the witness stand in his own defense, but there was no requirement or even expectation that he do so. Defendants routinely decline to testify. His attorneys, instead of mounting an effort to demonstrate Trump's innocence to jurors, focused on attacking the credibility of the prosecution witnesses. That's a routine defense strategy; the burden of proof in a criminal case lies with the prosecution. The defense doesn't have to prove a thing.

Yet even as Trump denounces the trial as a politically motivated travesty of justice, he has been working to turn the proceedings into an offshoot of his

#### JACK CLOVER



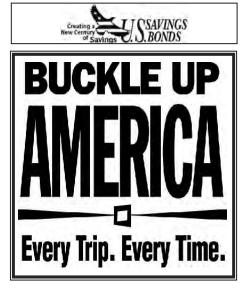
A Celebration of Life for Jack Clover, age 68, of Nash, Oklahoma, will be 10 am, Friday, May 24, 2024, at Ladusau-Evans Funeral Home with Pastor Mike Sommerfeld

officiating. Firefighters' honors will be presented by Vance Fire and Emergency Services. Burial will follow in Memorial Park Cemetery under the direction of Ladusau-Evans Funeral Home and Crematory. The family will receive friends on Thursday, May 23, 2024, from 6 to 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Jack was born December 21, 1955, in Enid, Oklahoma, to Homer and Dorothy (Meier) Clover, and passed away on Saturday, May 18, 2024, in Enid, Oklahoma.

Jack worked in the oilfield for many years. He was a brown belt in karate. In 1980, he moved to Wyoming to continue his work in the oilfield. He was followed by his soon-to-be wife Cindie. After several years, they moved back to Enid. He began working at Vance Air Force Base as a fireman. Eventually, he transferred to Kegalman Airfield as a firefighter. He retired from there after 33 years.

Jack and Cindie have two sons, Jason and Nathan, whom Jack loved coaching in baseball. Nathan and his wife Leslie gave him five beautiful grandkids: Lane Clover, age 14, Bradley Cropp, age 12, Lauryn and Lyndsay Vasquez, age 14, and Tony Vasquez, age 20. Jack was also



## Obituaries

an avid outdoorsman; he loved to hunt and fish, but he loved the beauty he found when doing it. He also loved playing poker and shooting pool and made many friends while doing all these things. He loved his family with his whole heart. Jack always said when he taught his boys to hunt, fish and play sports, he got more joy out of them succeeding than he ever did for himself. His arch nemesis were snakes and negativity! We will miss his mostly stupid, funny jokes, but his beautiful, loving, God fearing, wideopen heart will be missed the most.

Jack is preceded in death by his parents, Homer and Dorothy Clover, and brother, Donald Clover.

He is survived by his wife Cindie, of the home in Nash; two sons, Jason Clover of Fairview and Nathan Clover and wife Leslie of Kiowa, Kansas; sister Wanda Dempewolfe of Enid; sister Connie Woolman of Nacona, Texas; five grandchildren: Lane Clover, Lauryn Vasquez, Lyndsay Vasquez, Bradley Cropp, Tony Vasquez, all of Kiowa, Kansas; as well as numerous cousins, nieces, nephews and numerous friends.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Jack's name may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation with Ladusau-Evans Funeral Home serving as custodian of the funds.

Condolences may be made, memories shared, and services viewed online at www.ladusauevans.com.

#### SUSIE A. SUTHERLAND



services for Susie Sutherland were held at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 19, 2024, at the Waynoka Municipal Cemetery with her grandson, Ryan Redgate, officiating. Arrangements are

under the direction of Marshall Funeral Home of Waynoka.

Susie Adella Inman, daughter of the late Thomas Jefferson and Beulah Avon (Brown) Inman, was born February 20, 1931, at Togo, Oklahoma, (south of Bouse Junction) and passed away May 15, 2024, at Alva, at the age of 93 years, 2 months and 25 days. She was raised in the Cheyenne Valley area with her nine brothers and sisters. Susie graduated from Cheyenne Valley School in 1948.

On June 7, 1948, she was united in marriage to Leo Kenneth Sutherland at Alva. They lived in Longview, Washington, and Wichita, Kansas, a short time before making their home on the farm near Waynoka, Oklahoma. Leo passed away February 21, 1990. Susie remained on the farm until May of 1992 when she bought a home in Woodward, Oklahoma. She lived the past year in Alva.

Susie was a member of United Methodist Church in Woodward and worked as a volunteer at Woodward Hospital for 16 years. She was also a stocker at the community food bank and was involved at the senior citizens center where she was on the activity board and helped with the monthly birthday suppers. She loved her family very much and enjoyed playing cards with them as well as the Senior Center.

Besides her parents, Thomas and Beulah, she was preceded in death by her husband, Leo; her son, Bobby Sutherland and his wife Gayle; her siblings, Eugene Inman, Gerald Dean Inman, Delford Inman, Lilburn Inman, R.J. Inman and Inez Bouse.

Susie is survived by her daughter, Connie Redgate and husband Steve of Waynoka; her sisters, Virginia Harmon of Missouri, Ardena Bartlow of Kansas and Darlene Lyon of Woodward; her grandchildren, Lori Adair and husband Jay, Tambi Brown and husband Billy, Ryan Redgate and wife Dacia, Monica Shepard and husband Dusty, and Cassi Bouziden and husband Mitchell, all of Waynoka; great-grandchildren Taggart Brown and wife Alysson of Oklahoma City, Brenli Dobrinski and husband Scott of Kingfisher, Jake Adair of Norman, Traben Redgate of Waynoka, Taelyn Gray and husband Seth of Edmond, Kyler Shepard of Waynoka, Tayen Redgate of Waynoka, and Temperance Bouziden of Waynoka; one great-greatgrandson, Madden Dobrinski, and one great-great-granddaughter, Sagelyn Dawn Gray, to be born this week; other relatives and many friends.

Memorial contributions may be made through the funeral home to the Wesley Foundation House or the Woodward Senior Center.

Remembrances may be shared with the family at www. marshallfuneralhomes.com. 160 acres Land w/minerals Medford / Jefferson Area Prairie Dog Town

# AUCTION

Thursday June 20, 2024 @ 10am Sale will be held on the land

**Land Location:** 5 mi W of Medford, OK on Hwy 11 & 4 mi S on CR 910 on rocked road. SE<sup>4</sup> 3-26N-6 WIM 97 acres in cultv. Pasture area has 2 ponds & a shale pit area. Approx 20 acres is a Prairie Dog Town. Pasture area contains colorful shale outcroppings.

**Terms:** 10% of purchase price down day of sale w/balance due at closing.

**Minerals:** All of sellers mineral interest goes with land. **Possession:** At time of closing subject to Agricultural Lease which expires Aug 1, 2024.

Contact: Keith James @ 580-541-8618

Visit www.jkjauction.com for more information & photos Seller: Julia E Welch Estate, John Welch PR

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# Dozens of small towns exist around Alva in Northwest Oklahoma and Southern Kansas.



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Gerald Adams' trailer house, discussed at the Kiowa City Council meeting, is stuck at 812 Barnes.

# Adams' trailer house addressed at special council meeting

#### **By Yvonne Miller**

A special Kiowa City Council meeting was called for a hearing regarding a trailer house at 812 Barnes St. owned by Gerald Adams. The trailer was listed as a health and safety nuisance.

Adams reportedly called for and attended the hearing. Adams' trailer was parked at N. 8th St. and made it

to a yard at 812 Barnes. "It's definitely going to be my home," he said, saying that he's cut 181 trees, cleaning the area up. There was some discussion about rainfall that made the ground soggy and the trailer got stuck. Adams thanked locals who helped him with their equipment.

"My axels got twisted like New York pretzels," Adams said. "I need

Check our Photo Gallery www.AlvaReviewCourier.com for photos not published. Click on "More Photos" in the menu bar some help. It's in the best interest of everyone." He thanked City Administrator Ty Piper for his help. "What I need is a piece of equipment to move it."

City Administrator Ty Piper reported Tuesday that an individual from the community volunteered to help Adams with moving the trailer to Sharon. That volunteer was literally helping with the trailer Tuesday afternoon, so there was no need for the council to take any action.



## From Page 25 **Trump**

presidential campaign. He's capitalized on the trial as a fundraising pitch, used his time in front of the cameras to criticize President Joe Biden and showcased a parade of his own political supporters.

Prosecutors have accused the presumptive Republican presidential nominee of a scheme to scoop up and bury negative stories in an illegal effort to influence the 2016 presidential election. Trump has pleaded not guilty to falsifying business records to conceal the alleged scheme and denied any wrongdoing. It's the first of Trump's four criminal cases to go to trial, and quite possibly the only one before the 2024 presidential election.

"They have no case," Trump said outside court. "There's no crime."

He also again attacked the prosecutor, despite repeated warnings from Judge Juan M. Merchan not to violate a gag order that bars him from publicly commenting on witnesses, prosecutors, court staff or the judge's family.

Jurors have been given a lesson on the underbelly of the tabloid business world, where Trump allies at the National Enquirer launched a plan to keep seamy, sometimes outrageous stories about Trump out of the public eye by paying tens of thousands of dollars to "catch and kill" them. They watched as a porn actress, Stormy Daniels, recounted in discomfiting detail an alleged sexual encounter with Trump in a hotel room. Trump says nothing sexual happened between them.

And they sat intently in the jury box as Trump's former-lawyer-turnedfoe Michel Cohen placed Trump in the middle of the scheme to buy Daniels' story to keep it from going public in the waning weeks before the 2016 presidential election. During that time, Republicans were wringing their hands in distress over the potential political fallout from the infamous "Access Hollywood" tape, where Trump bragged about grabbing women sexually without asking permission.

But the crux of the prosecution's case centers not on the spectacle but on business transactions, including internal Trump Organization records in which payments to Cohen were labeled legal expenses. Prosecutors argued that those payments were really reimbursements to Cohen, doled out in chunks, for a \$130,000 payment he made on Trump's behalf to keep Daniels quiet.

Trump has been charged with 34 counts of falsifying business records. The offense is in the lowest tier of felony charges in New York state, and it is punishable by up to four years in prison, though there is no guarantee that a conviction would result in prison time.

Trump's son Donald Trump Jr. defended his father's decision not to testify.

"There'd be absolutely no reason, no justification to do that whatsoever. Everyone sees it for the sham that it is," the younger Trump said as he left a news conference with supporters of the former president outside the courthouse.

The judge has yet to rule on a defense request to throw out the charges, before jurors even begin deliberating, based on the argument that prosecutors have failed to prove their case. Such longshot requests are often made in criminal cases but are rarely granted.

The final witness was Robert Costello, a former federal prosecutor, who was first called Monday afternoon and who angered the judge by rolling his eyes and talking under his breath. The judge cleared the courtroom and threatened to remove Costello if he didn't show more respect.

Tuesday's testimony was absent the same kind of drama as Trump's lawyers sought to use Costello to undermine Cohen's credibility. The two had a professional relationship that splintered in spectacular fashion. Costello had offered to represent Cohen soon after the lawyer's hotel room, office and home were raided and as Cohen faced a decision about whether to remain defiant in the face of a criminal investigation or to cooperate with authorities in hopes of securing more lenient treatment.

Costello bristled as he insisted to prosecutors that he did not feel animosity toward Cohen and did not try to intimidate him. "Ridiculous. No," he said to the latter.

But Costello has repeatedly maligned Cohen's credibility and was even a witness before last year's grand jury that indicted Trump, offering testimony designed to undermine Cohen's account. In a Fox News Channel interview last week, Costello accused Cohen of lying to the jury and using the case to "monetize" himself.

Prosecutors sought to show that Costello was part of a pressure campaign to manipulate and arm-twist Cohen in order to keep him in Trump's corner once he came under federal investigation. Prosecutor Susan Hoffinger asked Costello about a 2018 email in which he assured Cohen that he was "loved" by Trump's camp, "they are in our corner" and "you have friends in high places."

Asked who those "friends in high places" were, Costello said he was talking about Trump, then the president.

Trump lawyer Emil Bove tried to undo that portrayal.

"Did you ever pressure Michael Cohen to do anything?" Bove asked.

"No," Costello replied.

After the defense rested, the judge dismissed the jurors and looked ahead to closing arguments — the last time the jury will hear from either side. Deliberations could begin as early as next Wednesday, giving the panel their first chance to talk about the case. Until then, they're barred from discussing it.

"I'll see you in a week," Merchan told the jury.





South Barber State Track qualifiers are (from left) Miley Turner, Danielle MacKinney, Lily Schurter, Kenslea Schupbach, Reignie Coggins, Austin Swonger, Joshua MacKinney, Garen Cantrell, Leo Turner.

# South Barber track athletes qualify for state

#### By Yvonne Miller

South Barber High School had nine students qualify for the state track meet to be held at Wichita State University Memorial weekend. The head coach is Michael Shklar, who is assisted by Matt Cantrell, Savanah Coggins, Sammi Inman and Jose Salinas. The results

Newsprint End Rolls 30 cents/lb. at Alva Review-Courier 620 Choctaw St. Alva, OK Great for packing, covering tables, drawing, etc. of students' performance at regionals qualified them for the state meet as follows:

South Barber sophomore Lily Schurter won the discus throw and shot put at the regional track meeting to qualify for state. Her discus throw was 120 feet, eight inches. The shot-put throw was 38 feet, five inches.

SBHS "A" Team Austin Swonger, Joshua McKinney, Garen Cantrell and Leo Turner ran the 4x400 with a time of 3:35.24. This placed them fifth at regionals and qualified them for state.

Freshman Reignee Coggins set a new South Barber record and qualified for state at the regional track meet. She ran the 400-meter dash and took second place with a time of 60.18. Athletic Director Michael Shklar said the previous school record was 61.1, held by Kelli Thomas.

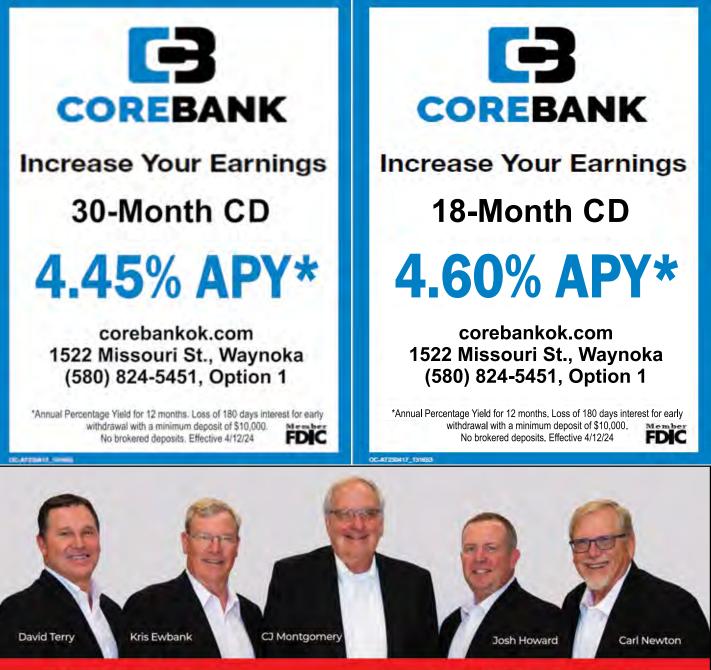
Garen Cantrell, a South Barber

freshman, placed third in the 800-meter with a time of 2:03.4. This regional performance qualified him for state.

Also a freshman at South Barber, Austin Swonger won second place in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 16.5. He also placed second in the 300-meter hurdles with a time of 40.48. He qualified for state in both events.

Freshman Kenslea Schupbach placed fourth in the 300-meter hurdles with a time of 49.8. This was at regionals, which qualified her for state.

Coach Shklar listed some other outstanding track achievements, such as: Josh MacKinney set a PR in the 3200-meter with a time of 10:56. Junior high student Lynnon Humphrey set a school record in the 400-meter dash with a time of 63.5.4 previously held by now teacher Jenny (Farney) Cantrell.



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BHS Class of 2024 – (from left) Alexander Harmon, Sterling Stewart, Trevor Hankey, Mylee Sims. In front of all of them is Logan Stewart. Photo courtesy of yearbook

## Alumna Wilbur gives Burlington graduates 'first-aid kits' to help guide them

#### By Yvonne Miller

Burlington 2016 graduate-turnednurse Sarah (Garvie) Wilbur gave new Burlington graduates a symbolic "first aid kit" to help them in the years to come.

Introduced by Superintendent Spears as a basketball and academic standout during her days as a Lady Elk, Wilbur was ranked No. 10 as all-time leading scorers for high school women's basketball in the state of Oklahoma.

"I have created an emergency firstaid kit to always keep you prepared in case of emergency," Wilbur said. "Your very own kit is on your celebration table. I am a nurse, so I wanted to share some tools for you to use in the future, figuratively and well maybe literally."

After Sarah Wilbur graduated from Burlington High School, she attended Northern Oklahoma College in Enid for one year as a State Regent's Scholar and played basketball for the Lady Jets. She was then recruited to play at the Division 1 level at Oral Roberts University (ORU) for the remainder of her college basketball career. Wilbur obtained her Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 2021 from ORU. She was chosen as the Outstanding Nursing School Graduate by her instructors.

After graduation, Wilbur worked for a year and a half on a cardiac floor in a Tulsa hospital. She then moved home and started working at Kiowa District Hospital, where she is currently employed today. She married her best friend, Grant Wilber, and has been enjoying their busy lives together. She helps Grant on the farm with his business, Wilber Genetics, raising show pigs. Last fall, Wilbur started school again at Northwestern Oklahoma State University to obtain her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree to become a nurse practitioner.

In her talk, Wilbur referred to some of the graduates' "lasts" as Burlington Elks – the last days of high school, last Elks homecoming, last national and state FFA convention, last robotics competition, last high school basketball game, last prom, and the list goes on.

"I hope you smile and have great memories from your time as a Burlington Elk," she said. "Use your talents and abilities to make an impact for the better, on others and on this world."

Fittingly, given her life since graduation, Wilbur's address to the graduates used first aid kit items to See Burlington Page 34



# From Page 32 Burlington



Burlington High School's commencement speaker, Sarah (Garvie) Wilbur, stands with the class valedictorian Sterling Stewart and class salutatorian Alexander Harmon. Photo courtesy of yearbook

evoke symbolic meanings behind each. Summing up, Wilbur said, "Now

let's review the main concepts one more time: The gauze represents the importance of developing connections and relationships with other people. The band-aid represents being a servant to others. The hand cleansing wipe represents the new chapter of life ahead and embracing the change that comes with it. And, lastly, the antibiotic represents the difficulties in life you will encounter and the emphasis on overcoming those challenges and to keep moving forward.

"I hope after tonight, when you see a first aid kit, that you might remember the advice I have shared with you. Seniors, I am watching you from the very edge of my seat. I can't wait to see you use every gift, talent, opportunity and dream to bend the spotlight toward the God who created you in His image. Tonight, you complete one milestone, but there are so many more that are ahead. The adventure awaits! You got this and good luck!"

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#### Burlington students receive superior ratings at TriState

Burlington's elementary choir went to TriState on Wednesday, junior high choir and soloists on Thursday and two high school students on Friday. Riley Dowell made a 1/Superior on her vocal solo. Snoë Kiwia also got a 1/Superior in her saxophone solo.

#### Australia and New Zealand begin evacuating nationals from unrest in New Caledonia

By Keiran Smith

NEWCASTLE, Australia (AP) — Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong said Australia had received clearance from French authorities for two flights to evacuate citizens from the archipelago, where indigenous people have long sought independence from France.

Hours later, a Royal Australian Air Force C-130 Hercules touched down in Noumea, the capital. The plane can carry 124 passengers, according to the Defense Department.

"We continue to work on further flights," Wong wrote on the social media platform X on Tuesday.

The Department of Foreign Affairs said 300 Australians were in New Caledonia. It did not immediately confirm whether the Australianorganized flights would also evacuate other stranded foreign nationals, believed to number in the thousands.

New Zealand's government also announced that it had sent a plane to New Caledonia to begin evacuating about 50 of its citizens.

"New Zealanders in New Caledonia have faced a challenging few days — and bringing them home has been an urgent priority for the government," Foreign Affairs Minister Winston Peters said. "In cooperation with France and Australia, we are working on subsequent flights in coming days."

Noumea's international airport remains closed to commercial flights. Its reopening will be reassessed on Thursday.

At least six people have died and hundreds more have been injured since violence erupted last week in New Caledonia following controversial electoral reforms passed in Paris.

About 270 suspected rioters have been arrested as of Tuesday, and a 6 p.m.-6 a.m. curfew is in effect for the archipelago of about 270,000 people, which is a popular tourist destination with its idyllic beaches and climate.

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# From Page 35 Sheriff

ed a deputy in the 100 block of 8th Street because their front door had been knocked in and they believe someone had broken in. Advised they had not entered the house. Deputy en route. Deputy advised report was taken.

1:26 p.m. – Caller advised of a two-vehicle accident, no injuries, on OK-11 and County Road 670.

2:49 p.m. - Caller requested a deputy on Cimmaron Road. Caller advised he was a truck driver and the crane operator that was unloading his truck is cussing and arguing with him and advised there are three other guys and one of him. Deputy en route.

7:38 p.m. – Medic needed in the 900 block of Pennsylvania for a female who had fallen previously and is currently in a arrest. Medic took the patient lot of pain. Medic took the patient Bass Hospital in Enid.

#### Thursday, May 16, 2024

traffic stops.

10:30 a.m. - Grant County advised of a "mirror slap" accident on US-64. Reporting party just needs a report made; there was no injuries. OHP was on scene.

12:12 p.m. – Caller at the Chaparral Apartments requested an officer for harassment. Caller advised the subject left and went to the Jiffy Trip. Caller called back requesting a medic for a female with trouble breathing and high blood pressure.

12:36 p.m. - Alarm company advised of a smoke alarm meet the medic at the jail. No going off in the 900 block of transport was needed.

10:05 a.m. - Caller request- Maple Street in Burlington. All was okay.

> 3:35 p.m. – Caller advised someone hit her electric pole and carport at Gateway Bank and she would like an officer to investigate.

> 10:08 p.m. - Lift assist needed in the 200 block of Grand for a male who fell.

#### Friday, May 17, 2024

During this day was one traffic stop.

3:59 a.m. - Caller wanted to file a report about an individual trying to steal copper on Aline Road and County Road 640. Report was taken.

4:36 a.m. - Caller advised they hit a deer on OK-45.

5:32 p.m. – Medic needed at James Crabtree Correctional Center for a male who was receiving life saving measures at the moment, possible cardiac to Bass Hospital in Enid.

8:24 p.m. – Caller advised her husband drank a full bottle During this day were three of Fireball and is going in and out of consciousness. Advised she was at the campgrounds at Great Salt Plains Lake. Medic took the patient to St. Mary's Hospital in Enid.

9:44 p.m. – Caller advised she was trying to fill up her pool for her kids and her neighbor is yelling and cussing at her about her dogs, harassing her. Advised she does not want to put up with this all summer. Officer en route to the 200 block of Massachusetts. Officer advised taser was deployed and requested medic. Officer has the subject in custody and will

See Sheriff Page 37





## Community Calendar

#### Wednesday

9 a.m. The Woods County Senior Citizens Center, 625 Barnes, Alva, has in person dining and delivery for homebound seniors. Please call 327-1822 until noon the day before to order.

1-5 p.m. The Cherokee Strip Museum in Alva is open every day except Monday.

7 p.m. Alva Moose Lodge men's meeting is held every Wednesday.

#### Thursday

9 a.m. The Woods County Senior Citizens Center, 625 Barnes, Alva, has in person dining and delivery for homebound seniors. Please call 327-1822 until noon the day before to order.

1-5 p.m. The Cherokee Strip Museum in Alva is open every day except Monday.

3-6 p.m. Food distribution is every Thursday, Alva Wesleyan Food Bank, 818 Lane St.

6 p.m. Caregiver Support Group meets every fourth Thursday of the month at The Homestead in Alva.

7 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting is at 623 5th St. (Youth Corr House), Alva on Thursdays.

#### Friday

1-5 p.m. The Cherokee Strip Museum in Alva is open every day except Monday.



## From Page 37 Barber

Section 9, Township 32 south, Range 11 west of the 6th PM. Quit claim deed.

Book 150, page 57: Shirley A. Woodbury conveys unto Country Place LLC. The south 10 feet of lots 16 and 17 and the south 10 feet of the east 44 ½ feet of Lot 18 and the north 86 ¼ feet of the east 44 ½ feet of Lot 19 and the north 86 ¼ feet of lots 20 and 21, all in Block 2, Cook, Standiford and Company's Third Addition to the City of Medicine Lodge, Barber County, Kansas. Warranty deed.

Book 150, page 60: Keri Lynne Mueller and Andrew Wade Mueller convey unto Russell R. Peitz. All that part of the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 12, Township 32 south, Range 12 west of the 6th PM, lying south of McClearey's Second Addition to the City of Medicine Lodge, and the east of the center line of Main Street of the City of Medicine Lodge, as extended south, and west of the right of way of the former Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company, less streets and/or roads. Quit claim deed.

Book 150, page 61: David J. Polson conveys unto Bryan Investments LLC. The north 63 feet of lots 1, 2 and 3, and the north 63 feet of the east 17 feet of Lot 4 in Block 17, in the City of Kiowa. Warranty deed.

Book 150, page 67: Kaylah Ann Basoco and Alexander James Basoco convey unto Jorge P. Salinas Jr. Lots 8, 9 and 10 in Block 2, and the south half of Lot 3, and all of lots 4 and 5 in block 1. Quit claim deed.

Book 150, page 71: Randal J. Martin and Angela Martin convey unto Scott Thurow. Lot 5 and 6 in Block 109, in the

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Town Company's Addition to the City of Kiowa, Barber County, Kansas. Quit claim deed.

#### Mortgages

Book 253, page 102: 3B Farms LLC to People's Bank and Trust Company. The south half of Section 6, Township 30 south, Range 12 west of the 6th PM, Barber County, Kansas. Note: \$705,000.00.

Book 253, page 111: Tyson Wayne Hill to Alva State bank & Trust Company. The southeast quarter of Section 7, Township 32 south, Range 12 west of the 6th PM, Barber County, Kansas. Note: \$315,000.00.

Book 253, page 120: Steve Wade Lampe to The People's Bank. Lot 7 in Block 5 in Regnier's Amended Revised Second Addition to the City of Medicine Lodge, Barber County, Kansas. Note: \$55,100.00.

Book 253, page 134: James A. Keltner and Joetta D. Keltner to High Plains Farm Credit. The west half of the southwest quarter of Section 32, Township 30 south, Range 14 west of the 6th PM, and the west half of the southwest quarter of Section 5 and all of Section 6, lying north and east of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Right of Way in Township 31 south, Range 14 west of the 6th PM, all in Barber County, Kansas. Note: \$302,000.00.

Book 253, page 141: James and Joetta Keltner Revocable Living Trust to High Plains Farm Credit. The west half of the southwest quarter of Section 32, Township 30 south, Range 14 west of the 6th PM, and the west half of the southwest quarter of Section 5 and all of Section 6, lying north and east of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Right of Way in Township 31 south, Range 14 west of the 6th PM, all in Barber County, Kansas. Etc. Note: \$930,000.00.

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# Alfalfa County court filings

According to the affidavits and petitions on file, the following individuals have been charged. An individual is innocent of any charges listed below until proven guilty in a court of law. All information is a matter of public record and may be obtained by anyone during regular hours at the Alfalfa County Courthouse. The Newsgram will not intentionally alter or delete any of this information. If it appears in the courthouse public records, it will appear in this newspaper.

#### **Felony Filings**

Katharine Marie Stalick, Jet, 38, has been charged with threatening to perform act of violence (\$999).

#### **Misdemeanor Filings**

William Matthew Failes, Cherokee, 51, has been charged with disturbing the peace, public intoxication and threatening to perform act of violence (\$276.50).

**Civil Filings** Planet Home Lending LLC vs. Caitlyn Clark; spouse of Caitlin Clark, if married; Justin Clark, Burlington; spouse of Justin Clark, if married; occupants of premises and Alfalfa Electric Cooperative Inc: foreclosure (\$302.14).

#### Small Claims Filings

Sonya Wofford, Meno, and Errol Wofford, Meno, vs. Shawna Springer: small claims (\$108).

Bradley Nelson, Jet, vs. Bobby Jean Shipley, Jet: small claims (\$108).

#### Marriage License Filings

Payton Alec Judd and Summer Dawn Finney, both of Helena: marriage license with certificate (\$5).

#### **Traffic Citations**

Matthew Wade Page, Purcell, has been cited for speeding 11-15 mph over the speed limit in a construction zone (\$284).

Kala Dawn Baker, Aline, has been cited for speeding 1-10 mph over the speed limit (\$100).



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# Alfalfa County real estate transactions

**Real Estate Transfers** 

Book 899, page 171: Kathy Baird and Bruce Baird convey unto Quentin Don Clark. Southwest quarter of Section 27, Township 27N, Range 9, WIM, Alfalfa County, Oklahoma. Quit claim deed.

Book 899, page 196: Michel L. Russell and Nancy Russell convey unto Morgan Family Investments LLC. West half of the southeast quarter of Section 22, Township 29N, Range 10, WIM, Alfalfa County, etc. Warranty deed.

Book 899, page 218: Betty Jo Meadows and John Meadows; April Lynn Woodall and Edward Carpitella; Beverly Lou (Graft) Hubert and David Hubert and Barbara Ann (Graft) Griffin and Gary Griffin convey unto Tony N. Kent and Sheri D. Kent. The south half of the southwest quarter of Section 12, Township 24N, Range 11, WIM, Alfalfa County, Oklahoma. Joint tenancy warranty deed.

Book 899, page 251: Jon Tevebaugh and Lori L. Porter convey unto Jon Trent Tevebaugh and Lori Lynn Porter. Northwest quarter of Section 33, Township 26N, Range 11, WIM, Alfalfa County, Oklahoma. Warranty deed.

Book 899, page 373: Gordon Hilton Wilsenach and Sharon M. Wilsenach convey unto Charity VanMeter. All that part of Block 7 lying south and west of the Denver, Enid and Gulf Railroad Right-of-Way and all of blocks 10 and 11 in Wagner's Addition to the City of Cherokee, Oklahoma. Warranty deed.

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