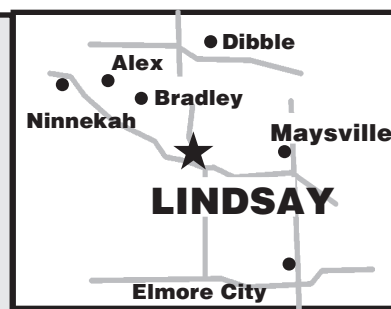




# THE LINDSAY NEWS

Since 1902

Serving Readers in Lindsay, Bradley, Alex, Ninnekah, Maysville, Elmore City, Dibble, and the Surrounding Area



Volume 107 Number 29

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2009

50¢ per copy

## What When & Where

### Lindsay Municipal Election To Be Held March 3

### Team Wins Canadian Valley Conference--



According to head coach Jon Jaques, the seventh grade girls finished off the 2008-2009 season with a win against Pauls Valley February 3. The win capped off a fine season giving the girls the title of Canadian Valley Conference Champs. As well as being conference champions, the Leopardettes finished with 11 wins, 3 losses, and a third place finish at the Tuttle tournament. This is a special group that fully embraces the tradition of Leopardette basketball. They strive to be the best, and are determined to add to the tradition. Members of the teams included Brittany Lujan, Allison Smith, Courtney Shaffer, Paige Finney, Miranda Robinson, Halee Taylor, Carolyn Cordell, Paige Stevens, Destani Malicoat, Alaina Parker, Baylee Clark, and Coach Jon Jacques. Not pictured is Harli White.

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 03, for the Lindsay Municipal Election. The Garvin County Election Board, offered voters some tips on how to make their votes count.

Cathy Brinley, Secretary of the Garvin County Election Board, said that a valid marking—a filled-in arrow—is shown on posters at the polling place and inside the voting booths. If voters make mistakes marking their ballots, Ms. Brinley said they should not try to correct those errors. Instead, voters should return the spoiled ballot to the Precinct Officials, who will destroy it and issue a new ballot to the voter.

Ms. Brinley also urged voters to take their Voter Identification Cards to the polls with them. "That Voter Identification Card can help Precinct Officials find your name in the Precinct Registry and it may also help them resolve the problem if you are not listed in the Precinct Registry."

Voters whose names are not found in the Precinct Registry, or a voter who disagrees with the information shown in the Registry, may need to cast a provisional ballot. A provisional ballot is sealed in a special envelope and counted after election

day if the voter's information can be verified by the County Election Board.

Ms. Brinley said that voters who want to get through the line quickly should vote at mid-morning or mid-afternoon, because those usually are the two slowest periods for voting during the day.

"Anyone that is eligible and at the polling place at 7 p.m. on Tuesday will be entitled to vote," she added.

Ms. Brinley suggested that voters check into the polling place locator that is available at HYPERLINK "<http://www.elections.state.ok.us/>" \t "\_blank" [www.elections.state.ok.us](http://www.elections.state.ok.us/) in the "Frequently Asked Questions" section and also in the "Voters Registration" section or call the County Election Board office before Election Day if they have any questions about their eligibility or the location of polling places

Following is a list of precinct polling place locations that will be open for this election:

- Garvin County Polling Places:
- #1 – **BILL MITCHELL COMPLEX (TRAINING CENTER)**, 308 SW 2ND, LINDSAY
- #2 – **REC MULTI PURPOSE CENTER** (E SIDE OF HWY 76N) LINDSAY

### Lindsay Businessman Recognized--



Lindsay businessman Charlie Jones was recognized by Lindsay Mayor Todd Hinckley. Jones started KBLP Radio in 1988 and is in his 20th year of business. Jones is implemental in broadcasting all of SE Oklahoma high school sports and is a big supporter of Lindsay schools and athletics. Jones keeps the community aware of everything happening in Lindsay and the surrounding areas. The award was for all Jones has done for the community. KBLP has won many awards for news, weather and sports broadcasts. He and wife Barbara reside south of Lindsay.



Lindsay Leopard Jordan Lukens recently signed a letter of intent to play football at Northwestern Oklahoma State University in Alva, OK. On hand for his signing were (front row l to r) Lindsay Leopard Coach Tom Ferguson, Jordan Lukens, and Jordan's mom Lori Hunter and (back row l to r) Lindsay Superintendent Doyle Greteman and Lindsay Principal Tom Inman.

### Central District Livestock Show Results

Lindsay FFA and 4-H members competed at the Central District Livestock Show in Stillwater, OK February 6 and 7.

Friday was the barrow and steer show. In the Chester White division, John Pinnick placed second and Reserve Breed, Brooke Kennedy won fourth, Chelsea Chandler won fifth.

In the Hampshire division Brooke Kennedy placed second, Dalton Dorman won Grand Champion.

In the Poland division Ethan Hines placed second and fourth, Chelsea Chandler placed second.

In the Spot division Tyler

Street placed second, Chelsea Chandler placed first and won Breed Champion.

In the Yorkshire division Jarred Chandler placed second and in the Cross division Brooke Kennedy placed second, Dalton Dorman placed first and Reserve Breed, Brooke Dickenson placed third.

In Steers John Pinnick placed fourth, Meagan Caldwell placed third.

Saturday was the Market Hog Show and Heifer Show.

In Chester White John Pinnick placed first and Breed Champion,

Chelsea Chandler placed fourth.

In Hampshires Jarred Chandler placed second and in Polands Chelsea Chandler placed first and Breed Champion, Tyler Street placed fist.

In Spot Chelsea Chandler placed first and Reserve Breed.

In Yorkshire Chelsea Chandler placed third and in Cross John Pinnick placed third, Brooke Dickenson placed fifth.

In Commercial Heifers Chelsea Chandler placed third, Allie Standridge first.

Congratulations to all the exhibitors.

## Weekend Weather

Courtesy of:

**The First National Bank of Lindsay**  
101 South Main  
Lindsay, Oklahoma  
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	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
HIGH TEMP.	63°	50°	55°
LOW TEMP.	33°	30°	36°
% CHANCE OF PRECIP.	0%	0%	0%



# Matchbook Memories

by Dr. Jerry G. Nye

## REMEMBERING HISTORY PART III

In the present financial crisis, a major concern is unemployment. President Obama's recovery plan will address this problem with public works projects, unemployment assistance, and large amounts of money awarded to companies that employ large numbers of workers. These efforts are commendable, but governmental programs alone cannot solve the problem. Every person must take it upon himself to help solve the economic crisis which our nation faces. A combination of government assistance and personal responsibility can bring the economic crisis to an end as it did in the years of the Great Depression.

The present economic crisis is only a dim reflection of the Great Depression which plagued America in the 1930s. In the depths of the Great Depression, the unemployment rate exceeded thirty per cent. Wages were at an all-time low. Banks were closing daily, taking the entire savings of investors. There was no FDIC to guarantee bank deposits. In large cities, men who had been successful workers stood in soup lines. Teachers who were lucky enough to have jobs were paid in warrants that could only be redeemed for a fraction of their face value. Farmers could find no market for their crops and livestock. Even the weather seemed to turn against America as drought seared the Great Plains and fierce winds whipped the earth clear of vegetation and left behind a desert of sand dunes. It was left to the resiliency of the people to survive.

President Obama has announced plans to invest billions of government dollars

in road construction, bridge construction, and other public projects. These plans are reminiscent of President Roosevelt's New Deal projects of the 1930s. The largest of his projects was the WPA. This program employed millions of Americans in hundreds of different kinds of projects such as school buildings, street building, parks and recreation centers, highway construction, and public buildings such as court houses, armories, and prisons. Although some opponents of Roosevelt's WPA said that WPA stood for "We Piddle Around," much good came from the program, and many families were fed by the meager wages paid to the laborers.

President Obama has mentioned projects similar to those carried out by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s. This project, called the CCC, did much to restore the land and forests during the Great Depression. At one time, more than 500,000 young men were employed in CCC Camps across America. They planted more than 3 billion trees, planted hundreds of shelter belts of trees to prevent wind erosion, and built terraces on more than 300,000 acres of farm land to prevent water erosion. The remains of these shelter belts can be seen today in Western Oklahoma. The pine and cedar trees in my back yard were part of a shelter belt planted in the fall of 1939. They have stood through seventy years of fierce Oklahoma weather, a kind of mute testimony to the tenacity that carried us through those terrible years.

A very small portion of the 789 billion dollar recovery fund will be allocated to the arts:

The National Endowment for the Humanities, The National Endowment for the Arts, and other groups involved in cultural activities. Some have protested that such support is a waste of money. I disagree. If automobile workers can be protected by massive amounts of money, should not writers, artists, and performers reap the same benefits. In the 1930s, President Roosevelt created the Federal Writers Project and the Federal Theater Project. These projects employed writers, actors, musicians, and artists to create works of art, to write guidebooks for each state, and to perform plays, concerts, and other types of entertainment for the cultural benefit of America. The writers employed in the Federal Writers Project produced guidebooks for every state, which were truly works of art. The guidebooks have become collector items today.

In 1937, the Federal Theater program was discontinued. The popular and prolific American writer, James Michener, was one who objected to the program being eliminated. The following passage is taken from the James Michener volume of the Twayne's United States Authors Series.

*Michener used to drive fifty-five miles to Denver to the Baker Federal Theater to see a Works Progress Administration repertory company perform the plays of Shaw, O'Neill, Sinclair Lewis, and others at a ticket cost of thirty-five cents. He continued his love affair with the American theater, until this activity of keeping actors on the federal payroll was abolished as a gigantic boondoggle. "Of all that Colorado has offered me, nothing was more important to my life than this theater," Michener says in justification for such federal support of creative people. "Somebody estimated the other day that on dramatic works that have been derived from my stories, the federal government has collected not less than ten million dollars in taxes,*

*and on the personal income derived from them another twenty million dollars at least. . . . So for every dollar that the government 'wasted' in 1936, it got back \$300 from me alone."*

This quote from Michener was taken from an interview published in 1961. If this much had been collected from his work then, how many more millions of dollars have been collected today? Not all progress can be calculated by the number of cars we produce or the number of jobs we save in the banking industry. Even the Scriptures affirm that "man

does not live by bread alone."

I hope that in the coming months the economic stimulus package will begin to restore our economy. But, in the meantime, we as individual Americans must do our part to help ourselves. As our ancestors did in the Great Depression, we must practice a kind of personal independence and exert the self-discipline to adjust our personal lives to the demands of this time of economic hardship.

E-mail Jerry Nye at [jerrynye1@aol.com](mailto:jerrynye1@aol.com) or write to 1438 Pine, Weatherford, OK 73096.



## News from the State Capitol An Update from State Rep. Lisa Billy

If Texas is like a whole other country, then California is off on another planet.

The Golden State announced recently they would be handing out IOU's to its citizens instead of state income tax refunds. The reason for this decision stems from California's staggering \$40 billion budget deficit - a number more than five times the size of our state's annual budget. Because of bad financial decisions, the eighth-largest economy in the world can't give back to its people money that is justly theirs and instead has to consider raising taxes to pay for vital services.

Luckily, Oklahoma has its feet planted firmly on the ground.

As your state Representative, I am proud to say that we have no such problem in Oklahoma. If you are entitled to a refund on your state taxes this year, you'll get it. No ifs, ands or buts.

Our state is not in a better financial position than almost every other state in the nation by accident. It's a matter of prudent financial decision-making. Out west, they've chosen to live beyond their means - with disastrous results. In our state, we have a balanced budget amendment and are charged with creating a responsible plan for our state. Basically, we have reacted to a slowing economy much like many Oklahoma families - by tightening our belts and not spending more money than we collect.

Over the past few years, increasing tax revenues resulting partially from lower tax rates have helped our state

in many ways. Because of that, we were able to spend more in the right places while filling our state Rainy Day Fund to its maximum. This year, our state is facing a \$600 million shortfall, but I am confident we will take this downturn as an opportunity to find efficiencies in government often not sought in surplus years. It might be tough, but trimming up state expenditures could serve us better in the long run, eliminating redundant spending and items or programs no longer needed. And when the downturn does a U-turn, our state will be in an even better financial position.

California's future is much more uncertain. Not only are they delaying state tax refunds, but they are also imposing delays on aid to students and the poor and shortening public hours for state offices. Massive tax hikes across the board are also being considered, while leaders also consider creating new taxes on services such as car repairs that will further hurt working families.

California has lost site of something that is truly a hallmark in American society: living within your means. Oklahomans know how to work hard and be responsible with their paychecks. They expect their government to do the same and I'm working at the Capitol to ensure your tax dollars are spent in a responsible manner.

Lisa J. Billy (R-Purcell) serves District 42 of the Oklahoma House of Representatives. She can be reached by phone at (405) 557-7365 or via e-mail at [lisajbilly@okhouse.gov](mailto:lisajbilly@okhouse.gov).

## THE LINDSAY NEWS

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# Church Directory

Take Your Family To Church Sunday



Teach your Children the True Relationship they should have with God in this world and the world to come.

**St. Peter's Catholic Church**  
801 S.E. Second  
(405) 527-3077  
Father Michael Vaught  
Mass - Sunday 11 a.m.

**United Methodist Church**  
114 W. Chickasaw  
756-2382 or 756-2387  
Rev. Dr. Stephen Hale, Pastor  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
Sunday Worship 10:55 a.m.  
Evening Worship 6 p.m.

**Missionary Baptist Church**  
903 S. Main  
Steve Boydston, Pastor  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship 11 a.m.  
Evening Worship 6:30 p.m.  
Wednesday Service 6:30 p.m.

**Fellowship of Living Faith**  
206 S. Main  
Pastor Bryce Schaffer  
756-5118  
Sunday Service 10 a.m.  
Wednesday Evening 7 p.m.

**Murray Hill Church of Christ**  
1605 N.W. Fourth  
Sunday Services - 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.  
Wednesday Services - 7:30 p.m.

**church of Christ**  
1205 W. Cherokee Hwy 19 W  
756-2366 / 756-8629  
Bible Study 9:45 a.m.  
Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday Evening 5 p.m.  
Wednesday Care Group 6 p.m. • Pew Packers 6:30 p.m.  
Bible Study 7 p.m.  
Monday Ladies Bible Study 1:30 p.m.

Your Church Ad Could Be Here Call 756-4461 For Details

Your Church Ad Could Be Here Call 756-4461 For Details

Your Church Ad Could Be Here Call 756-4461 For Details

# VOTE

# Brant Stubblefield

- ✓ Resident of Lindsay Since 2003
- ✓ Member of Lindsay church of Christ
- ✓ Member of Lindsay Chamber of Commerce
- ✓ President of Field-Da Acquisitions, Inc.
- ✓ Married to Charity Stubblefield, Attorney
- ✓ Proud Parent of Price, 3, and Parker, 7 mos.

# Lindsay City Council

Paid for by Brant Stubblefield

## Senior Citizen Center Crowns Valentine Queen & King



Floma Beckham and Jack Harnsberger were crowned Valentine Queen and King at the Lindsay Senior Nutritional Center. Erna and Don Tannehill crowned them king and queen.

## Fidelis Sunday School Class Meets

The Fidelis Sunday School Class of First Baptist Church met in the church parlor February 9. Joy Everett called the meeting to order, and everyone read a Bible verse beginning with the letter P.

Prayer requests were given, and Erna Tannehill prayed. Mary Lee Jones gave the minutes of the last meeting.

The class voted to give a gift certificate for groceries to a

family in need.

Allene Lindsey gave the closing prayer. Refreshments were brought by Oglene Gordon and Jean Bunch.

Attending the meeting were class teacher Ruth McConnell, and class members, Jean Bunch, Marilyn Bryant, Joy Everett, Sue Duncan, Oglene Gordon, Aileen Jensen, Mary Lee Jones, Allene Lindsey, Fannie Stansbury, and Erna Tannehill.

## Winsome Sunday School Class Meets

Election day and illness kept some of the ladies of the Winsome Sunday School Class of First Baptist Church, Lindsay, from their monthly breakfast meeting. Those attending had a good time of fellowship and catching up. All agreed you couldn't beat a good cup of hot, freshly brewed coffee! Those absent were mentioned and accounted for as it was known.

After the meal, Jerry Jones, brought the devotional. Her husband gave her the following to share with us.

Last year I replaced all the windows in my house with those expensive double-pane energy efficient kind.

Yesterday I got a call from the contractor who installed them. He was complaining that the windows had been installed a whole year, and I hadn't paid on them yet. Now, just because I'm blonde doesn't mean that I am automatically stupid. So, I told him just exactly what his fast-talking sales guy had told ME lat year...namely that in just ONE YEAR these windows

would pay for themselves! Helloooo! I told, him, "It's been a YEAR!"

There was only silence at the other end of the line, so I finally just hung up. He hasn't called back; probably too embarrassed about forgetting the guarantee they made me. Bet he won't underestimate my intelligence again.

She closed with the following from "When God Calls Me Blessed". How a woman after a long night of work, standing on concrete, came home to find her oldest son was visiting from out of town; he'd waited up for her. As they talked, he massaged her tired, sore feet. It was one of the greatest acts of love she'd ever experienced, and she'd treasure it for the rest of her life.

Shirley England gave the closing prayer, and then those who needed to left. About then Shirley Caldwell, joined the group. Others were Lavora Dodd, Shirley England, Carolyn Hutto, Jerry Jones, and Barbara Lackey.



## Friendship Club Meets

Friendship Club met in the home of Helen Cox for their February meeting with a Valentine's Day theme.

The meeting was called to order by president Joy Everett.

The song "The More We Get Together" was led by Thelma Love. The Creed was led by Fannie Stansbury and Lois Knapp led the Flag Salute.

Roll call was answered by members, Joy Everett, Carrie Schwartz, Emma Cantrell, Fannie Stansbury, Thelma Love, Helen Cox, and Lois Knapp.

Devotional was given by Thelma Love and everyone was asked to quote their favorite scripture verse.

Minutes of the January meeting were read by secretary Lois Knapp and Helen Cox gave the treasurer's

report.

New business was discussed and it was decided to fix a fruit and snack basket for Wanda and Jr. Reeves since Jr. h as been in the hospital for the past few days.

The third Wednesday lunch was to be held on the 18 at Pauls Valley.

A program given by Emma Cantrell was "The Bible as seen thru the eyes of a child." It was very funny. We don't think how children are interpreting stories from the Bible and the way they are seeing things in their mind.

Thelma Love won the hostess gift and the meeting was adjourned and the hostess served a delicious lunch.

March meeting will be in the home of Lois Knapp.

## National Food Check-Out Week

Despite the economic slowdown, it is still possible to eat a healthy diet on a budget. Oklahoma's farmers and ranchers are staging several events during National Food Check-Out Week, Feb. 15-21 to highlight food's affordability. Food Check-Out week is an annual celebration of the fact consumers in this country spend less (about 10 percent) of their disposable income on food than consumers in any other country.

On Monday, Feb. 16, members of the Oklahoma Farm Bureau state women's committee will donate \$1,200 worth of food to the Ronald McDonald House in Oklahoma City. A similar donation will be made Feb. 18 to the Ronald McDonald House in Tulsa.

"We want to help families struggling with sick children and at the same time let consumers know we produce the healthiest, most affordable food in the world," said Clara Wichert, Fairview, and chairperson of the OFB women's committee. "Through donations to the Ronald McDonald Houses, and other charities, we recognize the need everyone has to find solutions to feeding families healthy foods on a

tight budget."

Throughout Food Check-Out Week county Farm Bureaus will be donating food to local soup kitchens, food pantries and food banks.

"Even in this tough economic time, farmers and ranchers are compelled to share their bounty with those less fortunate," Wichert said.

The Fairview farmer encourages consumers to eat a diet that includes fresh fruit, vegetables, whole-grains and lean meat.

"We're proud of our ability to produce an abundant supply of good food and with more consumers eating out less and preparing more meals at home, the weekly trips to the grocery store become vitally important," Wichert said.

Farmers are consumers too and they are dealing with the same issues of putting nutritious meals on the table while sticking to a tight budget.

According to the USDA, farmers receive only 19 cents out of every dollar spent on food. Even with the additional cost of processing and retailing, the average American can earn enough to pay for a year's supply of food in just 37 days.

## Lindsay Place Crowns Valentine Queen & King



Queen Sharron Newton and King Milton Henry Jr. were crowned Valentine Queen and King at Lindsay Place Valentine Party.

## Voters Can Still Vote By Absentee Ballot

Registered voters in Garvin County who want to vote by mail absentee ballot in next Tuesday's Primary Election, and Garvin County Elections, have missed the application deadline, according to County Election Board Secretary, Cathy Brinley.

"They aren't out of luck, however," Ms. Brinley said.

Voters who want to cast absentee ballots still can do so at the County Election Board office on Friday, February 27, or Monday, March 02. A two-member, bipartisan Absentee Voting Board will also be on duty each day from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. to assist absentee voters.

Friday, February 27 -- 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Monday, March 02 -- 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

"In-person absentee voters fill out an application form when they get

to the office. They are not required to give a reason for voting absentee," Ms. Brinley said. "They are required to swear that they have not voted a regular mail absentee ballot and that they will not vote at their polling places on Election Day."

According to Ms. Brinley, the Absentee Voting Board verifies a voter's registration information, and then issues the voter's ballots. The voter marks the ballots in a voting booth and then puts them in the voting device. "It is very much like voting at a precinct polling place," said Ms. Brinley.

Contact the County Election Board, located at 201 W. Grant, Pauls Valley, for more information. The telephone number is (405) 238-3303.

NOTE: The mail absentee ballot application deadline is February 25, 2009

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**H & R Block**

IBC Bank honors H & R Block as the Business of the Month for February. Pictured are Mark Howe of H & R Block and Cindy Novotny, IBC Bank Chickasha Branch Manager

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A SERVICE OF DUNCAN REGIONAL HOSPITAL

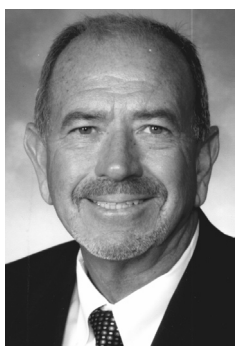
**Tuesday, March 3, 2009**  
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm  
216 S. Main St.

Drop by to meet the Solutions Team serving Lindsay and surrounding communities.

# Tall Tales

by Doyle Greteman

Superintendent, Lindsay Schools



As you may remember, we have missed five school days this year because of bad weather. We had three days built into our calendar for makeup, which were April 10 and 24, as well as May 8. These days will now be days in which school is in session.

In addition, we have decided to make up the two additional days by adding two days at the end of the school year. The other most feasible option was to make them up during spring break. We felt that since some people probably already had plans to be out of town that our attendance might suffer if we used spring break as the first option. It was still a pretty good option, but we felt that adding the days at the end of the year was a little better.

The new calendar will feature commencement exercises on Thursday, May 21, and the last day of school for students will be on Friday, May 22.

We are fervently hoping that we won't have to miss any more days because of bad weather conditions. If that is the case, we will deal with it as needed.

Mr. Inman has done an excellent job of working to have the announcements re-printed in order that our seniors will have the correct date on them. This will be done at no additional cost to the seniors.

We had some interesting basketball games Monday night at the Heatly Arena, as both the boys and girls teams came back to post victories over Little Axe.

This Saturday, the Leopards and Leopardettes will host Comanche in the district playoffs. The first game begins at 6:30 p.m. and a nice home crowd would certainly be beneficial to the local teams.

Our vocal students are hard at it this week as they are entering district competition. Results of the contests were not available before printing this column. Our students have been very successful in the past few years, and we commend them and Mr. Young for their efforts.

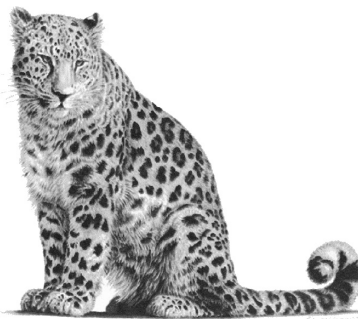
Speaking of Mr. Young, he and Mr. Barnes have a unique relationship. You might say they don't like each other. Or, you might say they really like

each other but just don't want to admit it. I would suspect the latter to be true.

At any rate, Mr. Young spares no opportunity to have a little fun at the expense of Mr. Barnes. Thank goodness Mr. Barnes has a good sense of humor, because otherwise, Mr. Young would have suffered his wrath by now.

It's refreshing to see the camaraderie that exists, not only between these two, but between many of our other staff members. When people have a mutual respect and admiration for each other, it tends to make for a good educational climate for our students. They can have fun, but still get the job done. That's just another reason why Lindsay Schools is a great place to work.

Thanks for your support as we enter an exciting time of year!



## Lindsay Basketball News

The Leopardettes faced the Lady Lions of Blanchard last Friday night in the Conference Match Play held in Lindsay. It was an entirely different outcome than their last meeting this month as Lindsay, trailing two quarters were able to score 20 points to Blanchard's 2 for a clear victory, 53-35.

The Leopards followed with their game against the Panthers of Pauls Valley. It never was a close contest as Lindsay hit the hard wood determined to put as much distance between themselves and their opponent as possible. Every Leopard on the bench saw action and contributed in the 58-36 win.



Lindsay Leopardette Tess Robbins blocks a shot against the Blanchard Lady Lions. (Photo by Sheryl Kochert).



Lindsay Leopards Carson Tate, left, and Tanner Mason, right block a shot against the Pauls Valley Panthers. Also pictured are #32 Jordan Lukens, #24 Brennan Zurline, and Doug Ezell. (Photo by Sheryl Kochert).



## Leopard News

By: Paige Howell

The schedule for this week is slowing down. On Saturday evening, the Leopards and Leopardettes play their district game at home against Comanche. On Tuesday, the sophomore girls will be touring Vo-tech. Next Thursday, the boys will be touring Vo-tech. On Wednesday, NHS officers will have a meeting at noon. Good luck to all and have a great week!!!

## Brooke Kennedy Candidate For State FFA Officer

Brooke Kennedy, a member of the Lindsay FFA chapter, is a candidate for state FFA central district vice president.

Elections for eight new state officers will be held during the 83rd annual Oklahoma FFA Convention on April 28-29. State officers travel across the state and nation representing more than 24,000 Oklahoma FFA members. They provide leadership and personal development training for FFA members and make decisions about organizational policy.

A nominating committee interviewed 44 candidates in early February and narrowed the field of candidates to three for each of the seven offices up for election. The eighth race is for state president. The four candidates in this race served as officers in 2008-2009. Two-delegates from each of Oklahoma's 355 official chapters will cast the deciding votes during the upcoming convention.

Delegates choose officers based on the candidate's leadership skills and FFA accomplishments. Each candidate must meet requirements for the State FFA Degree.

The state president, secretary and reporter are elected in a statewide business session, and five district vice presidents are chosen in district meetings.

-more-  
"Serving as a state officer is considered one of the greatest honors in the FFA," said Kent



Brooke Kennedy

Boggs, state FFA executive secretary. "Officers are expected to be outstanding role models and set the standard for fellow members."

The new officers will be introduced during the final convention session, Wednesday, April 29, in the Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City.

FFA is an integral part of the agricultural education division within the Oklahoma Career Tech System. The Oklahoma FFA Association is the fifth largest state association in the nation and is proud to be the home of the 2009-10 national FFA Central Region Vice President, Laila Hajji.

The FFA mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.



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**Thursday**—\*Corn Dog, creamed potatoes, strawberries, carrot sticks/dip, milk-variety.  
**Friday**—\*Hamburger, french fries/ketchup, pineapple, mayo/mustard, milk-variety.

Grades 1-4

**Monday**—\*Chicken nuggets, creamed potatoes \*Peanut butter sandwich, corn, peaches, milk-variety  
**Tuesday**—\*Pizza, \*BBQ Roast, pork n beans, pineapple, milk-variety.  
**Wednesday**—\*Cheesy macaroni, \*Tuna salad sandwich, green beans, brownies, milk-variety.  
**Thursday**—\*Corn Dog, Honey Lemon Chicken, Broccoli Casserole, Strawberries, milk-variety.  
**Friday**—\*Hamburger, \*Cheeseburger, french fries/ketchup, pineapple, mayo/mustard, milk-variety.

Grades 5-12

**Monday**—\*Chicken nuggets, \*Peanut butter sandwich, corn, peaches, milk/lemonade.  
**Tuesday**—\*Pizza, \*BBQ Roast, hot roll, pork n beans, salad, pineapple, milk/lemonade  
**Wednesday**—\*Cheesy macaroni, \*Tuna salad sandwich, baked potatoes, rolls, brownies., milk/lemonade  
**Thursday**—\*Corn Dog, Honey Lemon Chicken, Broccoli Casserole, Strawberries, milk/lemonade.  
**Friday**—\*Hamburger, \*Cheeseburger, french fries/ketchup, pineapple, carrot sticks/dip, milk/lemonade..

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# Pauls Valley Arts Council To Host United States Navy Band Sea Chanters

The choral group that brought a stirring and beautiful rendition of the National Anthem at President Barack Obama's inauguration will be performing in Pauls Valley on Thursday, March 5, at 7 p.m. at the Pauls Valley High School Auditorium.

Sponsored by the Pauls Valley Arts Council and the Garvin County News Star, the United States Navy Band Sea Chanters is the official chorus of the United States Navy.

"We're very excited about bringing this quality concert to Pauls Valley," said PVAC President Kevin Stark. "This is just one of many military bands the PVAC has brought to Pauls Valley over the past five years and we know patrons will not be disappointed when they see the Navy Sea Chanters."

In 1956, Lt. Harold Fultz, then the Band's assistant leader, organized an all-male vocal ensemble from the Navy School of Music to sing chanteys and patriotic songs.

An immediate success, Admiral Arleigh Burke, then Chief of Naval Operations, transferred them to the Navy Band, named them the "Sea Chanters," and tasked them with perpetuating the songs of the sea. Women were added in 1980, increasing their repertoire.

The Sea Chanters chorus is one of the nation's preeminent professional choral ensembles. It has played a vital role in comforting the nation in times of mourning, such as the memorial services for former President Ford and the astronauts of the space shuttle *Columbia*, and for the Presidential wreath laying ceremony at the



The U.S. Navy Sea Chanters will appear in concert at the Pauls Valley High School Auditorium on Thursday, March 5, at 7 p.m. The group most recently sang the National Anthem at President Obama's inauguration. Free admission tickets to the concert will be available beginning Monday. The Pauls Valley Arts Council and the Garvin County News Star are sponsors of the concert.

crash site of United Airlines flight 93 in Shanksville, Pa.

At the National Day of Prayer in Washington's National Cathedral after the events of 9/11, their performance of "Amazing Grace" inspired all in attendance and an international television audience.

They have appeared at the Kennedy Center Honors and with the National Symphony Orchestra for the nationally telecast "National Memorial Day Concerts" at the U.S. Capitol, as well as on "Larry King Live," "CBS This Morning" and at the premier of the motion picture *Pearl Harbor*.

During their 2008 spring tour, the Sea Chanters performed in Salt Lake City, Utah, with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir under the direction of Mack Wilberg, for

a 30-minute broadcast of "Music and the Spoken Word," which was distributed around the world and reached an audience of several million.

Noted choral directors Dale Warland and Donald Neuen have conducted the ensemble, and renowned composers Roger Bourland, William MacDuff and Lloyd Pfautsch have written works especially for them. The Sea Chanters have also appeared with the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra, the Baltimore Symphony, the Kansas City Symphony and the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra.

Throughout its history, the Sea Chanters chorus has represented the nation and the Navy with pride and professionalism.

Free admission tickets for

the Navy Sea Chanter concert are available to the public at the following locations:

Pauls Valley — The Pauls Valley Chamber of Commerce Office located at 112 E. Paul.

Maysville — The Garvin County News Star located at 402 Williams.

Elmore City — The Elmore City Bank, a branch of Pauls Valley National Bank, located inside Luster's Market.

Stratford — The Garvin County News Star located at 100 N. Pine.

# MATC Students Participate In Heritage Place Horse Sale

Recently, 12 Mid-America Technology Center students in the Horse Production and Management program participated in the *Heritage Place Winter Mixed Sale*. These students were fortunate enough to be able to work with seven head of horses belonging to outside clients.

The students were in charge of everything from feeding

and grooming to sales preparation and exhibiting. These students excelled in these areas and were able to bring in a total of \$85,500 for these seven head.

This experience proved invaluable to the students by allowing them a live work experience therefore also enforcing a good work ethic and leadership skills.

# MATC Cosmetology Skills Contest Held

Last week, Mid-America Technology Center hosted the SkillsUSA Oklahoma Region 5 Cosmetology Skills Contest. 55 students from six schools competed in Cosmetology (hair), Facial and Nail competitions each vying for a chance to compete at the State SkillsUSA Conference.

Mid-America's Cosmetology program had contestants entered in each of the three categories of competition. Two students Ashley Guthrie and Christina Hobbs competed in the Cosmetology portion, while Marlena Clark, Elvira Govea and Lachelle Howard participated in the Facial competition, and Kailey Powell, Meleah Underwood and Janice Van Winkle were in the Nails competition.

MATC students placed in all three categories with the



Christina Hobbs is carefully completing the "long hair design" portion of the Cosmetology competition.

following results: Cosmetology — Ashley Guthrie, Lexington, first place; Christina Hobbs, Newcastle, second place; Facial — Lachelle Howard, Newcastle, fourth place and; Nails — Kailey Powell, Bridge Creek, sixth place.

The first and second place winners, Ashley Guthrie and Christina Hobbs, each secured a spot to compete at the State SkillsUSA Conference that will be held May 3-5 in downtown Tulsa.

# ORRC Scholarship Available

The Oklahoma Rehabilitation Corporation (ORRC) scholarship program continues to offer (one-time) scholarships to Oklahoma high school seniors to attend college or tech school in Oklahoma.

Our scholarships may be used at any public or private college or university or vocational training school in Oklahoma. We are grateful for the assistance of Farm Service Agency, Rural Development,

banks, and others who have assisted in this program for the past 41 years.

This scholarship is intended for lower income, lower net worth families. The awards are tiered, meaning the lower the income and financial positions, the higher the amount awarded.

This scholarship is available to students from towns of 20,000 or less in population. This scholarship (good for the first year only) is available to

students finishing high school in Spring 2009 and planning to enter advanced schooling. The scholarship will not be available to students who plan to attend out-of-state schools or to students who are not Oklahoma students. The students must clearly name on the application the Oklahoma school which they will attend. The ORRC office must be notified immediately if there is a change to another school after the award is announced.



## Oklahoma State University

A total of 1,460 students representing 39 states and numerous countries were awarded degrees from Oklahoma State University in Stillwater at the end of the 2008 fall session, according to the Office of the Registrar.

Graduates are listed by the towns they have designated as their hometowns, along with degree and subject area. Degrees earned with distinction--summa cum laude, magna cum laude or cum laude—are designated with the degree earned.

A complete list of Oklahoma, out-of-state and international graduates is available at <http://osu.okstate.edu/graduates/>

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Turn off the highway and let's go down the Wallville Road. Just sitting here in my old rocking chair and reading the letter from Diane "Webb" Perry and her adventure with her great-aunt Pauline "Cunningham" Webb and her children.

We were all farm kids, helped our dad everyday after school, weekends and all summer. When dad finally decided Donna and I were old enough to go out at night, cousins Linda and Kay would come by on a Saturday evening once a month. They'd take us to Lindsay with them. We'd drag Main Street for hours, honking and hollering, pulling up to Ballards Drive-In. We'd order a Steak sandwich and a Cherry Coke. Then sometimes we'd just park in Bonnie's parking lot with other kids, have a fine time till about midnight. Knowing time was running out and we'd soon be going back down the Wallville Road.

With those March winds arriving early and rain coming down the plains, we are thankful. It's those torpedoes we can't handle. Legend #846.

The Wallville Church truly enjoyed the preaching and singing of the Baze family of Jacksboro, TX. It was a wonderful time February 11, Wednesday.

Work continues preparing for the annual church Easter

meeting April 10, 11, and 12. Brother Phillip Bernard of Duncan, OK, night speaker. Services at 7:30 p.m. and 10 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. Two meals served daily. Make plans on coming.

Visitors showing up on the owl man's door step recently, Cecil Hunt, Anna Hunt, Bill Donaho, Matt and Kristi Hunt. Tim and Hannah Hunt, having a ball.

Winner of the roses, Glen and Peggy Tinnin, 44 anniversaries and counting this past February 14.

Also, February 14, Bill and Norma Jean Ramsey party up celebrating anniversary #24. They now reside in Lindsay, OK.

It's party time, birthday party that is. Harrison Owens on the 19, Dana Lanell Mize parties on the 20, Daris McClish and Miss Carolyn Lewis share the 21, Big Time Lige Work and Kyle Powers share the 22, Papoose Chole Pelfrey's birthday is the 23, which is also Tina Finley's. Howard Rouse, wherever he may be, is the 24, as also is Joy Stewart, my former school teacher, Mrs. Vicki Kay paints the town red on the 26, Robbie Vestle is the 27, say happy birthday to Emily Adams on the 27 turns 19 big ones, so we're getting ahead of ourselves

showing our ages. So the Lord willing we'll start here again next week.

Direct from the pages of old Al's almanac, from Wallville's yesterday, Mag Holdsclaw's birthday would have been February 21, Genieve Holden would have celebrated on the 23, Edna Ranson would have been 99 on the 9th of February, Pearl Pratt would have celebrated on the 18, and Miss Zid Russell's big day would have been the 26.

Hats off to Darrell and Gina Cable who with our many readers allow us the privilege of going down the Wallville Road each week.

Send your news and views to the prince of Wallville-salute your soldier by sending his military information to the owl man at 405-207-3268 or 207-1691. We appreciate our veterans so write Rt 3 Box 222-A, Pauls Valley, OK. Post haste.

The Wallville Veteran's Committee salutes the memory of Army Specialist Billy Chambers of Maysville. Vietnam veteran who paid the supreme sacrifice for his country in 1969. Another proof that freedom is not free.

Our heart goes out to Kristi Hunt at the loss of her grandmother in Idaho who raised her. Kristi and daughter Anna flew out on the 14. They were to be met by husband Matt and his mother Cindy who drove out on the 15.

The Wallville Church was treated to the preaching of Brother Carl Pelfrey Sunday

night February 15. We enjoyed having his wife and Miss Chole with us.

Cool weather is still with us, tornadoes all around and they can stay away until next week this is be kind to "Marilyn Bryant" week.

This week's sponsors were M&M Donuts with Bertie Mayhan and Hazel White chief cooks and bottlewashers and Kristy's Photography, Kristy Brown, boss.

The conclusion of Mrs. Dean Perry's memories when the midnight hour approached, Linda and Kay would take us home with them and we'd spend the night whispering about who, what, and when.

Sunday morning we'd all get up and help Aunt Pauline fix a big breakfast. Afterwards we'd clean up the mess. Linda and Kay would then take Donna and I home.

The Aunt Pauline I remeber was a quiet woman, married to Jr. Webb, you couldn't blame her. He was one talking, joking, cut up of a man. But, Pauline had her own sense of humor. Jr. and the kids would be joking and carrying on and Pauline would suddenly laugh, a big deep laugh, that would startle you at first, then you couldn't help but join in with her. Her girls have the same laugh.

Aunt Pauline, and her husband Jr. have been gone for several years. But I still remember the fun times we spent with them.

So Keep telling about them good old days and Dean and I each week will go down the Wallville Road.



# Tales From Turkey

By: Amber Minson

I hope everyone got their fill of chocolate and sweetness. I definitely did. We had a really good Valentine's Day! Friday I got surprised with three roses, one for each year of marriage, and a bag full of candy. Zach got a set of BBQ tools with OU on them from Sam and I. Saturday we didn't really do anything special. We had lunch at a Turkish restaurant off base and did a little bit of shopping. Saturday night our neighbors asked us over for dinner and the guys cooked and did dessert. It was quite a treat!

To make our Valentine's weekend even sweeter, Monday was President's Day so Zach got a three day weekend. Sam and I always enjoy having him home for an extra day on the weekends. We don't get to see him a whole lot during the week because he stays pretty busy with work. So, when the weekend rolls around we take advantage of the time we get to

spend with him!  
I don't know about Oklahoma, but here in Turkey we can definitely tell that spring is right around the corner. Yes, we're still getting a lot of rain but we're also getting some very nice, sunny days. The roses have started to bloom again and the grass is getting greener. It still gets dark at around 5:15 every evening, but soon it'll stay daylight longer.

My family is very excited for spring and summer to get here so that we can spend our weekends at the beach! During the rainy winter that is what I've missed the most. We don't go to just any beach either, we go to the Mediterranean Sea, and so far I'm convinced that it is one of the most beautiful bodies of water. So, hurry up spring!

I hope everyone has a great week! Thank you for reading and until next time, God bless!

# Apply Now For Absentee Ballots

Voters in Garvin County who want to have absentee ballots mailed to them for the March 03, Lindsay Municipal Election, should apply now, according to County Election Board Secretary, Cathy Brinley. Although the County Election Board can accept applications for absentee ballots until 5 p.m. on Wednesday, February 25, Ms. Brinley urged voters that want to vote by absentee ballot to apply early. Application forms are available at the County Election Board office located at the Garvin County Courthouse, First Floor, Room 8 and from the State Election Board Or, download from <http://www.elections.state.ok.us/>

You may mail your absentee ballot application to the county election board, you may fax it or you may deliver your own application personally to the county election board office. (You may not deliver an application for another person, however. It's the law.)

"At least two mail transactions must be made," Brinley said. "The County Election Board must mail the ballots to the voter and the voter must return the voted ballots by mail." Ballots must be in the hands of the County Election Board by 7 p.m. on Election Day in order to be counted.

Brinley said that any registered voter may vote by absentee ballot in any election in which he or she is eligible to vote.

It is not necessary to give a reason—or excuse—for voting

absentee. "While anyone can vote absentee without giving a reason, the law still provides several excuses and it is to the advantage of some voters to use one of them," Brinley said. By stating one of the following reasons on their applications, these voters can activate some special conditions that make it easier for them to use absentee ballots. The reasons are:

--Voters that are physically incapacitated and voters that care for physically incapacitated persons that cannot be left unattended may vote absentee. They may apply only by mail, by fax, or by telegraph.

--Voters that are confined to nursing homes in the county may vote absentee. An Absentee Voting Board actually goes to the nursing home a few days before the election, sets up a small polling place and allows these persons to vote under circumstances similar to those at a regular precinct polling place. They may apply only by mail or by fax.

--Military personnel and residents of the county living overseas and the spouses and dependents of each group are eligible to vote absentee without being registered. These voters may apply only by mail or by fax. Military personnel should contact the Voting Service Officers in their units for application forms and additional information. Residents of Oklahoma living overseas can obtain the same materials from any United States military installation and from United State Embassies and Consulates.

# Incapacitated Voters Won't Have To Miss Election

Registered voters in Garvin County who become physically incapacitated after 5 p.m. Tuesday, February 24, won't have to miss the March 03, Lindsay Municipal Election, according to County Election Board Secretary, Cathy Brinley.

Ms. Brinley said state law permits registered voters that will be unable to go to the polls because they became incapacitated after 5 p.m.

Tuesday, February 24, to vote on an emergency basis. "Physical incapacitation" includes a variety of conditions—injury, illness, childbirth—that prevent a person from voting in person at the polls on Election Day.

"If you think that you or someone you know fits into this category, contact the County Election Board office at 405-238-3303 as soon as possible for more information," Ms. Brinley said.

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**OBITUARY**

**Kenny Wayne Shelley, Jr. 1955-2009**



Kenny Wayne Shelley, Jr. of Lindsay, OK departed this life February 14, 2009 in Lindsay, OK at the age of 53. Kenny was born March 9, 1955 in Blackwell, OK to Kenneth Wayne Shelley, Sr. and LaHonda Jane (Hunter) Shelley.

Kenny was a member of the Calvary Baptist Church in Lindsay, OK. He worked as a carpenter and also worked at Maramont in Chickasha, Oklahoma. Kenny liked to build things and make items out of scrap. He also enjoyed drawing and fishing.

Mr. Shelley is survived by his father, Kenneth Wayne Shelley, Sr., two sisters; Kimberly Renee Shelley and Mary Finkeldei and a host of nieces and nephews.

Preceding Mr. Shelley in death were his mother, LaHonda J. Shelley, one sister, Pamela Janice Carlton, and his grandparents; Otis and Helen Shelley and Herman and Clyde Hunter.

Graveside services for Mr. Shelley were at 2 p.m. Wednesday, February 18, 2009 at Green Hill Cemetery in

Lindsay, OK with Reverend David Guerrero officiating. Services were under the direction of B.G. Boydston Funeral Home of Lindsay, Oklahoma. Condolences for the family may be made online at [www.boydstonfuneralhome.com](http://www.boydstonfuneralhome.com).

**OBITUARY**

**Gena Faye King 1920-2009**

Faye was born May 18, 1920 twelve miles south of Lindsay into the loving and caring family of Luther (Luke) and Lucy Newby. She grew up with two sisters and three brothers. Faye was the twin sister of Ray Newby of Lindsay. Faye had a special loving relationship with her niece Patsy Roller of Lindsay.

Faye's working life as a nurse began with the Poole Clinic in Lindsay and eventually the Lindsay hospital for over thirty five years. Faye retired in the early 1980s from the Lindsay Hospital. She will be remembered as an Angel by those for whom she gave care. After retiring, Faye helped her husband Doil with the family furniture business while continuing the loving pastime of grandparenting.

Faye was active in the Sunday school at Calvary Baptist Church in Lindsay for many years. She enjoyed gardening and cooking as well as fishing and traveling. She often traveled with her husband Doil and her brother Ray and wife Von to beautiful mountains, beaches, musical houses

and festivals throughout our great U.S.A.

Faye's commitment to God and family as well as her personal strength, compassion and strong values were a blessing to all who knew her. After leaving Oklahoma in 2004, her joy in life continued in Fairfax and Portsmouth, Virginia with her daughter, son-in-law, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Life is truly a journey and Faye traveled far and wide on her way home to the Father. We will miss her forever.

Mrs. King is survived by; sons: Gary Pettigrew of Okemah, OK, and Jim King of Peru, IL;

daughters: Louantha Kerr of Portsmouth, VA, and Barbara Porter of Oklahoma City, OK; her twin brother: Ray Newby of Lindsay, OK; grandchildren: Luke Pettigrew, Tania Lee, Lance Williams, Gregg Williams, Bernadette King, Jeremy King, Becky King, Debbie Porter, and Matthew Porter, and 25 beautiful great-grandchildren.

Mrs. King was preceded in death by; her husband: Doil King, and her brothers and sisters: Dutch Burleson, Anna (Pat) Stansbury, Edgar Newby, and Paul Newby.

Funeral services for Mrs. King were Saturday, February 14, 2009 at 2 p.m. at the Calvary Baptist Church in Lindsay, OK with Reverend Kent Wooster officiating. Interment was in the Greenhill Cemetery under the direction of Wooster Funeral Home. You may send a condolence to the family at [www.woosterfuneralhomes.com](http://www.woosterfuneralhomes.com).

**OBITUARY**

**Mary Frances Burr 1925-2009**

Mary Frances Burr, age 83 of Dibble, passed away Sunday February 15, 2009 at the Glenhaven Nursing Home in Chickasha. Mary Frances Hopkins was born September 7, 1925 in Criner, OK, the younger of two children born to Benjamin Franklin Hopkins and Mary Ellen (Thurston) Hopkins. She spent her early childhood there, attended Dibble schools graduating from there in 1943.

After high school, she began working Douglas aeronautics at Tinker Air force Base as a Riveter. She met a young man from Oklahoma City named Forrest Ray Burr and he later helped her get a job at the Wilson & Company. They fell in love and were married October 25, 1944 in Oklahoma City and made their home there.

They built their new home near Dibble in 1979 and have made their home there since. Together they raised two children, daughter Lynda and son, Jeff. Mary worked tirelessly as a homemaker. She was gifted with her hands and enjoyed crocheting, knitting and quilting for her children and grandchildren.

She loved growing vegetables and canning everything. She was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother who cherished spending time with her family and especially cooking during the holiday season. Her life was brightened by her grandchildren who she loved and cared for immensely, from reading books, bird watching, fixing snacks and showing the deep unconditional love that only Mary, MEME could give in her own special way. With that love their MEME gave them the greatest gift of all the ability to carry and pass along the warm selfless love for generations to come.

She was a member of the

Church of Christ.

She is survived by: her daughter, Lynda McKinney of Dibble; her son, Jeff Burr and wife Keli of Dibble; six grandchildren, Melinda Lynn and husband Justin of El Reno, OK, Leslie McKiddy of Norman, Baylee Malone, Brylee Burr and Keegan Burr, all of Dibble.

She was preceded in death by: her husband, Forrest Ray in 2006; her parents, Benjamin and Mary Ellen Hopkins; her infant brother, Emmanuel Hopkins and a son-in-law, Joe McKinney.

Funeral services were at 1 p.m. Friday, February 20, 2009 at the Freewill Baptist Church in Dibble with Reverend Lewis Cox and Mr. Stephen Coley officiating.

Pallbearers were Harold Gillenwater, Michael Davenport, Don Talent, Ronnie McKinney, Landy Offolter, and P.L. Ellyson. Honorary bearers were Olen Keeler, Harold Paul Reed, Hollis Atkinson and John Morris.

Burial followed at the Dibble Cemetery under the direction of the Wilson-Little Funeral Home.

**Free Tax Filing Help**

In recognition of efforts to help put more money in the pockets of working Oklahomans, Governor Brad Henry declared January 30 as Earned Income Tax Credit and VITA Site Awareness Day.

Tax return filing season has begun and local non-profit organizations are teaming up with community partners to prepare and electronically file federal and state returns without charge for thousands of low and moderate income Oklahoma families. Some tribes and most military installations will have sites. AARP will operate sites specializing in seniors.

Locally, Delta Community Action will be offering this service. The service will be available on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 308 SW 2nd in Lindsay.

As increasing numbers of working families and individuals are struggling financially, trained preparers at these free tax preparation sites, called Volunteer Income Tax Assistance or VITA sites, will help eligible families apply for a federal earned income tax credit (EITC). This year, eligible families can get as much as \$4,824 from the tax credit.

The EITC helps working

Oklahomans bridge the gap between minimum wage and a living wage. It ensures that Oklahoma's business community, particularly small businesses, will continue to find an affordable pool of workers by providing an incentive for low-income family members to continue working when wages alone do not cover the cost of living.

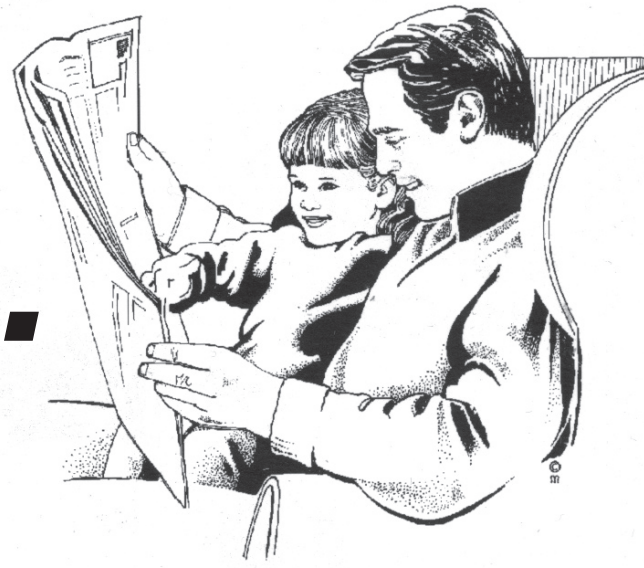
While the EITC benefits both business and workers it also provides a multimillion dollar stimulus to our economy. Over 63,000 Oklahomans claimed the tax credit bringing in over \$128,000,000 to Oklahoma's economy. Yet thousands more who were eligible did not claim it. Generally, families with a household income of less than \$40,000, or singles with income of less than \$12,800 are eligible.

Free assistance with EITC eligibility and free tax return preparation is available at VITA sites across the state. Sixteen members of the Oklahoma Association of Community Action Agencies and their partners will staff VITA sites in more than 60 communities. For the location of site, you call call 211 or check the Community Action web site at [www.okacaa.org](http://www.okacaa.org).

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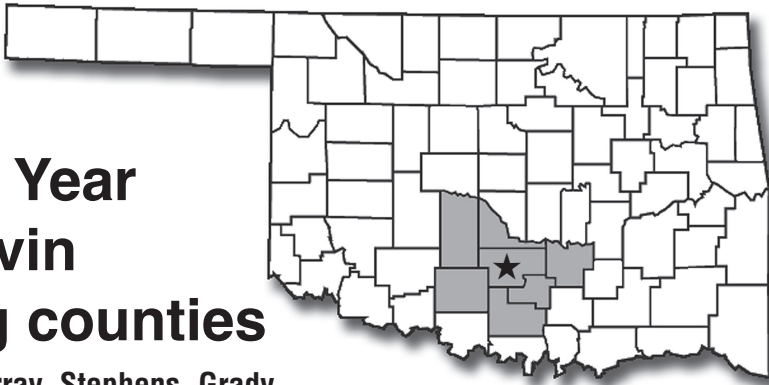
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