

**THE ALVA
REVIEW
COURIER**

NEWSGRAM

Barber County
Rodeo photos
inside

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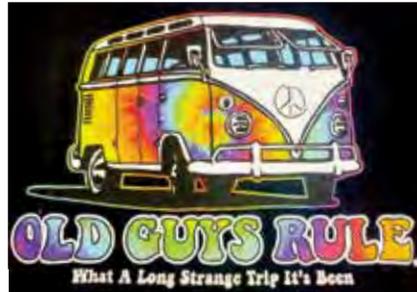
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Woods County assessed valuations are up over \$27 million this year

By Marione Martin

County Assessor Renetta Benson brought good news to the Woods County Excise Board special meeting Monday morning. Benson said the county assessed value was increased over last year, which means more taxes for the operation of the county, schools, health department and other entities.

The meeting was originally scheduled for last Wednesday, then postponed until Thursday and finally moved to Monday. Benson said the delay was caused by a need to get all the figures right for her report. Her office had about ten days to gather and enter information on the new state report. Then there were some changes needed to get everything right.

Benson said the wind farm in southeastern Woods County is included on this year's valuation. Public service assessed values, which include some 73 wind turbines, was up \$27,658,151 for a total assessed value of \$67,104,645. There is one protest by Southern Star Central Pipeline, Inc. in the public service valuations, which will tie up taxes. Public service protests are handled directly by the state.

Woods County's total assessed value including TIF district assessments is \$240,625,848, up \$27,374,990 from last year. Excluding TIF districts, the total county assessed value is \$239,132,764 which is up \$27,658,151 over last year. The total TIF assessed is \$1,493,084. The county has two TIF districts, one for Avarad Rail Authority and the other for the Alva Arena Authority.

Two oil and gas companies are protesting their county valuations: DCP

Operating and Targa Pipeline Mid-Con WestOK, LLC. In their July 20 meeting, equalization board members affirmed the county's valuations. They expect the protests to continue to district court where the same two companies still have protests pending from previous years. These protests will require tax payments to be put in escrow until a valuation is settled. This will affect the budgets of all three county school districts as well as portions of school districts in Major and Alfalfa Counties.

You can read about the July 20 meeting in the July 29 and July 31

editions of the Alva Review-Courier or watch the video online at www.AlvaReviewCourier.com.

Excise Board members Chris Olson and Bob Seivert approved Benson's report. Member Joe Shirley was absent.

Minutes of the Excise and Equalization Board meetings on July 20 were approved.

The board members also voted to approve a transfer of funds from Woods County District 2 CBIR to the ETR fund for a payment of \$10,000. This is to pay on a no-interest state loan used for road materials.

Road crossing, contract renewal on Woods County agenda

By Marione Martin

The Woods County commissioners meeting was brief Monday morning with a short agenda. Commissioner David Hamil was absent.

After approving minutes of the last meeting, the commissioners voted to approve a road crossing permit for Preston Jones. District 3 Commissioner John Smiley said he spoke with Jones who wants to cross the road with a water line. He said Jones will fill and gravel the area when finished. The crossing is

at 32-24-13, and no fee will be charged.

Chairman Randy McMurphy, commissioner for District 2, moved to the next item, a contract renewal for the Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs for detention transportation. County Clerk Shelley Reed said this contract will reimburse the county for transportation expenses. The commissioners approved the contract.

Reed said the next item, declaring a computer as surplus, was not ready so it was tabled.

There was no new business, but McMurphy said there was lots of praise for Woods County's participation in fighting the wildfire near Mooreland.

The commissioners approved blanket purchase orders, and the meeting was adjourned.

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Fall Class Schedule 2022

Classes/Time	Start Date	Tuition
<u>After-School Art Classes</u>		
<u>Tuesday</u> Beginners Draw to Paint (8-14yr - 3:30-5:30) *Some supplies required*	<u>Sept. 6th</u> , October Nov., Dec.	\$40 monthly
<u>Every Wednesday</u> After-School Art Basics (K-12yr - 3:30-5:00) With Emma Cline – Drop-in's Welcome	<u>Starts-August 17th</u> Sept. Oct. Nov. <u>Ends-Dec. 14th</u>	\$10/weekly
<u>Thursday</u> Jr. Duck Stamp National Contest (3:30-5:30)	<u>Sept. 1st-Nov. 17th</u>	\$75
<u>Friday Make-n-Take</u> (ages K-12yr) 3:30-5:30		
Patriotic Craft (3:30-5:30pm)	<u>Aug. 26th</u>	\$15
Paint a Pumpkin (3:30-5:30pm)	<u>Sept. 23rd</u>	\$15
Festive Fall Craft (3:30-5:30pm)	<u>Oct. 21st</u>	\$15
Holiday Fun Craft (3:30-5:30pm)	<u>Nov. 18th</u>	\$15
Christmas Craft (3:30-5:30pm)	<u>Dec. 9th</u>	\$15
<u>Saturday Workshops - ALL AGES – Pre-Enrollment REQUIRED</u>		
<u>Acrylic Painting with Michael Elizondo</u> 10a-3p	<u>Oct. 1st</u>	\$60
<u>Watercolor Workshop with Jerry Piper</u> 10a-3p	<u>Oct. 8th</u>	\$65
<u>Beginning Crochet with Jenny Sattler</u> 10a-12noon	<u>Nov. 12th</u>	\$20
<u>Intermediate Crochet with Mary Reigel</u> 1p-3p	<u>Nov. 12th</u>	\$20
<u>Mixed Media with Deborah Burian</u> 10a-3pm	<u>Nov. 19th</u>	\$65
<u>Paint Your Art Out</u> with Emma Cline	<u>Aug 12, Sept 9,</u> <u>Oct 14, Nov 18, Dec 16</u>	\$30
Artists Talks First Friday Art Walk (6-8pm)	<u>Aug 5th, Sept 2nd,</u> <u>Oct 7th, Nov 4th, Dec 2nd</u>	Free to Public

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On the street where you live

By Marione Martin

As a child I remember learning left and right in relation to hands and to putting on shoes. East and west were related to the sun rising and setting, but north and south were more difficult. Finally I learned those directions based on my home, and it became much easier to remember. Learning to tell time was also a challenge faced by kids in years past when we relied on clocks with hands and numbers.



After moving to Alva and trying to find locations by an address, I learned some valuable navigation aids. Of course this was before cellphones with instantaneous maps to lead you to your destination.

Someone explained that the north-south Noble Street in Alva is a divider. East Flynn is east of Noble while anything to the west is just Flynn. The number streets (First, Second, Third, etc.) begin a block west of Noble and increase moving west. After 14th Street, all the streets change to names. I happen to live just east of Noble Street, but my street doesn't cross to the west so it has no east designation.

This is a lengthy lead-in to some fascinating reading about the streets where we live.

Our Streets

If your home address is an odd number, you probably live on the south or east side of the street; if it's an even number you probably live on the north or west side.

Well, Alva didn't get that message. Odd numbers are located on the south and WEST sides of the street while even numbers are on the north or EAST side.

Then there are street names. In Oklahoma and Arkansas, the most popular street name is Oak. In Wisconsin, Vermont and several other states, the number one name is Park. In the deep south, Dogwood and Magnolia are at the top of the list.

But the most commonly found street name in the U.S. is Second. In some cities the main drag is Main while in others it is First. So Second may follow Main or First, making it most common. After Second in popularity are, in order: Third, First, Fourth, Park, Fifth, Main, Sixth, Oak and Seventh.

Squirrels

How many squirrels live in your block? Since trees aren't as dense in this part of the country, we may fall below the average which is 8.1 squirrels per block. While North America has 66 species, the squirrel capital of the world is southern Asia with 106 species. North American has a density of 1.5 squirrels per acre. Some 1.12 billion of them live in the United States.

Mail Service

Over the years, The U.S. Postal

Service has delivered mail by stagecoach, horse, roller skates, motorcycle, ski, Segway, toboggan, dogsled, boat, biplane, supersonic jet, snowmobile and hovercraft. If you live at the bottom of the Grand Canyon, your mail is brought to you by mule. Letter carriers bring about 41 pounds of junk mail to you every year.

In New York City, pneumatic tubes once helped deliver six million letters a day via 27 miles of tubing that ran beneath the city's streets and even across the Brooklyn Bridge. Each capsule could travel 35 mph and hold up to 600 letters.

In 1958, Harry Winston had so much faith in the postal service that when he donated the \$38 million (\$350 million today) Hope Diamond to the Smithsonian, he shipped it by registered mail from New York City to Washington, DC. The cost was \$145.29 (\$2.44 for postage and the rest for \$1 million of insurance).

Garbage Collection

Garbage collectors pick up 6,424 pounds of your trash a year. That's the average for a family of four in the United States and includes all kinds of trash from urban, suburban and rural locations.

Based on the averages, in 50 pounds of trash (after separating out conventional recycling) you'd find:

- 10.5 pounds of food waste
- 9 pounds of plastic
- 7.5 pounds of paper and cardboard
- 5.5 pounds of rubber, leather and textiles
- 4.5 pounds of metal
- 4.5 pounds of yard trimmings
- 4 pounds of wood
- 2.5 pounds of glass
- 2 pounds of other stuff

It makes you wonder who decided to investigate garbage and collect all this information!

Speeding Tickets

You have a one in six chance of receiving a speeding ticket this year. About 41 million speeding tickets are issued in the U.S. every year. Fines range from \$10 for minor infractions in North Dakota to \$2,500 for driving faster than 85 mph in Virginia. The average ticket amounts to \$150. That might seem like a lot until you visit Finland or Switzerland

See Marione Page 10

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NEW - 160 ACRES - Attica, Kansas, Harper County, Farm ground with great hunting. Well known for giant whitetails. **UNDER CONTRACT**
\$320,000

NEW - 229 ACRES in Coldwater, Kansas. Comanche County, Unit 15 is known for its Giant whitetail population... 80% farm ground, great for food plots; the other 20% is grass with giant cottonwoods. Only 1.5 miles from the Salt Fork River. **WON'T LAST LONG! \$530,000**

NEW - 320 ACRES just east of the Salt Plains Refuge, Hwy **SOLD** excellent hunting. Grant County/ Alfalfa County line. radio tower on the property currently has a monthly income of \$465, renewable in 2025 **\$575,000**

440 ACRES SOLD Woods County, live creek, pasture, tillable ground, rough woods, ponds, GREAT HUNTING PROPERTY! **\$627,000**

NEW - 338 ACRES of HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE farm ground, Capron, Oklahoma. Hwy frontage, rare piece, hard to find! **\$1,183,000**

880 ACRES SOLD south of Coldwater, Kansas. Big whitetail property! Several 200" plus deer harvested in the area **\$1,330,000**

1,185 ACRES Barber Co., Kansas - Unit 16, Trophy Whitetails, Grassland and Good Fences, Ready for Cattle **SOLD \$2,014,500**

1,480 ACRES - CATTLE RANCH FOR SALE - WOODS COUNTY, HWY 64 Frontage - Very scenic property not far from Cimarron River in Freedom. Native pasture, canyon, live creek, 250 ACRES of tillable crop ground, electricity, big set of corrals. Good roads thru property. Very unique and diverse property. **MUST SEE! SOLD \$2,100,000**

900 ACRES- Southern Illinois, HUNTER'S PARADISE, Ohio River fly way, Duck holes with well, flooded timber. Trophy Whitetails, planted food plots, 5 tower stands, 20 minutes from Paducah, KY. **\$2,500,000**

1,126 ACRES - Anthony, Kansas - native pasture, 2 miles of bluff creek, great for farming, cattle and trophy whitetail hunting. (UNIT 15) 472 tillable ACRES, several ponds, farm house and corrals. **\$2,700,000**

NEW - 2,326 ACRES in Coalgate, Oklahoma. This beautiful working cattle ranch is abundant with trees, water, and several large lakes. New pipe working corrals, 150' x 70' shop with living quarters and multiple offices. Hwy 31, just north of Coalgate. **UNDER CONTRACT \$9,300,000**

NEW - 2,864 ACRES in Okmulgee County. Several homes, an office, working corrals, barns, and shops. Turnkey, highly productive cattle ranch. 90% open, stout grasses. **UNDER CONTRACT \$12,000,000**

NEW - 7,765 ACRES on Lake McAlester, Oklahoma. Beautiful Turnkey Cattle ranch. Currently 1,000 acres available for sale. 4 homes, barns, shop, pens. Lush hay meadows, scenic views of lake McAlester are second to none. **UNDER CONTRACT \$20,800,000**

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Alva School Board hears plans for improving student literacy

By Marione Martin

During the Alva Board of Education meeting Monday, Washington Early Childhood Center Principal Shane Feely talked about ongoing implementation of the strategic plan. He spoke specifically about approaches to improving student literacy in the fourth through eighth grades.

Feely, who is also the curriculum coordinator for the Alva schools, said in the goal area of curriculum instruction and incorporating research-based strategies, "We've done a ton of professional development in the area of content illiteracy and student engagement. This will be an ongoing thing."

"At Lincoln and the middle school this year we will do a book study of Cris Tovani's book "I Read It but I Don't Get It" which is on adolescent literacy, a practical guide for teaching strategies."

He said the strategies from the book will be incorporated in Lincoln's "literacy for all" project. There will also be a formal writing portion to the project. "We are targeting some very specific standards at that level so that we can move the needle on our Oklahoma state testing scores," Feely said.

There is also a plan to monitor how well these strategies are being implemented in the classroom. He said what is learned in professional



Principal Shane Feely, who is also curriculum coordinator for the Alva Schools, tells school board members about efforts to improve literacy in the upper elementary grades. Photo by Marione Martin

development is not always being used in the classrooms.

Another action step is to create a

tiered structure of targeted intervention strategies. Over the summer, there was a summer internship with the Oklahoma Autism Center here to work with teachers and kids on managing behaviors in the classroom to allow interventions to take place.

"We'll be bringing Debbie Diller and Associates to do work station training in January, and that will be Washington and Longfellow teachers," Feely said. "She teaches how to implement stations in the classroom. What that allows them to do is still do academic material in those stations while freeing the teacher up to do some targeted interventions with kids that need some more help."

Another objective is to determine the interests of high school and middle school students. That was already done last year. The results will help determine "what path these kids want to take with

See Alva Page 10



Tim Argo
Superintendent

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NEW—960 Acres, N½ SW¼ and the NW¼ - 17-27-15, W½ SW¼, W½ SE¼, E½, SW¼ - 8-27-15, S½ NE¼, E½ SW¼, SE¼ - 7-27-15, E½ SE¼, NW¼ SE¼ NE¼, SW¼ - 18-27-15

This tract consists of 960 acres of excellent grassland, all contiguous, lying 12 miles northwest of Alva, Okla. 94 acres was planted to w.w. spar grass. It has excellent hunting potential and is watered by five ponds. Fences are good, 4 and 5-wire fences with some new over the past years. **PRICE: \$1,350,000.00**

NEW - 160 Acres - SE¼ - 25-27-15, W.I.M. This tract has 157 Acres of good cropland (primarily Grant Silt loam and Vernon fine Sandy loam soils.) Watered by a windmill. **PRICE: \$375,000.00**

NEW—154 Acres - NW¼ -29-27-13, Woods County, Okla. This tract consists of 121 Acres of good cropland, the balance being 22 Acres of trees, grass, and waterways. There is excellent building potential. Just one mile east of Alva. **PRICE: \$550,000.00**

NEW - 1.54 Acres with 3 Morton Buildings

- 1.) 60'x81' Machine Shed with cement floor
- 2.) 48'x63' Shop Building with cement floor, office, and bathroom
- 3.) 36'x54' Three-sided Horse Barn - Located just west of the water tower at 202 W. Monroe Ave. in Cherokee, Okla.

PRICE: \$125,000.00

NEW—146 Acres - NW¼ - 20-27-13, Woods County, Okla. This tract has 146 Acres of good cropland (primarily Dale Silt Loam and Hardiman Fine Sandy Loam soils). The farm has rural water and lies north of the Alva Industrial Park. **PRICE: \$525,000.00**

NEW—202 Acres - NE¼, less two tracts and the N½ SE¼ - 29-27-13, Woods County, Okla. This tract consists of 113 Acres of good grassland and 89 Acres of good cropland. Improvements include a hay shed, shop, two overhead bins, corrals, and lean-to. Has City water and a water well. **PRICE: \$550,000.00**

NEW—150 Acres - SW¼ less 10 Acre tract in 13-27-13, Woods County, Okla. This tract has 150 Acres of which 83 acres is planted to spar grass, 13 acres of cropland, and the balance of 54 acres in good grass and trees. This tract lies just 200 feet from the river. Excellent hunting potential. **PRICE: \$345,000.00**

NEW—474 Acres E½ and the NW¼ - 24-27-13, W.I.M., Woods County, Okla. This tract consists of 443 acres of good cropland (primarily Grant Silt Loam and Dale Silt Loam soils) and 31 acres of grass and trees, watered by two windmills, and the northwest quarter has good hunting potential. **PRICE: \$1,200,000.00**

NEW—158.4 Acres SW¼ - 19-27-12, W.I.M., Alfalfa County, Okla. This tract consists of 158.4 acres of good cropland (primarily Grant Silt Loam soils). Borders Highway 64. **PRICE: \$425,000.00**

NEW—154 Acres NE¼ - 25-27-13, W.I.M., Woods County, Okla. This tract consists of 154 Acres of good cropland (primarily Pond Creek Silt Loam and Grant Silt Loam soils). It is watered by a waterwell. **PRICE: \$475,000.00**

NEW - 160 Acres, of which 149 Acres is excellent cropland (primarily Pond Creek Silt Loam and Waynoka Sandy Loam soils, the balance being 11 Acres of cropland controlled in the CRP program, which is due to expire in 2030. This farm would make an excellent farm for cattle or grain production. It has new 5-wire

fences on the west and south sides. NE¼ - 1-27-13, W.I.M., Woods County, OK
PRICE: \$400,000.00

NEW - 160 Acres Excellent cropland (primarily Pond Creek Silt Loam and Grant Silt Loam soils) with excellent minerals intact. It is watered by a windmill. Located east of Alva, Okla. SE¼ - 27-27-12, W.I.M., Alfalfa County, Okla.
PRICE: \$485,000.00

NEW - 160 Acres of excellent cropland (primarily Hollister Silty Clay Loam and Grant Silt Loam Soils). This farm has a new fence on the west side. Rural water is available. SE¼ - 12-26-15, W.I.M., Woods County, OK.
PRICE: \$330,000.00

NEW - 160 Acres with excellent improvements - Excellent grassland, good 5-wire fence, wire matt corrals, rural water. Improvements include a 2,552 sq. ft. home, 2500 sq. ft. completely gutted and ready for finish construction. Home has two levels with a 432 sq. ft. screened porch; new 45'x60' shed with living quarters, shop, machinery area, one car garage; Insulated with interior wall; Generac Generator 25KW; RV hookup with concrete pad, deck, and stairs; metal shed 50'x75' with 24'x75' lean-to.
NW¼ - 32-26-15, W.I.M., Woods County, Okla. 3 miles west of Avard, OK, and ½ mile south to the homesite. **PRICE: \$525,000.00**

NEW - 160 Acres - Blue Ribbon Farm - Excellent cropland (Pond Creek Silt Loam soils), rural water. NE¼ - 15-28-11, W.I.M., Alfalfa County, Okla.
PRICE: \$550,000.00

NEW - 320 Acres of which 114 Acres is good cropland (primarily Buford Silt Loam and Woodward Complex Soils), and the balance being 206 Acres of good grassland. This farm has new 5-wire fences, some cross fences, three ponds, and two solar pumps. Rural water is available. E½ - 10-28-14, Woods County, Okla. **PRICE: \$525,000.00**

NEW - 316 Acres - Grant County, Okla - 15 miles west of Medford, Okla on Highway 1. 205 Acres is good cropland, and the balance being 111 Acres of grass. NW¼ - 19-27-7, W.I.M., and NE¼ - 24-27-8, W.I.M., Grant County, Okla. EXCELLENT HUNTING, EXCELLENT STOCK FARM.
PRICE: \$575,000.00

NEW - 315 Acres of which 208 Acres is excellent cropland (primarily Pond Creek Silt Loam, Dale Silt Loam), and the balance being 107 Acres of good grassland. Improvements include a 1,200 sq. ft. home, 50'x100' shed - like new, 32' x 60' shop w/ 16" lean-to, steel corrals, cements bunks with loafing shed, three overhead bins. N½ - 29-29-12, W.I.M., Alfalfa County, OKLA. **PRICE: \$1,050,000.00**

NEW - 222 Acres - 206 Acres of good cropland (Meno Loamy Fine Sand and Grant Silt Loam soils) and the balance being 16 Acres of tree groves in three locations. Has excellent hunting potential. Located 3 miles north and 2¼ west of Ringwood, OK. W½ SE¼, and the SW¼ less 18 Acre tract in 29-23-10, W.I.M., Major County, Okla. **PRICE: \$440,000.00**

NEW - 80 Acres - Excellent deer hunting, trees, and canyons - Boone and Grant Counties. Lies ¼ mile south of Salt Fork River. If you want to kill a big buck on a small acreage, you just found it. N½ NE ¼ - 28-29-15 **PRICE: \$120,000.00**

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NEW - SOLD - 320 Acres - W $\frac{1}{2}$ - 11-25-14, Woods Co., Okla. - This tract has been sprigged to Ozarka Bermuda grass and has new fences. PRICE: \$640,000.00

SOLD - 915 Acres - A sportsman's dream - Borders Cimarron River in Freedom, Okla. Legal: E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, Lot 2, E $\frac{1}{2}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ & NE $\frac{1}{4}$ - 28-27-18, NW NW, W/2 SW & SW NW - 27-27-18, Woods County, Okla. PRICE: \$1,100,000.00

SOLD - "A sportsman and cattleman's dream" - 281 Acres Nature and Beauty at its finest. Legal: SW $\frac{1}{4}$ & the E $\frac{1}{2}$ & the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of 30-27-8, W.I.M., Grant County, Okla. PRICE: \$700,000.00

SOLD - 320 Acres - Excellent grassland - Legal: S $\frac{1}{2}$ - 14-27-9, Alfalfa County, Okla. PRICE: \$560,000.00

NEW - SOLD - 160 Acres - All cropland (Pond

Creek Silt Loam Soils) SW $\frac{1}{4}$ -11-35S-12W, Barber County, Kansas PRICE: \$450,000.00

NEW- SOLD - 320 Ac - NW $\frac{1}{4}$ & W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ 4-25-12 Alfalfa Co., OK PRICE: \$800,000.00

SOLD - 160 Ac. - S $\frac{1}{2}$ -30-28-12 Alfalfa Co., OK PRICE: \$780,000.00

SOLD - 320 Ac. - N $\frac{1}{2}$ -22-27-13 Woods CO., OK PRICE: \$900,000.00

SOLD - 1,421 Ac - OK-KS Ranch PRICE: \$2,300,000.00

SOLD - 1,505 Ac - Sec 9,18,19-27-18 Woods Co., OK PRICE: \$1,800,000.00

SOLD - 160 Ac - NW $\frac{1}{4}$ -33-27-13 Woods Co., OK PRICE: \$500,000.00

SOLD - 320 Ac - E $\frac{1}{2}$ -32-27-13 Woods Co., OK PRICE: \$1,100,000.00

SOLD - 360 Ac - Sec 31 & 32-34S-12W Barber Co., KS PRICE: \$650,000.00

SOLD - 720 Ac - Sec 23, 35, & 26-28-20 Woods Co., OK PRICE: \$900,000.00

FOR SALE

Commercial Property: Between Shepherds & Days Inn Motel on Hwy 64 East of Alva - 3.15 Acres. **PRICE: \$275,000.00**

5.33 Lots (1.86 Acres) - Located on the West Edge of Alva on Hwy 64. Country Club Heights Addition, Great Location for Commercial or Residential Properties. **NEW Price: \$175,000**

Vacant Lot - 902 4th Street, Alva PRICE: \$25,000

RESIDENTIAL

SOLD - 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home on 6.95 Acres (Mol.), 2,140 sq. ft. main level, plus 288 sq. ft. finished basement. 44884 Woodlake Drive, Alva, PRICE: \$280,000

SOLD - 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms & an office, 1,433 sq ft. Two car attached garage, fenced backyard w/ storage shed. Many updates! Great dosets & storage! 902 Flynn, Alva. PRICE \$150,000

SOLD - 3 bedroom, 1.5 bathroom home, 1,350 sq ft. One car attached garage with basement underneath. Patio, 1100 Sq Ft barn with electric. Fenced backyard. Sits on 2 lots plus an additional tract of land to the South. .74 acres total. 902 Apache, Alva. PRICE: \$149,000

SOLD - 2 bed/1 bath home, 1,073 sq. ft. with attached carport & 1 car detached garage. Fenced backyard. Lot extends beyond fence. Newer flooring, new heat/air window units, updated bathroom, large utility room, spacious kitchen with newer appliances. Refrigerator, stove, washer & dryer included. 17 Maple, Alva. PRICE: \$45,000

SOLD - 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home, 1,513 sq. ft. Stove, washer & dryer included. CH/A, hardwood floors, 24x30 shop/garage with electricity, 604 Hart, Alva. PRICE \$73,000

SOLD - 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 1,224 sq. ft. One car detached garage & fenced backyard. Many updates! New HVAC, water heater, flooring, new kitchen with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, remodeled bathroom, electrical & plumbing updates. Must see! 412 Noble, Alva. \$85,000

SOLD - 3 bedrooms, 1.5 bathrooms, 1,850 sq. ft. New covered patio & fenced backyard. Many updates! Beautifully remodeled home. 1831 W. Maple, Alva. \$190,000

4 bedroom, 2 bathroom home, 1,615 sq. ft. main level, plus 450 sq. ft. finished walk-out basement. Two car detached garage. Two living areas. Two fireplaces. Newer flooring, new AC unit, new roof & pergola. 1525 Young, Alva. PRICE: \$164,000



3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2,101 sq ft. Living room, dining room, den, laundry room, 2 fireplaces. Perfect starter home or investment property! 216 E Barnes, Alva. PRICE: \$45,000



2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom on main level (1073 sq ft) with the option to complete the partially finished basement for an additional 2 bedrooms & 1 more bathroom (879 sq ft basement). 1 car detached garage, currently a nice workshop. Covered patio and fenced backyard. 807 Locust, Alva. PRICE: \$88,000



NEW: 4 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, 3,042 sq ft. Den with fireplace. Living room, Laundry room, Formal dining or office, Breakfast area. Large kitchen, Pantry. Large master suite. Remodeled in the last 5 years: Kitchen & Bathrooms, New flooring, granite countertops, new fixtures, new lighting, new doors & windows, new privacy fence, storm shelter, covered patio & more! NICE!! 1802 Cherry, Alva. PRICE: \$325,000



3-4 bedrooms, 1.5 bathrooms, 1,820 sq ft. Open concept, spacious kitchen, granite counter-tops, new flooring, laundry room, fenced backyard, deck w/ electricity & wired for TV, storage shed. 1320 Barnes, Alva. **NEW PRICE: \$149,000**



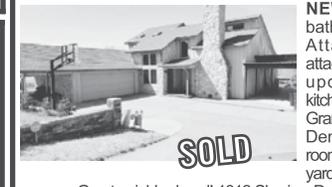
NEW: 3 bedrooms, 1.5 bathrooms, 1,354 sq ft. plus finished basement! Detached garage with attached carport. Fenced yard. Recent updates include: new windows, roof, appliances, water heater, & tile bathtub surround. 522 S. Kansas Cherokee, OK PRICE: \$80,000



1,423 sq ft with 3 bedrooms & 1 bathroom. Bonus room for a large office or 4th bedroom! Utility room, 1 car attached carport. Lots of updates! Hardwood, tile & new vinyl flooring. Remodeled bathroom & kitchen. 219 Maple, Alva PRICE: \$98,500



NEW: 3 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, 1,521 Sq. Ft. 1-car attached garage. Fenced Backyard. Great neighborhood. 720 Apache, Alva. PRICE \$116,000



NEW: 3 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, 3,000 sq ft. Attached garage and attached carport. Beautiful updated home! Open kitchen, living room & dining. Granite. Walk-out basement. Den. Fireplace. Laundry room. Master Suite. Fenced yard. Shed. Lot sits on over an acre. Great neighborhood! 1812 Skyview Dr., Alva. PRICE: \$288,000

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From Page 6 Alva

their high school plan of study,” he said. “We have several big things to tackle this year, and some of these items that were already scheduled have been completed, and we’ll keep going with those,” Feely concluded.

Personnel Hired

School board members attending Monday’s meeting were Jane McDermott, Tiffany Slater, Shane Hansen and Larry Parker. Karen Koehn was absent. With the first day of classes fast approaching, the school is working to fill openings. Board members approved hiring Kim Daniels on a temporary one year contract to teach special education at the high school.

Bus drivers for the school year were approved. Steve Gale, Scott Baugh, Dakota Buckhaults and Dusty Horn are returning drivers while Steve Hamm is new to the district.

Numerous applicants for non-certified positions were hired for the school year. Due to the late resignation of a teacher, the school is limiting Pre-K enrollment to 60 students. During Monday’s meeting, the following Pre-K aides were approved to help mitigate the size of classes: Nicole Briggs, Lori Caviness, Janeet Galindo Chavez and Arin Payne. Braylyn Leatherbury was hired as a Pre-K aide.

A number of paraprofessionals were approved including Micah Maloney, Lenice Turner, Patricia Angle, Angela Lake, Latisha Parker and Cindy Shafer. Alexis Gaisford was hired as a middle school secretary.

Financial Report

Reporting on school finances, Superintendent Tim Argo said a month into the fiscal year gross production tax collections are \$57,000 higher than this time last year. However, motor

vehicle tax collections showed a “pretty significant decrease” of \$32,000. REA tax and school land earnings were up slightly while the school formula is down.

The school district has brought in \$147,000 more revenue to date compared to the previous year and has spent \$150,000 less.

Looking at general fund purchase orders, Argo noted \$9,360 spent on alternative education software and \$5,799.99 going to band music arrangements for marching performances plus some new percussion instruments.

Other Business

During his report to the board, Argo listed some reassignments to fill open positions. He said the bid opening for the HVAC and cafeteria projects was to be held August 2 with Kyler Construction managing the bids.

After having a chance to study revisions to the school handbooks before the meeting, school board members approved those Monday. Supt. Argo said one of the changes was increasing breakfast and lunch prices by 30 cents. Prices will be reviewed at the end of the school year. He said prices had not been changed since the Covid shutdown and the free lunches. Since then, inflation has added to meal costs. Another change is in distance learning. Homework had to be turned in by Sunday each week. Now it will be on a day-to-day basis more like regular classroom work.

The board approved several contracts for the school year. The Stepping Stones Group, LLC will handle the district’s psychology services. Northwest Physical Therapy and Sports Rehab will provide physical therapy for students. Konya Martin, SLPD, CCC-SLP will be the speech pathologist in lieu of having a full time teacher. The contract with Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education will allow the school to receive some financial assistance for certain programs. The American Fidelity Section 125 Flex Plan is part of employee payroll planning. With the Big Five Community Services agreement, Alva schools will provide lunches for Head Start students.

Argo went through changes to a number of board policies which the board members then approved.

The Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) sought an easement for the construction of a sidewalk along College Boulevard (US281 South). The fence at Lincoln Elementary will need to be moved west about ten feet. Argo said ODOT will take care of moving the fence, but the school will need to move the sign at that location. ODOT offered \$37,050 for the right of way which board members approved. The money will go into the school district general fund.

A request for out of state travel was received after the agenda notice was posted so it was considered under new business. The Alva FFA asked to attend a livestock judging contest Aug. 11-12 in Coffeyville, Kansas. Argo said whether they can attend is still in question. There is a softball tournament scheduled at the same time so it’s questionable that they will have enough students available to enter the judging contest. The board approved the travel request.

The board convened into executive session to discuss AEA negotiations with no action to be taken upon return to open session.

A video of the meeting may be viewed at www.AlvaReviewCourier.com.

From Page 4 Marione

where fines are based on income. A wealthy driver clocked doing 180 mph in Switzerland was fined \$835,000. Men are 50 percent more likely to be issued speeding tickets than women.

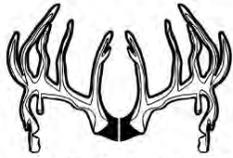
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Acres	County/State	Description	Price	Status
640	Woods Co, OK	5 Farm Land Auction	\$1,350,200	Pending
638	Roger Mills Co, OK	Hunting, Grazing, Spring Fed Pond	\$1,148,400	NEW
313	Harper Co, KS	Native Pasture, Hunting, Ponds	\$719,900	NEW
476	Barber Co, OK	Hunting/Grazing/Pond-Income Producing	\$856,600	NEW
1545	Roger Mills Co, OK	Hunting Land - Lodge - Springs & Creeks	\$2,999,000	Pending
1035	Barber Co, KS	Hunting & Grazing Land Pond & Creek	\$2,277,000	
475	Barber Co, KS	Hunting, Grazing, Cropland w/Pond	\$878,750	
476	Barber Co, KS	Agriculture, Grassland, Hunting w/ Pond	\$856,600	NEW
300	Seminole Co, OK	Agriculture, Grassland, Fishing/Hunting	\$750,000	
314	Roger Mills Co, OK	Hunting and Grazing with Pond	\$471,000	Pending
156	Woods Co, OK	Res/Comm Development near Alva	\$499,000	
320	Beaver Co, OK	Native Pasture Grazing/Hunting	\$336,000	
1.9	Taney Co, MO	D'monaco Luxury Resort	\$36,000,000	new price
2.5	Taney Co, MO	170 Room Hotel Development Project	\$8,500,000	new price
255	Ripley Co, MO	40-acre Private Lake & Improvements	\$1,350,000	Pending
.76	Alva, OK	Other Place Restaurant Bar&Grill	\$450,000	
159	Stafford Co, KS	Cropland w/ Pond, Hunting with House	\$645,000	SOLD
405	Ottawa Co, OK	High Yield Cropland in Welch, Oklahoma	\$1,700,000	SOLD
280	Barber Co, KS	Hunting Pond Trees House	\$744,000	SOLD
120	Ottawa Co, OK	Income Producing, Corn-Alfalfa, Oil&Gas	\$900,000	SOLD
150	Sumner Co, KS	Development/Cropland/River Clearwater	\$879,900	SOLD
180	Barber Co, KS	Cultivated cropland near Hazelton	\$315,000	SOLD
194	Kingman Co, KS	Hunting Sections 8&9-30S-7W	\$399,900	SOLD
200	Woodward Co, OK	Hunting Land w/Income Wind Towers	\$395,000	SOLD
11,375	McIntosh Co, OK	FISHER RANCH - LAKE EUFAULA	\$19,900,000	SOLD
320	Woods Co, OK	Grassland Sec. 19-25N-13W	\$550,000	SOLD
897	Kingfisher Co, OK	8 Farms LAND AUCTION	\$2,548,772	SOLD
360	Lawrence Co, AR	25/ac Private Lake w/house & Hunting	\$1,295,000	SOLD
660	Barber Co, KS	Hunting on Little Bear Creek	\$825,000	SOLD
525	Wayne Co, MO	135/ac Private Lake - Hardwood Timber	\$2,690,000	SOLD
363	Kingman Co, KS	Lies in Sections 5&8-30S-10W	\$1,200,000	SOLD
275	Kingman Co, KS	Turn Key Recreational Property w/Lodge	\$749,999	SOLD
470	Major Co, OK	Hunting on Cimarron River	\$790,000	SOLD
1335	Barber Co, KS	Excellent Gyp Hill Hunting Sun City	\$2,100,000	SOLD
6300	Barber Co, KS	Medicine River Hunting Ranch	\$11,000,000	SOLD

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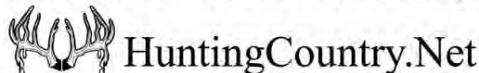
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- Food Club Apple Juice 64oz.....\$1.50
- Crav'n Corn Chips 9.25oz.....\$1.50
- Food Club 28oz Tomatoes.....99¢
- Food Club Mac & Cheese 7.25oz Box.....49¢
- Fiora Bath Tissue 12 roll.....\$5.99
- Fiora 6 Roll Paper Towels.....\$5.99
- Fiora 500ct Napkins.....\$4.49
- Dole 4pk Snack Fruit.....\$3.00/ea
- Kleenex 4pk Facial Tissue.....\$6.99

FROZEN

- Blue Bunny Ice Cream 48oz.....\$4.59
- Food Club 24ct Waffles.....\$3.29
- Crav'n 16oz Onion Rings.....\$4.99
- Birds Eye 4ct Corn on the Cob.....\$2.89

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- Borden 8oz Shredded Cheese.....\$2.50
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Refreshments will be provided!

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After School Classes are starting up again this month.

Wednesday After School--Art Basics with Emma Cline at 3:30 to 5:00. Beginning

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August 26th.



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Obituaries

JEWEL EILEEN CONNER

Jewel Eileen Conner was born, July 21, 1955, in Wichita, Kansas, and passed away, Monday, August 1, 2022, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Funeral arrangements have not been made at this time, but will be announced at a later date. Online condolences may be made at www.whartonfuneralchapel.com.

BETTY LOU HIGBIE

Funeral services for Betty Higbie were held at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, July 30, 2022, at the Marshall Funeral



Home Chapel, with Rev. Paul Kirk officiating. Burial followed at Pleasant Ridge Cemetery, north of Carmen. Arrangements were entrusted to Wentworth Mortuary

LLC of Carmen.

Betty Lou Higbie, daughter of the late George Daniel and Winnie Margueritte (McMahon) Salwaechter,

was born September 26, 1935, at Woodward, Oklahoma, and passed away July 26, 2022, at Kiowa, Kansas, at the age of 86 years and 10 months.

Betty grew up in the Carmen area, graduating from Carmen High School as the Valedictorian of her class. She went on to Oklahoma City University where she graduated with a bachelor's degree in elementary education. On September 22, 1956, she was united in marriage to Robert Dardis Higbie at the Carmen Methodist Church. They made their home in Oklahoma City and Yukon where they raised their daughters. She taught elementary school in Oklahoma City Public Schools before retiring after a 20 year teaching career in Yukon. Betty moved back to the Alva area in 2021 to be near family before moving to the Kiowa Manor. She was a member of the Lion's Club, the Surrey Hills Garden Club and Delta Zeta Sorority. Betty also enjoyed golfing and painting.

Besides her parents, George and Winnie, she was preceded in death by her husband, Dardis Higbie.

Betty is survived by her daughters, Kim Scherich and husband David of Alva, and Kay Miller and husband, Greg, of Franktown, Colorado; her brother, George Salwaechter and wife, Ann, of Green Valley, Arizona; other relatives and friends.

Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of your choice.

Remembrances may be shared with the family at www.marshallfuneralhomes.com.

CHARLES CLIFFORD "CHUCK" POLF

Graveside services for Charles Clifford "Chuck" Polf were held at 10 a.m., Monday, August 1, 2022, at the Waynoka Municipal Cemetery with Reverend Ron Pingelton officiating. The arrangements were entrusted to



Marshall Funeral Home of Alva.

Charles Clifford "Chuck" Polf, son of the late Zelner and Anna (Epp) Polf, was born February 20, 1941, in Turpin, Oklahoma, and passed away July 30, 2022, in Alva, Oklahoma, at the age of 81 years, 5 months, and 10 days.

Soon after his birth, Chuck's family moved to Turpin, Oklahoma, and he graduated from Liberal High School. In September, 1960, he entered the United States Army and was honorably discharged in March, 1961.

On October 27, 1964, he was united in marriage to Rita Kay Murray in Denver, Colorado. They lived in Turpin, then moved to Alva in 1965. He was a welder for Panhandle Eastern Pipeline Company for 35 years.

He was a member of the Mennonite Church in Turpin, and attended the First Christian Church in Alva. He enjoyed attending and chaperoning his kids activities while they were in school. His hobbies included woodworking, painting, drawing, painting the windows at his old high school and making paper mache masks.

Chuck is survived by his wife, Rita, of Alva; two sons, Jeffrey Polf of Orlando, Oklahoma, and Zelner Polf and wife, Andrea, of Medicine Lodge, Kansas; one brother, Dewey Polf and wife, Sherrilyn, of Tyrone; two grandchildren, Kaden Polf and Liam Polf; other relatives and friends.

Memorial contributions may be made through the funeral home to the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation for research into Essential Tremors.

Remembrances may be shared with the family at www.marshallfuneralhomes.com.

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Bed (T53501)

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Cherokee FCCLA members attending the National Leadership Conference in San Diego, California, are, from left, Gracia Jackson, Abby Guffy, Hope Jordan, Lake Lyon, Kynli Patterson, Carson Schanbacher, Tessa Littlefield.

Cherokee FCCLA returns from San Diego with multiple national winners

The 77th FCCLA National Leadership Conference was back in full force, after two years of virtual and hybrid conferences.

Cherokee FCCLA claimed its spot among the best of the best in competitive events. Kynli Patterson was named the National Champion in Level 1 of the Career Investigation STAR Event. Career Investigation recognizes participants for their ability to perform self-assessments, research and explore a career, set career goals, create a plan for achieving goals, and describe the relationship of Family and Consumer Sciences coursework to the selected career. Participants

must prepare a portfolio and an oral presentation. In addition, Carson Schanbacher received a silver medal in Level 2 of Career Investigation.

Hope Jordan was named the National Runner-Up in Level 2 of the Say Yes to FCS EducationSM STAR Event. Say Yes to FCS Education recognizes participants who demonstrate the knowledge and skills needed to explore and experience the career of being a Family and Consumer Sciences educator. Participants must prepare a portfolio, conduct classroom observations, plan and execute a lesson, develop an FCCLA integration plan, and deliver an oral presentation.

During the Recognition General Session, Abby Guffy received the national runner-up award in the Virtual Business Challenge while Hope Jordan received the 3rd place national award. The FCCLA/Knowledge Matters Virtual Business Challenge encourages FCCLA members to test their personal finance skills through an online simulation. Participants must find housing, employment, open checking and savings accounts, and many other financial skills for a simulated fifteen years. The goal is to obtain the highest net worth at the end of the time period.

In addition to those competing and serving as voting delegates, Lake Lyon served as an evaluator for Level 3 of the Sports Nutrition STAR Event. Gracia Jackson served as a Youth Room Consultant for Level 2 of the Sports Nutrition STAR Event.

Conference highlights include Red Talks, led by FCCLA members, The “bucket list” keynote speaker Kenyon Salo, and a special event outing to the world-famous San Diego Zoo. “For me, the most memorable moments were watching the delegation cheer and get so excited when any Oklahoman’s name was called. We were one delegation, cheering on our entire state, and seeing the student’s excitement and pride is exactly what this is all about” said Phillips.

Tax Roll Corrections Board approves change to 2021 taxes

By Marione Martin

The Woods County Tax Roll Correction Board meets as needed when corrections are required to previously assessed valuations. Commissioner Randy McMurphy and Assessor Renetta Benson were present for the special meeting held Monday at the courthouse. Board member Joe Shirley was absent.

Benson said a correction was needed due to a business moving out of the

county without notifying her office that they no longer have property in the county. This required removing the assessment from the 2021 valuations. She made a motion to approve the correction, seconded by McMurphy and approved by both in a vote. The change will decrease ad valorem taxes by \$82 and will affect the Freedom School District.

Board members also approved minutes of the April 20 special meeting.



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Carrying the American flag into the arena to open the Barber County Rodeo in Hardtner Friday night is Steele Smith. This was to honor him for his great rodeo accomplishment. From Kiowa, Steele and his partner, Logan Hamm of Ingalls, won the World Champion Junior High Team Roping title at the 2022 National Junior High School Finals Rodeo in Perry, Georgia, earlier this summer. Steele is the header. *Photo by Yvonne Miller*

From Kiowa, junior high student Paxton Clark qualified to compete at the 2022 National Junior High School Finals Rodeo in Perry, Georgia, earlier this summer. The Barber County Rodeo Committee honored him by asking him to carry in a flag at the rodeo on Friday night. *Photo by Yvonne Miller*



At the Barber County Rodeo in Hardtner Friday night, the kids had fun running for prizes in the arena as directed by the crazy clowns. *Photo by Yvonne Miller*



**Night Registrar
for the Fairview Campus:**

Northwest Technology Center (NWTC) is seeking a part-time evening secretary for the Fairview Campus.

Applicants must possess a high school diploma, GED, or equivalent. Customer service skills including telephone etiquette and public interaction a must. Other job duties include filing, receipting funds, organizing, and other duties as assigned.

Job information and application requirements are available online at <https://nwtech.edu/about-nwtc/employment-opportunities/> or by calling the Fairview campus at (580) 227-3708. Applications can be mailed to NWTC Human Resources, 1801 11th Street, Alva, OK 73717 or e-mailed to applications@nwtech.edu. Applications will be accepted until a suitable applicant is found. NWTC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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Little 22-month-old strawberry blonde Elijah Polasek grins from ear to ear as his mom Christina gets down to keep the cute little guy from climbing into the arena through the fence. He's comfortable around rodeos as his dad works for the contractor at the Barber County Rodeo. The family is from Colorado Springs. *Photo by Yvonne Miller*



Kiowa young woman Destiny Lyons and her beloved Pyredoodle are both stunning as they watch the Barber County Rodeo. *Photo by Yvonne Miller*

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Princess and Junior Princess crowned at Barber County Rodeo

By Yvonne Miller

Riding into the arena at the Barber County Rodeo Friday night, the princess candidates were as adorable as the colors of their western attire were bright and pretty.

Competing in the BCRR Princess Contest prior to the rodeo, the contestants were scored on their horsemanship and interviews skills. Their advanced tickets sales also counted.

Angel Stewart of Kiowa was named the 2022 BCRR Princess. Age 14, she is the daughter of Jeremy and Shawna Stewart of Kiowa, Kansas. Angel enjoys riding her horse "Bandit" and loves the color purple. Angel's interest is to study to be a veterinarian.

The 2022 BCRR Jr. Princess is Ramsey Green. Age five, she is the daughter of Dace and Tiffany Green of Cherokee, Oklahoma. Ramsey likes working calves, tumbling, rodeo and the colors purple and turquoise. She rides a horse named "Playboy." When she grows up Ramsey wants to be an "animal doctor" and horse trainer.

Braylee Waggoner, age 7, was first runner-up for the junior princess. She is the daughter of Andy and Micah Waggoner of Isabel, Kansas. Braylee enjoys fishing and riding her horse "Big Nose Kate." Her favorite color is purple. As a grown up, Braylee wants to be an agriculture teacher.

The winners received an attractive prize package complete with a crown, buckle and custom leather goods hand crafted by Jamie Baird of 3J Leather in Sharon Kansas.

The newly crowned princesses will have opportunities to make appearances at events throughout the year to represent the BCRR princess contest and Hardtner KPRA rodeo as well as the Barber County Fair.

For any young ladies interested in competing for the 2023 BCRR Princess and Jr. Princess titles please contact former Barber County Rodeo Queen Bobbie Rae Smith 580-467-8374 and follow the Barber County Rodeo Royalty Facebook page throughout the year for updates and information regarding the contest.

Smith says a "big thank you" to the Barber County Rodeo Committee and all the sponsors who made the princess contest possible.

At right: Pretty as the flowers she holds is Ramsey Green of Cherokee who is the BCRR Jr. Princess.



RODEO ROYALTY – The 2022 BCRR Princess is Angel Stewart (at back). The BCRR Junior Princess is Ramsey Green (left). First runner-up is Braylee Waggoner.



Shimmering in purple and turquoise is Angel Stewart of Kiowa who is the BCRR Princess.

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Collision of motorcycle with deer fatal for Anthony man

By Marione Martin

An Anthony, Kansas, man died when his motorcycle collided with a deer in Grant County Sunday night. The Oklahoma Highway Patrol reports Jimmy Ireland, 65, of Anthony, Kansas, was driving a 2009 Victory Vision motorcycle northbound on OK-132 and struck a deer in the roadway. He swerved to the right and laid the motorcycle down on its right side. The motorcycle departed the roadway to the

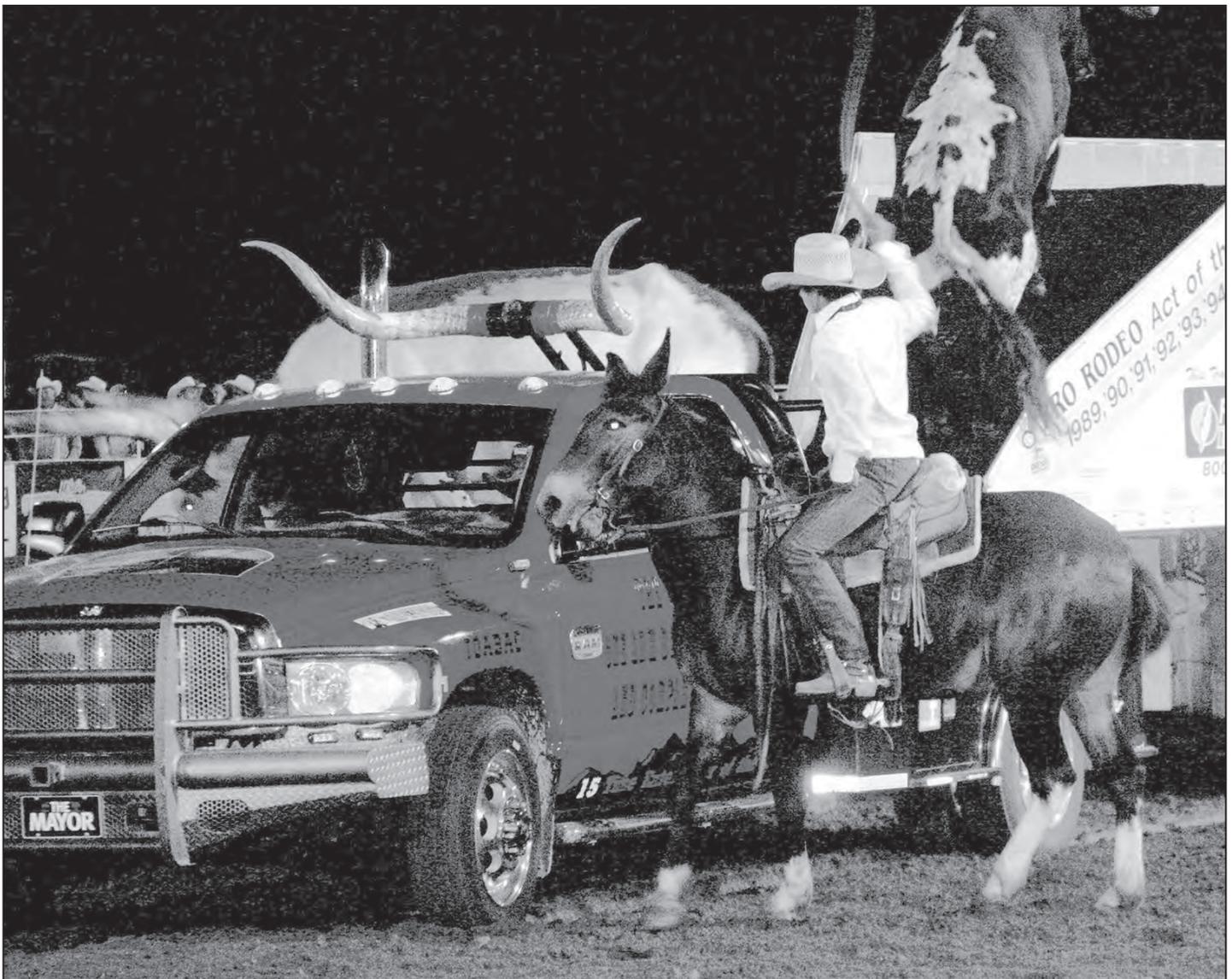
right and overturned 1.5 times in the east ditch. Ireland was pronounced deceased at the scene.

A passenger, Cynthia Ireland, 64, of Anthony, Kansas, was taken to Wesley Medical Center in Wichita, Kansas, via Eagle Med. She was admitted with trunk external, trunk internal and leg injuries in stable condition.

The wreck occurred on Sunday, July 31, at 8:56 p.m. approximately four-

tenths of a mile north of the intersection of OK-132 and Kiowa Road which is about six miles west of Wakita in Grant County.

Trooper Joshua Byrd investigated, assisted by Lt. Brock Morgan and Trooper Jason Burch. Also helping at the scene were the Grand County Sheriff's Office, Harper County Sheriff's Office out of Kansas, Grant County EMS and Eagle Med of Wichita.



The One Armed Bandit act was a hit at the Barber County Rodeo Friday night. The Bandit cracked a mean whip to command a few huge longhorns around the arena and up a ramp on top of his trailer. *Photo by Yvonne Miller*

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Carl's Capitol Comments

'Neighbors raced to help neighbors'

By Rep. Carl Newton

You never know what tomorrow will bring nor what changes can be made in a moment of time. Nothing puts that into clearer perspective than the sight of a huge fire approaching your home.

That's what the people in the Mooreland area experienced last week as a massive wildfire burned over 21,000 acres of land in Woodward County. Thankfully, no homes were lost, but barns and other structures as well as miles of fence were burned. Some residents were forced to evacuate.

Still, it was amazing to see how neighbors raced to help neighbors, how community members surrounded each other to help in this time of need. It was also incredible to witness neighboring fire departments and state agencies that stepped in to help.

I want to thank all firefighters, who sacrificed their time, their families, their own properties to rush to help others. I would especially like to thank Mooreland Fire Chief Travis Case for his outstanding leadership and work

on this fire. I also want to thank Matt Lehenbauer, our local contact with Oklahoma Emergency Management. He worked tirelessly to help keep the public informed about the fire danger.

Also on the gratitude list is Oklahoma Secretary of Agriculture Blayne Arthur and her public information officer as well as crews with the Oklahoma Forestry Service and Mark Gower with Oklahoma Emergency Management. I'm grateful to Governor Kevin Stitt for accessing resources from other states to help extinguish the fire. The Oklahoma National Guard and the U.S. Forestry Service also helped to contain the fire, and they deserve our thanks as well.

As I wrote this column on July 28, the fire was 20% contained. The National Guard had made around 90 drops, releasing almost 36,000 gallons of water, and the U.S. Forestry Service had made five drops from large air tankers with a total of 15,000 gallons of fire retardant. That helped stop the head of the fire, keeping it off homes

and out of Mooreland. Crews continued to work the southwest and west flanks of the fire with county task forces and National Guard aircraft.

Overcast conditions on Thursday with light moisture falling helped, but crews continued to treat hot spots and mop up where needed. The plan was to continue working the west side of the fire. The wonderful rain Friday night doused the remaining fire. The Lord ensured it was out by additional rain Saturday and some Sunday morning.

Once the fire is 100% contained, we will be sitting down to assess our actions and to see where any improvement might be needed in the future. Again, I'm so thankful for all who helped in this disaster, and I'm thankful no lives or homes were lost. We will recover from this.

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.

Request an emergency ballot for the runoff primary election

Registered voters who become physically incapacitated after 5 p.m. Monday, Aug. 8, and cannot make it to the polls, still have an opportunity to cast their ballot.

Alfalfa County Election Board Secretary Stephanie Jantz said that state law permits voters who become

emergency incapacitated after 5 p.m. Monday, August 8 to vote under special provisions. Jantz said emergency incapacitation is something most voters don't think about.

"Voting is our constitutional right, but life happens. Injury, illness, or even childbirth can prevent a voter from being

able to go to the polls. That's why it's important to make sure voters know their rights in the event of an emergency."

If you or someone you know becomes physically incapacitated after 5:00 p.m. on August 8, contact your County Election Board as soon as possible. Jantz says Election Board officials will work with you to make sure you have all of the necessary information to cast your ballot. Forms and information can also be found on the Oklahoma State Election Board website at oklahoma.gov/elections.

The Alfalfa County Election Board is located at 602 W. 5th St., Ste 3, Cherokee and is open from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Election Board officials can be reached at 580-596-2718 or by email at alfalfacounty@elections.ok.gov





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Applicants must possess a high school diploma, GED, or equivalent. Successful teaching experience preferred. Must have three years of successful work experience in the Cosmetology field within the past five years. Must have a Master Cosmetology Instructor license or be willing to obtain it within the first year of employment. An associate's or bachelor's degree is preferred but not required

Job information and application requirements are available online at <https://nwtech.edu/about-nwtc/employment-opportunities/> or by calling the Fairview campus at (580) 227-3708. Applications can be mailed to NWTC Human Resources, 1801 11th Street, Alva, OK 73717, or e-mailed to applications@nwtech.edu. Applications will be accepted until a suitable applicant is found. NWTC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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KDH approves revenue neutral tax levy for 2023 at July board meeting

- Tax budget hearing Tuesday, Aug. 30, 6:15 p.m.
- Cap for performance-related wage increases from 3 to 5 percent
- Foundation gives \$89,700 gift for the manor's kitchen remodel and PTAC units

By Yvonne Miller

The Kiowa District Hospital Board of Directors approved a revenue neutral tax levy for the 2023 budget at their July 27 regular board meeting.

The 2023 tax levy is set at 35.40. That makes the projected value of a mil at \$24,610.85. The tax levy for 2022 was 35.41.

The 2023 estimated amount of revenue from the mill levy for KDH is \$871,224.00. KDH is a tax supported entity. The 2022 amount of revenue generated from the mill levy totaled \$783,283.00.

The KDH holds their August meeting Tuesday, Aug. 30. They hold their tax budget hearing that same evening at 6:15 p.m. in the Kirkpatrick Room at the hospital. The public is invited.

President Pat Myers called the July meeting to order with all members present including: Marcia Cantrell, Jeff Miller, Jim Parker and Chantae Simpson. Also present was CEO/CFO Janell Goodno, Operations/IT/Manor Administrator Philip Anton, Business Office Manager Tara Girty and Hospital DON Robyn Whitaker.

KDH Business Action

Following an hour-long executive session at the end of the meeting the board approved increasing the cap for performance related wage increases from three to five percent. They also approved the 2022 Covid premium pay program for Q3 and Q4 of 2022.

Maintenance Supervisor Brad Applegarth continues to look at options for the hospital's generator that has problems. He said cost could be between \$250-\$500,000. One company has a 60 week build time. He said at least the generator is running better now and they need it most in extreme conditions. They can engage with PEC and have them do an analysis at a cost of around \$15-20,000. The board took no action.

There were no regulatory deficiencies in the annual hospital fire marshal inspection. There were four areas noted deficient with correction already

underway in areas of storage of items, a door stop and power strips.

The childcare facility must have a canopy outdoors as the children are required to have shade where it's not above 90 degrees. Grant money is coming from the state for one canopy. The board also wants a SunSetter awning for the back. Applegarth got a \$650 discount and the board approved purchase of the SunSetter awning at cost of \$5175.

Covid CARES money needs to be spent by the end of 2022. The board wants to spend it on a manor Covid HVAC Upgrade. Anton said the airflow down the hallways is all wrong and has gotten worse over time. The purchase includes two new HVAC units plus new ducts to correct airflow. The board approved the manor new Covid-19 HVAC system for \$24,085.82.

Regarding the Covid-19 SHIP Grant, there is about \$50,000 left in it. The board wants to purchase the PuriZone air filtering units for the hospital and manor. They opted to buy extra filters since the funds are available. The board approved purchase of the PuriZone system for \$43,725.12 plus extra filters not to exceed \$50,000. This is pending approval of the Covid-19 SHIP grant committee.

The foundation approved an \$89,700 gift for the manor's kitchen remodel. This gift is also includes PTAC individual units that give residents control. The board expressed a huge amount of appreciation to the foundation.

Dr. Paul Wilhelm is board certified with two different boards. He would prefer to change his affiliation to the American Board of Surgeons and Physicians because he deems it the better of the two. KAMCO and the KDH medical attorney have no issues with which board he prefers. The board has no concerns. This change will require a change to the Medical Staff Bylaws. Goodno will bring amended bylaws to the August meeting.

The board approved the following

Medical Staff Appointments: Paul G. Wilhelm, MD; Dedra Rathgeber, APRN; VRad—David Burdette, MD; Gordon Andrews, MD. The board also approved a variety of monthly reports.

Hospital and Manor Financial and Statistical Reports

Goodno presented the hospital and manor financial and statistical reports for KDH business in June. Giving monthly stats for the hospital, she said June was better than May, "but still slow." A good number is that clinic visits are ahead of last year by 180, the CFO said.

Hospital admissions were 18. Total days of care were 68 of which 33 were acute care days and 35 days were swingbed. Outpatient visits were 715, surpassing May by 63. Therapy visits were highest of the year at 181. Clinic visits totaled 505 which is also the highest of the year. The lab had 270 visits. X-ray was 82 with ER visits at 53. There were four Covid encounters.

When reporting on the hospital financials, Goodno said KDH will receive about \$200,000 of SHIP Grant Money.

For June the hospital had a loss of \$33,107. That was derived from the following information she revealed from the operating statement. Total gross patient revenue was \$513,483. Total contractual adjustments were \$45,523. The 340 B discount drug revenue was \$27,619. This all made total operating revenue of \$586,625. Total expenses were \$685,246. So the net loss from operations was \$98,621. The addition of \$65,514 mainly tax revenue curbed the hospital's loss to \$33,107. Year-to-Date the hospital's loss is \$367,494.

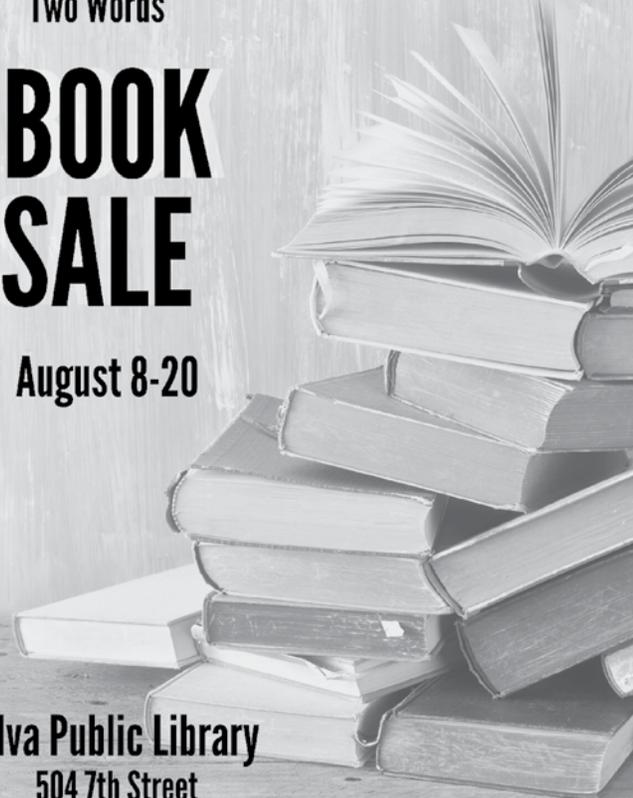
At the end of June the manor had 25 residents and 23 as of the day of the board meeting. Anton said another resident is coming soon. The manor's balance sheet showed improvements. Total operating revenue was \$149,166. Total expenses were \$162,323 for a net loss of operations totaling \$13,158.

See Hospital Page 34

Two Words

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~ Thank You ~

The family of Verle Brady wishes to express our sincere gratitude for the support shown to us during our recent bereavement. Hearing the stories of how he touched the lives of those he loved will be a constant reminder of how truly great he was.

While it would be impossible to name each person individually, we would like to extend a special thanks to some. The care team with Traditions Hospice, staff at Share Medical Center and private aides made this difficult process a little easier. Pastors Bob Brown and Paul Kirk, musicians Debbie Brown, Angie May and Sally Nighswonger and Wharton Funeral Chapel helped make Verle's memorial service meaningful and personal. And finally, thank you to the ladies of Alva Church of God and Alva Wesleyan Church for preparing a delicious meal for the family and to the numerous family members and friends who called, stopped by, delivered food and supplies, sent flowers and plants, made memorial contributions or attended the service.

Your friendship, prayers and support are felt and appreciated.

*Sincerely,
The Family of Verle Brady*

Clean-up Kiowa group and city ready to continue, city has offer for property owners

- Bryan Investments acquired new properties to demolish
- Need donations for estimated \$20,000 project

By Yvonne Miller

The City of Kiowa and a group of private individuals who donated started a "Clean-up Kiowa" initiative last year. You might remember they tore down the old hospital on Drumm Street, and left the lot basically spotless. They are ready to start again to make the community more attractive by demolishing some more dilapidated properties.

City Administrator Sam Demel said the city has some money set aside for the project, but it's certainly not enough to fund everything. "Any donations will help greatly," Demel said.

Jeff Bryan said that Bryan Investments LLC had the opportunity to purchase the Ted Sanberry properties on north 9th Street. He said there are a total of four houses on the properties.

"We plan to remove the homes and much of the overgrowth to make the property ready for something else," Bryan said. "We are needing some serious help with the demo on this project. We estimate the clean up cost to be in the neighborhood of \$20,000."

Demel said the project is "to clean-up dilapidated properties that are beyond repair." He said the city has an offer to the property owners of those properties. The



This is one of the dilapidated properties on north 9th Street in Kiowa that are to be demolished by Clean-up Kiowa.

owner can do a quit claim deed to the city and let the city clean up the property. If the property owner contributes one-third of the cost, they can keep the vacant lot. In that scenario the city would pay one-third, the community donors group would pay one-third with the property

owner paying one-third.

The community donors group portion only works if able people make donations. Bryan and Demel said if you can help financially, please make your check to the City of Kiowa and put Kiowa Clean-up in the memo.

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US ambassador to Japan warns of Chinese economic coercion

By Foster Klug and Mari Yamaguchi

TOKYO (AP) — The United States is working with Japan and other likeminded countries to counter China’s efforts to use its economic might to force political change around the world, the U.S. ambassador to Japan said Tuesday in an interview with The Associated Press.

Rahm Emanuel, who was previously mayor of Chicago and chief of staff for President Barack Obama, is pushing what he calls “commercial diplomacy,” the idea that the United States and Japan will be more eager to do business with each other and with similar secure and stable countries amid worries caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine and Chinese economic coercion.

“From intellectual property theft to coercion to debt dependency that China creates, the idea that they could actually honestly say, ‘We don’t coerce,’ and then you have not one, not two, not three – many worldwide examples where they use their economic market access to force a political change in a country ... I think everybody’s woken up to that,” Emanuel said in the interview at his residence in the heart of downtown Tokyo.

Emanuel, who arrived in Japan in January, laid out a number of examples of Chinese coercion, including with Japan, which saw Chinese shipments of rare earth metals blocked over a territorial dispute; South Korea, which suffered Chinese business boycotts when it installed a U.S. missile defense system; Australia; and countries in Europe and Southeast Asia.

China’s growing economic importance and spending abroad have

rattled those countries, which worry that Beijing is increasing its strategic and political influence in their traditional spheres of influence.

China has become one of the biggest lenders to developing countries through its “Belt and Road Initiative” to expand trade by building ports, railways and other infrastructure across Asia, Africa and the Middle East to Europe. This has prompted accusations Beijing is using debt to gain political leverage, but Chinese officials deny that.

China has been more assertive about pressing other governments to embrace Chinese-led initiatives including a trade group, the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership.

Emanuel said that finding ways for Japan and the United States to stand up to Chinese economic coercion was one of the first issues he raised with Japan’s foreign minister.

Japan has expressed deep worry about increased Chinese activities in regional seas, including near a Japanese-controlled island claimed by Beijing, and has pushed for peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait.

Emanuel praised Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida’s pledge of a “significant increase” in both the country’s defense budget and its military capabilities.

Kishida’s attempts to revise Japan’s national security strategy and basic defense guidelines are a legacy of his hawkish mentor, former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who was assassinated in July.

Kishida has also said he is open to the development of possible preemptive strike capabilities, which opponents say would go far beyond Japan’s war-renouncing constitution, which restricts the use of force to self-defense. Kishida also has proposed significantly increasing Japan’s defense budget — possibly doubling to 2% of GDP, a NATO standard — over the next five years.

“Much to the prime minister’s credit, he looked around the corner and realized what was happening in this region and the world — Japan needed to step up

in ways it hadn’t in the past,” Emanuel said.

Emanuel also mentioned economic opportunities for Japan and the United States in electric vehicle batteries, energy, new research and technology in small modular nuclear reactors, aviation technology and semiconductors.

The business leaders whom he has met with as ambassador to Japan would have evaluated a capital expenditure decision in the past purely by considering cost, logistics and efficiency, he said, but they are now willing to pay more to avoid sanctions and instability.

“That is a major change in thinking,” he said.

For “the last 20 or 30 years, cost and efficiency were the driving factors. They drove public policy, and they drove corporate decisions. Today cost and efficiency are being replaced, supplanted by stability and sustainability,” Emanuel said.

From Page 30 Hospital

With the addition of \$5750 mainly tax revenue the manor’s loss for June was \$7,408. Year-to-date, the manor’s loss is \$271,885.

Reporting from the comparative balance sheets for the hospital and manor, Goodno said the total cash-on-hand is \$2,740,645. Still due from Medicare this year is \$125,002. Uncollected taxes total \$31,594. The current combined loss for the hospital and manor was \$639,379 at the end of June.

Girty said total gross accounts receivable were \$1,156,512. Average Days in AR were 57 with total payments of \$654,464.

KDH total assets are \$12,627,046. The board approved the financial and statistical reports; turning bad debt over to collections. After executive session the board approved one financial assistance case.



The downside: US strike shows Afghanistan still terror base

By Aamer Madhani, Zeke Miller, Nomaan Merchant and Lolita C. Baldor

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Biden administration is holding out the CIA operation that killed al-Qaida leader Ayman al-Zawahri as a monumental strike against the global terror network responsible for the Sept. 11 attacks of 2001. But there's a downside, too.

The drone strike also is putting into stark relief the mounting evidence that after 20 years of America's military presence — and then sudden departure — Afghanistan has once again become an active staging ground for Islamic terror groups looking to attack the West.

The operation, carried out over the weekend after at least six months spent monitoring movements by al-Zawahri and his family, came just weeks before the one-year anniversary of the chaotic U.S. withdrawal from the country.

The Biden administration is making the case that the operation shows Americans at home and allies abroad that the United States hasn't lost focus — or the ability to strike terrorists in the region — and validates its decision to end two decades of fighting in Afghanistan with its withdrawal.

Announcing the strike from the White House, President Joe Biden said Monday night that "justice" had been exacted on a leader who in recent weeks had recorded videos calling for his followers to attack the United States and allies. And the White House on Tuesday framed the operation as an enormous counterterrorism win.

"The president has made good on his word when we left," National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan said on NBC's "Today" show. "After 20 years of war to keep this country safe, he said we would be able to continue to target and take out terrorists in Afghanistan without troops on the ground."

But as details of the operation continue to emerge, the administration has also revealed troubling evidence of al-Qaida's presence and of the Taliban once again offering refuge to the group that was behind the 9/11 attacks on the United States.

White House officials believe that senior members of the Haqqani Network, an Islamist terror group with strong ties to the Taliban, were aware that al-Zawahri was in Kabul. Sullivan said that while al-Zawahri wasn't involved in day-to-day planning at the time of his killing, he continued to play an active role in directing al-Qaida and posed "a severe threat" against the U.S. and American citizens.

On Tuesday, the State Department updated its Worldwide Caution, warning U.S. citizens traveling abroad that "there is a higher potential for anti-American violence given the death of Ayman al-Zawahri."

Concerns about al-Qaida efforts to regroup inside Taliban-controlled Afghanistan are hardly new.

Before the strike, U.S. military officials, including Gen. Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, had said al-Qaida was trying to reconstitute in Afghanistan, where it faces limited threats from the now-ruling Taliban. Military leaders have warned that the group still aspired to attack the U.S.

Al-Qaida leadership has reportedly played an advisory role since the Taliban returned to power in the leadup up to the U.S. withdrawal, according to a U.N. Security Council report last month.

The U.N. report also noted that ISIS-K — the group that carried out a massive attack that killed 13 U.S. troops and dozens of Afghans near the Kabul International Airport just days before the U.S. completed its withdrawal last year — has become increasingly active in northern and eastern Afghanistan. That's a worry for the West though ISIS-K and the Taliban espouse different ideologies and interests, with ISIS-K carrying out a bloody insurgency against the Taliban and religious minorities across Afghanistan.

"Zawahri's presence in post-withdrawal Afghanistan suggests that, as feared, the Taliban is once more granting safe haven to the leaders of al-Qaida — a group with which it has never broken," said Nathan Sales, ambassador-at-large and coordinator for counterterrorism during the Trump administration who

is now a senior fellow at the Atlantic Council.

Frank McKenzie, the retired Marine general who until earlier this year was the top American military officer in the Middle East, said the U.S. has noted an effort by al-Qaida to restore training camps in Afghanistan.

"I see nothing happening in Afghanistan now that tells me that the Taliban are determined to prevent that from happening," he said in an interview.

Since the American troop withdrawal, U.S. military leaders have said America's ability to monitor and strike a target in the country would be difficult but not impossible.

The strike on Zawahri proved both, said McKenzie, who is now executive director of the Global and National Security Institute at the University of South Florida.

But he cautioned not to draw broad conclusions from this one drone strike.

"This was a unique circumstance," he said. "You had a target that didn't move, and they had the opportunity to get a good look at pattern of life. That's not always going to be the case. In fact, typically, that is not the case."

That al-Zawahri was living in a Kabul neighborhood and not in rural Afghanistan as previously believed, "tells you that he got really comfortable" under the protection of the Taliban, said Colin Clarke, director of research at The Soufan Group, a global intelligence and security firm.

"These entities work hand in glove," Clarke said of the Taliban and al-Qaida.

The Taliban had promised in the 2020 Doha Agreement on the terms of the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan that they would not harbor al-Qaida members or those seeking to attack the U.S.

The Taliban were quick to condemn the U.S. strike as a "a clear violation of international principles and the Doha Agreement," though they did not acknowledge that al-Zawahri was killed. The U.S. gave no forewarning to the Taliban government, which the United

Barber County Fair Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Quilt winners comment

By Yvonne Miller

Two longtime quilters who are members of the Scrap Pack Guild entered their keepsakes in the Barber County Kansas Fair that were selected as overall Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion.

They are Janet Elwood of Kiowa, whose quilt was grand champion; and Teresa Farrar of Medicine Lodge who made the reserve grand quilt. The two are good friends. In fact, Farrar has a business she established in 2007, which is Home Star Quilting that does long arm quilting. She actually quilted Elwood's quilt that won grand champion.

The Scrap Pack Guild that you'll find on Facebook has alternate meetings in Medicine Lodge and Kiowa. The members go on quilting retreats together at various venues such as Roman Nose Park, the Medicine Lodge Gyp Hills Guest Ranch and more.

"We help each other and have fun," Elwood said.

Discussing her winning quilt, Elwood said she purchased a quilt kit at Clark's Fabric store in Kiowa years ago because she was "intrigued" with the

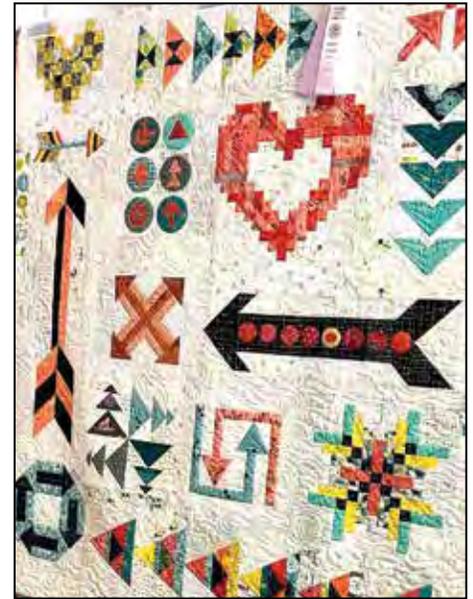


The border on this "old-fashioned" quilt designed by Kiowa woman Janet Elwood is what prompted the judge to select it as the overall Grand Champion Quilt of the Barber County Fair.

Photo by Yvonne Miller

hearts in the nine blocks in the center. "But I didn't like the border so I designed one myself," she said. "I worked on it on and off for about seven years."

The county fair judge wrote on her critique of Elwood's quilt as the overall winner, "I love the border." She said the quilt had a "Perfectly mitered border and corners" It's a diagonal corner that's



Teresa Farrar of Medicine Lodge custom quilted her "Follow Your Heart" for a hand quilted look that won her Grand Reserve Champion Quilt at the Barber County Fair.

Photo by Yvonne Miller

more difficult, the longtime math teacher explained. "I liked the challenge."

Of winning grand champion, Elwood said she was "very surprised because it's not a very splashy quilt. There's not lots of colors like is popular now." She described her quilt as "old-fashioned." "I've sewn most of my life and quilted many years," Elwood said. She's had countless entries in the Barber County Fair and many blue ribbons to show for it. Growing up in Hardtner, she remembers, "As a kid I used to draw the front of a comic book and enter it in the fair."

Farrar said the name and pattern of her reserve grand quilt is "Follow Your Heart." The colorful quilt is filled with arrows and hearts. She selected the colors and said the background has a lot of details in many different fabrics.

In the judge's critique of Farrar's quilt she wrote, "Love the scrappy binding. Great corners. Nicely squared."

Farrar said, "I custom quilted my quilt which is more like hand quilting." She's quilted at least 35 years and said, "I love it." Of her years as a Scrap Pack Guild member, she said fondly, "I've developed lots of good friendships."

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From Page 35 Taliban

States does not recognize, that it was carrying out the operation.

“Such actions are a repetition of the failed experiences of the past 20 years and are against the interests of the United States of America, Afghanistan, and the region,” the Taliban statement said.

White House National Security Council spokesman John Kirby declined to comment on how, or if, the U.S. would hold the Taliban responsible for sheltering al-Zawahri.

“The Taliban have a choice now,” Kirby said. “And that is they can comply with their agreement under the Doha agreement ... or they can choose to be going down a different path. And if they

go down a different path, it’s going to lead to consequences not just from the United States but from the international community.”

Kirby said the U.S. had already engaged with the Taliban about al-Zawahri’s presence following Sunday’s strike.

The Taliban remain sanctioned by the U.S. government for their role harboring al-Qaida before the 9/11 attacks. After the collapse of the U.S.-backed government in Kabul last summer, the Biden administration froze billions of dollars in assets belonging to Afghanistan’s central bank to prevent the assets from falling under Taliban

control. Some of that money has since been freed for humanitarian aid to address the country’s dire hunger crisis.

Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell was quick to congratulate Biden on the operation, but also made the case that it “further indicates that Afghanistan is again becoming a major thicket of terrorist activity following the president’s decision to withdraw U.S. forces.”

“Killing al-Zawahri is a success, but the underlying resurgence of al-Qaida terrorists into Afghanistan is a growing threat that was foreseeable and avoidable,” McConnell said. “The administration needs a comprehensive plan to rebuild our capacity to combat it.”

Kansas first state to vote on abortion since Roe’s demise

By John Hanna and Margaret Stafford

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — Kansas is holding the nation’s first test of voter feelings about the Supreme Court decision overturning Roe v. Wade, with people statewide deciding Tuesday whether to allow their conservative Legislature to further restrict or ban abortion.

The referendum on the proposed anti-abortion amendment to the Kansas Constitution is being closely watched as a barometer of liberal and moderate voters’ anger over the June ruling overturning the nationwide right to abortion. But the outcome might not reflect broader sentiments in the country as a whole, given how conservative Kansas is and how twice as many Republicans as Democrats have voted in its August primaries over the past decade.

Supporters of the measure wouldn’t say before the vote whether they intend to pursue a ban if it passes, but they’ve spent decades pushing for new restrictions on a nearly annual basis and many other states in the Midwest and South have banned abortion in recent weeks. By not stating their position, they were seeking to win over voters who favored some restrictions but not an

outright ban.

Abortion rights advocates expect the Legislature to ban abortion if the ballot measure passes, and in a surge of early voting the electorate was more Democratic than usual.

Chandler Alton, a 28-year-old physical therapist from Overland Park, voted Tuesday against the abortion measure.

“Abortion is health care and the government shouldn’t have a say on whether women receive what could be life-saving care,” Alton said, adding that she would in the future vote for candidates who wouldn’t “let this kind of thing happen.”

Voter turnout throughout the state seemed higher than expected by midafternoon, said Whitney Tempel, a spokeswoman for Secretary of State Scott Schwab.

Typically, primary elections in Kansas are limited to the two major parties, but unaffiliated voters can cast a vote in this election for the constitutional amendment.

“I’m actually pretty satisfied everything is going as smooth as it is for as busy as it is,” Wyandotte County Election Commissioner Michael Abbott said.

Stephanie Kostreva, a 40-year-

old school nurse from Olathe and a Democrat, said she voted yes on the measure because she is a Christian and believes life begins at conception.

“I’m not full scale that there should never be an abortion,” she said. “I know there are medical emergencies and when the mother’s life is in danger there is no reason for two people to die.”

An anonymous group that sent a misleading text to Kansas voters telling them to “vote yes” in order to protect choice was suspended late Monday from the Twilio messaging platform, disabling its ability to send new messages, Twilio spokesman Cris Paden said in an email. Twilio, without publicly identifying the sender, said it determined the account violated its acceptable use policy that prohibits the spread of disinformation.

The Kansas City Star reported that the text went to voters across the state, including former Democratic Gov. Kathleen Sebelius. Kansans for Constitutional Freedom, the main “vote no” campaign, called the text an example of “desperate and deceitful tactics.”

The Kansas secretary of state’s office said it has received phone calls about the texts from the general public and “acknowledges their concerns. However,

See Kansas Page 40

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From Page 38 Kansas

state law does not authorize the ... office to regulate campaign ads or messaging.” The Kansas Governmental Ethics Commission also posted on Twitter that, under current law, text message advocacy about constitutional ballot initiatives does not require attribution.

The Kansas measure would add language to the state constitution saying that it doesn’t grant a right to abortion, which would allow lawmakers to regulate it as they see fit. Kentucky will vote in November on adding similar language to its constitution.

Meanwhile, Vermont will decide in November whether to add an abortion rights provision to its constitution. A similar question is likely headed to the November ballot in Michigan.

The Kansas measure is a response

to a state Supreme Court decision in 2019 declaring that access to abortion is a matter of bodily autonomy and a “fundamental” right under the state’s Bill of Rights.

Both sides together have spent more than \$14 million on their campaigns. Abortion providers and abortion rights groups were key donors for the “no” side, while Catholic dioceses heavily funded the “yes” campaign.

Even though some early voters favor banning nearly all abortions, the vote yes campaign pitched its measure as a way to restore lawmakers’ power to set “reasonable” abortion limits and preserve existing restrictions.

Kansas doesn’t ban most abortions until the 22nd week of pregnancy. But a law that would prohibit the most common

second-trimester procedure and another that would set special health regulations for abortion providers remain on hold because of legal challenges.

White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre weighed in on the Kansas vote Monday, saying: “If it passes, tomorrow’s vote in Kansas could lead to another state eliminating the right to choose and eviscerating access to health care.”

The Republican-controlled Legislature has had anti-abortion majorities since the early 1990s. Kansas hasn’t gone further in restricting abortion because abortion opponents have felt constrained either by past federal court decisions or because the governor was a Democrat, like Gov. Laura Kelly, who was elected in 2018.

Oklahoma QB Dillon Gabriel builds connections with new team

By Cliff Brunt

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — New Oklahoma quarterback Dillon Gabriel has taken significant steps to help create bonds on a team with many new pieces.

Gabriel, a transfer from Central Florida who took part in spring practice, was busy showing his teammates around the state last month. He got his offensive playmakers together at a ranch in Lawton and took his offensive linemen to Lake Thunderbird, among other things.

The efforts were needed because the Sooners have a new coaching staff, and new coach Brent Venables said 40% of the roster has never taken a snap for the team. Some of the most experienced players have come via the transfer portal.

Gabriel simply saw a need and filled it.

“I have been around a lot of different quarterbacks and no quarterback has

ever done that before,” Oklahoma running back Eric Gray said Thursday at the team’s media day. “No quarterback has ever tried to organize and get all the guys together ... That’s definitely good camaraderie for the team.”

Gabriel’s goal was to create stability as the Sooners prepare for their opener on Sept. 3, at home against Texas-El Paso. That will be Oklahoma’s first game since coach Lincoln Riley left for Southern California and several players, including quarterbacks Caleb Williams and Spencer Rattler, later transferred.

“I think people here have gone through a whirlwind,” Gabriel said. “The school. The fans. I’ve gone through a whirlwind personally. But we kind of have that calm storm. Normality. Everyone is back to normal. New coaches. New team like every year. But now it’s just going to grind and now we’re finally here.”

Gabriel already was familiar with new Oklahoma offensive coordinator Jeff Leiby. Gabriel played for Leiby -- then the Central Florida offensive coordinator — in 2019, and the Knights’ offense ranked second nationally in yards per game (540.5) and fifth in points per game (43.4).

Leiby said Gabriel has fit in nicely since transferring.

“I think the thing that he’s done is he’s been exactly who he is,” Leiby said. “He’s been very intentional on creating relationships and making sure everybody in the locker room knows who he is as a person. He’s done a great job of that.”

Defensive coordinator Ted Roof, who followed Venables from Clemson, said the next step — creating trust on the field — should be easier after Gabriel’s efforts.

“I think getting to know one another — that is so critical for any organization, but especially a football team,” Roof said. “Because when you get to know one another and watch each other specifically work, then you can respect a guy. You can fight for that man.”

Still, Roof expects there to be challenges the first year.

“Yeah, there is a newness,” he said. “Every day gets a little bit better. But certainly as you go through Year 1 of most staffs, but you know what, you’re always learning. If you’re not learning, you’re falling behind, whether it’s Year 36 or Year 2. So that part of it, we’re trying to learn every day.”

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Real Estate Transfers

Book 147 page 403: Ford Holding Company, Inc., convey unto GPH Inc. the east half of the southeast quarter of section 22, township 32 south, range 15 West of the 6th PM, Barber County, Kansas. Warranty deed.

Book 147 page 406: Joshua Bird and Kimberly Bird convey unto Mare Shmidl. Lots 14 and 15 in block 3 in the Town of Sun City. Quit claim deed.

Book 147 page 409: Sheri A. Warren conveys unto Tyler G. McNett. The east half of lot 11 and all of lot 12 in block 113 in Town Company's Addition to the City of Kiowa. Warranty deed.

Book 147 page 411: REA Properties LLC conveys unto Marty M. Thimesch. The east 15 feet of lot 6 and all of lot 8 on Central Avenue East in Hartzell's Addition to the City of Medicine Lodge. Warranty deed.

Book 147 page 412: Karen S. Spencer convey unto Michael C. Tatro and Sheila Tatro. All of lots 12 and 13 in block 4 in Regnier's Amended Revised Second Addition to the City of Medicine Lodge. Joint tenancy warranty deed.

Book 147 page 413: Kialee Jean Bender, convey unto Anthony M. Farrar and Andrea M. Farrar. Lots 40 and 41 in McClearey's Third Addition to the City of Medicine Lodge, Barber County, Kansas. Joint tenancy warranty deed.

Book 147 page 417: Jonathan E. Walz and Victoria M. Walz, convey unto Anthony M. Farrar and Andrea M. Farrar. Lots 40 and 41 in McClearey's Third Addition to the City of Medicine Lodge, Barber County, Kansas. Joint

tenancy warranty deed.

Book 147 page 419: Joel N. Swindler and Amanda J. Swindler conveys unto Swin Housing LLC. Commencing at a point 120 feet east of the southwest corner of Hartzell's Addition to the City of Medicine Lodge, Kansas. Quit claim deed.

Book 147 page 424: Casey J. Williams conveys unto Michael S. Anderson and Jayne L. Anderson. Lots 7, 8 and 9 in block 119 in the Town Company's Addition to the City of Kiowa. Joint tenancy warranty deed.

Mortgages

Book 247 page 133: Brian J. Hill and Tami K. Hill to Farm Credit of Western Oklahoma. The southeast quarter of section 30, township 34 south, range 10 west of the 6th PM, Barber County, Kansas. Note: \$150,000.00.

Book 247 page 140: Brian J. Hill and Tami K. Hill to Farm Service Agency. The southeast quarter of section 30, township 34 south, range 10 west of the 6th PM, Barber County, Kansas. Note: \$135,000.00.

Book 247 page 146: Marty M. Thimesch and Kelli Thimesch to Sierra Pacific Mortgage. The east 15 feet of lot 6 and all of lot 8 on Central Avenue East in Hartzell's Addition to the City of Medicine Lodge, Barber County, Kansas. Note: \$55,200.00.

Book 247 page 161: Michael C. Tatro and Sheila Tatro to Loandepot.com. All of lots 12 and 13 in block 4 in Regnier's Amended Revised Second Addition to the City of Medicine Lodge, Barber County, Kansas. Note: \$108,000.00.

Book 247 page 181: Tyler Gene Jones and Dawn Michelle Jones, to Credit Union of America. A tract of land located in the southwest quarter of section 18, township 30 south range 12 West of the 6th PM, Barber County, Kansas. Note: \$175,950.00.

Book 247 page 195: Justin D. Binder and Taylor Jo Binder to Farm Credit of Western Oklahoma. A portion of the east half of outlot 62 and a portion of outlot 77 to the City of Kiowa, being a part of the northwest quarter of section 14, township 35 south, range 11 west of the 6th PM, Barber County, Kansas. Note: \$350,000.00.

Book 247 page 203: Anthony M. Farrar and Andrea M. Farrar, to Legacy Bank. Lots 40 and 41 in McClearey's Third Addition to the City of Medicine Lodge, Barber County, Kansas. Note: \$18,375.00.

Book 247 page 213: Justin Farrare and Alexa Jean Farrare, to Community Bank. The south half of the south half of out lot 27 to the City of Hardtner, Barber County, Kansas. Note: \$50,000.00.

Book 247 page 223: Deanna M. Mott Revocable Trust No 1, to Gateway First Bank. All that part of the southwest quarter of section 16, township 34 south, range 10 West of the 6th PM, Barber County, Kansas. Note: \$411,696.91.

Book 247 page 234: Norman F. Close and Becky D. Close, to The People's Bank. A tract of land in the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 3, township 32 south, range 12 West of the 6th PM, Barber County, Kansas. Note: \$186,750.00.

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Alfalfa County Sheriff's Office log

Monday, July 25, 2022

During this day there was one report of cattle out.

9:46 a.m. – Medic needed for a male with abnormal EKG. Medic took the patient to Bass Hospital in Enid.

2:45 p.m. – Report of a non-injury accident at 2nd Street and Grand Avenue.

4:27 p.m. – Report of a possible fire at a fire pit in Nescatunga. Fire was out and

was advised about the burn ban.

7:05 p.m. – Report of a cattle truck crossing lanes on OK-8.

9:55 p.m. – Report of loud music across the street in the 100 block of 5th Street.

Tuesday, July 26, 2022

During this day there was one report of a cattle out.

12:59 a.m. – Report of a

See Sheriff Page 44

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From Page 43 **Sheriff**

ditch fire on County Road 580.
 9:25 a.m. – Caller needed a subject removed from the Jiffy Trip.

12:08 p.m. – Medic needed for a male having a violent reaction. Medic took the patient to St. Mary's Hospital in Enid.

2:38 p.m. – Report of a fire on County Road 740 and Canadian Road.

6:50 p.m. – Possible fire around McWillie. Unable to find any fire.

Wednesday, July 27, 2022

During this day there were two traffic stops and one report of cattle out.

12:04 p.m. – Report of a fire on Logan Road and OK-8.

12:49 p.m. – Caller advised of a vehicle vs. dirt bike accident north of OK-58. Medic took a patient to Bass Hospital in Enid.

2:41 p.m. – Medic needed for a person having a seizure. Medic took the patient to Bass Hospital in Enid.

3:29 p.m. – Report of a fire.

6:07 p.m. – Report of a truck with no tarp and losing debris from the back of the truck on US-64.

6:27 p.m. – Report of a domestic situation in the 300 block of 3rd Street.

10:39 p.m. – Report of six juveniles causing a disturbance at the City Park.

11:18 p.m. – Medic was needed and took the patient to Bass Hospital in Enid.

Thursday, July 28, 2022

During this day there was one report of cattle out.

11:56 a.m. – Report of a single vehicle accident on County Road 640. Medic

took the patient to St. Mary's Hospital in Enid.

3:45 p.m. – Report of loud music in the 200 block of 5th Street all day for the last several days. Deputy checked and advised of no music in the area.

4:48 p.m. – Caller advised his identity was stolen. Report was taken.

Friday, July 29, 2022

During this day there were three traffic stops.

4:28 p.m. – Report of a loud music again. Deputy advised there was no music.

10:37 p.m. – Caller advised their neighbors were playing loud music again and this time there was yelling and stuff being thrown in the yard.

Saturday, July 30, 2022

8:31 a.m. – Caller advised her dogs got out of her kennel, and were out for about two minutes and came back in. She then stated a male showed up at her door with a shovel and advised her dogs killed three baby pigs and the next time he was coming after her, her boyfriend and her kids. Advised the subject lived three doors down on Lakeview.

6:43 p.m. – Garfield County advised they had a pursuit that ended in Alfalfa County and needed assistance.

Sunday, July 31, 2022

12:59 p.m. – Caller advised their neighbors were playing loud music again. Advised it was shaking her house. Deputy advised all was quite.

4:17 p.m. – Report of a suspicious vehicle on Jefferson Road.

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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.

Small Claims Filings
 Aaron Kerr Steele, Ogden, Utah, vs. Kyle Andrew Callison, Amorita: small claims. (\$269.14)

Aaron Kerr Steele, Ogden, Utah, vs. Lindsey Verann Callison, Amorita: small claims. (\$269.14)

Traffic Citations
 Luis Gerardo Ramirez, Mounds, has been cited for operating vehicle without a valid drivers license. (\$294)

Kyle R. Stranathan, Hardtner, Kansas, has been cited for operating vehicle with expired registration. (\$249)

Jorge Luis Vasquez Leyva, Oklahoma City, has been cited for operating a vehicle without a valid driver's license. (\$304)

Johan Lazaro Hernandez Merida, Orlando, Florida, has been cited for failure to stop at stop sign. (\$249)

Florencio Sac Ixvalan, Dallas, Texas, has been cited

for operating a vehicle without a valid driver's license. (\$294)
 Kenneth Andrew Harrison, Jacksonville, Arkansas, has been cited for improper movement to right or left. (\$249)

Kenneth Andrew Harrison, Jacksonville, Arkansas, has been cited for operating mini bike on roadway. (\$249)

Kenneth Andrew Harrison, Jacksonville, Arkansas, has been cited for failure to carry insurance verification. (\$269)

Donovan Floyd Nichols, Meno, has been cited for overweight vehicle (axle). (\$534)

Irvin Gene Devers, Indianapolis, Indiana, has been cited for speeding 1-10 mph over the speed limit. (\$100)

Curtis Reed Bramlett, Medford, has been cited for speeding 11-14 mph over the speed limit. (\$264)

Lane Hollis Heath, Watonga, has been cited for speeding 1-10 mph over the speed limit. (\$100)

Reed Patrick Kristynik, Bryan, Texas, has been cited for speeding 11-14 mph over the speed limit. (\$264)

Jorge Luis Vasquez Leyva, Oklahoma City, has been cited for speeding 1-10 mph over the speed limit. (\$100)

Brian Scott Welch, Lake Jackson, Texas, has been cited for speeding 1-10 mph over the speed limit. (\$100)

Dylan Rhys Ace Mickle, Tulsa, has been cited for speeding 1-10 mph over the

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See Court Page 46

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.

Noon Alva Kiwanis Club will meet at Cancun Mexican Grill.

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.

Friday

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



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From Page 45 Court

speed limit. (\$100)

Wyatt Jackson Windels, Health, Texas, has been cited for speeding 15 mph over the speed limit. (\$264)

Florencio Sac Ixalan, Dallas, Texas, has been cited for speeding 15 mph over the speed limit. (\$264)

John Ray Kramer, Colcord, has been cited for speeding 15 mph over the speed limit. (\$264)

Joseph Tevor Hellman, Coweta, has been cited for speeding 1-10 mph over the speed limit. (\$100)

Paul Carrillo Rivera, Garden City, Kansas, has been cited for speeding 1-10 mph over the speed limit. (\$100)

The following individuals were cited for not wearing a seatbelt (\$20): Kenneth Michael Vendetti, Dacoma; Christopher Allen Porter, Waynoka.

Alfalfa County Real Estate Transactions

Real Estate Transfers

Book 881 page 869: Kathryn Jayden Morrison conveys unto Kathryn Jayden Morrison, trustee of the Kathryn Jayden Morrison Revocable Living Trust. Northwest quarter of section 1, township 23 north, range 10, WIM, Alfalfa County, Oklahoma. Quit claim deed.

Book 881 page 871: Gene Allen Eilander and Pamela Kay Eilander convey unto Jose R. Debora and Lisa Dawn Debora. Lots 13-17, inclusive and the north half of lot 18, all in block 50, of the town of Jet, sometimes known as Town of New Jet, Alfalfa County, Oklahoma. Joint tenancy warranty deed.

Book 881 page 872: BRF Land LLC conveys unto Kenneth P. Jordan and Anita D. Jordan. Lots 1 and 2 of the northeast quarter of section 4, township 25N, range 9, WIM, Alfalfa County, Oklahoma. Warranty deed.

Book 881 page 853: Diel Properties Oklahoma LLC conveys unto Kent J. Kisling, trustee of the Kent Kisling Trust No. 1. The northeast quarter of section 32, township 29 north, range 12 WIM. Warranty deed.

Book 881 page 985: Judith A. Allison conveys unto Shelly Porter Burleson. An undivided 1/3 interest in and to lots 4 through 25 inclusive, in block 38, township of Ayers, Oklahoma. Quit claim deed.

Book 881 page 986: Shelly R. Schultz and Charles Schultz convey unto Shelly R. Schultz. An undivided 1/3 interest in and to lots 4 through 25 inclusive, in block 38, township of Ayers, Oklahoma.

Quit claim deed.

Book 881 page 987: Harvey L. Curry and Leslie A. Curry convey unto Patrick W. Growers and Shannon N. Habernehl. Lots 17 and 18 in block 46, of the Original Town of Carmen, Alfalfa County, Oklahoma. Quit claim deed.

Book 882 page 77: Betty Bonita Michell, and Jonna D. Schulke and Daniel Scott Schuelke, unto Jonna D. Schulke and Daniel Scott Schuelke. The west 40 feet of the north half of lot 11, and the west 40 feet of lot 12 in block 2, Taylors Addition to Cherokee, Alfalfa County, Oklahoma. Joint tenancy warranty deed.

Book 882 page 79: Debbie Morton conveys unto Greg Sanchez and Theona Sanchez. Lots -8, and the south half of lot 9, block 34, Original Town of Helena, Alfalfa County, Oklahoma. Joint tenancy warranty deed.

Mortgages

Book 881 page 874: Kenneth P. Jordan and Anita D. Jordan, to ACB Bank. Lots 1 and 2 of the northeast quarter of section 4, township 25N, range 9, WIM, Alfalfa County, Oklahoma. Note: \$128,000.00.

Book 882 page 1: David L. Webb and Vickie J. Webb, to Bank of Oklahoma. A tract of land in the southeast quarter of section 34, township 24 north, range 11, WIM, Alfalfa County, Oklahoma. Note: \$82,500.00.

Book 882 page 36: Deanna M. Mot Revocable Trust No. 1, to Gateway First Bank. Lot 1 and 2, S2NE4, Sec 16-T29N, R12WIM. Note: \$ 411,696.90.

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THURS., Aug. 4th 6PM Online Only	Parr Family Auction – Amorita OK Tractors Combines – Trucks – Wheel Loader – Skid Steer Tillage – Hyd Chute – Hay Equip – Tools Vehicles – Overhead Bins – Trailers Walnut & North 1st Street in Amorita, OK.
FRI., Aug. 5th 10AM Online/Live	JOHN C. FORTNEY AUCTION Covington Fire Department 432± ACRES * GARFIELD COUNTY, OK COVINGTON AREA * MINERALS CROP- LAND * PASTURE * HUNTING RECREATIONAL * POND
SUN., AUG. 7th 6PM Online Only	Cardin Estate 660 Oakdale Dr. Enid OK 1990 Buick – Mowers- Furniture – Tools Ladders – Sewing Machine – Freezers Yard Tools – Vietnamese Media – Lamps Figurines - Dishes

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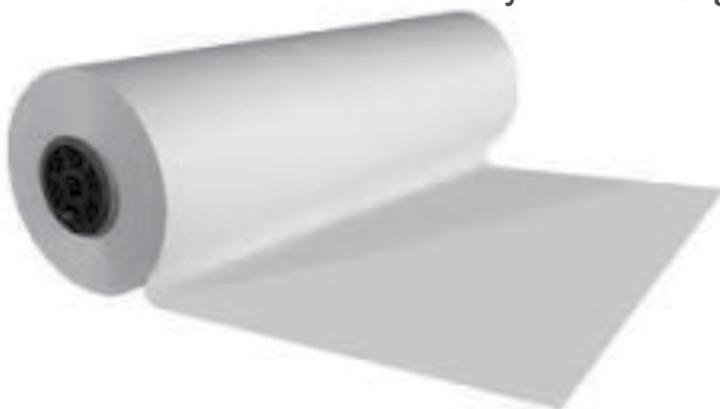
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