

“The press is the best instrument for enlightening the mind of man, and improving him as a rational, moral and social being.” - Thomas Jefferson

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EDITORIAL

Governor shows lack of leadership

By Tom and Mary Lokey
Sentinel Co-Publishers

“Now is not the time for a statewide shelter-in-place order in Oklahoma due to the coronavirus,” Gov. Kevin Stitt said at an evening news briefing this past Sunday.

“We’re hearing of stuff happening in New York City, in California or Chicago.

“We have a different set of facts here. “I’m not saying it couldn’t happen.”

Readers, this is the lack of leadership being shown by Gov. Stitt.

Governor, we do not have “a different set of facts.”

What we do have is an earlier set of facts. Because we are more rural and in the interior of the country, we have been given additional time to react to the COVID-19 virus. These are the same facts and they will play out the same way or worse for the citizens of Oklahoma if Gov. Stitt does not take forceful action.

To wait to take the kind of action that New York and California are taking now will cause our cities and our rural population to suffer unnecessarily. We know what is to come if we take less than drastic action.

Paraphrasing U.S. Senator John Kerry, how do you ask a person to be the last person to get sick and possibly die for the good of an individual business to stay open?

We can see the virus spreading in Oklahoma. At what level of cases does it take for the state to order non-essential business shut-down and people to stay home?

If you follow the case of Italy, Oklahoma’s governor is reacting very much with the same level of concern the Italians did at the beginning. Since the Italians did not react proactively, they have had tragic loss of life.

Are we choosing business over life?

Are we choosing not to give the guidance that the people of Oklahoma need?

The governor is a mortgage banker by trade. He should have the knowledge to consider these numbers:

Worldwide, the average loss of life for confirmed cases is four percent.

Estimates of spread in the United States run from 40 to 80 percent of the population.

If you reflect that across Oklahoma’s 3.943 million population at a 40 percent infection rate, that is a death rate of 63,000 Oklahomans. If you take the Italian death rate per recorded infection of 9.25 percent, much more like Oklahoma is acting, this will mean more than 145,891 deaths in Oklahoma alone.

The state of New York is estimating an infection rate of as much as 80 percent of the population if not brought under control.

Congress is in the process of figuring out how to assist the citizens of this great nation through the pandemic.

Included in this package will be monetary assistance to small businesses, employees and the economy. We are going to have to trust Congress to get us back up and running on the other side.

We strongly recommend our governor change his stance on this issue.

“Stay safe, stay home and follow the guidelines set down by the state health department,” Tishomingo Mayor Sue Robins recently stated. “I think this is good advice, which should be heeded by all.”

On Tuesday, for counties with confirmed cases, Stitt moved towards “shelter-in-place.” We do not think it is wise to wait for confirmed cases in the remaining counties.

A week ago we had 17 cases of COVID-19 in Oklahoma. As of press time Tuesday night, we now have 106 confirmed cases. Governor Stitt, step up and do your job.

We do not want Oklahoma to become America’s Italy.

A MESSAGE TO OUR READERS:

To provide good, timely and factual information, the *Johnston County Sentinel* will be opening up its subscriber-based web page, johnstoncosentinel.com, to the public for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This will allow us to provide credible information on a timely basis to our Internet subscribers, as well as the public at large. These are going to be difficult times for our community, county and country.

At this time, due to loss of advertising - our primary source of

revenue - and the expense of printing and mailing newspapers, we will temporarily suspend delivery by mail to most out-of-county subscribers.

The newspaper will be available to ALL subscribers by our Internet page during this national emergency.

Those subscribers who do not have Internet access may contact us to continue their out-of-area subscription by mail.

As we are an independently owned and operated business, like many others in our community,

we hope that the changes we are making during this time will allow us to continue operations.

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Mary and Tom Lokey
Co-Publishers,
Johnston County Sentinel

Schools impacted by pandemic Officials seek guidance in wake of closure

By John A. Small
Managing Editor

Educators in Johnston County and throughout Oklahoma are now faced with the toughest question they’ve ever faced: How to carry on in the wake of this week’s proposal that schools remain closed.

On Monday, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Joy Hofmeister announced that she would propose a Continuous Learning Plan to the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OKSDE) to complete the school year for Oklahoma students without reopening school buildings during the global pandemic.

While the education of schoolchildren will resume with distance learning, there will not

be traditional, in-person instruction or extracurricular activities. Schools will instead follow critical safety guidance from the Centers for Disease Control with regard to social distancing for students, staff and school families.

The State Board of Education was scheduled to hold a special meeting on Wednesday, March 25, to discuss Hofmeister’s proposal. The meeting was set to take place after this week’s issue of the *Sentinel* went to press; OKSDE members were to meet virtually.

A short time before Hofmeister’s announcement, Tishomingo Superintendent of Schools Bobby Waitman told the Johnston County Board of Commissioners during its meeting Monday that the Tisho-

mingo School District was already working on plans to continue instruction for the current year should the schools remain closed.

In response to a question from Commissioner Mike Thompson, regarding the possible impact of school closure upon graduating seniors and commencement activities, Waitman said that while the traditional ceremony might have to be either postponed or canceled seniors will still be allowed to graduate.

“We are not going to let this pandemic prevent our seniors from graduating,” Waitman said.

But Waitman also acknowledged that plans to continue teaching through online instruction may prove difficult for some rural school districts, such as those in Johnston County.

“We have children in these rural areas who may not have access to a Chromebook or do not have Internet at home,” Waitman said. “What will instruction look like under these circumstances? We are going to have to address those issues.”

On Tuesday Waitman provided the *Johnston County Sentinel* with a letter he had written to parents, teachers and school staff members regarding the school’s efforts in the wake of Hofmeister’s announcement on Monday. In that letter, Waitman said he and the principals at Tishomingo’s three public schools will be working to “gather direction and guidelines from the OKSDE regarding a framework for distance learning.”

Waitman’s letter also states that the school district has started the process of assessing graduation requirements for seniors and credits earned for other high school students, as well

as seeking guidance with regard to eighth grade graduation requirements.

“The District is aware that there are many questions yet to be answered as we make every attempt to plan the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, but we will do whatever it takes to serve the needs and interests of our our students,” Waitman wrote.

(The full text of Waitman’s letter, including information regarding the district’s breakfast and lunch program, appears on Page 2.)

Waitman’s message was one of several received by the *Sentinel* from local school districts following Hofmeister’s announcement.

Also on Monday, Superintendent Melissa Ferguson of Coleman Public Schools released a statement reporting that Coleman will be moving to a virtual learning and/or alternative learning setting for its students and is waiting on guidance from the state department to begin that process.

“As soon as the framework is set up and given to us, we will be letting you all know the plan,” Ferguson wrote. “This instructional plan will NOT begin until April 6. There is to be NO instruction between now and then.”

Ferguson added that Coleman School is also canceling this year’s prom and senior trip, as well as eighth grade graduation.

“We hope to sched-

♦ See SCHOOLS Page 10



Sign of the times...

After first announcing plans to limit seating and enact stringent sanitation efforts in order to continue operations, Justin and Stephanie Murray of the Indie Cinema in Tishomingo said late last week that they had made the decision to close until further notice due to mounting concerns over the COVID-19 pandemic. While the decision was made with regret, the owners endeavored to put as positive a spin on the situation as possible by posting this “Gone Fishing” notice on the theatre marquee. (*Sentinel* staff photo by Mary Lokey)



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Weekend Weather:

FRIDAY: 78°F and cloudy with thunderstorm in the evening; otherwise, mostly cloudy and cooler. SATURDAY: Mostly sunny, high around 69F. Clear and cooler overnight. SUNDAY: Nice with a blend of sun and clouds; expected high of 72F, low around 47F.

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From the archives: How Foreman Bonner met Ol' Toothless

Well, dear readers, once again time constraints stemming from our ongoing efforts to stay abreast of the latest information regarding the COVID-19 outbreak has resulted in my not finding the time to write a new "Small Talk" column for this week's issue.

But rather than simply rerun an old column as I did last week, I thought it might be nice this time around to share one of the western tales I wrote for my 2007 short story collection *Days Gone By: Legends and Tales of Sipokni West*. The book used as its setting a fictionalized version of the Old West attraction located in Reagan, and owned and operated by our old saddle pal, Johnny Shackelford.

If you're interested, copies can still be purchased at *Amazon.com*. In the meantime I hope the following meets with your satisfaction.



It was late July and the sun beat down on the Thunderhead Ranch, heating the sand under Wesley Bonner's thin-soled cowhide boots to plumb near 120 degrees. He and two of the other ranch hands were digging postholes for a new barbed wire fence, about five miles from the ranch house.

"Sometimes I wish I'd been a lawyer, like my maw wanted me to be," Billy Fallon was saying to Peter Russell. "If I had, I shore wouldn't be out in the middle of nowhere diggin' holes in the sand on the hottest day of summer - I'd be sittin' in the shade somewhere, sippin' a cold one with some sweet young thang!"

"You know, Billy," Bonner drawled in that deep voice of his, without cracking a smile, "if you moved those posthole diggers half as fast as you move your jaw, we'd ALL be sittin' in the shade by now!" Bonner had been foreman for the Thunderhead for some 20-odd years, and figured he had probably dug more postholes and strung more barbed wire than anyone in the territory. Consequently, there were few things he hated in the world

more than listening to these wet-behind-the-ears young'uns bellyache about digging postholes and stringing barbed wire. If they didn't like the work, he figured, maybe they ought to just pack up their gear and head someplace where the work was more to their liking. Assuming, of course, that such a place even existed.

On the other hand, he couldn't hardly blame them for wishing they were somewhere else than out here in the hot sun. Drought was a fact of life this time of year; rain was a seldom sight, and men and animals alike suffered in the especially dry months. Even the tumbleweeds and prairie grass turned brown; so there was next to nothing for the cattle and other animals to feed on. Drinking water was always in short supply and had to be rationed to each cowhand, one canteen a day. The cattle got most of the rest; what little they didn't get was put in the large wooden community tub that was used for washing clothes during the week, and for washing cowpokes on Saturday night.

This, then, was Wesley Bonner's world - stark, dry, and a constant struggle. A life with few pleasures, but plenty of hard work and blisters.

In other words, a life only a cowboy could ever hope to understand and love.

Bonner and the other two ranch hands had finished setting cedar posts for one section of the fence they were building. Now they had to stretch the barbed wire and nail steeples into the posts to hold the wire taut. Bonner was hammering in a steeple when his left boot sank down into the dry, sandy ground; a half-second later, he felt something hit the top of his boot, followed by a dry, sizzling sound.

Instinctively he jumped back and kicked the air with his boot. And Billy and Peter would claim later that Bonner's face lost all its color when he looked down to see attached to the top of his left boot the biggest, longest

Small Talk

John A. Small



diamondback rattlesnake any of them had ever seen; the foreman had unknowingly stepped smack dab in the middle of a passageway leading into a den of the deadly reptiles.

As he shook his leg in an attempt to loosen the rattler, Bonner thought he could feel warm venom dripping onto his ankle. Eventually he managed to shake the rattler free - but in doing so he had somehow caused both fangs to break off and remain embedded in his boot!

Surprisingly he felt no pain. Sitting down in the dirt, Bonner pulled off his boot carefully and found two dripping fangs, barely sticking through the top - the thickness of his bootstrap had prevented a deadly snakebite!

He pulled out the embedded half-inch needle-sharp fangs with a pair of pliers, and put his boot back on. No longer a danger to anyone but mice and insects, the toothless rattler nevertheless continued to buzz its warning of danger, still coiled and moving its head from side to side. It was, Bonner would reflect later, rather like watching an outlaw threaten you with an empty gun.

Billy reached over and grabbed a 30/30 rifle from his saddle; he quickly drew a bead on the reptile and was just about to blow its head off when Bonner motioned him to hold his fire.

"Go get a tow sack from my saddlebag for my new friend," Bonner ordered.

Billy slowly lowered his rifle and cast an incredulous look in Bonner's direction. That left it to Peter to comply with the foreman's order; as Peter went to retrieve the tow sack, Billy looked down at Bonner and shook his head. "I do believe you are the only fool I know that would turn around

and make a pet out of something that had just tried to kill him," Billy said.

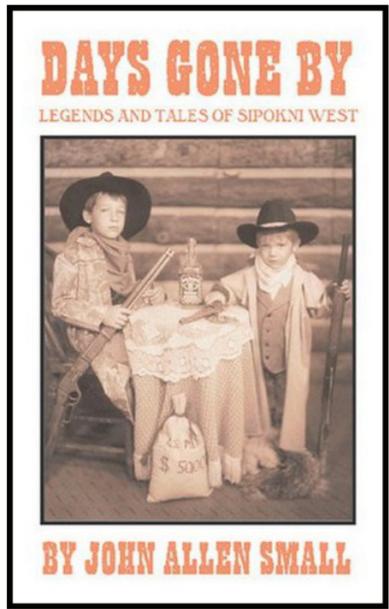
Bonner looked up at him and grinned. "Aw, ol' Toothless can't hurt anybody now," he said as he reached over and grabbed the rattler behind the head. He rose to his feet, poked the snake into the tow sack and tied the sack to the saddlehorn of his horse. The three of them then finished working on the fence and were headed back towards the ranch house just about the time the sun started setting.

When they got there, Bonner made a big production out of the simple act of emptying the contents of the tow sack on the ground by the porch. While the rest of the ranch hands watched - from a distance - he then got a can of paint and colored all the diamonds on the reptile a bright red, so everyone could tell it from all the rest of his snake cousins.

"You boys can pet him if you want to," Bonner announced with a half-grin.

Oddly enough, nobody took him up on the offer...

(Column copyright © 2020 by John A. Small)



Commissioners order courthouse closed to public

By John A. Small
Managing Editor

cies and offices that are closed to the public in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Johnston County Courthouse has joined the growing list of agen-

During its regular weekly meeting Monday

morning, the Johnston County Board of Commissioners voted 3-0 to enact a resolution to close the courthouse to the public until Monday, April 6.

District 2 Commissioner Mike Thompson, the board's current chairman, said the commissioners will re-evaluate the situation at their April 6 meeting and determine whether the closure should be extended.

The vote came just days after an emergency meeting last Thursday, March 19, in which Thompson and fellow

commissioners Jacky Hallmark and T.J. Clements enacted a disaster emergency proclamation in response to the pandemic.

The earlier proclamation declares Johnston County to be a disaster area, "entitled to aid, relief and assistance," and directs the implementation of the county's Emergency Operations Plan. Thompson said at the time that the declaration will help the county if and when it needs to apply for assistance through the Federal Emergency Management

Agency (FEMA).

During last Thursday's meeting, the commissioners also voted 3-0 to keep the courthouse open until there is official confirmation of a local case of COVID-19. That proclamation was to have been in effect for a week, but was superseded by this week's action.

As first reported on the *Sentinel's* Facebook page, the earlier proclamation had been the source of some debate during last Thursday's meeting. On Wednesday, March 18, the offices of

County Treasurer Rana Smith and County Assessor Guyla Hart both announced that those offices would be closed to the public, with all business being conducted by phone or online.

Signs stating that the offices are closed to the public had been placed on the doors of both offices. However, during the March 19 meeting the commissioners stated that Hart and Smith had failed to follow proper protocol by closing the

♦ See COURTHOUSE Page 5

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Voice Of The People

District endeavoring to plan remaining school year

Dear Editor:

The State Superintendent of Schools announced during a phone conference Monday that the Oklahoma State School Board will be taking action at a special board meeting on Wednesday, March 25, regarding the closure of school buildings for the remainder of the school year.

The Tishomingo School District is experiencing a time that is unprecedented. The closure of school for the remainder of the school year and the cessation of all school activities and events are difficult for us all.

While we understand the gravity of our current status and realize that this poses tremendous challenges for our working parents, we also understand that all Oklahomans have been called upon to do everything within their power to halt the transmission of COVID-19 (coronavirus).

The District will be challenged with implementing creative means by which we can provide distance learning. I realize that this will look different for our District than those who have implemented a one-to-one learning environment in which most all students have Internet access at home.

I would ask that each staff member begin to think about prospects for providing instruction to your students. I will be working with building principals as we gather direction and guidelines from the OKSDE regarding a framework for distance learning.

We will also be working to create informed responses to the many questions that will result from this form of educating students. We have already begun the process of assessing graduation requirements for seniors and credits earned for other high school students.

The eighth grade reading test requirement is another issue that we are seeking guidance on. We are working on a plan that will provide a means of deter-

mining promotion/retention prospects related to the Reading Sufficiency Act and the third grade reading test.

The District is aware that there are many questions yet to be answered as we make every attempt to plan the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, but we will do whatever it takes to serve the needs and interests of our students.

The District began serving breakfast and lunch on Monday, March 23, to any child ages one to 18 in our District. We are very hopeful that every student/child in our District who has need of this service will pick up a meal at one of the following four sites: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Tishomingo Elementary School and Tishomingo Middle School, and 11:30 a.m. to noon at Butcher Pen Mission Baptist Church and the Connerville Senior Center.

If you have children in your household, but are not able to make it to one of the sites listed above, please contact the District so that we can discuss other delivery arrangements by calling 371-9190, ext. 129, or by e-mailing mpayne@tishomingo.k12.ok.us.

Our staff and community have shown overwhelming support and a willingness to do whatever it takes for our students. Together, we'll meet our students' needs and continue the unity of purpose that is necessary in achieving an environment that fosters student success.

The District will be communicating via e-notes, the Remind app, and district website, www.tishomingo.k12.ok.us, as information about the remainder of the school year is available.

Thank you all for your cooperation as we work through this challenging time.

**Bobby Waitman
Superintendent,
Tishomingo Public Schools**

Dateline: Johnston County



One-time hobby keeps Holliday buzzing

Tishomingo Lions Club member Robert Holliday presented an interesting and informative program on beekeeping at the club's March 11 meeting. Holliday is shown above holding a deep hive frame, which he explained is inserted into a beehive for the bees to build either brood or honeycomb on, depending upon its location in the hive. What began as a hobby for Holliday approximately four years ago has now turned into a part-time business, Bee & C, offering services such as bee removal. Holliday also serves as the community affairs manager for this area for OG&E. (Sentinel staff photo by Mary Lokey)

Church services canceled, but prayer meeting still on

By Jerry Blackerby
Sentinel Correspondent

Milburn News

Milburn First Baptist Church services are canceled until April 5 because of how many of our people are elderly, since we are in the coronavirus pandemic currently.

I attended drive-in church at Rock Harbor Church in Ravia. About 15 cars were present, and all of us stayed in our cars. Brother Jon Smith preached outdoors with a small PA system.

The Tishomingo Senior Nutrition Center is delivering your food to the door, to maintain social distance.

If you believe God answers prayer, come join us on the first Thursday evening of the month at 6 p.m. in the Milburn Community Center.

The next community prayer meeting will be April 2. Several of us have felt a real blessing when we have heard some of the good reports on previous prayer requests.

Be praying that God will bring our country through this current situation of the coronavirus pandemic.

Lynda Carter, who played *Wonder Woman* in the 1970s television series, says that she never played the "don't you remember game" with her mother with Alzheimer's.

The *Brain and Life* magazine for January/February 2020 has an excellent article about Carter taking care of her mother. Here is an Internet link to read the article online - <https://www.brainandlife.org/articles/singer-and-actress-lynda-carter-advocates-for-alzheimers/>.

Brain and Life magazine used to be *Neurology Now* magazine. I began receiving the *Neurology Now* magazine in the mail every other month several years ago.

I love the magazine. It has articles on Alzheimer's in almost every issue. It also includes articles on other illnesses that are neurological problems.

Here is a link on the Internet where you can subscribe free - <https://www.b2bmediaportal.com/dynamicregister/register.aspx?fid=NOW-F&KEY=BLWEB>.

I have heard reports from other areas that scammers/criminals are beginning to take advantage of the current coronavirus pandemic scare.

People are knocking on doors and claiming to be from either the police department or the health department, saying they need to check the occupants for the coronavirus.

When they are let in, they pull a weapon and rob and possibly injure the occupants. Beware of these people. I have not heard of any of our local agencies going door-to-door to check on the occupants.

Milburn School: The State Board of Education passed an order Monday, March 16, that all Oklahoma public schools be closed until April 6.

This includes instruction, grading, professional development and conferences. Operations concerning administration, business, child nutrition and maintenance can remain active.

When I am informed of any changes, I will put the information in this column.

Milburn Public Schools have announced that the office, cafeteria and food bank will be open Monday through Thursday, from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Bible Trivia: Who was the father of Abraham?

Last week's question: Which kind of bird did Jesus say was "sold two for a farthing?" Answer: Sparrows (Matthew 10:29). Matthew Chapter 10 gives interesting instructions to the 12 Disciples.

"He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death." (Revelation 21:7-8, KJV)

If you have any announcements or other input for the "Milburn News" column, please notify me. I see many events at the Milburn Community Center that I have not heard about.

Please send an e-mail to jerryblackerby@windstream.net, or call me at home at (580) 443-5618 or my cell phone at (972) 824-2733, at least a week before an event, to have time to get an announcement in the "Milburn News" column.

Local residents keep busy during social distancing

By Matthew Cravatt
Sentinel Correspondent

Ravia News

The Ravia area population is working out a lot of social distancing issues, such as taking walks, starting gardens, and getting around to fixing that broken gate Pa Kettle just never could, instead of going to town for no reason.

Churches are also getting the idea, as the pulpit has often been moved outdoors, and your favorite pew is now in your car or truck, as sermons are delivered by public address systems, including bullhorns.

With spring breaks elongated and sports canceled for the school year's remainder, some families are taking to nature for fun and education, which often provide for a sort of customary social distancing.

Etiquette for some rural outdoor activities customarily provides for social distancing.

These would include walking a few yards apart when mushroom hunting to maximize the area each person can scan; maintaining a safe distance from other anglers to prevent line

tangling and accidentally hooking others; and distance kept in all kinds of hunting to maintain safety practices with firearms, bow or gigs.

Mayor Ricky Kreger and town staffers have made social distancing a part of paying Ravia utility bills, including digital payment option by credit/debit card at bill-pay.ubmaxonline.com; the old night deposit slot to the south (left) of the town hall front door, on the wall; and the town hall lobby, which is open and secured during regular business hours with a plexiglass barrier at the pay window to allow transitions while minimizing exposure between payers and town staff.

Ravia's National Weather Service based forecast summary: Expect very nice temperatures with highs in the 80s today (Thursday) and Friday, and overnight Thursday in the mid-60s. Friday night, a cooling trend moves in with rain probable, and dropping daytime temps

to around 70 degrees with lows into the 40s until Monday, when rain enters into the forecast again.

The Ravia Senior Citizens Center regular dinner on Thursdays at the Ravia Community Center remains closed for COVID-19 precautions until further notice.

You can inform the Ravia area community of important news and upcoming events with a call to 371-0275, or e-mail at ravia.news@gmail.com with details.

Party affiliation change deadline nears

The deadline for registered voters to change their party affiliation for the upcoming statewide primary and runoff primary elections is March 31, State Election Board Secretary Paul Zirix said this week.

By statute, changing party affiliation is not allowed from April 1 through Aug. 31. All requests to change party affiliation submitted after March 31 will be processed September 1.

Voters can change their party affiliation online using the OK Voter Portal at elections.ok.gov

or by completing a new Oklahoma Voter Registration Application and mailing it to their County Election Board.

Applications can be downloaded at elections.ok.gov. Applications are also available at County Election Boards, most tag agencies, post offices and libraries.

Oklahoma has a modified closed primary system. In order to vote in a party's primary or runoff primary, you must be a registered voter of that party.

However, the law allows parties to open their primaries and

runoff primaries to Independents every two years, by notifying the secretary of the State Election Board.

The Democratic Party is currently allowing Independent voters to participate in its primaries and runoff primaries in 2020 and 2021.

Republican and Libertarian primaries and runoff primaries will remain closed.

For questions, contact your County Election Board or the State Election Board at (405) 521-2391 or info@elections.ok.gov.

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Milburn woman accused of trafficking in illegal drugs

A 34-year-old Milburn woman faces the possibility of up to seven years in prison and a fine of up to \$100,000 after being charged with a felony count of trafficking in illegal drugs.

According to documents on file at the Johnston County Court Clerk's office, the charge against Jerri Dawn Miller stems from a March 10 incident in which she was allegedly in possession of approximately 21 grams of methamphetamine.

An affidavit by Undersheriff Gary Dodd of the Johnston County Sheriff's Department states that Dodd and Deputy Gabriel Alexander were conducting a traffic stop at the intersection of Mansion Road and Brushy Road when Dodd observed a small red car traveling east and approaching their location.

The affidavit states that the car swerved into

the westbound lane, almost hitting the vehicle involved in the traffic stop. It then swerved back into its own lane and drove in the ditch on the south side of the road.

Dodd reported that he approached the vehicle and motioned for the driver, identified as Miller, to stop. According to the affidavit, Miller exhibited signs of being under the influence of methamphetamine and was asked to exit the vehicle.

A vaping device was found in the vehicle, which was field-tested and showed a positive presumptive test for meth, according to the affidavit.

Also reported to have been found in the vehicle were several small unused plastic bags; a set of working digital scales; and 11 plastic bags containing a white crystal substance which also field-tested positive for

meth.

According to the affidavit, Miller told investigators that she was selling meth in order to make money.

The affidavit states she told deputies that she had spent her income tax money to bond a friend out of jail in Atoka County, and was trying to make back the money before her husband found out.

Miller was taken into custody and transported to the Johnston County Jail. During her initial appearance in Johnston County District Court on March 18, Associate District Judge Laura Corbin set bond at \$75,000 and scheduled a status hearing for April 6 at 10 a.m.

A preliminary hearing date is expected to be set at that time. Miller was still being held in the county jail at last report.

Court documents show she has also been charged with three related misdemeanor counts.

Filing for county offices starts April 8

The statewide candidate filing period begins at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, April 8, Johnston County Election Board Secretary B.J. Wheaton announced this week.

Wheaton told the *Johnston County Sentinel* on Monday that the three-day filing period begins on April 8 and runs through Friday, April 10.

Filing will take place from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. all three days.

"The deadline for filing as a candidate is 5 p.m. Friday, April 10, no exceptions," Wheaton said.

She added that candidates for state office will file with the State Election Board Secretary in Oklahoma City. Candi-

dates for county offices will file at the Johnston County Election Board Office, located at 705 West Main Street in Tishomingo.

The following county offices are scheduled to be filled this year:

- Johnston County Commissioner District No. 2, now held by Mike Thompson;
- Johnston County Sheriff, now held by Jon Smith;
- Johnston County Court Clerk, now held by Cassandra Slover; and
- Johnston County Clerk, now held by Kathy Ross.

Filing information and filing packets are available at the County Election Board office, or online at www.elections.ok.gov.

Due to the onset of COVID-19 virus and social distancing, Wheaton said, those wishing to file as candidates should feel free to call her office at 371-3670 to request that a filing packet be mailed to them.

The requirements for all official county positions are included in the filing packet, along with the requirements for the filing fee, which must be a cashier's check or money order from a banking facility.

The cashier's check or money order should be made out to: Secretary, Johnston County Election Board.

The filing packet may be mailed to the following address: Johnston County Election Board, 705 W. Main Street, Tishomingo OK 73460.

The filing packet must be received at the Election Board office on April 8, April 9 or April 10, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

"Incomplete filing packets or packets received after 5 p.m. on April 10 cannot be accepted," Wheaton said.

Regular office hours at the Election Board are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

"If you call after 3 p.m., please leave a message and an Election Board official will return your call as soon as possible," Wheaton said.



Response team formed to assist county seniors

The Johnston County Chamber of Commerce has partnered with INCA-RSVP, Johnston County Emergency Management, Our Neighbor's Cupboard and Complete Home Health to form the Johnston County COVID-19 Response Team.

Social distancing can prove isolating at times, especially for those in our communities who are less mobile or who otherwise might live alone.

Throughout Johnston County, we have a lot of older residents who have mobility issues or are on a fixed income, and we are hoping to bridge the gap between those seniors who are isolated by reaching out and supplying emergency care packages.

Our goal is to improve conditions as social distancing measures ramp up, while empty shelves have left some struggling to get what they need.

As people flock to stores to load up on essential items during the worsening outbreak, the Johnston County COVID-19 Response Team has organized to help seniors who can't line up themselves.

Help us help the most vulnerable by donating the following to fill care packages for seniors: Diabetic supplies, canned meat, soup, toiletries, hygiene products, disinfectant, hand sanitizer, lotion, crossword and word search books, and adult coloring books and crayons.

Also, disposable flashlights, tea light candles, paper towels, toilet paper, tissues, soap, detergent tablets, cough drops, cereal or protein bars, peanut butter, jam, snack crackers, instant oatmeal packages, raisins, snack-size bag treats, trash liners, and letters of encouragement or



greeting cards, etc.

Items may be dropped off at INCA, located at 202 S. Capitol Street in Tishomingo, or Sooners Grocery.

INCA-RSVP Senior Corps has created a hotline to answer questions that seniors or those with disabilities may have concerning COVID-19; direct them to vital resources available through community partners; and provide them with emergency care packages as needed.

The hotline, which can be reached at (580) 308-1809, will be in operation Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with voice message after hours.

Please watch the Johnston County Chamber of Commerce Facebook page for updates regarding open/closed businesses and services of our members.

Just a reminder that the annual banquet, Itchin' To Have A Fun Friday, and Women's Biz events have been postponed until further notice. Also, fill out the Census.

I am working from home and am focused on keeping you informed.

Please let me know if you need anything. Call 371-2175, or e-mail johnstoncountychamber@gmail.com.

"When we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed." - Maya Angelou

johnstoncountychamber.com

Charge filed against homeless man

A man identified in court records as being homeless has been charged with a felony count of protective order violation in Johnston County District Court.

The court documents state that the charge against 51-year-old George Edwin Baken stem from a March 11 incident in which Baken refused to leave the residence of a Tishomingo woman.

Baken made his initial appearance in Johnston County District Court on March 18. Associate District Judge Laura Corbin set bond at \$50,000 and scheduled a status hearing in the case for April 27 at 9 a.m.

A preliminary hearing date is expected to be set at that time. Baken

was still being held in the county jail at last report.

If convicted Baken faces a possible sen-

tence of imprisonment for one to three years,

and/or a fine of \$2,000 to \$10,000.

Sooner Pharmacy Good Health Tips



Taking a high dose of icosapent ethyl—a pure and stable prescription form of the omega-3 fatty acid known as EPA—significantly reduces the occurrence of first, subsequent and total ischemic events, including heart attacks, strokes and related deaths, among people at high cardiovascular risk despite already being on statin therapy, according to research presented at the American College of Cardiology's 68th Annual Scientific Session.

A new study published in Science Translational Medicine has found that the vast majority of the most frequently prescribed medications in the U.S. contain at least one ingredient capable of causing an adverse reaction. Known as inactive ingredients, these components are added to improve the taste, shelf-life, absorption and other characteristics of a pill, but the authors found that more than 90 percent of all oral medications tested contained at least one ingredient that can cause allergic or gastrointestinal symptoms in sensitive individuals. Such ingredients include lactose, peanut oil, gluten and chemical dyes.

Between 15 and 20 percent of breast cancer patients have the HER2-positive variety, for which the most effective treatment is the chemotherapy drug trastuzumab, sold under the brand name Herceptin. But trastuzumab also causes more heart problems than other breast cancer drugs; about 15 percent of patients taking it will develop cardiac dysfunction, likely because of a genetic predisposition. The side effects include a reduction in the amount of blood the heart pumps with each contraction and, less commonly but more seriously, heart failure. Except for quitting trastuzumab, there currently is no treatment for the side effects. A study published online in March 2019 in Circulation has found that AMPK activators, a class of medications that includes metformin, a drug commonly used to treat Type 2 diabetes, may mitigate these side effects. Presented as a service to the community by

Sooner Pharmacy

101 S. Byrd
Tishomingo, OK
(580) 371-9509

Scotty Black, Pharmacist

Community Calendar

Tishomingo's Daughters

The Tishomingo's Daughters meeting scheduled for 7 p.m. today (Thursday), March 26, at the United Church of Tishomingo has been canceled, in order to comply with the current recommendation that there be no gatherings of more than 10 people due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Lions Club Meetings Canceled

Tishomingo Lions Club President Woody Jumper has announced that the club will not meet at noon on Wednesdays as usual, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, until at least April 15, at which time the situation will be reassessed for future meetings.

Chickasaw Events Canceled

The Chickasaw Nation has announced that events scheduled for March 14-20 have been canceled due to concerns regarding the COVID-19 outbreak. These events include the Three Sisters Celebration; National Learn About Butterflies Day; and Genealogy Day. A full list of cancellations and closings is available online and will be updated as needed at: <https://www.chickasaw.net/Our-Nation/Community/COVID-19/Cancellations-and-Closings.aspx>.

Deadline for all Community Calendar items is noon on Tuesday. Announcements for Wednesday events should be published the week before the event takes place. Community Calendar items can NOT run for two consecutive weeks.

PUBLIC NOTICE

How much do public notices cost? The Oklahoma Legislature sets a rate, which is typically much lower than other newspaper ad rates, so the cost of notices can be controlled, and exact wording – rather than a summary – printed.

The public is well-served by notices published in a community newspaper.

www.oklahomanotices.com

for free access to public notices in Oklahoma newspapers



As recommended by the CDC and the local officials and due to the Covid-19 pandemic, The Indie Cinema will remain "temporarily" closed until further notice. We will see you soon.

Thank you for understanding,

Justin & Stephanie Murray

Mercy Hospital Tishomingo increases visitor protections

To further aid in slowing the spread of COVID-19, Mercy Hospital Tishomingo has announced a new update to the visitation policies.

Effective March 23, Mercy Hospital will no longer allow visitors for adult patients as part of our next critical step in keeping patients and co-workers safe. There will be a few areas with exceptions:

- Patients under age 18 will be allowed a parent/guardian;
- Patients who require assistance for cog-

nitive or mental health support may have one visitor; and

• Trauma, palliative care and hospice will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

The screening policies in place will continue, and those visiting in the areas where it is permitted will need to meet the following criteria:

- Visitors must be 16 years or older;
- Visitors must be fever-free; and
- Visitors must be cough-free.

“The safety of our

patients, co-workers and visitors is most important,” Lori McMillin, administrator of Mercy Hospital Tishomingo, said.

“The decision to further change our visitation policy was not made lightly, but we need to continue preventing the spread of COVID-19.”

The visitation policy changes are temporary. Hospital services will not be impacted.

Additional information is available at mercy.net/covid19.



COVID-19 COMPARISON

CORONAVIRUS vs. COLD vs. FLU vs. ALLERGIES

SYMPTOMS	COVID-19*	COLD	FLU	ALLERGIES
Fever	Common (100F or higher)	Rare	High (100-102F, can last 3-4 days)	No
Headache	Sometimes	Rare	Intense	Sometimes
General aches, pains	Sometimes	Slight	Common, (often severe)	No
Fatigue, weakness	Sometimes	Slight	Common (often severe)	Sometimes
Extreme exhaustion	Sometimes (progresses slowly)	Never	Common (starts early)	No
Stuffy Nose	Rare	Common	Sometimes	Common
Sneezing	Rare	Common	Sometimes	Common
Sore Throat	Rare	Common	Common	No
Cough	Common	Mild to moderate	Common, (can become severe)	Sometimes
Shortness of breath	In more serious infections	Rare	Rare	Common
Runny nose	Rare	Common	Sometimes	Common
Diarrhea	Sometimes	No	Sometimes**	No

* Information is still evolving ** Sometimes for children



OKLAHOMA State Department of Health



TULSA HEALTH Department

INFORMATION + UPDATES
CORONAVIRUS.HEALTH.OK.GOV
CALL CENTER: 877-215-8336 OR 2-1-1

Courthouse Continued from Page 2

offices without consulting with the commissioners.

During that meeting, the commissioners spoke to Johnston County Health Department Director Mindy Spohn by phone to obtain the most current information regarding possible local cases of the coronavirus.

Spohn heads up health department operations for the Oklahoma State Health Depart-

ment’s District 8, which includes Carter, Love, Murray, Marshall, Johnston, Pontotoc, Garvin, Jefferson and Stephens counties.

In response to a question from Hallmark regarding rumors of a confirmed positive case of COVID-19 in Carter County, Spohn stated that as of that moment, there were still no confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 anywhere

within the nine-county OSDH District 8 area.

But Spohn also conceded that information regarding confirmed local cases could be “skewed” by limited COVID-19 testing in the area. She stated that the national supply of reagents needed to create the tests for the entire country are only made by two companies.

“They cannot keep up with the demand, so our ability to test right now is limited,” Spohn said.

She added that the basic message regarding reducing the spread of the disease - social distancing and good hygiene, especially hand washing - is unchanged.

“We should be taking these precautions very seriously,” Spohn said. She added that Mercy Hospital in Tishomingo has expressed interest

in setting up an outdoor triage area for handling patients who may have the virus, and is working with Johnston County Emergency Management Director Jason Bryant to look into that possibility.

Spohn also stated that residents with questions about the pandemic can visit a website that has been set up by the Oklahoma State Department of Health: coronavirus.health.ok.gov.

Also during last Thursday’s meeting, Lea Anne Gray of the Johnston County EMS told the commissioners that JCEMS has enacted a temporary emergency policy regarding the transfer of local patients to other hospitals across the state.

Gray said JCEMS will only be transferring patients within a 60-mile radius. The one exception will be requested transfers to OU Children’s Hospital in

Oklahoma City, which Gray indicated will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

She said the policy has been enacted to better protect the health of JCEMS employees, adding that other ambulance services have enacted similar policies. The commissioners said they agreed with the policy.

During this week’s meeting, the commissioners voted 3-0 to approve an amendment to the county’s existing road agreement with Allete Clean Energy as part of the current wind farm construction project in northern Johnston County.

Clement’s motion called for the commissioners’ action to be contingent upon approval of Associate District Attorney Fern Smith, who will be asked to review the amended agreement. A team with the wind

farm project told the commissioners Monday that the amended plan calls for the construction of two temporary jump bridges on Stinson Road, to better enable heavy equipment to move in and out of the construction zone without damaging the existing bridges.

The commissioners also voted Monday to accept a quote provided by OG&E for the placement of LED lighting in the Johnston County Jail and Sheriff’s Office complex.

The project, funded through a special program, calls for OG&E to pay the bulk of the installation cost - \$12,266.10, according to the figures announced by the commissioners Monday. The remaining \$1,363 would be paid by the county.

Hallmark’s motion to accept the bid was seconded by Clements and passed by a 3-0 vote.

Bible Verse of the Week:

“Then Jesus said,
Let’s go off by ourselves
to a quiet place
and rest awhile.”

(Mark 6:31, NLT)

Tishomingo Senior Citizens Center Menus

601 West Main, Tishomingo • 371-9116

Thursday 1/2, 2/13, 3/26, 5/7, 6/18	Friday 1/3, 2/14, 3/27, 5/8, 6/19	Monday 1/6, 2/17, 3/30, 5/11, 6/22	Tuesday 1/7, 2/18, 3/31, 5/12, 6/23	Wednesday 1/8, 2/19, 4/1, 5/13, 6/24
Beef Tacos	Chicken Tetrazzini	Pork Chop/Mushroom Gravy	Chicken Broccoli Rice Casserole (5 oz)	Chicken Fried Steak
Mexican Street Corn, Diced Lettuce/Tomato	Broccoli, Zucchini/Tomato	California Blend, Scalloped Potatoes	Broccoli in Casserole, Side Salad	Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Green Beans
Taco Shell (2)	Garlic Bread	Dinner Roll	Dinner Roll	Dinner Roll
Salsa	Margarine	Margarine,	Margarine, Salad Dressing	Margarine, Gravy
Baked Apples	Iced Cake	Chocolate Chip Cookie	Pineapple Fluff	Tropical Fruit Mix
Milk	Milk	Milk	Milk	Milk
Water, Tea	Water, Tea	Water, Tea	Water, Tea	Water, Tea



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Tishomingo Pharmacy Drive-Thru Services

All prescriptions need to be picked up through the pharmacy drive-thru located on the west side of the building. Enter from Muldrow St., taking the 2nd entrance into the back parking lot. Please do not try to turn around in this lot. Exit the drive-thru on 24th St.

Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday 7:30am-6:00pm – Friday 7:30am-11:30am (Walk-in only)
Call for an appointment. Fees due at the time of service.

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1556 S. Virginia Ave. * Atoka * OK * (580) 889-4746
21 North Main * Kingston * OK * (580)-564-7885
www.fhcs.org  www.facebook.com/fhcs

Johnston County Milestones

Obituaries

James Alan Smith Sr.

TISHOMINGO – Private family services for James Alan Smith Sr. were held Wednesday, March 25, at Tishomingo Funeral Home. Due to the COVID-19 virus, a public memorial service will be held at a later date. The son of Tommie Gale Smith and the late Elizabeth Ambroski Smith, he was born Sept. 26, 1960, in Toledo, Ohio, and died March 21, 2020, in Oklahoma City.



He moved from Ohio to Oklahoma City at an early age, and married Teresa Lawton in Independence, Mo., on Jan. 21, 1989.

He was employed with the Environmental Services department of the Choctaw Nation at his time of death. He previously worked for Chickasaw Nation Laundry and Transportation and Scott Pet Foods, and was employed as a truck driver.

Survivors include his wife, Teresa Smith of the home; his father, Tommie Smith and wife Jodi of Lee's Summit, Mo.; his sons, James Alan Smith Jr. of Tishomingo and Levi Jacob Smith and wife Wenona of Milburn; his daughters, Nicole Smith of Edmond, and Billiejean Sue Smith Williams of Boswell; two brothers, Brian Ambroski and wife Jonna and Kevin Smith, all of Toledo, Ohio; a sister, Dionne Keister and husband John of Toledo, Ohio; and a grandson.

Services were held under the direction of Tishomingo Funeral Home.

Paid Obituary

Orville Benton

Graveside services to honor the life of Orville Benton were held at 1 p.m. on Monday, March 23, at Troy Cemetery. Family hour was from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 22, at DeArman-Clark Funeral Home in Tishomingo.



Orville Eugene Benton, 90, passed from this life on March 18, 2020, at Baylor Medical Center in Dallas, Texas. Orville was born Jan. 6, 1930, to Glenn and Ethel Gilreath Benton.

He spent his years growing up in Johnston County and was a graduate of Ravia High School. He married the love of his life, Dois Kathleen Peden, on Sept. 15, 1950, at Pettijohn Springs near Russett. Three beautiful children, a multitude of grandchildren and 69 wonderful years of marriage followed.

Orville proudly served our country in the United States Marines during the Korean War from 1952 to 1954. He was the jack-of-all-trades when it came to building things; furniture, little trinkets and hope chests for all his grandchildren were his absolute favorites. Later in life, he became a bookworm and even made a bookcase to display all of his books; Louis L'amour and "Longarm" westerns were a few of his favorites.

He adored watching his grandchildren play their ball games, and was always their biggest supporter and number one fan. He was a loving husband, caring father and the best grandpa around; he will be missed by all the lives he had the chance of impacting in his 90 years on this earth.

Orville was preceded in death by his parents, Glenn and Ethel Benton; two sisters; a brother; and a granddaughter.

Those he leaves to cherish his memories are his beautiful bride of 69 years, Dois Peden; his daughters, Sheryl West and husband James and Ladonna Cook and husband Ed, and son Larry Benton; his grandchildren, Kristi Bradley, Jamie Vernon, Brice West, Kaylea Billings, Audrea Dickerson and LaNeill Cook; his great-grandchildren, Bailey Miller, Rylee Hughes, Kenlea Vernon, Preslee Vernon, Houston Vernon, Roxanne Dickerson and James Dickerson; his step-grandchildren, Austin Vernon, Brock Bradley, Taylor Taylor and Harley Henry; and a host of nieces, nephews and friends who will deeply miss him.

Services were entrusted to DeArman-Clark Funeral Home. Family and friends may leave online memorials and condolences at www.dearmanfuneralhome.com.

Nero named Trailblazer

The East Central University Black Alumni Association recently honored lifetime educator and ECU alum Donnie Nero with its prestigious Trailblazer award as part of the program for the annual Louise Young Diversity Lecture on campus.

A native of Spencer, Nero graduated from Dunjee High School in 1967. He earned a bachelor's degree in education from ECU in 1971.

Nero earned his master's degree in educational administration in 1977 and his doctorate in occupational and adult education in 1993, both from Oklahoma State University (OSU).

Nero progressed through the ranks at Tulsa Community College to become Provost of the TCC Southeast Campus.

In 2016, Nero completed two terms as chair of the Office of Juvenile Affairs.

Paid Obituary

Rosalva Alvarez Rainey

Rosalva Alvarez Rainey, 90, of Tishomingo, Okla., died from complications of surgery on March 18, 2020, at Oklahoma Heart Hospital North in Oklahoma City, Okla. She was born Sept. 3, 1929, in Salttillo, Mexico, to Rev. Antonio G. Alvarez and Juventina Alvarez Caballero.



At the age of 12 she became a student at a private school in south Texas, Presbyterian Panamerica. She attended Oklahoma Presbyterian College in Durant, Okla., where she met her future husband, Dr. Bill G. "Buck" Rainey. They were married Dec. 26, 1951, and he passed away on March 19, 2009.

She earned her Master's of Education degree and was a Home Economics teacher at Murray State College for decades. She also taught English and Spanish in secondary public schools for many years; her last appointment was at Sulphur High School, from which she retired in 1990.

She enjoyed shopping, cooking and homemaking, and was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Tishomingo since the early 1950s.

Rosalva lived life to its fullest on her own terms. She was fiercely independent and passionate about the care of her paraplegic husband, for whom she was the caregiver for 19 years. She loved her children and their spouses unconditionally. She loved to travel, was a vocal and unapologetic Democrat, and spoke English and Spanish fluently.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Antonio G. Alvarez and Juventina Alvarez Caballero; her husband, Dr. Bill G. "Buck" Rainey; and six siblings, Oscar Alvarez, Jorge Alvarez, Mario Alvarez, Homero Alvarez, Rene Alvarez and Emma Alvarez Brady.

Survivors include two siblings, Laura Alvarez Wheeler of Fort Worth, Texas, and Yolanda Alvarez Reid of Lake Kiowa, Texas; her sons, Rex and daughter-in-law Debra Rainey of Odessa, Texas, Tim Rainey of Tishomingo, and Ken Layne Rainey and son-in-law J. Michael Lee, M.D., of Indian Wells, Calif.; her grandchildren Flash Rainey of Odessa, Texas, Gunner Rainey of Odessa, Texas, and Skylar Rainey Young of Marietta, Okla.; her great-grandchildren, Randi Young and Weston Young, both of Marietta; her loyal pet and companion, Ladybug, now residing in Indian Wells, Calif.; and dozens of nieces and nephews in Oklahoma and Mexico.

Services are pending with DeArman-Clark Funeral Home in Tishomingo. Memorial gifts may be made to First United Methodist Church of Tishomingo.

Chickasaw students attend youth summit

The Chickasaw Pehliche Ikbi "Creating Chickasaw Leaders" Youth Leadership program (CPI) recently attended the Close Up Foundation's annual American Indian Youth Summit in Washington, D.C.

During the summit, CPI youth leaders had the opportunity to engage in workshops with others from different tribal communities.

They discussed the most pressing issues facing their areas; discovered the historic relationship between tribes and the U.S. government; and explored current issues impacting Indian Country.

They also created tribal action initiatives to address concerns and present to tribal leaders, political experts and policymakers.

CPI youth leaders attended the National Congress of American Indians' Tribal Nations Policy Summit where they met with political experts and tribal leaders.

The Chickasaw Nation CPI youth program provides future leaders with the opportunity to obtain leadership and cultural knowledge through a 10-month, age appropriate project.

During the six-day

summit, First American youth developed the skills and attitudes to become active citizens in their tribes and communities.



Wildcats of the Month

Coleman School recently announced its honorees as March's Wildcats of the Month and Staff Member of the Month. Pictured left to right are (back row) Roxie Nation, Persefanie Garcia, Peayton Jones and Jamie Marak; (front row) Kaylynn McReynolds, Brent Barnett and Avery Abraham.

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(We will gladly meet or beat any local competitor's prices.)

Thank You

We want to express sincere thankfulness and appreciation to our friends and community for the outpouring of love, generosity and support you've shown during the passing of our beloved Alma Scribner Houser.

Our thanks to Rev. Joel Thompson, Rev. Marsha Purtell and Dustin Rowe for speaking at the memorial service and for offering such comforting words. We also are so grateful to the singers from the Fillmore Nazarene Church for your beautiful songs, and to Becky Wyatt for providing the wonderful music for the service.

We also want to express our deepest gratitude to Rev. Cordell Hines for providing the use of the First Assembly of God for the service. We also offer a sincere thank you to members of the First United Methodist Church for hosting a delicious lunch for our family.

We appreciate and cherish the calls, cards, visits and food given to our family during Alma's stay in the hospital, and the kindness shown to our family after her passing. We also are grateful for the donations made in her honor to Reaching Out. Thank you all for the love, prayers, compassion and words of encouragement you've offered to our family during this time.

Sincerely,
The Alma Scribner Houser Family

Crime News

Police Phone Log

MONDAY, MARCH 16:

3:21 p.m. - Caller reporting theft.
4:32 p.m. - Caller reporting suicidal person.

TUESDAY, MARCH 17:

No calls recorded on log.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18:

3:36 p.m. - Medical call.
8:25 p.m. - Caller reporting vehicle in ditch.
10:59 p.m. - Caller reporting domestic.

THURSDAY, MARCH 19:

1:21 p.m. - Caller reporting dispute.
5:36 p.m. - Caller reporting threat.

FRIDAY, MARCH 20:

3:02 a.m. - Caller reporting deer hit.
4:13 p.m. - Animal control call.
8:42 p.m. - Caller reporting drug activity.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21:

8:59 a.m. - Alarm call.
4:01 p.m. - Caller reporting suspicious person.
8:31 p.m. - Caller reporting unwanted person.

SUNDAY, MARCH 22:

11:34 a.m. - Caller requesting welfare check.
12:17 p.m. - Caller reporting suspicious activity.
4:13 p.m. - Caller requesting welfare check.
4:59 p.m. - Alarm call.
10:23 p.m. - Caller reporting unwanted person.

Sheriff's Phone Log

MONDAY, MARCH 16:

9:40 p.m. - Caller in Tishomingo reporting suspicious vehicle.

TUESDAY, MARCH 17:

12:43 p.m. - Caller in Coleman reporting fraud.
4:04 p.m. - Caller in Reagan reporting unauthorized use.
8:04 p.m. - Caller in Tishomingo reporting suspicious activity.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18:

1:01 a.m. - Caller in Milburn reporting suspicious vehicle.
6:00 a.m. - Medical call in Tishomingo.
9:48 a.m. - Caller in Ravia reporting domestic.
4:28 p.m. - Alarm call in Mannsville.
4:51 p.m. - Animal control call in Mannsville.
11:14 p.m. - Alarm call in Milburn.

THURSDAY, MARCH 19:

10:32 p.m. - Caller in Butcher Pen reporting suspicious person.

FRIDAY, MARCH 20:

12:58 a.m. - Caller on South Luffy Chapel Raod reporting unwanted person.
1:41 a.m. - Caller in Ravia reporting suicidal person.
10:57 a.m. - Caller in Ravia reporting threat.
1:21 p.m. - Caller in Milburn reporting dispute.
2:56 p.m. - Caller reporting theft, location not listed on log.
4:12 p.m. - Caller in Coleman reporting theft.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21:

12:09 a.m. - Caller on South Condon Grove Lane reporting break-in.
9:58 a.m. - Alarm call on State Highway 48 south.
11:26 a.m. - Caller reporting theft, location not listed on log.
3:01 p.m. - Caller reporting vehicle accident on Highway 48 south of Wapanucka.
5:48 p.m. - Caller reporting suspicious person on Cheadle Road.
10:12 p.m. - Caller in Coleman requesting welfare check.

SUNDAY, MARCH 22:

4:53 p.m. - Medical call in Ravia.

Burglary charge filed

An April court date has been set in the case of a Connerville man charged with a felony count of burglary in the first degree.

Documents on file at the Johnston County Court Clerk's office state that the charge against 47-year-old Jamie Scott Rocha stems from a March 14 incident in which Rocha allegedly broke into a residence located at 313 Cypress Road in Connerville.

The court documents state that Rocha forcibly climbed through a window and entered the residence without the consent of its occupant.

An affidavit by Deputy Gabriel Alexander of the Johnston County Sheriff's Department states that Alexander

was dispatched to the scene after receiving a report that the occupant had locked herself in a room in an effort to stay away from Rocha.

According to the affidavit, Trooper Colby Murray of the Oklahoma Highway Patrol was the first officer to arrive at the scene and had subdued Rocha by the time Alexander arrived.

Rocha was transported to the Johnston County Jail and made his initial court appearance on March 18.

Associate District Judge Laura Corbin set bond at \$75,000 and scheduled a status hearing in the case for April 27 at 9 a.m.

A preliminary hearing date is expected to be set at that time.

Johnston County Blotter

The following cases were filed in the Johnston County Court Clerk's office in Tishomingo during the week of March 13-19.

These are only cases filed, and do not indicate guilt or innocence on the part of the defendant.

Court records are a matter of public record, and are published in the *Johnston County Sentinel* as a public service.

Felonies

Kelvin Glenn Cannon - Assault and battery on a police officer.

George Baken - Protective order violation.

Jerri Dawn Miller - Trafficking in illegal drugs.

Jaime Scott Rocha - Burglary in the first degree.

Misdemeanors

Kelvin Glenn Cannon - Obstructing an officer.

Isaiah Lloyd Watson - Public intoxication.

Jerri Dawn Miller - Posses-

sion of drug paraphernalia; obstructing an officer; public intoxication.

Dominik Michael Jarman - Possession of marijuana.

Klowy Nikole Kelly - Possession of marijuana.

Traffic

Jordan Elizabeth Logan, Durant - Speeding, 75/65.

Dominik Michael Jarman, Durant - Failure to carry security verification form.

April Dawn Davis, Kingston - Failure to properly wear seat belt.

Danny Flen Elwood, Madill - Speeding, 80/65.

Kailee Elizabeth Gaddis, Denison, Texas - Speeding, 75/65.

Courtney L. Sellers, Ada - Speeding, 92/65.

Christopher Bernard Rose, Colleyville, Texas - Speeding, 75/65.

Jessica Mae Hawthorne, Bristow - Failure to comply with compulsory insurance law.

Emily Marian Darlene McBroom, Milburn - Failure to comply with compulsory insurance law.

Skyлар Storm Phillips, Celina, Texas - Speeding, 75/65.

Wildlife

Gary E. Knight - Fishing without resident fishing license.

Civil

Farm Bureau Bank vs. Sandra L. Bennett - Indebtedness.

Synchrony Bank vs. Melissa Ferguson - Indebtedness.

Portfolio Recovery Associates vs. Angela M. Torres - Indebtedness.

Small Claims

None.

Marriages

Hunter David Stanley, 20, Coleman, and Bailey Ann Bonner, 21, Caddo.

Divorces

Kenne Warren Carroll vs. Kristina Sue Marie Carroll.

Guilty pleas entered in infant's death

A Milburn couple charged last year in connection with the death of their 3-month-old infant child is awaiting sentencing after both individuals entered guilty pleas in Johnston County District Court earlier this month.

Court records show that Christopher Wayne Hairell, 37, and 33-year-old Lindsay Allene Wolff appeared before District Judge Wallace Coppedge on March 12. Each had been charged with first degree murder in connection with the child's death.

According to court records, Wolff entered a blind plea to an alternate charge of second degree murder. The court records show that Coppedge accepted the plea and sentenced Wolff to 34 years with the Oklahoma Department of Corrections.

Court documents also show that Harrell pled guilty to first degree murder and was given a life sentence by Coppedge.

As first reported in the July 11, 2019, issue of

the *Sentinel*, the charges against Wolff and Harrell stemmed from an investigation that began when the Johnston County Sheriff's Office received a call from Mercy Hospital in Tishomingo on the evening of July 2, 2019.

The hospital had reported that an infant had been brought to the hospital emergency room with apparent serious injuries.

Officers from the Sheriff's Office and the Tishomingo Police Department responded to the hospital and began an investigation into the child's injuries.

Upon examination of the infant and discovering life-threatening injuries, the medical staff transferred the child by med-flight to an Oklahoma City hospital.

According to reports, the infant's injuries occurred at least 20 hours before the parents brought him to the hospital to seek medical attention.

Sheriff Jon Smith told the *Sentinel* at the time that there were reports of both marijuana

and methamphetamine being used by both parents at the time of the child's injuries.

Documents on file at the Johnston County Court Clerk's office state that officers observed numerous injuries to the child, including bruising on the top of the head and under the left jawline. The infant's right eye was drooping, with the pupil dilated and unresponsive.

The documents also state that the child's right leg was wrapped, and that hospital staff told investigators that the right femur was completely broken in half with bone fragments visible on the X-ray.

After the infant was airlifted to OU Children's Hospital in Oklahoma City, it was determined that the infant was also suffering from a traumatic brain injury, including hemorrhaging in the brain and anoxic brain injury caused by oxygen deprivation.

According to an affidavit, the couple said that the baby's injuries were accidental and

Wolff told investigators that she and Hairell had been fighting the day before bringing the baby to the emergency room.

Wolff reportedly said that, after grabbing the baby off the couch and walking outside, Hairell tripped over something and fell to the ground with the baby in his arms.

But the affidavit also cites a medical report received from OU Children's Hospital which clearly stated that the infant's injuries were not accidental in nature.

When questioned as to why they waited almost 20 hours to take the baby to the ER, the affidavit states, Hairell responded that they were afraid of getting into trouble.

The couple was initially arrested on suspicion of child abuse and violation of the Domestic Abuse Act in the presence of a minor, with bond being set at \$750,000 each.

Upon the infant's death, bond was raised to \$1,000,000 each and the first-degree murder charges were filed.

Muniz pleads guilty in manslaughter case

A May sentencing date has been scheduled for a Tishomingo woman who recently pled guilty to charges of first degree manslaughter.

Documents on file show that Krysta Renee Muniz entered the plea before District Judge Wallace Coppedge at the Johnston County Courthouse in Tishomingo on March 12.

Court records show that Coppedge ordered a pre-trial investigation, and scheduled sentencing for May 7 at 11 a.m.

Muniz had been bound over for jury trial during a preliminary hearing in May 2019. Court documentation related to the preliminary hearing stated that a state's motion to amend the charges against Muniz had been approved at that time.

The documents state that the state's motion called for an amendment of the information contained in the original charges, to include alternate charges of first degree manslaughter while

driving under the influence by a person under 21.

According to a spokesperson for the Johnston County Court Clerk's Office, Muniz pled guilty to the original charges against her.

Those charges were filed in connection with the June 2018 collision that resulted in the deaths of two passengers in her vehicle, as well as the driver of a second vehicle.

Muniz was taken into custody on Sept. 17, 2018, after an arrest warrant was filed earlier that day.

She was released on \$50,000 bond later the same day.

As first reported in the June 21, 2018, edition of the *Johnston County Sentinel*, the collision occurred Saturday, June 16, at approximately 2:59 a.m. at State Highway 7 and Ten Acre Rock, five miles south of Mill Creek.

According to a report released at the time by the Oklahoma Highway

Patrol, Muniz's 2006 Lincoln Navigator was traveling south on the county road when it collided with an eastbound 2011 Chevrolet pickup in the intersection.

Muniz was transported by Air-Evac helicopter to Texoma Medical Center in Denison, Texas, where she was admitted in stable condition with head and arm injuries.

Two passengers in her vehicle - Vernon W. Muniz, 46, and 30-year-old Skye W. Wyrick, both of Tishomingo - were pronounced dead at the scene by Investigator

John Miller of the Oklahoma State Medical Examiner's office.

The driver of the pickup, 20-year-old Chase Richard Pitmon of Mill Creek, was also pronounced dead at the scene, according to the OHP report.

A third passenger in the Muniz vehicle, 29-year-old Jessica N. Wilson of Tishomingo, was transported by Air-Evac to the University of Oklahoma Medical Center in Oklahoma City with leg and internal injuries, according to the OHP report.

Assault suspect sought

An arrest warrant has been filed for a 55-year-old Tishomingo man who is being sought on a felony charge of assault and battery on a police officer.

According to documents on file at the Johnston County Court Clerk's office, the charge against Kelvin Glenn Cannon stem from allegations that on or about

Feb. 26 he grabbed Officer Kelly Perkinson of the Tishomingo Police Department by the arm and pushed him, injuring the officer's hand.

If eventually convicted, Cannon faces the possibility of imprisonment for up to five years.

He is also charged with a misdemeanor count of obstructing an officer.

Classified Ads

**REGULAR CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE:
3 P.M. MONDAY
(5 P.M. FRIDAY FOR WEEKS
WITH MONDAY HOLIDAYS)**

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING RATES
REGULAR CLASSIFIED: A flat rate of \$6.00 is charged per week for line classifieds up to 20 words, 20¢ for each additional word thereafter. No refunds issued for cancellations. Advertising submissions, payment and customer contact information must be received in office prior to publication. Billing fee of \$1.00 for ads not paid in advance.
CUSTOMER INFORMATION: First and last name of contact person (business name, if applicable); phone #; mailing address; email address (optional) if available.
DISPLAY CLASSIFIED: \$4.75 per column inch. Payment required on receipt of order, unless an established customer with prompt payment histories based on past transactions.

To place an ad over the phone, call (580) 371-0275.

(Please include payment with order)



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 SEIGEL PAUL HEFFINGTON, BROKER
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 FAX - (580)-371-9885
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 email - seigelpaulheffington@yahoo.com
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 SHERRY YOCHUM, Broker Associate (580) 579-5421
 MIKE LOVETT, Sales Associate (580) 371-1720
 LELA BARNES, Sales Associate/ (817) 408-0382

THIS HOME HAS IT ALL! This 2-story/split level, log, frame home has approx. 2,000 sq. ft. and sits on 5 well groomed acres with a large pond. It has a kitchen, dining, laundry, 2 bed, 1 bath downstairs and 2 bed, 2 bath upstairs. CH&A. Closets and storage is not a problem with this one. Also it has 3 nice outbuildings. As if that's not enough, there is a mobile home with personality plus, with all the amenities. Kitchen, dining, 2 bed, 1 bath, laundry. Could be a mother-in-law house or a rental. This option provides many opportunities both for business or simply guests. This property is a must see. Listed at \$349,000. This showpiece has all the feel of country living but sits on the edge of city limits. Don't miss out on this 5 acre showplace!

CHARMING HISTORICAL 2 STORY HOME ON NORTH KEMP. 3 bdrm, 1 bath, frame, pier and beam foundation, CH&A, approx. 1,120 sq.ft. +/-, Hardwood and laminate flooring throughout, newly painted with new light fixtures, original solid wood interior doors, beautiful covered front porch with swing, French doors, carport, and lots of windows and storage. \$69,000. Call Lela Barnes for your showing. (817) 408-0382.

ATTRACTIVE BRICK HOME WITH ATTACHED MOTHER-IN-LAW HOUSE. Main house has 3 bdrm., 2 baths, pier and beam foundation, CH&A, metal roofing, has approx. 1,392 sq. ft. of living area, covered front carport, kitchen appliances remain with house, Mother-in-Law house has 2 bdrms., 1 bath, metal roofing, pier and beam foundation, approx. 816 sq. ft. There is an open covered breezeway connecting both houses. The 2 bdrm. could also be used as a rental property. The place has 2 large city lots in Ponotoc, OK, covering 28,000 sq. ft. or 140x200. The property has 3 storage sheds. There is a 242 sq.ft. cinder block building that was a former beauty shop. Lots of possibilities with this place. Asking only \$125,000. Call Mike Lovett for your showing, (580) 371-1720.

JUST ONE MILE FROM THE NEW CASINO IN WILLIS. 3 bdrms., 1 and 3/4 bths., frame metal roof, beautiful tile flooring, ceiling fans, solid foundation, city water, septic tank, system, vaulted ceiling in living room, cathedral ceiling upstairs, laundry utility room, many other extra's, set on approx. 1 acre, has older mobile homes, one used for storage and the other is rentable, two car garage, located at 5472 S. Hwy. 377. Asking \$230,000. Call for your showing, (580) 371-9885

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY IN DOWNTOWN CONNERVILLE. Cement block building formally a quick stop type of operation. 2 gas pumps, building has approx. 1,064 sq. ft. in it, located next to Connerville Fire Dept., setting on 3 city lots, corner lot location fore easy access for customers, needs work on the inside and some on the outside, priced at only \$50,000. Call for showing. **3 BDRM, 1 BTH.** frame, metal roof, propane heat, window unit cooling, city utilities, approx. 1,257 sq.ft., enclosed back porch area, utility room, carport, fenced yard, large lot area, older frame shed, located in Bromide, OK, 308 S. Main, asking \$38,000, call for your showing.

Call The Johnston County Sentinel at (580) 371-0275 to place a display or classified ad, or to subscribe. Credit card payments can be accepted over the phone.

FOR RENT
2-bedroom, 2-bath, fenced backyard, very clean, located at 404 N. Kemp. \$725/mo, \$725 deposit. Call (580) 836-7171. (TFN-81/9/20)

HELP WANTED

OK Behavioral Health is seeking a mental health professional to provide therapy services to adults, adolescents and/or their families. Qualified candidates must possess one of the following licenses: BHCMI, LPC, LCSW, LMFT, LADC, or currently be under active supervision. The qualified candidates will be responsible for providing home-based and/or school-based services. Individuals must be independent, organized, and self-motivated. Must be able to work with a team concept and possess excellent computer and writing skills. Excellent pay, student loan forgiveness program, paid vacation, along with personal and sick time, life insurance, 401K and health benefits available. Locations are as follows Tishomingo, Madill, Ardmore, Ada, Durant, Kington, Atoka, McAlester, Norman, Oklahoma City, Checotah, Lawton, and Mead Oklahoma. (TFN-8/20/20)

LAND FOR SALE
 Want to buy land in Johnston County? (580) 310-2486. (TFN-8/20/20)



1315 W. Main • Tishomingo, Ok

Caren Atteberry, Broker
 Office: (580) 371-3607
Carl Atteberry, Sales Associate
 Cell: (580) 371-6078
Matt Sandmann, Sales Associate
 Cell: (580) 775-3539
Linda Kreger, Sales Associate
 Cell: (580) 257-0134



Sportsman's Paradise - 350 Acres The ranch has been managed for several years for wildlife with established food plots. There are six ponds on the ranch which have been stocked with bass and/or catfish. Because the property has been used for hunting primarily for the last several years the white-tail deer, turkey and wild hogs are plentiful. There is rural water and electricity along with two equipment sheds, two solar water wells. Asking \$2,800 an acre.

Rental Property Three homes located at 605, 607 and 609 Parkway, Tishomingo. All 3 homes are being offered at an asking price of \$85,000. Seller may consider dividing the properties. Great investment opportunity. Shown by appointment.

Country Setting 1800 +/- sq ft brick home, 3 bdrm, 1 3/4 bath, sitting on 25 beautiful acres. There is a 20 x 25 patio with hot tub, large chain link fenced in backyard, a 30 x 40 metal shop with office and bathroom, insulated. A 25 x 18 RV carport, with water, electricity and sewer hookup. 16 x 20 garage with equip, storage off two sides, 10 x 20 storage building and children's playhouse. A must see to appreciate everything this property has to offer. 1120 W. Oak Hill Lane, Tishomingo. Asking \$250,000 Shown By Appointment only

Country Comfort. This 3,000 +/- sq. ft. 5-bedroom, 2 bath home sitting on 25 beautiful acres, has a lot to offer! Spacious bedrooms, large living, sunroom, country kitchen, large deck, shop, 30x40 barn, 3-car carport, pecan trees, beautiful stocked ponds. 4720 S. Wiley Road. Asking \$265,000 reduced to \$225,000.

315+/- acres with a 3 bdrm, 2 bath mobile home, livestock corrals, cellar, active wet weather creek with large granite outcroppings. The deer, turkey and wild hogs are plentiful, and the property has 3 ponds for the fisherman to enjoy. Asking \$2,400 per acre.

705 N. Kemp Commercial Property Spacious 5000 +/- sq. ft. commercial building ready for business. Five offices, restroom, garage and plenty of room for storage. Asking \$192,000 reduced to \$172,000.

2,300 sq. ft. brick, CH&A, large living room, 3 car carport, sitting on 110 +/- acres, cattle pens, loafing shed, feed silo and barn. Live creek, pecan trees and more near Wapanucka. Shown by appointment only.

110+/- acres, Good hunting; deer, hogs and turkey. Approx. 6 miles East of Tishomingo. Asking 2,800 per acre.

Check us out at www.southerncomfortok.com or e-mail southerncomfortrealty4@gmail.com. We have a new webpage and advertise on facebook.

We have buyers currently looking for property! Let us sell your property!

HOUSE FOR SALE

103 West 20th Street, Tishomingo: 2 or 3 bedroom, 1,408 sq. ft. house with separate 720 sq. ft. garage and shop, with additional attached 144 sq. ft. storage area. Separate 288 sq. ft. storage building, 6 city lots. Built in 1959. Remodeled bathroom and new central heat and air (2018). Hardwood floors. \$74,000. Call (580) 618-1764 for appointment. (3/26)

SALES

Gill's Greenhouse in Reagan. Get your plants and flowers! (580) 384-5442. (4/16)

Legal Notices

(Published March 12, 19 & 26, 2020)

NOTICE TO SELL COUNTY PROPERTY ACQUIRED AT RESALE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the receipt of bid, that I, Rana Smith County Treasurer of Johnston County, Oklahoma, will on the 30th day of March, 2020, beginning at 10:00 A.M. at my office in Tishomingo, Oklahoma sell separately the hereinafter described

tracts, parcels, or lots of land, all situated in Johnston County, Oklahoma and heretofore acquired by said county at the resale authorized by 68 O.S. § 3125. Following the description of each property separately offered for sale is the name of the bidder and the amount of bid as follows:

DESCRIPTION
 LOT 198 BLOCK D - HOLIDAY HAVEN
BIDDER
 AVID PROPERTIES
AMOUNT BID
 \$ 219.78

DESCRIPTION
 LOT 32 BLOCK C - HOLIDAY HAVEN
BIDDER
 STEPHEN HILL
AMOUNT BID
 216.93

DESCRIPTION
 LOT 33 BLOCK C - HOLIDAY HAVEN
BIDDER
 STEPHEN HILL
AMOUNT BID
 219.78

DESCRIPTION
 LOT 34 BLOCK C - HOLIDAY HAVEN
BIDDER
 STEPHEN HILL
AMOUNT BID
 662.75

DESCRIPTION
 LOT 35 BLOCK C - HOLIDAY HAVEN
BIDDER
 STEPHEN HILL
AMOUNT BID
 219.78

DESCRIPTION
 LOT 36 BLOCK C - HOLIDAY HAVEN
BIDDER

DESCRIPTION
 LOT 36 BLOCK C - HOLIDAY HAVEN
BIDDER

Brenda Rowe Realty
 Brenda Rowe, Broker
 104 W. Main • (580) 371-9236
 Natasha Gray, Sales Associate
 (580) 371-6564
 www.brendarowerealty.com
 "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."
 Joshua 24:15



EASY ESCAPE! Located on 10 beautiful acres is this cedar home. Features 3B/1B/2, 1/2B, cathedral ceiling, rock fp, new stainless appliance, sunroom, garage, & deck. 3 barns, shop, utility bldg., pond, granite outcropping, & good fencing. 1700 W. Blue River Rd. \$229,000

SOMETHING ENTICING! Old service station includes 5 lots with highway frontage. This is an opportunity to open restaurant or business. 200 W. Grand, Ravia \$25,000.

CATCH OF THE DAY! Private setting offers 3B/2B brick, master has jetted tub, screened porch, + detached garage. 3s tall barn w/tack room, fenced with pond. 406 S 8th, Milburn \$80,000

SMALL TOWN SPIRIT! Very cute & cozy, 2006 Modular home features 3B/2B, open concept, ch&a. Large back yard. 105 W. 2nd St., Wapanucka \$58,000

YOU BELONG HERE! This brick home offers 3B/2B, lg kitchen w/abundant cabinetry, nice laundry room, ch&a, covered deck. Located near hospital and MSC @ 806 Harkey, \$94,000

A VARIETY OF OPPORTUNITES! This could be a great restaurant, business, converted to a home, or continue as a church. 78 E. Highway frontage on 1.24 acres \$158,000

PRIME LOCATION! Country living minutes from town offers 10+/- acres with pecan trees. Perfect for building dream home or developing. Refuge Road.

A SWEETHEART OF A HOME! Included home features 3B/2B, granite kitchen with abundant cabinetry adjoins dining and living rm. Notable feature is room large enough for 2 king beds + craft room. Metal carport & storage bldg. Great space for family. Located on dead end at 1309 Cinnamon Ln. \$120,000

FIXER TO FABULOUS! 3B/2B Brick home on 1+/- Acre. New CH&A, roof, paint, but is a project in the making. 6300 Mansion Rd. Emet. \$59,500.

RENTAL POTENTIAL! Located on 3 beautiful shaded lots, 3 bdrms, 2 baths, granite 4/1 bedroom and 4/2 bedroom. Built in 1985. Cumberland St. Ravia, \$175,000.

OWN A PIECE OF HISTORY IN THE HEART OF DOWNTOWN! 2 adjoining bldgs feature bar, 4 baths, new roof, patio for extra seating, & ch&a. . Offers a variety of options for your choice of business. Would make great restaurant with overflow dining. Approximately 3,000 sq ft. 310 W Main, reduced to \$285,000.



Mill Creek Dolomite, LLC currently has openings for qualified Plant and Quarry Equipment Operators. Competitive wages and benefits available. Pick up Application or submit resume to Mill Creek Dolomite, LLC 9915 West Amos Conley RD Mill Creek, OK 74856 (580) 384-5271 (3/26)

STEPHEN HILL AMOUNT BID 216.93

The said properties will be separately sold to the highest bidder, for cash in hand, or to the original bidder at the amount bid if there be no higher bid offered, subject to the approval of the Board of County Commissioners.

The apportioned cost of advertisement and other expense incident to the said sale shall be paid by the purchaser, in addition to the amount bid upon said properties.

Witness my hand this 2nd day of March, 2020

/s/ Denise Hook
 County Treasurer

(Seal)

(Published March 12, 19 & 26, 2020)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JOHNSTON COUNTY, TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, STATE OF OKLAHOMA

CASE NO. CV-2020-03

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE OF HEARING ON INTERPLEADER

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO AUDREY GAGE, CHARITY MOORE, JUSTIN GAGE, DILLON GAGE, DALTON GAGE, OKLAHOMA TAX COMMISSION, AND UNKNOWN HEIRS, EXECUTORS, TRUSTEES, SUCCESSORS, AND ASSIGNS OF MARVIN GAGE, DECEASED, THAT A HEARING TO DETERMINE THE RIGHTFUL CLAIMANT OF EXCESS RESALE FUNDS FROM THE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY OF THE RECORD OWNER, MARVIN GAGE, DECEASED, WHICH

SOLD ON JUNE 10, 2019 IN JOHNSTON COUNTY DESCRIBED AS:

Lots 33, 34 35, and 37 Block D, Holiday Haven, Johnston County Oklahoma, Parcel #'s 0045-00-00D-033-0-020-00, 0045-00-00D-034-0-021-00, 0045-00-00D-035-022-00, and 0045-00-00D-037-0-022-00 or in the proceeds of the sale.

THE HEARING ON THE PETITION IN INTERPLEADER WILL BE HELD ON THE 21st DAY OF APRIL, @ 9:00 A.M., 2020 IN THE SECOND FLOOR COURTROOM A OF THE JOHNSTON COUNTY COURT HOUSE, 403 W. MAIN STREET, TISHOMINGO, OKLAHOMA 73460, BEFORE THE HONORABLE LAURA J CORBIN, ASSOCIATE DISTRICT JUDGE. ANY PERSON HAVING AN INTEREST IN THE PROCEEDS OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PROPERTY MUST APPEAR AND BE HEARD AT THE TIME AND PLACE HEREIN DESCRIBED.

CASSANDRA SLOVER COURT CLERK

BY: /s/ Marci Sneed DEPUTY COURT CLERK (SEAL)

DATE: 02-25-2020

PREPARED BY FERN L. SMITH #8347 ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY ATTORNEY FOR RANA SMITH JOHNSTON COUNTY TREASURER 403 WEST MAIN STREET TISHOMINGO, OKLAHOMA 73460

(Published March 19 & 26, 2020)

LPXLP

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.



Tishomingo Apartments, Inc. has available units Section 8 income-based housing for those who qualify. The apartments have efficiency (0), one (1) and two (2) bedroom apartments with CHA, refrigerator, range and carpet. A Utility Allowance is deducted from your rent to assist with the electric bill and the Apartment Complex pays for the water and natural gas. Affordable housing for qualified income-based and disabled applicants located across from Murray State College.

Applications are available at Tishomingo Apartments, 1100 South Byrd, Tishomingo, OK, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Interested persons may call (580) 371-3372 or write Tishomingo Apartments, Inc., 1100 South Byrd Tishomingo, OK 73460. Applications will be mailed.

Tishomingo Apartments, Inc., does not discriminate on the basis of handicap status in the admission or access to or treatment or employment in, its federally assisted programs and activities.



OKLAHOMA CLASSIFIED AD NETWORK

FOR MORE INFO CALL **1-888-815-2672**

WANT TO BUY

OLD GUITARS WANTED! LARRY BRINGS CASH for vintage USA guitars, tube amps, banjos, mandolins, etc. Fender, Gibson, Martin, Gretsch, others. Call or text 918-288-2222. www.stringswest.com

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Put your message where it matters most - IN OKLAHOMA NEWSPAPERS. We can place your ad in 158 newspapers. For more information or to place an ad, contact Landon Cobb at (405) 499-0022 or toll-free in OK at 1-888-815-2672.

Free

Roll-in Showers for qualified Veterans Call Now! 800-975-0056

ATTENTION

We are looking for homes in your county needing **ROOFS, SIDING OR WINDOWS** We are opening a branch office and will be using these homes for our upcoming brochure. **SAVE HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS! No money down. 100% Financing. Senior/Military discounts.**

HOME OWNERS CALL NOW!! 888-878-6443

DPS extends expiration dates

The Oklahoma Department of Public Safety (DPS) is extending the expiration date of all Class D driver licenses, commercial driver licenses (CDL), Oklahoma identification cards and handicap parking permits that expired 30 days prior to Gov. Stitt's Executive Order declaring a State of Emergency.

This extension will be in effect until further notice from the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety.

"As a precautionary measure and to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, DPS has been granted the authority to extend the expiration of the Oklahoma identification cards, Oklahoma Class D driver licenses, Oklahoma CDLs and handicap parking permits, with an expiration

on or after Feb. 15, 2020, until further notice" DPS Commissioner John Scully said.

For options to renew or replace Oklahoma Class D driver licenses or identification cards by mail or online, please visit www.ok.gov/dps.

Limitations to this extension will be applied to drivers with invalid driver licenses due to suspension, revocation or denial.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR JOHNSTON COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA

In the Matter of the Estate of JOHN R. HAMPTON, Deceased.

Case No. PB-2020-08

Hon. Laura J. Corbin

ORDER AND NOTICE OF HEARING PETITION FOR ADMINISTRATION, APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE, AND DETERMINATION OF HEIRS

NOW on this March 9, 2020, there having been filed in this Court on this date a Petition for Administration of Estate, Admission of Will to Probate, Appointment of Personal Representative, and Determination of Heirs, Devises and Legatees with regard to the estate of John R. Hampton, deceased, alleging that John R. Hampton died testate on August 10, 2019, requesting that Laura A. Hampton be appointed personal representative of the decedent's estate, without bond, and that the heirs, devisees and legatees of John R. Hampton, deceased, be determined.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that said Petition be and the same is hereby set for hearing on the 15th day of April, 2020, at the hour of 2:30 o'clock P.M. in District Court Room A, in the Courthouse of Johnston County, in Tishomingo, Oklahoma, when and where all persons interested may appear and contest the same, and that notice thereof be given by publication and by mailing to all of the heirs, devisees and legatees at their last known place of residence as required by law at least ten (10) days from the date of publication before said date of hearing.

/s/ Laura J. Corbin
Hon. Laura J. Corbin
JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

Philip R. Feist, OBA No. 15004 Doerner Saunders Daniel & Anderson, LLP Two West Second Street, Suite 700, Tulsa, OK 74103 T: (918) 591-5214 / F: (918) 925-5214 / Attorney for Petitioner

(Seal)

(Published March 19 & 26, 2020)

PROCLAMATION AND NOTICE OF ELECTION

Under and by virtue of Section 26, Article X of the Oklahoma Constitution and Title 70, Article XV, Oklahoma Statutes 2011, and other laws supplementary and amendatory thereto and a Resolution of the Board of Education of Elementary School District Number 7 of Johnston County, Oklahoma, adopted on the 29th day of January, 2020, an election is hereby called to be held in said School District on the 7th day of April, 2020, for the purpose of submitting to the registered, qualified electors thereof the following proposition:

PROPOSITION

Shall Elementary School District Number 7 of Johnston County, Oklahoma, incur an indebtedness by issuing its bonds in the sum of Three Hundred Fifty Five Thousand Dollars (\$355,000) to be issued in one or more series to provide funds for the purpose of constructing, equipping, repairing and remodeling school buildings, acquiring school furniture, fixtures and equipment and acquiring and improving school sites, and levy and collect an annual tax, in addition to all other taxes, upon all the taxable property in such District sufficient to pay the interest on such bonds as it falls due and also to constitute a sinking fund for the payment of the principal thereof when due, said bonds to bear interest not to exceed the rate of ten (10%) per centum per annum, payable semi-annually and to become due serially within ten (10) years from their date?

The ballots used at said election shall set out the proposition as above set forth and shall also contain the following words:

For the above Proposition

Against the above Proposition

The polls shall be opened at seven o'clock A.M. and remain open continuously until and be closed at seven o'clock P.M.

The number and location of the polling places and the names of the persons who shall conduct said election shall be designated by the County Election Board(s). Such officers shall also act as counters.

The specific projects for which at least eighty-five percent (85%) of the proceeds of the aforesaid Bonds shall be expended and the dollar amounts for each project shall be as follows:

LPXLP

to perform security improvements district-wide, as needed \$75,000.00

to acquire and/or install technology equipment district-wide, as needed \$50,000.00

to renovate, repair and/or remodel and acquire equipment district-wide to include, but not be limited to: flooring, ceiling repairs, HVAC and address district maintenance issues \$230,000.00

TOTAL: \$355,000.00

WITNESS our hands as President and Clerk of the above Board of Education and the seal of said School District this 29th day of January, 2020.

Roy Justice
President, Board of Education

ATTEST:

Tracie Chapman
Clerk, Board of Education
(SEAL)

(Published March 19 & 26, 2020)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JOHNSTON COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA

In the Matter of the Estate of BRICE SCOTT MORSE, Deceased.

PB-2017-11

NOTICE OF HEARING FIRST AND FINAL ACCOUNT, PETITION FOR DECREE OF DISTRIBUTION, AND DISCHARGE OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Notice is hereby given to all persons interested in the Estate of BRICE SCOTT MORSE, Deceased, that on the 16th day of March, 2020, there was filed with this Court the First and Final Account, Petition for Decree of Distribution, Approval of Attorney Fees, Costs, and Expenses, and Discharge of Personal Representative.

Pursuant to an Order of this Court made on the 16th day of March, 2020, notice is given that the 3rd day of April, 2020 at 9 o'clock a.m. is the day and time that the matter will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Johnston County Courthouse, at 105 W. Main Street, Tishomingo, Johnston County, Oklahoma, and all persons interested may appear and contest the same.

Witness, the undersigned, Judge of the District Court of Johnston County, State of Oklahoma, this 16th day of March, 2020.

/s/ Laura J. Corbin
Judge of the District Court

Paule' Thrift Smith, OBA #16580
Paule' Thrift Smith Law Office PLLC
215 Plaza/P.O. Box 434
Madill, Oklahoma 73446
(580) 795-3225 - telephone
(580) 795-3226 - facsimile
Attorney for Petitioner (Seal)

(Published March 26 & April 2, 2020)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR CARTER COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA

In the Matter of the Estates of Clyde Nichols, deceased, and Edna Nichols, deceased

Case No.: PB-19-166

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that on the 27th day of February, 2020, the District Court for Carter County ordered the real property of the Estate of Clyde Nichols, deceased, and the Estate of Edna Nichols, deceased, to be sold, such property being Lots 1 and 2 of Block 87, Town of Mannsville, Oklahoma (the "Property"). The sale of such Property shall be by private sale after April 10, 2020. Bids or offers to purchase the Property must be made in writing, delivered in person at the law offices of Jimmy Veith, P.C., 120 A St. NW, Ardmore, Oklahoma 73401, or delivered by mail at Jimmy Veith, P.C., P.O. Box 607, Ardmore, Oklahoma, 73402.

s/Sue Eubank, Sue Eubank, Personal Representative of the Estate of Clyde Nichols, Deceased, and the Estate of Edna Nichols, Deceased.

Dated: March 17, 2020.
Patrick C. Madden, OBA # 33561
Jimmy L. Veith, PC
Attorney for Personal Representative
P.O. Box 607
120 A St NW
Ardmore, OK 73402
Phone: (580)226-2353
Fax: (580)226-2819
Email: pat.veithlaw@gmail.com

(Published March 26, April 2 & 9, 2020)

IN THE WORKER'S COMPENSATION

COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE DEATH OF

MICHAEL (MIGUEL) MENDOZA

Deceased

LAURA MENDOZA

Claimant

vs

DAVENPORT RANCHES

Respondents

COMPSOURCE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

Insurance Carrier

NOTICE OF HEARING DATE BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA TO:

TO THE HEIRS ADMINISTRATORS, EXECUTORS, DEVISEES, TRUSTEES AND ASSIGNS OF MICHAEL (MIGUEL) MENDOZA, DECEASED, AND THE UNKNOWN SUCCESSORS OF MICHAEL (MIGUEL) MENDOZA, DECEASED:

GREETINGS:

You and each of you are hereby notified that the above-mentioned cause will come on for hearing in the Workers' Compensation Commission of the State of Oklahoma. The case will come on for hearing regarding the death benefits related to the Workers' Compensation claim filed by Laura Mendoza, in the matter of the death of her husband. The heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees and assigns of Michael (Miguel) Mendoza, deceased, and the unknown successors of Michael (Miguel) Mendoza, deceased are notified that any person having any interest in the death benefits appear for hearing at the Workers' Compensation Commission before the Honorable Blair McMillian on the 29th day of April 2020 at 9:00 am.

You the heirs, administrators, executors, devisees, trustees and assigns of Michael (Miguel) Mendoza, deceased, and the unknown successors of Michael (Miguel) Mendoza deceased, are notified that Laura Mendoza alleges that she is the wife of Michael (Miguel) Mendoza, deceased, and, therefore, she is entitled to death benefits if she meets the statutory requirements. And you, the said heirs, administrators, executors, devisees, and the unknown successors of Michael (Miguel) Mendoza are further notified that unless you appear for hearing before the Honorable Blair McMillian in the Workers' Compensation Commission on the 29th day of April 2020 at 9:00 am then the allegations of this claim will be taken as true and judgment determining the heirs of Michael (Miguel) Mendoza will be entered and an order awarding death benefits will be entered by the Workers' Compensation Commission of the State of Oklahoma

Linda Gray Sheffield
Defense Counsel for CompSource Mutual
PO Box 53505
Oklahoma City OK 73160
405-962-3290

(Published March 26, 2020)

Johnston County Commissioners are accepting bids to Purchase:

2009 or Newer Bucket Truck with 55 ft Boom

Contact Information – TJ Clements 580-371-7100

Bid closes on 04-13-20 at 9:00 am with bids being opened 04-13-20 at 10:00 am. Bids must be submitted on S.A. & I. Form 4040 and Specs may be emailed by contacting the County Clerk's office. Send bids to Kathy Ross, Johnston County Clerk, 403 West Main, Rm#101, Tishomingo, OK 73460. Put Bid # 556-20 on outside of envelope.

COMMISSIONERS RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS

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Commissioners Proceedings

(Published March 26, 2020)

Monday, March 16, 2020

Chairman Mike Thompson called regular meeting of 3-16-20 to order at 9:15 a.m. Answering aye was Thompson, TJ Clements, Jacky Hallmark. Others present George Mathews, Leanne Gray, Brooke Burch, Danny Walker, Cassandra Slover, Guyla Hart, Lanette Coppedge, Denise Hook, Debbie Arnold, Jon Smith, Gary Dodd, Kenny Power, Jason Bryant, Sharline Pitmon, John Small and Kim Canaday.

Hallmark moved to approve minutes of 3-9-20, second by Clements, vote aye Hallmark, Clements and Thompson.

Board took no action on LED Lighting Quotes for Jail Lighting Project, Sheriff is still waiting on the final approval from OG&E representative.

Board took no action on Discussion of What Benefits a Full Time Employee Receives, 130 hours and Salaried. Hallmark states that he spoke with Assistant District Attorney and she is researching this issue.

Hallmark moved to approve Interagency Agreement with Department of Public Safety and Johnston Co Health Department, second Clements, vote aye Hallmark, Clements and Thompson.

Hallmark moved to approve Resolution #20-09 Declaration of Surplus 1994 Bobcat Skid Steer, SN 512818410, D2-360-1, second Clements, vote aye Hallmark, Clements and Thompson.

Clements moved to approve Resolution #20-10 Disposing of Equipment 1994 Bobcat Skid Steer, SN 512818410, D2-360-1, second Hallmark, vote aye Hallmark, Clements and Thompson.

Board took no action on Amended Resolution 20-11 for Pay Scale and Departmental Employee Status of Employees, this will be on the agenda 3-23-20.

Board took no action on Payment to Mary Johnson & Associates for Johnston County Educational Facility Authority for Annual Audit for Years 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018. Board needs more information on the bond.

Clements moved to approve to Appoint Brison Campbell to Fair Board for Dist #3, second Hallmark, vote aye Hallmark, Clements and Thompson.

Clements moved to approve Resolution #20-12 for Selection of Consulting Engineer to be EST Inc. for Cheadle Road Project # J/P 34442(04), second Hallmark, vote aye Hallmark, Clements and Thompson.

Requisitioning/Receiving Officers: Butcher Pen SR added James Sullivan/Vada Caldwell, Butcher Pen Fire Dept added Vada Caldwell, Transfers: 1cent11 to SL-A \$368.61, TCL-1to TCL-2 \$4500.00, Monthly Blankets: None, Monthly Report: None, Claims: 911 220, AT&T, 281.30, Drug Court 19, EDMONDSON, CRAIG, 1750.00, 1/2 Emergency Communications 188, CANON FINANCIAL SERVICES, 147.00, General 1859, TERMINEX INTERNATIONAL COMPANY, 70.00, 1860, WELLS FARGO, 220.30, 1861, QUICK MART, 29.00, 1862, TOTAL ASSESSMENT SOLUTIONS CORP, 3125.00, 1863, QUILL, 145.98, 1864, WINN, BOB, 350.00, 1865, BA&B

HEATING/PLUMBING, 60.00, 1866, SHIPMAN COMMUNICATIONS, 2883.00, 1867, PEC, 33.50, 1868, AT&T, 41.90, 1869, WATERLOGIC AMERICAS, 35.00, 1870, BROKEN ARROW ELECTRIC SUPPLY, 340.75, 1871, OG&E, 95.06, 1872, MILL CREEK PWA, 58.29, 1873, SOUTHWESTERN STATIONERY & BANK SUPPLY, 257.53, 1874, THOMSON REUTERS WEST, 104.19, 1875, AT&T, 124.86, 1876, AT&T, 63.64, 1877, JOHNSTON COUNTY ELECTION, 78.00, 1878, QUILL, 253.96, 1879, OG&E, 193.20, 1880, AT&T, 52.03, 1881, OG&E, 1569.40, 1882, OG&E, 220.07, 1883, AT&T, 42.66, Health 169, WALKER COMPANIES, 88.00, 170, TISHOMINGO WATER DEPARTMENT, 104.46, Highway 1285, S.O.R.D., 2008.80, 1286, AT&T, 93.93, 1287, TISHOMINGO MOTOR SALES, 351.44, 1288, UTZ, CHRISTOPHER, 800.00, 1289, O.D.O.T., 3761.86, 1290, C.L. BOYD, 152.67, 1291, O.D.O.T., 2894.69, 1292, J&I MANUFACTURING, 9870.00, 1293, UNITED RENTALS, 11830.00, 1294, RINKERS AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTS, 219.35, 1295, THE RAILROAD YARD, 7350.00, 1296, THOMPSON, MIKE, 258.75, 1297, O.D.O.T., 4630.04, 1298, VERNON'S PLUMBING/HEATING/AC, 4432.68, 1299, MIDWEST DRUG TESTS, 47.00, 1300, AT&T, 94.06, 1301, OG&E, 164.54, 1302, OG&E, 284.11, 1303, AT&T, 99.06, Lodging 9, JCIA, 737.50, F-FF 44, AT&T, 88.93, CMT 36, AT&T, 88.93,

BSF 262, COUNCIL ON LAW ENFORCEMENT EDUCATION/TRAINING, 300.00, 263, MILLER OFFICE EQUIPMENT, 40.00, 264, AT&T, 280.34, 265, TISHOMINGO MOTOR SALES, 31.00, 266, MIDWEST DRUG TESTS, 76.00, 267, SOUTHWESTERN STATIONERY BANK SUPPLY, 202.50, 268, CANON FINANCIAL SERVICES, 142.30, 269, COMDATA, 1487.30, 270, COMDATA, 265.75, 271, ADVANTAGE LAUNDRY SYSTEMS, 460.22, 272, COAST TO COAST SOLUTIONS, 165.20, 273, TISH LUMBER, 15.22

Report gave by Commissioners Secretary, Business: None, Public Hearing: Guyla Hart, Assessor speaks on Governor Stitt Executive Order #2020-7, reporting that the Oklahoma Tax Commissioner working on skeleton crew for 2 weeks. LEPC will have meeting 12:00 Wednesday with all of the Health Personnel. Cassandra Slover, Court Clerk reports that they are to maintain business as usual. At this time there is no changes for the Courthouse. George Mathews, US Silica, request for the Sandpit Road to be closed.

Hallmark motioned to adjourn meeting at 10:40 a.m., second by Clements, vote aye Hallmark, Clements and Thompson.

Approved on 23rd of March, 2020

(Seal)

Attest: /s/ Kathy Ross, County Clerk

Chairman: /s/ Mike Thompson
Vice Chairman: /s/ Jacky Hallmark
Member: /s/ T.J. Clements

Johnston County Business & Service Directory

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Schools Continued from Page 1

ule high school graduation for seniors as soon as possible after this pandemic passes, which could be late summer,” she said. “As soon as we get clearance to have graduation (from the CDC and the state department), we will give you a date. We want to honor our seniors, so know we are looking at other creative ways to celebrate them in a safe and healthy manner.

“Rest assured I am doing everything possible to keep our students safe, while still providing opportunities to continue growing them academically, emotionally, and nutritionally.”

A similar statement was released by Ravia Superintendent Barbara McDonald.

“We will be closed for classes, but as a district we will continue to serve our community while abiding by the best practices that have been recommended by the CDC,” McDonald wrote. “For Ravia Public School, there is nothing more important than the safety and health of our students, staff and community.

“We want you to be safe, and we appreciate your understanding of all the adjustments being made at this time... Stay safe, practice good hygiene and follow all the recommended social distancing guidelines so that this virus will pass quickly.”

McDonald also reported that Ravia School will be serving free “grab-and-go” style breakfast and lunch for

students once a day Monday through Thursday. Breakfast and lunch will be available for pick-up from 9 to 10 a.m. at the front of the school.

In addition, McDonald said the Ravia Superintendent’s office will be open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon for medication pick-up or restricted essential business.

During her announcement on Monday, Hofmeister said that the OSDE has secured federal waivers removing the burden of statewide assessments and permitting the delivery or curbside pick-up of nutritional meals for qualifying students for the remainder of the school year.

“Our districts have begun planning their alternative delivery methods to support student learning as they prepare to reconnect students with their teachers in adaptive ways,” she said. “We are determined to support our Pre-K through high school students, as well as English learners, special education students, and those who need reinforced skills or additional enrichment.

“We recognize this reality will present challenges for many families and districts, but these are extraordinary times that call for extraordinary measures. This coordinated, swift and thoughtful action will help safeguard the health and well-being of our communities, students and professionals in public schools. We must do absolutely everything

in our power to reduce transmission of coronavirus.”

Beginning April 6, districts will be expected to provide distance learning for the remainder of the school year. How that learning oc-

curs, Hofmeister said, will vary widely according to the capacity and needs of districts and their communities. Districts would start once they have provided assurances to OSDE of a distance learning plan, as

well as special services for English learners and special education students.

She said the OSDE will offer a panoply of resources and guidance for districts to pursue distance learning.

In addition, the agency is exploring how federal assistance could bolster digital connectivity for some districts. OETA, Oklahoma’s educational public TV network, will also provide help.

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