

**THE ALVA  
REVIEW  
COURIER**

# NEWSGRAM

VOLUME 44, NO. 27 • WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 2024 • 50¢  
620 CHOCTAW, ALVA, OKLAHOMA 73717

Byron man killed  
in collision with  
teenage driver

"More crime is prevented by fear of exposure in the press, than by all the laws man has ever devised" - Joseph Pulitzer

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**2019 CHEVY 3500**



WT, DRW, CC, PW&PD,  
6.0L 8cyl, (T57631)

**SALE PRICE \$29,995**

**CROFT COUNTRY**



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SAT 9AM-12PM

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**2010 CHEVY 3500**



DRW, 4WD, Deweze Arm Bed,  
Ext Cab, LT, (T57771)

**SALE PRICE \$15,995**

**2023 JEEP GLADIATOR**



Rubicon, 4WD, 16k Miles,  
Leather, HS, Hard Top, (T57701)

**SALE PRICE \$49,995**

**NEW 2024 CHEVY 1500**

LTZ, 4WD, Z71 Package, Leather, H&C  
Seats, 5.3L 8cyl, Safety Features, (T5841)



MSRP \$64,780 ends 7/31/24 **SALE PRICE \$57,737**

**2018 RAM 2500**

SLT, 4WD, 6.7L 6cyl Diesel, Black Cloth  
Interior, PW&PD, (T58181)



**SALE PRICE \$49,995**

**NEW 2024 GMC 3500**



MSRP \$57,313 Pro Package, 4WD, 6.6L 8cyl GAS, Cloth  
Interior, SRW, Bed Delete, (T5796)

**2016 CHEVY COLORADO**

Z71, 4WD, Black Cloth Interior,  
HS, 39K Miles (T57261)



**SALE PRICE \$29,875**

**2017 CHEVY 3500**

WT, SRW, 4WD, Arm Bed, Cake Box,  
6.0L 8cyl, PW&PD, (T57551)



**SALE PRICE \$39,995**

The Newsgram is delivered to Alva, Capron, Hardtner, Kiowa, Hazelton, Medicine Lodge, Burlington, Byron, Amorita, Cherokee, Helena, Goltry, Carmen, Aline, Dacoma, Hopeton, Waynoka, Freedom, Jet, Nash, Cleo Springs & Manchester

# Sophia Dawson graduates from Emporia State University

Sophia Kay Dawson of Medicine Lodge, Kansas, was one of over 550 students who graduated from Emporia State University in May 2024.

Dawson graduated summa cum laude with a B.S. in business administration with a concentration in human resources management.

For more information on how to build your future at Emporia State University, please visit [www.emporia.edu](http://www.emporia.edu).

# Big 5<sup>th</sup> of July celebration planned

The Carmen Fire and Rescue will have a fun and entertaining evening to celebrate Independence Day on Friday, July 5, at the Carmen City Park. Bring your lawn chairs, bug spray, and prepare for a great evening.

The Carmen City Pool will be open for swimming from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Events will begin around 5 p.m. and will continue until the fireworks start. There will be bounce houses for kids, face painting, and Okie Ax Slingers will be open from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Children's characters will be available for pictures. A great variety of food and beverage trucks will be on site.

A new feature will be a demonstration of kites by Kites Over Enid with a beautiful display of kites in the air.

Oklahoma Blood Institute will be

**See July Page 14**

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**District Judge Loren E. Angle swears in Alfalfa County's new sheriff, Gary Mast. Mast replaces Rick Wallace, whose retirement was effective July 1. Photo by Laneta Schwardtfeger**

# Alfalfa County commissioners accept \$500 donation to E-911 department

## Gary Mast sworn in as the county's new sheriff

**By Stacy Sanborn**

Alfalfa County commissioners Garret Johnson, Mike Roach and Nate Ross had a lengthy agenda Monday morning. The three began by signing the usual paperwork: maintenance and operation warrants for payment, blanket purchase orders, and last week's meeting minutes. All of that was followed by lapsed appropriations for fiscal year (FY) 2023-2024 to FY2024-2025 and FY2022-2023 to FY2024-2025.

Since this was the month's first meeting, the three men signed appropriations and the allocation of taxes for motor vehicles and alcoholic beverages, as well as the monthly reports from the officers and Court Clerk Records Management and Preservation.

Next, they accepted the resolution for ARPA and LATCF funds for ACCO-SIF and ACCO-SIG and approved a request to change a receiving officer from Donna

Irvin to Heather Gilley for the County General account. Then, they approved the request to add Jasmine Watters as a receiving officer and Seth Harmon as a requisitioning officer for the assessor's office.

They signed the contract with Century Business Technologies for the treasurer's office and then a resolution for an agreement between Alfalfa County and Garfield County for the latter's shale pit. (They had signed that agreement already, but all three signatures were needed on one resolution).

After that, the commissioners signed to change the Alfalfa Electric Cooperative utilities for the storage barn (previously the workout gym) over to the sheriff's office, followed by the bridge inspection invoice for all three counties.

They accepted a \$500 donation for

**See County Page 8**

# Carmen 5<sup>th</sup> OF July

ONE OF THE BEST FIREWORK SHOWS IN OKLAHOMA

## CELEBRATION

@ THE CARMEN PARK, CARMEN, OK

**RAFFLE BOOTH OPEN  
5PM-8:30PM**

### Adult Raffle Prizes

- Thompson Center 6.5 Creedmoor Rifle
- Fire Pit
- Custom Wood Art

### Kids Raffle Prizes

- Lifetime Fishing License
- Fishing Poles & More

**Kids Tickets \$2/each  
Adult Tickets: \$5/each or 5/\$20**

### ACTIVITIES

Okie Axe Slingers  
Mobile Axe Throwing 7-10pm

Face Painting

Blood Drive 6-8pm

Carmen Pool Open 1-6pm

Bounce Houses On-Site

Food Trucks On-Site

# FIREWORKS @ DARK

Like Us On  : Carmen 5th of July Celebration

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Carmen, OK

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# Alva Arena Authority approves financing

## More chores and play, less talk

By Marione Martin

In a special meeting Tuesday, the Alva Arena Authority approved five contracts to move the arena project forward. Most of the agreements are financial including the sale of tax free bonds. Treasurer Todd Holder has spent months working on the financing. The design committee held plenty of meetings to hammer out the final project. It's good to see progress being made. More details will be covered in Friday's Alva Review-Courier.



was major water flow in downtown Alva as lines were cleared. The intersection which is also US-281 South and US-64 has been closed while repairs are undertaken.

By the way, if you live in or around Alva, check the City of Alva website (alvaok.org) for a link to download the city's app for both iPhone and Android. You can also search City of Alva in your app store. The app provides notifications like the above two.

Tuesday I also noticed that the alley just north of Alva State Bank has been changed to one way. That's the east-west alley between Fifth and College in the block between Barnes and Center. Traffic is now directed to exit on Fifth Street. It looks like a safer option. On busy College Avenue, the angle parking blocks the view of oncoming traffic when vehicles try to exit that way. Going east toward Fifth Street, drivers don't face as much traffic or the problem with nearby parking.

### Around Alva

The heavy rain last weekend not only closed some rural roads, but it also caused a problem in Alva. Barnes Street between Logan and Meno Streets was closed off due to an unstable area. The city will be replacing the drainage pipe and putting in a new roadway.

Monday afternoon, the City of Alva announced a major waterline break on Oklahoma Boulevard at the intersection with College Boulevard. It's right in front of Garnett Oil Company which is just across from the northeast corner of the Northwestern Oklahoma State University campus. Monday night, there

### Growing Successful Adults

What sort of skills are kids learning in the modern world? Members of our older generation believe kids are missing out on some basic skills. Recently the Oklahoma legislature passed a law to make teaching of basic financial skills mandatory in high school. With both parents working and kids focused on electronics, some skills that were common 20 years ago seem unknown in today's youth.

When I was growing up, it was common for small business owners to have their children working with them and learning about trades or business. I learned a lot of useful newspaper skills that way. It's still the norm for farming families. Farm kids know how to work hard and how to figure out problems.

Last year a plane carrying seven people crashed in the Colombian jungle. It took search teams two weeks to find the wreckage. When they did, they found the bodies of the three adults. There was no sign of the four children, ages 13, 9, 4 and 11 months. Forty days after the crash, the children were found – gaunt, dehydrated and exhausted, but they were together and alive.

They told how they foraged for fruits, roots and seeds; slept on piles of gathered banana leaves to keep warm;

salvaged a bag of yucca flour from the plane to dissolve in water and drip-feed to the baby. They relied on skills taught them from birth by their indigenous parents.

While our children aren't likely to need jungle survival skills, I wonder if parents are teaching their kids the skills they need to navigate the modern world.

Anita Schmalor, Ph.D., a parent educator and coach, has pored over cross-cultural parenting research to figure out why raising secure, confident kids without sacrificing their own well-being is so challenging.

"Through this work, I've come to see that in the modern world – at least in the modern Western world – we tend to view children as basically incapable," Schmalor says. "The idea that we need to direct and control our children's every move has become a self-fulfilling prophecy: It has made them in many ways incompetent."

Schmalor offers three ways to grant our children more autonomy:

- Include all children in chores, even toddlers.

Parents who encourage children to help from an early age capitalize on their natural motivation to observe and imitate. They get the opportunity to contribute to the common good, build competence, and internalize the idea that helping is part of their role.

- Let children play on their own – in mixed-age groups, if possible.

Children given the opportunity to engage in free play with others both younger and older learn critical social skills – setting rules, playing fair – as well as cognitive and physical ones.

- Talk less.

Many parents talk constantly to kids – describing what's occurring, asking questions, threatening, scolding, directing or pleading. This endless stream of words is often a judgement of children's behavior, thoughts or feelings. It stops them from correcting their own errors or drawing their own conclusions about life and their role in it. It robs them of their autonomy.

Instead of narrating your child's life, try for just an hour at first to observe them in silence. Try to be present and attuned. Intercede only if absolutely necessary.

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MSRP  
**\$47,495**

SALE PRICE **\$43,886**  
(plus other qualifying offers) ends 7/31/24

## 2021 CHEVY TRAVERSE

AWD, 2LZ, Leather, Bucket  
Seats, H&C Seats,  
Sunroof, (T58322)



SALE PRICE  
**\$39,995**

## 2017 BUICK ENCORE

AWD, Preferred, Cloth,  
PW&PD (T57602)



SALE PRICE  
**\$15,995**

## 2020 CHEVY EQUINOX

FWD, Premier, Leather, HS,  
Safety Features, (T58471)



SALE PRICE

**\$17,995**

## 2010 JEEP WRANGLER

Sport, 4WD, Standard, 3.8L 6cyl,  
Hard Top, (T57311)



SALE PRICE  
**\$16,995**

## 2015 CHEVY SUBURBAN



SALE PRICE  
**\$21,995**

LTZ, 4WD, Leather, H&C Seats,  
Safety Features, Bucket Seats, (T57821)

## 2021 NISSAN ARMADA

SL, Leather, HS, Sunroof, PW&PD,  
5.6L 8cyl, (T56983)



SALE PRICE  
**\$36,995**

## 2019 GMC YUKON

Denali, 4WD, 1 Owner new car trade,  
Leather, H&C Seats, Bucket Seats,  
DVD, Sunroof, (T57101)



SALE PRICE  
**\$41,075**

## 2006 BUICK LUCERNE

CXL, Leather, 3.8L 6cyl,  
129k Miles, (T57292)



SALE PRICE

**\$7,995**

## 2018 GMC YUKON

SLT, 4WD, Leather, H&C Seats, Safety  
Features, Sunroof, DVD, (T57881)



SALE PRICE  
**\$32,995**

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**HARDTNER 4TH OF JULY PARADE MARSHALS** – Lifelong farmers west of Hardtner, Kansas, George Sutton (left) and Lee Allen Sternberger now make their home at the Kiowa Manor. They will return to Hardtner on Thursday to be 4th of July Parade Marshals. The patriotic parade begins at 10 a.m. The theme for the day is “RISE UP, STAND TOGETHER, AMERICAN PROUD,” and printed on t-shirts available at Yur Place in Hardtner and Studio 534 in Kiowa. *Photo by Yvonne Miller*

## BNSF equipment collides with private vehicle on Kiowa’s west tracks

By Yvonne Miller

Monday, July 1, at 11:17 a.m., a call came in to the Barber County Sheriff’s Office about an accident on the train track crossing on the west edge of Kiowa. Undersheriff Garrett McLemore responded with other emergency personnel.

McLemore said that Nathan Drake of Hardtner was westbound on Main at the railroad tracks. He was driving a 2014 black Hyundai. Drake reportedly told the officer the railroad arms were down. The arms lifted and he started to drive across the tracks. Suddenly, Drake’s vehicle collided with a piece of equipment BNSF uses for track maintenance. Drake reportedly told the officer a large box restricted his view.

Drake sustained only minor injuries, McLemore said, but added he isn’t qualified to make that call.



Nathan Drake walked away with minor injuries from this encounter with a piece of railroad equipment.

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# Dean Goll

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**NEW - 160 Acres - Excellent Diversified Farm** - This tract consists of 160 Acres, of which 105 Acres is good cropland (primarily Yahola fine sandy loam and Grant silt loam soils), and the balance being 55 Acres of good grassland, trees, and spring creek, which also runs through the property. Improvements include a 30'x40' shed with 15' lean-to. New steel corrals and a water well with tank and solar panel. NW¼ - 25-29-14, W.I.M., Woods County, Okla. **PRICE: \$390,000.00**

**NEW - 320 Acres - "A Hunting Paradise"**  
Tall grass, brush, trees, plum thickets, ½ mile from Salt Fork River. It also has a good water well, corrals, electricity, an older barn, and 5-wire fences. Several big bucks have been taken off this property. Don't miss your opportunity to own this hunting property.  
W½ - 32-29-14, W.I.M., Woods County, Okla. **PRICE: \$685,000.00**

**NEW - 120 Acres - Excellent Stock Farm** - This tract is all grass, with 50 Acres being in spar grass and baled for hay. It has good 5-wire fences, an excellent water well, and an excellent water well with windmill. Water is excellent for drinking and availability. N½ NW¼, N½ S½ NW - 1-25-15, Woods County, Okla. **PRICE: \$200,000.00**

**NEW - 2 - 80 Acre tracts - A HUNTING PARADISE!** Tall grass, trees and tree lines, brush, plum thickets - deer everywhere! S½ SW¼ - 12-19-23, W.I.M. and N½ NW¼ - 13-19-23, W.I.M., Ellis County, Okla. Location of property: From Arnett, go 8.5 miles east on Hwy 60 to County Road 190, then go 1 mile south to a hunting paradise. **PRICE: \$160,000.00 per 80 Acre tract**

**NEW: 355 Acres - Excellent Hunting & Grazing with Live Water.** This tract consists of 355 Acres, which 127 Acres is improved grass and the balance being 228 Acres of good native grassland and brush. This tract has 5 water wells, and is watered by a solar well and a live-water creek. This farm has excellent hunting with the live water, trees, and canyons. SE¼, S½ NE¼ - 22-27-16, and the W½ SW¼, SW¼ NW¼ - 23-27-16, W.I.M., Woods County, Okla. **PRICE: \$650,000.00**

**NEW: 870 Acres - Excellent Hunting, Grazing, Live Water.** This tract consists of 870 Acres, which 204 Acres is improved grass, with the balance being 666 Acres of good native grassland. This tract has 5 water wells, 2 windmills, and two live-water creeks, one of which is Red Horse Creek. The hunting potential is unbelievable with the beautiful canyons and the live water running down through them. Located in Sections 2, 10 & 11 - 27-17 W.I.M. Woods County Okla. **PRICE: \$1,400,000.00**

**NEW - 80 Acres - Excellent Cropland** - This tract consists of 80 Acres of excellent cropland (all Grant silt loam soils), has rural water, and has 4 miles West of Alva on Hwy 64. E½ NE¼ - 25-27-15, W.I.M., Woods County, Okla. **PRICE: \$240,000.00**

**NEW - 280 Acres - Excellent Stock Farm** This tract consists of

280 Acres, of which 186 Acres is good cropland (primarily Bethany silt loam, Yahola fine sandy loam, and Grant silt loam soils), and the balance being 94 Acres of grass and waterway, with 5 water wells and 2 windmills. This farm would make an excellent stocker or cow-calf operation. NW¼ & W½ W½ NE¼ - 22-28-13, W.I.M., and E½ NE¼ - 21-28-13, W.I.M., Woods County, Okla. **PRICE: \$675,000.00**

**NEW - 160 Acres - Excellent Cropland** - This tract consists of 160 Acres of excellent cropland (primarily Pond Creek silt loam, Devol sandy loam, and Grant silt loam soils). This tract has a new 5-wire fence and 2 water wells. SW¼ - 31-28-12, W.I.M., Alfalfa County, Okla. **PRICE: \$475,000.00**

**NEW - 400 Acres - "A Hunting Paradise"** - Tall grass, trees, cropland, good fences - ¼ mile from Salt Fork River. This tract consists of 400 Acres of which 151 Acres is good cropland and the balance being 249 Acres of excellent grass. "This is trophy deer country." Don't miss your chance to have a hunting place to call your own. SE¼ - 24-28-15 & SW¼ & W½ SE¼ - 19-28-14, W.I.M. Woods County, Okla. **PRICE: \$775,000.00**

**NEW - This tract consists of 960 acres of excellent grassland, all contiguous, lying 12 miles northwest of Alva, Okla. 94 acres was in the past 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. **NEW PRICE: \$1,350,000.00****

**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 grass, and waterways. There is excellent building potential. Just one mile east of Alva. **PRICE: \$550,000.00**

**NEW - 160 Acres Excellent cropland (primarily Pond Creek Silt Loam and Grant Silt Loam Soils)** with all 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 - 315 Acres of which 208 Acres is excellent cropland, and the balance being 107 Acres of excellent grassland.** This tract includes a 1,200 sq. ft. home, 32' x 60' shop w/ 16' lean-to, steel corrals, N½ - 29-29-12, W.I.M., Alfalfa County, OKLA. **PRICE: \$1,050,000.00**

**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 - W½ - 11-25-14, Woods County, Oklahoma.** This tract has an excellent stand of Ozark Bermudagrass. New 5-wire fences, good water, bunk lines, corrals, and shade on a paved road. **PRICE: \$750,000.00**

**FOR SALE**  
**Commercial Property:** Between Shepherds & Days Inn Motel on Hwy 64 East of Alva - 3.15 Acres. **PRICE: \$275,000.00**  
**Vacant Lot** - 902 4th Street, Alva **PRICE: \$25,000**

### RESIDENTIAL

**ALVA DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL**  
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**NW side of the City**

Space for multiple home sites, Recreational pond site, abundant wildlife, productive farm or pasture acres. Call to see the property or just drive by and dream what could be. NE¼, 22-27N-14W. **\$260,000**



**1725 Spruce Street, Alva, OK**  
3 bedroom, 2 bath, kitchen with appliances, family room with fireplace, living room, patio, large garage. 1,438 sq. ft. Updated and move-in ready. **PRICE: \$189,000**  
Shown by appointment



**SOLD**  
**820 Brown Street, Alva**  
3bd/2 bath, 2-car Garage, CH&A, Fireplace, Lg. Fam. Rm., Storage Bldg., New paint (int & ext), New Roof, 1,599 sq.ft. Move-in Ready - Immaculate! **PRICE: \$198,900**

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Enjoy 2,700 sq. ft. of Living Area. Master BR (ground level) and 3 BR (upstairs); Large Bath, Beautiful open Kitchen (Incl. appl.), DR, LR, FR (w/ wood-burning stove), Util. Rm, Storm cellar, Rural Water, Gas & Electric, 2- water wells (1 w/ solar pump), Abundant storage. Nice Detached 2-Vehicle Garage and Shop. Features a pond area for recreation w/ trees, fishing, wildlife, deer, quail, & turkey. Location: From Burlington, Okla. Go 1 mile west to County Road 560, then 1.5 miles South to the property, Address: 32312 County Road 560, Burlington, OK. 73722. **PRICE: \$345,000.00**



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# From Page 2 County

the E911 department from Midstream (ET G&P, LLC) and then approved a two-day sick leave donation from one county employee to another.

The three men approved of the indebtedness publication before declaring surplus on a Kenwood in-car radio from the sheriff's office (invoice number B602.100.09, serial number B4700007) and a resolution for its disposal. Lastly, they approved the claim for the roof damage the fairgrounds sustained last year in May.

Before the commissioner's meeting, Gary Mast was sworn in by Judge Loren E. Angle to serve as Alfalfa County's new sheriff, replacing the now-retired Rick Wallace.

### Alcoholic Beverage Tax

Aline \$562.43; Amorita \$127.21; Burlington \$415.13; Byron \$123.87; Carmen \$1,205.20; Cherokee \$4,941.32; Goltry \$840.30; Helena \$5,145.54; Jet \$659.51; Lambert \$16.74. Total: \$14,037.25.

### Appropriations

911 Phone Fees (1201) \$14,205.14  
America Rescue Plan Act (1566) \$529.27  
Assessor Revolving Fee (1204) \$50.18  
CBRI (1103) \$35,428.08  
County Clerk Lien Fee (1208) \$365.74  
County Clerk RM&P (1209) \$1,570.97  
Court Clerk RM&P (7210) \$218.75  
Emergency Medical Service (1304) \$74,548.04  
Enhanced 911-ST (1332) \$13,472.50  
Fair Improvement - ST (1310) \$8,627.58  
General Govt - ST (1311) \$17,272.44  
Highway (1102) \$328,228.92  
Highway ST (1313) \$19,863.30  
Rural Fire (1321) \$18,771.68  
Sheriff Commissary (1223) \$286.18  
Sheriff Forfeiture (1225) \$513.30  
Sheriff ST (1319) \$9,655.29  
Sheriff Service Fee (1226) \$2,779.75  
Treasurer Mortgage Cert (1230) \$45



Last week, family, friends and staff gathered to celebrate Alfalfa County's retiring sheriff, Rick Wallace. Here, Wallace displays a cake that congratulates him for 10 years of service. Photo by Laneta Schwerdtfeger

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<u>Acres</u>	<u>County/State</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Status</u>
146	Alfalfa Co, OK	Hunting, Sandy Creek, Grazing	call for price	NEW
155	Alfalfa Co, OK	Hunting, 1/2mile from OK/KS State Line	call for price	NEW
320	Roger Mills Co, OK	Spring Fed POND, Grazing, Hunting	\$576,000	NEW
318	Roger Mills Co, OK	Grazing, Creek, Corrals, Hunting	\$540,600	NEW
76	McCurtain Co, OK	Glover River in McCurtain County, OK	\$1,500,000	NEW
300	McCurtain Co, OK	Historic Ranch in McCurtain County, OK	\$2,100,000	NEW
525	McCurtain Co, OK	Sportsman's Paradise on Little River	\$1,837,500	NEW
620	Meade Co, KS	Grazing - CRP - Hunting	\$1,260,000	NEW
1,894	Morton Co, KS	Dryland Farm Ground-CRP-Homestead	\$1,650,000	new price
980	Blaine Co, OK	Income Producing Quarry w/Mining Lease	\$3,430,000	new price
525	Wayne Co, MO	135/ac Private Lake - Hardwood Timber	\$2,895,000	new price
242	Comanche Co, KS	Agricultural, Grassland, Hunting	\$363,000	new price
412	Barber Co, KS	Hunting, Agricultural, Grazing	\$1,075,000	
138	Kingfisher Co, OK	Cropland, Hunting, Grassland	\$415,000	new price
39	McCurtain Co, OK	Platted Residential Dev near Golf Course	\$975,000	new price
504	McCurtain Co, OK	Land + Home, Timber, Wildlife	\$3,700,000	new price
638	Roger Mills Co, OK	Hunting, Grazing, Spring Fed Pond	\$1,084,600	new price
114	Roger Mills Co, OK	Hunting, Grazing, Grassland	\$245,000	
24.67	Woods Co, OK	Custom Home, Pond, Grassland, Hunting	\$775,000	
156	Woods Co, OK	Res/Comm Development near Alva	\$499,000	new price
1.9	Taney Co, MO	D'monaco Luxury Resort	\$36,000,000	
2.5	Taney Co, MO	170 Room Hotel Development Project	\$8,500,000	
780	Texas Co, OK	Grassland, Grazing, Hunting	\$741,000	SOLD
Lots	McCurtain Co, OK	Convenience Store - Recently Built	\$3,675,000	SOLD
880	Kiowa Co, KS	Agricultural, Hunting, Grass Land	\$1,760,000	SOLD
632	Woods Co, OK	Pond + Hunting Greenleaf Creek	call for price	SOLD
<b>680</b>	<b>Seminole Co, OK</b>	<b>6 Tracts - North Canadian River</b>	<b>AUCTION</b>	<b>SOLD</b>
11,242	McIntosh Co, OK	GILLESPIE RANCH - LAKE EUFAULA	\$23,600,000	SOLD
<b>290</b>	<b>WOODS CO, OK</b>	<b>Little Sahara State Park 14 Tracts</b>	<b>AUCTION</b>	<b>SOLD</b>
<b>780</b>	<b>Alfalfa Co, OK</b>	<b>6 Tracts - CLASS 1 SOILS - Cropland</b>	<b>AUCTION</b>	<b>SOLD</b>
477	Barber Co, KS	Grassland, Hunting, Ponds	\$950,000	SOLD
381	Kay Co, OK	Cropland 3 tracts near Blackwell OK	\$933,450	SOLD
255	Ripley Co, MO	40-acre Private Lake & Improvements	\$1,350,000	SOLD
1545	Roger Mills Co, OK	Hunting Land - Lodge - Springs & Creeks	\$2,999,000	SOLD
640	Woods Co, OK	5 Farm Land Auction	\$1,350,200	SOLD
405	Ottawa Co, OK	High Yield Cropland in Welch, Oklahoma	\$1,700,000	SOLD
150	Sumner Co, KS	Development/Cropland/River Clearwater	\$879,900	SOLD
11,391	McIntosh Co, OK	FISHER RANCH - LAKE EUFAULA	\$19,900,000	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
363	Kingman Co, KS	Lies in Sections 5&8-30S-10W	\$1,200,000	SOLD
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6300	Barber Co, KS	Medicine River Hunting Ranch	\$11,000,000	SOLD

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Fri July 5 - Fish

Mon July 8 - Beef Fritters  
Tue July 9 - Walking Taco Casserole  
Wed July 10 - Meatloaf

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Old Man's Gallery at the Bell Hotel will be open featuring the works of Warren Little LAZY COYOTE will be open late for Art Walk.!

Advanced Youth Art Camp: July 10-12 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Students should bring a sack lunch! We will cover multi-media arts, pottery, drawing and painting. We will help students get projects ready for the Woods County Fair, and other competitions!

Alva 4-H Art Class 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Tuesday Afternoon Each Week. Supplies Provided

SHOWTIME NUTRITION & RIALTO THEATER will be open late for Art Walk. HOLDER DRUG will be open late for Art Walk.

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Happy 4th of July from the Staff at Graceful Arts! Got Visitors for the Holiday? Bring them to the Gallery on July 4th. Open 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Page Sponsored By ALVA STATE BANK & TRUST COMPANY Member FDIC ENID-CHISHOLM BURLINGTON ALVA FREEDOM KIOWA

# Alva School Board accepts \$75,000 donation for sheep, goat barn

## Two elementary teachers hired



**Jerika Coon**



**Jordan Villalva**

**By Marione Martin**

The Alva Board of Education met Wednesday for their regular end of the year session with all members present. Jeremy Brashears, new superintendent, was present although he wasn't officially on the payroll until July 1. He said that he and his family moved to Alva the preceding week.

**Sheep and Goat Barn Donation**

School board members were pleased to approve a donation from the Wisdom Foundation for a new sheep and goat barn at the school district agriculture farm. Brashears said the project will probably require an architect and need to go out for sealed bids since the building will include a classroom. He said this barn could cost as much as \$150,000.

**New Teachers**

Washington Early Childhood Principal Madison Williams introduced her teaching candidate for first grade, Jerika Coon. "I'm proposing we hire her as a first-grade teacher at Washington. We got lucky enough to have her last fall at Washington as a student teacher. She did a wonderful job. And then she filled a desperate need of subbing for us all spring. So, we got very lucky that she decided to stick around the area," said

Williams.

"I'm hoping to put her in the exact same classroom that she student taught in so it's going to be an easy transition. She was with Ms. Carruthers. They'll be working together so she'll have a great mentor she's already worked with. She's wonderful with our students. She did a great job learning, open to suggestions all the time. I'm very pleased to welcome her to Washington with your approval."

Longfellow Elementary Principal Alysson Tucker stood with her candidate for second grade teacher. "I would like to introduce a familiar face to most of you, Jordan Villalva," said Tucker. "She graduated from Enid High and Northwestern. She coached our high school cheerleaders for three years.

"She did her student teaching at Longfellow second grade under Mrs. Zadoronzy in '22-'23. Wade had her, and he loved Miss Villalva. She recently taught at Ardmore, second grade, and I was able to strong-arm her, to steal her for a second-grade position at Longfellow. With your approval, I'd love to welcome her to Longfellow."

Paul Barton made the motion to approve offering a one-year contract to the two teachers, seconded by

Kevin Pingelton. Their contracts were approved by unanimous vote.

**Resignations**

Brashears reported on two resignations. Juan Licea Jr. has resigned as a high school and middle school math teacher. He will be working at Northwest Technology Center. Brandy Jones resigned as a paraprofessional.

**Financial Reports**

Board members approved encumbrances to finish out the fiscal year. Included in the general fund were purchase orders for new superintendent moving expenses, \$12,000 to Alva Hospital Authority for contracted special education physical therapy services, and \$4,900 to Peak Environment for summer spraying.

There were two building fund purchase orders. One was to Moffatt Repair for Longfellow oven repairs for \$265. The other to Dense Mechanical for \$1,000 was for repairs to the AHS gym unit.

**Other Business**

A list of job assignments was approved. It mainly added Brashears to the list as purchasing agent, federal programs director, Title IX coordinator and other duties.

Some VHS videotapes from Longfellow School were declared surplus to be relocated to the bus barn.

Brashears presented updated activity fund account listings. He said the only changes were adding an AHS media account which is Career Tech funded and an FFA tractor account which will be used for restoring old tractors and selling them. The Class of 2023 account has been transferred to the Class of 2030.

Certified personnel for extended school year special education services from July 1 to August 2 were approved. Kelli Killman, Brandi Peace, Kayla Gilchrist and Beka Houston will be providing those services.

Board members approved a list of contracts for the next school year including the American Fidelity Section 125 Flex Plan and Big Five Community

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## From Page 12 Alva

Services Agreement. They approved Oklahoma Schools Assurance Group (OSAG) Workers' Compensation Insurance which increased only a little over last year. The school's property insurance through Oklahoma Schools Insurance Group (OSIG) went up 12.5 percent, but Brashears said it was still significantly cheaper than private property. The Precision Testing Laboratories, Inc. contract for asbestos testing was approved. The board also approved a contract with the Woods County Commissioners to participate in legal and appraisal costs regarding tax protest litigation.

## From Page 2 July

available for blood donations during the afternoon. Anyone wishing to donate blood may contact them for scheduling and information.

The fire department will be having an adult raffle for a fire pit, custom wood art, or a 6.5 Creedmoore Rifle. Kids raffle will include a lifetime fishing license, fishing poles and other goodies.

Everyone is welcome to come enjoy the evening and fun.

### Action Ad deadlines:

Noon on Tuesday  
for Newsgram.

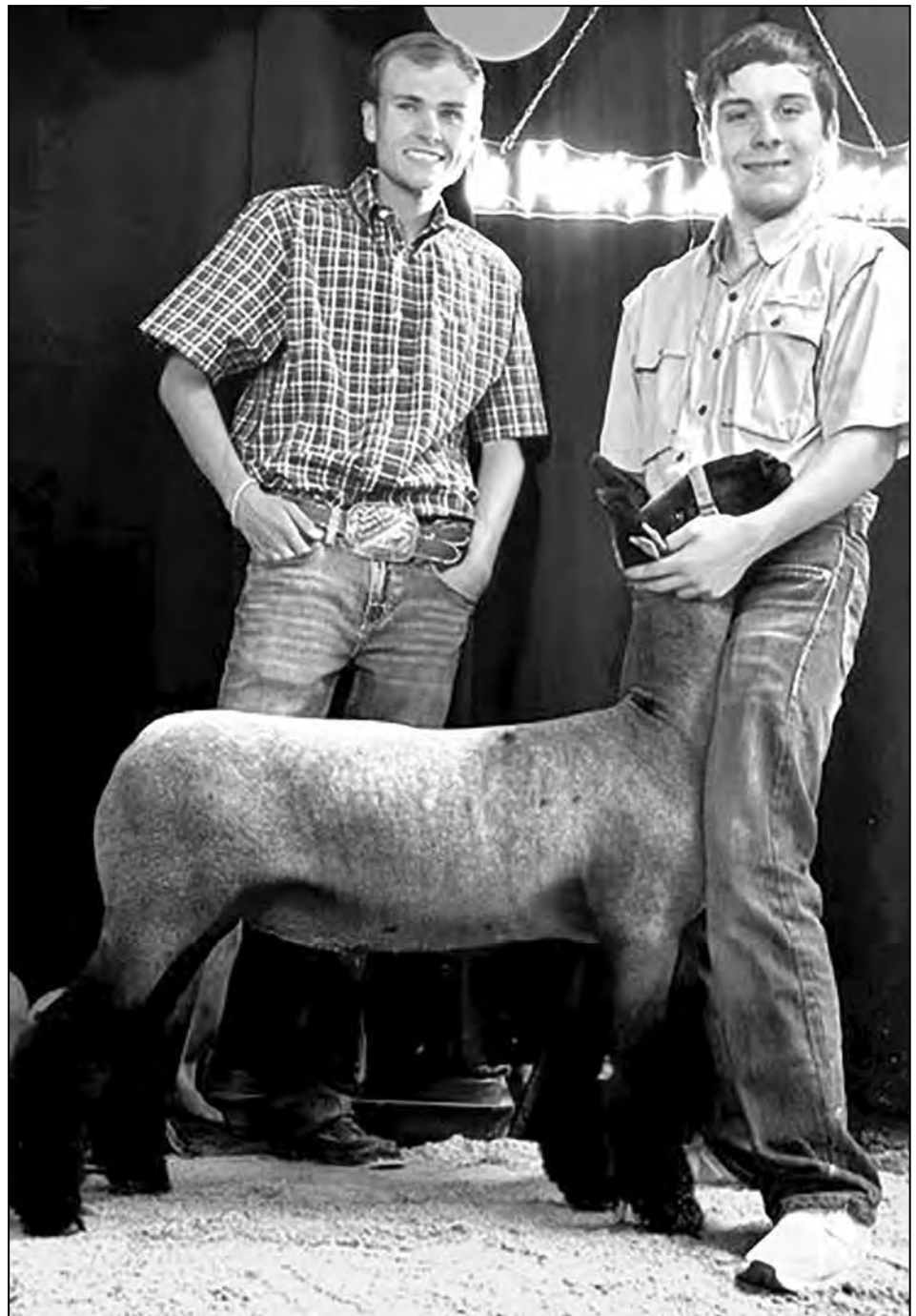
Noon on Thursday for  
Alva Review-Courier.

**Alva Review-Courier  
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Judge Carson Lott stands with Stetson Nix who secured the title of Grand Champion Market Lamb with his Champion Natural Wether at the No Man's Land Summer Classic Livestock Show.

## Waynoka's Stetson Nix shines at No Man's Land Summer Classic

**By Rhiata Bouziden**

Waynoka FFA Chapter's own Stetson Nix recently traveled to Boise City to compete in the No Man's Land Summer Classic Livestock Show. Nix secured the title of Grand Champion Market Lamb with his Champion Natural Wether.

The market lamb competition was judged by Carson Lott.

Nix's triumph is a testament to his hard work and dedication to his FFA projects.

For more updates on the Waynoka FFA chapter and their upcoming events, stay tuned to the local news.



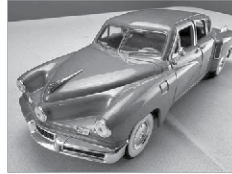
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- NFR Hesston Buckles
- Die Cast Cars
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- Die Cast Tractors
- Nascar Collectibles
- More

**BIDDING ENDS JULY 11, 2024 • 6pm\***  
*Bid will extend if active bids are being placed.*



## 2 BED/1 BATH HOME TIMED ONLINE AUCTION | FORREST HILLS – JET, OK

- 2 Bed 1 Bath Home with Detached Garage & Outbuilding in Jet
- Great Starter/Downsizing Home | Rental Investment Property

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*Bid will extend if active bids are being placed.*



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- Firearms
- Reloading Equipment
- Household Furnishings
- Soft Side Hot Tub
- Refrigerator
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## 10± ACRES ON THE EDGE OF ANTHONY, KS

Located on the North end of Sante Fe Street on the NE side of Anthony, KS, this is a unique tract that is located just inside the county outside of the city limits but has great access via the paved city street. The tract offers power, electricity, & water and has an older horse/livestock barn, enclosed with permanent fencing & nice open areas of established grasses. A former homesite is next to the building, making this a great place to build your own spot or have a place for horses or show projects close to town.



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Alfalfa County OSU Extension, in conjunction with Alfalfa County Home Extension groups and 4-H, put together a courthouse tour for the Alfalfa County Courthouse on July 2. The tour ended on the third floor in the courtroom with refreshments provided by OHCE and 4-H. From left: (front row) Zyndaya McHenry, Hudson Hansel, Sterling Metcalf; (second row) Willa Grant, Stetson Metcalf, Austin Hensley, Hayden Hansel; (third row) Jennifer Hensley, Erin Metcalf, Kelsi Claflin, Megan Solis, Zara Solis, Hannah Hensley, Megan Ferrell, and Tammi Miller. Photo provided

# Area OSU Extension to offer pickle and sourdough-making workshops

**By Megan Ferrell, Extension Educator, FCS/4-H**

OSU Extension educators from Alfalfa, Major and Woods counties are offering a pickle-making workshop on Thursday, July 11, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Alfalfa County Fairgrounds. The cost

is \$15 to cover supplies and RSVP, and payment is due Monday, July 8, to the Alfalfa County Extension Office. Class size is limited. Participants will learn to preserve their own pickles and leave with some to share.

Another upcoming workshop will be

sourdough bread on Saturday, Aug. 8, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., also located in Cherokee at the Alfalfa County Fairgrounds.

For more information or to register for either of these workshops, please get in touch with the Alfalfa County OSU Extension Office at 580-596-3131.

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# Alva Public Schools Enrollment

**Who:** PreK - 12th grades  
**Where:** Online  
**When:** Opens July 10

Alva Public Schools online enrollment will be open July 10th. Enrollment can be completed online at your convenience. If you need assistance, please contact any school site during office hours (7:30 am - 3:00 pm Monday - Thursday). First time APS students will need a birth certificate and immunization record to enroll.

To sign-up for Pre-K Screening use the QR code. You may enroll online by visiting the following website: <https://ok.wengage.com/Alva> Tutorials on how to enroll can be found at [alvaschools.com/Enrollment](https://alvaschools.com/Enrollment)

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C4BACA629ABF85-50164635-2024#/>



**For further information please contact any school.**  
Washington: 327-3518 Longfellow 327-3327 Lincoln 327-3008 AMS: 327-0608 AHS: 327-3682

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Kids, age 3 (potty trained) through entering 5th grade.

- ★ 5:00 PM Registration/Dinner.
- ★ 5:30 PM-Activities
- ★ 7:30 PM-Time to go!

Paper registration here.

First United Methodist Church of Alva  
626 College Ave.  
Alva, OK 73717

Digital registration here.

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**Alva Review-Courier/Newsgram**  
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South Barber cowboy Taisen Ricke, left, and his team roping partner, Rein Roberts, compete at the National Jr. High Finals Rodeo and ride away with seventh place.

# Ricke, Roberts take 7<sup>th</sup> at National Jr. High Finals Rodeo

By Yvonne Miller

“I knew we were on a roll and should make the Top 30,” Taisen Ricke said, “But I never thought we’d make the Top 10.” Ricke and his team roping partner, Rein Roberts of Winfield, placed seventh at the National Jr. High Finals Rodeo in Des Moines, Iowa, last weekend.

Going into eighth grade at South Barber in Kiowa this fall, Ricke is the “header” of the duo. The boys met as

their dads “have rodeoed together” for years. They have roped together the last three years and practice together “as much as we can.”

“For two teams from Kansas to make the Top 10 in the state is pretty cool.” Ricke was referring to his friend Steele Smith, who is a year ahead of him at South Barber. Steele won the national team roping championship with his partner Saturday for the second time.

“Steele encouraged me every run. We both cheer for each other,” Ricke

said. Steele’s mom Lana told her he thinks “Taisen and his partner can win the (junior high team roping) championship next year.”

“My goal for next season is to go rope at nationals like it’s just another rodeo,” Ricke said. At the national finals the Kansas delegation of family and fans was easy to recognize as they were noisy blowing horns, shaking cowbells and waving flags. “My mom was probably the loudest!” Ricke said of his mom Cassidy and dad Tyler.

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These two quilts are part of a drawing to be held during a quilting workshop at the Sod House Museum this month.

# Two sampler quilts being raffled at the Sod House Museum

The Sod House Museum is selling raffle tickets ahead of a drawing for two sampler quilts. The first quilt has a patriotic theme. The second is a Dresden Plate design.

Tickets may be purchased at the museum, which is open Tuesday through

Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The drawing will be held during the quilting workshop on Saturday, July 13, from 9 to 11 a.m. Members of any skill level are encouraged to attend. Proceeds from the class and raffle will benefit the Sod House Museum.

The museum is located southeast of Aline on OK-8. It is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information and for the cost of the workshop, please contact Director Renee Trindle at 580-463-2441 or email [sodhouse@history.ok.gov](mailto:sodhouse@history.ok.gov).

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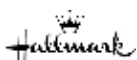
WED., JULY 3	THURS., JULY 4	FRI., JULY 5	MON., JULY 8	TUES., JULY 9
Pimento Cheese Sandwich Vegetable Pasta Salad Tomato Soup, Crackers Peach Cobbler	<b>CLOSED</b> 4th of July	<b>CLOSED</b>	Swiss Steak Over White Rice Carrots Yellow Squash Dinner Roll w/Margarine Peaches	Chicken or Pork Fajita Mexican Corn Refried Beans Cook's Choice Cake w/Frosting
WED., JULY 10	THURS., JULY 11	FRI., JULY 12	MON., JULY 15	TUES., JULY 16
Tuna Macaroni Salad Pickled Beets Crackers Mandarin Oranges in Jell-O Cookies	Cheeseburger on Bun Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Pickles Sweet Potato Fries Peanut Butter Cake w/Peanut Butter Frosting	<b>CLOSED</b>	Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce Broccoli Cauliflower Garlic Bread Applesauce or Watermelon	Ham and Beans Onion Slices Tomato Spoon Relish Spinach Cornbread w/Margarine Cinnamon Roll

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# Vehicle stolen from Enid located in Cherokee

By Marione Martin

Cherokee Police were on the lookout for a vehicle reported stolen in Garfield County after an officer contacted Alfalfa County dispatch. The officer said the victim would be coming to recover part of a vehicle in Cherokee, a recovered wheelchair lift that had been attached to the vehicle. The item was found on June 24 on a county road outside of Cherokee and posted on social media.

Cherokee Police Officer Reith Clafin talked to the individual who retrieved the missing lift. He said the red Jeep Laredo had been stolen the night before by an individual who was supposed to be in the area. Clafin asked if the victim had reported it, and he said yes. When Clafin asked if he knew the party responsible for the vehicle theft, the individual said the only name he was given was a first name, Ashtyn. He did not know the last name but showed Clafin a picture of the Jeep. Clafin told him officers would be looking for it.

About 10:19 p.m. on June 25, Deputy Roberts notified Clafin of a vehicle matching the description of the stolen Jeep driving south on Grand in Cherokee. Roberts identified and verified the license plate through NCIC as stolen.

Clafin and Roberts then verified

the address on Main Street where the vehicle was located. Clafin notified Police Chief McNeill. While they were waiting, they identified a male walking back and forth outside the residence between the car and a dumpster. While they waited to move to the residence, the male driver walked to the officers' location, saying he saw them and needed to return the keys because he borrowed the vehicle and ran out of gas to take it back to the owner in Enid. He stated it was probably going to be reported.

Clafin verified that Ashtyn Dompier was the driver. He informed Dompier the vehicle had been reported stolen and he would be placed under arrest. Clafin then made contact with the residents of the house where the vehicle was located. They said Dompier showed up the previous day and told them he just got back from Michigan to meet his birth mother. They said they had helped him previously when he was homeless, but then he left to go back to Enid. The male resident said he had been emptying the Jeep contents into their dumpster. Clafin looked through the dumpster and identified multiple letters and pharmacy prescriptions with the owner's name on them.

After Mirandizing Dompier, Clafin asked how he acquired the stolen

vehicle. He stated he had taken it to drive to Michigan but planned on returning it to the owners. Asked why he couldn't return it, Dompier said the vehicle was out of gas, and that was why he was returning from Alva with gas. He said he was nervous to go to the Cherokee Co-op to get fuel. Clafin asked if it was because he was hiding, and he said yes. Clafin informed him the fuel gauge showed a half tank of gas, which was more than enough to return it to the owner.

Clafin asked if something had been hooked on the hitch because it looked like it was missing. Dompier said there was a rack or something, and it fell off. Clafin then asked Dompier if he had taken off the lift and dumped it, and Dompier stated yes, according to the affidavit.

Ashtyn Blayke Compier, 20, of Enid has been charged in Alfalfa County with knowingly receiving or concealing stolen property, a felony. The 2017 Jeep Laredo was reported stolen from Kathy Taylor in Garfield County on June 26.

This felony charge is punishable by imprisonment not to exceed eight years, or by a fine not to exceed \$500, or by both such imprisonment and fine.

## Byron man dies in Enid collision

### Teenage driver charged with murder

By Marione Martin

Juveniles in a reportedly stolen pickup fleeing police crashed into another vehicle ending the life of a Byron man. The medical examiner pronounced Francis L. Boyle, 85, of Byron, dead at the scene from injuries sustained in the collision. The crash occurred at 9:32 a.m. Thursday, June 27, at North 4<sup>th</sup> Street and E. Purdue Avenue in Enid.

According to the Oklahoma Highway Patrol report, a 2019 Nissan Frontier was being pursued by the Enid Police Department. Officers lost sight of the pickup but later found it involved in the collision.

It's believed the driver of the pickup failed to stop at a stop sign, striking a 2018 Lincoln Continental driven by Boyle. The Nissan was eastbound on Purdue Avenue while Boyle's vehicle was southbound on 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

A 14-year-old juvenile male from Enid was driving the Nissan. He was transported by Life EMS to Integris Health Enid Hospital. He was later transported by Pond Creek EMS to Oklahoma Children's Hospital OU Health.

There were three juvenile passengers in the vehicle. A 15-year-old male from Enid was taken to Integris Health in

Enid and then transported to Oklahoma Children's Hospital OU Health.

A 15-year-old female from Enid was taken to St. Mary's Regional Medical Center in Enid and then transported by Air Evac to OU Health University of Oklahoma Medical Center.

The third passenger, a 16-year-old male of Enid, was taken to St. Mary's Regional Medical Center in Enid.

According to Garfield County court records, 14-year-old Ayden Johanson, the alleged driver of the stolen pickup, has been charged with first degree murder and unauthorized use of a vehicle.

# Woods County commissioners renew contracts, approve six-month bids

By Marione Martin

The agenda for Monday's meeting of the Woods County Board of Commissioners was daunting with 47 annual contracts to be approved and signed. Then there was a shorter list of health department annual contracts and a multitude of six-month bids. The meeting took a little longer than usual, but much of the work was routine and quickly handled.

Chairman Randy McMurphy opened the meeting with Commissioner John Smiley and District 1 Foreman Damien Starks present. County Clerk Shelley Reed attended to take minutes and help wade through the paperwork.

The commissioners approved an Oklahoma Department of Transportation claim form for District 1 assigned to Pinnacle Consulting Management Group for writing legal paperwork and preparing easements for five parcels of land and right of way staking in the amount of \$11,400. This is for a bridge project.

A road crossing permit application by Redcliff Midstream LLC was approved for a bore under the roadway for a gas line with a permit fee of \$500. The District 3 road crossing is from 23-24-13 to 29-24-13.

The following monthly reports were approved: Assessor Collections \$61.00; County Clerk Office Collections

\$12,544.07; and Health Dept. Collections \$0.00.

The commissioners voted to approve Resolution 24-25-01 with a list of 47 lease renewals, maintenance agreements and contracts for the new fiscal year beginning July 1. These include equipment payments, phone service, equipment rental, software contracts and a donation to the Woods County Economic Development Committee.

Resolution 24-25-02 for annual contracts and agreements for the Woods County Health Department was also approved. This list contains nine items including facility rental, phone service, custodial service and agreements for x-rays and labs work with Share Medical Center.

An agreement for the new fiscal year with Northwest Oklahoma Regional Juvenile Detention Center/Western Plains Youth and Family Services Inc. was approved at \$68 per child per day. Woods County does not have juvenile detention facilities.

Woods County Temporary Appropriations for FY24-25 in the amount of \$8,885,199.39 were approved. This is 80 percent of last year's budget and allows the county to operate until final approval of their budget.

The Woods County Health Department Estimate of Needs for FY24-25 in the amount of \$1,327,000

was approved.

The commissioners spent some time going over the list of six month bids. They approved the list, accepting the lowest bid except in the case of rock for roads. They chose a higher bid on aggregate because the location was closer, requiring less fuel and time to get the rock, and because the quality of the aggregate is better with less "dirt" or small particles.

Appointments to the Avarad Regional Rail Park Authority were approved with the reappointment of Allen Poe, Stan Bixler, Todd Holder and Scott Riley. No action was taken on appointments for the Woods County Industrial Authority.

A REAP grant reimbursement form for Stolz Telecom was approved for Greenleaf Fire Department in the amount of \$6,529.81. Reed said this finalizes that grant.

Rudy Briggs, Jr., retiring county sheriff, wanted the opportunity to purchase a rifle he had used while in office. The commissioners voted to approve declaring the rifle surplus and disposing of it.

Under new business, the commissioners mentioned that some county roads were closed or in bad shape because of storms over the weekend.

The commissioners also approved minutes of the last meeting and blanket purchase orders.

# German Family Reunion

The descendants of Clester and Mary German try to meet annually to reconnect with one another. They were able to meet on June 30 this year. The Marjorie (German) Clepper family were in charge of the arrangements this time around. It fell in perfectly with a planned 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration for Glenn Clepper, the husband of the late Marjorie Clepper. The day started with some attending church services at the Riverside Church of Christ in Burlington.

The family then met for a visit over a catered meal at the Burlington small gym meeting room. Next, they went back to the church to enjoy cake, punch and a slide show of Glenn's life. His

birthday is actually on July 3. Close to 50 were able to be there this year with other friends and family taking the birthday numbers much higher during the party time.

## Attendees

Those able to attend were Glenn Clepper; Robyn and Don Flanigin, their children, Justin and Debra Flanigin, their children, Brook and Arya; Brandon and Kim Flanigin, their children, Connor, Liam, and Kayleigh; Jenna and Kyle Smith, their son, Leon; Abby Wiese and Katelyn Wiese (Debbie and Carl Wiese girls); Renae and Ron Delamarter, their children, Trey and Karli Delamarter, their children, Cooper and Eljay; Madison

and Jamie Fowlkes; Leysa and Brent Diel, their children, Brook and Kade Keast, their children, Kyden, Kasen, and Kodee; Blair Dyer, their children, Emma and Collin; Brena and Ian McCasslin; Dan Flanigin; Lucille (German) Hodson; Ken and Michelle Schmucker; Michael Hodson, son, Michael Ryan and granddaughters, Emma and Leah Hodson; Marlene German (wife of the late Leland German), Jimmy German, LeAnn and David Hodson and Richard Hendrick.

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# Obituary

## LEON BOYLE



Leon Boyle, 85, of Byron, Oklahoma, died unexpectedly on June 27, 2024, in Enid, Oklahoma. He was born to Eugene and Viola Boyle in Anthony, Kansas, on February 14, 1939.

Leon grew up near Wakita, Oklahoma, and attended Wakita schools, graduating from Wakita High School in 1957.

After graduation, he worked in Wichita, Kansas, for Boeing Aircraft Company for a short period, but his love for the outdoors led him to go to work in the oil field. He married the love of his life, Betty Puffinbarger on Sept. 7, 1960. They raised their two daughters, Debbie and Billie, in the Wakita area. A series of promotions led Leon and Betty to move to Oklahoma City until 1996. At that time, they chose to find a house and move back to the Wakita area for when they retired. To occupy his time during retirement, in 1996 he chose to

begin his own oil consulting company, 212 Operating, Inc.

Leon was a wonderful and loving father, grandfather and great-grandfather, as well as a caring uncle and a friend to many. He had a love for bird dogs and was an avid quail hunter. He also enjoyed playing the guitar and going fishing. He had obtained his pilot's license and in his spare time he loved flying locally on nice days and evenings in his single seat open cockpit biplane. He was known for his high expectations and his witty personality, never missing an opportunity for onery banter. While his life was unexpectedly cut short, we take peace in knowing he lived a long-fulfilled life. He will be deeply missed by all who loved and cared for him.

He is survived by his daughters, Debbie Tucker of Alva and Billie Boyle of Enid; four grandsons, Ty Smith, wife, Jodi and their children, Dakota and his girlfriend, Kylie and Samantha of Amorita, Jace Smith and wife, Rachael and their children, Cade, Cole, and Emma of Byron, Trae Smith

and wife, Michelle and their children, Hayle, Hana, and Hope of Byron, Chantz Tucker and wife, Maddie and their children, Arthur and Deacon of Byron and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He is preceded in death by his dear wife, Betty; his parents, Eugene Boyle and Viola Eulberg, and his brother, Leonard Boyle.

Graveside service will be Saturday, July 6, 2024, at 10 a.m. at Byron-Amorita Cemetery with Pastor Bryan Laramore conducting the service. Viewing will be on Friday, July 5, 2024, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. with family present from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Lanman Funeral Home, Inc. in Cherokee. Arrangements are by Lanman Funeral Home, Inc. of Cherokee. Online condolences may be made at [www.lanmanfuneralhome.com](http://www.lanmanfuneralhome.com).

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the Byron-Amorita Fire Department or Byron-Amorita Cemetery through the funeral home.

A gathering will be held following the graveside services at the Byron-Amorita fire station.

# Woman allegedly stole coins, used credit cards of Cherokee resident

By Marione Martin

Three Alfalfa County felony charges have been filed against a woman who allegedly stole silver coins from a Cherokee resident as well as using his credit cards.

Ashley N. Slough, 36, of Memphis, Tennessee, has been charged with (1) burglary in the second degree, (2) grand larceny and (3) computer fraud/unlawful use of computer/system. Court records show the stolen silver coins have an approximate value of \$3,468 and the monetary loss on the credit cards was

estimated at \$12,807.89. The victim, John Patton of Cherokee, said Slough did not have permission to remove property or use his credit cards. Slough had been cleaning Patton's residence.

Earlier on June 11, Slough was charged with a misdemeanor of forgery in the third degree regarding a check for \$237 written on the account of John David Patton.

According to court documents, Cherokee Police Chief Ryan McNeill learned that Slough along with her boyfriend, identified as Bernie Stocking, had sold property taken from Patton's residence at a business located in Tulsa over a three-day period, Feb. 21-23. The identities of both suspects were verified through security photos from the business that purchased the property.

Through a review of credit card statements provided by Patton, McNeill learned the two credit cards were used in the states of Oklahoma, Arkansas and Tennessee. Slough returned one of

the credit cards to the victim during the week of March 11-15.

McNeill learned the victim's son-in-law, Darrin Lancaster, was contacted by Stocking on Feb. 26. During that conversation, Stocking stated he used to date Slough and he did not want to be in trouble for something that was happening. Lancaster said Stocking admitted to driving Slough to the victim's house a couple of times, and on one occasion Slough brought out silver coins and stamps. Stocking further stated that Slough also obtained the victim's debit card information and that Slough had also used the victim's credit cards to purchase laptop computers from Walmart, which Stocking stated Slough then sold for cash. McNeill asked Lancaster to see if Stocking would be willing to speak with law enforcement. Lancaster said Stocking stated he was not willing to speak with law enforcement.

A warrant has been issued for Slough's arrest.

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# Pressure is building on Biden to step aside. But many Democrats feel powerless to replace him

By Steve Peoples, Will Weissert and Joey Cappelletti

WASHINGTON (AP) — Bernie Sanders describes President Joe Biden's recent debate performance as "painful." In an interview, he says he's not confident that Biden can win this fall.

But the progressive senator from Vermont does not want Biden to step aside.

Instead, Sanders, who served as Biden's chief rival in the Democratic Party's 2020 nomination fight, is calling on voters to adopt "a maturity" as they view their options this fall.

"A presidential election is not a Grammy Award contest for the best singer or entertainer. It's about who has the best policies that impact our lives," Sanders said. "I'm going to do everything I can to see that Biden gets reelected."

That's putting the best face on it. Nearly a week after Biden's disastrous debate performance, questions about his ability to remain in the race are intensifying among concerned Democrats. But there is also a growing sense that the party has trapped itself in a bad situation with no clear solution, caught in a primary process set up to protect Biden with elected officials unwilling to say out loud what some say quietly.

Some allies, like Sanders, are acknowledging Biden's problems but contrasting his policies and record with those of Republican Donald Trump. But many donors, strategists and party insiders want Biden to suspend his reelection campaign to avoid what they see as certain defeat come November.

Rep. Lloyd Doggett of Texas on Tuesday became the first House Democrat to call for the president to withdraw, saying "too much is at stake" for Biden to stay in the race and lose to Trump.

"He has the opportunity to encourage a new generation of leaders from whom a nominee can be chosen to unite our country through an open, democratic process," Doggett said in a written

statement. "My decision to make these strong reservations public is not done lightly nor does it in any way diminish my respect for all that President Biden has achieved."

Former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi told MSNBC that she believes "it is a legitimate question" whether Biden's halting performance is just "an episode or is this a condition."

"When people ask that question, it's legitimate — of both candidates," Pelosi said.

Pelosi said she had not spoken with Biden since the debate, but she emphasized that the president is on "top of his game, in terms of knowing the issues and what is at stake."

In private, people close to would-be Biden replacements — including California Gov. Gavin Newsom, Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and Vice President Kamala Harris — are having informal conversations about potential next steps should Biden abruptly change course and step aside.

Such conversations include talk of potential running mates, according to donors involved in the discussions. Names of potential vice presidential nominees that have surfaced include Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear and California Rep. Ro Khanna.

Every one of the officials on such lists has publicly pledged support for Biden in recent days. And ever defiant, Biden's team has downplayed the president's political problems in a series of memos and private meetings with donors, strategists and party insiders.

"The voters are powerless," said Nina Turner, a national co-chair of Sanders' 2020 presidential campaign, who now fears the Democratic Party cannot win again with Biden as the nominee. "The decision rests solely with him."

Amid such frustration, key groups in Biden's political coalition — who had shown signs of fraying even before the debate — have begun to turn against each other.

Tim Miller, a prominent Biden supporter who once worked for

Republican political campaigns, has come under attack in recent days from pro-Biden activists. They posted pictures of his family on social media after he raised concerns about Biden's general election prospects.

In an interview, however, Miller said elected Democrats privately tell him that they share his concerns.

"For me, the only risk right now is everyone shutting up and getting in line," Miller said. "It's the right time to have an open conversation about what the path forward is. Otherwise, we're on a trajectory for another Donald Trump presidency."

A handful of leading Republicans from the "Never Trump" camp met privately Monday with Biden campaign officials to encourage the president to leave the race.

The Biden campaign issued a memo over the weekend claiming he had lost little support after the debate. A separate internal memo also argued that he would retain the support of many voters who had a negative reaction to his primetime performance.

A CNN poll conducted by SSRS after the debate found that Biden's favorability rating hasn't shifted meaningfully, nor has the share of Americans who say they will vote for him in November. However, three-quarters of U.S. voters — and more than half of Democratic voters — say the Democratic Party would have a better chance of winning the presidency with someone else at the top of the ticket.

At the same time, the president's campaign announced on Tuesday a massive fundraising haul for the month of June. Overall, the campaign raised \$127 million last month, including \$33 million on the day of the debate and in its aftermath, according to the campaign. The numbers cannot be verified until federal filings are posted later in the month.

Democratic National Committee

See Biden Page 27

# From Page 26 **Biden**

Chair Jaime Harrison made clear Tuesday that the party's rules leave no room for a Plan B.

Biden secured almost every delegate in the state-by-state primary process this spring. They are pledged by party rules to "in all good conscience" reflect the desires of voters who chose Biden. A virtual roll call vote to formalize Biden's status as the nominee is expected weeks before the party's national convention.

"The primary is over, and in every state, the will of Democratic voters was clear: Joe Biden will be the Democratic Party's nominee for president," Harrison told The Associated Press. "Delegates are pledged to reflect voters' sentiment, and over 99% of delegates are already pledged to Joe Biden headed into our convention."

But Biden's allies in key states across the country acknowledge the fear spreading through their party ranks.

Florida Democratic Party Chair Nikki Fried said she's worked to calm concerns about Biden's mental acuity by sharing her personal experiences.

"I have been in close-quarter meetings and conversations and interactions with the president where we're able to talk high policy initiatives but also been able to just have a general conversation, like you're talking to your neighbor," Fried said. "There's never been a time that I have questioned his abilities to run this country and to put forth the type of energy and coalition that will be necessary to win in November."

Michigan Democratic Party chair Lavora Barnes said she spoke with volunteers Monday night and "yes they asked questions" about Biden's debate performance. But "we need to focus our talks with our voters on the work that the president's done in contrast with Donald Trump," she said.

Vermont Democratic Sen. Peter Welch conceded that Biden's debate performance intensified questions about the president's age, which are on the minds of "everyday voters" and even "extremely energetic Biden supporters."

"Within the Biden campaign they're acutely aware of it," Welch said in an interview. "I thought it was a mistake for the Biden campaign to be critical of people who started asking questions the campaign itself is asking."

Meanwhile, Vermont's other senator, Sanders, conceded that Biden's path to reelection will not be easy.

"I wasn't confident he could win before the debate," Sanders told the AP. "What we need on the part of the American people is a maturity right now — and that is to understand that what is important are the issues. And the difference between Trump and Biden: day and night."

## **Beryl heads toward Jamaica as a major hurricane after ripping through southeast Caribbean**

By Danica Coto and Amar Spencer-Sayers

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada (AP) — Hurricane Beryl roared through open waters Tuesday as a powerful Category 4 storm heading toward Jamaica after earlier making landfall in the southeast Caribbean, killing at least six people.

A hurricane warning was in effect for Jamaica, Grand Cayman, Little Cayman, Cayman Brac and for Haiti's entire southern coast. Beryl was forecast to start losing intensity on Tuesday but still be near major hurricane strength when it passes near or over Jamaica early Wednesday, near the Cayman Islands on Thursday and into Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula on Friday, according to the National Hurricane Center.

Late Monday, Beryl became the earliest storm to develop into a Category 5 hurricane in the Atlantic, fueled by record warm waters, though it was downgraded a notch Tuesday to Category 4.

The center said Beryl was expected to bring life-threatening winds and storm surge to Jamaica, where officials warned residents in flood-prone areas to prepare for evacuation.

"I am encouraging all Jamaicans to take the hurricane as a serious threat," Prime Minister Andrew Holness said in a public address late Monday. "It is, however, not a time to panic."

On Tuesday afternoon, the storm was located about 125 miles (205 kilometers) southeast of Isla Beata in the Dominican Republic. It had top winds of 155 mph (250 kph) and was moving west-northwest

See **Jamaica Page 32**

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# Smith team roping duo wins second National Junior High School Rodeo Championship

Smith and Vander Hamm set records in national finals history



Steele Smith (left), a South Barber student; and his team roping partner, Logan Vander Hamm, won their second National Junior High School Championship Saturday – a feat no one else has accomplished before them.

By Yvonne Miller

The week prior to the Kansas Junior High School Rodeo Association (KJHSRA) finals in Des Moines, Iowa, last week, South Barber eighth-grader Steele Smith told the Newsgram, “I’m excited for nationals and hopefully we’ll win it again.”

Well, Smith and his partner Logan Vander Hamm won their second National Junior High School Championship Saturday. The first year they competed at nationals together they won the championship as sixth graders. The next year the duo was the third-place team ropers. Now the third year, they are again national team roping champions.

Vander Hamm’s mom found statistics that show that no team roping duo has ever won the national championship twice, and no sixth-grade team had ever won the national championship – until Smith and Vander Hamm.

The boys and their parents admitted they all thought the team’s chance of winning the championship was slim, as they entered the short-go in eighth place. Steele’s mom, Lana, said, “It was unreal the way everything happened. It was a nail biter – unbelievable!”

Each of the other teams ahead of Smith and Vander Hamm “messed up,” Steele said. His stepmom, Shannon Smith, said, “I remember looking at Logan’s mom and saying ‘Oh My Gosh’ we could win this.”

All the parents agreed with Shannon that “the boys were pretty cool, calm and collected.” Lana described them as “humble and chill” and with a laugh said, “It’s as if they had ice water running through their veins!”

“It was wild, man,” Shannon said of the competition. “Steele’s partner is real laid back and has a dry sense of humor. He’s always saying something funny. He was keeping things calm today.”

When asked his thoughts in the arena with the crazy competition, Steele said, “When the others before us started

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See Smith Page 29

# From Page 28 **Smith**

falling apart I thought, ‘We’re sitting pretty good for the Top 3.’ He knew there were 20 in the short-go. Steele said he later told Logan, ‘I forgot about my heeler for a minute and didn’t get the calf turned just right.’ He credited Logan for his support and getting his part done correctly.

After realizing his son had won his second national title, Steele’s dad, J.D. Smith, said, ‘It was pretty cool. I’m very proud of both those boys. They work hard at what they do, and it has paid off. I’m super excited to see what the next step will bring his way.’

Steele said he’s sure there were 20 in the short-go, but he ‘has no clue’ how many team roping duos that competed across the nation in hopes of making it to nationals. Suffice it to say hundreds.

Steele wrote this message on his Facebook page: ‘Well, my junior high rodeo career has come to an end and I am blessed enough to come out a champion. Logan Vander Hamm and I were able to win the world in the team roping for a second time in 3 years. We won the world our sixth-grade year, we were third our seventh-grade year, and won it again our eighth-grade year, going 9/9 in catching all of our steers while competing at the national finals. I also competed in the boys’ goat tying, boys’ breakaway roping, and the chute dogging. I placed Top 20 in the world in the goat tying and had some tough luck in the breakaway roping and the chute dogging. I just want to say thank you to anyone who has helped me along my journey and I can’t wait to see what’s next.’



South Barber student Steele Smith shows the saddles, check and more that he’s won as a two-time national championship team roping winner.



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AT 6 PM  
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First Baptist Church Online Auction

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TUES., JULY 9<sup>TH</sup>  
AT 10 AM  
LIVE (OFFSITE) /ONLINE

Helen J. Ratliff Estate Auction

440 ± Acres \* Noble County, OK - Red Rock Area Surface offered in 5 tracts – Minerals offered in 6 tracts (Noble & Harper Counties) Frontier High School, 17750 Valley Rd. (Hwy 15), Red Rock, OK

TUES., JULY 9<sup>TH</sup>  
AT 2 PM  
LIVE/ONLINE

Helen J. Ratliff Estate Auction

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909 N. 11<sup>th</sup>, Perry, OK

TUES., JULY 9<sup>TH</sup>  
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## Oil well 'blowout' spews oil into the air west of Kiowa

By Yvonne Miller

Ironically, Kiowa had a county-wide emergency drill late afternoon Friday. There was supposed to be black smoke billowing from a tanker. Well, black smoke really was billowing Monday afternoon, July 1, from an oilwell west of Kiowa on the south side of the highway a mile or less from US-281.

Barber County Emergency Management Coordinator Mike Loreg said the oil well had a "blowout" and spewed oil into the air on a windy day. Loreg said KDHE was called in to investigate. The well is being diked and contained for the next 90 days, Loreg said. He added that a possible cause for the blowout was the pressure from fracking on a well nearby.

Loreg said CMX owns the well site. Ryan Molz said he rents the land to run cattle. At press time no further details were available.

## Man shoots Oklahoma officer before being killed by police, authorities say

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — A man shot an Oklahoma City police officer on Tuesday and then barricaded himself inside a home on the city's northwest side before being shot and killed by police, authorities said.

The wounded officer was doing well after surgery, said Capt. Valerie Littlejohn. He was shot as police were responding to a report of a man with a gun, she said.

Police surrounded the home, closed nearby streets and urged people to avoid the area while the man barricaded himself inside with several other people and continued to shoot at officers, Littlejohn said.

She said members of the department's hostage negotiation team urged the man to surrender peacefully to authorities.

"During one of the incidents when he was shooting at officers, an officer was able to discharge his firearm, striking the suspect," Littlejohn said. "The suspect was determined to be deceased here at the scene."

Two women and three children inside the home with the suspect managed to get out safely, she said.

## From Page 27 Jamaica

at 22 mph (35 kph).

In Miami, National Hurricane Center Director Michael Brennan said Jamaica appears to be in the direct path of Beryl.

"We are most concerned about Jamaica, where we are expecting the core of a major hurricane to pass near or over the island," he said in an online briefing. "You want to be in a safe place where you can ride out the storm by nightfall (Tuesday). Be prepared to stay in that location through Wednesday."

Storm surge of 5-8 feet above typical tide levels are likely in Jamaica, as well as heavy rainfall.

"This is a big hazard in the Caribbean, especially with the mountainous islands," Brennan said. "This could cause life threatening flash floods and mudslides in some of these areas."

A tropical storm warning was in place for the entire southern coast of Hispaniola, an island shared by Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

Trail of devastation

As the storm barreled through the Caribbean Sea, rescue crews in the southeast Caribbean fanned out across the region to determine the extent of the damage that Hurricane Beryl inflicted after landing on Carriacou, an island in Grenada, as a Category 4 storm.

Three people were reported killed in Grenada and Carriacou and another in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, officials said. Two other deaths were reported in northern Venezuela, where five people are missing, officials said. Some 25,000 people in that area also were affected by heavy rainfall from Beryl.

One fatality in Grenada occurred after a tree fell on a house, Kerryne James, minister of climate resilience, environment and renewable energy, told The Associated Press.

She said the nearby islands of Carriacou and Petit Martinique sustained the greatest damage, with water, food and baby formula a priority. Beryl flattened scores of homes and businesses in Carriacou.

"The situation is grim," Grenadian Prime Minister Dickon Mitchell told a news conference Tuesday. "There is no power, and there is almost complete destruction of homes and buildings on the island. The roads are not passable, and in many instances they are cut off

because of the large quantity of debris strewn all over the streets."

Mitchell added: "The possibility that there may be more fatalities remains a grim reality as movement is still highly restricted."

Meanwhile, Ralph Gonsalves, prime minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, promised to rebuild the archipelago in a statement early Tuesday. He noted that 90% of homes on Union Island were destroyed, and that "similar levels of devastation" were expected on the islands of Myreau and Canouan.

The last strong hurricane to hit the southeast Caribbean was Hurricane Ivan 20 years ago, which killed dozens of people in Grenada.

Grenadian resident Roy O'Neale, 77, recalled how he lost his home to Ivan and built back stronger, with his current home sustaining minimal damage from Hurricane Beryl.

"I felt the wind whistling, and then for about two hours straight, it was really, really terrifying at times," he said by phone. "Branches of trees were flying all over the place."

Hundreds of people hunkered in shelters across the southeast Caribbean, including 50 adults and 20 children who huddled inside a school in Grenada.

"Maybe some of them thought they could have survived in their homes, but when they realized the severity of it ... they came for cover," said Urban Mason, a retired teacher who served as the shelter's manager. "People tend to be complacent."

One of the homes that Beryl damaged belongs to the parents of U.N. Climate Change Executive Secretary Simon Stiell, who is from Carriacou. The storm also destroyed the home of his late grandmother.

In a statement, Stiell said that the climate crisis is worsening, faster than expected.

"Whether in my homeland of Carriacou ... hammered by Hurricane Beryl, or in the heatwaves and floods crippling communities in some of the world's largest economies, it's clear that the climate crisis is pushing disasters to record-breaking new levels of

See Jamaica Page 34



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## From Page 32 Jamaica

destruction,” he said.

Grenada, known as the “spice isle,” is one of the world’s top exporters of nutmeg. Mitchell noted that the bulk of spices are grown in the northern part of the island, which was hit hardest by Beryl.

Historic hurricane

Beryl has broken several records, including marking the farthest east that a hurricane has formed in the tropical Atlantic in June, according to Philip Klotzbach, Colorado State

University hurricane researcher.

The storm strengthened from a tropical depression to a major hurricane in just 42 hours, which only six other Atlantic hurricanes have done, and never before September, according to hurricane expert Sam Lillo.

Beryl is the second named storm in the Atlantic hurricane season, which runs from June 1 to Nov. 30. Earlier this month, Tropical Storm Alberto made

landfall in northeast Mexico and killed four people.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration predicted the 2024 hurricane season would be well above average, with between 17 and 25 named storms. The forecast called for as many as 13 hurricanes and four major hurricanes.

An average Atlantic hurricane season produces 14 named storms, seven of them hurricanes, and three major hurricanes.

## Strike kills family as Israeli evacuation order sparks panicked flight from southern Gaza city

By Wafaa Shurafa, Samy Magdy and Lee Keath

DEIR AL-BALAH, Gaza Strip (AP) — The Hamdan family — around a dozen people from three generations — fled their home in the middle of the night after the Israeli military ordered an evacuation from the southern Gaza city of Khan Younis.

They found refuge with extended relatives in a building further north, inside an Israeli-declared safe zone. But hours after they arrived, an Israeli airstrike on Tuesday afternoon hit their building in the town of Deir al-Balah, killing nine members of the family and three others.

In all, five children and three women were among the dead, according to hospital records and a relative who survived.

Israel’s order on Monday for people to leave the eastern half of Khan Younis — the territory’s second-largest city — has triggered the third mass flight of Palestinians in as many months, throwing the population deeper into confusion, chaos and misery as they scramble once again to find safety.

About 250,000 people live in the area covered by the order, according to the United Nations. Many of them had just returned to their homes there after fleeing Israel’s invasion of Khan Younis earlier this year — or had just taken refuge there after escaping Israel’s offensive in the city of Rafah, further south.

The order also prompted a frantic flight from European General Hospital, Gaza’s second-largest hospital, located

in the evacuation area. The facility shut down after staffers and more than 200 patients were evacuated overnight and on Tuesday, along with thousands of displaced who had sheltered on the hospital grounds, according to the staff and the International Committee of the Red Cross, which had a medical team there.

Hisham Mhanna, the ICRC spokesperson in Gaza, said some families dragged patients in their hospital beds through the streets for up to 10 kilometers (6 miles) to reach safety. Ambulances moved others elsewhere as staff rushed out valuable equipment, including X-ray and ultrasound machines and endoscopy devices now so scarce, said a nurse, Muhammad Younis.

Hours after ordering the evacuation, the Israeli military said the hospital was not included on that order. But the staff said they feared a repeat of previous Israeli raids on other Gaza hospitals.

“Many hospitals have come to rubble and have been turned into battlefields or graveyards,” Mhanna said.

Israel has raided hospitals, saying Hamas uses them for military purposes, a claim Gaza’s medical officials deny.

On Tuesday, cars loaded with personal belongings streamed out of eastern Khan Younis, though the number of those fleeing was not immediately known. The new exodus comes on top of the 1 million people who fled Rafah since May, as well as tens of thousands who were displaced the past week from a new Israeli offensive in the Shijaiyah district of northern Gaza.

“We left everything behind,” said Munir Hamza, a father of three children who on Monday night fled his home in an eastern district of Khan Younis for the second time. “We are tired of moving and displacement. ... This is unbearable.”

Nowhere safe

Up to 15 members of the Hamdan family fled their Khan Younis home and arrived late on Monday at their extended family’s building in Deir al-Balah, said Asmaa Salim, a relative who lived in the building.

The building was located inside the extended humanitarian zone that the Israeli military had declared when it began its offensive in Rafah in May, telling Palestinians to evacuate there for safety.

The strike came around 3 p.m. on Tuesday. Associated Press video shows an entire floor of the building gutted. “Almost everyone inside was martyred, only two or three survived,” Salim told the AP.

A list of the dead posted at the nearby Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital said those killed included the family patriarch, 62-year-old dermatologist Hossam Hamdan, as well as his wife and their adult son and daughter. Four of their grandchildren, aged 3 to 5, and the mother of two of the children were also killed. A man and his 5-year-old son who lived in the building and a man on the street outside were also killed in the strike, which wounded 10 other people, including several children.

See Gaza Page 39

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- 11th - OSU Extension - Pickling Class
- 13th, 14th - Cherokee Roundup Club
- 17th - Alfalfa County Cloverbud Workshop
- 17th - NW Oklahoma Equine Symposium
- 25th - OBI Blood Drive
- 30th - Cherokee Roundup Club Banquet



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# Alfalfa County Sheriff's Office Logs

Tuesday, June 25, 2024

During this day were two traffic stops.

9:57 a.m. - Medic needed for a male who had fallen by the car at 3rd Street and Grand.

10:08 a.m. - Caller advised of a bike stolen and possibly ridden to Cherokee. Advised of officer and sheriff.

11:53 a.m. - Report of a grass fire on County Road 580 between Dewey and Custer Road.

8:48 p.m. - Medic needed on County Road 710 for a female who is laying on her porch. Advised she was conscious and breathing. Medic took the patient to St. Mary's Hospital in

See Sheriff Page 36

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# From Page 35 Sheriff

Enid.

9:03 p.m. – Medic needed in the 1400 block of Kay Avenue for a 69-year-old female who had fallen and sustained a head injury. Medic took the patient to St. Mary's Hospital in Enid.

10:28 p.m. – Reporting party advised an unwanted individual entered their home in violation of a protective order, as they stated they wanted to speak with her. The caller advised she locked herself in her bedroom, at the time the individual remained in the living room and threatened to kill her. The caller then advised it appeared the individual had left. Deputy en route. Deputy had one male in custody and en route to the sheriff's office.

11:54 p.m. – Caller requested an officer in the 700 block of Pennsylvania. Advised there were teenagers on her front porch and around her car. Advised she is not going to answer the door, just wants a drive by. Officer did a drive by of the residence and made negative contact with any individuals.

**Wednesday, July 3, 2024**

5:21 a.m. – Caller advised they had a hit a large Black Angus bull south of Cozy Curve on OK-8.

10:10 a.m. – Court clerk requested officers in the courtroom.

10:20 a.m. – Report of stolen property in the 800 block of Oklahoma.

6:34 p.m. – Report of a minor accident on OK-8 and would like to make a report.

7:55 p.m. – Medic needed in the 300 block of Elm for a 65-year-old male that was having problems breathing. Medic took the patient to St. Mary's Hospital in Enid.

8:20 p.m. – Caller wanted to make a report of a theft in the 500 block of Massachusetts. She advised there was a high-chair missing from her front porch.

**Thursday, June 27, 2024**

8:50 a.m. – Medic needed at James Crabtree Correctional Center for a 63-year-old male who was having stroke symptoms. The medic took the patient to Bass Hospital in Enid.

12:14 p.m. – Medic needed at James Crabtree Correctional Center for a 76-year-old male with heart issues. The medic took the patient to Bass Hospital.

**Friday, June 28, 2024**

During this day were four traffic stops.

1:45 a.m. – Caller advised they have a water leak, and their basement was flooding. They tried to contact a repair man and had no luck and didn't know who else to call. Burlington Fire Chief turned off their water and notified City of Burlington.

3:20 a.m. – Report of burglar alarm going off in the 100 block of Slayton.

5:03 a.m. – Report of a suspicious vehicle in Aline.

4:28 p.m. – Report of a white male wearing flannel shirt, underwear and no shoes and appeared to be running at Eagle Creek Bridge. Deputy was unable to locate the male.

5:44 p.m. – Woodward needed mutual aid for a fire.

**Saturday, June 29, 2024**

3:35 p.m. – Report of a controlled burn out of control on

See Sheriff Page 37



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From Page 36 **Sheriff**

OK-58 and Bryan Road.  
9:02 p.m. – Report of a grass fire 3 miles east of Goltry.  
10:30 p.m. – Medic needed for a 25-year-old female with something stuck in her ear and having a panic attack. No transport was needed.

**Sunday, June 30, 2024**  
During this day was a controlled burn.  
1:10 p.m. – Report of an unwanted person on Bryan Road. Caller advised she was out of town but the other female that lives there doesn't want the male there. Deputy was unable to locate the male.

3:12 p.m. – Medic needed for a 76-year-old female who was weak and couldn't talk. The medic took the patient to Bass Hospital in Enid.

8:43 p.m. – Caller advised he was walking down Paradise Lane from the lake and, while walking, an individual was videoing and showing profanities at him and stated the individual had her car parked in the middle of the road. He advised he had several interactions with her. The caller advised the individual wasn't even at her home, she was at another residence.

**Alfalfa County court filings**

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

**Felony Filings**  
Ashley Slough, 36, Memphis, Tennessee, has been charged with burglary in the second degree; grand larceny and computer fraud/unlaw-

ful use of computer system (\$1,058.25).

Ashtyn Blayke Dompier, 20, has been charged with knowingly receiving or concealing stolen property (\$695.25).

Dawson MacCoy Springer, 24, has been charged with burglary first degree and stalking (\$696.75).

**Civil Filings**  
Red Hill Roofing and Construction LLC vs. Betty M. Weber Trust: indebtedness (\$252.14).

Citibank vs. Joshua K. Tharp, Goltry: indebtedness (\$239.14).

**Small Claim Filings**  
Katelyn Kephart and Harry C. Kephart vs. Tracy Mill-

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See Alfalfa Page 38

# Community Calendar

## Wednesday

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

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

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

## Thursday

Fourth of July activities will be held in Alva at Hatfield Park beginning with the Kids and Cops fishing derby, kids games and activities at 10 a.m. and throughout the day. The Rotary fireworks show begins at dusk at the Alva Recreation Complex.

## Friday

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

6-8 p.m. First Friday Art Walk will be held in downtown Alva.

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# From Page 37 Alfalfa

er, Carmen: forcible entry and detainer (\$68).

## Protective Order Filings

Kasey Lashette Springer vs. Dawson MacCoy Springer, Carmen: protective

order (\$173).

## Traffic Citations

Juan Javier Basturo Bravo, Alva, has been cited for operating a vehicle without a valid driver's license (\$294).

# Alfalfa County real estate transactions

## Real Estate Transfers

Book 900, page 392: Karla Brown and Don Brown convey unto Scott C. Armbruster and Allison M. Armbruster. Undivided one-half interest in the southeast quarter of Section 30, Township 28N, Range 11, WIM. Warranty deed.

Book 900, page 396: Brian R. Thieme and Dian E. Thieme convey unto Scott C. Armbruster and Allison M. Armbruster. Undivided one-half interest in the southeast quarter of section 30, township 28N, range 11, WIM. Warranty deed.

Book 900, page 409: Paula Leona Trask conveys unto Paula Leona Trask. The south 15 feet of Lot 11 and all of Lot 12, Block 30, in the Original Town, now City of Cherokee, Alfalfa County, Oklahoma. Quit claim deed.

## Mortgages

Book 900, page 400: Scott C. Armbruster and Allison M. Armbruster to Farm Credit of Western Oklahoma. Undivided one-half interest in the southeast quarter of Section 30, Township 28N, Range 11, WIM. Note: \$305,000.00.

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## From Page 32 **Gaza**

The Israeli military did not immediately respond to requests for comment on the strike.

Flight from Khan Younis

Monday's evacuation order suggested a new ground assault into Khan Younis could be coming though there was no immediate sign of one. Israeli forces waged a months-long offensive there earlier this year, battling Hamas militants and leaving large swaths of the southern city destroyed or heavily damaged.

Israel has repeatedly moved back into parts of the Gaza Strip it previously invaded to root out militants it said had regrouped — a sign of Hamas' continued capabilities even after nearly nine-months of war in Gaza.

Israel's campaign has killed more than 37,900 Palestinians, the majority women and children, according to Gaza's Health Ministry, which doesn't distinguish combatants among its count. Israel launched its campaign after Hamas' Oct. 7 attack in which militants killed some 1,200 people in southern Israel and took

around 250 others hostage.

The Israeli military said Tuesday it estimates that some 1.8 million Palestinians are now in the humanitarian zone it declared, covering a stretch of about 14 kilometers (8.6 miles) along Gaza's Mediterranean coast. Much of that area is now blanketed with tent camps that lack sanitation and medical facilities with limited access to aid, U.N. and humanitarian groups say. Families live amid mountains of trash and streams of water contaminated by sewage.

The amount of food and other supplies getting into Gaza has plunged since the Rafah offensive began. The U.N. says fighting, Israeli military restrictions and general chaos — including looting of trucks by criminal gangs in Gaza — make it near impossible for it to pick up truckloads of goods that Israel has let in. As a result, cargo is stacked up uncollected just inside Gaza at the main Kerem Shalom crossing with Israel, near

Rafah.

The Norwegian Refugee Council said last week that it surveyed nearly 1,100 families who fled Rafah and 83% of them reported having no access to food and more than half had no access to safe water.

On Tuesday, more families fleeing Khan Younis were trying to find space in the zone. Um Abdel-Rahman said she and her family of four children — the youngest 3 years old — walked for hours during the night to reach the zone only to find no place to stay.

"There is no room for anyone," she said. "We are waiting and have nothing to do but wait."

Noha al-Bana said she has been displaced four times since fleeing Gaza City in the north early in the war.

"We have been humiliated," she said. "No proper food, no proper water, no proper bathrooms, no proper place for sleep. ... Fear, fear, fear. There is no safety. No safety at home, no safety in the tents."

## Last known survivors of Tulsa Race Massacre challenge Oklahoma high court decision

By Sean Murphy

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) —

Attorneys for the last two remaining survivors of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre asked the Oklahoma Supreme Court on Tuesday to reconsider the case they dismissed last month and called on the Biden administration to help the two women seek justice.

Viola Fletcher, 110, and Lessie Benningfield Randle, 109, are the last known survivors of one of the single worst acts of violence against Black people in U.S. history. As many as 300 Black people were killed; more than 1,200 homes, businesses, schools and churches were destroyed; and thousands were forced into internment camps overseen by the National Guard when a white mob, including some deputized by authorities, looted and burned the Greenwood District, also known as Black Wall Street.

In a petition for rehearing, the women asked the court to reconsider its 8-1 vote upholding the decision of a district court

judge in Tulsa last year to dismiss the case.

"Oklahoma, and the United States of America, have failed its Black citizens," the two women said in a statement read by McKenzie Haynes, a member of their legal team. "With our own eyes, and burned deeply into our memories, we watched white Americans destroy, kill, and loot."

"And despite these obvious crimes against humanity, not one indictment was issued, most insurance claims remain unpaid or were paid for only pennies on the dollar, and Black Tulsans were forced to leave their homes and live in fear."

Attorney Damario Solomon Simmons also called on the U.S. Department of Justice to open an investigation into the massacre under the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crime Act of 2007, which allows for the reopening of cold cases of violent crimes against Black people committed before 1970. A message left with the DOJ seeking

comment was not immediately returned.

The lawsuit was an attempt under Oklahoma's public nuisance law to force the city of Tulsa and others to make restitution for the destruction. Attorneys also argued that Tulsa appropriated the historic reputation of Black Wall Street "to their own financial and reputational benefit." They argue that any money the city receives from promoting Greenwood or Black Wall Street, including revenue from the Greenwood Rising History Center, should be placed in a compensation fund for victims and their descendants.



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