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The Altus Times

Issue 186, Volume 118

Breaking news at **altustimes.com**

Thursday, September 21, 2017 • 50¢

Hispanic heritage hailed



Mayor Jack Smiley signs a proclamation for Hispanic Heritage Month. From left: Nora Villarreal, Anahi Gutierrez, Mary Esparza, Chad Wiginton, Freddie Perez, Delia Flores Montes, Tiffany Williams, Robert Rodriguez, Seferina Pena, Teresa Ortiz, and Ana Gutierrez.

Boy with autism finds comfort in going fishing

By Kelly Bostian
Tulsa World

TULSA — Three inches of fish flesh, no more than two eyes and a wiggle on the end of a fishing line holds a world of emotion for a child, especially Sterling Snider.

He calls fish “bah-pay!” and he says it with gusto. No one knows where the word came from, but everyone who knows Sterling knows exactly what it means.

The 7-year-old lives a challenging life due to autism, but he apparently finds happiness, focus and peace, if only in short bursts, while fishing. Sterling; his twin brother, Steele; and his adoptive parents have found kindred spirits in the owners of Reel Time Adventures Guide Service on Grand Lake O’ the Cherokees.

The Tulsa world reports that Bob and Catha Studebaker adopted the twin boys as babies after they were taken from a family member who has substance abuse issues. Reel Time owner Den Keith also has an autistic son, one of two adopted children taken from a family member with substance abuse issues, a 6-year-old boy and 7-year-old girl.

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Kick off fall with cookoff



Katrina Goforth | Altus Times
Elizabeth Marcha took first prize with her chili.

By Katrina Goforth
kgoforth@civitasmedia.com

Nothing starts off the fall season in Altus like the annual Cotton Pickin’ Chili Cookoff hosted by Main Street Altus in October.

In anticipation of the event, cooks all over Jackson County prepare their favorite recipes and gather their ingredients for the chance to win the coveted first place title in chili, bar-beque, and salsa categories.

At NBC, there are many talented cooks in the kitchen.

Wednesday, they held their annual pre-cookoff chili cookoff with four different salsa and chili submissions for the chance to represent NBC at the Cotton Pickin’ Chili Cookoff on Oct. 7.

Four guest judges spent the morning sampling the chili submissions to determine

which would be the winner.

In the spirit of the larger community competition, the judges for NBC represented both the Altus community and Altus Air Force Base, as the Cotton Pickin’ Chili Cookoff relies on community members to judge the best chili.

Though it was a difficult decision for the four guest judges, with multiple re-samplings, the winner was finally determined to be Elizabeth Marcha.

Meanwhile, salsa judging was given to the staff members at NBC to determine who will represent the bank in the salsa division.

The winners of both categories will have the responsibility of creating their title-winning recipes in mass for the community to sample at the Cotton

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Free car seat safety event scheduled

Staff Report

The Altus Fire Department announced today that certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians will be offering free car seat inspections and education to parents and caregivers on Saturday, September 23, 2017, beginning at 10:00 am at the Altus Fire Department located at 1915 N. Main, Altus, Ok 73521. The event is part of National Seat Check Saturday and will include instruction on how to choose the right car seats for children, with emphasis on how to install and use them correctly. Technicians will also explain the importance of registering the seats with the manufacturer so parents and caregivers can be notified if there is a recall.

“Car seats, booster seats, and seat belts are often used incorrectly,” said Devon Sisson, Director of Safe Kids Oklahoma. “Every 33

seconds in 2015, one child under 13 was involved in a crash. No parent wants to ever get it wrong when it comes to a child’s safety. That’s why we’re hosting this car seat check even on National Seat Check Saturday. Parent- don’t think you know, know you know that your kids are secure in their car seats and are in the right seats for their ages and sizes.”

Car crashes are a leading killer of children, and the latest research from the U.S. Department of Transportation, and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) shows that nearly two out of three of car seats are misused. Devon added that using age-and-size-appropriate car seats and installing them correctly are the best way to reduce these deaths. “More than one-third of children 12 and younger who died in crashes in 2015 while riding in cars, pick-

ups, vans, and SUVs were unbuckled. Many of those kids could have survived if they had been buckled up.”

National Seat Check Saturday is part of Child Passenger Safety Week, which runs from September 17-23, 2017. This week is dedicated to teaching parents and caregivers about the importance of correctly choosing, installing and using car seats, booster seats, and seat belts. Parents and caregivers will also be reminded of the importance of registering car seats with the manufacturer so they can be notified in the event of a recall.

NHTSA recommends keeping children rear-facing as long as possible, up to the top height or weight allowed by their particular seats. It’s the best way to keep them safe. Once a child outgrows the rear-facing car seat, he or she

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OBITUARIES

CAROL ANN MUNCY

Carol Ann Muncy, 69 of Altus, died Wednesday, September 20, 2017, at her home. Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Friday, September 22, 2017, at Kincannon Memorial Chapel with Chaplain Erin Martinez officiating. Burial will follow at the Altus City Cemetery under the direction of Kincannon Funeral Home and Cremation Service.

Carol Ann Campbell was born July 9, 1948, in Beardstown, Illinois to Lester and Theora (Steele) Campbell. She attended school in Rushville, Illinois, then moved to Mesa, Arizona with her family, where she graduated high school. Carol continued her education at a nursing school in Tucson, Arizona, attaining her certification as a Registered Nurse. She married Don Muncy May 6, 1965, in Mesa, Arizona. Carol had worked in the nursing field for many years, including serving as a hospice nurse for Jackson County Memorial Hospital until her retirement in 2010. She was of the Baptist faith. Carol was a real do-it-yourself person who didn't shy away from any home project. Simply put, Carol would try doing anything herself first before calling for help. She also enjoyed gardening, home decorating, mystery movies and detective shows. Carol is preceded in death by her parents; her husband; and sister, Mary Dodds.

Carol is preceded in death by her parents, her husband, and sister Mary Dodds.

She is survived by a daughter, Rhonda Vega; two sons, Mark Muncy and Paul Muncy and wife Cynthia; six grandchildren, Tia Leeanna Vega, Marrisra Vega, Justin Muncy, Dillon Muncy, Katherine Grace Muncy and Jacob Muncy; great-granddaughter, Mylee Vega; one sister, Virginia Allen and husband, Joe; and many other family members, neighbors and friends.

Additional parking for the service is available behind the funeral home, Days Inn to the south and Western Sizzlin' to the north.

Family and friends unable to attend may log on to kincannonfuneralhome.com 30 minutes prior to the service to view the live webcast of the funeral.

Online tributes may be made at kincannonfuneralhome.com.

NANCY KAY CARDER



Nancy Kay Carder, 81 year old Weatherford resident departed this life on Thursday, September 14, 2017, in Yukon. Memorial services will be held at the Church of Christ in Weatherford on Monday, September 18 at 11 a.m.

Nancy (Offord) Carder was born on March 8, 1936 in Mangum, Oklahoma. She was the daughter of Walter Howard Offord and Ruby Pearl (Etheridge) Offord. The family moved to Altus where Nancy attended school until she graduated from Altus High School in 1954. After graduating from business school in Amarillo, Texas, Nancy was employed as the secretary to the president of the National Bank of Commerce in Altus. In 1955, Nancy began working as a stewardess for Braniff International Airways. She later returned to Altus and resumed her job at the NBC of Altus. On August 31, 1958, she was united in marriage to Jimmy Ray Carder, the love of her life. To this union, three children were born. Following Jimmy's career with United Supermarkets of Oklahoma, they resided in Fredrick, Mangum, Altus, Sayre, Elk City, Cordell, and then Weatherford in 1971 where they currently reside.

Nancy was devoted to her family. Her interests included music, dancing, and bird watching. She loved playing games and doing jigsaw puzzles with her family, and she attended every event in which her grandchildren participated. Nancy enjoyed traveling. Among her favorite destinations were Carmel and Napa Valley, Calif. She delighted in cooking and entertaining for her family and friends. Her doors were always open for guests.

Grateful for having shared time with her on Earth are her husband, Jimmy, of the home, two sons, Barry Carder of Yukon, and Brad Carder and wife, Nikki, of Tulsa, and one daughter, Jill (Carder) McSparrin and husband, Tony, of Mustang; nine grandchildren and eight great grandchildren and daughter, Azlynn, Tyler Carder, wife, Danielle, and three sons, Fletcher, Josiah, and Quinn, Mackenzie Carder, Taylor Carder, TaRynn Freeman, husband, Sean, and son Beck, Trevin Carder, wife, Skylar, and children, Kolton and Malia, Chris McSparrin and son Carder, Zach McSparrin, and Katherine McSparrin.

Preceding her in death were her parents, Walter Howard Offord and Ruby Pearl (Etheredge) Offord and her sisters, Marge Diltz and Melba McAnal-len.

RAMONA GAIL FILER



Ramona Gail Filer, 68, Altus, passed away on Monday, September 18, 2017, in Lawton, Oklahoma. Funeral services will be 10:00 AM Saturday, September 23, 2017, in the Kincannon Memorial Chapel with Pastor Dyke Crain officiating. Burial will follow in the Altus City Cemetery under the direction of the Kincannon Funeral Home and Cremation Service.

Ramona Gail Hill was born on May 7, 1949, in Altus, Oklahoma to Charlie and Ivory (Govan) Hill. Ramona lost her Mother at the age of 4 and her Father at the age of 10. She was raised by her sisters and brothers in the Hollis, OK and Altus area. As a teen, she attended Lincoln High School where she was a member of the Ladies Basketball team. She went on to marry Martin Filer on April 3, 1972, in Vernon Texas. They soon after moved to Galveston, Texas which would be her home until 2008, when she returned to Altus. She worked as a store manager for several stores and restaurants in Galveston including Sears, Family Dollar, Popeyes, Church's, and KFC. She enjoyed her family and friends, loved her Dallas Cowboys, and listening to her Blues with her shot glass. She will be greatly missed.

She was preceded in death by her parents; six brothers, Larry Hill, Bobby Hill, Guy Paul Hill, Alfred Hill, Charles Hill and William Turner, Sr; six sisters, Jo Ann Hill, Charlsie-Mae Hill, Earline Austin, Shirley Jean Copeland, Larnetta McGee, her "Momma" Jeweline Hill; and her dear friend, Shirley "Moochie" Knox.

Survivors include four children, Christopher Hill (Sha) of Houston,Tx, Shelisa Hill, Terrence Filer (Safetha) and Shakeitha Robinson, all of Altus, OK; seven grandchildren, Aaliyah Bonner-Hill, Artivia Ellis, Marquelyt Robinson, Michael Turner, Kaliff Hill, Davian Hill, and TaVarri Filer; four great-grandchildren, Carson Turner, Au'Nyla Hill, AuMiah Hill and Rashad Ellis. Also survived by many other family and friends, and her lifelong friends Mae Frances Jefferson and Bernadine Tolbert.

Family and friends unable to attend may log on to kincannonfuneralhome.com, 30 minutes prior to the service, to view the live webcast of the funeral.

Online tributes may be made at kincannonfuneralhome.com.

SCRIPTURE

Gospel of Matthew 9:9-13

As Jesus passed by, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the customs post.

He said to him, "Follow me."

And he got up and followed him.

While he was at table in his house, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat with Jesus and his disciples.

The Pharisees saw this and said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

He heard this and said, "Those who are well do not need a physician, but the sick do. Go and learn the meaning of the words, *I desire mercy, not sacrifice.*"

I did not come to call the righteous but sinners."

ALTUS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Please submit all items by noon to run the next publication day. All submissions must include a street address where the event will be held and a contact name, phone number or email address.

POLICE LOG FOR SEPT. 20-21

Incidents

Wednesday

2:11 a.m., Burglary, 716 Chris St.
11:05 a.m., Fight, 400 N. Park Ave.
1:17 p.m., Burglary, 1009 E. Nona St.
2:06 p.m., Fire, 1305 Adams St.
5:34 p.m., Burglary, 1320 N. Blain St.

Thursday

12:54 a.m., Motorist assist, Wayne Street

Arrests

Wednesday

George Butler, 18, maliciously injures, defaces, or destroys another's real or personal property.

Fernanda Thompson, 49, with intent to cheat and defraud, obtains any money, property, or valuable thing by means of trick or deception.

An ongoing **after school ministry** titled Bringing Love And Sharing Truth (BLAST) is being held at 3:15 p.m. Tuesday's in the Fellowship Hall at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Altus, 800 N. Forrest. The event is for all 5th and 6th graders in Altus and has been providing this time of food, fun, help with homework, and Bible stories, for the past 15 years. Enrollment forms are available at the church office from 9:00 a.m. through 2:00 p.m., Monday - Friday. For more information call 580-482-1775.

The **Main Street Alley Cats** will be hosting a downtown cleanup session at 9 a.m. Sept. 30. Volunteers will meet at the Main Street Altus office at 215 N. Main St. at that time. Alley Cats are community volunteers that meet in downtown Altus to clean-up the alleys, frontage, and right-of-ways, work in flower beds, and work on various other projects as they arise. Gloves, trash bags and other supplies needed for cleaning are provided. A complimentary green apple smoothie will be provided by Just Brew It for volunteers following the cleanup.

A **mission fundraiser** is scheduled for Sept. 30 at Highland Heights United Methodist Church at 1911 N. Main, Altus. The church will be selling pumpkins of all shapes, sizes, and color in their parking lot. For more information, contact the church at 580-482-5267.

The Altus Police Department will begin accepting **candy donations for Spooky Town** beginning Oct. 1 at the Altus Police Department at 509 S. Main St. For more information, contact APD at 580-481-2296.

The Shortgrass Arts Institute is sponsoring a **pottery class with Bobby Avila** scheduled from 6 to 9 p.m. October 2, 3, and 5 in Room B19 at Western Oklahoma State College at 2801 N. Main St. This class is for adults and students ages 16 and up. Beginners are

welcome in all classes. The cost is \$45 with all materials included. Partial funding for these classes is provided by the Oklahoma Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts. For more information contact Tammy Davis at 580-477-2890.

A **book review of "Behind the Words"** by Kim Parrish is scheduled for 10 a.m. Oct. 4 at the Altus Public Library at 421 N. Hudson St. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Tammy Davis at 580-477-2890.

The FOP Lodge 120 is sponsoring **Spooky Town** scheduled for 6 p.m. Oct. 31 at Safety Town behind Imagination Station Park on Falcon Road. This event is free and open to the public. Candy donations can be made at the Altus Police Department at 509 S. Main St. beginning Oct. 1. For more information contact APD at 580-481-2296.

ODDITIES IN THE NEWS

Police: Man steals green chile burger after slapping victim

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP) — A New Mexico man is facing charges after police say he randomly slapped a customer and then stole the man's green chile cheeseburger before dashing away.

Santa Fe police arrested 25-year-old Anthony Frazier on Sunday near the Shake Foundation where authorities say the bizarre attack occurred.

According to a criminal complaint, the victim says Frazier walked up to him to dance then slapped him across his face. The victim says Frazier then stole his green chile cheeseburger and ran from the scene.

Witnesses say Frazier also had a belt around his neck.

Police later caught up with Frazier and arrested him for robbery after the victim identified him as the alleged burger thief.

It was not known if he had an attorney.

Colorado cops search for poop-and-run jogger

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP) — Police in Colorado are looking for a jogger they say is repeatedly interrupting her runs to defecate in public in one neighborhood.

Cathy Budde says she was first alerted to the woman she's dubbed "The Mad Pooper" by her children, who caught the jogger in the act weeks ago. Budde tells KKTU-TV the woman apologized after she questioned her. But she says the jogger has left something behind on her runs at least once a week for the past seven weeks.

Police have asked Budde to take pictures of the woman so they can try to identify her. Budde has put up a sign asking the woman to stop. She says there are public restrooms in the area.

Police Sgt. Johnathan Sharketti calls the case "uncharted territory."



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FRIDAY'S FORECAST

MORNING

AFTERNOON

EVENING

NIGHT

70°

83°

88°

74°

Partial sunshine with a warm breeze. Winds south at 10-20 mph. POP: 25%. Clear and humid Saturday night. Winds south-southeast at 8-16 mph. POP: 5%.

HIGH: 90° LOW: 67°

POP: Probability of Precipitation

EXTENDED FIVE-DAY FORECAST

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

89° 66°

87° 64°

80° 60°

74° 57°

72° 49°

Mostly sunny and breezy

Sun and clouds

A strong t-storm in spots in the afternoon

Cloudy with a shower and t-storm around

Some brightening and warmer

Winds: SSE 10-20 mph POP: 5%

Winds: S 8-16 mph POP: 10%

Winds: S 6-12 mph POP: 40%

Winds: NW 6-12 mph POP: 70%

Winds: NE 7-14 mph POP: 20%

DAILY CONDITIONS

UV Index & RealFeel Temperature®

FRI

SAT

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

6

6

6

2

2

3

91

88

86

81

73

72

67

64

64

54

51

49

The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection. 0-2 Low; 3-5 Moderate; 6-7 High; 8-10 Very High; 11+ Extreme. Shown are the highest values for each day. The patented AccuWeather.com RealFeel Temperature is an exclusive index of effective temperature based on eight weather factors. Shown are the highest and lowest values for each day.

ALMANAC

Statistics through Wednesday

TEMPERATURE

High

Low

Normal high

Normal low

Record high

Record low

94°

66°

86°

60°

101° in 1953

43° in 1971

PRECIPITATION (in inches)

Wednesday

Record for 9/20

Month to date

Normal month to date

Year to date

Normal year to date

0.00

2.96 in 1957

1.90

1.89

22.66

21.97

SUN AND MOON

FRI

SAT

Sunrise

Sunset

Moonrise

Moonset

7:25 a.m.

7:34 p.m.

9:40 a.m.

9:20 p.m.

7:26 a.m.

7:32 p.m.

10:38 a.m.

9:55 p.m.

MOON PHASES

First

Full

Last

New

Sep 27

Oct 5

Oct 12

Oct 19

Forecast and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2017

RIVER STAGES

In feet as of 7 a.m. Wed.

Flood Stage

24-hr. Chng.

North Fork of the Red River

near Headrick

near Carter

14.00

8.61

5.59

+1.18

-0.02

-0.02

Salt Fork of the Red River

at Mangum

9.00

2.79

-0.07

Washita River

near Cheyenne

near Clinton

near Carnegie

13.50

18.00

25.00

4.31

5.98

5.10

4.31

none

Deep Red Creek

near Randlett

20.00

9.01

+5.97

East Cache Creek

near Walters

21.00

7.08

+2.11

LAKE LEVELS

In feet as of 7 a.m. Wed.

Elevation

24-hr. Chng.

Altus Lake

Lake Frederick

Tom Steed Lake

Lake Lawtonka

Lake Ellsworth

Fort Cobb Lake

Foss Reservoir

1546.37

1200.24

1411.02

1342.35

1232.80

1341.95

1641.08

-0.06

-0.07

-0.04

+0.05

+0.01

-0.02

none

WEATHER HISTORY

On Sept. 22, 1890, a severe hailstorm hit Strawberry, Ariz. Five days later, hail still lay in drifts 12 to 18 inches deep.

CITIES FRIDAY

FREDERICK

MANGUM

HOLLIS

91°/69°

90°/70°

92°/71°

Partly sunny, breezy and humid

Partly sunny and very warm

Partly sunny and very warm



Katrina Goforth | Altus Times
From left: Jason Hall, Dan Ruttenber, John Bailey, and Philip Cox judge the NBC Chili Cookoff.

Cookoff

From page 1

Pickin' Chili Cookoff on Oct. 7 Downtown on the Square in Altus.

The event is scheduled to begin at 11 a.m. that Saturday with tasting kits available for purchase, live entertain-

ment, open streets booths and activities, farm displays, a 5K run, and an award ceremony scheduled for 1:30 p.m. to announce the trophy and cash prize winners for each category.

From salsa to chili, barbeque to family-friendly activities, fall is sure to come to Altus with a little kick and spice.

Reach Katrina Goforth at 580-482-1221, ext. 2077.

Event

From page 1

is ready to travel in a forward-facing car seat with a harness and tether. After outgrowing the forward-facing car seat, a child should ride in a booster seat until tall enough to fit in a seat belt properly. The safest place for all kids under 13 is in the back seat.

Altus's National Seat Check Saturday event is being held at the Altus Fire Department Sub Station 1, 1915 N. Main, from 10 am to 12 pm. All parents and caregivers are invited to attend this free event. A limited number of car seats will be available; to be eligible to receive a car seat, the child must be present. Car seats will be available for \$10 per car seat for those who

can provide proof of government assistance. An expectant mother must be within six weeks of delivery.

For more information on child car seat safety, as well as how to find other car seat check events, go to www.nhtsa.gov/carseat.

For more information about the event, contact Brandi Adams at 580-481-2231 or badams@altusok.gov.

STATE BRIEFS

2nd inmate who escaped in Oklahoma is caught in Missouri

FAIRVIEW (AP) — Federal marshals say the last of two inmates who overpowered guards, stole a prison transport van and escaped from northwest Oklahoma last month has been apprehended in Missouri.

The U.S. Marshals Service says authorities apprehended 37-year-old Darren Walp Wednesday at a truck stop in Norwood, Missouri, after a standoff that lasted several hours.

The second inmate, 32-year-old Andrew Foy, was apprehended on Friday at a hotel in Fairless Hills, Pennsylvania.

The inmates escaped near Fairview, Oklahoma, on Aug. 22 during a multi-state inmate transfer by a private transportation company. The van was later found abandoned and the men were last seen on Aug. 24 driving a stolen tractor-trailer rig in northeastern Oklahoma.

Authorities say Foy was being taken to Wyoming and Walp to Kansas to face charges for nonviolent offenses.

12-year-old ventriloquist wins ‘America’s Got Talent’

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A 12-year-old girl is getting a \$1 million prize and her own Las Vegas show after taking the “America’s Got Talent” crown on the season 12 finale of the NBC reality competition.

Darci Lynne Farmer, of Oklahoma City, beat out another youngster, 10-year-old singer Angelica Hale, for the ‘AGT’ title Wednesday by garnering the most votes from viewers.

Farmer told The Associated Press after the show that she was “overcome with joy and luckiness.” Judge Heidi Klum said the girl “is the full package,” adding that “she really touched people’s hearts” and “made people laugh at home.”

Farmer is the third ventriloquist to win the competition. Season 2 champ Terry Fator performed a duet with Farmer on the season finale and worked with her on her scripts.

OK LOTTERY

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — These Oklahoma lotteries were drawn Wednesday:

Cash 5
09-10-14-27-29

Hot Lotto
23-30-32-36-37, Hot Ball: 5
Estimated jackpot: \$10.72 million

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$104 million

Pick 3
4-8-5

Poker Pick
QH-7C-9C-3D-4S

Powerball
39-48-53-67-68, Powerball: 26, Power Play: 3
Estimated jackpot: \$40 million

Fishing

From page 1

When friends from Houston needed refuge from Hurricane Harvey, they came north to spend a weekend with Bob and Catha Studebaker, and it was decided a fishing trip would be a good distraction.

They called Elk River Marina, one of their favorite lake spots, to ask whom to hire and found Tommy Vaughn and Den Keith of Reel Time. Bob Studebaker booked the trip with a warning up front.

“I told him, ‘I’ve got to tell you, one of these 7-year-olds is autistic and, you know, he might just decide to jump in the lake. That’s the kind of thing that you’ve got to watch, and he can’t talk very well.’”

“Tommy said, ‘Bring him on, no problem.’”

Once on board the surprise was Studebaker’s. He expected the guide would “tolerate” the youngster who is shy of strangers, easily distracted and a little wild at times, but having a friend and business partner with an autistic son had Tommy Vaughn well prepared to take the boy under his wing.

“I’m sitting here going, ‘Dang it, I guess I ought to fish,’” he said with a smile. “Tommy has this under control.”

The trip was not only a joy

for both the boys, but it was also a welcome respite for a weary guardian.

“I can sit back and enjoy it. I like catching a fish when I can, that’s great, but I really enjoy watching those two boys have a good time,” Bob Studebaker said.

Studebaker said he would be happy to share the story, and Keith had words of hope for parents of autistic children and people with other disabilities.

Fishing, it turns out, can be a healing experience for just about anyone, Keith said. The Reel Time crew has helped anglers in wheelchairs and a blind angler, and they also did their best to accommodate an angler with terminal cancer recently.

For kids like Sterling, it’s a chance to experience new things and to socialize. Keith said he doesn’t worry about the potential dangers on a fishing boat with a child who might jump overboard.

“Honestly, I didn’t even think about it, to tell you the truth,” he said. “I also have an autistic child of my own, so I guess I didn’t even consider the fact that it might be challenging or it might be difficult; we just wanted them to go out and have a good time.”

Their Friday night outing was ideal for two young boys; it was relatively short, the weather was pleasant, and dozens of white bass lined up to

bite their hooks.

“This is what’s great, what’s fun,” Vaughn said. “It’s not about the size or how many they catch. They’re just all having fun, that’s what it’s about.”

Jennifer Sollars-Miller, a founder of the Autism Center of Tulsa, said outings like the one Sterling and his family enjoyed are all-important and sometimes a little too rare. That’s why the group started its AOK Autism Friendly Locations program.

“One of the most difficult things for families can be going out in public,” she said. “People can be judgmental and make comments about poor parenting or make other remarks. They just don’t understand what is going on with that child. For a lot of parents, it just gets easier to stay at home.”

The AOK program was built to address what is called “an invisible condition.” It offers T-shirts, bracelets, even a card that an adult with autism can pull out of their pocket or wallet to help someone understand the challenges of autism when a social situation comes up in which the disability becomes visible.

Sollars-Miller, also a parent of an autistic child, said the idea arose from watching how others with visible disabilities were treated in public compared to her son.

“Once people realize a per-

son has a disability, they’re more understanding,” she said.

It’s not only a social ice-breaker but a safety issue, she said. Autistic children have a tendency to wander away and must be watched closely. She recalled the case eight or nine years ago of a local autistic youngster who wandered away from home and was killed in traffic.

“If people see a child wandering alone and they recognize that identifying bracelet or they’re wearing that (AOK) T-shirt, they can immediately recognize something might be wrong,” she said.

Creating a network of businesses and parents who recognize the AOK logo, use the logo in advertising and connect online to find autism-friendly locations should help more parents to feel confident in taking their children out in public, she said.

“It’s critical, so critical, for them to get out and enjoy different experiences, especially as children,” she said. “It’s huge for independence later in life. It’s easier when they start learning some social skills, how to interact and communicate with other people, when they’re young.”

Bob Studebaker said he had not heard of AOK, but he added: “I’ll be looking it up online. ... That’s a great idea. Doing things can be real hard, especially going out to restaur-

rants and that kind of thing where people just think it’s a brat kid, you know.”

On the fishing boat Sterling was no brat, just an excited kid who got to sit behind the wheel of the boat and have his fish pulled off the line for him.

He’s still not crazy about touching a “bah-pay,” or even getting close enough to have his picture taken with one, but on the holiday trip he focused on how to use the fishing pole and hooked and reeled-in several fish all by himself.

When a fish got away or he reeled in an empty hook, Sterling had a reaction typical of any angler: He stomped his foot and said, “Oh, man!”

Keith and Studebaker swapped stories about their children as they fished at the front of the boat.

“It’s kind of amazing, the similarities, as different as their conditions are,” Keith said. “It’s nice to be able to talk with another parent who can relate.”

Studebaker simply enjoyed the trip and said he appreciated seeing the child who struggles with so many things having an evening of pure enjoyment.

“You can see that he just loves it,” he said. “When he can come out here and to have this kind of fun ... it’s worth a lot more than it costs, put it that way.”

Oklahoma woman chosen for 2018 Special Olympics

By Katherine Farrow
Duncan Banner

DUNCAN — Nine-teen-year-old Duncan resident Kearsty McCoy has much to celebrate. Kearsty, a swimmer since the age of 12, was recently selected to be one of only four Oklahoma swimmers to travel to Seattle for two weeks in July as a member of the Oklahoma 2018 USA Games Special Olympics swim team. This trip is the culmination of a lifelong dream for Kearsty, whose story of struggles and triumphs is more than Disney-movie worthy. McCoy's mother, Belinda McCoy, said Kearsty has had to fight for more than just her spot on the Special Olympic team — she's had to fight for her survival and each developmental milestone since the moment she was born.

"She was born premature and she has had seizures her whole

life," Belinda said. "She really struggled — she was late walking, didn't learn to read until quite a bit later — so she's always been really delayed."

According to Belinda McCoy, swimming has always been a family affair. Kearsty McCoy's younger brother Brian is a junior at Duncan High School and reached milestones faster than Kearsty, so he started swimming sooner. Kearsty wanted to get into the water just like her brother, but every time she tried, her seizures prevented her from ever learning and were terrifying for her parents, Belinda and Michael.

"Her seizures were so bad that she never had the opportunity to swim," Belinda said. "Every time that we got her in the water she would have a seizure. So we couldn't do that and the neurologist

See OLYMPICS | 7

OSU receivers more than just Washington

By John Tranchina
Associated Press

STILLWATER — James Washington came into the season as the standout receiver for No. 6 Oklahoma State. Now he has a lot of company among the Cowboys' talented group of wide receivers. Four OSU wideouts, including Washington, recorded at least 100 yards receiving in Oklahoma State's 59-21 victory over Pittsburgh, as Heisman Trophy candidate Mason Rudolph threw for 497 yards and five touchdowns, all in the first half.

That was the first

time in school history more than two receivers reached 100 yards in the same game and the first time any team had four since Texas Tech in 2005.

"Going into the year, we felt good about the group we have, and they're competitive," Oklahoma State coach Mike Gundy said.

"We've got young guys who are making plays. They're unselfish. The depth allows us to save legs and keep them fresh throughout the game. Mason's done a good job, with the exception of the one

See OSU | 7

Mond, Aggies look to improve for start of SEC play

By Kristie Rieken
AP Sports Writer

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — Texas A&M freshman quarterback Kellen Mond has improved in each of his three games this season.

The question for the Aggies is has he improved enough to help A&M be successful when Southeastern Conference play begins Saturday against Arkansas.

Mond played his first full game in a 45-21 win over Louisiana-Lafayette on Saturday after splitting time with Nick Starkel in the opener and Jake Hubenak in Week 2. Mond had 301 yards passing with three touchdowns against the Ragin' Cajuns, becoming the first true freshman in school history to pass for 300 yards.

Mond has been adjusting to a different style of play since coming to Texas A&M as one of the top dual-threat quarterbacks in the nation after throwing for 1,936 yards and 20 touchdowns and running for 775 yards and 18 more scores as a senior at IMG Academy last year.

"With quarterbacks you learn more about them

See MOND | 7

Bowling added at OC



Courtesy photo
James Hayes of Edmond - who is in his seventh season as the University of Central Oklahoma's bowling coach after serving three years as the coach at Edmond Memorial High School - is taking the reins of the new bowling program at Oklahoma Christian University.

By Murray Evans
murray.evans@oc.edu

OKLAHOMA CITY – Oklahoma Christian will add men's and women's bowling as club sports for the 2018-19 academic year, OC President John deSteiguer said Tuesday.

The OC bowling teams will compete against other club programs from around the region and nation for championships conducted under the auspices of the United States Bowling Congress. OC will be only the third Oklahoma university to offer collegiate bowling, joining Central Oklahoma and Southwestern Christian.

AMF Boulevard Lanes in Edmond will serve as the home venue and practice facility for the Oklahoma Christian University Eagles and Lady Eagles. Full-time students of any age – undergraduate or graduate –

will be eligible to compete for the OC bowling teams.

"It's a unique opportunity to add a sport that will be beneficial to our students," OC Athletic Director David Lynn said. "It's an opportunity to start a program that we don't have to have a facility for on campus. There are a lot of reasons that make sense. We are looking to grow the university through athletics and through new offerings. We are doing our part in athletics to try to do that."

OC's coach will be James Hayes of Edmond, who is in his seventh season as the University of Central Oklahoma's bowling coach after serving three years as the coach at Edmond Memorial High School.

Hayes, who bowled collegiately for Bowling Green State, also works as a petroleum geologist

See BOWLING | 7



Courtesy photo | Crystal Bilyeu

The Indians coasted to three consecutive victories to win the championship at the Hammon baseball tournament. Team members are, front row, left to right, Emmylou Winters, Kooper Covey, Tristan Netherton, Wyatt Weaver, Bubba Grimes, Parker Caskey. Back row, left to right, Coach Weston W. Winters, Austin Duenas, Cosul Rath, Brady Jarvis, Kenny Carter, Jacob Tison, Kelby Shumaker, Kaleb Covey, Airen Josefy, Dallas Cox, Holdyn Mandrell, Ralph Harford V, Mitchell Smith, Jaden Lingle, Jackson Gilbert, and Coach Nico Maldonado.

Indians beat Granite 13-3, win title

By Ryan Lewis
wlewis@civitasmedia.com

The Navajo Indians (20-7) baseball team did not need Holdyn Mandrell to be a one-man wrecking crew during Navajo's run to the championship at the Hammon baseball tournament over the weekend, but he did it anyway.

For the championship, the Indians took on the Class B seventh-ranked Granite Panthers and that is where Mandrel excelled.

But before the Indians made it to the finals, they had to get past

Hydro-Eakly on Thursday and Canute on Friday.

In the game against Hydro-Eakly, the Indians never trailed once and led 6-2 going into the top of the fifth when Hydro-Eakly erupted for three runs to pull within one.

Hydro-Eakly tied the game in the top of the sixth but Dallas Cox played the hero for Navajo in the bottom half of the inning when he delivered a line drive to left field to score a waiting Mitch Smith and Tristan Netherton and give the Indians a two-run lead.

Parker Caskey added a

hit to drive in Jaden Lingle and give the Indians a 9-6 lead and the win.

Smith pitched four and one-third innings for the Indians and gave up five earned runs before being relieved by Lingle who was then relieved by Wyatt Weaver. Weaver picked up the win with two innings of no-hit baseball.

Netherton finixed the day 3-for-4 with two runs and two RBIs and Mandrell finished 2-for-3 with two runs and two RBIs.

The win put the in the semifinals against Canute and the Indians had little trouble picking

up the 7-1 win with Cox on the mound.

Cox pitched a complete game, allowing just two hits and striking out eight in the win. Lingle provided run support in the game, scoring once and batting in two others in a 2-for-3 performance that also saw him hit a two-run home run in the bottom of the third inning to give the Indians a 4-1 lead.

"I was really proud to see him pitch this well," Coach Weston Winters said. "He has really stepped it up this fall on

See INDIANS | 7

Stills calls for support of Kaepernick

By Greg Beacham
AP Sports Writer

OXNARD, Calif. — Kenny Stills wants to know why more athletes aren't standing with Colin Kaepernick.

The Miami Dolphins receiver has restated his questions from a series of tweets Tuesday questioning the support across sports for Kaepernick, the former 49ers quarterback currently out of football after his protests during the national anthem last season.

"I just feel like the league, it's

majority African-American, and you would think more people would come to have one of our guys' back," Stills said Wednesday.

"We talk about the NFL being a brotherhood," Stills added. "They give us this presentation every year about the NFL being a brotherhood, and (if) something wrong is going on to one of your brothers, I feel like we should be there to have his back and speak up for him."

Stills spoke after practice in Oxnard, where the Dolphins are spending the week ahead of

Sunday's game against the Los Angeles Chargers. They traveled to the West Coast early due to Hurricane Irma's devastation of South Florida.

Kaepernick spoke up against police abuses and racial injustices last season, sparking many players to join him in activism. Those players included Stills, who knelt during the national anthem along with three teammates.

Stills had previously said he won't take a knee this year, but

See STILLS | 7

BLONDIE

By Dean Young and John Marshall

I STAYED HOME FROM SCHOOL TODAY, MR. B.

WOW! THAT'S THREE DAYS IN A ROW, ISN'T IT, ELMO?

YEAH, BUT IT ISN'T LIKE I'M PLAYING HOOKY

I PREFER TO THINK OF IT AS A SABBATICAL

BEETLE BAILEY

By Mort, Greg and Brian Walker

MARTHA! OPEN THE DOOR!

I FORGOT MY SHOPPING BAGS AND THE STORE DOESN'T PROVIDE BAGS ANYMORE!

GREG + MORT WALKER

RETAIL

By Norm Feuti

HMM. NOT SURE ABOUT THIS ONE.

HOW COME?

SHE DOTTED EVERY LOWERCASE 'I' WITH A HEART.

THAT'S WHAT I LIKED ABOUT IT. I THOUGHT IT WAS CUTE.

THERE'S A FINE LINE BETWEEN CUTE AND CUTESY.

SHE SIGNS HER NAME WITH A LITTLE STAR, TOO. SHE'S HAPPY AND CONFIDENT!

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

By Chris Browne

THIS BOOK SAYS I CAN'T TAKE CARE OF YOU UNTIL I TAKE CARE OF MYSELF FIRST!

CAN'T YOU GO AND GET US BOTH A BEER AT THE SAME TIME?

HI AND LOIS

Written By Brian & Greg Walker; Drawn By Chance Browne

GRETCH PUSHED THE OLD WOMAN IN THE OVEN AND SHE DIED!

I'M AFRAID SO.

THAT'S WHY THEY CALL THEM "GRIM FAIRYTALES."

THE BRILLIANT MIND OF EDISON LEE

By John Hambrock

SHOOT! I ACCIDENTALLY BURN'T MY TOAST.

ACCIDENT?! HAVE YOU BEEN INJURED?

NO.

LOOK AT YOU! YOU'RE A PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL WRECK!

I AM?

WELL, DON'T JUST STAND THERE, MAN! WE HAVE TO GET TO COURT.

WILL THEY HAVE TOAST?

ZITS

By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman

STARTING HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES ONE HOUR LATER IMPROVES TEST SCORES, ATTENDANCE AND GRADUATION RATES.

THAT'S AMAZING!

RIGHT?

WHAT IF CLASSES STARTED EVEN LATER?

RESEARCHING IT NOW...

RHYMES WITH ORANGE

By Hilary Price

THE TRANCE

HE'S BEEN STUCK THAT WAY EVER SINCE HE GOT INTO SELF-HYPNOSIS.

Hank Ketcham's DENNIS THE MENACE

GRAMPY SAYS IT'S BETTER TO BE UP TO SOMETHING THAN TO NOT BE UP TO ANYTHING.

THE LOCKHORNS

By Bunny Hoest & John Reiner

I WOULDN'T MIND LORETTA HAVING THE LAST WORD IF SHE DIDN'T KEEP BRINGING IT BACK UP.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Empire's foes

5 Hooded snakes

11 Related

12 Ventilate

13 Suit piece

14 Form-fitting

15 Like chocolates in a sampler

17 Seventh Greek letter

18 Speed checker

22 Burger topper

24 Pie piece

25 Qty.

26 That woman

27 Sugar source

30 Did some modeling

32 Finish

33 Lyric poem

34 Heed

38 Second-largest nation

41 Organ part

42 Makes amends

43 Theater unit

44 Broadway's Bernadette

45 Says further

DOWN

1 Morning brew

2 — out (barely makes)

3 Studied in detail

4 Completely

5 Play group

6 NHL team

7 Like some showers

8 Harry's friend

9 Penguin's cousin

10 Messy room

16 Operated

19 Didn't go along

20 Massage target

21 Clarinet part

22 Movie pig

23 Hymn closer

28 Louisiana university

29 Web spinner

30 Poker prize

31 Black Sea port

35 Pert talk

36 Swamp croaker

37 Makes a choice

38 Upper limit

39 Had dinner

40 Negating word

Today's answer

EDICIOUS

THOMAS CROSSWORD BOOKS 1-8! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) for each book to 628 Virginia Dr., Orlando, FL 32803

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21

22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32

33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43

44 45

BABY BLUES

By Jerry Scott & Rick Kirkman

MOM, WILL YOU PLEASE COME AND SHOW THESE TWO DOOFUSES HOW TO TWIRL A JUMP ROPE?

UM, SURE.

WHAT ARE THEY DOING WRONG?

I'M NOT SURE THERE'S EVEN AN ANSWER FOR THAT.

IT'S HARDER THAN IT LOOKS.

PARDON MY PLANET

By Vic Lee

WE COULD DO THE MAGIC BEAN THING AGAIN - EXCEPT THIS TIME WITH WATER FROM OUR OLD WELL. JUST PUT IT IN BOTTLES AND USE A CLEVER NAME LIKE NAIVE, BUT SPOOLED BACKWARDS.

JACK 'N' JILL'S FAIRYTALE BUSINESS VENTURE

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU

by Dave Green

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

6 5 2

7 3 5 8

9 4 3 2

8 6 5

4 4 5 9

1 1

4 1 2 3

2 9 7

Difficulty Level ★★★

9/21

Today's Solution

★★★ Level

9/21

4 7 8 1 6 9 3 2 6

3 9 6 9 7 2 1 8 4

9 1 2 4 3 8 7 5 6

2 6 3 5 8 4 9 7 1

5 4 1 6 9 7 2 3 8

7 8 9 2 1 3 6 4 5

1 3 7 8 4 9 5 6 2

8 9 5 3 2 6 4 1 7

6 2 4 7 5 1 8 9 3

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil and Jeff Keane

No, I'm not hungry or thirsty. What I'm REALLY in the mood for is a hug.

Love Puzzles?

We Have 'em!!

Visit altustimes.com/tvgames and have a blast!

Ex causing awkwardness in family

Dear Annie: About two years ago, my wife of 20 years, “Cynthia,” and I divorced. Our two children are grown and out of the house. Our divorce wasn’t the norm; we did it without a lawyer or mediator. Everything was civil; no one cheated or was abused. I think we both just changed over time.

About four months after the divorce, I met another woman, “Beth.” Having already had my cry, I decided to give it a shot. Long story short, we were great for each other, and now, a year and a half later, we’re engaged.

The problem is that Cynthia



Dear Annie
Annie Lane

doesn’t really have a family other than mine. My sister and the rest of my family are sympathetic to Cynthia and want to include her. I don’t mind being around her, but the awkwardness comes in when Beth and Cynthia attend the same family events. Beth understands that it’s unavoidable during big occasions, such as weddings and funerals. But she feels that it isn’t normal for Cynthia to be around for our casual family gatherings, which are more frequent.

Is Beth having anxiety over nothing, or should I ask my ex not to be around so much? -- **Ex In or**

Ex Out

Dear Ex In or Ex Out: Your ex-wife was a part of your family for 20 years, and that bond doesn’t disappear once the ink dries on the divorce papers. But it’s important that your fiancée really get to know and love your family, and she’s having a hard time doing so with your ex-wife around. Talk to your family members about your concern and plan additional outings with just them and Beth. Once Beth feels more settled and secure with her place in the family, it will be easier for her to relax at family gatherings.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, Sept. 21, 2017:

This year you often send mixed messages. Others react accordingly. Avoid a difficult friend or loved one who seems to always distract you. You need to support yourself when interacting with people you must answer to. Do not feel intimidated by others. If you are single, you enjoy being single and meeting people more easily. Communication flows. If you are attached, the intensity that draws you and your sweetie together becomes greater and greater. You often have heavy, meaningful periods of time together. LIBRA tends to dote on you. The Stars Show the Kind of Day You’ll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ A loved one or a business partner knows how to get quite a reaction from you. Do not be surprised if you find yourself suddenly yelling and screaming. Let go and take a deep breath. You might want to rethink what has triggered you. Tonight: Accept a fun invitation. **TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** ★★★★★ Your imagination soars, and an obstacle only enhances this gift. You are able to take an idea

and put it to work almost immediately. Your practical skills merge well with your creativity. Walk away from someone who has been like a thorn in your side. Tonight: Pace yourself. **GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** ★★★★★ You could feel as if there is no turning back. You might question whether it serves you to keep a bond so light and easy. Perhaps this relationship is too casual for your taste. Re-evaluate your thoughts here. Speak less, and listen more. Tonight: Make plans to visit with a loved one.

CANCER

(June 21-July 22)

★★★★ You exhibit a great sense of humor at the moment. Fatigue plays a significant role as the day ages. You have made an effort to get past a problem without having to deal with the other party involved. A new beginning becomes possible. Tonight: Head home early, if you can.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Your innate sense of mischief seems to emerge. You might be concerned about a loved one, as he or she seems to be out of sorts or closed off. You could find it difficult to team up and maximize your ideas. Don’t worry; your time will come. Tonight: Worry less, and play more.

VIRGO

(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You’ll want to pull

back and seek out more information. Providing some distance between you and others might be a wise idea. You will gain more insight into what makes you tick. You will want to revive your thinking. Tonight: You could have difficulty keeping to a tight budget. **LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** ★★★★★ Your positive attitude leaves an impression on others. You will be able to influence those around you. Your sense of humor emerges in the midst of having a very hard conversation. You might want to keep a straight face, no matter what goes on. Tonight: Meet a friend for drinks.

SCORPIO

(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ You could be overwhelmed by everything that others are requesting. You might opt to pull back some. If you are in the middle of the uproar, you won’t be able to gain the same perspective as if you were to detach. Revise your thinking. Tonight: Happiest at home.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Emphasize what is happening in a meeting. You will notice the diversity within your inner circle. Use care with spending. You might be considering revising your budget and choices. Try to

come to terms with a boss’s requests. Tonight: Try not to make a judgment.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Take charge of a big change that seems to involve the structuring of a project that could have a major effect on others. Much goes on behind the scenes that is OK with you. Know that the timing might be off for sharing what is going on. Tonight: Enjoy being out and about.

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ You will need to deal with a public or professional matter with the help of a close partner or loved one. You like working with this person for many reasons. The interaction between the two of you will be unusually significant right now. Tonight: Let it all hang out.

PISCES

(Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ You can be one of the most social signs of the zodiac, yet at times you are stone silent. You might swing back and forth as you attempt to come to terms with your mood and a certain situation. Know that you can let go and the matter will resolve itself. Tonight: Be positive.

BORN TODAY

Actor Bill Murray (1950), author Stephen King (1947), singer Faith Hill (1967)

SPORTS SLEUTH • — COACH

F Y L Z X L U S Q N L J G G E
C Z E L B X L G V T R P N N L
T J H K A E T A N C A I Y G W
V E T R C B P N B I T N L N K
B H N I K O T G A T H E C I B
U Z C N F X H E I T O C W M U
L S E N I L E H K R S O T M P
L L A B E S A B T S R I F I O
P M L J L B D I G E A D S W P
E S A B D R I H T B A B Y S X
N W U T S Q P O N L K J H G A

Wednesday’s unlisted clue: CAMEL.

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Thursday’s unlisted clue hint: COACHES THE BATTERS

Assistant Bench Head Swimming
Backfield Bullpen Hockey Tennis
Baseball First-base Line Third-base
Basketball Football Pitching

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9/27

9-21

CRYPTOQUIP

N H Z V U H H I G C V Z N P E V L V E M

O E T R O D M P R I P E V C D V E V U H E V

R H G N M C H V P C . G O P A A C D V Z

P T I G H - L G O C T P A N .

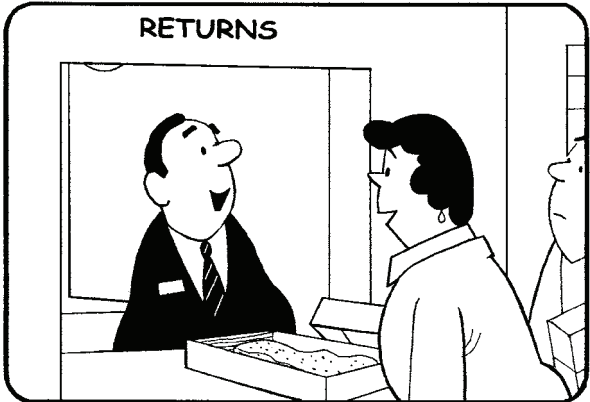
Today’s Cryptoquip Clue: C equals T

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Collar is different. 2. Mouth is open. 3. Window is moved. 4. Hair is smaller. 5. Tie is missing. 6. Naming tag opening is different. 7. Mouth is open. 8. Window is moved.

Don’t toy with Nana

Dear Heloise:

I’ve stopped caving to my grandchildren when we are in the store. I used to buy them little “cheapie” toys or a snack to pacify them, but no more! Buying CHEAP TOYS is a waste of money.

If the child needs a diversion at the store, I’ll give her my phone with an educational video playing. -- **Nana Gina in New York**

Good advice from an expert in the field. Cheap toys bought at the spur of the moment or to placate a child usually don’t last very long anyway. Toys that are teeny or made of minute pieces could become a choking hazard.

It is hard to say “No,” but when you do, and keep it up, hopefully the child will “get the message” that you won’t give in! -- **Heloise**

Clean dog water bowl

Dear Heloise: We have two small rescue dogs that we adore. Our house is all on one level. Sometimes, if we are at one end, it’s a long way for them to go to the kitchen to get a drink of water. I keep a water bowl in the den, and one in our bedroom.

They get pretty cruddy after a while. I used your hint about cleaning them with vinegar. I fill the bowls with cheap apple-cider vinegar, let them sit overnight, then scrub with a brush. Clean and fresh, and ready for Fred



Hints from Heloise
Heloise

and Ethel. -- Jan in Texas

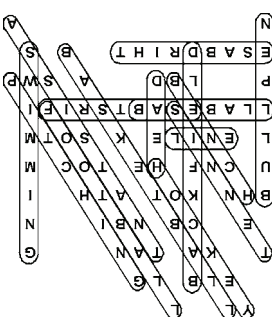
Vinegar is perfect to clean pet bowls. It’s cheap, safe and multiuse. We, too, have several water bowls throughout the house for Chammy. Would you like more of my best vinegar hints

and recipes? Visit www.Heloise.com to order my handy pamphlet, or send a stamped (70 cents), long, self-addressed envelope, along with \$5, to: Heloise/Vinegar, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. UPDATE: Heat the vinegar, and it will work to remove that crud in less than a half-hour! Scrub with a brush, and that’s it! -- **Heloise**

Send a money-saving or timesaving hint to Heloise, P.O. Box 795000, San Antonio, TX 78279-5000, or you can fax it to 1-210-HELOISE or email it to Heloise@Heloise.com.

TODAY’S ANSWERS

WORD SLEUTH:



CRYPTOQUIP: Some food items are very crunchy and are therefore noisy to eat. I call them audio-virtuals.

Bowling

From page 4

for Chesapeake Energy Corp. He said he wanted to coach at a school where he could offer scholarships and that would treat bowling as a varsity sport, which OC will do even though the teams will compete at the club level.

“I am excited about the potential for success at OC,” Hayes said. “I think we can build a powerhouse. OC just feels like home when you walk around campus – like one big family.”

The OC bowling teams will begin competition with the 2018 fall semester, and the collegiate season typically runs from September through April. OC will play a regular season consisting of about 10 tournaments through which the Eagles and Lady Eagles will hope to earn a berth in sectional - and eventually national - post-season competition.

OC will compete in the Southwest Intercollegiate Bowling Circuit for half of its tournaments, a grouping in which they will face teams such as Texas Tech, Louisiana State, Arkansas, Texas A&M, West Texas A&M, New Mexico, Newman

(Kan.), UCO, Southwestern Christian and more schools from the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

The remainder of the tournaments will be spent traveling further distances to potential larger venues such as Las Vegas, Chicago, and Indianapolis. Across the U.S., more than 200 colleges and universities offer bowling, with about 100 of them offering scholarships, as will OC.

“This will help us bring in students and I think it’s something in which we can be competitive,” Lynn said. “It’s something that a lot of big schools compete at already and there’s not a lot of opportunities to compete in the state of Oklahoma. It will provide OC with a cool opportunity to compete across all NCAA and NAIA levels in one sport because it is club-affiliated.”

OC currently sponsors 16 sports, all competing at the varsity level in NCAA Division II – men’s and women’s soccer, men’s and women’s golf, men’s and women’s cross country, men’s and women’s basketball, men’s and women’s indoor and outdoor track and field, men’s and women’s swimming, baseball and softball.

Stills

From page 4

said Wednesday that he might re-evaluate his plans.

“It’s definitely something that I thought about, but I continue to think that the protest has been really divisive,” said Stills, who grew up in San Diego before attending Oklahoma. “I’m trying to do everything I can to get people on the same page. ... I really want to bring people together, and I’m open to having conversations with people and trying and getting all of us on the same page.”

Those aren’t just postures to Stills, who has participated in public meetings with police and taken ride-along tours in an effort to find common ground. He is also a key contributor to the Dolphins’ offense with 42 catches for 726 yards and a team-leading nine TDs last season. Stills is expected to start for Miami this year after getting a four-year, \$32 million contract extension in March.

Stills’ tweets Tuesday began with a series of questions, which he said were directed particularly at fellow athletes: “Why aren’t more players speaking up or protesting? Do you not believe there’s a problem? Do you not believe you can create change? Are you worried about sponsors or your contract? Do you not care?”

Stills asked why the NFL hasn’t released a statement

condemning unarmed shootings of black people. He also asked why the NFL didn’t create “a positive narrative about Kap and what he started,” but instead stayed silent.

“How can we expect the league to care about something we’re not showing we care about?” Stills added.

Although he got plenty of online responses, Stills doesn’t think he got many from his fellow NFL players.

“I was really hoping to reach more players,” he said. “I don’t think many players wrote me back or responded, so that’s what it really was for: Hollering at the players. I wanted to see where their minds were at.”

Stills also said he was in contact with Seahawks star Michael Bennett, who claims he was racially profiled and had excessive force used against him by Las Vegas police officers last month.

“We’ve talked through text message, and we’re all just trying to be here for each other,” Stills said. “I feel like the narrative is kind of going the wrong way sometimes, and so, just to have each other’s back and support each other, and I’m really happy to see the things that he’s doing. I was kind of at a loss for words hearing what happened to him after the Mayweather fight, and so (I’m) just continuing to reach out to guys and letting each other know that we have our back, and the NFL actually being a brotherhood like we talk about.”

Indians

From page 4

the mound.”

The win put the Indians in the finals against Granite and despite being one of the more solid teams in the tournament, Granite stood no chance against Mandrell and the Indians as Navajo cruised to a 13-3 win.

Mandrell pitched all seven innings of the championship game and held Granite to just three runs while striking out two.

Mandrell also put together a solid performance at the plate when he crushed a grand slam over the fence as part of a big 10-run inning from the Indians.

Mandrell finished the game 2-for-4 with one run and four RBIs while Weaver added two runs and two RBIs.

Navajo is ranked 13th in Class A baseball and will host the district tournament Thursday and Friday with the action set to begin at noon.

Reach Ryan Lewis at 580-482-1221, ext. 2076.

Olympics

From page 4

kept saying, ‘No, she can’t swim, she can’t swim.’”

Those ongoing seizures led to an extended hospital stay for Kearsty — and some tough decisions for her parents.

“Her seizures got really bad, she’d been in the hospital quite a while and — we finally agreed to have a vagal nerve stimulator put in, which is an implant that — sits in your chest and stimulates your brain to try to off-set some of the seizures,” Belinda said. “That, with all of her medicine helped her enough to where she could swim. Then she joined the Simmons Center Shark team and Jelía Bell was the one at the time over that. She was 12 when she did that; she’s 19 (now). She was 12 years old when she learned to swim.”

Belinda says her daughter was a natural, taking to swimming like a fish to water.

“(Bell) helped her learn to swim and the funny thing was, (Kearsty’s) brother was already on the swim team the year before, so she’d been watching him,” Belinda said. “I don’t know if she picked some up just by seeing it, but it was like she got in the water and — she just kind of knew how to swim.”

The Duncan Banner reports that despite this triumph, Kearsty found that competing against neurotypical children at this level was frustrating, as they were far more advanced and had been swimming for much longer.

“It was really difficult for her to compete at the level that those children were,” said Belinda. “Most of those kids had swam (sic) for a long time. Jelía (Bell) and I looked into the Special Olympics, so that following year we took her to the Special Olympics and she did excellent.”

Kearsty, who swims the 50- and 100-yard backstroke, found her groove in the Special Olympics competitions. She consistently brought home gold medals and her times improved so much that she even began catching up with the other children in school swim meets.

“She just did very well — So, then she got to high school and Andrew Bowers, the high school swim coach, took her on. She swam at the high school. Toward her senior year, she wasn’t last anymore, but she wasn’t always first. But when she swam at Special Olympics, she has gold medals and all kinds of stuff. She does excellent at Special Olympics,” said Belinda.

This progress and passion for the sport led to a wonderful surprise for Kearsty over the summer, an honor reserved for few swimmers.

Mond

From page 4

as you go along — what their strengths and what their weaknesses are,” coach Kevin Sumlin said. “He stood in there and threw some really, really good balls and took some hits last week. Those were some things we hadn’t seen from him before instead of just bailing and running.”

Mond’s talent and athleticism were undeniable from the moment he took over when Starkel was injured against UCLA. But in the last two weeks his teammates have also seen his evolution as a passer.

“He’s definitely (shown) poise in the pocket,” receiver Aaron Hansford said. “He’s becoming a better pocket passer. He’s a great run-threat, but just seeing him be tough in the pocket, taking hits that quarterbacks wouldn’t like to take has been

“This year we got a letter in the mail in June that said she had been selected and accepted as a member of the Oklahoma 2018 USA games swim team,” Belinda said. “She is one of only two girls; Oklahoma only selected four swimmers, two of them are girls and two of them are boys and she’s one of the two (girls).”

The McCoys have some fundraising to do before they can get Kearsty to Seattle in July for her Olympic and television debut, as they have been asked by the Special Olympic team to raise some money to help offset the cost of the journey.

“The Special Olympics would like for each athlete to get \$2,500, but they were asking that they at least get \$1,250. Because it’s to send them to Seattle, Washington,” Belinda said. “It’s the first week in July and it’s on ESPN just like the regular Olympics, Special Olympics is the same way. It’s a week long, they have the U.S.A. games and then if you get a medal in U.S.A. games, then you have the chance of going to World Games. Just like the regular Olympics, it’s only every four years. It’s the same thing; it’s just for kids with special needs.”

Overcoming obstacles doesn’t just stop with Kearsty in the McCoy family. Her parents had some emotional reservations to get over as well, all stemming from their protectiveness of Kearsty and every parent’s fear that something terrible might happen to their child.

“It took a lot for us to let her in the water, she’s had seizures, you know. She’s had seizures at swim meets and she’s had to go by ambulance to the hospital. She just doesn’t quit. The risk is there. Of course, every time she gets in the water, you have the chance of having a seizure, but she lives with the risk every day,” Belinda said.

It’s a fear similar to one that some may recognize from a key plot point in the beloved Disney movie, Finding Nemo, where Nemo’s father Marlin is so afraid that something terrible might happen to his son, who has a “lucky fin,” that he doesn’t let Nemo try anything new.

“Did I feel that way sometimes? Yeah, I really did. ... I’m not going to lie, it took me a little while to, I guess, come to reason with where we were. But I have found that when I allow her to — like if she says, ‘Mama I can do this,’ when I allow her to do that and I just help her the best that I can, but I allow her to do that, she just has so much more joy in her life. My fear can’t keep her from living,” Belinda said. “My son, who also has epilepsy — it’s nothing like hers, but he made the comment when the neurologist told him he shouldn’t be swimming — he told him,

‘You can die, you can die in the water.’ He just told him, he said, ‘Well, you know I can die in my bed at night, too. But I’m with all of these people and all of these people are watching me and I like what I’m doing.’ And she just, (Kearsty is) just the same way. I just let them live.”

Though Kearsty’s parents haven’t entirely left the fear behind, that faith and trust in their daughter’s abilities has proven to be well worth it.

“It’s amazing, it’s really amazing. Several times, we thought we were going to lose her and here she is. When she got the letter, she was just bawling and she kept saying, ‘I just can’t believe this is happening, to me!’ It was so sweet. My husband and I were sitting there and ... we just kind of looked at each other and said, ‘OK, if you start crying, I’m crying, so you’d better stop it,’” Belinda laughed. “It was just so exciting and it was really a neat thing.”

Kearsty’s positive impact on the people around her doesn’t just stop with her family. Her high school swim coach said that Kearsty is a true team player whose spirit infects everyone around her.

“She really kept the (atmosphere) in practices and meets pretty lively. She’s kind of a jokester; she likes to joke around, especially with her closest friends. She’s fun to be around,” Bowers said. “She is a highly competitive person. She’s one of the most competitive people I’ve ever met. She definitely hates to lose and loves to win. She’s a person you definitely want to have on your team. She is a great teammate because of that.”

That infectious spirit and fostering of camaraderie didn’t end when Kearsty graduated high school either.

“When she was a sophomore . one of the high school swimmers came up to me and it was their idea - they wanted to go watch her at the state Special Olympics meet,” Bowers said. “That just kind of tells you the impact she had on her teammates. They wanted to go up there and support her and it was awesome to see the whole swim team there. Without direction, they all stood up while she was racing and they were extremely loud for her and it was awesome. That’s kind of been a tradition over the last couple of years, because she really meant that much to our team.”

Kearsty herself is over the moon about being selected for the swim team and achieving her dream.

“I’m excited. Achieving my dream, to go to Nationals. (I’m excited for) everything,” Kearsty said. “(When I’m in the water I feel) that I’m free. (Free from) everything. I stop thinking.”

real impressive.”

Sumlin said his improvement on Saturday was also a product of more receivers making plays after some of them failed to do so in the previous two weeks. The Aggies are looking for ways to get star receiver Christian Kirk more involved after he was limited to 14 catches for 141 yards through three games.

Kirk finished with 1,009 yards receiving as a freshman and had 928 yards receiving last year. Sumlin knows Kirk is probably frustrated with his decreased production this season, but was quick to point out that his mere presence on the field helps the entire offense.

“The misnomer is that because ... he’s being doubled, you have to have another receiver that takes the place of that,” Sumlin said. “I think what you saw in a couple of these games was our ability to take advantage of that displacement of defense ... and running the ball the other way for long yardage because they’re minus-1 that way.”

OSU

From page 4

interception he threw, in distributing the ball, based on what the defense gives us.”

The Cowboys play their Big 12 opener Saturday against No. 16 TCU.

While Washington had five receptions for 124 yards against Pitt, he didn’t make his first catch until late in the second quarter, when Oklahoma State was already ahead 35-0. Pitt clearly made a tactical decision to eliminate Washington, one of the favorites for the Biletnikoff Award as the

nation’s top receiver, as a threat, so Rudolph simply found other open receivers.

Junior Jalen McCleskey had seven receptions for 162 yards and three touchdowns, while freshman Dillon Stoner had five catches for 100 yards and a touchdown and senior Marcell Ateman pulled down four catches for 109 yards and a TD.

“They’re unselfish, that’s really the biggest characteristic that helps you because they understand work ethic, they care for one another, they like to see each other succeed,” OSU offensive coordinator Mike Yurcich said. “That’s really important. It makes it fun to coach, because you’re not

stressed. It doesn’t matter. Whoever’s open gets it, whatever coverage they’re going to roll to, you go the other way. You can’t predict it and you just go through the progressions and let the quarterback do what he does, and it makes it easier for everybody.”

McCleskey attributed his breakout performance, in which he achieved career-highs in yards and touchdowns, to Rudolph simply going to the open man. After recording a team-leading 73 receptions last year for 812 yards (second to Washington’s 1,380) and seven touchdowns (second to Washington’s 10), McCleskey had just five catches for 17 yards in Oklahoma State’s first two games.

30 years of service: mistakes made, lessons learned

By Senior Airman Jenna Caldwell
22nd Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs

MCCONNELL AIR FORCE BASE, Kan. — A picture of him as a master sergeant hangs on the wall in his office, welcoming every Airman who walks through the door. To some it may seem as a decoration of self-importance, but if you ask him, he'll tell you it holds a much different significance.

"I have the picture there to remind me that I can't think like a command chief," said Chief Master Sgt. Shawn Hughes, 22nd Air Refueling Wing command chief. "If I have an expectation that an airman, a staff sergeant or a master sergeant see the world the same way that I do, then that's a poor assumption, and I'm thinking wrong. Because if you forget who you are, you forget where you came from, you forget the challenges you had or you forget the path that you've taken, chances are you will never see any other options or roads to take."

Hughes joined the Air Force in 1987 with an open-general contract and received the job of in-flight refueling specialist for Strategic Air Command.

"I joined the Air Force because I was not going in a good direction," said Hughes. "I failed out of college and was working dead-end jobs. Some of the people I was hanging out with were not good people. Some of the things I was doing weren't very good either."

Throughout his career, he deployed numerous times as a boom operator, many of which he volunteered for. Around his 10-year point in the Air Force, he had more days on temporary duty assignment than he had at home station.

"I still hadn't grown up even though I joined the Air Force," said Hughes. "I was living the same lifestyle that I was living before I joined the military. Some of it was the aircrew lifestyle back then—you could stay out until three in the morning, raising hell, doing whatever you wanted, and as long as you flew your missions, nobody messed with you."

He had been in the Air Force for about 12 years and had been a staff sergeant for six years when he came to a



Senior Airman Jenna Caldwell | Courtesy photo
Chief Master Sgt. Shawn Hughes, hugs his son, Sean, in June 2013, at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif. after his fini-flight.

crossroads.

"I got to a point in life where everything was coming un-glued," said Hughes. "I had a couple of significantly emotional events [occurring] and I was trying to figure out why, because I didn't understand. For a long time, I just thought I was a victim of life. I didn't realize that it was me."

During this rough period, Hughes came to a realization that changed the course of his military career.

"It was like stepping out of a fog," explained the chief. "At that point, I realized that the things happening in my life were because of my actions, because of what I was doing, because of how I was living my life up to that point. The only way to have a different life than the one that I had was to change. Rather than do the minimum necessary, I actually had to work hard, learn things that I never wanted to learn and change the way I see the world."

"The first step is recognizing that the path you're on is a bad path," he emphasized. "Start pointing a finger at yourself. You're the one who has problems with everybody, you're the one who thinks that

nobody understands you, but maybe you're the one who doesn't understand yourself. Once you're aware of it, have that desire and drive to be a little bit better each day and to get it right the next time."

After this epiphany, Hughes then achieved the rank of technical sergeant his next try, the rank of master sergeant his first try, senior master sergeant his second time and chief master sergeant his first time testing. He continued to have many achievements throughout his career, to include winning Air Education and Training Command Instructor Boom Operator of the Year 2001, the General Dutch Huyer award—a specialized aircrew mission award for exemplary service, distinguished graduate Senior NCO Academy recognition and many more awards.

"If I strip everything away, I love my job," said Hughes. "I loved being in a deployed environment and taking all of the training and all of the preparation and then going somewhere and actually executing what you were trained to do. [The boom pod] was a great place to think and a great place to be as an intro-

vert—it was very comforting environment for me. I'm a hard-core introvert, so climbing on an airplane with only a tight-knit group and not having to talk to anybody if you don't want to is nice."

As Hughes made higher rank throughout his service, he found himself moving away from the job he loved and into a more unfamiliar role. He held many special duty positions, including academy military trainer at the Air Force Academy and serving as a flight instructor at the AETC school house at Altus Air Force Base, Oklahoma, training a new generation of boom operators, which required him to grasp a direct leadership role and step out of his comfort zone.

"The transition from being a technical expert into being responsible for people wasn't natural for me," he explained. "When I went to the school house and actually had to start teaching people, it really forced me to be a receptive leader. I had to understand who [the students] were, what their motivating factors were, why they were there and then try to tap into that."

Though Hughes will be retiring from service this year, he continually aims to mentor Airmen and pass on philosophies.

"Chief Hughes is very engaging and always there to help people," said Col. Albert Miller, 22nd ARW commander. "He has an ability to connect one-on-one with Airmen. He gets to know the Airmen, their story and what he can do for them on a personal level. He's extremely dedicated overall. He's not taking terminal leave. His last day of his 30th year will be in uniform; he wanted to work until the very end."

Many of Hughes' previous supervisors and fellow Airmen have influenced his leadership style throughout his career and shaped his definition of what it is it means to be a leader. It is a methodology he imparts when mentoring Airmen.

"A leader is someone who is standing somewhere on a ladder, sees someone below, grabs them by the hand, pulls them up on their level and has a conversation with them," said Hughes. "A great leader is someone whose interaction

leads that person to success in some way, shape or form. And if you're an even better leader, you put your hand underneath them, and you push them to surpass your level and be better than you ever could be."

Hughes has been in a leadership position for about 19 years, and although being a mentor to Airmen is a role he thoroughly enjoys, he emphasizes that it comes at a price.

"I stayed 30 years because I love it. I used to love it because of the job, and now I love it because of the people," said Hughes. "But there's a burden that comes with leadership. What if you're messing that up? What if what you're doing isn't making a positive difference? What if how you're approaching things and solving problems is creating issues rather than solving them? Over a period of time those questions wear on you."

After many years of mentoring Airmen and shaping the type of leader that he wants to be, Hughes is now walking toward the door to retirement.

"I know it's the time to leave, and I get that, but I also think that I have something left in the gas tank," said Hughes. "At this point, I have more to give. I'm becoming the type of person I wish I was 20 years ago. I have a whole different idea of what life is and I'm at a point where I'm finally starting to understand the puzzle coming together, and now it's time to leave."

After three decades of honorable military service, Hughes is now looking at what the future may hold for him.

"A little horse farm and about 10 acres—that's what's next," said Hughes. That's where I need to be. That's where my family needs to be. I need to disconnect for a while. Owning a horse farm is basic hard work. I think that for a period of time I don't want to be morally responsible for anybody else. I need a very simple life to recharge my batteries, so that when we're ready to start making a positive difference in other people's lives again, I'll be ready to do that."

Hughes' influence on others won't end after he retires. He eventually plans on using that small farm to make a positive difference in the lives of foster children, wounded warriors and many others.

Location and Hours of Operation

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Tuesday 3pm Friday

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LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JACKSON COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA

AMERICAN SOUTHWEST MORTGAGE CORPORATION, Plaintiff, V. LORENZO A. LONGORIA, JR.; LOUISE E. LONGORIA; JOHN DOE, OCCUPANT; SPOUSE, IF ANY; OF LORENZO A. LONGORIA, JR.; AND UNKNOWN HEIRS, SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS OF LOUISE E. LONGORIA, DECEASED Defendant(s).

Case No. CJ-2017-38

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA, TO: Unknown Heirs, Successors and Assigns of Louise E. Longoria, Deceased, if living or if dead, the names or whereabouts of said Defendant(s)' unknown successors, if

LEGALS

any. TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued by American Southwest Mortgage Corporation, in the District Court of Jackson County, State of Oklahoma, and that you must answer the Petition on or before October 27, 2017, or the allegations of said Petition will be taken as true and judgment rendered against you awarding Plaintiff a first lien upon the following described real estate, situated in Jackson County, State of Oklahoma, to-wit: LOTS NINE (9) AND TEN (10) IN BLOCK NINE (9) OF THE EAST SIDE ADDITION TO THE TOWN OF OLUSTEE, JACKSON COUNTY, OKLAHOMA, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF. PROPERTY ADDRESS: 814 E. 7th Street, Olustee, OK 73560 for the sum of \$52,018.45, with interest from September 1, 2015, at 3 percent per annum, together with a reasonable attorney's fee, \$225.00 for abstracting, advances for taxes, insurance and property preservation, and the costs of this action, and ordering said property sold to

LEGALS

satisfy said judgment, and forever barring you and all persons claiming by, through or under you from ever setting up or asserting any right, title, equity or interest in and to said real estate adverse to the right and title of the purchaser at said foreclosure sale, and for such other and further relief to which it may be entitled. WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL, this 30. day of August, 2017. (seal) S/RHONDA STEPANOVICH Court Clerk By: S/Randall Sillman Deputy

Shapiro & Cejda, LLC 770 NE 63rd St Oklahoma City, OK 73105-6431 (405)848-1819 File No. 16-126806

#7983 Published in the Altus Times on 9/7/17, 9/14/17 & 9/21/17.

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JACKSON COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ANCIL-LARY PROBATE OF THE WILL OF GENE S. DICKEY, Deceased.

NO. PB-2017- STATE OF OKLAHOMA :SS.

COUNTY OF JACKSON

All persons having claims against the estate of **GENE S. DICKEY**, deceased, are required to present the same with necessary vouchers, to the undersigned Executrix at the office of her attorney, **MARK T. COKE**, 205 W. Cypress, P.O. Box 652, Altus, Oklahoma 73522, on or before the following presentment date: November 12, 2017, or the same will be forever barred. **DATED** this 12th day of September, 2017.

S/Sandra Jean Dickey

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List anything you want up to 8 lines.

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SANDRA JEAN DICKEY
Executrix

MARK T. COKE
205 W. Cypress
P.O. Box 652
Altus, OK 73522
(580)482-5474
ATTORNEY FOR EXECUTRIX

#7994 Published in the Altus Times
on 9/14/17 & 9/21/17.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF
JACKSON COUNTY
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC, Plaintiff, v. HAROLD EUGENE COMBS AKA HAROLD E. COMBS; CAROL SUE COMBS AKA CAROL S. COMBS; SPOUSE, IF ANY, OF CAROLS. COMBS; JOHN DOE, OCCUPANT; KIM COMBS; AND UNKNOWN HEIRS, SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS OF HAROLD EUGENE COMBS, DECEASED Defendant(s).

Case No. CJ-2017-7

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA, TO: Kim Combs and Unknown Heirs, Successors and Assigns of Harold Eugene Combs, Deceased, if living or if dead, the names or whereabouts of said Defendant(s) unknown successors, if any, TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued by Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, in the District Court of Jackson County, State of Oklahoma, and that you must answer the Petition on or before October 27, 2017, or the allegations of said Petition will be taken as true and judgment rendered against you awarding Plaintiff a first lien upon the following described real estate, situated in Jackson County, State of Oklahoma, to-wit:

A TRACT OF LAND IN THE SOUTH HALF OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION TWENTY IN TOWNSHIP THREE NORTH OF RANGE TWENTY WEST OF THE INDIAN MERIDIAN, JACKSON COUNTY, OKLAHOMA, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SAID SOUTH HALF OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION TWENTY; THENCE WESTERLY ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID SOUTH HALF OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER A DISTANCE OF 209 FEET TO A POINT ON THE EAST LINE OF SAID SOUTHEAST QUARTER; THENCE NORTHERLY ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID SOUTHEAST QUARTER A DISTANCE OF 208 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. PROPERTY ADDRESS: 15877 S. County Road 205, Altus, OK 73521 for the sum of \$110,552.15, with interest from July 1, 2016, at 5.5 per-

LEGALS

cent per annum, together with a reasonable attorney's fee, \$655.00 for abstracting, advances for taxes, insurance and property preservation, and the costs of this action, and ordering said property sold to satisfy said judgment, and forever barring you and all persons claiming by, through or under you from ever setting up or asserting any right, title, equity or interest in and to said real estate adverse to the right and title of the purchaser at said foreclosure sale, and for such other and further relief to which it may be entitled. WITNESS MY HAND OFFICIAL SEAL, this 30 day of August, 2017. (seal) S/RHONDA STEPANOVICH Court Clerk By: S/Randall Sillman Deputy

Shapiro & Cejda, LLC
770 NE 63rd St
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-6431
(405)848-1819
File No. 16-129170

#7982 Published in the Altus Times
on 9/7/17, 9/14/17 & 9/21/17.

Notices

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



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LEGALS

JACKSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS AUGUST, 2017 The County Commissioners of Jackson County, Oklahoma, Marty Clinton, Kirk Butler, met in regularly scheduled meetings on August 7, 14, 21, 28 and 31, 2017 for which the time, place and agenda had been duly posted and took action on the following claims which are classified as public record and on file in the County Clerk's Office, subject to the inspection by a citizen. 2016-2017 Sheriff Contract Prisoners: 353, Integris Health, 90.00, Employee physical; 2017-2018 Assessor Fees Revolving: 1, AF3 Technical Solutions, 3152.99, Printer; County Clerk Lien Fee: 1, U S Post Office, 196.00, Stamp(s); County Clerk Preservation Fee: 1, U.S. Post Office, 196.00, Stamp(s); County Health Department: 23, Altus Power, 1790.28, Monthly Service; 24, Wal-Mart, 161.99, Supplies; 25, Privett Sales, 135.97, Supplies; 26, Advantage Office Products, 70.86, Supplies; 27, AT & T, 375.74, Monthly Service; 28, Uline, 102.07, Equipment; 29, Privett Sales, 182.00, Ink Cartridge(s); 30, Advantage Office Products, 37.99, Ink Cartridge(s); 31, Advantage Office Products, 119.83, Supplies; 32, Privett Sales, 19.89, Toner; 33, A-1 Locksmith, 80.00, Repair; 34, Cleveland, Victoria, 182.74, TSET Travel; 35, Turner, Tara, 71.16, TSET Travel; 36, Renaissance Tulsa Hotel & Convention Center, 206.60, Lodging; 37, Renaissance Tulsa Hotel & Convention Center, 206.60, Lodging; 38, The Toy Palace, 35.00, Part(s); 39, Verizon, 139.88, Monthly Service; 40, Verizon, 59.04, Monthly Service; 41, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publ. Co, 471.35, Education Supplies; 42, Kids Love Stickers, 139.72, Stickers; 43, Medivista Media, 79.00, Monthly Service; 44, Advantage Office Products, 49.99, Supplies; 45, Fox Building Supply, 30.58, Part(s) 46, Wal-Mart, 159.25, TSET Supplies; 47, Public Health Institute Of Oklahoma, 100.00, Registration Fee; 48, Oklahoma Public Health Authority, 140.00, Registration Fee; 49, Oklahoma Public Health Authority, 140.00, Registration Fee; 50, Public Health Institute Of Oklahoma, 100.00, Registration Fee; 51, Fox Building Supply, 10.75, Supplies; 52, Marriott Conference Center, 236.60, Lodging; 53, Marriott Conference Center, 236.60, Lodging; 54, Touchtone Communications, 193.32, Monthly Service; 55, Altus Printing Co., 39.00, Supplies; 56, Pro Ed, 184.80, Education Supplies; 57, A-1 Glass & Mirror, 152.00, Repair; 58, Winters Electric, 95.54, Service; 59, I GT S LLC, 80.00, Adapter; 60, Centerpoint Energy, 24.01, Monthly Service; 61, Sanofi Pasteur, 143.22, TB Tests; 62, Dan's Heating & Air, 296.64, A/C Repairs; 63, SW OK Community Action Group, 38.00, Transit Rides; 64, Public Health Institute Of Oklahoma, 100.00, Registration Fee; 65, Public Health Institute Of Oklahoma, 100.00, Registration Fee; Emergency Management Preparedness Grant: 3, Dillons 66 Service Station, 20.00, Flat(s); Expo Center: 3, Altus Power, 753.25, Monthly Service; 4, Centerpoint Energy, 28.83, Monthly Service; General: 110, A & E Business Products, 236.00, Annual License Fee; 111, Oklahoma State 4-H, 200.00, Medals; 112, Aquathin Heartland, 21.25, Water; 113, Advantage Office Products, 77.97, Office Supplies; 114, Advantage Office Products, 147.82, Office Supplies; 115, Martins Building & Plumbing, 100.19, Janitorial Supplies; 116, Aquathin Heartland, 25.50, Water; 117, Oklahoma Dept. Of Agriculture, 2400.00, Wildlife Management; 118, Reyes Electric, 150.00, Repair; 119, Locke Wholesale Electric Supply, 383.21, Part(s); 120, Cintas Corporation #628, 49.26, Auto Flush Service; 121, Jackson Co. Gen Govt Capital Outlay, 36152.89, Workmans Compensation Premium; 122, Jackson County Dist. 2, 96.48, Fuel; 123, AT & T, 10.37, Monthly Service; 124, Standley Systems, 147.70, Monthly contract; 125, Hollis Plumbing Inc., 95.50, Repair; 126, Standley Systems, 309.05, Monthly contract; 127, Cable One, 89.20, Monthly Service; 128, Wal-Mart, 154.25, Supplies; 129, Canadian Co. Juv. Detention Center, 252.00, Juvenile Detention; 130, Allied Lab Inc, 55.00, Drug Testing; 131, Standley Systems, 90.08, Monthly contract; 132, Standley Systems, 118.59, Monthly contract; 133, NBC Altus, 30.00, Safe Deposit Box Rental; 134, County Treasurers Assoc. Of OK, 450.00, Dues; 135, Touchtone Communications, 2.72, Monthly Service; 136, Salmon, Halee, 360.44, Travel; 137, Pliny Bowes, 45.99, Cleaning Supplies; 138, AT & T, 50.93, Monthly Service; 139, Touchtone Communications, 25.30, Monthly Service; 140, Touchtone Communications, 6.80, Monthly Service; 141, Aquathin Heartland, 17.00, Water; 142, Walker Carpets, 430.00, Repair; 143, Touchtone Communications, 7.79, Monthly Service; 144, AT & T, 1438.84, Monthly Service; 145, Centerpoint Energy, 107.71, Monthly Service; 146, Hollis Plumbing Inc., 267.00, Repair; 147, Touchtone Communications, 2.72, Monthly Service; 148, Bryant, Terri, 57.33, Meals; 149, Roberson, Lisa M, 61.47, Meals; 150, Duggins, Paul, 43.13, Meals; 151, Thornton, Billie D, 61.09, Meals; 152, Standley Systems, 210.31, Monthly contract; 153, Jackson County Dist. 2, 51.25, Fuel; 154, PikePass Customer Service Center, 7.00, Pikepass; 155, AF3 Technical Solutions, 1700.00, Printer; 156, Advantage Office Products, 103.91, Office Supplies; 157, U S Post Office, 196.00, Stamp(s); 158, U S Post Office, 196.00, Stamp(s); 159, U S Post Office, 196.00, Stamp(s); 160, U S Post Office, 196.00, Stamp(s); 161, Cintas Corporation #628, 49.26, Auto Flush Service; 162, Comanche County Regional, 3600.00, Juvenile Detention; 163, Marriott Southern Hills, 674.05, Lodging And Meals; 164, LandMark GSI, 1400.00, Software License; Highway Cash: 108, Smiths Firestone, 59.99, Parts I Supplies; 109, O Reilly Automotive, 381.23, Parts I Supplies; 110, Fox Building Supply, 32.97, Parts I Supplies; 111, Atwoods, 242.33, Parts I Supplies; 112, Amsco Steel, 60.00, Parts I Supplies; 113, Weldon Parts, 165.29, Parts/Repair; 114, Haskell Lemon Construction, 2718.55, Praline; 115, Heavy Truck & Trailer, 109.69, Air Bag; 116, Southwest Oklahoma Internet, 29.95, Monthly Service; 117, Jackson County Water, 30.00, Monthly Service; 118, Altus Alternative, 252.00, Parts/Repair; 119, Amsco Steel, 122.50, Parts I Supplies; 120, Dillons 66 Service Station, 10.00, Parts/Repair; 121, Fox Building Supply, 8.04, Parts I Supplies; 122, Kirby's Wrecker & Service Station, 272.50, Parts I Supplies; 123, O Reilly Automotive, 259.60, Parts I Supplies; 124, Western Equipment, 642.44, Parts I Supplies; 125, Dr. Pepper Bottling Company, 52.50, Water; 126, Econo Sign, 1256.98, Safety Equipment; 127, C.L. Boyd, 1839.58, Repair; 128, C.L. Boyd, 694.52, Repair; 129, Southwest Oklahoma Internet, 49.95, Monthly Service; 130, Western Equipment, 429.55, Parts I Supplies; 131, Atwoods, 154.49, Parts I Supplies; 132, Braker, Jimmy, 165.00, Clay; 133, Hooper Auto Parts, 325.51, Parts I Supplies; 134, Williams, Wendy, 165.00, Clay; 135, O Reilly Automotive, 113.97, Parts I Supplies; 136, Direct Discount Tire, 2472.00, Tire(s); 137, Southern Tire Mart Lc, 224.00, Tire(s); 138, C.L. Boyd, 400.44, Part(s); 139, Dolese Bros. Co., 1533.95, Rock; 140, Aquathin Heartland, 12.50, Water; 141, Town Of Eldorado, 244.10, Monthly Service; 142, Jackson County Co. Gen Govt Capital Outlay, 33639.31, Workmans Compensation Premium; 143, C.L. Boyd, 199.93, Part(s); 144, Okla. Dept Of Transportation, 2207.14, Lease Payment; 145, Okla. Dept Of Transportation, 2207.14, Lease Payment; 146, Okla. Dept Of Transportation, 2452.38, Lease Payment; 147, Okla. Dept Of Transportation, 2575.00, Lease Payment; 148, Okla. Dept Of Transportation, 1134.78, Lease Payment; 149, Okla. Dept Of Transportation, 2062.45, Lease Payment; 150, Custom Products Corporation, 3530.19, Barricades; 151, Assn. Of County Commissioner, 105.00, Registration Fee; 152, Glenn Oil Company, 14135.73, Fuel; 153, Direct Discount Tire, 209.00, Tire(s); 154, Altus Power, 208.76, Monthly Service; 155, Altus Power, 38.35, Monthly Service; 156, Okla. Dept Of Transportation, 2575.00, Lease Payment; 157, Okla. Dept Of Transportation, 2414.06, Lease Payment; 158, Okla. Dept Of Transportation, 1876.07, Lease Payment; 159, Okla. Dept Of Transportation, 2237.03, Lease Payment; 160, Security State Bank, 1702.88, Lease Payment; 161, Security State Bank, 1702.88, Lease Payment; 162, Okla. Dept Of Transportation, 14591.80, Payoff; 163, Butler, Kirk, 194.52, Travel; 164, CED #7, 13489.25, Oil; 165, Glenn Oil Company, 13108.48, Fuel; 166, Okla. Natural Gas, 103.52, Monthly Service; 167, Town Of Duke, 3956.25, 3/8 #2 Cover; 168, Okla. Dept Of Transportation, 2452.38, Lease Payment; 169, Okla. Dept Of Transportation, 1325.22, Lease Payment; 170, Okla. Dept Of Transportation, 1034.62, Lease Payment; 171, Okla. Dept Of Transportation, 2173.42, Lease Payment; 172, Security State Bank, 1749.61, Lease Payment; 173, Security State Bank, 1708.61, Lease Payment; 174, Standley Systems, 97.69, Monthly contract; 175, G. W. Van Keppel Co., 85.78, Part(s); 176, O Reilly Automotive, 239.82, Part(s); 177, Altus Power, 36.03, Monthly Service; 178, Public Service Co. Of Oklahoma, 205.56, Monthly Service; 179, AT & T, 52.60, Monthly Service; 180, Centerpoint Energy, 28.47, Monthly Service; 181, Haskell Lemon Construction, 2879.52, Proline; 182, AT & T, 100.04, Monthly Service; 183, Atwoods, 44.94, Supplies; 184, Touchtone Communications, 19.53, Monthly Service; 185, Embassy Suites Hotel And Conference Center, 184.00, Lodging & Incidentals; 186, Altus Power, 62.05, Monthly Service; 187, Direct Discount Tire, 629.62, Tire(s); 188, U S Cellular, 78.51, Monthly Service; 189, Western Equipment, 1731.86, Repair; 190, T & W Tire, 2873.00, Tire(s); 191, Blair Tire & Feed, 150.00, Tires And Flats; 192, Hotsy Of Oklahoma Inc., 6208.00, Pressure washer; 193, AT & T, 227.49, Monthly Service; 194, Public Service Co. Of Oklahoma, 32.49, Monthly Service; 195, Town Of Olustee, 66.87, Monthly Service; 196, Summit International, 262.71, Part(s); 197, Lonestar Truck Group, 159.04, Part(s); 198, C.L. Boyd, 1292.75, Part(s); Hwy CBRI-103: 2, Maxwell Supply Company, 82.00, Bridge Material; Hwy CBRI-105: 1, CED #7, 32625.66, Oil; 2, CED #7, 11480.00, Oil; 3, CED #7, 32013.82, Oil; 4, CED #7, 11320.00, Oil; 5, CED #7, 22778.00, Oil; 6, M & B Contracting, 8360.00, Concrete; 7, Geo Solutions, 11359.68, Road Material; Jackson County Sales Tax Revolving Fund: 34, Southwest Chemical & Restaurant Supply, 1045.16, Janitorial Supplies; 35, Altus Power, 8131.51, Monthly Service; 36, Jackson Co. Gen Govt Capital Outlay, 23307.40, Workmans Compensation Premium; 37, Southwest Rural Electric, 73.44, Monthly Service; 38, Simplex Grinnell, 560.00, Repair; 39, Centerpoint Energy, 409.87, Monthly Service; 40, Southwest Chemical & Restaurant Supply, 1703.44, Janitorial Supplies; Judicial Drug Court: 5, Redwood Toxicology, 108.25, LAB TESTING CONFIRMATION; 6, Quill, 255.54, Office Supplies; 7, Galls Inc., 797.96, Supplies; 8, District Attorney's Office, 324.30, Travel Reimbursement; 9, Verizon, 91.60, Monthly Service; 10, Call2Test, 138.00, Drug Testing; 11, Tillman County Sheriff Dept., 24.00, Sanction Fees; 12, Jackson County Sheriff Service Account, 1388.00, Sanction Fees; Law Library: 1, Anderson, Teresa, 80.00, Salary; 2, Law Library Revolving Fund, 3709.29, Quarterly Payment; Resale: 10, Jackson Co. Gen Govt Capital Outlay, 2073.47, Workmans Compensation Premium; Sheriff Contract Prisoners: 19, Jackson Co. Gen Govt Capital Outlay, 4193.30, Workmans Compensation Premium; 20, Earthgrains Baking Co INC., 835.20, Bread For Inmates; 21, US Foods Inc, 5481.78, Food For Inmates; 22, HAG INC., 985.49, Food For Inmates; 23, Bob Barker Company Inc, 827.11, Hygiene Supplies; 24, Bugmaster Inc., 120.00, Pest Control; 25, O Reilly Automotive, 7.67, Part(s); 26, U. S. Post Office, 24.05, Postage; 27, Clinic Pharmacy, 869.40, Prescriptions For Inmate; 28, Standley Systems, 539.33, Monthly contract; 29, Voss Lighting, 399.20, Supplies; 30, Southwest Printing, 100.50, Envelopes And Forms; 31, Okla. Dept. Of Public Safety, 350.00, OLETS User Fee; 32, Cable One, 393.59, Monthly Service; 33, O Reilly Automotive, 41.22, Auto Parts; 34, Wal-Mart, 820.86, Food For Inmates; 35, Touchtone Communications, 61.58, Monthly Service; 36, Secretary Of State, 140.00, Notary Application; 37, O Reilly Automotive, 14.24, Part(s); Sheriff Service Fees: 14, Jackson Co. Gen Govt Capital Outlay, 2168.49, Workmans Compensation Premium; 15, Fox Building Supply, 213.11, Merchandise/Supplies; 16, Locke Wholesale Electric Supply, 150.45, Merchandise/Supplies; 17, Smiths Firestone, 757.35, Tires/Maintenance On Vehicles; 18, Galls Inc., 268.80, Supplies; 19, Wilmes Superstore, 230.40, Repair; 20, Les Lambert Heat & Air, 357.91, NC Repairs; 21, Jackson County Memorial Hospital, 1215.00, Medical Attention Of Inmates; 22, Rent City, 604.52, Batteries; 23, Finish Line Fleet Dept 50, 2791.35, Fuel; 24, John Deere Financial, 77.08, Merchandise/Supplies; 25, Okla. Sheriffs Association, 600.00, Registration Fee; 26, Wal-Mart, 42.60, Merchandise/Supplies; Sheriffs Commissary Fund: 8, Jackson Co. Gen Govt Capital Outlay, 1112.16, Workmans Compensation Premium; 9, Mid-State Services, 2563.60, Commissary Sales Service; 10, South Central Industries, 556.32, Toilet Paper; 11, US Foods Inc, 134.64, Kitchen Supplies; 12, Bob Barker Company Inc, 386.53, Commissary Merchandise; 13, Oklahoma Tax Commission (Sales Tax), 552.13, Sales Tax; 14, Janus Supply Company, 279.48, Supplies; 15, Wal-Mart, 335.17, Commissary Merchandise; 16, South Central Industries, 556.32, Toilet Paper; 17, Young Electric, 187.02, Repair; MONTHLY REPORTS: County Health Department 88.60 Court Clerk 107,684.52 District Attorney-Bogus Check 13,407.83 County Treasurer 4,519.90 Assessor's 321.00 County Clerk 15,573.00 Sheriff Department 15,245.30 Election Board 50 APPROPRIATIONS: Highway Cash Fund T 218,812.26 Sheriff Service Fees 34,658.46 Mortgage Certification Fees 418.11 Highway CBRI-105 17,897.78 Highway CBRI-103 22.71 Drug Court 12,809.00 County General 107,664.38 Law Library 993.07 Resale 56.30 County Health Department 99.86 Sales Tax Revolving Fund 38.09 Sheriff Contract Prisoners 2,533.32 County Clerk Lien Fee 628.00 County Clerk Preservation Fee 1,750.00 Conservation District Reap Grant 100.00 Exp Center 1,013.75 Alcoholic Beverage Tax 15.277

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS: Sheriff Service Fee 2,068.76 County Assessor Fees Revolving Fund 321.00 Drug Court 783.00 County Clerk Lien Fee 0 County Clerk Preservation Fee 0 Highway Department 0 Sheriff Contract Prisoners 0 Expo 403.36 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: None. RESOLUTIONS: Resolutions 2017-27 for Disposing of Equipment a 1985 freightliner tractor, D302-066 District #2, insurance loss claim. OTHER: Approve all claims. Approved to publish the monthly Commissioners' Proceedings for August 2017, as presented. Blanket purchase orders were approved and on file in the Office of the County Clerk. Approve the minutes for all meetings. Approve the supplemental appropriations for the month of August 2017. Approve the following reports for the month of July. Approval the following claims for payment: Fiscal Year: 2016-2017. Approval of Detention Services Agreement By and Between ROCMND Area Youth Services, Inc. and the Board of County Commissioners of Jackson County, Oklahoma for detaining juveniles at the Craig County Regional Juvenile Detention Center, Vinita, Oklahoma, at a rate \$25.00/day/child for FY 2017-2018. On changes for Surface Transportation Program (STP) Bridge Projects of the 5-Year Plan for FY 2018-2022. Advertisement for bids for hauling of materials/gravel and hauling of materials/rip rap to be opened September 11, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. Approval of Installation Permit between Jackson County and Greta Water Corp., to install a 4" PVC water pipeline below and across ECR 171 from Section 30, Township 1 North Range 22 West to Section 19, Township 1 North, Range 22 West; District# 3. Approve the Jackson County Ministerial Alliance request to use courthouse grounds for annual city-wide prayer walk rally on Saturday, September 16, 2017.

(seal) ATTEST: S/Robin Booker
Robin Booker, County Clerk

BY: S/Marty Clinton
Marty Clinton, chairman, Board of County Commissioners

Commander remembers AETC, AF anniversaries

By Lt. Gen. Darryl Roberson
Air Education and Training
Command Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANOLPH, Texas—There is a statue in front of our headquarters building. Written on it is a name - Air Training Command - that sounds antiquated to me, and to the men and women who work here at the now-Air Education and Training Command. The marker is a reminder that our business, the business of recruiting, training and educating the greatest and most lethal Airmen in the world, has roots that run deep - deeper, in fact, than the Air Force itself.

This year, we mark two occasions: the 70th anniversary of the Air Force and the 75th anniversary of Air Education and Training Command. I think it is worth examining the past that informs us and the future that drives us.

Our past is brimming with the stories of heroic Airmen who have fought in air, space and cyberspace to keep our nation safe. From the 1948-1949 Berlin Airlift - one of our first tests as an independent service - that brought supplies and humanitarian relief to millions in West Berlin, to the decisive display of air superiority in the skies over Iraq in Operation Desert Storm, to the ongoing fight against ISIL - we have been breaking barriers for seven decades.

But behind those stories is always the familiar torch of knowledge lighting the way, and for



JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO, Texas – A group of Air Force Reserve Citizen Airmen, assigned to the 910th Airlift Wing based at Youngstown Air Reserve Station, Ohio, stand with Mr. Devin Wright, Center Operations Supervisor of USO San Antonio (center), as he presents a pallet of snacks to the group at the Operations hangar at the Kelly Field Annex here, Sept. 18, 2017. The USO San Antonio presented the snacks along with a birthday cake to the group to celebrate the U.S. Air Force's 70th birthday. This group represents more than 90 Reserve Citizen Airmen supporting the 910th's mosquito control aerial spray operations over areas of eastern Texas devastated by Hurricane Harvey. Due to large amounts of standing, polluted water, the numbers of pest insects are increasing significantly. This situation is impacting first responders and recovery workers as clean-up and repair efforts continue. Since Sept. 9, 2017, the 910th has treated more than two million affected acres for mosquito control purposes at the request of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS).

every Airman that starts here in AETC. It is something that our earliest leaders understood.

I am reminded of Gen. Henry “Hap” Arnold, who recognized the value of training and professionalism in developing Airmen. At the time, Air Training Command was a production line like nothing the world had ever seen. The command's 440,000 Airmen across 440 bases became so adept at their mission, Arnold boasted they could produce 105,000 pilots a year and train 5,000 mechanics at the same time.

To meet these numbers required the Air Force to accession an untapped diversity of talent. We quickly saw one new contributor to our legacy after another: the Women's Army Air Forces, the Tuskegee Airmen, sergeant pilots and aviation cadets. A diverse collection of experiences, ideas and thought helped win the political case for a separate Air Force in 1947. Modern American airpower started in our command and has succeeded through the countless, dedicated efforts of our instructors and staff.



Lt. Gen. Darryl Roberson, Commander of Air Education and Training Command, examines the wing of a hail-damaged T-38 Talon at Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas, March 16, 2016, during a base tour.

The spirit of their dedication continues, even though the pace of training has changed over time in response to our nation's security needs.

Missions have come and gone, like at Altus Air Force Base where the community once hosted strategic bombers before the current training mission, or at Laughlin Air Force Base, whose U-2 aircraft were a vital part of information gathering during the Cuban missile crisis. The common thread that weaves through all of AETC's bases throughout time is the unequivocal need for quality training and education that meets commanders' needs.

As we approach the official mark of our service's 70th birthday on Sept. 18, my thoughts go to our future. And I can tell you that the future looks bright for AETC!

We will continue the vital work of preparing the next generation of air, space and cyber warriors to meet the challenges of tomorrow by using the lessons of yesterday.

That means taking a look at not just what we're learning, but how we learn by reviewing our processes along the entire continuum of learning to best employ our most important resource: our Airmen.

That means solving today's challenges from a historically informed perspective, like revisiting the concept of enlisted pilots, currently training to fly remotely piloted aircraft.

By doing these things, we honor our legacy and promise a brighter future to our Air Force and our nation - a future that is symbolized by the statue I can see from my office window, and a future I can assure you will depend on our efforts here in Air Education and Training Command.

Happy birthday, Air Force - Airpower...Starts Here!

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Spirit of Survival Bike Event

SEPT. 30

26, 52, & 62 mile
100K BIKE EVENT
13 MILE FAMILY BIKE RIDE

Spirit of Survival Walk • Run Event

OCT. 1

HALF MARATHON 13.2 miles
QUARTER MARATHON 6.55 miles
5K 3.1 miles
KIDS MARATHON 1.2 miles
LEAH M. FITCH SPIRIT WALK

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