

John D. Montgomery • The Purcell Register

Jaws

Crews were clearing out mulched up trees at the site of the new Purcell Municipal Hospital Monday morning.

Area schools turn to newspaper

To provide learning tool while schools are not open

John D. Montgomery
The Purcell Register

Spearheaded by Washington Superintendent Chris Reynolds, three area schools will be publishing a newspaper that will include such things as lesson plans and other school work for distance learning.

ogy will allow you to do," Reynolds said. "We couldn't have done this two years ago." And they couldn't have done it this year without two significant cash donations.

One business and one individual made donations totaling \$150,000.

It's amazing what a crisis will do for pushing the envelope for innovation.

— Chad Hall, Lexington Superintendent

Working with Reynolds are Lexington Superintendent Chad Hall and Dibble Superintendent Chad Clanton and their respective faculty members

All three superintendents have been holding virtual meetings with teachers at every grade level and in every subject.

"It's amazing what technol-

Please see **Schools**, back page

Mayor issues NEW proclamation

"Shelter in Place" order supersedes March 24 proclamation

John D. Montgomery
The Purcell Register

Monday Purcell Mayor Ted Cox issued a second order proclaiming a civil emergency exists in Purcell.

In his proclamation, Cox said the April 6 proclamation supersedes the March 24 declaration and closes the multi-purpose center for

all events and functions. It also calls for the citizens of Purcell to "Shelter in Place".

There are six listed essential activities including errands to maintain a citizen's health and safety or to their family members or pets.

Residents are able to

obtain necessary services of supplies for themselves or family, pets or household members such as food and supplies necessary for staying home.

Citizens may engage in outdoor activities such as

Please see **Shelter**, page 14A

Hiring freeze

City bracing for revenue drop in FY2020-21

Jeanne Grimes
The Purcell Register

Purcell City Manager Dale Bunn is telling department heads to count on a flat budget and a hiring freeze as the city braces for expected drops in revenue due to the COVID-19 crisis.

Bunn told the Purcell City Council that the only exception he can see to the hiring freeze will be seasonal help

Please see **Freeze**, back page

McClain County filings outside

East side of courthouse April 8, 9 and 10

Oklahoma's candidate filing period will occur as scheduled April 8, 9 and 10 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

That's the word from McClain County Election Board Secretary Karen Haley.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Haley said all

Please see **Filing**, page 14A

Egg-spotting

Landmark sponsors drive-around hunt

Jeanne Grimes
The Purcell Register

Who says you can't have an Easter egg hunt and stay safe during a pandemic at the same time?

The annual Easter egg hunt is a treasured tradition for many, especially the younger members in the congregation at Landmark Church.

This year with churches closed because of COVID-19, services celebrating the Risen Christ have been cancelled.



The Easter egg hunt was collateral damage – until the Rev. Justin Blankenship, Landmark pastor, and his staff put a new, stay safe spin on the event.

On Saturday, Landmark Church Kids will sponsor a drive around Easter egg hunt.

"Eggs will be placed in windows or doors of homes and businesses," Blanken-

Please see **Easter**, back page

Closing in on 101 years

Stone to receive centenarian award

Jeanne Grimes
The Purcell Register

Editor's note: Westbrook Gardens resident George Stone will celebrate his 101st birthday on April 17. The following is taken from a feature in The Purcell Register on April 11, 2019.

A person can do a lot of living in 100 years.

George Stone accomplished enough for several lifetimes.

The longtime agricultural leader and ordained minister was one of eight children born into a farm family at Byars on

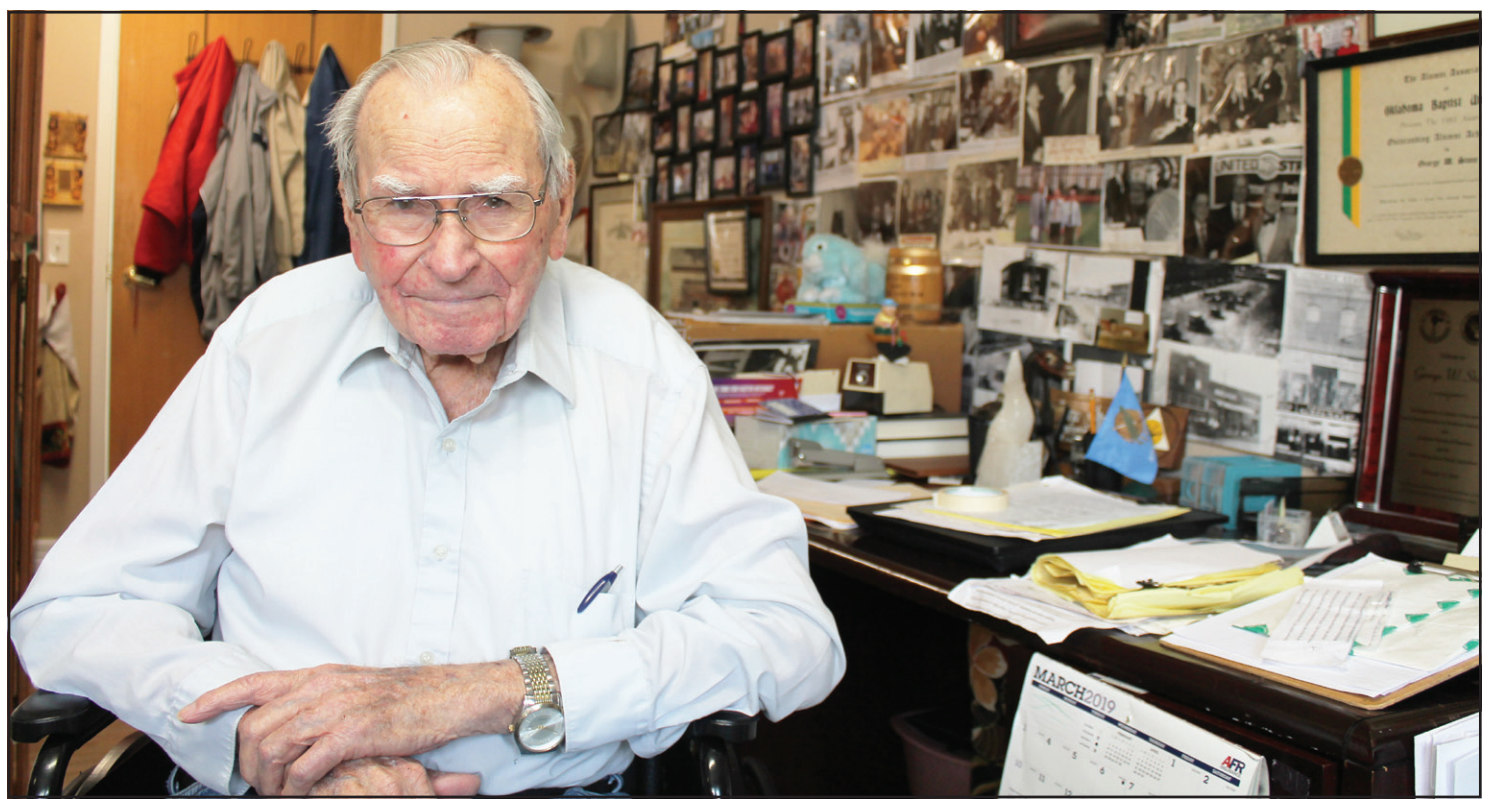
April 17, 1919.

Of the family's three boys and five girls, Stone is the only one still living.

His parents farmed – "that's all they ever did" – and it was that upbringing that taught him the work ethic that would become his hallmark in a remarkable career at the helm of the National Farmers Union.

"One thing I learned is never ask anybody to do something you can do for yourself," he

Please see **Stone**, back page



Jeanne Grimes • The Purcell Register

At home with his memories

Photographs and memories cover the walls of George Stone's apartment at Westbrook Gardens. Stone will turn 101 April 17.

Good Friday closings

The Purcell Register will be closed Friday in observance of Good Friday.

Also closed will be the McClain County Courthouse and city offices

in Purcell, Lexington, Washington, Wayne and Goldsby.

State and federal offices, as well as banks, will be open.

Inside

A look back

2008 Lexington Softball State Champions.



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Inside

Disaster loans

Information from MATC Small Business Management.



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Candidate filing underway

April 8, 9 and 10 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Oklahoma's 2020 candidate filing period for federal, state, and legislative offices will occur as scheduled, Oklahoma State Election Board Secretary Paul Zirriax has announced. The three-day filing period runs 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 8, 9 and 10. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the secretary is encouraging candidates for federal, state, and legislative offices to file their paperwork, along with the required filing fee or petition, by mail or delivery service.

Candidates who file in-person will do so using a "drive-through" in the State Capitol parking lot. The drive-

through will help maintain social distancing protocols in an effort to minimize risks to election board personnel and candidates.

Secretary Zirriax said state election board personnel can review declarations of candidacy and cashier's checks or certified checks ahead of time to ensure they are in good order. Candidates who would like their information reviewed prior to filing can email documents to info@elections.ok.gov.

Candidates should visit the state election board's website at elections.ok.gov for specific details about candidate filing,

such as delivery instructions or information about the drive-through filing procedures. Candidates can also contact the state election board for details at (405) 521-2391 or info@elections.ok.gov.

"This is not an ideal situation for either election officials or candidates. But, with a little patience and a lot of precautions, we will get through the candidate filing period together," Zirriax said.

Candidate filing for county offices will also be held April 8, 9 and 10 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Candidates should contact their county election board for specific filing instructions.

Tips on dealing with COVID-19 related stress

Dr. Paul Emrich, Chickasaw Nation Under Secretary of Mental Health Service, says the Chickasaw people have experienced trying times before and will remain strong despite the

current COVID-19 pandemic. "The Chickasaw people have been through many difficult times in the past and I think they're going to continue to be unconquered and unconquer-

able," he said. "This is just an opportunity to be able to show that resilience and that strength to be able to get through something difficult like what we're going through now."

That said, Dr. Emrich offers concrete tips on dealing with stress and anxiety related to an unparalleled worldwide epidemic.

"One trick is to teach yourself what we call '7-11.' That is, breathe in through your nose for seven seconds and then breathe out of your mouth for 11 seconds. Repeat that several times and you'll naturally feel your body relax. It will help you limit stress."

Inhaling and exhaling slowly helps focus on breathing and redirects thoughts, which allows the body to relax and limits stress.

"Practicing breathing techniques can be very calming," he said. "When we breathe correctly our body naturally will relax. One way to do that is to practice slow, deep breaths, and your body will respond to that."

Another issue is experiencing physical separation from others at work, church or social organizations. Dr. Emrich said that doesn't mean connections to others have to be sacrificed. "One of the problems related to the pandemic we're facing is feeling disconnected from those we typically encounter and are used to talking to face-to-face," he said.

"But just because we're social distancing doesn't mean we

Please see **Stress**, page 3A

7 day forecast from @PurcellRegister @OUNewsCrowd

Thu Fri Sat Sun Mon Tues Wed



83° 62° 65° 60° 55° 51° 56°
42° 47° 48° 39° 37° 38° 35°

Spring weather rollercoaster

Enjoy the 80 degree weather Thursday, because a front will knock us down into the low 60s Friday.

The front will come through

Friday morning, and has a small (but not zero) chance of bringing precipitation.

Saturday we'll have storm chances, mainly in the after-

noon, with rain Sunday.

After that system moves out expect temperatures to be in the 50s, with more rain chances on Tuesday.



John D. Montgomery • The Purcell Register

Social distancing

Election Board Secretary Karen Haley, sheriff deputy Les Hudson and District Judge Leah Edwards practice social distancing while visiting at the makeshift courthouse entrance last week.

Judges schedule

All available 24/7

Associate District Judge Charles Gray clarified the schedule for judges at the McClain County Courthouse.

Gray said the schedule he was presented had Lee Shilling coming in on Mondays and Fridays. Judge Gray is on duty Tuesdays and Wednesdays and Thursday mornings.

On Thursdays is when Gray addresses probates that aren't contested and to allow people to cure title issues that have arisen due to a death of a loved one.

Judge Leah Edwards is also at the courthouse on Thursday. "She has two counties to manage and large dockets," Gray said. "We are on call 24/7 for emergencies and all have been coming in to check on matters requiring our attention."

SBA Disaster Loan COVID-19 information from MATC Small Business Management

Federal Coronavirus Small Business Assistance

If you need cash to offset lost revenue and help keep your business afloat, the programs below can help. The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) coronavirus resource page at <https://www.sba.gov/page/coronavirus-covid-19-small-business-guidance-loan-resources> provides a list of relief programs, and it offers guidance to small business owners during this crisis.

SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program

As part of its disaster assistance program, the SBA is providing low-interest working capital loans of up to \$2 million to small businesses and nonprofits affected by the coronavirus. These loans carry

an interest rate of 3.75% for small businesses and 2.75% for nonprofits. Loan repayment terms vary by applicant, up to a maximum of 30 years.

Who is Eligible

As of March 23, businesses in every state plus American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands can apply. You can use the loan to cover accounts payable, debts, payroll and other bills the coronavirus has affected your ability to pay.

How to Apply

Apply online and select "Economic Injury" as the reason you're seeking assistance. You'll need to supply required supporting documentation that could include the business's most recent tax returns, a personal financial statement and a schedule of liabilities that lists all your current debts. Call SBA

Please see **SBA**, page 9A



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PLEASE UPLOAD YOUR PICTURES TO SOCIAL MEDIA!

USE #PURCELLEGGHUNT2020

APRIL 11, 2020
ALL DAY LONG ON SATURDAY
THROUGHOUT THE CITY OF PURCELL

Anyone can participate in putting eggs in their windows. If you need creative ideas or have questions, please email Renee Sellers at landmarkkidz@gmail.com

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- **Cardiology**
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Alan R. Puls, M.D.
- **Pain Management**
Alina Justiz, M.D.
- **Orthopedics**
Steven Schultz, M.D.
OSC/Michael Padilla, M.D.
- **Urology**
S. Edward Dakil, M.D.
- **Gastroenterology**
Charles L. Lackey, M.D.
V. Pascual-Chagman, M.D.
Barry Perkins, M.D.
- **Pulmonology**
Syed J. Naqvi, M.D.
Shoaib Ahmad, M.D.
Kaleem Ishaq, M.D.
- **Ophthalmology**
Robert Bales, M.D.
- **Nephrology**
Pankaj Baluja, M.D.

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Sports

LOOKING BACK . . .

State Champions!

Lexington Lady Bulldogs bring home the bacon in slow-pitch

State Champions!

Kinda has a ring to it, no pun intended.

Lexington added a slow-pitch softball state title to the wall joining the school's three cross country titles and a runner-up finish in wrestling.

The Lady Bulldogs' 9-4 victory in the state finals was as sweet as a James Taylor song.

It was Lexington's first trip to the finals and they made the most of it.

After falling behind 2-zip heading into the top of the third, Lexington touched the Lady Lions for three runs to post a 3-2 advantage.

"We were nervous, of course," said head coach Brian Snow. "I called time out when we were down 2-0 and relaxed them. That's when we started playing ball like we know how to play."

But Blanchard came back for two of their own in the bottom of the fifth.

Lexington's bats heated up for a run in the fifth, three in the sixth and two insurance runs in the top of the seventh.

Crissy Joyner, Annie Taylor and Tara Dickinson led the offense with two hits each.

Joyner was 2-3 with a sacrifice and an RBI. Taylor and Dickinson both went 2-4 in the finals with an RBI each.



Matthew Baker • The Purcell Register

State Champions

The Lexington's Lady Bulldogs were crowned State Champions in 2008 after beating the Blanchard Lions 9-4 at the ASA Hall of Fame Stadium.

"Many of our girls had been to Hall of Fame to watch. And, some had even played on the outside fields in fast-pitch," Snow said.

"But to walk out onto the main field was awesome. Pretty exciting," he said.

Snow said his club wasn't

solid in the first couple of innings.

The Lady Lions first score came gift wrapped on a Lexington throwing error.

Lexington loaded the sacks in the top of the third and with two out Tanisha Hamm delivered.

She hit a fly ball that fell between left and left center, clearing the bases and giving Lexington a much needed lift.

"To that point we were playing tight and not really having fun," Snow said. "Once we took the lead the pressure seemed to lift and we were

able to play ball the way we have all year."

After Blanchard retook the lead in the bottom of the fourth, Lexington took charge.

"We made a solid effort to manufacture a run," Snow said of the Lexington half of the sixth inning.

Kayla Woody reached on an error followed by a Joyner single.

Brianne Bryant advanced the runner.

A Taylor single allowed Woody to score the tying run.

Snow said Heather Bennett did a good job.

"She found her rhythm and really stepped it up for us in the final innings," the coach said.

The sixth inning was all Lady Bulldogs.

Dickinson led off with a double over the left fielder's head.

Bennett's single gave her an RBI.

She was followed by singles from Alley Harper and Woody to juice the bases.

RBI sacrifice flies by Joyner and Brianne Bryant gave the Lady Bulldogs a three-run cushion at 7-4.

Blanchard had runners at first and second in the bottom of the frame with no one out.

"But a line out double play by Harper and Dickinson really turned the inning around for us," Snow said.

That allowed the Lady Bulldogs to shut Blanchard down and begin to tighten the noose.

A lead off single by Taylor

Please see **Champions**, page 9A

Washington School serving meals to students

Angie Steele
Washington Correspondent

Washington School staff will serve food to all Washington Public School students who need the service.

A Grab and Go bag will be provided on the west side of the cafeteria from 9:30-11 a.m. Monday through Thursday. The meal will include breakfast and lunch items. Please remain in your vehicle, and food will be delivered to you.

If you need food delivered, please contact the school at 288-6190 to make arrangements.

Parents may visit the school district website wps-isd.com for the latest information.

Washington Masonic Lodge
The Washington Masonic Lodge is still busy staying at least six feet apart while doing their best to serve the community.

The Lodge had Easter Baskets full of goodies for an Easter feast made up to give away to their widows and longest member family.

The group is unable to host fundraiser breakfasts until our state gets the all clear.

They are still working on the senior scholarships and essay winners. David Perry said, "Hope everyone stays safe and hope and pray this pandemic is over soon."

A letter from Washington Public School Superintendent
April 2, 2020

Re: Distance Learning Plan Warrior Families:

I am writing to explain our Distance Learning Plan which will begin on April 6. The plan intends to give every student a reasonable opportunity to complete school work for the remainder of the year.

While this is not necessar-

ily "equivalent" to traditional school or education; we feel our plan is appropriate for the circumstances of our current health crisis.

There are two parts to our district learning plan. Part One will involve a weekly special publication. A copy of the special publication will be delivered free of charge to each student. This publication will include assignments and activities for every grade level. The printed portion of the plan can be successfully completed without the use of the internet or significant technological devices.

Part Two of our Distance Learning Plan will involve more teacher-specific items and will require some use of technology such as Google Classroom and IXL. Your student will receive curriculum through this blended format for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

Washington's Distance Learning Plan will primarily include work for the Core Subjects (English-Reading, Math, Science, and Social Studies) at the elementary and middle school levels. Elementary and middle school elective teachers will be offering supplemental activities that your student may find engaging.

High School grades 9-12 will complete work in each class they are currently enrolled in. Students with special needs will be contacted by their case managers to address any additional or special modifications that may be required. Mrs. Stover will be available via phone and email to find assistance for our Spanish speaking students with any assignments and activities.

The special publication newspaper curriculum is a joint effort among several area schools.

Teachers and educators from Washington, Lexington and Dibble are participating in Professional Learning Communities to build the curriculum that will be printed. Students from each school district will all receive the same weekly publication.

The special publication will be delivered to every single student. In cases where multiple students are within the same household; each student will be provided an individual copy. For example, three students within the same home will receive three separate publications. Extra publications will be available at the school. If you need an extra copy visit the 4/5 building. A box of publications will be outside the main doors.

You should receive the first copy of the newspaper during the week of April 13, 2020. We will do everything we can to get it to you before then, but realistically, this is when we expect to have it ready, printed, and delivered. There will be five publications of this curriculum publication that will be sent out over five consecutive weeks.

The second part of the Distance Learning Plan will involve more teacher-specific materials. This will look different from teacher to teacher and building to building. For example, some teachers may require you to do specific items through email, Google Classroom, IXL, AR, Group-ME, and others. We are emphasizing to teachers to keep it simple in an effort not to add extra burdens on your family.

Principals have communicated to their staff the need to establish a method of communication with every student. As a student or parent, I also recommend you take the initiative to reach out to your specific teachers as well.

All staff email addresses can be accessed through the school website (www.wps-isd.com). This will be extremely helpful as we may not have your most up-to-date email address.

Each building has developed, with input from teachers, a Parent/Student Guide which details the expectations for students at their building. Please read the Parent/Student Guide thoroughly.

If you have questions after reading the guide, contact your student's teacher and/or principal by email. I want to let you know we fully understand there will be issues and unforeseen circumstances arise from this plan. We are working diligently to minimize problems. These are uncharted times and new experiences for us all; minor hiccups are inevitable.

Our approach will be to use common sense and work through problems with the best interest of students and families guiding our efforts to find solutions. Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding as we continue to work through these unprecedented times.

Best wishes,
Chris Reynolds
Superintendent
Dale K. Graham Veterans Foundation

Today we would like to honor Jeri Holmes, a member of our Board of Directors since the inception of our Foundation. Jeri Holmes has been practicing law in Oklahoma for over 20 years and started Nonprofit Solutions in 2004.

Jeri has extensive experience in the non-profit sector. As a lawyer for tax-exempt organizations and government entities, Jeri helps organizations create a foundation for future

growth by ensuring legal compliance and strong governance. Her services extend beyond simply providing legal counsel to organizations. Her goal is to ensure their ongoing success by strengthening governing documents, policies and operational efficiencies.

She guides organizations in writing or rewriting bylaws and policies to ensure compliance, helps navigate the world of contracts and complex relationships, and helps them obtain or change tax-exempt status. In

some situations, Jeri has served as interim CEO to provide more in-depth support for organizations facing a significant change or challenge.

Each day that we are going through this Pandemic is another day we are not able to serve our brother and sister veterans with their VA claims and questions at our location in Norman. Everyone that I know is being affected by the virus

Please see **Washington**, page 9A

WHS

2020

Senior Spotlight

Brynn Farmer

State FFA Degree
2020
Fast pitch -
State Runner Up
2019
Slow pitch -
2020
(We Will Never
Know)
I CHOOSE TO BELIEVE
STATE CHAMPS !!
Attending OSU Fall
2020
FFA, FCA, Fish Club,
NHS
Favorite HS Memory:
Stonewall
and watching
Coach Brewer jump
up and down after
we beat Sequoia
Tahlequah

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Tahlequah



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Classifieds



405-527-2126
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Religion

Church Directory

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) 2nd & Washington, Purcell Rev. Bill Crawford 405-820-8184 Sun. Worship: 10:45 Wed. Events: 6 or 7pm Chalice Kids and Kiddos: 5:45-7 (experiential) (Light meal at 6-ish - all)

Emmanuel BAPTIST CHURCH Purcell, OK 2705 N. 9th • 527-2535 Sunday services 9 am Sunday School 6:30 pm Bible Study 10 am Worship 6:30 pm Awnas & 6 pm Evening worship Youth www.ebcpurcell.org

Union Hill Baptist Church Hwy 39, 5mi. west of Purcell 405.527.3957 - unionhillpurcell@aol.com Sundays 9-45 am Morning Worship 11:00 am Community Outreach 4:30 pm Age Group Bible Study 5:30 pm Evening Worship 6:30 pm Wednesdays Fellowship Meal 5:30 pm Age Group Bible Study 6:30 pm

newlife TABERNACLE 715 W. Harrison, Purcell Sunday Morning - 10 a.m. Revival Service - 11 a.m. Wednesday Evening - 7:00 p.m. Pastor: Rev. Mark A. Stacy Office Ph. 405.527.3045

Westside Church of Christ 401 W. Broadway Lexington Sunday Morning 10:30 am Sunday Evening 3:00 pm Wednesday Evening 7:30 pm

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH LEXINGTON Connecting People With God and One Another Team Kids • The Way (Youth) Upward • Senior Activities Sunday School 9:45 Morning Worship 8:30 • 10:45 • Evening 6:00 Rusty Canoy Pastor 527-6758 800 E. BROADWAY • LEXINGTON

Johnson Road Baptist Church 4 mi. N. of Purcell on I-35 Pastor Wayne Brown 9:45a.m..... Sunday School 11:00a.m..... Worship Service 6:30p.m Sunday Evening 6:30p.m Wednesday 527-7155 • 447-9709

CHRISTIAN LIFE sunday 10:30AM www.christianlifeok.com

CALVARY Holiness Church Pastor David Bittle 403 N. 4th, Purcell 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:50 a.m. Morning Worship 6:00 p.m. Sunday Night 7:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Independent Pentecostal Holiness Church

Memorial Assembly of God 7th & Monroe, Purcell Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. Evening Services 6:00 p.m. Wed. Night Services 6:30 p.m. We Invite You to Worship With Us. 527-2769

LANDMARK CHURCH Pastor: Justin Blankenship 1106 W. Grant • Purcell • 527-3342 Sunday Worship..... 9:15 & 10:55 a.m. Sunday Night..... 6:00 p.m. Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Lighthouse Worship Center Rev. Jeff Pierce 527.6214 2726 N. 9th, Purcell Sunday Morning - 10:30 am Sunday Evening - 6:00 pm Wednesday Evening - 7:00 pm www.lighthousechurch.tv

Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church CORNER OF THIRD & JEFFERSON Saturday - 5 pm (English) Sunday - 11 am (English) 1 pm (Español) Parish Office/Oficina: 527-3077 Priest House/Padre Jim: 527-4242

GRACE CHAPEL GCLEX.ORG 118 W. Broadway/Hwy 39 Downtown Post Office Box 1028 Lexington, OK 73051 Sunday - 10:00am/6:30pm Wednesday - 7:00pm Pastor Charles Barton 527-5726

First Baptist Church Purcell Growing In Grace 4th & Main 405-527-3327 www.purcellfbc.com Come worship with us! Sundays 10:15 a.m. & 5 pm Wednesdays 6:30 p.m. Activities for all ages & child care provided for all services!

Goldsby Baptist Church 153 W. Center Road Goldsby, OK 73093 288-2514 Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Worship - 10:45 a.m. Evening - 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening - 6:30 p.m.

Trinity United Methodist Church Rev. Dr. James Kim Pastor 211 N. 2nd, Purcell 527-2256 Office LIVE STREAMING ON FACEBOOK Sundays at 10:30 AM

You Are Always Welcome At 7th & Monroe St. Church of Christ Purcell, OK Sunday 10:30 & 1:30 Wednesday Evening 6:30

9th & Pierce Church of Christ 1207 North 9th Purcell, OK 73080 405-527-3176 Sunday Bible Class 9:45 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Evening 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible Class 7 p.m. Search Ministries Sunday 7:30 a.m. Channel 34 www.searchtv.org

SUNRAY BAPTIST CHURCH 2223 N. 9th, Purcell, OK 73080 Pastor Dennis Clark 527-6808 Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship: 10:50 a.m. Evening Worship: 5:00 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.

STARTING GATE COWBOY CHURCH PURCELL OKLAHOMA FORGING GOD'S TRIPLE CROWN WINNERS FOR TODAY TOMORROW FOREVERMORE startinggatecc.org Sunday 10:30

Lexington Westside Church of Christ

Russ Saw Something Different

I first heard the story we are about to share from a man almost anyone in Red Oak, Texas, knows. In the summer of 1998 while still living in Waco, I learned that there was a Public Speaking teaching job open at Red Oak High School.

I was looking to make a change that summer, so I made the phone call to the principal as soon as I learned of the opening. The secretary transferred me to him, and he picked up the phone and answered, "This is Russ."

I remember that moment vividly, because life kind of changed at that moment. I told him who I was and before I

could even tell him why I was calling, he exclaimed, "Steve Bowen!"

I think I had the job the minute he called my name. I recognized his voice immediately, because Russ Schupmann and I coached basketball together at North Shore High School for one year in the mid-1980s.

The next year he took a job as the assistant principal at the school and a few years after that left and took the principalship at Red Oak. Until that phone call, I hadn't heard from him for about 10 years.

Many of you know the rest of the story: I spent the next 14 years walking the halls and

stalking the sidelines down at the gym in this little town.

In the first year I was teachingthere, I asked Russ if he would come by and do our daily motivational talk. Russ agreed, and you are about to read the story he told. It stuck with me, and I shared it with my students just about every year afterwards. The story, as you'll see, fit him pretty well, too, so well that he has an elementary school – Russel Schupmann Elementary – named after him.

Years ago, he said to my class, two men shared the same

Please see Westside, page 13A

Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church

By Fr. Jim Chamberlain

Carrying a Different Cross From a Different Place

About 30 years ago, Emily Kingsley wrote a charming little essay called "Welcome to Holland." She wanted to share the experience of raising a child with a disability. She said that when you are planning to have a baby it is like planning a trip to Italy.

You daydream about the fabulous meals with wine, the visits to St. Peter's and the Coliseum, to see Michelangelo's statue of David, the watery streets of Venice with their singing gondoliers, the enchanting village of Assisi.

After months of eager anticipation, the day finally arrives. You pack your bags and off you

go. Several hours later, the plane lands. The stewardess comes in and says, "Welcome to Holland." "Holland?!?" you say. "What do you mean Holland?? I signed up for Italy! I'm supposed to be in Italy. All my life I've dreamed of going to Italy."

The important thing is that they haven't taken you to a horrible, disgusting, filthy place, full of pestilence, famine and disease. It's just a different place.

So you must go out and buy new guide books. And you must learn a whole new language. And you will meet a whole new group of people you would never have met.

It's just a different place. It's slower-paced than Italy, less flashy than Italy. But after you've been there for a while and you catch your breath, you look around...and you begin to notice that Holland has lovely people, too...Holland has windmills...and Holland has colorful tulips. Holland even has Rembrandts.

About six weeks ago we signed up for Lent, a period of spiritual discipline of our own choosing. But what we got was self-isolation and COVID-19, a public health discipline. We

Please see OLV, page 13A

Johnson Road Baptist Church

For the first time since its beginning, the doors of Johnson Road Baptist Church will be closed on Easter Sunday.

Rather than encouraging members and visitors to attend Sunday school and worship services at the church of their choice on Easter Sunday, we ask everyone to pray for those who risk their life to care for their patients, to provide the necessities of life, to the families who have lost loved ones and to those who have lost jobs. Our granddaughter, Jennifer,

was recently working at night in the intensive care unit with a coronavirus patient. Before placing the lifesaving machine on the lady, Jennifer said, "I am going to have to put you to sleep."

The patient asked if she was going to die. Jennifer didn't answer the question, but she did stop long enough to pray with her patient.

The war years have been repeated with the arrival of the coronavirus in our homeland. Possibly for the first time in the

history of America our churches have been forced for safety to close their doors.

The closed church doors are not a sign of our loss of faith, but as a defense against a deadly enemy that fills the air with its silent voice of destruction.

With the assistance of God working through our nation's leaders, scientists, medical personnel and obedient citizens, the crisis will pass.

Please see Johnson Rd., page 13A

Lexington United Methodist Church

Our next Food Bank Give-Away that was planned for Saturday, April 18, has been cancelled due to the "shelter in place" quarantine for the COVID-19 virus. If you are getting low on food, please call the church or Pastor David to arrange a way to get more food. The usual Food Give Away day is always on the third Saturday of the month, so put it on your calendar anyway.

This past Sunday was Palm

Sunday, marking the beginning of the end of Lent. Holy Week follows with Maundy (or Holy) Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter. Maundy comes from the Latin word "mandatum" meaning commandment and refers to Jesus's words, "I give to you a new commandment." Jesus washed the dust off the feet of the disciples before they sat down to eat, so "maundy" has become associated with the Christian act of washing feet.

We often overlook the fact

that Jesus was Jewish and celebrated all the Jewish holidays, feasts, and customs. In this instance, he was celebrating Passover with his followers. This would have taken place on Thursday with the seder, a ritual feast that marks the beginning of the Jewish holiday of Passover.

The seder has become known in the Christian church as the Last Supper, the final meal the disciples shared before Jesus

Please see Methodist page 14A

Green Avenue Church of Christ

The church is continuing to conduct bible classes on-line because of the COVID19 pandemic.

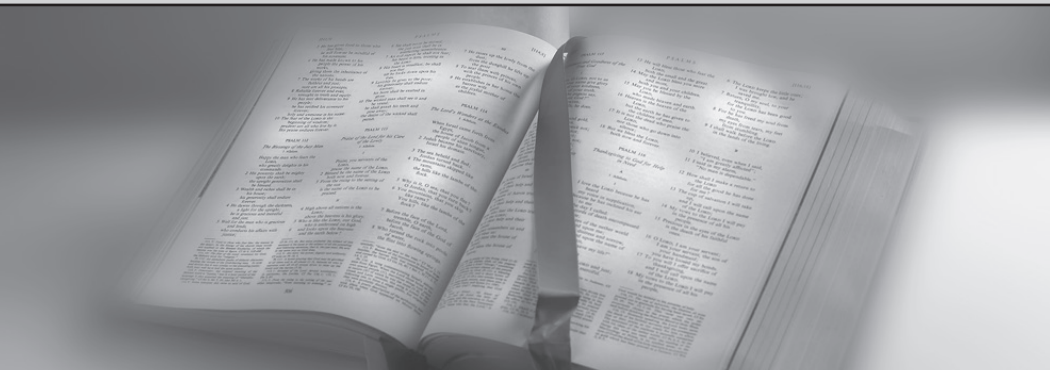
The Wednesday evening class studied the first chapter of the book of Ephesians. The letter to the church at Ephesus set forth a message of hope reminding them of some of the blessings God bestows on us.

The Sunday morning Bible class continued looking at the subject of authority focusing on the concepts of precepts and principles.

Assemblies have been temporarily suspended.

If you are interested in attending the on-line Bible classes you can email cofc_purcell@hotmail.com.

Call the office at 527-4052 for correspondence courses or other information.



Sen. Paul Scott announces re-election bid

Republican State Senator Paul Scott has announced he will seek re-election this year. A Duncan small businessman, Scott has served in the State Senate since 2016. He represents District 43, which encompasses Garvin, Grady, McClain and Stephens counties.



Senator Paul Scott

and he'll give it all he's got to help. That's the kind of leader we need to keep working for us at the Capitol."

"Serving my home area in the State Senate has been a great honor," Scott said. "I want to continue working for our communities, our schools and our values in the Senate."

Senator Scott's Family and Background

Senator Scott grew up in southwest Oklahoma and his personal and professional story reflects the values of tradition, family and hard work that are so important to our area.

A Farming and Ranching Family and Business Owner Scott grew up on a ranch in Cyril and lives in Duncan.

In 2001, Scott started a small mobile x-ray business out of his home. At the time, he had one truck and one employee – himself. But with perseverance and hard work, Scott built a successful small business employing 16 full-time and four part-time employees.

Today, Scott's company, Sooner Mobile X-Ray, works across the entire state of Oklahoma. The company provides mobile x-ray, EKG, and ultrasound services at nursing homes, assisted living centers, home health and hospice agencies, private physicians' offices, and jails.

A Leader in His Local Church and the Oklahoma Baptist Foundation

In 2015, Scott was nominated by the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma to serve on the Board of Directors for the Baptist Foundation of Oklahoma.

Scott attends First Baptist Church in Duncan, where he currently serves as a Deacon.

With a heart for young people, Scott and his wife, Susan, taught Sunday school and worked with the youth and newly married couples for a combined 20 years. They currently serve on the praise and worship team.

Proud Husband and Father Scott has been married for over 31 years to his wife Susan (Hodges). She was born in Purcell, grew up in Chickasha and graduated from Chickasha High School and the University of Oklahoma.

Susan, who comes from a long line of educators, has taught middle school for Duncan Public Schools as well as having taught students with severe emotional needs in Norman.

Paul and Susan have three children, Braden and twins Brooklyn and Britton.

(Paid for by Paul Scott)

and state.

Senate President Greg Treat said, "Senator Scott is a valuable member in our caucus. He always stands up for the people of his area. I'm excited to support him for re-election."

Former Lt. Governor Todd Lamb said, "As Lt. Governor I was extremely engaged in small business issues and rural Oklahoma. I found no legislator more committed to his district than Paul Scott."

Many local residents also expressed their support.

James S. McDowell, an area Baptist pastor and State Republican Party committee member said, "Paul is a Christian Constitutional conservative. He is not afraid nor is he ashamed of his faith. In fact he acknowledges our Christian Heritage, and its influence on our nation's history. For these and many other reasons, I believe Paul should have the support of the people in his district."

Purcell community leader Pam Ellis-Hobbs said, "I'm struck by the support Senator Scott provides to our small businesses, healthcare workers and all our front line workers, during this pandemic every single day, while fighting for and continually supporting growth in our small communities. Senator Scott is a true voice for us and for the state of Oklahoma."

Mike Tolle, owner of Wilson-Little Funeral Home in Purcell, said, "Paul has been an exceptional senator for our community. When there's a need, I know Paul is only a phone call away for any of us,



John D. Montgomery • The Purcell Register

On-going

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From page 14A

Courthouse:

Webster, civil action \$10,000 or less.
 LVNV Funding LLC vs. Bradley Williamson, civil action \$10,000 or less.

or more.
 McClain Bank vs. Nathan E. Posey, civil action \$10,000 or more.

Marriages Filed
 None filed.
 Divorces Granted
 Penny A. Ross vs. Richard A. Ross.
 Catrene L. Jones vs. Brett D. Jones.

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Freeze:

for the Parks Department.

There will be no pay hikes factored into the 2020-21 fiscal year budget.

Both the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 194 and Professional Firefighters Local 3596 have agreed to extend their respective 2019-20 collective bargaining agreements with the city to FY 2020-21.

The council approved both of those extensions Monday during their monthly meeting in the community room at City Hall.

Admission to the meeting was restricted to Bunn, council members, city attorney, staff and **The Purcell Register**.

To comply with the state's Open Meetings Law, the meeting was broadcast live over KQTR-FM 93.9.

Mayor Ted Cox noted that a budget workshop for the council and department heads had been tentatively set for April 16. He recommended moving that to May.

Council member Jay Tate said he is working on a plan to move the Memorial Day ceremony at Hillside Cemetery online.

In his report to the council, Bunn said year-to-date city revenue is down nearly \$769,500, mostly due to electricity sales. But the city's cost to purchase the electricity is also down roughly \$600,000.

From page 1A

Easter:

ship said. "Parents can drive their kids around and see how many Easter eggs they can count."

The counters won't leave the vehicles. Instead, they are encouraged to take pictures of the eggs and post the images on social media, the pastor said.

Organizers are asking the public to help by decorating a paper Easter egg and placing it somewhere visible at their

Bunn said the city has \$4.15 million cash on hand

Of that, the city has already spent "close to \$1 million or more" on the new hospital, adding that will be reimbursed when the bonds are sold.

Site grading will be the next major step in construction of the new hospital.

Bunn said the city will submit a bond rating application to Standard & Poor in mid-April. He anticipates bonds will sell in mid-May with closing at the end of May.

Included in the consent agenda were the city's annual financial support for Purcell Public Library (\$11,000) and Delta Public Transit (\$22,500).

In other business, the council:

- declared a 2010 Chevrolet Tahoe surplus;

- approved a request from the Town of Washington to provide water to residences in the Oakmont Development; and

- approved budget amendments of \$36,045.20 for reimbursement from Insure Oklahoma and \$495,825 for 2019 bond expenses for Purcell Municipal Hospital.

The Purcell Public Works Authority also approved a \$1,502 application fee to the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality for sewer line upgrades downstream of the new hospital.

home and/or business by Friday evening.

Eggs will also be up around Purcell Lake.

Blankenship said the hunt will take place all day Saturday.

The hunt is open to the public and all ages are welcome to join in the fun.

"We hope everyone has a great time on the Landmark Kids Drive Around Easter egg hunt," Blankenship said.

Good Friday Online Service

Join us online at landmarkchurchok.com (and Facebook & Youtube) on Friday at 7:00pm. A special time of communion will take place. Gather your elements at home or come by the church Wednesday from 12-2 and we will give you some.

Citywide Easter Egg Hunt

Put eggs in your window and join in on the fun by driving around town and finding eggs in windows of homes and businesses. This is an all day event on Saturday! Send us pics!

Easter Sunday Online Services

We are celebrating Easter like never before and we are excited! Join us at 9:15am and 10:55am on Facebook or Youtube to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ!

Transforming lives through relationships
Landmark Church

Stone:

said. "If you tell me it's not your job, there's the door."

In 1937, Stone married Maskell "Max" Weed and together they attended a Baptist church in south Oklahoma City.

It was there Stone felt a call to the ministry and in 1942 became the pastor for First Baptist Church in Mustang. He graduated from Oklahoma Baptist University and later founded the first Baptist church in Bethany.

From there he pastored a small church in Keyes and closed his pastoral career at University Heights Baptist Church in Oklahoma City.

Throat issues made it increasingly hard to preach and he left the ministry in 1952.

He began his association with Farmers Union then.

Stone's career spanned 64 years with Farmers Union.

"Longer than anyone ever and then some," he said.

He sat down with presidents from Harry Truman through Ronald Reagan. He also worked closely with "at least 17 Oklahoma governors."

Wherever he went, Stone carried rose rocks, handing them out to people he met. He gave one to Reagan, as well as Prince Phillip.

Of the U.S. presidents he met, Stone said Truman was the staunchest supporter of agriculture. He also gave high marks to Reagan.

In 1980, he was elected president of the National Farmers Union and he served four years.

After returning to Oklahoma, Stone served an additional 12 years on the state board.

"And then I said 'I'm through' and went to farming," he recalled.

For 11 years, he and Max raised cattle, sheep and peaches on their farm near Stratford.

About 11 years ago, Stone and Max moved to Westbrook. He had a heart issue and she had Alzheimer's. She died in 2011.

He returned to Westbrook five years ago.

"It's been rather interesting and all that," Stone said. "But I wouldn't want to go over it all again."

Schools:

the printed curriculum.

Washington, Lexington and Dibble will be using the newspaper medium with **The Purcell Register** and its staff producing and printing the learning tools.

The study guides will be mailed to students' homes.

"We're excited about the use of the newspaper and think it will provide a great tool for our students," Reynolds said.

"It's not perfect," he continued. "It's less than ideal but it is a measure of education our teachers can use to wrap up the education for the year."

The school publication will be separate from the actual **Purcell Register** and will be published for six weeks with a week of school work for each grade level.

Reynolds said there is also a possibility of a few weeks in the summer as well.

"We put a lot of emphasis on providing balance by not putting too much pressure on family members at home," Reynolds said.

Reynolds reported thanks to Zoom he had some sort of

classroom work for all students in the fifth grade and above on Monday, April 6.

"I think Chad Hall had the best one liner," Reynolds said.

Hall said, "It's amazing what a crisis will do for pushing the envelope for innovation."

Initially, Wayne and Purcell were both going to participate but elected not to.

Wayne Superintendent Toby Ringwald said only about 20 students or less, which amounted to less than 10 percent of their students, actually needed the hard copy.

Ringwald said they would be using email, text messages and Google Classroom for their distance instruction.

At Purcell, Superintendent Sheli McAdoo said they discovered from their audits that their students would be better served by a couple of other methods.

"I loved the idea at first but what we found out is that Google Classroom and paper packets, for those students that don't have connectivity, would be better for our students," McAdoo said.

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