



Happy Thanksgiving

Holiday closings

Area prepared to observe Thanksgiving

Most people will be glad to have some time off this week as the nation observes the Thanksgiving holiday.

The Purcell Register will be closed Thursday and Friday, as will state offices, the McClain County Courthouse and city offices in Purcell, Lexington, Goldsby, Washington and Wayne.

Thanksgiving is a federal holiday on Thursday only. There will be no mail delivery that day.

Area schools – Purcell, Lexington, Washington and Wayne – are on a week long break which began Monday and will run through Friday.

The holiday break is a bit shorter at Mid-America Technology Center. It began Wednesday and continues through Friday.

First United Bank will be closed on Thursday, but will have regular business hours on Wednesday and Friday.

McClain Bank will be closed on Thursday and the lobby will close at 3 p.m. on Wednesday but the drive-thru will have regular hours. The bank will have normal drive-thru hours on Friday.

DEMEL named City Manager

John D. Montgomery
The Purcell Register

Purcell's City Council voted to hire Sam Demel as the replacement for long-time City Manager Dale Bunn at Monday night's special meeting at the Community Room of the Purcell Police Service Building.

The council voted unanimously with the absence of Ted Cox to hire Demel, who is presently the City Administrator for Kiowa, Kan.

Mayor Graham Fishburn reported 25 people applied for the Purcell position. Eight were interviewed with four making in-person visits for interviews in Purcell including Demel.

Demel, who has 25 years of experience, is scheduled to start his duties here in January.

Councilman Allen Eubanks said Demel met with every department head during his day-long interview in Purcell.

He will be the General Manager for the Purcell Public Works Authority in addition to wearing the title



Sam Demel

of City Manager.

"First of all I'd like to say how much I appreciate Dale and all he's done," Mayor Graham Fishburn said. "But, we're excited about Sam."

"He was our top choice due to his experience, education and his background. He provided the best fit for our city," Fishburn continued. "He distinguished himself by the way he listened to the employees when he was here. He had an excellent interview and is highly motivated to be here."

Please see **Demel**, back page



John D. Montgomery • The Purcell Register

POP Art

Local artist James Kyzer was among those with a booth at last Saturday's Heart of Christmas craft show at the McClain County Fairgrounds.

Opinion

Thanksgiving, community, family and treasured memories

Greg Wheat
Heart Of Oklahoma Chamber Of Commerce President

Thanksgiving is a special time to gather with family and friends, creating cherished memories that linger in our hearts for a lifetime. With that in mind, let's take time to reflect on the immense blessings



Greg Wheat

that surround us in the tapestry of life, family, and our communities. They are the threads that are woven together to create a story of warmth and connection into our lives.

In the presence of family, friends,

Please see **Memories**, back page

First grade chefs on cooking Thanksgiving turkey

John D. Montgomery
The Purcell Register

Two students from each first grade class at Purcell Elementary were recently interviewed by **The Purcell Register** as to how to prepare the Thanksgiving turkey and what they might serve alongside the bird.

Markee Jacks

"You put it in a frying pan for 20 minutes. Put salt and pepper on it but no stuffing. I would also have mashed potatoes and that's all."

Bowen Nicklas

"Put it in the oven on the bottom and heat it up for 10 minutes at 60 degrees.

I would also want mashed potatoes, chicken, bread and pepperoni pizza."

Tucker Clary

"My Dad would shoot a turkey because he's a hunter. We would cook it with cheeseburgers. You put it in the stove at 30 degrees. Usually my Mom cooks them in the oven. I would also want carrots, biscuits and pumpkin pie."

Kimber Mathis

"We might go to my Nanna's house. That's where we usually go. You put it in the oven for 20 minutes at 20 degrees. I would also want smashed

And what they would serve alongside the main meal

potatoes, carrots, biscuits, green beans and pumpkin pie."

Drake Carr

"You put it in the oven and put pepper on it. You cook it for 30 minutes at 30 degrees. I would also want green beans, corn dogs and pumpkin pie."

Lucia Williams

"My Mom put it in the oven for 10 minutes." She didn't have any idea about the temperature of the oven. "I would also have mashed potatoes, grapes and ice cream."

Maddison Meskimen

"You put it in the oven for 10 minutes at 100 degrees. I would also want mashed potatoes, carrots, rolls and apple pie."

Izayah McCalip

"I would cook it and put it on a plate. You cook it in the oven or on the grill. You cook it for 20 minutes on low. I would also like to have chicken sweets with

mustard. I would put vegetables around the turkey and have cinnamon rolls for dessert."

Kade Meigs

"Usually you put it in the oven for 10 or 12 minutes or maybe seven degrees. I would also have stuffing, bones, corn, green beans, mashed potatoes, carrots, cranberries and ice cream for dessert."

Karrah Allen

"I would cook it good. You put it in the oven for seven hours at 6 degrees. I would also have bread, salad, peaches and pumpkin pie."



Markee Jacks



Bowen Nicklas



Tucker Clary



Kimber Mathis



Drake Carr



Reprinted due to a computer glitch that left off some students' names.



Lucia Williams



Maddison Meskimen



Karrah Allen



Kade Meigs



Izayah McCalip

Rain falls here

The Sunday night thunderstorm that produced a lot of thunder and lightning also had some much needed rain and there were reports of up to nickel-size hail.

The drizzle Sunday coupled with the thunderstorm

overnight dumped .6" on Purcell bringing the yearly amount here to 36.07".

That is compared to 34.95" that has been recorded in Oklahoma City.

The normal year-to-date total is 34.12".

Inside

Quarterfinals

Washington plays Vian in the State Quarterfinals at Ada.



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Inside

Where's the money?

See how the county is spending your money in the commissioner's proceedings.



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Sports.....1B

Obituaries.....8A

Classifieds.....12B





John D. Montgomery • The Purcell Register

Started Wednesday

The **Lights from the Heart** opened Wednesday, November 22, at the Purcell City Lake. The Christmas light display runs through December 31.

OSU EXTENSION News

How to manage holiday spending

Trisha Gedon
Extension Educator

'Tis the season for spending. Holiday gifts, decorations, special meals and travel can take a toll on anyone's budget. Oklahoma State University Extension has tips to help consumers keep their spending in check.

"To help keep your holiday budget on track, think about intentional or mindful spending," said Suzette Barta, community engagement coordinator for OSU's College of Education and Human Sciences – Extension, Engagement and Continuing Education. "It can be easy to overspend due to impulse buying, lack of planning or even making guilt-driven purchases."

First, determine how much money is available for holiday spending; figure out what categories need funding, including gifts, food and decorations, and then set a budget in each category. Use cash instead of credit

because it's easy to overspend on credit without realizing it. Also, discuss expectations with the family.

"Set a dollar amount to spend on each other's gifts, draw names for a secret gift exchange or suggest only handmade gifts for adults," she said. "As families continue to grow with the addition of spouses and grandchildren, it can be a financial struggle for some families to continue traditional gift giving. Planning and setting a budget will help keep spending under control."

Although shopping online is convenient, Barta suggests shopping local whenever possible.

"When consumers shop local, they're supporting friends and neighbors and helping to keep money in the community," she said. "These same businesses are the ones who support youth sports leagues and other community activities.

Pop-up and holiday markets are great places to find unique gifts. Consumers can further help these small businesses by posting about their shopping experiences on social media. Following and sharing local posts is beneficial to these businesses."

Shopping local also reconnects residents to their communities. Take time to visit the business district and support small businesses.

Enjoying the holidays doesn't mean emptying the bank account. Families can experience holiday cheer by driving around town and looking at light displays or inviting the neighbors over for hot chocolate and board games.

"Holidays, despite what may be seen in a Hallmark movie, can be stressful. Don't add to the stress by overspending," Barta said. "Be mindful of how you shop and spend your money."

Winter weather on the way

We've seen some cooler temperatures this week but will begin to see our temperatures really take a plunge heading into this weekend. For Thanksgiving Day, sunny skies can be expected as afternoon highs hang on into the lower 60s. A few clouds will enter the picture on Friday as highs

drop into the middle to upper 50s. A storm system will arrive on Saturday, with the potential for a mix of rain and possibly a few snow flurries on Saturday as temperatures dip into the lower 40s for daytime highs. Cloudy skies will remain for the latter half of the weekend as temperatures remain in the

lower 40s for afternoon highs. Peeks of sunshine will return by Monday and especially into Tuesday and Wednesday as temperatures rebound into the upper 40s and lower 50s, before another cool down for Wednesday.

– Hunter Brittingham

7 Day forecast from @PurcellRegister @OUNewsCrowd

Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
62° 38°	56° 41°	40° 31°	42° 25°	49° 28°	53° 35°	42° 32°
Sunny	Partly Cloudy	40% Rain	Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Sunny	Partly Cloudy

Keeping tropical plants healthy

Melinda Myers
For The Purcell Register

Tropical plants are filling our homes and workspaces, adding beauty, relieving stress, and boosting creativity, productivity, and focus. Keep these plants healthy and looking their best by providing for their basic needs.

Select plants that will thrive in the growing conditions found in your home or office and with your level of care. Busy gardeners should look for low-maintenance plants like ZZ plants, Chinese evergreens, pothos and philodendrons while others may choose ferns, peace lilies, baby tears and gardenias that require a bit more attention and care.

Light is the most common limiting factor when growing

plants indoors. Matching the plants to the desired light is the first step in success. Plant tags, university websites and plant books can provide you with this information.

If you are lucky enough to have an east- or west-facing window you can grow a wide variety of plants. High-light plants should be kept within two feet of these windows. Low-light plants can be set up to six feet back or off to the side of an east- or west-facing window or in front of one that faces north.

Keep in mind buildings, awnings, trees, and sheers can decrease the amount of sunlight reaching the plants.

Fortunately, there are now more options for decorative energy-efficient grow lights

available, expanding your indoor gardening opportunities. Pendants, clip-ons, floor lights and furniture-grade plant shelves provide the needed light for plants and add decorative elements to your home.

Proper watering is next on the list of key factors for healthy growth and longevity of indoor plants. Most tropical plants prefer evenly moist soil comparable to a wrung-out sponge.

Water thoroughly preferable with tepid water when the top few inches of potting mix are starting to dry. Pour off any excess water that collects in the saucer. Allowing plants to sit in water can lead to root rot and plant death.

To achieve proper watering enlist the help of moisture-retaining products like organic Wild Valley Farms wool pellets (wildvalleyfarms.com). Made from wool waste, this sustainable product reduces watering by up to 25 percent and increases pore space in the soil for proper drainage and better plant growth.

Create attractive clusters of plants while increasing the humidity that most tropical plants need for healthier growth. As one plant loses moisture through the leaves, often called transpiration, the neighboring plants benefit.

Go one step further by utilizing gravel trays. Set plant pots on pebble-filled saucers or trays. Allow excess water to collect in the pebbles below the pots. As this water evaporates, it increases the humidity around the plants. This also reduces your workload by eliminating the need to pour off excess water that collects in the plant saucer.

Add a few terrariums for plants like Venus fly trap, ferns and spike moss that grow best in high humidity and moist soil conditions.



• Photo courtesy of Melinda Myers.com

Tropical plant care

Philodendron is just one of the low-maintenance tropical plant options.

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Getting to know the COURTHOUSE EMPLOYEES

Gracie Rolin



How long have you worked for the McClain County Court Clerk's office? 1½ years.

What are your duties? Filing, disposing of old records, and research.

Where is your hometown? Purcell, OK.

Tell us a little bit about your family? I was born and raised in Purcell like both of my parents, Jana and Randy. My mother also works for the county and my older sister Emma teaches science at Purcell High School. I graduated from OSU in December of 2022 with a degree in political science and a minor in campaigns and lobbying.

What do you enjoy doing outside of work? I enjoy running, cooking, knitting and spending time with my family and friends.

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Please see **Keeping**, page 3A



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NEWS In Brief

Foundation Fundraiser

The Purcell Public School Foundation will be selling fundraiser tickets to benefit the foundation.

Tickets are \$50 and one lucky winner will share in half of the money raised.

Tickets can be purchased from any foundation member or by contacting Kerry Wilhoit at McClain Bank or John D. Montgomery at **The Purcell Register**.

Rural Fire Vacancy

The Lexington Rural Fire Association has a vacancy on the Board of Directors.

If a member of the Association is interested in serving, please contact Dale Haynes at haynesfarm192@gmail.com or Stella Bledsoe at ronbledsoe1@yahoo.com.

Cole Fire Santa's Party

The Cole Fire Auxiliary will host a Christmas Santa Party Saturday, December 2, and Sunday, December 3, from 4 to 7 p.m.

This a great time for families and the community of Cole.

Pictures are \$5 with Santa or get a free picture with an unwrapped unopened gift.

The event will include crafts, ornament decoration, cookie decoration, hot cocoa bar and a special visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Lights from the Heart

Purcell's Lights From the Heart at Chandler Park will be open nightly from Wednesday, November 22, to Sunday, December 31, from 5:30-10 p.m. nightly.

Over two miles of lights are available to drive through.

Admission is free but donations are appreciated.

Christmas Parade

Mark your calendars now! The Annual Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting will be held Thursday, December 14, on Main Street in Purcell. The Tree Lighting Ceremony will begin at 5:30 p.m. with the parade to start at 6 p.m.

The theme this year is "Anything Christmas in the Heartland."

To register your parade entry, contact the Heart of Oklahoma Chamber of Commerce with any questions at 405-527-3093.

Celebrate Recovery

Celebrate Recovery will be held on Monday nights at Landmark Church, 1106 W. Grant, in Purcell.

Big group will meet from 6:30-7:30 p.m. followed by small group from 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Celebrate Recovery is a safe place to find community and freedom from the issues that are controlling your life.

For more information contact Niki Steadman at 405-595-1337 or Mark Rillema at 405-496-5954.

SafeCare

SafeCare, a program of Northcare, is a free, home based parenting support program with the goal of reducing stress for caregivers.

SafeCare provides education on parenting, health, safety and communication skills along with connecting families to community resources.

SafeCare services are provided to caregivers that have at least one child under the age of six and live in McClain or Cleveland counties.

For more information call 405-858-2725, email safecarereferrals@northcare.com or online at www.northcare.com.

Senior Dance at Purcell

The Ole Troubadours are back at the Purcell Senior Citizens Center, 228 N. 2nd, every Friday from 7-9 p.m.

Join your friends for fun and dancing!

Admission is \$8 per person and refreshments will be available for purchase.

Proceeds will benefit the Purcell Senior Citizens Center.

Museum News

The McClain County Museum and Historical Society has undergone some changes and the museum is now open for tours.

To schedule a tour contact Jerry Hayes at 405-812-8379.



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Merry Christmas

Rotary President Graham Fishburn, right, presented Rotary Cooks with their holiday gift at last week's regular Wednesday meeting of the club at Trinity United Methodist Church. From left are Susan Tarp, Allison Northcutt and Carolyn Cummings.

Purcell woman to OU Med

The Oklahoma Highway Patrol investigated a one vehicle accident north of Lexington November 15.

Investigating OHP Trooper Landers said a 1996 Jeep Laredo driven by Pamela Morrison, 60, of Purcell ran off US 77 north of Lexington and struck a culvert.

Morrison was transported by Wadley's EMS to OU Medical Center and admitted in serious condition with leg and trunk internal injuries.

The vehicle was southbound when the accident occurred.

Affordable health screenings in Purcell

Residents living in and around the Purcell area can learn about their risk for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes, and other chronic, serious conditions with affordable screenings by Life Line Screening.

First Baptist Church in Purcell, 400 W. Main St., will host this community event on November 28.

Screenings can check for:
 • The level of plaque build-up in your arteries, related to risk for cardiovascular disease, stroke and overall vascular health;
 • HDL and LDL Cholesterol

levels;
 • Diabetes risk;
 • Bone density as a risk for possible osteoporosis and;
 • Kidney and thyroid function, and more.

Screenings are affordable and convenient. Free parking is also available.

Special package pricing starts at \$159, but consultants will work with you to create a package that is right for you based on your age and risk factors.

Call 1-877-237-1287 or visit our website at www.lifelinescreening.com. Pre-registration is required.

From page 2A

Keeping:

Purchase one or create your own from an old aquarium, or another clear glass container and add a lid to create a closed growing system. Select or create one that supports plant growth, complements your home's décor, and reflects your personality.

Provide a warm, draft-free location for your tropical plants. Most prefer the same temperatures, 65-75 degrees, that we do. Don't worry if you turn down the heat at night, most plants will be fine.

Just do not trap them between the curtain and window where it is much colder than the rest of your home. Avoid cold drafts from doors and windows and hot drafts from heat registers that can be detrimental to your plant's health.

You may need to move plants, adjust grow lights, and fine-tune watering as you get to know each plant's needs. Once you place them in the right location and provide the correct amount of light and water, your plants will grow and prosper.

Melinda Myers has writ-

ten more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released *Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition and Small Space Gardening*.

She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" instant video and DVD series

and the nationally syndicated "Melinda's Garden Moment" TV and radio program.

Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and her website is www.MelindaMyers.com.



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Read us on the web at
www.purcellregister.com



Happy Thanksgiving

Happy Thanksgiving. Most everyone has a favorite holiday and Thanksgiving is mine.

No decorating. No presents to wrap. None of the hustle and bustle of what's right around the corner.

Just family, tasty grub, a little R&R and some football.

It's the one holiday that doesn't come on a Monday like 99 percent of the others.

It falls at the end of the week which works a lot better for the weekly newspaper schedule.

jdm

A computer glitch fouled up last week's how to cook a turkey by Purcell first graders with three students' names being left off as to how they would prepare the holiday bird and what they might serve with it.

So the entire story has been republished in its entirety on the bottom of the front page of this week's **Purcell Register**.

Editor's Notebook



John D. Montgomery

We apologize for the inconvenience. Ain't technology grand? It is until it isn't.

jdm

If you live in Washington you did not get last week's **Purcell Register** until Monday.

As absurd as it may seem when the newspaper is mailed here on Wednesday afternoon, it is trucked to the Oklahoma City post office plant and then dispersed to the outlying areas

of the county.

For whatever reason those **Purcell Registers** just sit on the plant floor for days on end and are not delivered to Washington's post office to go to our subscribers.

We have contacted Oklahoma City over and over.

Washington's postal folks have contacted Oklahoma City over and over.

So far it has done nothing to improve the service although the postal service continues to increase its prices for less and less service.

It is extremely frustrating for us and a pain in the side of our subscribers who in the end aren't getting what they paid for, either.

We mailed this issue on Tuesday since the post office will be closed on Thursday.

It will be interesting to see when the subscribers get this issue of the newspaper.

Be a winner and give thanks

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

Here are some tips for Thanksgiving. Be Thankful. Thanksgiving season is a good time to say thanks but we need to make it a lifestyle.

An attitude of thanksgiving is a good way to live. When you are daily thankful for your food, shelter and the simplest things it elevates your sense of well-being.

We devalue our well-being when we spend all of our time looking at what others seem to have. Others may seem to have such great lives that we start missing our own blessings.

The greatest blessings in life are: the ability to walk across the floor; take yourself to the bathroom; enjoy a car ride; feed yourself; have meaningful conversations with other people; enjoy whatever income you have; walk through the grocery store; go to church or enjoy watching television.

Too often we get depressed and bogged down with worries and cares that aren't worth worrying about.

Give thanks today for every-

thing and anything. Say thank you often. They are good words to say. Teach your children and grandchildren to say thank you and to say it often.

Be helpful. Thank all the cooks several times. Help out in any way you can. Cleaning up is a big job. Be active in clearing the table and offering to wash dishes and put stuff away. An ounce of effort goes a long way.

Don't eat two plates of food and then go into a hypnotic state staring at the football game. Don't leave all the mess for the person who spent days cooking your meal.

Be wise. Don't kill yourself eating. If you gain 10 pounds in November and December then it will take you two to three months to lose the weight, if you are lucky. It's tough to lose a pound a week.

Do you want to be fat all the way into April? If you can't wear your clothes now then adding 10 more pounds will not do anything to enhance your mood and sense of well-being.

Be safe. Millions of people

are traveling. If you have to travel don't push it. Slow down and enjoy the drive. Leave an hour early and take your time. If you don't have to go anywhere then be glad and relax.

Jesus healed 10 men with leprosy as described in Luke 17: 11-19. Only one of the healed men returned to Jesus to say thanks. Jesus asked, "Were not all 10 cleansed? Where are the other nine? But only this one has returned to say thank you? Jesus said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."

This scripture demonstrates the power of a thankful spirit. This man's life was changed even more because he was thankful. It's easy to see ungratefulness all around us.

The vast majority of those healed were ungrateful. Let's not live like the majority. Let's be like the winner of this story. He was the person who gave thanks.

Find books by Glenn Mollette at Amazon.com. Learn more about his books, columns and music at GlennMollette.Com.

Ungrateful people are losers

By Andy Bowman, CoffeeTime Columnist

Seems like I am noticing a trend – and not a healthy one. As a whole, our nation is losing the ability to pronounce some words. In fact, people seem to have forgotten some words exist in the English language. Phrases like, "Thank you," "Thanks so much," "I appreciate that," seem to have slid into a dark hole somewhere and vanished.

And if you do hear those magic words spoken, it is more of an auto-reply rather than a sincere response.

Today people seem to feel so entitled to services and products that there is very little appreciation shown to the worker who delivers it. Or maybe, folks have gotten so trapped by their personal worries, fear and woes that they don't even realize they are not really connecting with others anymore.

After all, when most of your focus is all about you, it can be difficult to remember to look into the eyes of another

and genuinely care about their feelings.

Either way, it means we are seeing our United States citizens evolve into people who are acting like they are the only ones living and breathing.

Think about it. When was the last time you sat down with someone who was a positive part of your childhood and thanked them? And when was the last time you really noticed the depressed-acting young teller at your bank, or the older lady who slowly and painfully works her job at Walmart?

Has anyone ever heard a sincere word of appreciation come from your lips? Or is your attitude more "Hey, that's their job, deal with it. After all, I have to." Yes, absolutely, it is an employee's job, and they certainly should earn their pay by doing good work.

But here is my point: Everyone needs and thrives on being appreciated. All of us need to know that we are seen and that what we do matters to someone. (Yes, if you're being honest, you would agree that includes you.)

Gratitude is very important

in a healthy society.

Whether it is expressing thankfulness to your pouting teenager who obeyed your request that their bedroom be vacuumed and fumigated, your local car mechanic getting your car back to you by closing time, or the waitress who isn't snarling in your face as she takes your order.

We all need to play nice-nice with each other. Because when we don't bother making that effort for the other person's sake, then we start to become self-centered, and blind to everyone else.

And that begins a downward spiral of me-centeredness, where ME and mine is all that matters. That attitude is viral and infectious, eventually descending into a broken society. And that is the beginning of the end.

This can also refer to the world's end of time, where the Bible says in II Timothy 3:2, "People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy."

Gratitude is important.

Letters to the Editor Policy

All letters to the editor must include the signature of the author and all those listed as signees. All letters must include the name, address and a daytime phone number for verification purposes. Addresses and phone numbers will not be published.

The **Purcell Register** does not print anonymous letters to the editor. Only two letters per month will be printed from the same author. Letters should be kept to a maximum of one (1) single spaced typed letter-sized page.

The **Purcell Register** reserves the right to edit any and all letters.

Letters to the editor during any campaign cycle which seek to endorse a candidate or discredit another will not be published during the campaign cycle. Letters to the editor published in **The Purcell Register** do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the newspaper.

Your Views

News from District 42

• Rep. Cindy Roe •



Legislative deadlines released

As the start of our next legislative session draws closer, members are already preparing their bills for next year.

This week, we received our first group of deadlines for the bill filing process.

Our deadline to request bills be drafted is Friday, December 8. This deadline means that we have to have submitted the policy topics of our bills to our nonpartisan House Legal Division. At the end of the month, December 29, we must submit specific details about the bill, like the overall goal, specific language an agency may have requested or any model legislation.

Minor changes are due by the morning of Thursday, January 18, and the deadline to officially introduce the bill for consideration is 4 p.m. that day. Remember, bills can still be amended throughout the legislative process, but having these deadlines in place helps us be prepared when session starts on Monday, February 5.

Once we're in session, we'll have additional deadlines related to bills' progress through the legislative process. Those dates are still being developed, but I'll share them when they're available.

This week, I attended an event organized by the Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women. Panelists spoke on efforts to end human trafficking within Oklahoma. Our First Lady Sarah Stitt served as the host, and we heard from Attorney General Gentner Drummond, who gave us an

update on the AG's Human Trafficking Task Force.

Human trafficking remains a \$150 billion a year industry. The most prevalent type of human trafficking is labor trafficking, which is the use of force, fraud or coercion to subject a person to involuntary servitude or debt bondage. Sex trafficking, when adults or children are forced or coerced into commercial sex acts, is unfortunately also very common.

I am working with the Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women and Mid-America Technology Center in McClain County to develop presentations about human trafficking within our state.

Collaboration between various groups and organizations throughout the state, including victim service provider agencies and law enforcement, would provide greater accuracy to the data.

Our outstanding law enforcement is near the top of my list of reasons to be thankful this year. I hope everybody has the chance to gather with loved ones and enjoy some homemade rolls and pecan pie.

As always, please feel free to call my office at (405) 557-7365 or send me an email at cynthia.roe@okhouse.gov if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for the honor of representing you at the State Capitol!

Rep. Cynthia Roe, a Republican, serves District 42 in the Oklahoma House of Representatives, which covers Garvin and McClain Counties.

Rants? Raves?

Submit your letter to the editor.

Judge Landis winked at 1926 baseball gambling scandal

By Joe Guzzardi, Society for American Baseball Research member



Ty Cobb and Tris Speaker

World Series 2023 had the lowest television ratings in history. No need to belabor the whys and wherefores. Instead of listening to the ceaseless chatter of announcer John Smoltz, fans would be better off acquainting themselves with the game's rich history.

A good start: read Dan Taylor's *Baseball at the Abyss*, which takes a deep dive into the forgotten 1926 scandal that involved Hall of Fame greats Ty Cobb and Tris Speaker, as the principal scoundrels.

Baseball has a long, unhappy gambling history with wagering playing a prominent role that dates back before the 1919 Chicago Black Sox scandal. In baseball's early days, bookmakers plied their trade in the open, working the ballpark areas inside and outside, taking wagers.

The 1919 World Series may have, in the words of F. Scott Fitzgerald, destroyed the faith of 50 million people, about half the U.S. population then, but throwing baseball games was commonplace. As Emil "Happy" Felsch, a White Sox fixer, said, "Playing rotten ain't that hard to do."

Author Taylor explains that the dirty deeds had their inception in 1919, when the Cleveland Indians were in Detroit to face the Tigers. Neither the Indians nor the Tigers were going to win the pennant, but the Tigers were in a tight scrum with the Yankees for third place.

In the dead ball era, a third-place finish meant a small share of the post-season loot for every Tigers' member. The Indians had second place locked up. Cobb and Speaker, the respective managers of the Tigers and Indians, huddled prior to the September 25 game to iron out the details.

Speaker assured Cobb that he "wouldn't have to worry" about the game's outcome. The Cleveland team preferred, Speaker insisted, that Detroit finish in third. By virtue of that finish, the Tigers were likely to make about \$500 for each player. Cobb, Speaker, Tigers pitcher Dutch Leonard and Indians pitcher Smoky Joe Wood all agreed to conspire in the fix.

Years later, Leonard confessed the four had agreed that since their post-season share would be small, they might as well wager on the game. Cobb was to put up \$2,000; Leonard, \$1,500, and Speaker and Wood \$1,000 each.

Cobb suggested park attendant Fred West would be a good man to place the bets. But because Detroit was a 10-7 favorite and because the local bookmakers were unwilling to handle such large sums, West only managed to get down \$600 against the bookmakers' \$420. The Tigers won the Septem-

ber 25 game 9-5, plating four runs in the first two innings. The Indians committed three costly errors, and Cleveland starter Elmer Myers — perhaps tipped off to the fix or maybe acting on his own whimsy — floated pitches to the plate for the Detroit batters.

Speaker banged out three hits, all of them well after the Tigers had control of the game and the outcome was clear. No one is certain whether Cobb, Speaker or anyone else actually received money from their bets. The scant remaining evidence indicates that the wrongdoers may not have been able to place all the bets they hoped to.

That winter, Cobb, Speaker, Wood and Leonard went home, but the four men exchanged letters about the incident, sharing their regret that they were unable to get their bets down in time and that their shared proposition fizzled. The letters came back to haunt the four.

Several years later, the stench from the fixing incident wafted out. A vengeful Leonard wanted to settle a score with his former teammate, Cobb, now the Tigers manager. Once, Cobb kept Leonard in a 1925 game in which the southpaw surrendered 20 runs, and the manager mocked the idea that he yank his humiliated starter. Leonard never forgot, and the memory ate at him.

Cobb released Leonard, and insiders said Ty discouraged other American League teams from signing the lefty. Dutch stewed, and in May 1926 he presented the letters he received from Cobb, Speaker and Wood — the evidence — to Tigers owner Frank Navin who turned them over to American League President Ban Johnson.

To keep a lid on the percolating scandal, Johnson paid Leonard \$20,000 to go back to Fresno where he owned a farm, and focus on his raisin growing. At the season's end, Johnson forced Cobb and speaker to resign.

Eventually, however, the

superstars appealed their cases to Commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis who, sensing that the public and the baseball writers were solidly behind the diamond, absolved Speaker and Cobb, facts be damned.

Landis read the room correctly. Baseball bugs were fed up with scandal. At least five World Series — 1905, 1912, 1914, 1918 and 1919 — were rumored to have been influenced by game-fixers.

And the 1923 Teapot Dome Scandal that implicated President Warren G. Harding — considered the greatest presidential scandal until Watergate — was still reverberating among the citizenry.

Cobb and Speaker played until 1928, Speaker for one year with the Washington Senators and one year with the Philadelphia A's, and Cobb two years with the A's.

Better to remember Cobb as one of baseball's all-time greats, .366 career batting average with nine consecutive titles, and Speaker, the "Gray Eagle" who holds outfielder records for assists, double plays and unassisted double plays. Balls hit to center field where Speaker patrolled were considered the place where triples go to die.

Cobb, Speaker, Wood and Leonard got off the hook, and played into their 40s. Pete Rose, however, who holds MLB career records for 4,256 career hits, 3,215 career singles, 3,562 career games played, 14,053 career at-bats and 15,890 career plate appearances, was permanently banned for his gambling infractions. In life, good timing is invaluable.

Taylor's other books include *Walking Alone: the Untold Journey of Football Pioneer Kenny Jackson* and *Lights, Camera, Fastball: How the Hollywood Stars Changed Baseball*.

Joe Guzzardi is an Internet Baseball Writers Association and Society for American Baseball Research historian. Contact him at guzzjoe@yahoo.com or [X @JoeGuzzardi19](https://x.com/JoeGuzzardi19).



• Photo provided

Most donations from the PIS fourth grade

Purcell Intermediate School's Holiday Food Drive collected 1,467 items. The fourth grade class collected the most items and received an extra recess! Donated items were shared with McClain County Operation Christmas and Lil' Dragons Food Pantry.

Sprawling superagency tasked with technology and services needs overhaul, report finds

Paul Monies
Oklahoma Watch

Oklahoma's superagency that handles information technology, budgeting, employee management and state office buildings has little budget transparency of its own and needs to do a better job of responding to agencies it provides services, a legislative oversight report concluded.

The Legislative Office of Fiscal Transparency said its examination of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services found the agency's annual appropriations have tripled in the past five years, reaching \$164 million in fiscal year 2024. During the same time, the agency's fee revenue, which comes from other state agencies, rose to \$52.4 million, an increase of 285 percent. The office presented its report to lawmakers at a hearing on November 15.

Some of the increased spending came in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, which exposed an older technology infrastructure that wasn't built for thousands of state employees working from home. But the LOFT report said a lack of long-term planning on statewide technology needs and an increased reliance on contractors and outside consultants also pushed spending higher.

Lawmakers created the agency more than a decade ago to streamline IT purchases and increase efficiency in state spending on common administrative services. But that promise has only partially been fulfilled, the legislative report found.

It explored more than 20 policy recommendations for the Legislature, including splitting out OMES' statewide finance division into a separate agency to increase accountability.

"OMES is a huge agency with a huge budget," said Sen. Chuck Hall, R-Perry, who also chairs a special Senate oversight committee on OMES. "They are handling a lot of services on behalf of the state of Oklahoma and its citizens. We can always be a better service provider, and the LOFT report reflects that there are shortcomings and gaps."

The report found agencies have little recourse when the Office of Management and Enterprise Services increases



its fees for services and have little flexibility to control their own costs for shared services. For example, OMES told more than two dozen state agencies they will have rent increases of up to 20 percent this year. That was to catch up from years of deferred maintenance, but it applied to agencies regardless of how old their buildings were.

Jerry Moore, OMES' deputy director and chief transformation officer, said the agency continues to evaluate those anticipated rent increases. But there's an estimated \$280 million in deferred maintenance expenses to buildings owned by the state, he said. Insurance and utility expenses have gone up, too.

The report highlighted late payments by OMES to its ven-

dors. The state auditor issued a report in 2020 with those same concerns, but OMES hasn't improved much since then. Authors of the legislative report pulled a random sample of invoices and found 62 percent went beyond the 45-day legal limit.

Senate Floor Leader Greg McCortney, R-Ada, said he was at a loss to explain to his constituents that a state agency couldn't perform a basic function like paying its bills on time. "How in the world can I defend the continuation of what we're doing here?" McCortney said.

In response, OMES officials said some of those late payments were because it was having problems collecting fees owed by agencies using the services.

"We are stuck paying these technology bills at these agencies, and they may have some disagreement about how it didn't go to their satisfaction when they signed the statement of work," said John Suter, OMES' executive director and the state's chief operating officer. "That's frustrating to me."

The report said OMES spending from federal pandemic relief had left the agency exposed to ongoing operating costs from what were described as one-time purchases at the time. It highlighted \$100 million that went for a backup data center in Texas. Much of those costs went to cloud-based systems that now require an extra \$18.6 million in annual costs.

The state also paid the same vendor, NTT Data, \$8.6 million per year for desktop support services. But service times were so bad OMES canceled

Please see **Report**, page 9A

Chickasaw Elder Veterans visit D.C. memorials during Veterans Day trip

Chickasaw warriors laid wreaths at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial during a recent trip to Washington, D.C., in celebration of Veterans Day.

The veterans, whose military service years ranged from the 1950s through the early 1990s, were part of the 16 Chickasaw elder veterans who attended a five-day trip to Washington,

D.C., sponsored by the Chickasaw Nation.

Each year, the tribe sends its warriors to the Nation's Capital to enjoy the sights, take part in Veterans Day memorial ceremonies and allow them an opportunity to fellowship with other Chickasaws who served. The 2023 warriors represented four branches of the U.S. armed services including the Marine Corps, Air Force, Army and

Navy.

Four Chickasaw Vietnam-era veterans presented a Chickasaw Elder Veterans wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery November 13. They included Emory, Texas, resident Randall Davis, an Army veteran; Houston resident

Please see **Trip**, page 9A



• Paul Monies/Oklahoma Watch

Lawmakers questions

John Suter, seated at right in the front row, executive director of the Oklahoma Office of Management and Enterprise Services, and Deputy Director Jerry Moore listen to questions from lawmakers at an oversight committee at the Oklahoma Capitol November 15.

Society



Tickets on sale for Oklahoma Nutcracker

Tickets for the Norman Ballet Company's 21st annual *Oklahoma Nutcracker* are on sale now.

Since its premiere in 2002, the *Oklahoma Nutcracker* has drawn a statewide audience and become a holiday tradition for families in Central Oklahoma. This unique production intertwines Oklahoma history and themes of nature with the traditional storyline and musical score of the original Nutcracker Ballet.

Our retelling features the Overholser family of Oklahoma City. Henry, Anna, and their daughter, Henry Ione, lived in the first mansion built in Oklahoma City in 1903. Our fictional adventure begins at Christmas when Henry Ione receives a nutcracker from her uncle.

After a festive party, she witnesses a fight between mice and soldiers and is taken to the Oklahoma prairie where she and the nutcracker prince are entertained by Oklahoma icons like the scissortail fly catcher, the king snake, the chili pepper, cowgirls and even a mama

armadillo and her babies.

The 2023 *Oklahoma Nutcracker* will be performed on Saturday, December 2, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, December 3, at 3 p.m. at the Nancy O'Brian Center for the Performing Arts, 1809 Stubbeman, in Norman.

Tickets may be purchased online at www.TicketStorm.com or by calling 1-866-966-1777. All seats are reserved. Ticket prices range from \$20-\$30.

Norman Ballet Company (NBC) members and apprentices, as well as dance students from studios throughout central Oklahoma will perform in the production.

NBC is thrilled to welcome guest artists from the New York City Ballet, Alexa Maxwell and Jovani Furlan, who will dance the roles of the Sand Plum Fairy and her Prince.

For more information about the company, visit www.normanballetcompany.org.

The 2023 *Oklahoma Nutcracker* is made possible, in part, by a grant from the Norman Arts Council Hotel Tax Grant Program.



• Photo provided

Featured Home

Mother's Entwined Club will hold its 2023 Goldsby Country Christmas Home Tour Sunday, December 10, from 1-4 p.m. The home of Darrin and Whitney Beller, 3012 SE 12th Avenue, in Goldsby, is one of the featured homes.

Mother's Entwined Club Goldsby Country Christmas Home Tour

Mark your calendars for the Mother's Entwined 2023 Christmas Home Tour which is scheduled for Sunday, December 10, from 1-4 p.m.

Christmas Home Tour patrons will have the opportunity to view the homes of Jason and Judith Ross, Tom and Kelsey Orendain, Darrin and Whitney Beller and Althea's Vault.

The home highlighted this week for the Mother's Entwined 2023 Goldsby Country Christmas Home Tour is the home of Darrin and Whitney Beller.

The Beller home is located at 3012 SE 12th Avenue in Goldsby.

They have only lived in the home for four months, moving in on the 4th of July.

The home is a custom built log home with logs shipped in from British Columbia, Canada, in 2018.

The Beller's describe their home as a western cedar log home decorated in Navajo prints.

It is decorated in mainly browns and blacks but the kitchen is light blue.

"I don't collect anything specific," Mrs. Beller said. "But I am excited about the 12 foot Christmas tree we bought for the home."

"The backyard is our favorite part of the home and I would like tour patrons to be sure and go outside," Mrs. Beller commented. "We just recently added a Koi pond and another feature is an old farmhouse sink from the 1800s."

A Country Kitchen will be selling baked goods at the home of Darrin and Whitney Beller, 3012 SE 12th Ave. in Goldsby.

You can purchase your tickets for \$15 from any Mother's Entwined Club member, Savvy Parke, Goldsby Town Hall, the office of Roger Cudd, Marcum's Nursery and Althea's Vault.

All proceeds will benefit Goldsby, Washington and Purcell communities.



It's a Small World

Gracie Montgomery

Happy Thanksgiving! Hope you are able to enjoy some time with family and friends this holiday.

The Register offices will be closed both Thursday and Friday, November 23 and 24, for the holiday.

Happy birthday to Suzanne Harris, Jonah Northcutt, Karen Horoho, Tripp Eck, Al Musgrave, Patricia Hudson, Kayleena Jones, Phyllis Norvell, Jana Rolin, Julie Wood Scroggins, Shirley Stark, Roger Mayes, Tristan Rollins, Tracy Jones, Darren Woolly, Lynn Walker, Nancy Richardson, David Matthews, Tracy Folsom, Jewel Moore, Daniel Schaub, Krysta Matthews, Dana Powell, Frank Foshee, Don McQuerrey, Jerry Maynard, Clay Dawson, Kylie Tolle Hayes, Kimberly Fulks, Lendall Hays, Alton Drago, Addison Porter, Savannah J. Ibarra, Sandra Cervantes, Jose Espinoza, Susan Johnson, Jose L. Chavez, Diego Murrieta, Gabriella Miranda, Juan Jose Aguinaga, Alayna Ray, Chris Sheehy and Graham Fishburn.

The Purcell Public School Foundation will be selling fundraiser tickets to benefit the foundation.

Tickets are \$50 and one lucky winner will share in half of the money raised.

Tickets can be purchased from any foundation member or by contacting Kerry Wilhoit at McClain Bank or John D. Montgomery at **The Purcell Register**.

The annual Okeyha Mothers Club Holiday Home Tour is scheduled for Sunday, December 3, from 2 to 4 p.m.

This year's tour will include four Heart of Oklahoma area homes and an upstairs living space in downtown Purcell.

Holiday Home Tour homes include Mike and Marcia Starchman, 318 Kenna Court, Cory and Heather Wyatt, 24296 Eagle Road, Kerry and Sharie Wilhoit, 18396 Johnson Ave., all in Purcell, Gerald and Judy Burkhardt, 23342 Hilltop Circle, in Washington and Inspire Wellness Clinic and Medical Spa upstairs living space, 128 West Main St., in Purcell.

Tickets may be purchased at the door of any of the homes or by calling Jenny Goodspeed at 405-517-5346, Melissa Pruitt at 405-255-1463 or Gisela Wolfenbarger at 405-693-0449.

The Cole Fire Auxiliary will host a Christmas Santa Party Saturday, December 2, and Sunday, December 3, from 4 to 7 p.m.

This is a great time for families and the community of Cole. Pictures are \$5 with Santa or get a free picture with an unwrapped unopened gift.

The event will include crafts, ornament decoration, cookie decoration, hot cocoa bar and a special visit from Santa and

Mrs. Claus. ***

The Wayne Fire Department is holding its 33rd annual Toy Drive.

Firefighters are currently accepting toy donations, \$10 value, or cash donations to help them meet their goal.

Toys will be given to children at the department's drive-through program December 9.

For more information contact Sarah Kennedy at 405-570-2478 or Meghan Claunch at 405-412-7848.

Mother's Entwined Home Tour is set for Sunday, December 10, from 1-4 p.m.

The homes of Tom and Kelsey Orendain, 1513 Walnut Way, Jason and Judith Ross, 1566 Walnut Way, Darrin and Whitney Beller, 3012 SE 12th Ave., all in Goldsby, and Althea's Vault, 218 N. Main Ave., will be featured.

Tickets may be purchased at any of the venues or by contacting any Mother's Entwined member.

Purcell's Lights From the Heart at Chandler Park will be open nightly from Wednesday, November 22, to Sunday, December 31, from 5:30-10 p.m. nightly.

Over two miles of lights are available to drive through. Admission is free but donations are appreciated.

Mark your calendars now! The Annual Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting will be held Thursday, December 14, on Main Street in Purcell.

The Tree Lighting Ceremony will begin at 5:30 p.m. with the parade to start at 6 p.m.

The theme this year is "Anything Christmas in the Heartland."

To register your parade entry, contact the Heart of Oklahoma Chamber of Commerce with any questions at 405-527-3093.

This is a great recipe to use up some leftover turkey. It comes from Jim West.

Buffalo Turkey Wraps
3 cups diced turkey
6 8" flour tortillas
6 romaine lettuce leaves
1 red bell pepper, sliced
2 green onions, chopped

Buffalo Sauce
3/4 cup hot pepper sauce
2 TBL vinegar
1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
1 tps. garlic powder
2 tsp. honey
1/4 cup butter

In a saucepan over medium heat, stir together all sauce ingredients except butter until just simmering. Remove and stir in butter chunks until melted. Salt and pepper to taste.

Toss turkey chunks with 3/4 cup of sauce. Place 1/2 cup of turkey in each tortilla and add lettuce, pepper slices and onions. Roll closed and wrap in parchment paper.

Serve hot with remaining sauce and ranch dressing as dips.

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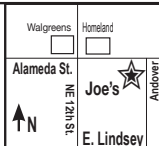
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Okeyha Mothers Club Holiday Home Tour set for December 3

The annual Okeyha Mothers Club Holiday Home Tour is scheduled for Sunday, December 3, from 2 to 4 p.m.

This year's tour will include four Heart of Oklahoma area homes and an upstairs living space in downtown Purcell.

Holiday Home Tour patrons will have the opportunity to view the homes of Mike and Marcia Starchman, 318 Kenna Court, in Purcell; Cory and Heather Wyatt, 24296 Eagle Road, in Purcell; Kerry and Sharie Wilhoit, 18396 Johnson Ave., in Purcell; Gerald and Judy Burkhart, 23342 Hilltop Circle, in Washington and Inspire Wellness Clinic and Medical Spa upstairs living space, 128 West Main St., in Purcell.

The home of Cory and Heather Wyatt will be featured in this issue of **The Purcell Register**.

The Wyatt home is located at 24296 Eagle Road in Purcell.

They have lived in their

home for three years.

"Our home was originally a custom built home in 2000 by the original owner. It was built by Jerry Pickard out of Blanchard. It was later totally remodeled in 2019 before we purchased it in 2021," Mrs. Wyatt explained.

The Wyatts consider their decorating style to be a mixture of traditional ranch style along with the farmhouse style with live edge accents.

The home is decorated in red, turquoise and antique white/gray.

"One thing that sets our home apart from most homes is that we have a display of three palm trees around our pool," Mrs. Wyatt said. "When giving directions to our home, I usually just have to say we are the red brick house on Highway 74 that has the palm trees!" she said.

"One family interests revolve around our children and grandchildren. They all enjoy the swimming pool and room

to play outside. We enjoy the summer months spending quality time with them all pool side," Mrs. Wyatt said.

A Country Kitchen will be stocked with home-baked goods available for sale at the Wilhoit home, 18396 Johnson Ave., in Purcell.

The Holiday Home Tour is a yearly fundraiser for the Okeyha Mothers Club.

The club uses funds raised to support community projects and gives a scholarship to a graduating senior.

Tickets may be purchased in advance for \$20 from any Okeyha Mothers Club member, by contacting Jenny Goodspeed at 405-517-5346, Melissa Pruitt at 405-255-1463, Gisela Wolfenbarger at 405-693-0449.

Tickets may also be purchased at The Grand Canadian Theatre on Main Street on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. or at the tour homes the day of the event.



• Photo provided

Home tour

The home of Cory and Heather Wyatt, 24296 Eagle Road, in Purcell is one of the featured stops on the Okeyha Mothers Club Holiday Home Tour set for Sunday, December 3, from 2-4 p.m.

Stealey OHCE

Stealey OHCE Club met for its monthly meeting November 13 at the McClain County Farm & Home Building in Purcell.

Members present were Jan Lenard, Bonita Brakefield, Peggy Christian, Pat Barrow, Betty Cormany, Deanna Lewis and Connie Wollenberg, OSU Extension Educator.

Vice President Peggy Christian called the meeting to order. Jan Leonard gave the treasurer's report which was approved. Minutes from the October meeting were read

by secretary Brakefield and approved.

Christian presented the lesson "Sharing Family History Through Food." The group discussed volunteer hours for Operation Christmas.

Peggy Christian reported she had purchased over 200 boxes of macaroni and cheese for Stealey OHCE to donate.

Pat Barrow demonstrated her latest quilt square she made for the OHCE 2024 County Fair Quilt Raffle.

Recycle Projects includ-

ing used postage stamps for Wounded Warriors and greeting cards reports were turned in to Brakefield. Member volunteer hours reports for October were completed and turned in to Christian.

Follow us online at OHCE McClain County Stealey. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. The next monthly meeting is our Christmas Celebration which will be at 1 p.m. Monday, December 4, at The Happy Camper restaurant on Main Street in Purcell.

No. 799-November 16-2 Times
IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF MCCLAIN COUNTY
STATE OF OKLAHOMA
In the Matter of the Estate of Teresa
Bates, Deceased.

No. PB-2023-4
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
All creditors having claims
against Teresa Bates, Deceased,
are required to present the same,
with a description of all security
interests and other collateral (if
any) held by each creditor with

respect to such claim, to the
named Administrator, c/o Gregory
T. Tontz, 301 E. Eufaula St., Nor-
man, Oklahoma, 73069, on or
before the following presentment
date: January 4, 2024, or the same
will be forever barred.
DATED this 31st day of October,
2023.

/s/ Dereck Bates
Dereck Bates,
Co-Administrator of the Estate
of Teresa Bates, Deceased
/s/ Ashley Bates

Ashley Bates,
Co-Administrator of the Estate
of Teresa Bates, Deceased
Gregory T. Tontz - OBA NO.
16323
TONTZ LAW, PLLC
301 E. Eufaula St.
Norman, OK 73069
405-701-1600 - phone
Attorney for Dereck Bates and
Ashley Bates, Co-Administrators
of the Estate of Teresa Bates,
Deceased

No. 828-November 23-2 Times
IN THE DISTRICT COURT
OF MCCLAIN COUNTY
STATE OF OKLAHOMA
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE
OF LOUIS GEORGE KENDRICK,
DECEASED

Case No. PB-2023-83
Notice of Hearing Final
Account of Personal
Representative, Petition for
Distribution, Determination of
Heirs-at-Law, and Discharge
NOTICE IS GIVEN that Lynn
Kendrick, Personal Representa-
tive of the Estate of Louis George
Kendrick, Deceased ("Personal
Representative"), has filed in this

Court a Final Account of Personal
Representative, Petition for Distri-
bution, Determination of Heirs-at-
Law, and Discharge. The hearing
on this Final Account and Petition
will be on December 14, 2023, at
9:30 a.m., before this Court at the
McClain County Courthouse at
Purcell, McClain County, State of
Oklahoma, and all persons inter-
ested in the Estate are notified to
appear at the hearing and show
cause, if any they have, why the
account should not be settled and
allowed, the heirs determined, and
the Estate distributed and the Per-
sonal Representative discharged.
DATED this 20th day of Novem-

ber 2023.
/s/ Charles Gray
JUDGE OF THE
DISTRICT COURT
/s/ Emily Eleftherakis
Emily S. Eleftherakis, OBA
#31985
Emily Eleftherakis Legal Solu-
tions
7100 N. Classen Blvd., Ste. 303
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
73116
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Telephone: (405) 254-5097
Attorney for Personal Repre-
sentative

READING YOUR NEWSPAPER MAKES YOU SMARTER

Feasting in America



Yummy! Yummy!

Could you plan a his-
toric feast in America be-
fore the arrival of Colum-
bus 531 years ago? What
would your meal include?

"Turkeys lived only in
North and Central America, so the feast
could include turkey," says Kid Robin
Read.

"Natives could have caught bass or
crappie for a seafood course," says Kid
Libby Smart.

Maize (now called corn) was grown
by Mayan people 10,000 years ago, one
of the most ancient, domesticated crops.
With squash and beans, these basic crops
were known as the three sisters.

Native Americans grew winter squash
and pole beans along the tall corn stalks.
The corn stalks provided shade for the
squash and support for the beans. Corn
could be roasted, boiled, or ground into
cornmeal for tortillas or corn bread.

Squash includes foods such as acorn
squash, zucchini, pumpkins and gourds.
Gourds were cultivated for about 4,500
years as containers, long before pottery.

Roasted pumpkin, a historic flavor, is
a classic for fall. We enjoy pumpkin pie,
pumpkin bread, and pumpkin-flavored
coffee or milk shakes.

Beans were a common staple for both
original people and later immigrants.

"I get hungry thinking about ham
and beans, refried beans, or barbecued
beans," says Robin.

The historic menu planners had toma-
toes and tomatillos (known for their use
in salsa verde). Flavoring the red or green
salsa were chili peppers. The name chili
came from the Aztec.

Italians did not have tomatoes until ex-
plorers brought the plants to Europe after
Columbus.

Vitamin-rich potatoes came from the
Andes mountains area of South Ameri-
can. Sweet potatoes came from Central
America.

"Sweet potato fries are one of my fa-
vorites," says Libby.

Avocados originated in Central Ameri-
ca. The Mayans used an avocado as a sym-
bol representing one of its 14 months.

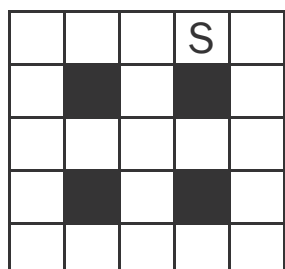
Chocolate became a favorite when the
Olmec people turned cacao plants into a
delicious treat 4,000 years ago. Other na-
tive crops include acorns, wild rice, high-
bush cranberry, and pawpaws.

"We could make an excellent menu," the
kids say.

Libby Smart
& Robin
Read



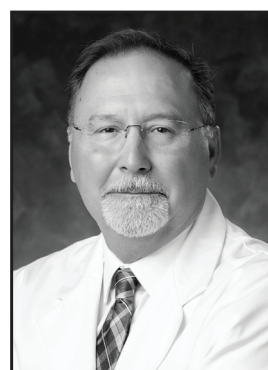
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Cross Five
Place these six
words in the
crossword grid:
Acorn, Feast,
Foods, Odors,
Since, Taste

CHALLENGE: Find words that describe foods
in your newspaper. Can you plan a meal
based on these words?

Norman Regional Welcomes Bruce Cannon, MD Tracey Walker, APRN Cardiothoracic Surgery



Dr. Cannon specializes in the following:

- ↳ Atrial Fibrillation Ablation Surgery
- ↳ Aortic Valve Replacement
- ↳ Complex Aortic Root Reconstruction
- ↳ Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery
- ↳ Lung Surgery
- ↳ Mitral Valve Replacement
- ↳ TAVR (Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement)

Contact your Primary Care Physician
for a referral to the Heart Plaza.

Heart Plaza

3500 HealthPlex Parkway | Norman, OK 73072

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NORMAN
REGIONAL
Health System

NORMAN HEART &
VASCULAR ASSOCIATES

Obituaries

Albert James Andrews

Graveside services for Albert James Andrews, 85, of Purcell were held November 22, 2023 at the Washington Cemetery. Services were under the direction of the Wilson-Little Funeral Home in Purcell.

Mr. Andrews passed away Saturday, November 18, 2023.

Born November 7, 1938 in Washington, Okla., he was the second of 10 children born to Joel "Wolf" Andrews and Gracie (Madden) Andrews. He was raised in Washington and attended school there.

Albert married the love of his life, Doris Jean Dover on June 20, 1954 in Purcell. Albert worked for Burns Mill for many years, and as a welder at Star Manufacturing. He then worked for the Department of Corrections for both LARC and Joseph Harp, retiring after more than 22 years of combined service.

Albert also hauled a lot of hay in the summers, and enjoyed raising cows his whole life. He enjoyed listening to music and especially a good Hank Williams song. He was a wonderful father and grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle and a true friend. He will be dearly missed!

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joel and Gracie Andrews; his wife, Doris Andrews; sisters, Evelyn Price, Florence Beller, Birdie Akerman and Juanita Worley; a brother, Gene Andrews; brothers-in-law, Jim Price, Dale Worley and Frank Albert; and sisters-in-law, Margie Dover, Chi Chi Dover and Carol Dover.

He is survived by daughters, Carol Reynolds and husband, Terry, and Sharon Perry and husband, David; son, Marvin Andrews; grandchildren, Lindsay Sikes, Tara Reynolds, Aaron Perry, Miranda Allen, Jill Harris and Julie Brown; great-grandchildren, Laney Allen, Cache Harper, Kylie Davidson, Mason Harris, Garrison Brown and Maddie Brown; sisters, Millie Albert, Laurie Pfannenstiel and Merlene Lile; brother, Carl Andrews; brothers-in-law, Rayford Beller, Ben Akerman, Gary Lile, Wayne Dover, Tom Dover, Jessie Dover, Dennis Dover and Lee Dover; sisters-in-law, Joyce Henderson, Mildred Nugent, Rita Landers and Kathy Dover; numerous niece and nephews and a host of other family and friends.

Online condolences may be made at wilsonlittle.com.

Wilson-Little Funeral Home • 127 S. Canadian • Purcell • 527-6543

Colleen Loreta Stanton

Colleen Loreta Stanton, 84, passed from this life to be with her Heavenly Father on Friday, November 17, 2023 with her family by her side.

Colleen was born March 22, 1939 in Wynnewood, Oklahoma, to Ernest and Mabel Gilley. She was the youngest of six brothers and sisters. She was an avid basketball player, and was a four-year starter on the varsity basketball team at Lexington High School. She was also an honor roll student.

Colleen married in 1961. On November 19, 1965, she was blessed with one child: Edward Guy Stanton II. Colleen devoted her life to raising Ed as a single parent, and was a loving and selfless mother to him.

She attended 21st Street Church of Christ, and was a good and faithful servant in her Christian walk. She enjoyed being in the kitchen, entertaining, organizing wedding receptions and reading.

Colleen spent her career working for the Department of Human Services for the State of Oklahoma where she would have many roles throughout her career. Some of those roles were stenographer, executive secretary, administrative assistant to hospital administrator and medical services assistant. She served the state of Oklahoma for over 30 years before she retired in 1988.

After retirement, she graduated from Central State University with her son, Ed. She enjoyed her years in retirement spending time with her grandchildren, great-grandchildren and her best friend, Foy Hawkins. She also served as a cook for Meals on Wheels in Oklahoma City.

Colleen is survived by her son, Ed Stanton and wife, Leann, of Blanchard, Oklahoma; two grandchildren, Blake Stanton and wife, Kristen, of Elk City, Oklahoma, and Abby LaRue and husband, Landon, of Blanchard, Oklahoma; six great-grandchildren, Luke, Jack, Kate, Harper, Lennyn and Merrit; brother, Harold Gilley of Tulsa, Oklahoma; and numerous nieces, nephews, and a host of other relatives and friends.

Colleen was preceded in death by her parents, Ernest and Mabel Gilley; two sisters, Wanda Rutherford and Mildred Whitehead, and two brothers, Ron and Don Gilley.

Funeral Services celebrating Colleen's life were held on Tuesday, November 21, 2023, at Eisenhour Funeral Home in Blanchard, Oklahoma at 10 A.M. Burial followed at Lexington Cemetery in Lexington, Oklahoma. Services were under the direction of Eisenhour Funeral Home of Blanchard.

Online obituary and guestbook are available at www.eisenhourfh.com.

William Duane Harris

Funeral services for William Duane Harris, 87, of Purcell were held Nov. 21, 2023 at the Wilson-Little Funeral Home Chapel. Interment was at Hillside Cemetery in Purcell under the direction of the Wilson-Little Funeral Home in Purcell.

Mr. Harris died Nov. 17, 2023.

He was born on Aug. 9, 1936 in Colony, Okla., the son of James Delmer and Nora Jane (Shelton) Harris.

Survivors include his sisters, Nora Hutto of Moore and Linda Nelson and husband, Bob, of Oklahoma City and a brother-in-law, Burl Gamel.

Online condolences may be made at www.wilsonlittle.com.

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Ray Leon Sharp

Funeral services for Ray Leon Sharp, 94, of Wayne were held November 20, 2023 at the Wilson-Little Funeral Home Chapel. Interment was at Hopping Cemetery under the direction of the Wilson-Little Funeral Home in Purcell.



Mr. Sharp passed away Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at Sunset Estates in Purcell.

He was born November 27, 1928 in Wayne, Okla., the baby of three children born to Samuel Arch Sharp and Ludia Bell (Murray) Sharp. Ray was raised in Wayne and attended school there, graduating with the Bulldog Class of 1948.

Later that same year on November 13, Ray married his sweetheart, Barbara "Sue" Wallace. Together they raised three children, son Tommy and daughters Connie and Sammie.

Ray drove a truck for a living, and logged countless miles hauling cross country. In his younger years, he enjoyed deer hunting. Later on, he and Sue looked forward to their annual trip to Priest Gulch, Colorado, where they spent months at a time in their travel trailer. He was a huge OU Sooner fan and a longtime ticket holder in several sports.

Ray's heart however was always in Wayne, and he was incredibly proud of his family lineage there, spanning more than six generations. He was a Bulldog through and through. He was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, uncle and a true friend. He will be dearly missed!

He was preceded in death by his sweetheart, Sue Sharp; son Tommy Sharp; parents, Samuel and Ludia Bell Sharp and his sisters, Jackie Jo Courtney and Lenora Sherrod.

Ray is survived by his daughters, Connie Ellis of Wayne and Sammie Logan and husband, Bill, of Paoli; daughter-in-law, Alleen Sharp of Rosedale; 11 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild and a host of other family and friends.

Online condolences may be made at wilsonlittle.com.

Wilson-Little Funeral Home • 127 S. Canadian • Purcell • 527-6543

Joyce Rinehart

Funeral services for Joyce Rinehart, 89, of Purcell were held November 20, 2023 at the Wilson-Little Funeral Home Chapel. Interment was at the Hillside Cemetery in Purcell under the direction of the Wilson-Little Funeral Home in Purcell.

Mrs. Rinehart passed away Friday, November 17, 2023.

Joyce Dean Fielder was born December 16, 1933 in Wayne, Oklahoma, the youngest of three children born to Charles H. Fielder and Ida Ethel (Lynn) Fielder. She spent her early years in Wayne and later Purcell, where she graduated with the Dragon Class of 1952.

Joyce married her best friend and life partner, Doyle Lee Rinehart on May 18, 1953 in Purcell. Together they raised four children, son, Tracey and daughters, Tijuana, Tina and Tika.

Joyce first worked for Louie Beck at the law office and the IRS for a time. She then worked as a secretary at Purcell High School until leaving to care for her husband. Joyce spent the next ten years as caregiver, caring and providing for Doyle, as they faced many challenges in his battle with ALS. She also managed to continue the day-to-day operations of Doyle's Music for as long as she could.

Away from work, she enjoyed taking walks and tending to her mother's roses, and she never missed an opportunity to curl up with a good book. Joyce was a woman of great faith and longtime member of the 9th & Pierce Church of Christ. She was a wonderful mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, sister, aunt and a true friend.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Doyle Rinehart; her parents, Charlie and Ida Fielder and a sister, Deacie Maxine "Tiny" Rose.

Joyce is survived by her children, Tijuana Woodrow (Marty) of Slaughterville, Okla., Tina Rinehart Hayes (Jerry) of Purcell, Tracey Rinehart (Roger) of Dallas, Texas, and Tika Rinehart (Darrin) of Norman; brother, Charles L. Fielder of Lexington; 11 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren and a host of other family and friends.

Online condolences may be made at wilsonlittle.com.

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Gordon Dean Denison

Gordon Dean Denison, age 73 of Purcell, Oklahoma, passed away on October 26, 2023. Gordon was born in Lincoln, Nebraska, on December 15, 1949 to Dean and Lila (Root) Denison.

Gordon enjoyed riding, training and showing horses most of his life. He also liked to dance.

Gordon was preceded in death by his parents, Dean and Lila Denison; an infant sister, Olene and two brothers, Nolan and Arnold.

Gordon was married and divorced, out of this union one son was born, Sgt. Trent Denison of the United States Army Reserve.

Those left to cherish his memory are his wife, Marilyn Denison of Purcell; son, Trent Denison; daughter, Melissa (Dustin) Murchison; son, Justin (Alayna) Denison and granddaughter, Savannah Denison; sister, Linda (Keith) Jones; sister-in-law, Lynn (Nolan) Denison, nieces and many friends.

Tonya Sue Wheeler

Memorial services for Tonya Sue Wheeler, 58, of Blanchard will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 29, 2023 at the Wilson-Little Funeral Home Chapel. Services will be under the direction of the Wilson-Little Funeral Home in Purcell.

Ms. Wheeler died Nov. 19, 2023.

Online condolences may be made at www.wilsonlittle.com.

Wilson-Little Funeral Home • 127 S. Canadian • Purcell • 527-6543

School Menus

Week of November 27

Wayne

MONDAY BREAKFAST	Biscuit and gravy, cereal, fruit, juice, milk.	fruit, juice, milk.	LUNCH	Barbecue sandwich, tots, carrots, strawberries, milk.
LUNCH	Sausage roll, roasted potato, mixed vegetables, peaches, milk.	THURSDAY BREAKFAST	Cereal, fruit, juice, milk.	LUNCH
TUESDAY BREAKFAST	Cereal, fruit, juice, milk.	FRIDAY BREAKFAST	Bagel topper, cereal, fruit, juice, milk.	LUNCH
WEDNESDAY BREAKFAST	Pancake on a stick, cereal,		Pizza, corn, carrots, apple, milk.	

Purcell

MONDAY BREAKFAST	Pancake on a stick or cereal and toast, fruit, juice, milk.	WEDNESDAY BREAKFAST	Biscuit and sausage gravy or cereal and toast, fruit, juice, milk.	LUNCH	Frito chili pie, chili beans, side salad, fruit, milk.
LUNCH	Corn dog, macaroni and cheese, green beans, side salad, fruit, milk.	THURSDAY BREAKFAST	Calzone or cereal and toast, fruit, juice, milk.	LUNCH	Cheeseburger, french fries, baby carrots, fruit, milk.
TUESDAY BREAKFAST	Scrambled eggs and toast or cereal and toast, fruit, juice, milk.	FRIDAY	No School, Virtual Day.		
LUNCH	Pizza, Italian salad, baby carrots, fruit, milk.				

Lexington

MONDAY BREAKFAST	Cereal or biscuit and gravy, fruit, fruit juice, milk.	THURSDAY BREAKFAST	Cereal or chef's choice, fruit, fruit juice, milk.	LUNCH	Pizza or chef salad, whole kernel corn, baby carrots with ranch, pineapple tidbits, milk.
LUNCH	Popcorn chicken or yogurt meal, steamed broccoli, cheesy potatoes, fruit, milk.	FRIDAY BREAKFAST	Cereal or Dutch waffle, mixed fruit, fruit juice, milk.	LUNCH	Teriyaki chicken or sandwich, rice pilaf, stir fry vegetables, mixed fruit, fortune cookies, milk.
TUESDAY BREAKFAST	Cereal or breakfast burrito, fruit, fruit juice, milk.				
LUNCH	Beef stroganoff with noodles or chef salad, English peas, steamed carrots, fruit, milk.				
WEDNESDAY BREAKFAST	Cereal or oatmeal chocolate chip bar, fruit, fruit juice, milk.				
LUNCH					

Moore Norman Technology Center school board election

The Board of Education of the Moore Norman Technology Center School District No. 17 hereby announces that statutorily qualified individuals interested in running as a candidate for the Zone 4, Office 4 seat on the Moore Norman Technology Center School District Board of Education may file to run as a candidate for this seat at the Cleveland County Election Board, located in Norman, Oklahoma, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., December 4, through December 6, 2023.

District Zone 4, Office 4 consists of an area beginning at the most northerly point of Zone 4, thence easterly 0.15 miles along Unnamed Local Road, thence easterly 1.12 miles along Unnamed Boundary, thence easterly 0.04 miles along Unnamed Shoreline, thence easterly 1.42 miles along Unnamed Boundary, thence easterly 0.29 miles along SW 82nd St, thence easterly 0.05 miles along Unnamed Boundary, thence easterly 0.09 miles along SW 82nd St, thence northerly 0.01 miles along S May Ave, thence easterly 0.84 miles along SW 82nd St, thence northerly 0.03 miles along S Victoria Drive, thence easterly 0.45 miles along Unnamed Boundary, thence southerly 0.01 miles along S Indiana Ave, thence easterly 0.71 miles along Unnamed Boundary, thence southerly 0.01 miles along S Western Ave, thence easterly 0.37 miles along SW

81st St, thence easterly 1.25 miles along Unnamed Boundary, thence easterly 0.36 miles along SE 82nd St, thence southerly 2.47 miles along I-35, thence westerly 0.02 miles along NW 12th St, thence southerly 0.38 miles along N Svc Road, thence westerly 1.09 miles along NW 5th St, thence southerly 0.17 miles along N Santa Fe Ave, thence westerly 0.15 miles along Springcreek Drive, thence northerly 0.23 miles along S Robinson Ave, thence westerly 0.56 miles along Cypress Drive, thence northwesterly 0.05 miles along Marsh Lane, thence southwestwesterly 0.31 miles along Waterview Road, thence northerly 0.06 miles along Turtlecreek Court, thence westerly 0.04 miles along Wandering Way, thence northerly 0.70 miles along S Western Ave, thence westerly 7.48 miles along SW 119th St, thence northerly 1.06 miles along Unnamed Boundary, thence northerly 0.06 miles along Twin Fawns, thence westerly 0.02 miles along SW 104th St, thence northerly 1.15 miles along Coldstream Drive, thence northerly 1.74 miles along Unnamed Boundary, thence easterly 0.11 miles along Unnamed Private Road, thence northerly 0.00 miles along S Council Road, thence easterly 1.70 miles along Unnamed Boundary, thence easterly 0.14 miles along Unnamed Local Road to the aforementioned point of beginning.



John D. Montgomery • The Purcell Register

Transition

From Halloween to Christmas this house on north Ninth Avenue has decorations for all occasions.

Courthouse News

The following persons have been charged by the State of Oklahoma with traffic or other violations or have filed other court actions in McClain County District Court between November 9-15, 2023.

Traffic

- Kale B. Parker, DUS.
- Shawna K. Jakubiszyn, DUS.
- Dakota B. Hamilton, no driver's license.
- Dakota B. Hamilton, TOC alcoholic beverage.
- Karl V. Schwartz, DUS.
- Dachea A. Rose, DUS.
- Kaden P. Judkins, allow unauthorized person to drive.
- Melissa L. Smith, speeding, 55/45.
- Juan D. Mendez-Mercado, no valid driver's license.
- Juan D. Mendez-Mercado, speeding, 84/65.
- Christopher D. Erb, speeding, 98/80.
- Robert E. Young, failure to reduce speed.

Misdemeanors

- Mercedes Stockbridge, obstructing an officer.
- William T. Ladlee, possession of CDS - tetrahydrocannabinols.
- Shawn R. Szweczak, possession of CDS - methamphetamine.
- Joi A. May, larceny of lost property.
- Jesse De Loera, assault and battery.
- Morgan E. Herr, larceny of merchandise from a retailer.
- Jerad D. Rogers, domestic assault and battery in presence of minor.
- Felix G. Galvan, domestic assault and battery in presence of minor.

Felonies

- Treshae D. Matthews, forgery, second degree.
- Wendy D. White, unlawful possession of controlled drug with intent to distribute - meth.
- Christopher E. Bradley, lewd or indecent acts to child under 12.
- Roy C. Dunn III, grand larceny.
- William P. Baker, unauthorized use of a vehicle.
- Danny J. Howard, falsely personate another to create liability.
- Trent A. Boggess, manslaughter - 1st degree.
- Justin R. Boren, assault and/or battery on medical care provider.
- Robert Johnson III, actual physical control of vehicle while under the influence (MJ).
- Keith A. Barnett, DUI.

Small Claims

- McElderry Rentals, LLC vs. Ashley Phillips, small claims under \$5000.
 - A-AAA RV Park vs. Brittney Seimy, forcible entry and detainer under \$5000.
 - Adkins Hill Mobile Home Park vs. Matthew McCarty, forcible entry and detainer under \$5000.
 - Adkins Hill Mobile Home Park vs. Luis Ortiz, forcible entry and detainer under \$5000.
 - Adkins Hill Mobile Home Park vs. Jose R. Hernandez, forcible entry and detainer under \$5000.
 - Christina Bowers vs. Lucas Williams, forcible entry and detainer under \$5000.
 - Str8 Up Roofing LLC vs. Glen Bralley, small claims under \$5000.
- Civil**
- Discover Bank vs. Terran K. Clark-Milligan, civil action \$10,000 or less.
 - First Fidelity Bank N.A. vs. Rebecca C. Martin, civil action \$10,000 or less.

- Discover Bank vs. James Newey, civil action \$10,000 or less.
- Absolute Resolutions Invest. vs. Aaron Smith, civil action \$10,000 or less.
- Absolute Resolutions Invest. vs. Shelby Powell, civil action \$10,000 or less.
- Absolute Resolutions Invest. vs. Micheal Webb, civil action \$10,000 or less.
- Cavalry SPV I LLC vs. Rocky L. Self, civil action \$10,000 or less.
- Discover Bank vs. Kristina Ellington, civil action \$10,000 or less.
- Cavalry SPV I LLC vs. Michelle L. Perry, civil action \$10,000 or less.
- Capital One, N.A. vs. Larry Abney, civil action \$10,000 or less.
- Portfolio Recovery Associates vs. Vicky L. Knapp, civil action \$10,000 or less.
- Capital One, N.A. vs. Shannon N. Dowdle, civil action \$10,000 or less.
- Capital One, N.A. vs. Lori A. Gordon, civil action \$10,000 or less.
- Jody G. Nunn vs. Darcy L. Darling, civil action \$10,000 or more.
- U.S. Bank National Association vs. Jayson W. Lewis, civil action

- \$10,000 or more.
 - Close Family Trust vs. Douglas M. Miller, civil action \$10,000 or more.
 - Randey Hayes vs. Andrew L. Williams, civil action \$10,000 or more.
- Marriages Filed**
- Rory A. Jett, 55, and Mary K. Trimmell, 36, both of Wayne.
 - Bradly J. Howell Jr., 20, and Kathleen N. Thetford, 22, both of Noble.
 - Aaron J. Gray, 23, and Sadie J. Bottom, 27, both of Blanchard.
 - Joe W. Oliver, 40, and Stephanie J. Keith, 49, both of Newcastle.
 - Carlos A. Izaguirre, 23, and Katelynn E. Evans, 26, both of Duncan.
 - James S. Brakefield, 39, and Kelsie D. Kemp, 39, both of Wayne.
 - Mason E. Hamm, 22, of Lexington and Cora D. Hobbs, 21, of Washington.
 - Earl Z. Coslow Jr., 53, of Lexington and Rae M. Hilmes, 45, of Purcell.
 - Trenton S. Wilkinson, 28, and Kaylee J. Marshall, 25, both of Lexington.
- Divorces Granted**
- None filed.



John D. Montgomery • The Purcell Register

Ready for Thanksgiving

This house on Crown Heights Lane in Purcell is ready for the Thanksgiving feast with a festive decoration in the front yard.

Happy Thanksgiving

CLARK'S FLOORS & MORE INC.

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From page 5A

Trip:

Curtis Frazier, a Marine Corps veteran; Bullhead City, Arizona, resident Jimmy Rucker, an Army veteran; and Tulsa resident George Tabor, an army veteran.

Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby said the trip is an expression of appreciation to Chickasaws who have served our country.

"We owe a special debt of gratitude to the men and women who serve in the armed forces to defend our freedoms and way of life," said Governor Anoatubby.

This year's trip took the warriors to memorials and monuments throughout the National Mall in Washington, D.C., including special ceremonies at the World War II Memorial and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on Veterans Day.

At the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Albuquerque resident David Atkins, a Marine Corps veteran, and Oklahoma City resident Dr. Don Carter, an Army veteran, presented a wreath during a ceremony attended by hundreds of fellow Vietnam veterans. The gathering also provided opportunities for the elders to exchange stories of their military service and find the names of friends and fellow soldiers on the memorial wall.

Dr. Carter acknowledged the names of several acquaintances honored on the wall and said visiting the iconic black granite memorial is not easy.

"It's one of the hardest things I've ever done. I choke up just thinking about it," said Dr. Carter, recalling his first visit to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

A lifelong Oklahoman, Dr. Carter completed medical school at the University of

Oklahoma and entered private practice as a general surgeon before being drafted at age 34. In military service, he spent a year in Vietnam operating on wounded soldiers. Now 89, he was the oldest Chickasaw elder making this year's trip and still vividly describes the ups and downs of his overseas service.

"Mortality in our hospital was good. Our mortality rate was about 3.5 percent. If (wounded soldiers) got there alive, we usually kept them alive. But we lost a few," Dr. Carter said solemnly.

In addition to the holiday memorial services, the veterans also toured the National Museum of the American Indian, the National Archives, the Lincoln Memorial, Union Station, the U.S. Capitol and other historic sites.

At the National Museum of the American Indian, the veterans explored a variety of exhibits describing the experiences and triumphs of First Americans throughout U.S. history.

For many, a highlight was viewing the museum's Chickasaw artifacts, including a flute and bald eagle feather that traveled with Chickasaw astronaut John Herrington aboard space shuttle Endeavour during his 2002 flight to the International Space Station.

Kingston, Okla., resident Carl Pershica, a U.S. Army veteran, pointed out a Bell UH-1 Iroquois "Huey" helicopter in the museum and described how he and fellow soldiers huddled in the aircraft's tight quarters as they were airlifted into combat areas.

"There were no doors. We would hang tightly on to

each other to remain in the helicopter," said Mr. Pershica. "Then we'd jump 8-10 feet to the ground while carrying 90 pounds of equipment." Mr. Pershica took more than 50 flights into the Vietnam jungle in this manner during his deployment.

"For a typical mission, it would be three days or more before we saw our base again," said Mr. Pershica. "On my longest mission, we spent 33 days in combat before returning to base."

Veterans Services

The Chickasaw Nation provides veterans with increased benefits and services, including the Chickasaw Warrior Society. The warrior society was formed by Governor Anoatubby in 2015 as an organization to encourage community, establish and support camaraderie, and personify the Chickasaw warrior spirit.

The Chickasaw Nation Veterans Lodge, located on the Ada South Campus near the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center in Ada, Oklahoma, was also established to assist veterans in a centralized location. It serves by helping them conveniently access all resources available through the Chickasaw Nation and other sources.

It also functions as a place for members of the Chickasaw Warrior Society, other veterans, and those in active service to come together for fellowship and networking.

To further honor all Chickasaw veterans, the Chickasaw Nation also created the Chickasaw Veterans Wall.

For more information about these and other veterans services, visit Chickasaw.net/Veterans.

From page 5A

Report:

the contract this year and took the services back in-house. Lawmakers gave the agency an extra \$15.8 million in appropriations to resume those functions.

"Both the new cybersecurity enhancements and the data centers were purchased with CARES money that covered

the recurring revenue for the first few years but didn't account for how those recurring charges would be covered afterwards," the report said.

Sen. Julia Kirt, D-Oklahoma City, said the LOFT report validates concerns many had for years about consolidation.

"Ultimately, it's the responsibility of the majority in the Legislature to provide long-term strategic planning so that LOFT's recommendations are enacted and provide adequate resources to ensure citizens get the services they need," Kirt said in a news release.

In an interview after the hearing, Suter said his agency

was agnostic on how the Legislature wants to provide funding for information technology and he was open to other ideas on agency structure.

"If people need to report to different people, if we need to be funded in different ways, either in all appropriations or in some hybrid model like we exist now, that's OK," Suter said. "It gives us a lot of flexibility once the Legislature looks at all the options."

Oklahoma Watch, at oklahomawatch.org, is a non-profit, nonpartisan news organization that covers public-policy issues facing the state.

HALE'S OVERHEAD DOORS

DOORS • INSTALLATION • SERVICE

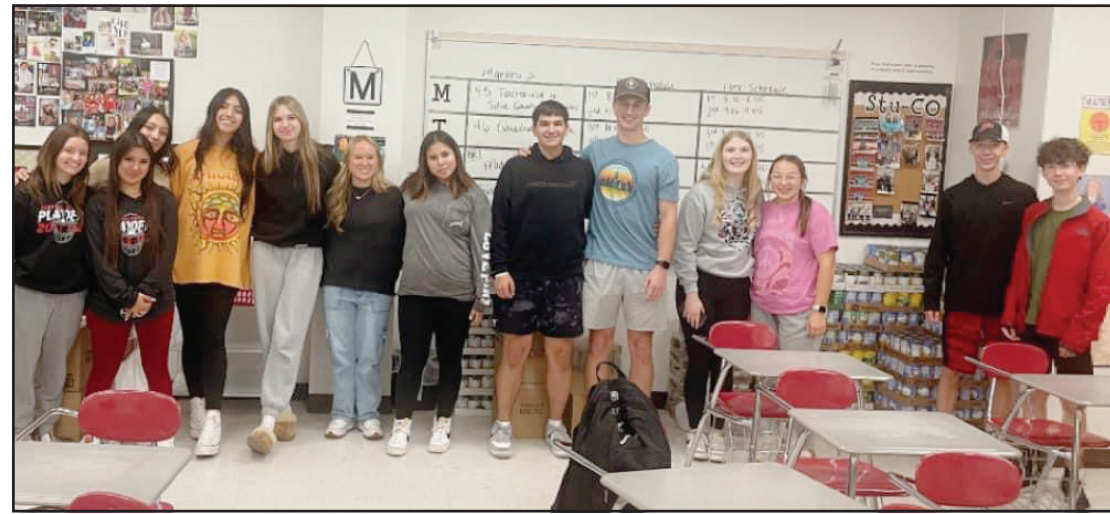
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for over

40 Years



• Photos provided

Contributions for Operation Christmas

Purcell High School Student Council collected over 3,000 non-perishable food items to help feed many local families through McClain County Operation Christmas and the Lil' Dragon Food Pantry. The sophomore class brought the most and won an extended lunch.

From page 1A

Memories:

and neighbors, we find the true richness of life, so as we gather around tables laden with love and gratitude, let's savor not just the delicious flavors but also the sweet moments of togetherness. Each smile,

shared story, and hearty laugh contributes to the tapestry of memories that make our communities unique and strong. On behalf of the Heart Of Oklahoma Chamber Of Commerce may this Thanksgiving

fill your hearts with the warmth of hope, joy, and gratitude. We wish you all a heartwarming and happy Thanksgiving, filled with love, laughter, and the creation of beautiful memories.



Fall Subscription SPECIAL

Stay up to date on the latest area news, school and sports news and community happenings. Take advantage of this print subscription offer that supports local journalism in our community.

SAVE when you buy a 2 YEAR SUBSCRIPTION*

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The Purcell Register

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• Photo provided

Donations for Operation Christmas

Michael Ozment, Assistant Manager for Wayne's Family Dollar Store, and Peggy Christian, McClain County Operation Christmas volunteer, worked to set up a drop box for donations. You may also drop donations at Dollar General in Purcell, the Purcell Public Library, Fired Up Nutrition, Pawsitively Purrfect, Walgreens, Pride Popcorn, Bravos, All in Diner, Belle Star Saloon, AB Hair Company and Happy Camper. Monetary donations may be mailed to Darrell Ford at PO Box 756, Purcell, OK 73080 or contact Gale Wilson at 405-250-8316.

PCCC Holiday Dinner and Auction

December 1 is the day for the Purcell Chickasaw Community Council Holiday Dinner and Auction.

Dinner will be served at the Purcell Area Office at 6 p.m. followed by the Annual Auction.

The turkey, dressing and ham will be provided by

Community Outreach Office. Our council will be providing drinks and bread. We are asking all those planning to attend to provide a side dish and/or dessert.

The auction will be super special with a real auctioneer! Many items have been donated but if you have something you

wish to donate, bring it along. There will be gifts for the little ones and it will be lots of fun!! Plan to attend the holiday dinner and meet the legislators and special guests!

Don't forget to bring some money or your checkbook! The money we make will help us operate over the next year!

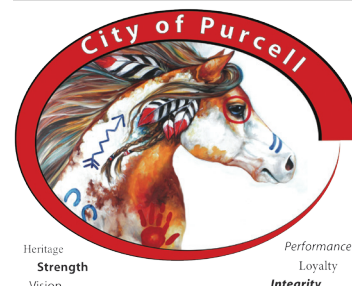
From page 1A

Demel:

Demel has a Masters of Public Administration degree from Wichita State University. He earned a Bachelor of Business Administration from The College of Santa Fe in Santa Fe, NM.

He has been the City Administrator at Kiowa since December 14, 2020. Prior to that he was an account manager for the Kansas Corporation Commission, served as the Community and Organizational Specialist for the Community Engagement Institute at Wichita State University and was a development coordinator for the South Central Kansas Economic Development District in Wichita.

The council said after Demel gets settled in January they are planning on having a community-wide reception for him to meet citizens.



NEWS from the City of Purcell

Responsibility of Home Owner to Maintain Property

It is the responsibility of the home owner and or tenant to maintain their property or be subject to a fine. Violations are as follows:

1. Tall grass or weeds, junk, trash, debris, inoperable vehicles, and discharging grass clippings into the street.
2. You are responsible for maintaining your property from the edge of the road or curb to the center of the alley. The City will trim the large trees in the alley.
3. Bulk waste pick up is the last Monday of every month. Please do not set bulk waste out until that weekend before the last Monday. (No loose items, no items to exceed 75 pounds, no antifreeze, paint, or batteries, no hazardous materials. No refrigerant compressors. Limbs must be in three-foot bundles).
4. Brush set out to the curb will be picked up with a charge determined by the size. Brush pick up is free in May and October. You may also call and arrange for brush pick up.
5. It takes all of us working together to keep Purcell a home to be proud of.

If you have any questions please call Code Enforcement at 405-527-4656.

DID YOU KNOW?

Since we will all be getting an annual tax bill mailed out to us directly or our mortgage company soon, I thought it important to show an example breakdown of your property taxes. Majority of us have mortgages and did you know if you are mortgaged, you don't receive a tax statement in the mail from the Treasurer's office? It goes straight to your lending company to be paid through your escrow. That green sheet of paper has a wealth of information on it, and sadly the bulk of property owners see none of it unless they call their respective County Treasurer and request a copy of their tax statement annually. Another injustice of living with loans and credit debt, is you never truly see where your money is going. I felt it beneficial to give an example tax bill breakdown of where 2023 property taxes will be dispersed. This example is my very own tax bill for 2023. I live in the Blanchard School district, McClain County. **IF YOU LIVE IN A DIFFERENT SCHOOL DISTRICT OR COUNTY, YOUR TAX BREAKDOWN WILL BE DIFFERENT. THIS IS FOR REFERENCE ONLY.**

Breakdown	Mills (TAX RATE)	Amount
County General	10.28	\$498.07
County Health	2.57	\$124.52
Vo-Tech General	10.29	\$498.56
Vo-Tech Building	1.03	\$49.90
County Wide 4-Mil	4.11	\$199.13
School District General Fund	36.02	\$1,745.21
School District Building Fund	5.15	\$249.52
School District Sinking Fund	35.23	\$1,706.93
EMS	3.09	\$149.71
Library	6.11	\$296.04
EMS Sinking	0.5	\$24.23
Totals	114.38 mills	\$5,541.82

Just over 70% of my entire tax bill goes toward **Blanchard Public Schools**. The 4 yellow highlighted funds are directly related to public schools. The Sinking Fund is any **Bonds passed**.

Another 10% goes to your **Vocational Tech school**, in this case, Mid-America Technology Center. They are highlighted in blue.

That leaves 20% to be divided among County Government, your local library, Co. Health Departments, and EMS.

I encourage you to call your County Treasurer each year around this time, and request a copy of your tax bill, to see exactly where all of your tax dollars go. I know that things are getting tough for the middle-class average joe and every dollar is stretched to make ends meet. I hope this information will help in some small way.

As always, feel free to call my office anytime. I am always delighted to educate taxpayers with any questions or assist them within in my capacity as their County Assessor. Ph# (405)-527-3520

I have learned a lot as your County Assessor since taking office in 2019. I am still learning every day more ways to help and enlighten my voters with how Ad Valorem works in its entirety. It has been a true pleasure to serve you these past 5 years and I look forward to working for you for many more! Thank you.

Kendal Sacchieri
McClain County Assessor



Purcell 14
Millwood 38



Washington 55
Meeker 7

The Purcell Register

Sports

B
SECTION

Thursday • November 23, 2023
purcellregister.com

Washington Cheer takes State



• Photo provided

State Champions

Washington Cheer captured their 15th Cheer State Championship November 11 at Moore High School.



Washington Cheer captured their 15th Cheer State Championship November 11 at Moore High School.

Forty-one teams competed in the Regional Championship November 4 in Jay, OK, with 15 teams including Washington and Purcell qualifying to move on to the Game Day State Championship last weekend. Once there, the teams com-

peted in three phases of competition including band dance, crowd leading cheer and school fight song.

After the preliminary round, the field was narrowed to the Top 6 teams who competed again for the final placings. The final 6 teams were Washington, Bethany, Bridge Creek, Community Christian, Mount St. Mary and Lone

Grove.

The Warriors performed a flawless routine with high energy to finish at the top of 4A.

The Washington community showed up at the competition in force and was extremely loud when cheering for the Warrior Cheer squad.

“Performing for that crowd was one of the best feelings I have ever felt!” said senior

Taylor Hayden.

Halle Andrews added, “Winning State is a feeling I don’t think anyone can describe. All I know is right when we ended the most perfect routine, and I saw all of my coaches reactions and their excitement, I knew we won at that moment!”

Please see **State**, page 4B

Wayne picks up two wins

Both teams are 1-0 to start the season

Emily Montgomery
The Purcell Register

Last Friday night Wayne kicked off their basketball season hosting Springer. The Lady Bulldogs got a 54-32 win.

Seven girls were on the board led by senior Faith Brazzell with 15. Freshman Taelyn Ringwald joined her in double figures with 13.

Wayne held a 33-12 lead at the half, spurned on by Brazzell’s three treys in the second quarter.

Scoring was more even in the second half, 21-20 advantage Wayne, but the Lady Bulldogs had already built a significant cushion.

Junior Addison Keeler added eight points, Audra Watts had seven and Madi Sharp had six.

The Lady Bulldogs will be

back on the court Tuesday, November 28 to host Elmore City.

Boys

The Wayne Bulldogs started their season with a win over Springer last Friday, 56-52.

Led by 20 points each from Jaxon Dill and Wyatt Webster, Wayne picked up the four-point win.

Down 30-21 at the half, Wayne outscored the Cardinals 35-22 in the second half behind Webster’s 12 fourth-quarter points.

Despite early foul trouble for Webster, his shooting helped the Bulldogs get their first victory of the season. He also had 17 rebounds.

Junior Ty Kemp had seven points and senior Bradey VanSchuyver added five.

Wayne will host Elmore City on Tuesday November 28.

11/17
Wayne 54
Springer 32

Springer 4 8 8 12—32
Wayne 15 18 9 12—54

Player	Points
Faith Brazzell	15
Taelyn Ringwald	13
Addison Keeler	8
Audra Watts	7
Madi Sharp	6
Brysten Shephard	3
Alyssa Hobson	2

11/17
Wayne 56
Springer 52

Springer 16 14 8 14—52
Wayne 13 8 16 19—56

Player	Points
Jaxon Dill	20
Wyatt Webster	20
Ty Kemp	7
Bradey VanSchuyver	5
Ashton Norton	2
Ben Fischer	2



Greg Gaston • double g images

Close the hole

Washington senior Naithen Spaulding slides down to close the run lane of a Meeker ball carrier during the Warriors’ 56-7 win over the Bulldogs. Spaulding had a team-high 11 tackles in the win.

Defense bows neck in win

Warriors smash Meeker, 56-7

John D. Montgomery
The Purcell Register

Outside of Meeker’s first drive, Washington’s defense played lights out in a 56-7 rout of the Bulldogs in the second round of the Class 2A playoffs.

“We definitely had a slow start on their first drive,” head coach Brad Beller said. “We were not physical and didn’t play with good technique or play with discipline.”

“They capitalized on it,” Beller continued. “They had some good completions and had some good runs.”

“We made very minimal adjustments,” the coach said. “We just had to get back to

playing the way we have all year. We responded from the second possession on, flying around, getting turnovers and tackling for losses.”

When the dust had settled, the Warriors had eight tackles

Please see **Warriors**, page 4B

Greg Gaston • double g images

Open grass

Washington senior Major Cantrell carries the ball during the Warriors’ 56-7 win over Meeker. Cantrell had five rushes for 95 yards and a rushing touchdown.



Lexington basketball kicks off November 28

Home opener against Sulphur

Emily Montgomery
The Purcell Register

Head coach Tyler Thetford, in his second season with the Lexington Bulldogs, is excited about the upcoming season.

“The outlook for this team is extremely positive. We have several seniors who return in-game experience. I expect this team to be well over .500 this season.”

Last season the Bulldogs were knocked out in the Regional tournament by Lone Grove and finished with a 9-16 record.

Lost to graduation were Ezra Faulkenberry, Corbin Perry, Trey Hartzog and Tate Collier.

Six seniors return this season and Thetford looks to lean on them. They are Ty Mixon, Drew Dierking, Skylar Rollins, Gage LaGace, Hunter Olson and Zeke Faulkenberry.

“Experience is our biggest strength. These guys know each other. They are comfortable together,” Thetford said.

He specifically mentioned Mixon, who has been shooting the ball very well in the preseason and Rollins, who Thetford expects to be dominant in the low post.

But, as much playing time his seniors have amassed in their time at Lexington, that experience has a significant dropoff as Thetford looks outside his starting line up.

“We’ll have to go deeper into the bench to build the experience of the underclassmen. We have enough for a JV team this year, so that will help give those guys in-game minutes,” Thetford said.

On the schedule for Lexington are perennial rivalries for

the Bulldogs to include Purcell and Davis. But also new teams like Stratford and Wynnewood, as Lexington has switched conferences.

“The schedule sets up well for us. And, we’ve had lots of conversations as a team about the opportunity in front of them and seizing the moment. We have to take advantage of the schedule we have,” Thetford said.

“If the boys show up like I know they can, we can have a

lot of success this season.”

Girls

Jacobi Couch is in his second year leading the Lexington Lady Bulldogs. Last season, his team was knocked out of the postseason by Comanche and graduated Leslie Barber, Rylee Beason, Janelle Winterton and Maddie Manuel.

“We’ll miss their leadership and presence on the court, but we have another senior class that is shaping up to be a good group of leaders and will make

big contributions to this team,” Couch said.

Several girls have made waves in the preseason for Couch. One of those is Mackenzie Manuel who will be a rover for Lexington while Abby Sample will be a solid presence on the floor.

Jordan Hardy will be the point guard for the Lady Dawgs.

“Jordan has developed tre-

mendously over the summer and I will look to her to run our offense,” Couch said.

Another player that caught the coach’s eye in the preseason was Charli Moore.

“Charli has made a huge impact. She’s definitely going to be in the mix and a leader on the floor.”

Kiely Givens is back on the basketball team this year and Couch is excited to have her

height in the post for Lexington. “With tall girls like Kiely, Landri (Bean), Natalie (Dickson) and Ryleigh (Markovich) we have some significant size to lean on.”

Couch said that if he had to make a starting lineup today, he’d have seniors Jordan Hardy, Charli Moore, Abby Sample

Please see **Lex**, page 4B

Lexington Basketball 2023-2024

November	Opponent	Location	Time
11/28	Sulphur	Home	6:30
December	Opponent	Location	Time
12/1	Stratford	Home	6:30
12/5	CCS	Home	6:30
12/12	Lone Grove	Away	6:30
12/14-16	Wynnewood Tournament	Away	TBA
January	Opponent	Location	Time
1/2	Wayne	Home	6:30
1/4-6	Davis Tournament	Away	TBA
1/12	Purcell	Away	6:30
1/16	Wynnewood	Away	6:30
1/18-20	Grady County Tournament	Away	TBA
1/23	Davis	Away	6:30
1/26	Little Axe*	Home	6:30
1/30	Casady	Away	6:30
February	Opponent	Location	Time
2/1	Davis**	Home	6:30
2/2	Dibble	Away	6:30
2/9	Purcell	Home	6:30
2/13	Little Axe	Away	6:30
2/16-17	District Tournament	TBD	TBD
2/22-24	Regional Tournament	TBD	TBD
2/29-3/2	Area Tournament	TBD	TBD
3/7-9	State Tournament	TBD	TBD

*Homecoming

**Senior Night

2023-24 Lexington Basketball


Zeke Faulkenberry
Sr, 0


Colt Mixon
Jr, 1


Ty Mixon
Sr, 3


Hunter Olson
Sr, 5


Reagan Smith
Jr, 10


Gage LaGace
Sr, 11


Buddy Cormany
Jr, 12


Drew Dierking
Sr, 20


Elijah Pearman
Jr, 21


Tucker Flemming
Sr, 22


Gavrie Williams
Jr, 25


Skylar Rollins
Sr, 32


Cale Garver
So, 33


Jordan Faulkenberry
So, 35


Tyler Thetford
Head Coach


Kyle Wells
Asst. Coach



WARRIORS VS. BULLDOGS

MEEKER	7	0	0	0	7
WASHINGTON	14	14	14	14	56

TEAM OFFENSIVE STATS

	ATTEMPTS	YARDS	TDS
RUSHING	37	419	7
PASSING	9/15	173	1

TEAM DEFENSIVE STATS

TACKLES	TFL	INT
N. SPAULDING - 11	N. SPAULDING - 4	C. BELLER - 1
K. HOWARD - 10	K. HOWARD - 1	T. OLSON - 1
B. VAUGHN - 8	B. VAUGHN - 1	M. WILSON - 1
C. TAYLOR - 8		D. THOMAS - 1
C. BELLER - 7		
C. ALEXANDER - 7		

SCORING PLAYS

1ST QUARTER

- H. HOWARD 11 YARD RUN, M. THOMAS PAT
- H. HOWARD 66 YARD RUN, M. THOMAS PAT

2ND QUARTER

- M. CANTRELL 55 YARD RUN, M. THOMAS PAT
- M. CANTRELL 44 YARD PASS TO M. SINGLETARY, M. THOMAS PAT

3RD QUARTER

- H. HOWARD 55 YARD RUN, M. THOMAS PAT
- K. NORMAN 6 YARD RUN, M. THOMAS PAT

4TH QUARTER

- K. NORMAN 14 YARD RUN, M. THOMAS PAT
- K. NORMAN 1 YARD RUN, M. THOMAS PAT

2023-24 Lexington Basketball


Ryleigh Markovich
So, 0


Lexie Torres
So, 1


Emma Stone
Fr, 3


Hadley Wilkins
So, 5


Jordan Hardy
Sr, 10


Natalie Dickson
Sr, 11


Charli Moore
Sr, 12


Kiely Givens
Sr, 14


Landri Bean
Sr, 15


Addison Lippel
Jr, 22


Abby Sample
Sr, 24


Chloe Becker
Fr, 25


Mackenzie Manuel
So, 30


Marleigh Givens
Fr, 44


Torie Moore
So


Tia Peery
Manager


Grayce Vinson
Manager


Jacobi Couch
Head Coach


Kallie McMahan
Asst. Coach

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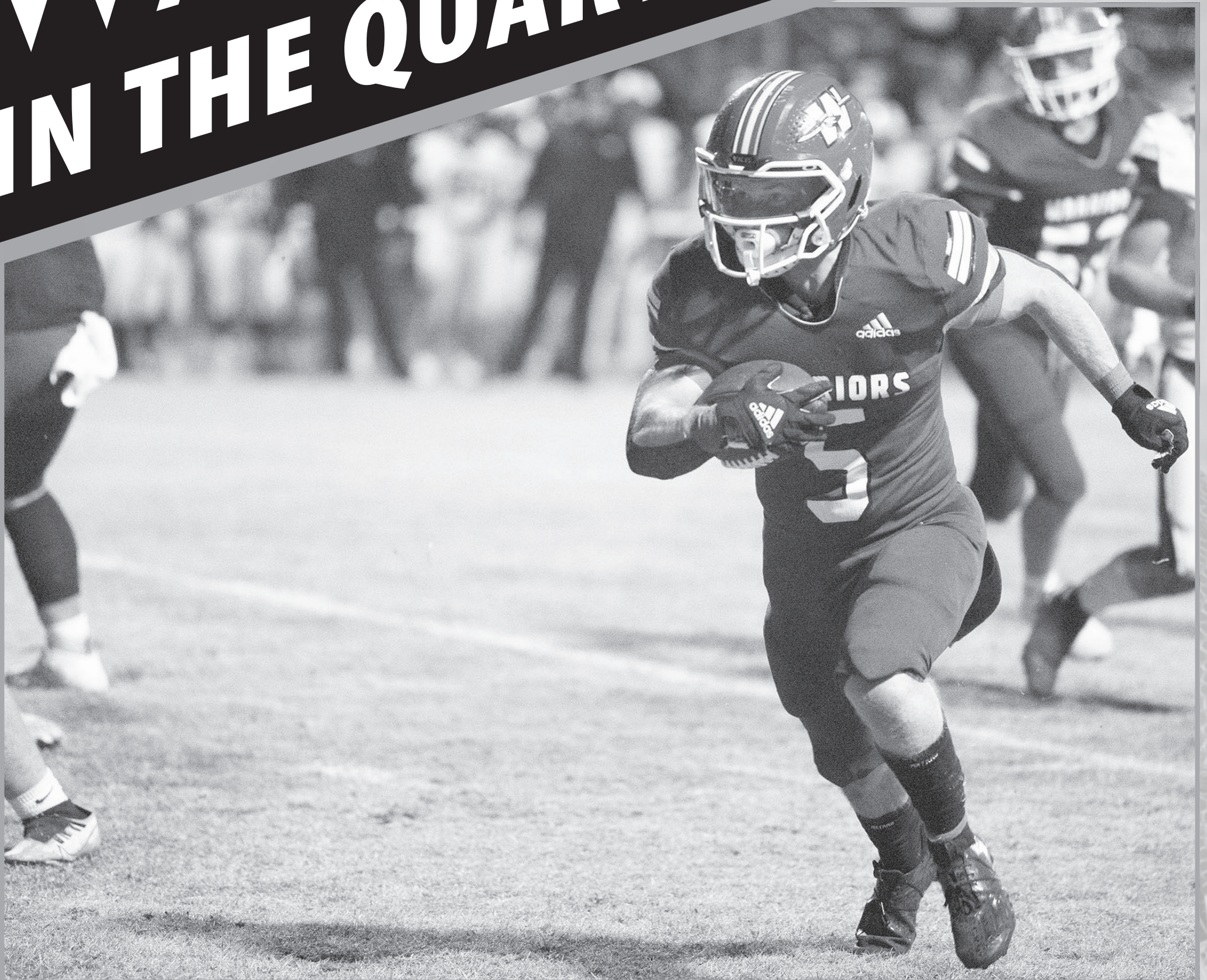
WILSON LITTLE FUNERAL HOME

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Good Luck WASHINGTON IN THE QUARTERFINALS



Washington vs Vian • Friday at 7 PM at East Central University in Ada

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Goldsby Church
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Libby's Cafe
Marcum's Nursery
Washington Public Schools
Washington Town Hall
The Purcell Register*

Millwood ends Dragons' season

John D. Montgomery
The Purcell Register

Purcell's run in the Class 2A State Playoffs came to an end at Millwood last Friday night.

The defending State Runners-up Falcons defeated the Dragons 38-14.

Purcell finished coach Aaron Dillard's initial campaign as head coach 9-3 and were District Runners-up.

Boston Knowles had a big night rushing the pigskin for the Dragons with ??? yards on the ground including a 28 yard touchdown scamper.

Kash Guthmueller scored the other Purcell touchdown jetting in from seven yards out.

"Boston had a strong game and our A backs Carter Bennett and Jett Tyler contributed," Dillard said.

On the defensive side of the ball, Dillard said Brody Holder played well.

"Brody had a strong game making eight tackles from his defensive end position.

"Christian Kirk played well," Dillard continued. "With Ryker Fink missing we had to slide him over to the Mike linebacker spot. Kash came down hill from his safety position to make a few tackles in space.

"I think we surprised a lot of people but not ourselves.

"We had a lot of guys starting that had not played a lot of football. They were upper

classmen but inexperienced on Friday nights. Over the course of the year those guys continued to get better and better.

"We had a lot of freshmen and sophomores get meaningful snaps some because we had to use them due to injuries and others just rotated in. That definitely accelerated the learning curve," he said.

The Dragons will lose 11 players to graduation in May

including Tavian Engert, Brody Holder, Derek Cravens, Payton Rivera, Noah Mason, Ryker Fink, Colt Taylor, Jett Tyler, Nathan Tekaat, Noah Gracey and Carter Goldston.

"We try to work those younger guys in on special teams as early as we can.

"I think we had a very positive year and I'm optimistic about what we have coming back," Dillard concluded.



John Denny Montgomery • The Purcell Register

Gang tackling

Purcell defenders Christian Kirk (55), Nathan Tekaat (33) and Derek Cravens (65) team up to bring down a Millwood ball carrier. Purcell was defeated 38-14.



John Denny Montgomery • The Purcell Register

Busting a big one

Purcell junior Boston Knowles gets behind the Millwood defense Friday night during the Dragons' game against the Falcons. Purcell fell 38-14, ending their season.

From page 2B

Lex:

and Kiely Givens and sophomore Mackenzie Manuel round out his first five.

"I have a bunch of girls who can go compete every day. I'll probably consistently play 10 girls," Couch said.

As the season gets started Couch sees his team's speed and size as their strength.

"Not many teams can say they have speed and size, but we have lots of long girls and we'll rely on a fast, uptempo

game."

But, Couch is also preaching an "us versus us" mindset.

"We have to have confidence in us. When things don't go our way, we can't get down. We have to respond and move on to the next play. Our motto is 'eyes up'," Couch said.

As always, Lexington's schedule is chock-full of tough matchups and exciting games, but Couch believes Stratford and Purcell will be good tests

for his squad.

Lexington has switched conferences and Couch and his team feel like this works in their favor.

"This is huge for us. Not every game is life or death, but we feel like we can make some noise in 3A."

Couch believes his team will surprise people.

"We're an up-and-coming team. We'll be solid and people better pay attention."

From page 1B

State:

the senior continued, "This team wanted it so bad and it showed when we performed!"

The State title marks Washington's second Game Day Championship in three years. The program adds these trophies to the 13 performance State Championships they have previously won to bring their total to 15 titles making them the second most successful cheer program in Oklahoma history throughout all classes behind Tuttle High School with 18 titles.

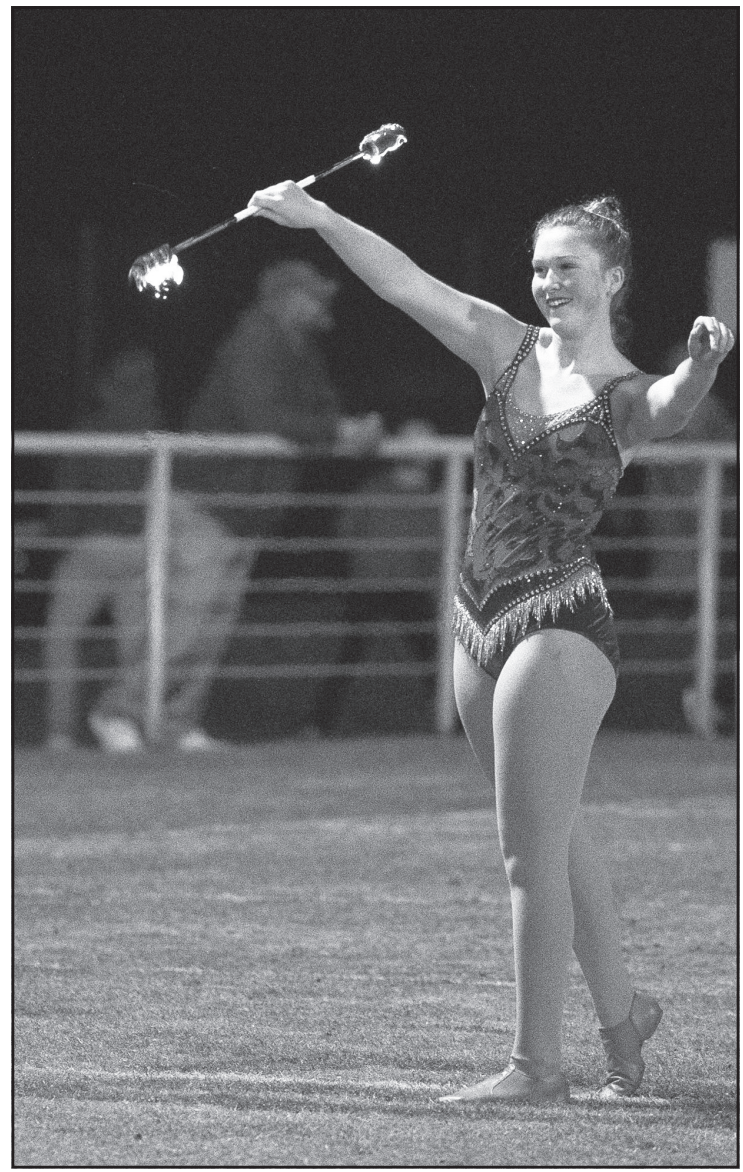
Senior Maddie Green credits the team's success to their coaches Sheila LeForce, Jeff LeForce, Madison Monks and Craig Hallmark who have been with the program since its first State Championship in 1999.

Senior Haven Brewer said, "The team is also grateful for a very supportive administration that has always treated cheer like every other sport at the school."

The championship team consists of nine seniors including Halle Andrews, Kendall

Bolser, Haven Brewer, Maddie Green, Taylor Hayden, Emmalea Harding, Emily Madden, Lexi Ralls and Ally Hobbs; four juniors including Grace Grimsey, Leksi Rector, Rielyn Scheffe and Pailsey Taylor.

Also, five sophomores including Bailey McAlister, Kynsli Hyde, Scarlett Tontz, Ashlynn Beller, Sabrina Posey and Elizabeth Dunn; as well as four freshmen including Stevie Haynes, Emma Musgrove, Sutton Goodrum and Sophie Perkins.



Greg Gaston • double g images

Lit

Washington twirler Presley Strickland put on a fiery performance Friday night while the Warriors defeated Meeker, 56-7.

From page 1B

Warriors:

for losses.

"Naithen Spaulding had one of his best games of the year," Beller said.

Spaulding had a team-high 11 tackles including one for a loss and registered a quarterback sack.

Keller Howard had 10 tackles including one for a loss. Ben Vaughn also had a tackle for a loss among his eight stops.

Case Taylor matched Vaughn's eight tackle night and recovered a fumble. Cole Beller registered seven tackles and picked off an errant Bulldog pass.

Also making interceptions in the contest were Tanner Olson, Max Wilson and Dawson Thomas.

"Keller Howard has been a force all year and this game turned into his game. And, our secondary did an outstanding job of getting timely turnovers. They made interceptions at very opportune times," Beller said.

On the other side of the ball, the Warriors ground out 419 rushing yards led by Hudson Howard.

On just 10 carries Howard galloped to 204 yards and three touchdowns.

Howard scored on runs of 11, 66 and 55-yards.

Kade Norman, who Beller called "Mr. Reliable", came in to spell Hudson and had 12 carries for 73 yards and three touchdowns.

Norman's scoring runs were six, 14 and one-yards.

Senior quarterback Major Cantrell scored on a 55 yard scamper in the third quarter and finished with 80 yards rushing on four carries.

Cantrell also tossed a 44 yard scoring strike to Mason Singletary in the second period.

"We established the run early and that was the difference in the game," Beller said. "It opened up our passing game."

Cantrell was an efficient 9-15 for 173 yards and the one

their star player in a couple of those losses.

The Wolverines finished third in their district and have shown dramatic improvement since their season opening loss to Washington, winning their last two games on the road over Eufaula and Adair.

Their offense centers around their two playmakers in quarterback Masyn Wright and running back Draughton Fletcher.

Vian's offensive forward

"We established the run early and that was the difference in the game. It opened up our passing game."

— Brad Beller, head coach

touchdown.

That strong, grind-it-out rushing attack was made available by center Kingston Stringer, guards Jordan Vanya and Tanner Winlock, tackles Easton Berglan and Baylor Haynes and tight ends Cooper Alexander and Nate Roberts. "I'm proud of all of them," Beller said. "But especially our two tight ends. They are big and strong and proved they can do more than run pass routes and catch balls. They really pitched in on the run game. They were physical blockers. They can dominate in blocking as well."

Up next is round two with the Vian Wolverines.

Kickoff Friday night in Ada has been set for 7 p.m.

Vian is 8-4 but didn't have

wall is massive and has taken giant strides since that season opening contest, a 55-13 Washington victory.

"Their calling card is they are physical. They will strike you. Early in the season we saw them and Sulphur and they had good defenses and nothing has changed. Early in the year they were in a 3-4 but now they've changed to a four-man front.

"They move around a lot and play man coverage in the secondary 95 percent of the time," the coach said.

The key for the Warriors is to contain their explosive plays on defense and continue to be efficient and balanced on offense. We have to control the front lines on both sides of the ball," he concluded.



Greg Gaston • double g images

Out the gate

Washington junior Mayson Thomas (13) carries the rock while getting blocks from Kade Norman (33) and Kingston Stringer (59) during the warriors' 56-7 win over Meeker Friday night. Thomas finished with 21 yards rushing.

2023 AWOL nominations are now open

Angie Steele
Washington Correspondent

Join us in supporting someone in our community who is going through a life-altering event. AWOL (A Week of Love) is a district-wide fundraising drive sponsored by the WHS Student Council.

Do you know someone connected to our community who could use a helping hand during their challenging journey? Nominate them for AWOL 2024!

Whether it's a neighbor, a friend, or a family member, let's rally together and make a positive impact on their lives. To submit a nomination, fill out the nomination form on the Washington School website at https://www.wps-isd.com/296497_2.

Nominations will be accepted until Jan. 5, 2004! Let's show our support and make a difference in the lives of those who need it most. Spread the word, share this post, and tag anyone who might be interested.

Together, we can create a stronger and more compassionate community. Let's make AWOL 2024 a resounding success!

Football Playoffs

Warrior Football plays Vian in Round Three (Quarterfinals) of the 2023 playoffs at East Central University in Ada Friday, November 24, 7 p.m. kickoff.

Tickets sold online: \$8.35 entry with your ticket on phone. Cash tickets, \$10.

Ticket link:

<https://gofan.com/event/1217023?schoolId=OSSAA>

FCCLA

Congratulations to the amazing WHS FCCLA students who competed at the District Competition!

Washington Public School is thrilled to announce that all of our competitors placed first in their respective events!

A big shoutout to Washington FCCLA STAR Event winners:

Max Dunn - Creed Speaking
Alexa Harris, Addison Hyde, & Allie Maddes - Professional Presentation

Samantha Self - Repurpose and Redesign

These talented individuals will now move on to compete at Regionals on February 7 in Chickasha.

Participating in Competitive Events not only allows FCCLA members to gain valuable industry insights but also equips them with employable skills essential for success in the 21st Century.

With over 50 Competitive Events to choose from, our members can apply the knowledge and skills they've acquired through Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) education.

Competing at regional/district, state, and national levels in Competitive Events offers our members the opportunity to explore different Career Pathways and tackle important personal, work, and societal issues.

Washington School Lunch Menu

November 20-24—No School, Thanksgiving Break.

November 27—Sloppy Joes, french fries, veggies, fruit, milk.

November 28—Nachos, beans, corn, banana bread, fruit, milk.

November 29—Chicken strips, potato wedges, vegetables, banana bread, fruit, milk.

November 30—Italian pasta bake, green beans, breadstick, fruit, milk.

Washington Senior Center

Did you know that you don't have to be a senior to eat lunch at the center? We welcome everyone to come in and eat. Plus, when you come in to eat, it helps us to keep meal deliveries going for our seniors who can't get out.

If you know of any seniors who could benefit with meal delivery in the Washington/Goldsby area give the center a

call at 405-288-6404.

Menu for November 23-December 1:

Thursday, November 23—Closed, Thanksgiving.

Friday, November 24—Closed for Thanksgiving.

Monday, November 27—Pork chops, macaroni /tomato, cabbage, applesauce.

Tuesday, November 28—Baked Potato Bar, chili, broccoli. If Washington has no water, then we will be closed.

Wednesday, November 29—Smoke sausage, corn casserole, baked beans.

Thursday, November 30—Chicken pot pie, peas/carrots, salad.

Friday, December 1—Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans.

Menu may change at the discretion of the cook and availability of food.

All meals are served with beverage, dessert and salad bar.

Lunch is served from 11:30 a.m. to 12 noon, Monday through Friday.

Cost per meal: \$3 suggested donation for 60 years old and above and those disabled; \$6 for 59 years and below.

Friday Music Jams start at 10 a.m. until? Anyone is welcome to sit in and sing or play an instrument.

Washington School Board Meeting Schedule

All Washington School Board meetings will be held in the 4/5th Building Library at 6:30 p.m.

Meetings are scheduled for December 11, January 8, February 12, March 11, April 8, May 13, June 10, July 5 and August 12.

Washington Public Schools Calendar

November 24—HS Football playoffs vs. Vian, Quarterfinals at East Central State University, 7 p.m.

November 25—HS GBK scrimmage vs. Weatherford, home, 11 a.m.

November 27—7/8/9 BBK Ada, Girls away, Boys home, 5 p.m.

November 28—7/8/9 BBK Newcastle, Girls home, Boys away, 5 p.m.

November 29—9th grade basketball tourney at Pauls Valley.

November 30—Christmas Parade.

Dale K. Graham Veterans Foundation

As many of us will be celebrating Thanksgiving with family and friends, please take a moment to think about the thousands of military members who are serving around the world. Many of them are serv-

ing in areas where hostilities could occur at any time. Please pray for the safe return of all of the men and women who are serving in our military.

Last week we worked extra hard processing veteran claims for VA benefits. It seems like every time we start catching up more veterans and surviving spouses are asking for our help. Hopefully we will be able to work on everyone's VA application for benefits as quickly as possible.

When I'm triaging veterans I always ask each of them if they would like to join our team of dedicated volunteers to help us to make a difference in the lives of the men and women who have given so much for our country. I don't think I have ever seen a time like this where so few are standing up for so many.

When we went to Vietnam only about three percent of our population took the oath when being inducted in the armed forces. Today, less than one percent of our population has served in the military. It seems like there is a problem when so few Americans are serving in our military.

From what I have been reading none of the services are meeting their recruitment goals. At some point in time all of us may pay a price for our freedoms. Personally, I don't understand what is going on in our cities with all of the drug use, homelessness, stealing and the high number of shootings that occur every day. Maybe it's time for our elected officials to make some changes.

As always, we need more volunteers to help us to assist the increased number of veterans and surviving spouses who need our help to receive VA benefits. We have established a digital system to train volunteers to either work at our location or from their home to assist veterans and their families. Come see us!

To start our process, login to dkgvf.org to fill out and scan your information into our Intake Q program. By using our digital system, veterans do not have to stand in line to receive our assistance with their VA claims and questions. Some of the men and women who we assist live in other states or countries. Using our digital system some of them will not need to visit us in person as we can triage them electronically or by phone.

We encourage veterans or surviving spouses who we have previously assisted to register in our dkgvf.org system so we

will be able to help their surviving spouse when the veteran passes on.

We accept the donation of cars and trucks that can be given to veterans or sold to raise funds to help more veterans and their families. As always, we appreciate all donations that can be used to make a difference in the lives of our men and women who have served in the military.

All of us at our Veterans Foundation are proud to do everything we can to assist the men and women who are serving or have served in the United States Military. We have been making a difference in the lives of veterans and their families for over 20 years. For those of you who would like to join our team, volunteer applications are available on our website.

We are a free service to all veterans and their families. We are open Monday through Friday starting at 9 a.m. Come visit us in Norman at 1233 West Lindsay Street.

We are a 501c-3 Non-Profit organization and there is never a charge for the services we provide to veterans and their families. We do accept financial contributions to be used to support veterans and this organization.

We also accept donations of wheelchairs and other types of handicap equipment that can be given to other veterans or their families. Other items that we accept are cars, trucks, motorcycles, or items that can be given to veterans or sold to raise funds.

We are open to active clients Monday, Tuesday and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon.

To donate to our Foundation, you can do so online at dalekgrahamveteransfoundation.org or mail a check to Dale K. Graham Veterans Foundation, 1233 West Lindsay, Norman, OK 73069. You can contact us on our website or by calling 405-550-8806.

Dale K. Graham,
Accredited Claims Agent
Dale K. Graham
Veterans Foundation
Washington Correspondent Contact Information

I would love to share your personal or community news with our readers.

My contact information is angiesteele73@gmail.com or 405-413-2471 if you have any news to share, story ideas, or if you have someone you would like to see a feature article about. Send me birthday, anniversary, or personal news you would like to share with our community.

Angie Steele



• Photo provided

Happy Thanksgiving

Washington Middle School Principal, Justin Mann and secretary Robyne Cox greeted students last Friday as they arrived at school.



Angie Steele • The Purcell Register

FCCLA Star Event winners

A big shoutout to Washington FCCLA STAR Event winners Max Dunn, Creed Speaking; Alexa Harris, Addison Hyde, and Allie Maddes, Professional Presentation and Samantha Self, Repurpose and Redesign.

Cole Fire Auxiliary

CHRISTMAS SANTA'S PARTY

★

GREAT TIME FOR FAMILIES AND THE COMMUNITY
Get a free picture with an unwrapped unopened gift.

DOORS OPEN AT 4 PM
5 DOLLAR PICTURES WITH SANTA
CRAFTS, ORNAMENT DECORATION, COOKIE DECORATION, HOT COCOA BAR, PICTURES WITH SANTA

SPECIAL GUEST:
Santa and Mrs. Clause

★

DECEMBER 2 & 3
4 TO 7 PM



• Photo provided

Time to give thanks

This is the season of thankfulness and gratitude! Washington Public School would like to take a moment to express our heartfelt appreciation for the amazing individuals who made our traditional Thanksgiving feast a resounding success. Let's give a big shout-out to our outstanding cafeteria staff and the dedicated members of the WPS staff who worked tirelessly behind the scenes. Their unwavering commitment and hard work ensured that over 900 meals were served today, spreading joy and warmth to our school community. It's incredible to witness their dedication to their roles, even during the busiest times. To our cafeteria staff and all those involved, we appreciate your invaluable contributions and for going above and beyond to create a memorable lunch for our students. WPS is grateful to have you as part of our school family.

RECRUITING VOLUNTEERS

WASHINGTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

BE SOMEONE'S HERO

← PRESERVE LIFE →
← PROTECT PROPERTY →
← SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY →

For More Information Call:
405-339-3533

Religion

Green Avenue Church of Christ

After finishing up our study of Philemon, our Wednesday night class began the book of Hebrews. If you are interested in studying this book with us, we would welcome you to come. Our study begins each Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Sunday morning our Bible study had some interesting information about social media and artificial intelligence. We are taking a look at what effect this has on us and also how these are being used by Christians and the church today and if they are dangerous or if they might have a proper use. Jesus was once asked what was the first or great command-

ment, and He answered using Deuteronomy 6 where Moses declared the Lord God is one Lord and He should be loved with our whole being.

Keith Shackleford's sermon Sunday morning was the context of Deuteronomy chapters 4-6 and how this commandment was presented, from among all the others, to be the first, the great commandment.

Sunday evening's sermon was a study of Psalm 116 with the title taken from verse 12, "What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me?" The Psalmist wrote about his despair and fear of death, and that he prayed for God's

deliverance, and that God did indeed save him.

So, then he takes up the thought that if God has done such wonderful things for him, how could he repay (if possible) the Lord? His conclusion is that he must walk faithfully before God and give Him the praise and thanks He is due.

We invite you to meet with us at 407 Jackson St. in Purcell for Bible study at 7 p.m. Wednesday night and 9:45 a.m. Sunday. Our worship services on Sundays are 10:45 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Bible correspondence courses are available, call 405-527-4052.

Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church

By Stella Bledsoe

November 26, 2023 is the thirty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, and it is the last Sunday in Year A. On this last Sunday of the liturgical year, we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King.

The gospel reading is Matthew 25:31-46. It is a foretelling of judgment day. Jesus says people will be welcomed into God's Kingdom because they gave him food when he was hungry, drink when he was thirsty and welcomed him when he was a stranger.

The audience answered that they did not recall giving Jesus food, water, or companionship, and Jesus tells them, "In truth I tell you, in so far as you did this to one of the least of my brothers, you did it to me."

Conversely, Jesus says some are rejected because they did not give him food when he was hungry, drink when he was thirsty, or welcome him when he was a stranger.

The audience of those people answered that they did not recall failing to give Jesus food, water

or companionship.

Then Jesus tells them, "In truth I tell you, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me."

Our Gospel puts it quite simply: We will be judged by how we treat others, by how much we care for the least of our brothers and sisters, by how closely we follow the example of Jesus our Good Shepherd and Servant Leader.

In Jesus' teachings, he gives us a model for how we should treat others, as if they were Christ in disguise. These are called the Corporal Works of Mercy. They are feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit prisoners, bury the dead and give alms to the poor.

One way for us to see needs is by being the person we needed when we were younger.

Jesus is not impressed by acts of charity done for show. In God's Kingdom, it is small unseen actions done with a good heart which speak the loudest.

St. Theresa said that if we go through life without anyone noticing our good actions, so much the better.

Remember to recognize Christ in the vulnerable members of our human family, the less capable, the unborn baby, the long-term sick, those bullied at work or at school, those with mental or emotional problems. We're here in this world to help each other and the happiest people are those who do.

Please join us in celebrating the love of Jesus at Our Lady of Victory parish.

Our Lady of Victory parish is located at 307 West Jefferson. The church administrative office is located at 501 N. 4th, and it is open weekday mornings. The office number is 405-527-3077.

Weekend mass services are Saturday, 5 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m.; and Sunday, 1 p.m. (Spanish). Daily masses are Tuesday, 9 a.m.; Wednesday, 12 noon; Thursday, 7 p.m. (Spanish), and Friday, 9 a.m. Peace be with you.

The Purcell Register

Church DIRECTORY

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
405 W. Grant, Purcell
Rev. Bill Crawford
405-820-8184
Sunday
Worship: 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday
Adult Studies: 7 p.m.

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH LEXINGTON
Connecting People With God and One Another
Children's Activities - Youth Activities
Wednesday Evening - 6:30 p.m.
Sunday School 9:15
Morning Worship 8:15 • 10:15
Rusty Canoy
Pastor 527-6758
900 E. BROADWAY • LEXINGTON

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

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

Johnson Road Baptist Church
4 mi. N. of Purcell on I-35
Sunday School
9:45 a.m.
Worship Service
11:00 a.m.
405-818-8848

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

Lighthouse Worship Center
Rev. Nathan Mullins
405.442.0155
2726 N. 9th, Purcell
Sunday Morning - 10:30 am
Sunday Evening - 6:00 pm
Wednesday Evening - 7:00 pm
www.lwcpurcell.com

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
Sunday Worship
8:15, 9:45, 11:15 am
Wednesday Evening
7:00 pm
Pastor Justin Blankenship
1106 W Grant Street, Purcell
(405) 527-3342

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

Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church
CORNER OF THIRD & JEFFERSON
Saturday - 5 pm (English)
Sunday - 11 am (English)
1 pm (Español)
Daily Mass
Tues. & Fri. 9 am • Wed. Noon • Thurs. 7 pm (Español)
Parish Office/Oficina: 527-3077
Priest House/Padre Juan Pedro: 527-4242

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

Goldsby 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
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Pastor Tracy Hoskins
211 N. 2nd, Purcell
527-2256 Office

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 John Wylie
527-6808
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship: 10:50 a.m.
Evening Worship: 5:00 p.m.

Sunray Baptist Church

James Kyzer sang "Thank You, Lord for Your Blessings On Me" for the morning special.

Brother John preached from Romans 1:18-23 and said this is the time of year that we should see the blessings of God in our life.

We take many blessings for granted and do not acknowledge God or give thanksgiving to Him. God encoded Himself in creation. He has great power. No man can say there is no God. He is findable if you only seek Him.

Man chose not to glorify God. He needs nothing. We should glorify and acknowledge Him. This will keep us close to Him. Many have an exaggerated view of their own knowledge. They are beyond their need of

God and don't want to serve Him.

We need to see God as He is, believing the right things about Him. God is good.

He offered His Son as a substitute for us. He lived a sinless life. He alone can pay the price for our sin.

The evening message was from Romans 8:26-27 and told of the Holy Spirit's help in our prayer life. We need the Spirit's help at all times.

The Spirit intercedes for us when we pray. He helps our weaknesses and does what we can't do for ourselves. The Holy Spirit speaks the will of God. He conforms our prayers to God's will.

We wish everyone a blessed Thanksgiving holiday. Our prayers go out to those in need.

We are thankful for the many blessings that God has given us.

Many activities are planned in the coming weeks. On December 2 we will be taking the church van to Del City to see The Williamsons' Christmas Show.

On December 5 our senior adults will travel to Chickasha to eat at Jake's Rib and to see the Christmas lights. On December 10 we will have our annual Holiday meal and no evening service.

Sunray welcomes you to our Sunday School, worship and all activities at Sunray Baptist Church.

John Wylie serves as our pastor. Sunray is located at 2223 North 9th Street in Purcell.

For additional information call 405-527-6808.

Lexington Westside Church of Christ

Welcome to the Thanksgiving edition of our Front-Porch Gospel.

You know every year we start early and finish late in reminiscing about Thanksgiving. By the time you read this, do you know you will be within, say, twelve hours of some good ol' turkey and dressing and cranberry sauce and pumpkin, pecan, and apple pies, enough to keep you full 'til Christmas.

If my guess is right (and they almost always are, or at least sometimes), by the weekend you will have cooked, watched football, told jokes, played games, plugged in a movie or two, laughed, and played with babies who - in some of our cases - are now our babies' babies. Plus, you will have been able to catch up on old times with relatives we haven't seen

since before some of their hair turned bright red.

You understand.

Why, you may even be the relative with the bright red hair yourself!

And you and I and the rest of the world will feel good way down inside. I know that's not grammatical, it should be 'well.' But I like it better saying 'good' sometimes. There's got to be a difference between feeling 'well' and feeling 'good,' so I'm going to establish a new grammatical trend because it just makes more sense.

I'm not going to write a long piece this week (you've got cooking to do, a house to clean, and a hundred things to do besides to get ready for your company, so you don't have a lot of time to sit and read -- but that you are doing that now is a great

compliment to us, and, for that, I thank you. And if you smiled even once reading today's piece -- well, that's even better.)

It's okay to cut today's visit a little short anyway, because you know that next week it will still be Thanksgiving. If you've sat out on the front porch with us any time at all you know that I just have a hard time moving past it, which is a good thing.

So, next week, let's talk some more about Thanksgiving. I don't know what it will be, exactly, but my guess is that we'll all feel 'good' inside even more than we do now. And my guesses are usually almost always right. And with Thanksgiving, I know I'm right on that. God bless you all and your families!

(coachbowen1984@gmail.com)





Bill Bruegan • The Purcell Register

Coming soon

Lexington First Baptist Church will have their live nativity scene December 8-9 from 6-8 p.m. Drive through the scene and view live animals while drinking hot chocolate. Canned goods donations will be accepted.

MATC students attend Southwest District Leadership Conference

Mid-America Technology Center was busy Thursday morning as 116 students and six advisors boarded buses bound for the SkillsUSA 2023 Southwest District Leadership Conference held at the Grady County Fairground in Chickasha.

This is a conference for students by students. The Southwest District Officer Team, which includes five MATC students: Isaiah Butler, Home-schooled/Norman; Gabe Herring, Epic/Wynnewood; Myles Hall, Little Axe; McKenna Largent, Lindsay; and Dale Hodge, Newcastle, organized the entire conference from planning to

execution.

These students led all the activities, kept the students engaged, gave speeches, and made all announcements. Mid-America Tech also had our two state SkillsUSA officers attend, lending moral support and speaking about SkillsUSA on the state level.

The students attending the conference had the opportunity to learn about the SkillsUSA Framework, which emphasizes personal, workplace, and technical skills that will enable them to achieve career success.

The students attended more in-depth presentations on each

of the Framework components: Personal Skills, Workplace Skills, and Technical Skills Grounded in Academics.

In addition, students worked on their Statesman Award, and there was also time to have fun with lunch, games, and networking.

SkillsUSA is a national organization championing the skilled trades, representing nearly 400,000 career and technical students and teachers.

Its mission is to empower students to become skilled professionals, career-ready leaders and responsible community members.

Lowak Sho'li First American Humanities Forum November 28

The 11th annual Lowak Sho'li (Carry the Fire) First American Humanities Forum will take place at 6 p.m. November 28 at the Chickasaw Nation Community Center, 700 N. Mississippi, in Ada. This year's theme for the forum is "First Americans in History."

"The theme was chosen out of a need for more First Americans, particularly Chickasaws, in the field of history," Ethan Cox, creative arts manager at the Chickasaw Nation Literary Arts Division, said. "Many scholars in the field of Chickasaw history are non-Chickasaw, and we believe it is important for Chickasaw people to tell their own story, from their own perspective."

The forum will feature four panelists, each a Chickasaw citizen or employee of the

Chickasaw Nation. The panelists are experts within their field and have extensive knowledge in anthropology, literature, history and language arts.

Panelists are Stan Nelson, LaDonna Brown, Michelle Cooke and Joshua "Lokosh" Hinson, Ph.D. Chickasaw citizen. Research specialist and Chickasaw Nation genealogist Katie Cain will serve as moderator during the forum.

"We are excited for this group of diverse panelists," Cox said. "They all possess a wealth of knowledge regarding Chickasaw history, but also bring specific expertise in Chickasaw language, research and culture. This group of panelists will bring rich and diverse knowledge on the topic of Chickasaw history."

Those in attendance are invited to learn more about First

American history by engaging with the scholars. Following the panel discussion, Lowak Sho'li will host a question-and-answer segment.

"The forum has a history of encouraging First American students to consider careers in arts and humanities, and while that concept remains, the forum also now serves as an opportunity for professionals in those fields to meet and share their voices in a setting conducive of academic and professional discourse," Cox said.

This event is open to the public at no charge.

For more information or to register, visit Chickasaw.net/Lowak or email CreativeArts@Chickasaw.net.

The Chickasaw Nation Literary Arts Division can also be reached at 580-436-7282.



• Photo provided

Forum moderator

Kati Cain will be the moderator for the 2023 Lowak Sho'li First American Humanities Forum. A Chickasaw citizen, Cain is a research specialist and genealogist for the Chickasaw Nation Literary Arts Division. With her experience and background, Cain has a deep understanding and connection to this year's forum theme, "First Americans in History."



• Photo provided

Leadership conference attendees

Mid-America Technology Center "showed up and showed out" at the SkillsUSA SW District Fall Leadership Conference. The group was the largest one from a technology center!



• Photo provided

District officers

District Officers include Ely Fraire, Canadian Valley Tech-Chickasha, Vice President; Erica Lemke, Canadian Valley Tech-Chickasha, Alternate; Isaiah Butler, Mid-America Tech, Treasurer; Gabe Herring, Mid-America Tech, Alternate; Emma Gunn, Canadian Valley Tech-Chickasha, Secretary; Carly Hull, Western Tech, Historian; Myles Hall, Mid-America Tech, Alternate; McKenna Largent, Mid-America Tech, President; Shane Williamson, Canadian Valley Tech-Chickasha, Alternate; Lily Karlin, Western Tech, Reporter; Dale Hodge, Mid-America Tech, Chaplain; and Tayden Bonnett, Canadian Valley Tech-Chickasha, Parliamentarian.

Hushtola' Art Market December 9-10

Elite First American art and artists will be showcased during the first-ever Hushtola' Art Market from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., December 9 and 10 at the WinStar Convention Center at WinStar World Casino and Resort in Thackerville, Okla.

Hosted by the Chickasaw Nation, more than 100 First American artists representing 26 tribal nations and eight states will display a wide

variety of original art in 21 categories, including sculpture, beadwork, paintings, basketry, jewelry, metalwork, photography, textiles, pottery and more.

"We are thrilled to welcome many esteemed First American artists to the inaugural Hushtola' Art Market," Mark Milligan, Chickasaw Nation Arts and Humanities Executive Officer, said. "Patrons and

art collectors will discover a vast selection of unique art created by renown First American artists during this holiday event."

Hushtola' Art Market is open to the public at no charge.

For more information, contact Chickasaw Nation Arts & Humanities at 580-272-5520, visit HushtolaArtMarket.com or email ArtistInfo@Chickasaw.net.

No. 827-November 23-1 Time Board of McClain County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, 11/13/2023 at 8:17 a.m. in Room 111 of the McClain County Courthouse. Chairman Terry Daniel called the meeting to order and led the flag salute. County Clerk Deputy Rebekah Couch called the roll and those present were: Chairman Terry Daniel, Vice Chairman Glen Murray, and Member Wilson Lyles.

Wilson Lyles moved to approve the minutes of the meeting on 11/6/2023, Glen Murray seconded. Vote Aye: Murray, Lyles, Daniel. Motion carried.

Wilson Lyles moved to approve the following maintenance and operation claims, seconded by Glen Murray. Vote Aye: Murray, Lyles, Daniel. Motion carried.

CLAIMS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 AS FOLLOWS:

Em Mgmt-ST—48, Lyon Security.Com, 318.00, Key Fobs; 49, WW Tire, 15.00, Flat Repair.

Extension-ST—50, Oklahoma Copier Solutions, 330.34, Service.

General—663, Best Buy, 99.99, Subscription; 664, Comdata MasterCard Program, 794.31, Fuel, Service & Auto Supplies; 665, Clearly, 288.22, Service; 666, Classic Paper, 663.38, Supplies; 667, Danny Daniels Pest Services, 225.00, Service; 668, Danny Daniels Pest Services, 225.00, Service; 669, Danny Daniels Pest Services, 225.00, Service; 670, Extension Center For Governmental & Community Development, 650.00, Registration; 671, Eureka Water, 73.84, Supplies; 672, General Parts, 233.95, Service; 673, Garvin County Sheriff's Office, 3500.00, Detention Services; 674, Oklahoma Natural Gas, 56.55, Service; 675, Oklahoma Department Of Labor, 450.00, Inspection; 676, OSU CTP, 130.00, Registration; 677, Purcell Public Works, 925.69, Service; 678, Purcell Public Works, 13452.47, Service; 679, Purcell Register, 123.85, Minutes; 680, Pontotoc County Sheriff Office, 8700.00, Detention Services; 681, Sysco, 5626.64, Supplies 682, Sunny Communications, 146.00, Parts; 683, Sunny Communications, 216.47, Radio Parts; 684, Tisdal And OHara, 931.82, Legal Services; 685, Valir Outpatient Clinics, 70.00, Drug Testing; 686, Valir Outpatient Clinics, 70.00, Drug Testing; 687, Verizon, 160.04, Service.

Health—83, Amazon, 1546.21, Supplies; 84, Facility Care, 750.00, Service; 85, Facility Care, 880.00, Service; 86, Facility Care, 1025.00, Service; 87, Garrett, Sarah, 224.66, Travel; 88, Gil-Bennett, Crystal, 288.86, Travel; 89, Miner Lawn Care, 200.00, Service; 90, Purcell Mini Storage, 70.00, Rent 91, Purcell Public Schools, 1696.84, Rent; 92, Standley Systems, 194.91, Copier Lease; 93, Standley Systems, 229.50, Service.

Highway—707, ACCO, 130.00,

Conference; 708, Ace Hardware, 165.26, Supplies; 709, Blessing Gravel, 950.10, Native Gravel; 710, Blanchard Building, 99.32, Supplies; 711, Continental Gateway, 224.00, Millings; 712, Cintas, 362.27, Service; 713, Classic Paper, 285.64, Supplies; 714, Cintas, 111.21, Service; 715, Dolese Bros., 434.59, Chips & Rock; 716, Luther Sign, 169.68, Signs; 717, Luther Sign, 2300.28, Signs; 718, Luther Sign, 309.08, Signs; 719, Luther Sign, 553.30, Signs; 720, McPherson Machine Shop, 65.00, Repair; 721, Oklahoma Natural Gas, 184.93, Service 722, O'Reilly Automotive Stores, 113.49, Parts & Supplies; 723, P&K Equipment, 20.97, Parts; 724, P&K Equipment, 6999.00, Lawn Mower; 725, Rush Truck Center, 1217.58, Parts; 726, Robbins Ace, 145.99, Supplies; 727, Robbins Ace, 90.58, Supplies; 728, ACCO, 95.00, Conference; 729, ACCO, 95.00, Registration; 730, ACCO, 35.00, Registration; 731, AEG Petroleum, 598.00, DEF Fluid; 732, Cintas, 422.88, Service; 733, Cintas, 17.83, Supplies; 734, Edwards Canvas, 1005.70, Parts & Labor; 735, Edwards Canvas, 1216.50, Parts & Labor; 736, First Water Contracting, 4000.00, Tack Oil; 737, First Water Contracting, 18000.00, Asphalt Laid In Place; 738, First Water Contracting, 3915.00, Trucking Service; 739, Hampton Inn Suites, 99.00, Lodging; 740, J&K Auto Parts, 359.97, Supplies; 741, Luther Sign, 215.36, Sign Posts; 742, Purcell Public Works, 458.59, Service; 743, P&K Equipment, 269.67, Parts & Supplies; 744, P&K Equipment, 259.55, Parts; 745, River Steel, 227.75, Pipe 746, Robbins Ace, 57.09, Supplies; 747, Tractor Supply, 50.00, Supplies; 748, United Ag & Turf, 49.33, Hose; 749, WW Tire, 30.00, Tires & Service; 750, WW Tire, 78.55, Tires & Supplies.

Rental of County Property - Expo—77, ES2, 300.00, Supplies; 78, ES2, 300.00, Supplies; 79, Oklahoma Natural Gas, 221.52, Service; 80, Purcell Public Works, 1457.71, Service; 81, P&K Equipment, 10.16, Keys; 82, Trinity Climate Control, 213.75, Service & Installation; 83, Trinity Climate Control, 213.75, Service & Installation; 84, WW Tire, 150.00, Service; 85, Windstream, 315.01, Service.

Rural Fire-ST—92, McClain County RWD 8, 35.76, Service.

Sheriff Commissary, 7836.33, Supplies.

Sheriff Service Fee—120, AT&T Mobility, 1124.14, Service; 121, Trans Union Risk And Alternative Data Solutions, 104.00, Service; 122, Verizon, 80.02, Service.

SR Cit-ST—132, Ben E Keith, 1936.71, Supplies; 133, Cash-Saver, 102.30, Supplies; 134, CashSaver, 98.45, Supplies; 135, Classic Paper, 137.26, Supplies; 136, Eureka Water, 110.99, Supplies; 137, OG&E, 412.36, Service; 138, Oklahoma Electric Co-Op,

74.00, Service; 139, Oklahoma Electric Co-Op, 45.00, Service; 140, Oklahoma Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company, 500.00, Insurance Premium; 141, Rush, Shirley, 150.00, Bookkeeping; 142, Spencers, 1109.47, Supplies; 143, Son, Autumn N., 82.50, Maintenance; 144, Town Of Dibble, 34.99, Service; 145, Town Of Byars, 525.00, Service; 146, Waste Connections Of Oklahoma, 172.86, Service.

Wilson Lyles moved to approve Blanket Purchase Orders as on file in the County Clerk's office, seconded by Glen Murray. Vote Aye: Murray, Lyles, Daniel. Motion carried.

Wilson Lyles moved, Glen Murray seconded to approve of the following Transfer of Appropriations: Rural Fire-ST: \$85,000.00 from 1321-2-8204-2005 to 1321-2-8204-4110. Vote Aye: Murray, Lyles, Daniel. Motion carried.

Wilson Lyles moved, Glen Murray seconded to approve the October 2023 monthly reports for the Assessor, Sheriff, Treasurer, County Clerk, Health Dept, Election Board and Court Clerk. Vote Aye: Murray, Lyles, Daniel. Motion carried.

Wilson Lyles moved to approve of the Allocation of Alcoholic Beverage Tax, Glen Murray seconded. Vote Aye: Murray, Lyles, Daniel. Motion carried.

No road crossing permits were requested.

Wilson Lyles moved to resolve to advertise for Election Ballots with bids to be received by 4:00 p.m. on December 8, 2023 and opened at 8:30 a.m. on December 11, 2023, Glen Murray seconded. Vote Aye: Murray, Lyles, Daniel. Motion carried.

Wilson Lyles moved to resolve to advertise for Six Month Bids with bids to be received by 4:00 p.m. on December 8, 2023 and opened at 8:30 a.m. on December 11, 2023, Wilson Lyles seconded. Vote Aye: Murray, Lyles, Daniel. Motion carried.

Wilson Lyles moved to approve the purchase of (1) used 2016 Fire Tanker from United Rentals through Sourcewell Contract #158632 in the amount of \$75,000.00 for the Dibble Fire Department, Glen Murray seconded. Vote Aye: Murray, Lyles, Daniel. Motion carried.

With no further business Wilson Lyles moved to adjourn at 9:22 a.m., Glen Murray seconded. Vote Aye: Murray, Lyles, Daniel. Motion carried.

Attest:

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
McCLAIN COUNTY,
OKLAHOMA

Terry Daniel, Chairman
Glen Murray, Vice Chairman
Wilson Lyles, Member

Attest:
Pam Beller
County Clerk



Greg Gaston • double g images



John Denny Montgomery • The Purcell Register

Talk to the hand

Washington junior Nate Roberts stiff arms a Meeker defender Friday night during the Warriors' 56-7 win over the Bulldogs. Roberts had two catches for 15 yards.

Toting the mail

Purcell junior Kash Guthmueller carries the ball for the Dragons Friday night at Millwood. The Dragons fell 38-14, ending their season.

Newsmakers

Linz, Odell Ranch top ranked

Linz Heritage Angus, Byars, ranked as fourth largest and **Odell Angus Ranch**, Byars, ranked as ninth largest in registering the most Angus beef cattle in Oklahoma with the American Angus Association during fiscal year 2023, which ended September 30, according to Mark McCully, Association chief executive officer.

Angus breeders across the nation in 2023 registered 300,761 head of Angus cattle.

"Our Association members lead the industry in adopting new technology and breeding the most problem-free cattle for their customers," McCully said. "Cattlemen across the country continue to find registered Angus seedstock are the most profitable option for their herd."

Richards graduates OBA School

Joseph Richards, with First United Bank and Trust Company in Purcell, recently completed the Oklahoma Bankers Association Consumer Lending School in Oklahoma City.

Richards was among 61 graduates of the school, which was held October 2-6 at the OBA Harris Event Center.

The OBA Consumer Lending School, conducted annually, educates students on the overall consumer credit function and helps develop skills to meet the needs of loan customers and their bank. Specific areas of training include loan application generation and credit analysis, loan pricing, collections, direct and indirect lending, real estate structure, bank liability, compliance, risk management, bankruptcy and banking trends.

The OBA conducts more than 70 educational programs and seminars each year, which reach more than 5,000 bankers across the state. The Association represents approximately 200 banks across the state and serves as the primary advocate for the banking industry. It's also heavily involved in fraud training and prevention as well as legal and compliance services and communications for its member banks.

Oklahoma 529 reaches milestone in education savings withdrawals

State Treasurer Todd Russ has announced Oklahoma families have surpassed \$1 billion in withdrawals of Oklahoma 529 funds to pay for education expenses.

The milestone means over 87,000 families across the state have invested and used over \$1 billion to cover education costs such as tuition, books, housing and fees.

"Since its start in 2000, Oklahoma families in all 77 counties have used Oklahoma 529 to help students develop skills and knowledge for a successful future," Oklahoma State Treasurer Todd Russ said. "Reaching \$1 billion in

redemptions shows not only the strength of Oklahoma 529 but also the new, more flexible choice it offers Oklahoma students to achieve their educational goals."

Savings in an Oklahoma 529 account can help minimize education-related debt, which is why Russ says it's essential to begin saving for education costs now instead of waiting.

In addition to college tuition and expenses, Oklahoma 529 funds can be used to help pay for CareerTech, professional and graduate school, K-12 tuition up to \$10,000 annually per student and apprentice-

ship costs for programs registered and certified with the Secretary of Labor under the National Apprenticeship Act.

Educational costs continue to rise. According to U.S. News & World Report, the average cost of tuition and fees for the 2023-24 academic year is \$10,662 for in-state residents at a public university and \$42,162 for a student at a private university.

In Oklahoma, the average numbers are lower, at \$6,302 for a public college and \$23,387 for a private university. Over four years, those costs could range from \$25,208 to \$93,548 before

living expenses or required books and supplies.

"It has become easier to save for education costs using Oklahoma 529, which can give families peace of mind knowing they may be reducing future student loan debt, tax free," Russ said. "The Plan's tools like payroll deduction or the ability for account owners to contribute at birthdays or holidays develops a habit of saving early and often."

For more information about Oklahoma 529 or to open an account, visit www.oklahoma529.com or call 877-654-7284.

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John D. Montgomery • The Purcell Register

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NORMAN FLEA MARKET: Flea Market and biggest garage sale in Norman. Friday, November 24, & Saturday, November 25. Cleveland County Fairgrounds, 615 E. Robinson, Norman. Call 405-613-6992 for more info. 11/23/tc

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