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Oklahoma Press Service

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Friday, March 01, 2019 10:55 AM

Page 1

Invoice

Agency	Roxanne Reyes NextEra Energy Resources 700 Universe Blvd., MC/JB Juno Beach, FL 33408-	Invoice Date	3/1/2019
		PO Number	Open House - Skeleton Creek
		Order	19-02-48
		Dynamics Acct.	2-7018

Client NextEra Energy Resources
Reps Cindy Shea

Newspaper

Caption	Run Date	Ad Size	Rate	Rate Name	Color	Disc.	Total
CHEROKEE MESSENGER							
OPEN HOUSE	02/21/2019	3 x 4	\$7.00	1 National	\$0.00	0.0000%	\$84.00
OPEN HOUSE	02/28/2019	3 x 4	\$7.00	1 National	\$0.00	0.0000%	\$84.00
OK-ENID NEWS & EAGLE							
OPEN HOUSE	02/21/2019	4 x 4	\$28.00	1 National	\$0.00	0.0000%	\$448.00
OPEN HOUSE	02/28/2019	4 x 4	\$28.00	1 National	\$0.00	0.0000%	\$448.00

Total Advertising	\$1,064.00
Discounts	\$0.00
Tax: USA	\$0.00
Total Invoice	\$1,064.00
Payments	\$0.00
Adjustments	\$0.00
Balance Due	\$1,064.00

America celebrates Presidents Day, history behind holiday discussed

Americans recently celebrated an American Holiday that has been changed from Washington's Birthday to Presidents Day.

Presidents Day is a holiday celebrated on the third Monday in February; Presidents Day 2019 occurred on Monday, February 18.

Originally established in 1885 in recognition of President George Washington, the holiday became popularly known as Presidents Day after it was moved as part of 1971's Uniform Monday Holiday Act, an attempt to create more three-day weekends for the nation's workers.

While several states still have individual holidays honoring the birthdays of Washington, Abraham Lincoln and other figures, Presidents Day is now popularly viewed as a day to celebrate all U.S. presidents, past and present.

The story of Presidents Day begins in 1800. Following the death of George Washington in 1799, his February 22 birthday became a perennial day of remembrance.

At the time, Washington was revered as the most important figure in American history, and events like the 1832 centennial of his birth and the start of construction of the Washington Monument in 1848 were cause for national celebration.

While Washington's Birthday was an unofficial observance for most of the 1800s, it was not until the late 1870s that it became a federal holiday. Senator Steven Wallace Dorsey of Arkansas was the first to propose the measure, and in 1879 Presidentutherford B. Hayes signed it into law.

The holiday initially only applied to the District of Columbia, but in 1885 it was expanded to the whole country. At the time, Washington's Birthday joined four other nationally recognized

federal bank holidays, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, the Fourth of July and Thanksgiving, and was the first to celebrate the life of an individual American. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, signed into law in 1983, was the second.

The shift from Washington's Birthday to Presidents Day began in the late 1960s, when Congress proposed a measure known as the Uniform Monday Holiday Act. Championed by Senator Robert McClory of Illinois, this law sought to shift the celebration of several federal holidays from specific dates to a series of predetermined Mondays.

The proposed change was seen by many as a novel way to create more three-day weekends for the nation's workers, and it was believed that ensuring holidays always fell on the same weekday would reduce employee absenteeism. While some argued that shifting holidays from their original dates would cheapen their meaning, the bill also had widespread support from both the private sector and labor unions and was seen as a surefire way to bolster retail sales.

The Uniform Monday Holiday Act also included a provision to combine the celebration of Washington's birthday with that of Abraham Lincoln, which fell on February 12. Lincoln's Birthday had long been a state holiday in places like Illinois, and many supported joining the two days as a way of giving equal recognition to two of America's most famous statesmen.

McClory was among the measure's major proponents, and he even floated the idea of renaming the holiday Presidents Day. This proved to be a point of contention for lawmakers from George Washington's home state of Virginia, and the proposal was eventually dropped.

Nevertheless, the main piece of the Uniform Monday Holiday Act passed in 1968 and officially took effect in 1971 following an executive order from President Richard M. Nixon. Washington's Birthday was then shifted from the fixed date of February 22 to the third Monday of February. Columbus Day, Memorial Day and Veterans Day were also moved from their traditionally designated dates. (As a result of widespread criticism, in 1980 Veterans' Day was returned to its original November 11 date.)

Did you know? President's Day never falls on the actual birthday of any American president. Four chief executives, George Washington, William Henry Harrison, Abraham Lincoln and Ronald Reagan, were born in February, but their birthdays all come either too early or too late to coincide with Presidents Day, which is always celebrated on the third Monday of the month.

While Nixon's order plainly called the newly placed holiday Washington's Birthday, it was not long before the shift to Presidents Day began.

The move away from February 22 led many to believe that the new date was intended to honor both Washington and Lincoln, as it now fell between their two birthdays. Marketers soon jumped at the opportunity to play up the three-day weekend with sales, and "Presidents Day" bargains were advertised at stores around the country.

By the mid-1980s, Washington's Birthday was known to many Americans as Presidents Day. This shift had solidified in the early 2000s, by which time as many as half the 50 states had changed the holiday's name to Presidents Day on their calendars.

Some states have even chosen to customize the holiday by adding new figures to the celebration. Arkansas, for instance, celebrates Washington as well as civil rights activist Daisy Gatson Bates. Alabama, meanwhile, uses Presidents Day to commemorate Washington and Thomas Jefferson (who was born in April).

Washington and Lincoln still remain the two most recognized leaders, but Presidents Day is now popularly seen as a day to recognize the lives and achievements of all of America's chief executives. Some lawmakers have objected to this view, arguing that grouping George Washington and Abraham Lincoln together with less successful presidents minimizes their legacies.

Congressional measures to restore Washington and Lincoln's individual birthdays were proposed during the early 2000s, but all failed to gain much attention. For its part, the federal government has stuck to the original incarnation of the holiday as a celebration of the country's first president. The third Monday in February is still listed on official calendars as Washington's Birthday.

Like Independence Day, Presidents Day is traditionally viewed as a time of patriotic celebration and remembrance. In its original incarnation as Washington's Birthday, the holiday gained special meaning during the difficulties of the Great Depression, when portraits of George Washington often graced the front pages of newspapers and magazines every February 22.

In 1932, the date was used to reinstate the Purple Heart, a military decoration originally created by George Washington to honor soldiers killed or wounded while serving in the armed forces. Patriotic groups and the

Boy Scouts of America also held celebrations on the day, and in 1938 some 5,000 people attended mass at Saint Patrick's Cathedral in New York City in honor of Washington.

In its modern form, Presidents Day is used by many patriotic and historical groups as

a date for staging celebrations, reenactments and other events. A number of states also require that their public schools spend the days leading up to Presidents Day teaching students about the accomplishments of the presidents, often with a focus on the lives of Washington and Lincoln.

SALES TAX

FROM 1

Alfalfa County is \$379,514, which is an increase of \$47,577 from the first two months of 2018.

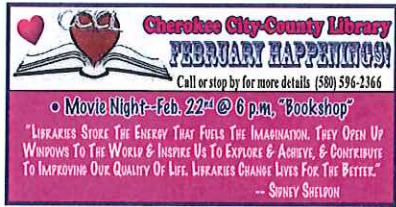
Use Tax

Use tax collections were increases for all county towns that collected.

Use tax collections returned and last year's figures follow:

- Aline, \$1,058, \$532, for an increase of \$526.
- Carmen, \$5,176, \$2,794, for an increase of \$2,382.
- Cherokee, \$13,422, \$8,344 for an increase of \$5,078.
- Coltry, \$877, \$294, for an increase of \$583.
- Helena, \$1,973, \$1,067, for an increase of \$906.
- Jet, \$1,096, \$1,623, for a decrease of \$527.

- Alfalfa County as a whole saw an increase of \$2,417, from \$17,485 in 2018 to \$19,002 in 2019.



Cherokee City Library
FEBRUARY HAPPENINGS!
Call or stop by for more details (580) 596-2366

- Movie Night—Feb. 22nd @ 6 p.m., "Bookshop"

"LIBRARIES STROKE THE ENERGY THAT FEELS THE IMAGINATION. THEY OPEN UP WINDOWS TO THE WORLD & INSPIRE US TO EXPLORE & ACHIEVE. & CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVING OUR QUALITY OF LIFE. LIBRARIES CHANGE LIVES FOR THE BETTER."
— SIBBY SHELTON



Here's The Beef

Where's the beef? Right here in this area. Our local livestock producers raise some of the finest beef in the world. Where's the beef? You'll find it at a local backyard family barbecue. You'll find it at a fa-a-way fancy four-star restaurant. Hats off to our local livestock producers. We appreciate their continued business.



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Alfalfa County Fair set for Monday, February 25

Some of the area's finest livestock are being groomed for the annual Alfalfa County Junior Livestock Show that will start Monday morning, Feb. 25, in the indoor arena at the county fairgrounds.

Residents involved in county 4-H and FFA chapters will weigh in their animals from 9 a.m. to 10

a.m. on Monday, Feb. 25.

At 11 a.m., entries will close. Contestants will also sign up for the showmanship competition, present their papers and enter their horses.

At 1 p.m., the goat show will begin, followed by the sheep show.

Taking center stage at 6 p.m. will be the cattle show.

Tuesday, Feb. 26 is considered to be the busiest day for everyone involved with the show, from competitors to judges to the all-important volunteers.

The swine show gets under way at 9 a.m. on Tuesday and

will be followed by the horse show at 1 p.m.

After the conclusion of the horse show, the livestock judging contest will start.

The final event of the day will be the livestock judging contest, after which all animals will be released to their owners.

The evening of Wednesday, Feb. 14 is an anticipated time for competitors when the Junior Livestock Show Banquet and Awards Show is held in the Fairgrounds Exhibit Building.

The banquet meal will be served at 5 p.m. and the premium sale will follow at 6:30 p.m.

One by one, exhibitors from the county will come to the front of the room, giving area merchants, along with 4-H and FFA booster clubs, an opportunity to reward them with cash premiums to help offset the cost of preparing their animals for the show.

Nash resident injured in accident

An injury accident occurred just across the county line into Grant county at 10:40 a.m., Wednesday, Feb. 13.

Amy Lynn York, 48, Nash, was driving a 2003 Lincoln Navigator 3/10 of a mile west of State Highway 132 on Union

Road when she swerved to miss a deer. The vehicle lost control and departed the roadway to the left, striking the ditch and rolling one and a half times, coming to rest on the passenger side.

York was pinned for approximately 45 minutes before being extricated by the Nash Fire Department with the Jaws of Life. She was then transported by Pond Creek EMS to St. Mary's Hospital in Enid where she was admitted in stable condition for observation with trunk internal and external and leg injuries, according to the accident report.

Oklahoma Highway Patrol Trooper Randy McCullough investigated the accident and he was assisted by Grant County Sheriff's Department, Nash Fire Department, Pond Creek Fire Department and Pond Creek EMS.

Retirement reception for Delano

BY MARGARET GOSS
CARMEN CORRESPONDENT

A Retirement Reception honoring Bill and Linda Delano will be held from 1-3 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 23 at the First Carmen Bank Community Room.

The Delanos have operated the Delano Seed Company for 47 years and they have decided recently to retire.

The reception is sponsored by the Carmen Chamber of Commerce. Everyone is wel-

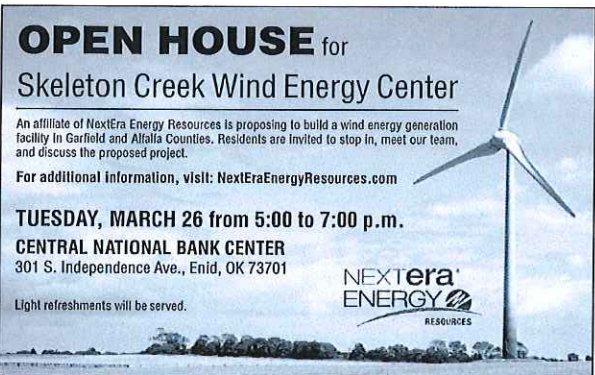
come to attend.

After 55 Noon Lunch Carmen After 55 Club will hold their noon luncheon on Thursday, Feb. 21.

Meat, drinks, and bread will be served. Bring your favorite side dish, salad, or dessert.

Friday Fun Night The monthly Friday Fun Night will be held at 6:30 p.m., Feb. 22 at the After 55. Everyone is welcome.

Music jam of area musicians will be held. Games and visiting will be available.



OPEN HOUSE for
Skeleton Creek Wind Energy Center

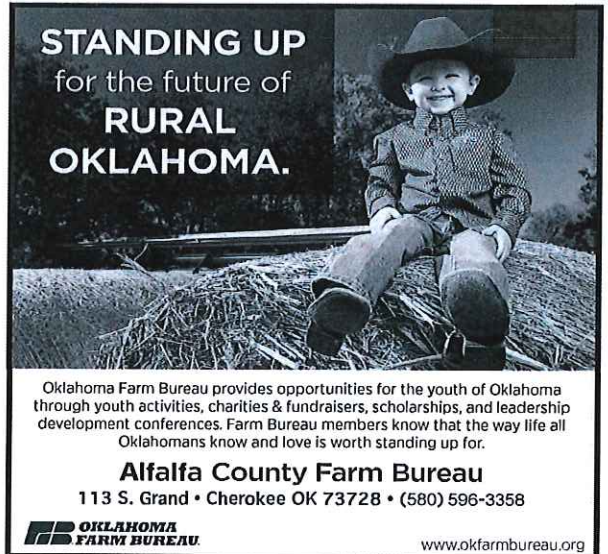
An affiliate of NextEra Energy Resources is proposing to build a wind energy generation facility in Garfield and Alfalfa Counties. Residents are invited to stop in, meet our team, and discuss the proposed project.

For additional information, visit: NextEraEnergyResources.com

TUESDAY, MARCH 26 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
CENTRAL NATIONAL BANK CENTER
301 S. Independence Ave., Enid, OK 73701

Light refreshments will be served.

NEXTERA ENERGY RESOURCES



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Oklahoma Farm Bureau provides opportunities for the youth of Oklahoma through youth activities, charities & fundraisers, scholarships, and leadership development conferences. Farm Bureau members know that the way life all Oklahomans know and love is worth standing up for.

Alfalfa County Farm Bureau
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OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU
www.okfarmbureau.org

ELECTION

FROM 1

ditorium renovation; public restroom renovations; football facility upgrades that will include new concession, restrooms, home bleachers and press box; installation of lights at the junior high and high school softball field in Jet; new metal transportation maintenance shop; and new marquee.

- Elementary projects: concrete handicap parking at front entrances; replace deteriorating

sidewalks, porches and ramp; new football concession, restroom, locker room and storage building; new metal maintenance and storage shed; and new marquee.

The following archway the precincts voted for each proposition:

- Byron-Amorita: Proposition 1: yes, 3; no, 2. Proposition 2: yes, 5; no, 0.
- Helena: Proposition 1: yes, 109; no, 36. Proposition 2: yes, 112; no, 33.

- Goltzy: Proposition 1: yes, 52; no, 24. Proposition 2: yes, 59; no, 17.
- Jet: Proposition 1: yes, 57; no, 17. Proposition 2: yes, 61; no, 13.
- Garfield County: Proposition 1: yes, 2; no, 0. Proposition 2: yes, 1; no, 1.

- Grant County: Proposition 1: yes, 46; no, 12. Proposition 2: yes, 48; no, 10.
- Major County: Proposition 1: yes, 2; no, 0. Proposition 2: yes, 2; no, 0.

Blood drive coming to Cherokee

Oklahoma Blood Institute needs strong, inspiring, giving, and heroic blood donors to save the lives of local patients.

Oklahoma Blood Institute will hold a blood drive with Cherokee Community from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m., Thursday, March 7, at Alfalfa County Fairgrounds on West Fifth. Each blood donor will receive their choice of inspirational t-shirt in one of three featured colors: coral, sky blue, or gray.

Donors will also receive a coupon from Whataburger for a free honey butter chicken biscuit and be entered for a chance to win Whataburger for a year!

"Whether it's an emergency or a life-threatening illness, someone needs blood every two seconds," said John Armitage, M.D., president and CEO of Oklahoma Blood Institute. "Blood is needed

365 days a year at our local hospitals. We encourage healthy adults, age sixteen and older, to be heroes for patients and donate as often as they can."

O-negative blood donors are especially urged to give, as recent cold weather and flu illnesses have strained Oklahoma Blood Institute's supply of this universal blood type.

Only ten percent of people in the United States who are eligible to give blood actually do. Blood donation takes just about an hour, and each donation can save the lives of up to three patients. Whole blood can be donated every 56 days. Platelet donations can be made as often as every 7 days, up to 24 times a year.

Donors also receive free health screenings and Donor Rewards points, redeemable at Oklahoma

Blood Institute's online store. If donors opt not to take the t-shirt, Oklahoma Blood Institute will make a monetary donation to Global Blood Fund for blood center assistance in developing countries.

As a non-profit blood center, Oklahoma Blood Institute's donors provide every drop of blood needed for patients in more than 160 hospitals statewide. Approximately 1,200 volunteer blood donors are needed each day to maintain the supply.

Appointments are not required but can be made by calling Oklahoma Blood Institute at 877-340-8777 or visiting obi.org.

Sixteen-year-olds must weigh at least 125 pounds and provide signed parental permission; 17-year-olds must weigh at least 125 pounds; 18+ year olds must weigh at least 110 pounds.

Town of Nash awarded grant money

The Nash Public Works Authority (Authority) in Grant County received approval Tuesday for a \$129,948 Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP) grant through the Oklahoma Water Resources Board (OWRB) to improve the Authority's wa-

ter infrastructure.

The Authority supplies potable water to approximately 204 customers and the proposed project will improve the existing water distribution system to provide adequate pressure and fire protection in the western part of Authority's service area. Grant funds would be used to install a booster pump station and water lines. The total project cost is \$129,948, which will be funded with the OWRB REAP grant.

Joe Freeman, chief of the OWRB's Financial Assistance Division, calculated that the

grant will save the Authority's customers \$233,906 in principal and interest charges by not having to borrow the project funds.

Since 1983, the Water Resources Board has approved over \$4.2 billion in loans and grants for water and wastewater infrastructure improvements throughout Oklahoma.

"We are grateful to State Senator Roland Pederson and State Representative John Pfeiffer for their continued support of water and wastewater infrastructure funding in Oklahoma," said Julie Cunningham, OWRB Executive Director.

Cherokee to host storm spotter training

For those who have ever wanted to help out their communities during severe weather, or perhaps just learn about storms in general, the National Weather Service in Norman has scheduled two free Storm Spotter Training Classes in the area. Storm Spotter Training Classes are scheduled for March 11 in Cherokee.

The classes are free and open to anyone to attend, participants don't have to be those in emergency services.

The National Weather Service encourages anyone with an interest in public service and access to communication, such as amateur radio, to participate as a Skywarn storm spotter. Volunteers include police and fire personnel, dispatchers, EMS workers, public utility workers and other concerned private citizens. Individuals affiliated with hospitals, schools, churches, nursing homes or who have a responsibility for protecting others are also encouraged to become a spotter.

Thank You

Thank You to the Carmen Chamber for hosting a retirement reception and to our customers, friends and family who attended. We had a wonderful time reminiscing about the past 40 plus years.

Bill Delano
Delano Seed Co

BOE

FROM 1

the last day being May 15.

At 10:35 a.m., the board convened into executive session to discuss future building projects. They returned to open session at 10:56 a.m. and took no action.

Next, after some discussion, an offer of \$30,700 was approved for the property in Burlington at 503 Myrtle Street.

Sportsmanship at basketball games was discussed and a report by the Oklahoma Secondary Schools Activities Association on the Timberlake versus Burlington game during the Cherokee Strip Conference with a brief mention of a couple of local Burlington fans, but the overall ratings were good.

Superintendent Croft gave her report:

- Mid-year Expense and Revenue Comparison.
- General Fund balance calculations.

- OSBSA Region 2 meeting at Buffalo High School Cafeteria, Buffalo, at 5:30 p.m., April 30 and the extra points session and 6:30 regular session.

- Alfalfa County Multi-jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan.

- New/Incumbent School Board member workshop - April 26-27, Southern Hills Marriott, Tulsa or May 3-4, Edmond Conference Center, Edmond.
- Alfalfa County Stock Show, February 25-27.

- Local Stock Show will be March 6.

- NW District Show, Enid, March 7-11.

- Oklahoma City Stock Show, March 13-22.

Principal Pruett gave his report:

- The annual Burlington Education Foundation meeting was held Monday night Feb. 11. I would like to thank the foundation for their continued support.
- The basketball regular season is over.
- Elementary girls 1-7; Elementary boys 3-6; Junior High

- girls 8-6; Junior High boys 2-11; High School girls 20-3 (ranked #6); High School boys 9-14.

- Both the Elks and Lady Elks were District champs which improved their records to 11-14 and 21-3 respectively.

The Lady Elks play Blue Jacket and the Elks play Covington-Douglas for the first round of Regionals Thursday Feb. 14 at Coyle. Girls play at 6:30, boys at 8:00.

- Hoop shoot winners (champion, runner-up): 8-9 girls, Morgan Malzke, Kayli Pruett; 8-9 boys Isaac Angle, Cornelius Reimer; 10-11 girls, Hope Olson, Tamiya Evans; 10-11 boys, Tyler Hill, Alfred Obiero; 12-13 girls, Haylee Jantz, Ashlynn Paschall; 12-13 boys, Zane Willard, Jayden Davis.
- Local Spelling Bee Results (champion, runner-up): Midget


- (grades 1 & 2) 12 rounds- Lauren Thomason, Hayle Smith; Peevee (grades 3 & 4) 12 rounds- Cash Dotson, Remington Farney; 5th and 6th 6 rounds- Emily Klippenstein, Summer Olson; 7th and 8th 11 rounds- Ky Smith, Trevor Hankey.
- NOC FFA Interscholastics: 1st place Horticulture Team; 2nd place Meats Team; Sweepstakes winner.

Under new business the following were approved:


- Transfer of \$60,000 from Student Council subaccount to an Accounting subaccount via an adjusting entry in those subaccounts.
- Transfer of \$6,000 from the lunch fund account to Child Nutrition Fund.

The meeting adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

Happy 45th Anniversary!



Love,
Allan, Daresa, Price and Perry
Michael and Dana






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At INTEGRIS Cancer Institute Enid, we believe there's a fundamental difference between treating cancer and treating the cancer patient. No two cancers are alike. More importantly, no two patients are alike. And no course of treatment is right for every patient.

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NATION ■ WORLD

Cohen's prison date postponed to May

NEW YORK (AP)—President Donald Trump's former lawyer and fixer Michael Cohen was granted a few more weeks of freedom Wednesday after his lawyers said he's still recovering from surgery and hasn't had time to get his affairs in order because he's preparing to testify before Congress.

U.S. District Judge William H. Pauley III approved delaying the start of Cohen's three-year sentence until May 6. Cohen's lawyer said he was undergoing intensive post-surgery physical therapy and spending substantial time getting ready for testimony his attorneys

say he will deliver to three congressional committees this month.

Prosecutors did not object to a "one-time" 60-day delay from Cohen's original March 6 surrender date, Cohen's lawyers said. A spokesman for the U.S. Attorney's office said Wednesday that prosecutors declined to comment.

Cohen, 52, was spotted last month in New York City wearing a hospital ID bracelet and with his right arm in a sling.

At the time, his lawyer said he'd undergone minor shoulder surgery.

Cohen was sentenced in

December to three years in prison after pleading guilty to lying to the Senate intelligence committee and campaign finance violations.

Cohen acknowledged lying to the committee about his role in a Trump business proposal in Moscow. He told lawmakers he had abandoned the project in January 2016, but he actually continued pursuing it for months after that.

He also pleaded guilty to campaign finance violations for his



Michael Cohen

involvement in payments to a former Playboy model and porn actress who had alleged affairs with Trump.

In a letter requesting the delay dated Wednesday, Cohen attorney Michael D. Monaco cited a "more fulsome letter" sent to Pauley eight days ago by Cohen that was sealed.

Monaco said in Wednesday's letter that Cohen needs to be monitored by his physician during his recovery.

Cohen's congressional testimony

"will require Mr. Cohen to spend substantial time in preparation that will limit the time he has to get his affairs in order and spend time with his family, especially given such a short period between the anticipated hearings and the present reporting date," Monaco wrote.

After the delay request was granted, Monaco and fellow Cohen lawyers Barry Spoveck and Larry Davis issued a statement saying the extra time will allow Cohen to "prepare for the expected testimony next week before congressional committees, which he welcomes."

Supreme Court: Excessive fines ban applies to states

WASHINGTON (AP)—Tyson Timbs admitted he'd sold drugs, and he accepted his sentence without a fight. What he wouldn't quietly accept was the police seizing and keeping the \$40,000 Land Rover he'd had when arrested. On Wednesday, the Supreme Court sided with him unanimously in ruling the Constitution's ban on excessive fines applies to the states as well as the federal government.

The decision, in an opinion written by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, could help efforts to rein in police seizures of property from criminal suspects.

Reading a summary of her opinion in the courtroom, Ginsburg noted that governments employ fines "out of accord with the penal goals of retribution and deterrence" because fines are a source of revenue. The 83-year-old justice missed arguments in other cases last month following lung cancer surgery, but she returned to the bench on Tuesday.

Timbs, of Marion, Ind., was charged in 2013 with selling \$400 worth of heroin. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to a year of house arrest but faced no prison time.

His biggest loss was the Land Rover he had bought with some of the life insurance money he received after his father died. Timbs still has to win one more round in court before he gets his vehicle back, but that seems to be a formality.

A judge in Indiana had ruled that taking the car was disproportionate to the severity of the crime, which carried a maximum fine of \$10,000. But Indiana's top court said the justices had never ruled that the Eighth Amendment's ban on excessive fines — like much of the rest of the Bill of Rights — applies to states as well as the federal government.

Peace declaration looms large over summit

TOKYO (AP)—With their second summit fast approaching, speculation is growing that U.S. President Donald Trump may try to persuade North Korean leader Kim Jong Un to commit to denuclearization by giving him something he wants more than almost anything else: an announcement of peace and an end to the Korean War.

Such an announcement could make history. It would be right in line with Trump's opposition to "forever wars." And, coming more than six decades after the fighting essentially ended, it just seems like common sense.

But, if not done carefully, it could open up a whole new set of problems for Washington.

Here's why switching the focus of the ongoing talks between Pyongyang and Washington from denuclearization to peace would be a risky move — and why it might be exactly what Kim wants when the two leaders meet in Hanoi on Feb. 27-28.



In this June 12, 2018, file photo, U.S. President Donald Trump meets with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on Sentosa Island in Singapore. (AP Photo)

The standoff

The Korean Peninsula was divided at the 38th parallel after World War II, with the U.S. claiming a zone of influence in the south and the Soviet Union in the north. Within five years, the two Koreas were at war.

Though the shooting stopped in 1953, the conflict ended with an armistice, essentially a cease-fire signed by North Korea, China and the 17-nation, U.S.-led United Nations Command that was supposed to be replaced by a formal peace treaty. But both sides instead settled ever deeper into Cold War hostilities marked by occasional outbreaks of violence.

The conflict in Korea is technically

America's longest war.

North Korea, which saw all of its major cities and most of its infrastructure destroyed by U.S. bombers during the war, blames what it sees as Washington's unrelenting hostility over the past 70 years as ample justification for its nuclear weapons and long-range missiles. It claims they are purely for self-defense.

Trump escalated the effort to squeeze the North with a "maximum pressure" strategy that remains in force.

Why Kim wants a treaty

Getting a formal peace treaty has been high on the wish list of every North Korean leader, starting with Kim Jong Un's grandfather, Kim Il Sung.

A peace treaty would bring interna-

tional recognition, probably at least some easing of trade sanctions, and a likely reduction in the number of U.S. troops south of the Demilitarized Zone.

If done right, it would be a huge boost to Kim's reputation at home and abroad. And, of course, to the cause of peace on the Korean Peninsula at a time when Pyongyang says it is trying to shift scarce resources away from defense so that it can boost its standard of living and modernize its economy with a greater emphasis on science and technology.

Washington has a lot to gain, too.

Trump has said he would welcome a North Korea that is more focused on trade and economic growth. Stability on the peninsula is good for South Korea's economy and probably for Japan's as well.

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TUESDAY
MARCH 5, 2019

Prairie View Elementary School
4700 West Willow Road
6:00 - 7:30pm

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Tickets \$20
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the night of the event!**

A portion of our proceeds will go to
**Enid High Project Graduation,
ODA, Chisholm and Pioneer**

Project Graduation is a committee to provide
Enid High Seniors with a safe
and fun environment
to celebrate their graduation.

(This ad made possible by the Enid News & Eagle)

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NEXTERA ENERGY RESOURCES

14th ANNUAL HONOR RED DIRT BBQ
OK • APRIL 26-27 2019

\$20,000 TOTAL PRIZE MONEY

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM - REGISTRATION DEADLINE MONDAY, APRIL 22, 2019

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The Oak Ridge Boys. (Photo provided)

Oak Ridge Boys to perform at NOC Tonkawa April 25

By Mitchell Willetts
Staff Writer

The Grammy award-winning Oak Ridge Boys are coming to Northern Oklahoma College's Tonkawa campus this spring for one night only, and tickets go on sale at 9 a.m. Tuesday.
Tickets to see the country quartet's April 25 performance are \$20 per person, or \$400 for dinner and a reserved table seating for eight, NOC spokesman Scott Cloud said.
A percentage of profits on every ticket sold will be

put given to the NOC Foundation, Cloud said.
Dinner will be served in the Renfro Center, and the concert will be held in the Kinzer Performing Arts Center, according to an NOC news release.

Tickets will be available at the NOC Development Office in the Vineyard-Library administration building, or over the phone at (580) 628-6214, the release said.

The concert is an event sponsored by the Carl and Carolyn Renfro Endowed Lectureship Program.

Established in 2006, the program supports and cultivates "cultural and community enrichment offerings" in northern Oklahoma.

House approves bill to expand gun-sale background checks

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Democratic-controlled House on Wednesday approved a measure requiring federal background checks for all firearms sales and transfers, the first major gun control legislation considered by Congress in nearly 25 years.

Democrats called the 240-190 vote a major step to end the gun lobby's grip on Washington and begin to address an epidemic of gun violence that kills thousands of Americans every year, including 17 people shot and killed at a Florida high school last year.

The bill is the first of two the House is voting on this week as Democrats

move to tighten gun laws following eight years of Republican control. The other bill would extend the review period for background checks from three to 10 days.

Both bills face dim prospects in the Republican-controlled Senate and veto threats from President Donald Trump, who said they would impose unreasonable requirements on gun owners.

Just eight Republicans joined 232 Democrats to support the bill, while only two Democrats voted against it.

The White House said in a veto message that the background-checks bill could block someone from borrowing

a firearm for self-defense or allowing a neighbor to take care of a gun while traveling.

Democrats called those arguments misleading and said gun owners have a responsibility to ensure firearms are properly handled.

The bill includes exceptions allowing temporary transfers to prevent imminent harm or for use at a target range.

The long-delayed bill would merely close loopholes to ensure that background checks are extended to private and online sales that often go undetected, Democrats said.

Okla. Agriculture Youth Council is accepting applications

By Mitchell Willetts
Staff Writer

Applications to join Oklahoma Agriculture Youth Council are available for upcoming high school seniors.

The council was established by Secretary of Agriculture Blayne Arthur "to develop future agricultural leaders in Oklahoma through professional development, industry exposure and experiential learning," according to a news release from the state Department of Agriculture.

"Agriculture needs young leaders who are enthusiastic about pursuing opportunities in the agriculture industry," Arthur said. "These youth can bring new ideas to the agency regarding policy development, regulatory functions and communication with consumers."

Only soon-to-be high school seniors beginning the 12th grade in the fall 2015 semester are eligible to apply, the release said.

Eight to 10 applicants will be selected to sit on the council, according to the department's agriculture website. Membership in 4-H or FFA is not required to apply.

A spot on the council comes with a year-long commitment, and will include visits to state agricultural businesses and organizations, opportunities to observe and interact first hand with industry professionals and experts, and to learn more about the legislative process, the release said.

There are "approximately" eight sessions throughout the year, the release said, and students will acquire leadership and professional skills, as well as receive information that will help prepare them for college.

All travel for council tours will be provided, the release said, but travel to and from the Capitol is the responsibility of the student.

The final day to apply is April 1. Applications and further information about the council are available on the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry website at www.ag.ok.gov.

Check Page B2 for sports scores!


OPEN HOUSE for
Skeleton Creek Wind Energy Center

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For additional information, visit: NextEraEnergyResources.com

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Light refreshments will be served.



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Available from members of Enid Rotary or Project Graduation

Tickets available at the door the night of the event!

A portion of our proceeds will go to Enid High Project Graduation, OBA, Chisholm and Pioneer

Project Graduation is a committee to provide Enid High Seniors with a safe and fun environment to celebrate their graduation

(This ad made possible by the Enid News & Eagle)