

# OKLAHOMA FARM & RANCH OKFR

July 2016

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Volume 1 Issue 7



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*Sissy Smith King*

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## Cause for celebration...

Hello OKFR readers and welcome to the July issue of the Oklahoma Farm & Ranch magazine. With the red, white and blue banners everywhere, we feel patriotic and humbled by our great country and the sacrifices made by those overseas. We also wish you a wonderful and safe Fourth of July celebration.

To kick this July issue off, read *Christmas in July* in the Attractions section, which takes place a week after Fourth of July. The celebration originally began as a way to honor soldiers returning from Operation Desert Storm in 1990, but the event honors all veterans today.

This month, I visited the National Museum of Horse Shoeing Tools and Hall of Honor in Sulphur, Okla. Read *History of the Horseshoe Part 1* in our Equine section. The first part of this series covers 19th century patents on horseshoes, horseshoeing literature, the aluminum horseshoe, a great horseshoe educator from Ohio and using the correct shoe.

Next, read this month's profile on Sissy Smith King, a 73-year-old woman with an amazing background. Originally from Arkansas, King was a trick rider, bull rider, bareback rider, barrel racer and rodeo photographer. King had the opportunity to travel across the United States as well as South Africa, France and Belgium doing what she loved. She still hops back in the saddle today as president of a new association—Western Oklahoma Ranch Horse Association. Learn more about this "gutsy" woman in *Cowgirl Tough*.

This month, we have added a few writers to the OKFR team. Read *Camp of Champions* by Ddee Haynes in the Equine section. Camp of Champions, located in Sayre, Okla., is a rodeo school where students can work on their rodeo skills and gain a better understanding of Christianity.

Ralph Chain is also joining the OKFR team in the Farm & Ranch section with his first article titled, *Feeding America*. Each month, Chain will show readers what happens monthly on his ranch in Canton, Okla.

Next, read about red dirt music in Dillon Steen's *The Red Dirt Scene: Aaron Woods Band* in the Attractions section. With red dirt flowing through his veins, Aaron Woods moved to Stillwater, Okla., from Kansas to pursue a career in the music industry.

Each month, read *Joanne's Day Trips* in the Attractions section as she writes about her experiences at unusual and quaint restaurants across the state. In her first article, Jones visited Blue Moon Café in Ada, Okla., known for their fried green tomatoes.

If you have an event, photo or topic idea that you would like to see in Oklahoma Farm & Ranch, send it our way at editor@okfronline.com. Keep up with new OKFR updates on our Facebook and Twitter pages. For more information or subscription information, visit our website [www.OKFRonline.com](http://www.OKFRonline.com).

Until next month,

*Laci A. Jones*





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# OKFR / socializing

## ON THE COVER

Sissy Smith King, president of the Western Oklahoma Ranch Horse Association, is a 73-year-old woman with a background as a trick rider, bull rider, bareback rider, barrel racer and rodeo photographer in the 1960s. Originally from Arkansas, King had the opportunity to compete and perform in South Africa. After taking a short break from riding, King hopped back in the saddle. Today, she enjoys showing with her daughters and riding her cutting horse, I'll Be Shining. (Photo by Laci Jones)

## TWITTER FEED

 OKFR Magazine @OKFRMagazine · Jun 1  
Goodbye May, Hello June!



## FACEBOOK WALL



Oklahoma Farm & Ranch

Published by Laci Jones [?] · June 3 at 8:50am · 🌐

It's Friday and National Donut Day! Grab yourself a donut or two to celebrate this perfect day! #NationalDonutDay



👍 Janet Melton Ingle, Laci Jones and 2 others



Write a comment...



Oklahoma Farm & Ranch

Published by Hootsuite [?] · June 7 at 12:05pm · 🌐

Known for great food and amazing history, Lucille's Roadhouse in Weatherford, Okla., should be on your bucket list. Read more about the restaurant in the #June issue of #OKFR.

Link: <http://ow.ly/n4PM3010zvo>

# Join in the conversation online!

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Feel free to drop us a line at [editor@okfronline.com](mailto:editor@okfronline.com) or share your comments on our social media page. You might even see your name in the next issue!







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# Anaplasmosis



**R**ecently, Kansas State University held a symposium on anaplasmosis to talk about the disease. The summer of 2015 was a bad year for anaplasmosis in Kansas. According to Ram Raghavan, Ph.D. professor from Kansas State University, the state not only had more cases last year but cases were found in previously unaffected areas.

According to some people, Oklahoma did not fare any better. Many farmers and ranchers had trouble dealing with the disease. As the summer approaches, ranchers need to get their control measures in place.

Anaplasmosis is caused by a micro-organism that infects red blood cells. The rickettsial gram negative bacteria, *Anaplasma marginale*, resides in ticks and ruminants both domestic and wild. Although sheep and goats may have anaplasmosis infections, the disease is primarily a problem in cattle. The disease occurs in several regions of the world. It has

been found in every state in the United States except for Alaska and Hawaii.

How do cattle get anaplasmosis? The micro-organism maybe transmitted when a tick that is infected with the pathogen feeds on a susceptible cow. Another way transmission occurs is through flies. Flies bite infected cows and can transfer contaminated blood to a susceptible cow when they bite it.

Procedures like castration, dehorning, or dirty needles may also transfer contaminated red blood cells from animal to animal when good sanitation is not practiced. Unborn calves may become infected in the uterus from infected cows. These calves are born persistently infected with *A. marginale*.

Once an animal is infected, clinical signs of the disease appear in three to six weeks. Severity of the disease depends on the age of the animal and virulence of the *A. marginale*. In most young cattle

less than two years of age, illness is rare or mild with very few cattle dying. Cattle that are two years or older tend to show the clinical signs of the disease.

Typical clinical signs include fever, anemia, weakness, respiratory distress, lowered milk production, abortion, jaundice and death. Cattle that survive an infection will be persistently infected and serve as a reservoir for the pathogen.

In persistently infected cattle, a balance exists between the pathogen and the cow's immune response, which keeps the micro-organism from constantly causing clinical signs of the disease. This balance may be upset if a cow is stressed or has some other infection going on which lowers the animal's immunity. The end result may be a reoccurrence of the clinical signs of the disease.

Diagnosing the disease is normally based on history, clinical signs, and finding the micro-  
**See DISEASE page 11**



**BY BARRY  
WHITWORTH**

[barry.whitworth@okstate.edu](mailto:barry.whitworth@okstate.edu)

## PHOTO DETAILS

Clinical signs of anaplasmosis include fever, anemia, weakness, respiratory distress, lowered milk production, abortion, jaundice and death. (Photo by Laci Jones)



# Disease

organism on a stained blood smear microscopically. Stained blood smears are not very reliable unless the animal is showing clinical signs. Therefore, it is hard to detect on a blood smear in persistently infected cattle and in cattle that are in the early stages of an infection. Other blood test would need to be used during these stages of the infection.

Treatment of the disease can be difficult. If clinical signs of the disease are severe, the stress of treatment may result in the death of the animal.

Treatment with tetracycline is helpful if initiated early in the disease, but maybe of little value in the latter course of the disease. Producers should keep in mind that injections of tetracycline reduce clinical signs of the disease but do not eliminate the pathogen.

In cows that are not eating, B vitamins and rumen inoculants may stimulate appetite. Blood transfusion maybe needed in cows with severe anemia, but once again the stress of the transfusion may result in death. Also, cattle with clinical signs of anaplasmosis need to be isolated since they harbor large numbers of *A. marginale*.

Under normal circumstance, totally eliminating the pathogen from a cow is not practical. One research trial did eliminate the *A. marginale* by feeding chlortetracycline at a dose above what is recommended and for a long period of time.

Under the current rules, however, this is not legal. Also, eliminating the micro-organism would make the cow susceptible to infection again which would probably result in clinical disease.

Since preventing infection is not an option, producers must focus on managing exposure and controlling the clinical signs of the disease. One option is to maintain a herd with *A. marginale* so that young animals are sure to be exposed to the pathogen. This probably occurs in most herds in Oklahoma, but no studies have been done to verify this.


Vaccinations will not prevent infection but may prevent disease. Vaccines are available but have side effects so consult with your veterinarian before using them.

Feeding tetracycline prevents clinical signs of the disease if consumed in adequate amounts. Unfortunately, this does not protect all cows because some cows eat too much and some eat too little of the mineral mix.

Also, since bulls have trouble consuming enough mineral to be

adequately protected, they make good candidates for vaccinations. Ranchers should remember that controlling ticks and flies should decrease exposure to the organism. Producers should focus on good hygiene. When cattle are being worked, equipment needs to be kept clean.

Needles should be changed between each cow to decrease the risk of blood transfer. Finally, it is important to recognize sick cows early and treat them with tetracycline to reduce the spread of the pathogen to other cows.

In Oklahoma, anaplasmosis is and always will be a problem. Producers should remember to observe their cattle frequently for illness and intervene early in the disease process. Consulting with your veterinarian and developing a prevention and control program will be to your advantage. 



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The advertisement features a white EZGO golf cart with a black roof and large, treaded tires parked on a grassy field. A man in a white shirt and jeans is walking towards the cart. In the background, there is a wooden fence and a line of trees under a cloudy sky. The EZGO logo is prominently displayed at the top left, and the KINNUNEN logo is at the bottom left. The contact information is at the bottom right.



# WORKING HARD IN COMFORT

**By Derek Price****www.cargazing.com**

If you've got to work hard, why not do it in the lap of luxury? The ethos of fancy corporate suites is hitting the world of pickup trucks in a big way as manufacturers explore the upper limits of pricing and equipping their luxury pickups this year.

It's a strange combination – mixing the muddy, gritty, Paul Bunyan toughness of a heavy-duty truck with the highbrow sophistication of leather, wood and every imaginable gadget – but I don't blame people for wanting it.

And one of the nicest ways to work hard is in this truck, the GMC Sierra HD Denali.

With an available 6.6-liter Duramax diesel and Allison six-speed transmission, it's based on the same heavy-duty GMC platform that can tow up to 23,200 pounds.

While the ordinary Sierra 2500 sets a high standard for refinement – including the quietest ride I've ever experienced in a three-quarter-ton truck – the Denali trim takes that to an insane level. It's so silent, supple and comfortable that you could almost mistake it for a Cadillac.

It does a great job hiding the fact that it can tow a few African

elephants.

New for 2016, an available digital power-steering system makes this big truck even easier to handle. It adjust the amount of power assist depending on the conditions, so you'll get easier steering in parking lots, for example, without making the steering too sensitive at highway speeds. It also makes changes to the steering boost based on the loads you're carrying or trailer you're pulling.

I though it was a subtle difference compared to last year's truck, but GMC claims it can reduce steering effort by up to 20 percent at low speeds.

And if you think of work trucks as being bare-bones, stripped-down vehicles, you won't believe all the electronics in the Denali. It does a great job integrating high-tech features in useful ways.

I'm a particularly big fan of the customizable eight-inch driver display behind the steering wheel. You can adjust behind the vehicle's settings and see audio and navigation right in front of you.

Other standard luxuries on the Denali truck include HID headlamps with GMC's handsome signature LED lighting, a new remote locking tailgate, a Bose sound system, wireless phone charging, heated and ventilated

front seats and some of the nicest leather and wood trim you can find in any truck.

Designers did a great job with the small details on this truck, making it one of my favorite looking pickups with a distinctive grille, classy body trim and little touches like the Denali logo incorporated into the spray-on bed liner.

Another change for the GMC's heavy-duty models is the addition of a goose-neck/fifth-wheel trailer prep package. Instead of having to use aftermarket vendors, you can set up your truck to tow larger trailers straight from the factory.

And we're left with one big question to answer. How much does all this heavy-duty Denali luxury cost?

It starts at \$55,310 and can climb considerably higher when you add options like the Duramax diesel engine or rear-seat entertainment system. My test truck rang up over \$65,000 with the diesel powertrain.

**What was tested?**

2016 GMC Sierra 2500 Denali 4WD (\$57,315). Options: Duramax Plus package (\$7,345). Price as tested (including \$1,195 destination charge): \$65,855

**Wheelbase:** 153.7 in.**Length:** 239.4 in.**Width:** 80.5 in.**Height:** 78.2 in.**Engine:** Duramax 6.6-liter turbodiesel (397hp, 765 lb.-ft.)**Transmission:** Six-speed automatic**Ratings**

Style: 10

Performance: 9

Price: 6


Handling: 8

Ride: 9

Comfort: 10

Quality: 9

Overall: 9

Why buy it? It's one of the most comfortable, luxurious and capable trucks you can buy. It offers monster towing capacity with the Duramax diesel engine. 

## RANCH RIGS & FARM FIXTURES

**PHOTO DETAILS**

Designers did a great job with the small details on this truck, making it one of my favorite looking pickups with a distinctive grille, classy body trim and little touches like the Denali logo incorporated into the spray-on bed liner. (Courtesy photo)



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# FEEDING AMERICA



**A**t Chain Ranch, we have really been busy in April and May. I do not think people realize where all their food comes from. I think it should be required that all politicians who run for office have to come and spend 30 days on a farm or ranch to see what we go through to feed America.

In April and May, we started working calves on our different locations, and that is quite a job. We have great employees, and each crew helps each other when we work calves.

After, we shipped all of our yearlings. The heavy weight cattle went to the Cattleman's Choice Feedyard in Gage, Okla. The lighter weight cattle went to our Flint Hill's grass where we double-stock pastures. These cattle will go to the feedlot when they come off. These feedlots are where you grow the cattle the last few months of their lives. They are fed a ration of grains that fat-

tens them, and this is where you get the great flavor and taste of a tender steak.

Then, we just finished artificially inseminating 700 heifers and approximately 400 registered Red Angus cows. It is amazing how you can breed 700 heifers to a few light-weight bulls. We do this to keep the birth weight down for calving ease on the heifers and keep good genetics on our commercial cows. We keep our best heifers and breed the top end and they will then be added to our commercial cow herd.


Also, we just finished putting up silage, a chopped forage we use for feeding our cattle. It used to take 10 to 12 men, two or three weeks putting up silage, bringing their bedrolls and staying until harvest was finished. My mother and grandmother cooked three meals a day for these men. My, how that is different from today! We used to do it all by hand, now a company now comes in and puts

up 1,000 tons a day in plastic bags and never touching it.

We also had three balers going, baling wheat and rye hay, and we are now getting the combines ready for harvest. It is really closing in fast. We have several combines, and we try to cut most of our own wheat here in Oklahoma and Kansas.

We hold our breath before we get our wheat cut, as hail and wind can harvest it overnight. One year we had five combines in Kansas ready to cut wheat. That night all of the wheat was hailed out. How quickly that can change your harvest.

Within the last several years, we have been harvesting canola. Canola aids as a rotational crop but is a different grain than we are used to raising. Helping aerate the ground, last year we planted 250 acres of radishes.

That's what we've been doing the last month or so. Until next time. 



**BY RALPH CHAIN**

## PHOTO DETAILS

Chain ranch baled wheat and rye hay and are now getting the combines ready for harvest. (Courtesy of Chain Ranch)



# Avoiding Heat Stress



**A**s the temperatures continue to climb as we move into the hottest part of the summer, cattle producers need to be thinking about heat stress and how to minimize the effects due to the heat. Whether in a pasture or a feedlot, heat stress can have an impact on cattle.

According to Glenn Selk, Oklahoma State University Cooperative Extension cattle specialist, most areas of Oklahoma have 10 or more days each year above 100 degrees Fahrenheit and 70 or more days with high temperatures above 90 degrees Fahrenheit. Most cow/calf operations will be working cattle on days when heat stress to cattle is likely.

“Cattle have an upper critical temperature approximately 20 degrees cooler than humans,” Selk explained. “When humans are uncomfortable at 80 degrees

Fahrenheit and feel hot at 90 degrees Fahrenheit, cattle may well be in the danger zone for extreme heat stress.”

Humidity is an additional stressor that intensifies the heat by making body heat dissipation more difficult, he added.

Research has identified four main areas that influence any particular animal’s response to heat stress.

Those four factors are genetics, health, production status, and previous exposure to heat. Lighter colored cattle generally show less heat than darker colored cattle. Body temperature from cattle with dark hides can have a two degrees Fahrenheit higher core body temperature.

Feedlot cattle treated for pneumonia any time prior to slaughter have a higher respiration rate under stressful conditions. Feed-

ing programs can also impact the effect from heat stress. Whether in a pasture or feedlot system, the diet being fed to cattle impacts the amount of heat generated in the digestive process.

If summer time calls for cattle to be gathered and put through a working chute for immunizations, implanting, dehorning, artificial insemination or other operations, Selk recommended following a few rules.

**1.** During hot weather, cattle should be worked before 8 a.m., if possible. Certainly all cattle working must be complete by about 10 a.m. While it may seem to make sense to work cattle after sun down, they need at least six hours of night cooling before enough heat is dissipated to cool down from an extremely hot day.

**2.** Cattle that must be handled  
**See HEAT page 17**



**BY MARTY NEW**

marty.new@okstate.edu

## PHOTO DETAILS

Lighter colored cattle generally show less heat than darker colored cattle. (Photo by Laci Jones)



# Heat

during hot weather should spend less than 30 minutes in the working facility.

Drylot pens and corrals loaded with cattle will have very little if any air movement. Cattle will gain heat constantly while they are in these areas. Therefore a time limit of one-half hour in the confined cattle working area should limit the heat gain and therefore the heat stress.

3. Make every effort to see that cool, fresh, water is available to cattle in close confined areas for any length of time. During hot weather conditions cattle will drink more than one percent of their body weight per hour. Producers need to be certain that the water supply lines are capable of keeping up with demand and enough space at water tanks, if working cattle during hot weather. ☒

Temperature Humidity Index (THI)													
		Relative Humidity											
		30%	35%	40%	45%	50%	55%	60%	65%	70%	75%	80%	85%
<b>T</b>	<b>100°</b>	84	85	86	87	88	90	91	92	93	94	95	97
<b>E</b>	<b>98°</b>	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	93	94	95
<b>M</b>	<b>96°</b>	81	82	83	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93
<b>P</b>	<b>94°</b>	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91
<b>E</b>	<b>92°</b>	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	85	86	87	88	89
<b>R</b>	<b>90°</b>	78	79	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	86	87
<b>A</b>	<b>88°</b>	76	77	78	79	80	81	81	82	83	84	85	86
<b>T</b>	<b>86°</b>	75	76	77	78	78	79	80	81	81	82	83	84
<b>U</b>	<b>84°</b>	74	75	75	76	77	78	78	79	80	80	81	82
<b>R</b>	<b>82°</b>	73	73	74	75	75	76	77	77	78	79	79	80
<b>E</b>	<b>80°</b>	72	72	73	73	74	75	75	76	76	77	78	78
	<b>78°</b>	70	71	71	72	73	73	74	74	75	75	76	76
	<b>76°</b>	69	70	70	71	71	72	72	73	73	74	72	75
THI = Tdbf - ( 0.55 - ( 0.55 x ( RH / 100 ) ) ) x ( Tdbf - 58 )													
		Normal <74			Alert 75-78			Danger 79-83			Emergency >84		

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# Alternative Livestock: The Emu

Cattle. Pigs. Chickens. Emus? If you are looking for alternative livestock, emus may be exactly what you are looking for.

Not to be confused with the ostrich from Africa, the emu is a flightless bird from Australia. Walter and Wanda raised emus for 23 years, and they had 150 birds at one time.

"When Walter was ready to retire, we were looking for something we could do in the country," Wanda explained. "We had enough of the large cities, and it took us about a year and a half to find what we wanted."

The couple decided to start selling emu products because of Bishop's 40 years of experience as a chemist. They purchased four three-month-old birds from a man near Blackwell, Okla., and discovered they had too many females.

"We checked around and found someone who had the same problem but in reverse," Wanda explained. "We boarded his birds, so we had six pair."

The birds did not lay eggs for two years, so they purchased oil from a lady in Nebraska to sell in their store in Tulsa. The couple sold emu products as well as other Made in Oklahoma (MIO) products.

To get the emus to start laying, Wanda recommended painting a football green and placing it in the nest in the bird house. Emu eggs are the equivalent to 12 chicken eggs in size, and they lay once every three days.

Normally, the eggs are incubated, but they let one male hatch a nest. Bishop said the male was protective. He never bit anyone, but the bird would hiss if someone got too close.

The male bird pushed one egg out of the nest every day, and Bishop put the egg back in its

place.

"I marked the egg," Bishop explained, "and it was always the same egg. The egg was non-fertile, and the male bird knew that somehow."

The male emus hatch and raise the baby emus. In fact, the female abandons the eggs in the wild in Australia.

"If the female doesn't leave, she will likely kill the little ones," he said. "Nobody understands why."

The females mate with five or six different males in the wild because the Australian dingo hunt the young emus.

Mating season for emus starts in October and runs through March. The female emus have an air sac in their chest under the skin which serves a purpose during mating season.

"During mating season, it sounds like the Indians are out," he explained. "It sounds like 'boom, boom, boom, boom.'"

The males will "grunt like pigs" during mating season, Wanda added.

"When the eggs are laid, we steal them and incubate them," Bishop explained. "It takes 48 to 52 days for the eggs to hatch in an incubator."

The incubator had rubber rollers that turned every four hours. The rollers kept the yolk from sticking to the inside of the shell. However, the incubator never rolled the eggs completely over. Like humans, emus also have an umbilical cord, and it can wrap around the bird's neck if the egg is constantly rolled over.

After a couple weeks, Wanda laid the eggs out on a table and used a stethoscope to listen to the birds. When she whistled to them, they chirped back.

"You can't candle emu eggs like chicken eggs," Wanda explained. "You can't see through



the dark shell."

The birds would eventually break a small hole in the egg to get outside air. When the birds start growing, the egg falls apart. When the eggs hatch, the yolk, containing immunes, is inside of the young birds.

"They have a great big belly when they are little because of that egg yolk," Bishop explained.

Once in a while, the egg yolk is located on the outside of the bird after it hatches. He said the bird never survives, but they have never had a bird with that condition.

The bird's feathers are striped at birth, but they gain their adult feathers a few months later.

Emus also grow fast. Within 48 hours after they are born, the baby birds are six inches tall. By See EMU page 19



**BY LACI JONES**

editor@okfronline.com

**PHOTO DETAILS**

Mating season for emus starts in October and runs through March. (Courtesy photo)





An adult emu can have about 20 pounds of fat. Ninety percent of their fat is located under the skin on their back. (Courtesy photo)

## Emu

Continued from page 18

three months, the emus grow to three feet tall.

"I'm six feet tall," Bishop explained. "An adult bird can look me right in the eye."

Males are actually smaller than the females, he added. Owners need to make sure the shelters are safe for their large size.

"[Owners] need to have a six to seven-foot tall fence," Wanda explained. "They don't fly, but they can climb over that fence when stressed."

Emus are stressed during transportation and can get "excited" by helicopters, Wanda explained. Rain and snow does not bother the birds, but they do not like the wind ruffling their feathers.

The Bishops built their pens into quarters. If an emu got out of its pen, it would be in another quarter. The emus had access to three-sided shelters. Also, the fence cannot have any openings

where the birds can stick their heads through, she added.

Emus can do some damage with their sharp claws. To ensure his safety, Bishop would move an emu by holding the bird's wings from behind and walking it forward.

Unlike most birds, emus do not have gizzards. Emus cannot digest whole kernel corn, but they can eat two pounds of pelletized feed per day. The feed has probiotics to help digest feed and no antibiotics.

"We free-fed them all of the time," Bishop explained. "We also have fresh water constantly available."

Emus are attracted to anything shiny, the couple added. Metal can get into their stomach, get infected and cause death.

"Emus are like any other animals," Bishop added. "You are going to lose some."

An emu can live 20 to 30 years, and they are hardy birds, Wanda said. They will be "half-dead" before an owner will notice they are sick.

"We never sold an emu," he explained. "We raised the bird, had the fat processed, ate the meat and sold the oil."

Wanda said emu meat is a great alternative for consumers who are health conscious because the meat is lean.

An adult emu, that has been feed right, will have about 20 pounds of fat. He said 20 pounds of fat can equal two gallons of oil, which is worth about \$4,000 in retail.

The fat is rendered and refined in a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulated processing facility.

"Ninety percent of the fat on the emu is right under the skin on their back," Bishop explained.

"No chemicals are added to the oil. The meat is processed, vacuum-packed and frozen."

The 100 percent emu oil can heal anything twice as fast as anything else on the market, Wanda said.

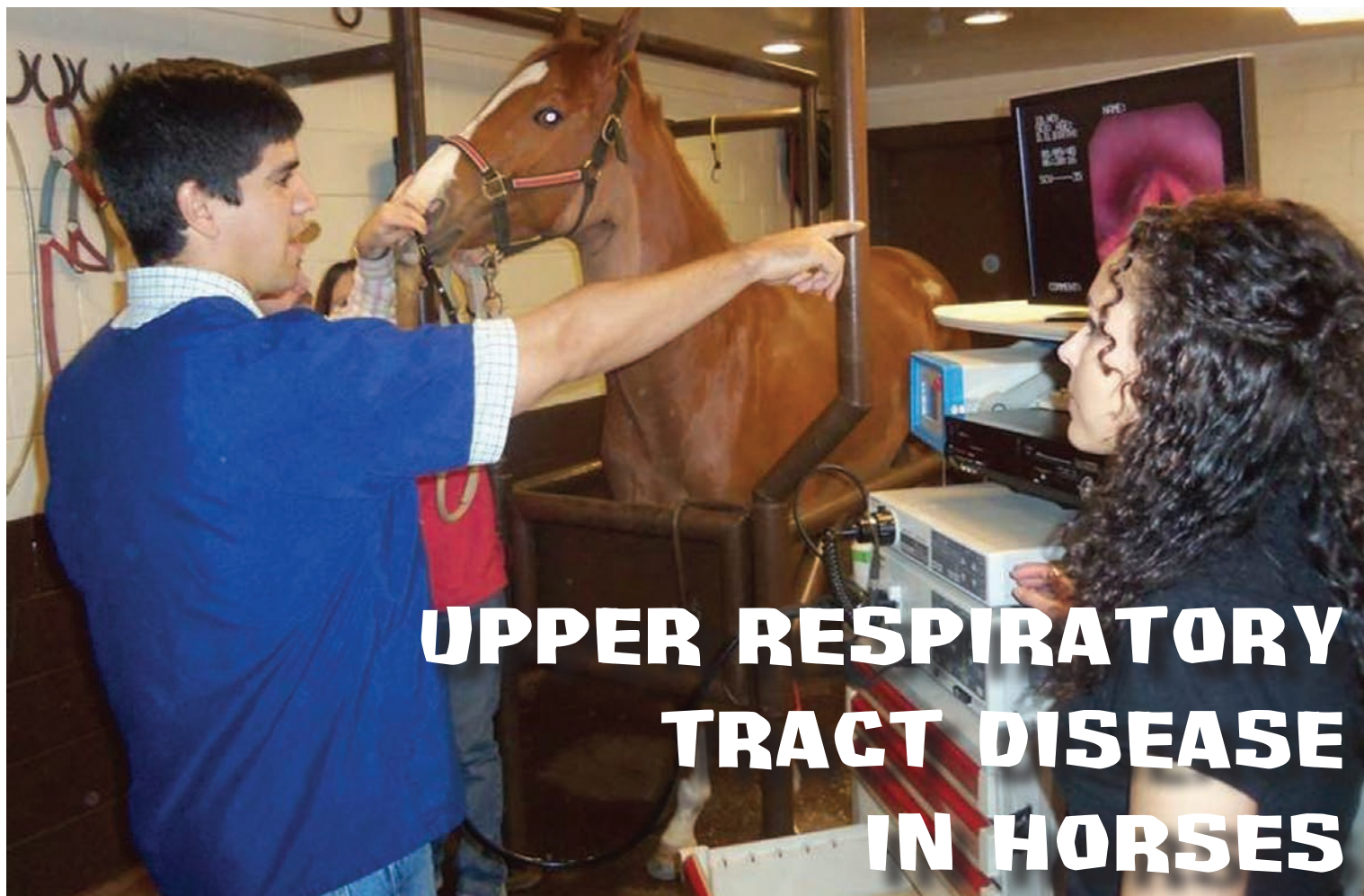
Judy Smith, the Bishop's former vendor, used emu oil to help heal and prevent scarring from a second and third degree burn on her wrist. The burn healed and there is now no visible scarring.

"The products are fantastic—medically speaking," Bishop added.

While they no longer raise emus due to health reasons, the couple said they miss the birds. He said people often recognize emus as pets and question why someone would butcher them.

"They are an alternative livestock," Bishop responded. "People raise them to butcher them for their fat." ❧





# UPPER RESPIRATORY TRACT DISEASE IN HORSES

The upper respiratory tract of a horse extends from the nostrils to the larynx, also known as the voice box, which is located at the level of the throat latch. Problems arising from the respiratory tract, especially the upper respiratory tract, are the second most common cause for decreased performance in a horse.

Lameness lays claim to the most common cause of poor performance. Upper respiratory tract disease usually results in decreased diameter of the airway secondary to an anatomical dysfunction or growth of a mass or abscess. Horses with upper respiratory tract disease will usually have a decrease in performance or make a noise when performing, secondary to the decreased diameter of the airway. The noise can be described as a rattle, wheeze, whistle or roar depending on the underlying cause

of the noise. Horses can also have nasal discharge that is mucoid and white or blood tinged.

When taking your horse to the veterinarian to be evaluated for a possible upper respiratory tract disease, you should be prepared to answer the following questions:

1. When does the horse make noise (light exercise vs hard exercise)(head flexion or no head flexion)?
2. Is the noise consistent or intermittent?
3. Has your horse had any surgeries performed on the upper respiratory tract?
4. Has your horse had any decrease in the level of performance (fatiguing faster, not running as fast, etc.)?
5. Have you used any medication for the suspected upper respiratory disease? If so did the medication help the horse?

6. Does the horse have any nasal discharge? If so, which nostril does it come from (left, right or both)? What color is the discharge and does exercise make the discharge worse?

After getting a detailed history, the next step for your veterinarian is to perform a complete physical exam, focusing on the head and neck region. Your veterinarian will be looking for any asymmetry between the left and right side of your horse's face, as well as any swelling or masses on your horse's head or throat latch region.

If warranted, your veterinarian will perform a resting upper airway endoscopic exam. This exam will allow your veterinarian to examine the airway from the level of the nostrils to the lower trachea. It should be done with the horse standing and restrained, but not See **RESPIRATORY** page 21



BY LAUREN LAMB, DVM, MS

## PHOTO DETAILS

A resting upper airway endoscopy is performed with the horse standing and restrained in stocks. (Photo by Lauren Lamb)



# RESPIRATORY

sedated. Sedation will artificially change the function of the several structures in the upper airway, which will result in an incorrect diagnosis and treatment.

Resting upper airway endoscopy will provide an abundance of information in regard to your horse's upper airway at rest; however, it will give very little information in regard to the function of the upper airway when your horse is exercising.

Many veterinarians have started using dynamic endoscopy in addition to resting endoscopy. Dynamic endoscopy is used in cases with a history of exercise intolerance or noise when performing, and the findings on resting endoscopy do not point to a specific disease.

The reason for the increased use of the dynamic endoscope stems from the fact that most upper respiratory tract diseases are dynamic (only seen when exercising), and resting endoscopy does not allow us to examine the airway while your horse is exercising. The ability to examine the horse's upper airway while performing allows veterinarians to more accurately diagnose and treat horses with upper respiratory tract disease.

The two methods of dynamic endoscopy are treadmill endoscopy and over-the-ground endoscopy. Treadmill endoscopy is an older method of scoping a horse while it is exercising but still has significant value. Treadmills are only located at large referral centers and are not portable.

When performing a treadmill endoscopic exam, the horse is running on a large treadmill while a veterinarian and assistance stand next to the treadmill and perform the endoscopic exam through the right nostril. Usually two to three additional assistances help keep the horse moving forward on the treadmill and control the treadmill

speed.

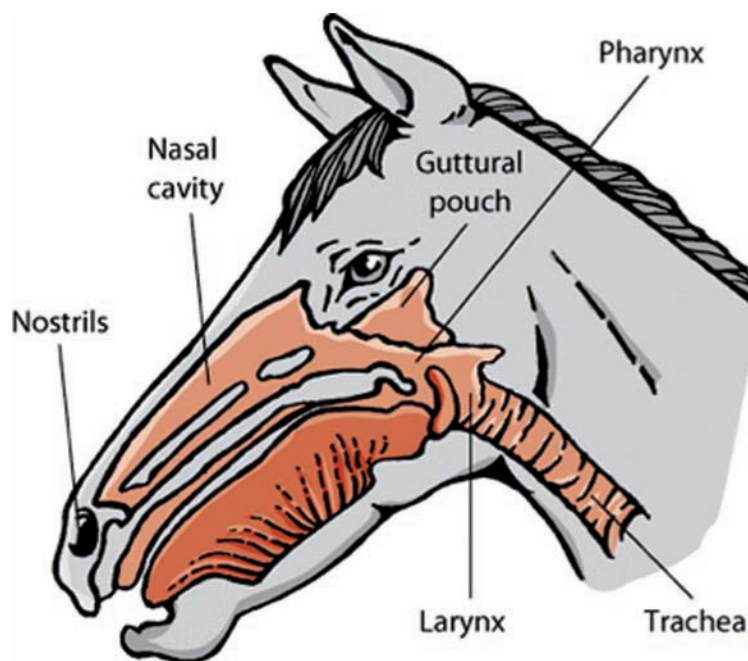
Over-the-ground endoscopy is a newer technique for examining horses while they are exercising. Over-the-ground endoscopy uses a scope that has been modified and attached to a large leather halter or harness.

The scope is then placed over the bridle and any other additional tack, and the scope is placed in the right nostril. The horse is asked to perform under saddle with the scope in place. The equipment for over-the-ground endoscopy is small and portable, allowing the veterinarian to travel to the owner and horse.

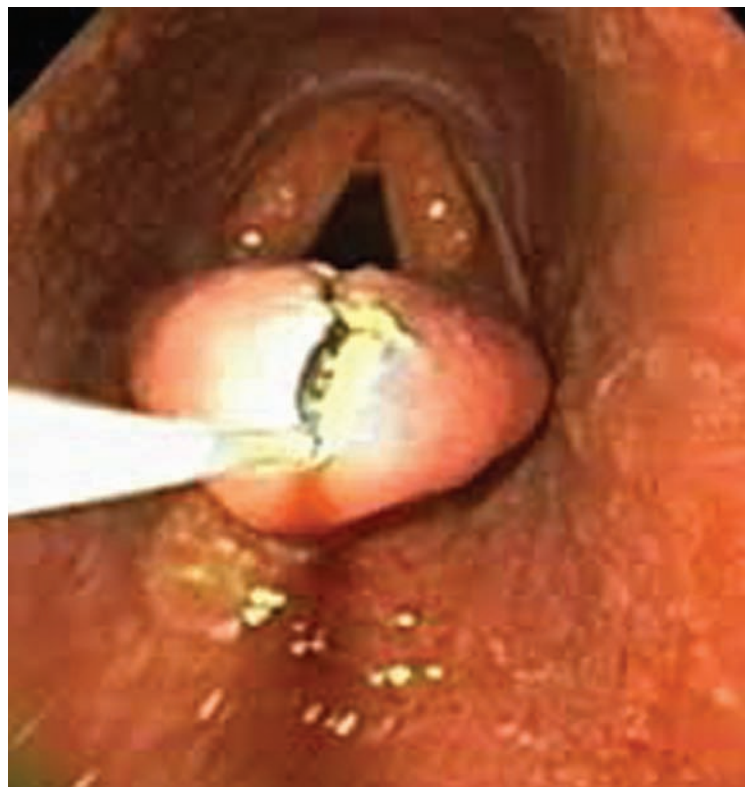
The key to achieving an accurate diagnosis with dynamic endoscopy (treadmill or over-the-ground) is to replicate the horse's normal work routine. This includes the tack being used, head carriage, environment, speed and duration of work. For example, some horses only display their upper respiratory tract abnormality at high speed and against completion (running in company), where others will only display an abnormality when exercising with a flexed head carriage.

Some of the more common upper airway diseases include left recurrent laryngeal neuropathy (paralyzed flapper), dorsal displacement of the soft palate (swallowing tongue or flipping palate), epiglottic entrapment, and sinusitis or sinus infection. These diseases can be diagnosed with resting and dynamic endoscopy. Some examples of upper respiratory tract abnormalities only diagnosed with dynamic endoscopy include axial deviation of the aryepiglottic fold, epiglottic retroversion and pharyngeal collapse.

The key to treating a horse with upper respiratory disease is getting the correct diagnosis. This, more times than not, is easier said than done. Another variable that needs




Regions of the horse that can be visualized with resting upper airway endoscopy. (Courtesy of Lauren Lamb)



Laser Surgery is used to fix epiglottic entrapment. (Photo by Lauren Lamb)

to be considered is that many horses will have multiple upper airway diseases that need to be addressed in order to get the horse performing at a high level again.

Once the correct diagnosis is made and therapy is initiated, most horses will have a good prognosis to return to a full athletic potential. 



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# Camp of Champions



**B**y the time you read this, the three rodeo arenas will be empty, the bunk house neat and tidy, all the stalls cleaned and the only thing you will hear is the western Oklahoma wind blowing.

Looking at what seems like a deserted camp, the common passerby would have never imagined a short month ago that for six days in a row all three arenas were overflowing with kids, horses and livestock, the bunk house was full of messy beds, dirty clothes and rodeo gear, horses were stomping around in the stalls and the air was filled with voices, laughter, bellowing calves, and an atmosphere of hope, try and inspiration that is so hard to explain to a person who has never experienced the comradery found in the rodeo world and at the Camp of Champions.

You are probably wondering by now what the Camp of Champions is and what is all the hype? The Camp of Champions is a Christian Rodeo Camp located in Sayre, Okla. I may be a little

partial, but I would say this is one of the most unique rodeo camps you will ever find.

C of C incorporates a world class rodeo school in both a spiritual and positive atmosphere. Instructors for the camp are a virtual "Who's Who" of the Professional rodeo world. This group of elite cowboys and cowgirls not only walk the walk of a professional rodeo performer, but they also walk with the Lord.

The camp is operated strictly by a volunteer staff. These volunteers cook, clean, help in the arenas—whatever is needed to keep everything running smoothly. Some volunteers come for a day while others stay for the duration often using their vacation time.

Pastor Andy Taylor, a former bull rider in his younger days, came across a similar camp in Idaho during his travels. With the help of friends, Taylor's dream became a reality, opening the arena gates 14 years ago.

The first camp was just for boys ages six through 17 and

brought in 60 boys. The boys' camp was so successful a decision was made to add a camp for girls as well. Thirty-five girls attended the first year. Last year the camp attendance brought in 60 girls and 90 boys.

The boys' camp features calf riding, steer riding, junior bull riding, bareback riding, saddle bronc riding, calf roping, tie down roping and team roping. Events for the girls' camp include barrel racing, pole bending, goat tying and break-away roping.

Each event is based on age and experience and the students can only participate in one event during the three-day camp. Girls are broken out into events while the boys are broken out into ages and events due to the variance of events. After working with the instructors, the kids are then broken down further to levels of experience and ability.

A normal day at camp begins with taking care of the animals, eating breakfast and a short meet-  
**See CHAMPIONS page 24**

**BY DDEE  
HAYNES**

## PHOTO DETAILS

Each event at Camp of Champions is based on age and experience and the students. (Courtesy photo)



# Champions

Continued from page 23

ing under the tent with instructors before heading into the designated arenas. The kids and instructors work hard, taking a break for lunch before heading out again.


At the end of the day, the animals are tended to, dinner is served and everyone meets under the tent for church services. The music is live and upbeat under the tent, testimonies are shared and the unconditional love of our heavenly Father is preached not only through words but actions.

After lunch on day three, the last day of camp, an awards ceremony is held. Each camper receives a picture of themselves with their instructors and a participant certificate. Three awards are also given for both the boys' and girls' camps: The Rick Hudson Award, Paul Luchsinger Award and the

Aaron Custer Award. The names of these awards are individuals who died but were great men of faith and character.


Students are nominated by their individual team instructors and then a board of trustees will make the final decision. In a nutshell, the criteria for the awards is based on attitude, character, willingness to learn and improve, and sportsmanship.

At the conclusion of camp any student (with permission of their parents) may be baptized. It is so heartwarming to see not only the students but parents, grandparents and others step up and give their lives to the Lord! Camp of Champions motto – making Champions in and out of the arena!

For more information visit [www.justasyouare.com](http://www.justasyouare.com). 



Camp of Champions incorporates a world class rodeo school in both a spiritual and positive atmosphere. (Courtesy photo)



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# History of the Horseshoe: Part 1

If it were not for the horseshoe and wagon wheel, the United States would not have been founded, according to Lee Liles.

The owner of the National Museum of Horse Shoeing Tools and Hall of Honor said Oklahoma is the grandest example in the world.

Horseshoe books date back to 400 B.C. In fact, the oldest horseshoe at the museum in Sulphur, Okla., is more than 500 years old from Europe.

"I don't like going back much farther than 1860 because we don't have the documentation to back it up," Liles explained. "You got a few magazines like the Harper Weekly and the Wallaces' Report, but you want to verify the facts."

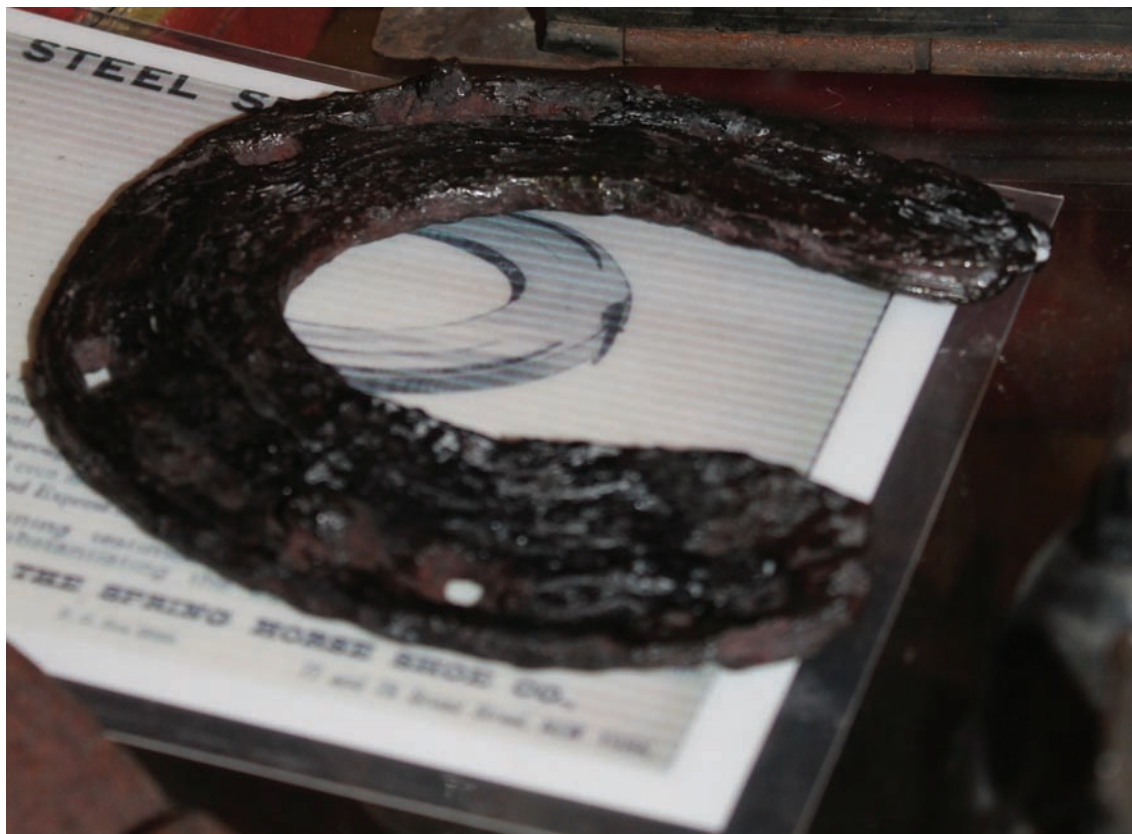
## 19th Century Patents

The first patent on a horseshoe manufacturing machine in the United States was issued in 1834 to Henry Burden, a Scottish-born industrial engineer. By 1850, Burden had more than 50 different patents on his machines at Burden Iron Works in Troy, N.Y., Liles added.

This was all before the first horseshoe nail patent, which was issued in 1863 to Daniel Dodge in Keeseville, N.Y. The horseshoe nail is the most difficult nail in history to manufacture, Liles explained.

"It's got a lot of different tapers to it," he explained. "The nail needs to be strong and durable enough to drive through a foot, come out, be turned over 180 degrees and clenched down in the horse's foot."

The nail industry has changed a lot throughout the years, Liles said. In 1863, the horseshoe nail was made from Swedish Iron, but copper nails have become popular in recent years. The oldest nail company left in the United States was the Capewell Horse Nail



Company owned by the Mustad family. The nail company started in 1881, and they recently moved out of the country.

"All of these major shoe companies, tool companies and nail companies were located in the northeast United States," he explained. "That's where the population was. There weren't any companies located down here in the South like Oklahoma or Texas."

## Horseshoeing Literature

Most information on horseshoeing actually came from Germany, Liles explained. His favorite German books were first written in 1861 by Leisring and Hardman. In 1882, Lungwitz was added as a co-writer.

"[Leisring, Hardman and Lungwitz] were the main vets at the Royal Veterinary College," Liles said. "[Lungwitz] wrote his own first book in 1884 and wrote

24 editions. Nobody else has ever written that many books."

Liles said books are the greatest assets for education. In 1866, the U.S. Congress adapted the cavalry books would be written on the Dunbar System.

"Alexander Dunbar was a person whom our Federal Government paid to teach anatomy to horseshoers back in that era," Liles explained.

John Kerman, who was running a horse shoeing school at Fort Carlisle, Penn., wrote the book written on the Dunbar System. The first American horseshoe book was written in 1871. In 1902, Kerman came to the shoeing school at Fort Riley, Kan.

"The cavalry has been the main source of horseshoers in this country up to the 1950s," Liles said. "The Army technical manual, TM-220, has been the most copied See HORSESHOE page 27



**BY LACI JONES**

editor@okfronline.com

## PHOTO DETAILS

The oldest horseshoe at the National Museum of Horse Shoeing Tools and Hall of Honor is more than 500 years old. (Photo by Laci Jones)



# Horseshoe

horseshoeing book in history.”

In the 1890s, Pennsylvania State recruited Mississippi-native, John Adams as a professor. The university sent Adams to Germany to study under Lungwitz.

“When he came back in about 1896, he and Lungwitz were such good friends that he had permission to write the American edition of the Lungwitz book,” Liles explained. “When he came back, Adams brought an instructor from Germany to Penn State to teach anatomy and horseshoeing to the vet students.”

Even Cornell University and Michigan State University had a protégé of Lungwitz in 1913, Liles said.

## William Russell

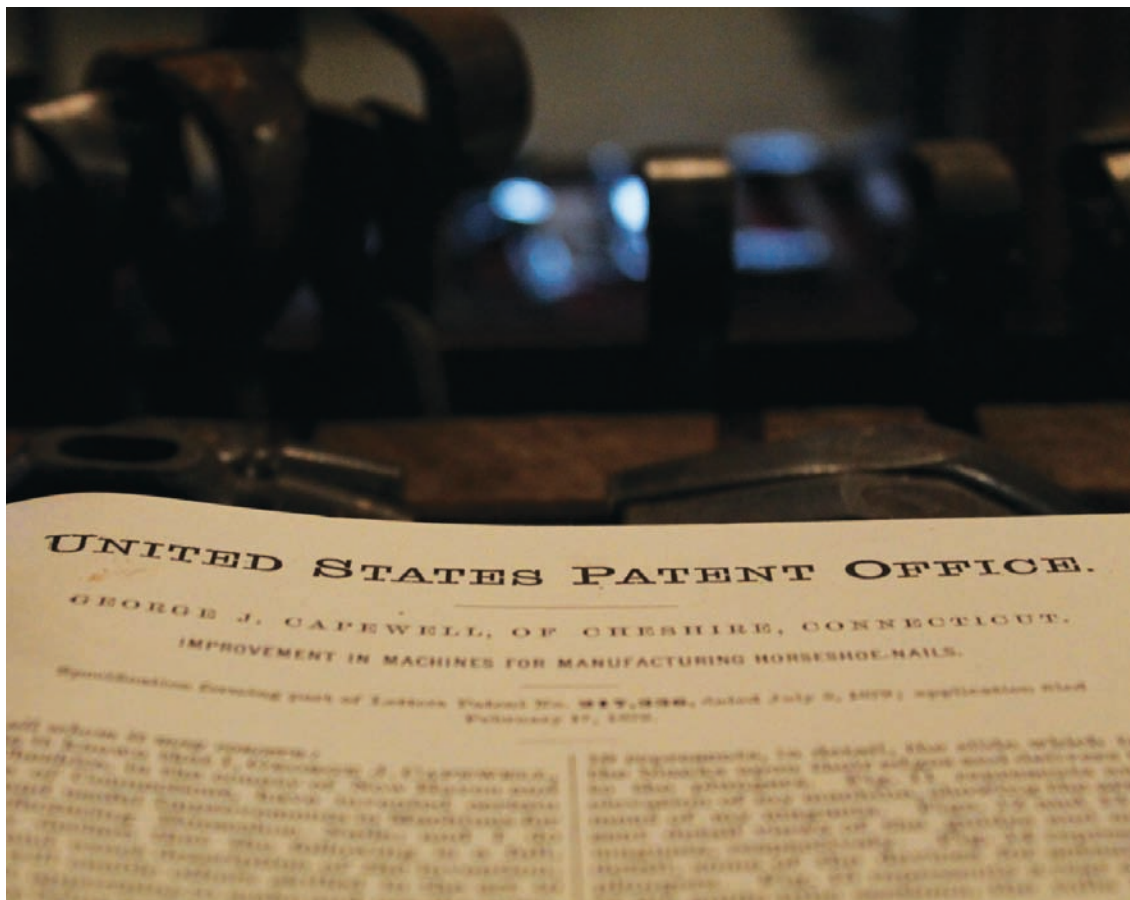
“We had a great educator in Cincinnati, Ohio, who wrote 15 horseshoeing books from 1879 to 1907,” Liles explained. “His name was William Russell.”

In 1887, the first shoemaking contest was held in Cincinnati, Ohio, where Russell won. “The contest consisted of making 100 shoes on an opy stage in front of 3,000 spectators,” Liles explained.

Russell made 100 horseshoes in two hours and 40 minutes with the help of a team. John Silk, who later became a famous horseshoer, was one of Russell’s competitors.

In the 1890s, many horseshoers, including Russell, created display cases filled with their horseshoes. Many of these display cases are still intact and hanging in the museum. One of the cases was in the World Fair in St. Louis in 1904.

“When it went to the World Fair, they added nails to the case,” he added. A photo of the case at the World Fair was added into one of Russell’s books, and it was one of the last display cases he made. Russell offered all of his collection



The first patent on a horseshoe manufacturing machine in the United States was issued in 1834 to Henry Burden, a Scottish-born industrial engineer. (Photo by Laci Jones)

for sale in the same year.

“He died in 1907,” Liles explained. “He was a sick man, and he was blind when he died.”

## Aluminum Horseshoe

Liles also has a case located at the museum built in 1895 had an aluminum horseshoe inside.

“That is very rare,” he said. “In that era, they only produced 65 pounds of aluminum per year. Aluminum was a precious metal, and you had to buy it through a jeweler.”

Liles said he does not think the aluminum held up well to wear and tear. William Wedekind received the title, “The World’s Greatest Horseshoer” at the 1893 Chicago World’s Fair. Wedekind even made an aluminum horseshoe in 1893.

“It was so light that it floated on water,” Liles explained. “They can’t duplicate the shoe today to make it float on the water.”

## The Right Shoe

Liles said when people come to museum, they are used to dealing with one breed of horse and one discipline with the horse. The type of horseshoe used depends on the breed and the discipline.

“In this country, we have roughly 400 different breeds of horses,” Liles said.

Liles said he was a horseshoer, which is a lot different from a cowboy shoer. For instance, a horse that is going to go trail riding or ranching needs a high-quality steel horseshoe.

A show horse will wear aluminum shoes because the aluminum


will wear the toe quicker.

“It will give him a quicker time to break that shoe in,” he added. “If your shoe isn’t new at the show, he has to get that shoe back to where it feels comfortable.”

Many of the plastic shoes are meant for horses that are on concrete, asphalt or wood. Liles said plastic shoes are commonly used in the circus.

A common misconception is people think the weight of the horseshoe affects a horse in either racing or working.

“They think plastic is so much lighter,” he explained. “If that is the case, why don’t you just ride him barefoot?”

To learn more about the history of the horseshoe, visit [www.horseshoeingmuseum.com](http://www.horseshoeingmuseum.com). 



# LACEY'S PANTRY

*By Lacey Newlin*



## Salted Caramel Ice Cream

**Time:** 1 hour

**Servings:** 10-12


### Ingredients

- 1 1/4 cups sugar, divided
- 2 1/4 cups heavy cream, divided
- 1/2 teaspoon sea salt
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup whole milk
- 3 large eggs

### Instructions

In a large, dry skillet heat one cup of the sugar over medium heat. Stir with a fork to heat evenly until the sugar begins to melt - then stop stirring. Swirl occasionally until the caramel is a dark amber. Add 1 1/4 cups cream (be careful!) and whisk until the caramel dissolves and is smooth. Pour into a separate bowl and stir in salt and vanilla. Let cool.

While the caramel is cooling, bring the remaining cream, milk, and 1/4 cup sugar to barely a boil in a large saucepan. In a separate bowl, whisk the eggs, then slowly add half off the hot milk while whisking. Add the egg mixture back to the saucepan with the rest of the milk, while whisking. Cook, stirring constantly, without letting the mixture boil, until it coats the back of a spoon and reads at 170 degrees Fahrenheit.

Pour the custard through a fine sieve, then mix in with the caramel. Chill for at least 3 hours, or until very cool (stir every hour or so). When the mixture is chilled, pour into your running ice cream maker and churn until thickened. Pour into an airtight container and allow to freeze for three to six more hours, or until firm. 







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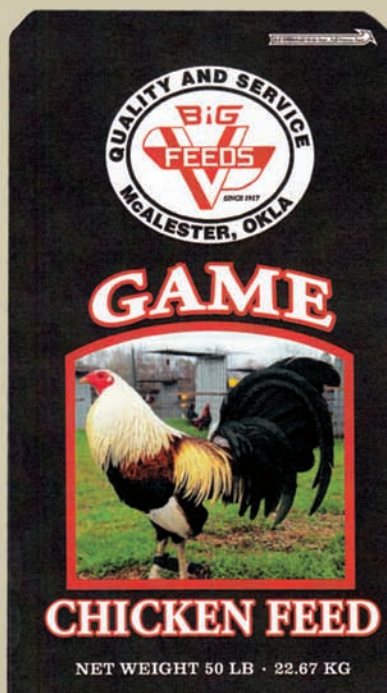
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# First Impressions by *Sara Honegger*

Steve Madden  
JKingsly




Holy Cow Couture  
Leather Wallet



American West  
Bandana Day Tote



## BAGS ON BAGS

Purses and bags are a major weakness of mine, and I am always searching for a good deal. Along with good prices, I love to find bags with beautiful detail in neutral colors so that I can pull them out with any outfit, regardless of the season. I focus on interesting shapes that allow bags to pop, and details such as tassels, fringe or tooling that allow the bag to be a statement without taking away from your outfit. I also love bags that mix different textiles such as crocodile with hide, and Navajo textiles with leather. I have also found that a fun, neutral wallet allows switching between bags to be a breeze. If you can find a good wallet that you are in love with, you will be more likely to choose different bags for your outfits. There is nothing worse than spending money on quality pieces and them never seeing the light of day. 

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# COWGIRL TOUGH

*Sissy Smith King*







# COWGIRL TOUGH

## *Sissy Smith King*

**S**he is not as “gutsy” as she used to be, but this 73-year-old can keep up with the best of them.

Sissy Smith King’s confidence radiates as she climbed on her horse, I’ll Be Shining at the Western Oklahoma Ranch Horse Association 2016 Heartland Ranch Horse Show Series in Purcell, Okla. Like other horsewomen, King has had many bumps and bruises but no serious injuries.

“It’s not for not lack of trying to get hurt,” she said with a laugh. “I just got lucky I guess.”

One of her longtime friends, Sharon Ward, said King has “an amazing story.” King was born in Pine Bluff, Ark., in February 1943. Her interest in horses began at an early age when her father purchased a horse for King when she was six years old.

“He bought himself one as well,” she explained. “We rode together, and he taught me how to ride.”

Her father was an electrician for the OK Ice Cream and Candy Company, and her mother was a stay-at-home mom who also did professional seamstress work. Her mother did work for country singer/songwriter, Jim Ed Brown and his family.

King later joined the Pine Bluff Saddle Club where they had “play days” with the youth and adults. The club held many dances, which peaked her interest in dancing.

“I’m just really moved by music,” King explained. “We used to do a lot of the big band stuff back then, and I never got over it.”

She said the club set the ground work for her to go further into horse competitions. King also competed at the riding club, and as she got older, she became interested in barrel racing.

Her family moved to Little Rock, Ark., when she was 17 years old and met Mark Smith. Smith’s family owned the oldest western store in Arkansas, now located in Pleasant Plains, Ark., and King would

go there to purchase western clothes and tack. The 136-year-old western store is currently in its fourth generation ownership by Stacy Rutledge.

“I saw him out at the Bar R Ranch arena,” King explained. “I didn’t know him, but his mother and my mother joined forces and decided I should teach Mark how to dance.”

Smith came over to learn how to dance, and King said he was a natural dancer. Smith was a rodeo clown and bullfighter. He roped, rode bulls, rode broncs, bull dogged and was an all-around profile, she explained. Instead of attending college with a scholarship in music, King married Smith at 18, and the couple traveled the rodeo circuit for many years.

“When I look back, I see it wasn’t a real wise decision,” she added, “but I love rodeo, and that is what we did. We went on our honeymoon to a rodeo, and he clowned it. Rodeo was just all a part of our life, and that is all we thought about.”

Two years into the rodeo circuit, King became a rodeo photographer.

“I always say that is my claim to fame—my photography,” she explained. “I won several awards for Photographer of the Year, and I have taken pictures of bucking bulls and anything rodeo related.”

She learned from fellow photographers like Pete McKisic, who invited her to his dark room to teach her how to mix chemicals. King purchased all of her equipment, and she carried her darkroom with her when she traveled.

“We would darken the hotel room out,” King explained. “I would process the film and develop the pictures right there in the hotel room at night.”

King said it would take her all night to process the film, but she said it did not feel like work because she was passionate about photography. She has two large albums full of black and white photographs she took and the memories she made.

“I had a lot of memories and experiences,” she said with a smile. “Some memories I can’t talk about.”

She said meeting professionals like Benny Reynolds and Dean Oliver were among some of her favorite memories on the road. King said she looked up to them, and she met many of her lifelong friends while traveling. Those lifelong friends call her and talk about old times even though they live miles apart, she said.

King traveled to all-girl rodeos in the 1960s where she rode bulls, bareback horses and roped. She also was a barrel racer and trick rider. She said she did not care much for riding bulls, but she loved bareback riding.

“I didn’t have any sense,” she said with a laugh. “It must have been an adrenaline rush or something. I look back and say, ‘What were you thinking?’”

Smith was a bull rider himself, and they had a bucking barrel in the barn. King would get on it and play with it. She was pretty wiry with good balance, and so she had the natural ability.

“There were a lot of all-girl rodeos at that time,” King explained. “It seemed like a logical thing to go do it.”

She and eight other people went to an all-girl rodeo in Oklahoma. Her husband did not attend, but he told her not to enter the bareback riding event. She entered herself into the event against Smith’s wishes, but she won the buckle.

“I didn’t tell him before I rode,” she added. “He was really happy after I won the buckle, and I continued to ride bareback horses.”

The International Rodeo Association selected 25 American cowboys and cowgirls to go to South Africa to put on rodeos in 1966. The IRA selected people who could do multiple events to avoid taking as many people. Smith and King were among the selected few to travel across the Atlantic.

**See COWGIRL TOUGH page 36**



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# COWGIRL TOUGH

*Sissy Smith King*

**Continued from page 34**

"I was part of the contract act as a trick rider during rodeos in South Africa," she explained. "It was wonderful, and we got paid to do it. We would never get that chance again."

She said they were treated like celebrities, and the natives asked them for their autographs. While it was a wonderful experience, they needed to leave earlier than expected. They left in the middle of the night, and flew to Paris.

"We had a bus that was taking us to our hotel," she explained. "It would be pitch dark in some places and some of the lights didn't work."

When the bus dropped them off at their hotel, the group looked for something to eat. They came across a policeman who could not speak English. King said nobody in the group could speak French, so they were communicating with hand motions.

"We were giving hand motions that we were hungry," she added. "He pointed us to a restaurant, and we went over there."

King remembered she ordered a big steak and a glass of milk. The chef "had a fit" because he thought she needed wine with her steak. When her steak arrived, she sent it back because it was too rare.

"I guess you don't tell the chef in France how to cook," she explained. "He is supposed to fix you food and you eat what he serves. It didn't work for us."

The next stop on their journey was in Brussels, Belgium. The group got on a tour bus, and they saw where the Olympics were held and the famous sites. They

went shopping, and King brought back some lace and Belgium chocolate. King and Smith had enough air mileage to stay and tour Switzerland, but she said she wanted to come home. By 1968, King stopped riding rough stock. She kept riding, but she did not compete in any all-girl rodeos.

The cowgirl was a founding member of The Arkansas Barrel Racing Association. The Arkansas Rodeo Association and the International Rodeo Association are now known as the International Pro Rodeo Association. King and Smith had two daughters—Bobbie Codoni and Stacy Rutledge. King's face lit up when asked about her daughters.

"They went with us everywhere," King said. "They were rodeo brats with dirt all over their faces and jeans. Sometimes we would take their ponies with us, and they would ride their ponies around."

King's daughters' love for the cowgirl lifestyle came natural.

Ten years later, King moved to Oklahoma, and later to Louisiana. King had a race horse and a good friend who lived down in the Creole State. She was driving school buses before driving charter buses.

"I drove charter buses for 20 years and have been all over the country," King explained. "I got to see things that I would never get to see before."

A friend of King's was doing acuscope therapy in Louisiana. The Remington Racetrack in Oklahoma City was opening at the time, and her friend convinced King to become a certified equine

therapist. King worked at Remington Park as well as Lonestar Park in Texas.

"I treated horses with sore muscles and racing injuries," she explained. "The medical instrument used on humans works good on horses, too, because they have the same sort of tissue."

She sold her equipment after 10 years, but King said she still treated horses sporadically. King retired from charter bus driving five years ago, and she moved in with her daughter, Bobbie in Oklahoma.

"We have a little nine-acre track over there where we keep our horses," King explained. "The only place I'm a cowgirl is when they open the arena gate."

King worked for the dispatch office in Elk City for five years before getting laid off due to the oil economy, but she is retired now. She took a break from showing, but King gained an interest in ranch horses five years ago.

"I rode horses in between," King explained, "but life just went on, and I got older and thought that I was too old for all of that."

When getting back into the swing of riding, King was initially worried about her reflexes, but her reflexes were automatic, just how they used to be. She had to start from scratch to learn all of the different events. In 2015, King became the president and founding member of the Western Oklahoma Ranch Horse Association.

"Myself, Sharon Ward and Toni Rains went barn hopping around Oklahoma trying to find a venue to have this," she explained. "We found one and we put it on

Facebook and everybody jumped on and we thought, 'Maybe this would work.'"

King said the challenge of starting a new association is gaining awareness and membership. The new association holds a few clinics and shows throughout the year. She said the association offers so many events, someone is likely to enjoy at least one of them.

"The great thing for me, being 73 years old, is getting to show with my girls," King said with a smile. "My oldest daughter is 54 and my other daughter is going to be 50 this year. They are still just as tough as they were when they were 20, and I get to show with them."


King said her daughters are her heroes and wants to be just like them when she grows up. King said the apple does not fall very far from the tree as her daughters are almost as "gutsy" as she was.

Her horse, I'll Be Shining, came from California and is the brother of Shining Spark. I'll Be Shining is a cutting horse, and King said her horse is teaching her how to cut cattle while she is teaching him to do western pleasure and reigning patterns.

"If you put a cow in front of him, it's like dynamite goes off," she explained. "I love it!"

King has gone through four horses before finding one she really liked.

"I will probably retire with him when I get ready to retire again," King added.

King said she has been a cowgirl most of her life. She believes God is waiting on her with a big ranch and a good horse. 





#### PHOTO DETAILS

(Clockwise) Sissy Smith King dismounting from her horse at a rodeo. The Western Oklahoma Ranch Horse Association holds a few clinics and shows throughout the year. King became interested in barrel racing after joining the Pine Bluff Saddle Club. King enjoys showing with her two daughters—Bobbie Codoni (left) and Stacy Rutledge. (Courtesy of Sissy Smith King) King was a rodeo photographer in the 1960s, and this is one of her shots. King's horse, I'll Be Shining is the brother of Shining Spark. (Photo by Laci Jones)



# Look Out here comes the next generation **PART 3**

**C**hazli Massey has some big boots to fill. She is the daughter of Janae Ward-Massey, NFR qualifier in 2001 and 2002 and WPRA World Champion Barrel Racer in 2003; and Ty Massie, PRCA tie-down roper and Circuit Finals qualifier.

Her grandparents are Renee Youree Ward, 1985 NFR qualifier and James Ward, former bareback, saddle bronc and bull rider, and National Collegiate Champion. Her great-grandparents are Florence (Price) Youree, WPRA All Around World Champion and Dale Youree, former calf roper turned barrel horse trainer, who are both world-famous barrel racers and trainers, but that whole family is another story for another time.

Seven-year-old Chazli is working hard to fill those boots. She won her first buckle at a D & G barrel racing and her second as a 2015 MRCA Finals Qualifier, where she was in the top 15 in barrels, poles, and goat tying. She also won the highly coveted Sportsmanship Award in 2015. She has arm loads of other prizes—reins, saddle pads, buckets, halters and money.

"I use the prize money to pay my entry fees," she explained.

She proudly wore the big, beautiful, ruby-studded MRCA buckle the day we talked. She also participates in TOBRA (Texas-Oklahoma Barrel Racing Association), NBHA (National Barrel Horse Association) and open rodeos.

The shy, petite brunette is a first grader at Comanche Elementary.

"I like math, and I make good grades," she added.

She also plays T-ball for the



Lady Angels.

"I ride Pistol, my new horse for barrels," Chazli explained. "He is a 16-year-old white gelding. He's a good barrel horse. I ride my old barrel horse, Chance, on poles. He's 22.

"We don't know how old Sparky is. He's my goat tying horse because she is shorter and easier to get off of. I like to go to rodeos to play with my friends Crosby, Charlie and Chaney."

Her mom, Renee said the four are close friends and have a good time together. They recently celebrated Chazli's seventh birthday with a big party. Her mom is her idol and inspiration.

"Mom taught me how to ride and run barrels," she said.

Dad is teaching her how to

track calves and rope now. Grandparents "Mom A" and "Pops" and great-grandparents "Nanny" and "Papa" have been instrumental in her learning and success.

Chazli's goals are to be a World Champion Barrel Racer, not surprising with her heritage, and become a vet.

"I like to watch all the vet shows on TV," she added.

Recently Janae and Ty discussed the merits of Chazli wearing a helmet when she rides. It was still undecided because "we grew up with the cowboy tradition of wearing a hat," and they went ahead and ordered one. Before it arrived, Chazli took a spill when her horse stumbled during the pole bending. She was thrown clear  
**See CHAZLI page 39**



**BY JUDY WADE**

**PHOTO DETAILS**

Chazli makes a fast turn at the MRCA finals.  
(Photo by Pamela)



# Chazli


and not injured, but that settled the issue.

"She will be wearing a helmet, and I have even ordered one for myself," Janae related.

A former teacher, Janae now devotes her full time to riding futurity colts and will soon be off to Fort Smith, Ark., for a two-week futurity. Ty, a supervisor for the Corporation Commission, will be Mr. Mom while he and Chazli take care of things at home.

Chazli is looking forward to summer with school being out, basketball camp, open rodeos and helping take care of her new cousin, Owen. Most of all, she looks forward to the MRCA finals in Duncan Labor Day weekend.

This cute, talented young lady is destined for big things.

Be expecting to hear more about her. 



Chazli makes a quick dismount from Sparky in the goat tying. (Photo by Pamela)

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# THE RED DIRT SCENE



**Y**ou cannot say “red dirt music” and not feel the pride blowing through the Oklahoma winds. Red Dirt Music and Oklahoma are synonymous since this is where it was born. From names like the late Tom Skinner, Bob Childers, Cody Canada, Brandon Jenkins... to the venues like Cain’s Ballroom, Wormy Dog Saloon, The Blue Door, there is no doubt a plethora of talent resides within the borders of Oklahoma and plenty of places for it to shine.

This month we will focus on the Aaron Woods Band based out of Stillwater, Okla. Aaron Woods Band has been around since 2012.

Their sound is a little more energy driven country music. They have really established themselves as a regional touring act from the beginning.

Now, they tour approximately 100 shows per year in six to seven states on a consistent basis, always

looking to spread that red dirt as far as they can. Their first album, “Signal from The South,” was released was in 2012. Front man, Aaron Woods moved to Stillwater, Okla., from Kansas in 2010 solely to pursue a music career.

He felt the title, “Signal from the South” was appropriate as it related to a signal beacon as to him being in Oklahoma with his music—kind of like a “here I am, doing what I love” beacon to others.

The first single they released to Texas/Red Dirt Radio was the first single off that record titled, “Hangin’ by the River.”

Woods co-wrote the song with Colt Larimore from Claremore, Okla. The song depicts a rather “simple” life in a small town and no matter where you go, you always carry certain memories with you.

They are gearing up to release their sophomore album this summer, and they are still debating

on a title.

The first single off that album is titled “Feels Like Rain” and was released to radio in late 2015. The song was recorded with good friend and staple of Oklahoma music, Steve Rice of “No Justice.” The video for this single can be found on VEVO or YouTube and features a familiar face, voice and station of Red Dirt Music in Oklahoma, Jay McRae of KGFY in Stillwater.

Woods grew up on a small ranch west of Medicine Lodge, Kan.

His father was an oilfield man and both his dad and step-dad were instrumental in forming who he is today.

Hard work and perseverance were taught from the very beginning of Woods’ life and they are lessons he has not forgotten.

His mother was always the “understanding” one. She was the one who could, and would, relate to **See BAND page 41**

**BY DILLON STEEN**

**PHOTO DETAILS**

Aaron Woods Band has been around since 2012. (Courtesy of the Aaron Woods Band)



# BAND

young Woods' "ornery" stunts.

When asked to describe his upbringing he said, "We weren't rich. They wore [store brand] shoes so I could wear Nike's."

Coming from an Irish, German and Italian background, his folks worked hard, and it taught him to appreciate the things you have and the value of hard work.

He moved to Stillwater on May 16, 2010, from Hutchinson, Kans. When living in Kansas, he played in a few bands around the area, and it just never amounted to the goals and desires he had for music.

As his interest starting growing towards music coming from the south, including Red Dirt music and Texas Country, he started viewing Stillwater as a potential place to further his career.

He would spend hours reading about the history of Red Dirt music from Stillwater and the musicians who pioneered the name and music.

Woods felt like that could be where he could find a more musical-conducive people to surround himself with and still be close enough to his family in Kansas.

"I know people move to other places for jobs and family, etc.," Woods explained, "but this was a move that I was making for no guarantee or job. I was moving to a place I had never been and to a state that I had never called home all for a chance to follow a dream.

"I believe in life, we write our own chapters of our own book, and these chances that we choose to take are the pens writing the story."

There is no doubt that Aaron and his band mates are writing a story, their own story. Every note and lyric of a song just gives us all a little glimpse into that story.

As he continues to grow as a father, husband and musician, he has to make sure that the drive

does not keep him from stopping to appreciate all the parts of his life.

Somebody once told him, "Don't forget to enjoy the ride."

Sometimes, Woods has to stop and make sure he does just that. With a busy schedule, traveling from state to state, finishing albums and making music for all to enjoy, the reminder is sometimes needed.

He is thankful that he gets to do what he loves—sharing his passion with others. Woods said the future will be three things: bright, busy and happy.


In some down time, you might find Woods at one his favorite Oklahoma events, "The Gypsy Cafe" in Stillwater in particular. It features such a wide variety of acoustic performers each year and it is all held in honor of Bob Childers, "The Father of Red Dirt Music." All proceeds from this event go to the "Red Dirt Relief Fund," a non-profit organization to benefit musicians in the time of need.

"You won't find a better festival with a bigger cause than a festival honoring Oklahoma musicians for Oklahoma music," Woods added.

There are other festivals that Oklahomans are host to and they are phenomenal. If the Aaron Woods Band can be there, they undoubtedly will be.

They enjoy learning from other artists as well as hope their music influences others.

No matter where you might find a member of this band, one thing is for sure: you are seeing someone with music in their heart and soul, and that Oklahoma Red Dirt in their veins.

For more about Aaron Woods Band, to purchase their music and to find out where you can see them perform live please go to [www.aaronwoodsband.com](http://www.aaronwoodsband.com). 



Don't miss out on this amazing event!

## DENTON COUNTY COWBOY CHURCH

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# Joanne's Day Trips

I am not a chef or a food critic. What I am is a home cook... a good home cook. As a good cook, I appreciate good food when someone else does the cooking. I enjoy eating out and love the unusual or quaint restaurants that serve great food.

One such quaint café exists in Ada, Okla., the Blue Moon Café. This eatery is like stepping into another era, the fifties, with its black and white checkered floor with red vinyl booths and chairs with vintage looking chrome tables.

The walls are covered in pictures and posters of fifties icons such as Elvis, Marilyn Monroe and the Beatles. Many old bottles and Coca-Cola memorabilia also adorn the space.

Just off the center of the space is a pony wall with an antique bicycle perched on it with a massive ivy plant entangled in the bicycle. The ivy looks as if it might have been growing, weaving in and out of things along the wall since the fifties.

Yeah, all the atmosphere in the world cannot make up for poor service or food. Well, the Blue Moon can boast that it has it all, great atmosphere, service and food.

The Blue Moon Café has friendly prompt servers, one who has been there over 20 years. These servers will go out of their way to make sure you have everything you need to have a wonderful dining experience.

Whether you choose to dine on a burger or have a dinner plate of chicken fried steak and homemade mashed potatoes and gravy, you will not walk away hungry.

The Blue Moon offers daily specials and appetizers as well as their own house specialties, such as the Blue Moon fries. These thick cut fries are served topped with mozzarella and cheddar



cheeses with chopped bacon bits sprinkled on top, served with a bowl of ranch dressing to tempt you, too.

Another appetizer you might want to try is the broccoli cheddar poppers. These chopped broccoli and cheese poppers are fried up crisp and served with a bowl of ranch dressing for dipping.

From the fried shrimp basket to the selection of burgers and sandwiches to the dinners of chopped steak or chicken strips, you can't go wrong on your selection.

What is my favorite selection? Fried green tomatoes! A friend and I journeyed fifty miles from my home to Ada just for this delicious treat at the Blue Moon Café.

Now, there is a place in my hometown that serves fried green tomatoes, but they just do not compare to the ones at the Blue


Moon Café.

I have tried to duplicate the flavor of the fried green tomatoes at the Blue Moon, but I have not been successful at it. Finding restaurants that even serve fried green tomatoes is hard.

From here to Florida, I have only found a few. I can tell you that for the last 20 years the Blue Moon has served the best fried green tomatoes I have ever had; they are even better than the ones my mother made every year. The fried green tomatoes are so good that they never stay on the plate for long!

I keep returning for the tomatoes and the other excellent food served at the Blue Moon Café located in the Hills Center Mall in Ada, Okla. Tommy Miller opened the Blue Moon around 23 years ago. During that time, he moved the café one time. He moved it

from just a few shops down in the same mall.

The Blue Moon Café is a wonderful, friendly place with great food, service and ambiance. It is sure to have you returning time and again. Happy Eating! 

**BY JOANNE JONES**

**PHOTO DETAILS**

The Blue Moon Café.

This eatery is like stepping into another era, the fifties. (Photo by Joanne Jones)





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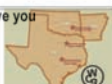
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# The Abandoned Santa Fe Depot



The “Pipeline Crossroads of the World” shows no trace of the once thriving cotton industry, the “hoboes” lining the railroad tracks and the “gandy dancers” working on the railroads. The abandoned Santa Fe Train Depot located at the end of Broadway Street has withstood the test of time in Cushing, Okla.

Cushing resident, Farrel Kleckner said majority of his information came from the *Young Cushing in Oklahoma Territory* by local librarian, Laura Lou Wells. The original train depot was built in 1902, according to Kleckner. The location of the depot was kept secret for several months as a business ploy.

“They were selecting their businesses down [Broadway Street],” Kleckner explained. “The rich and well-connected individuals knew where the depot was going to be.”

The Missouri-Kansas-Texas

Railroad, also known as the Katy Railroad, was the first railroad to commit to development in Cushing, but the Santa Fe Railway decided to develop their railroad shortly after.

“It was a whole mess,” Kleckner added. “The Post Office, which sat at the end of Cleveland and Main, was stolen. They jacked it up in the middle of the night and carried it downtown.”

While Kleckner does not know what the Post Office had to do with the feud, the relocation marked the official downtown of Cushing.

The train depot was originally meant to serve both the Santa Fe Railway and the Katy Railroad, but that did not happen. The area where the depot is located was owned by J. H. Bellis’ cotton gin. Bellis was the “business kingpin” of Cushing. Bellis owned the property and parceled it out to his elite friends.

“They raised \$5,000 to buy a

location to build the Katy Depot,” Kleckner added. “They raised \$10,000 to build the Santa Fe Depot, and that is how Santa Fe got to be King.”

The town of Cushing eventually outgrew the small depot located at the end of Broadway Street. They built a larger wooden train depot about 200 yards south of Cherry Street, but the depot burned down in 1924 or 1925.

After the second depot burned, a new brick depot was built at the original depot location on Broadway Street. Jim Hunter, Cushing resident said the new depot was built for easy access among Cushing residents.

He remembered catching a train from the Santa Fe Depot to Florida in the early 1940s. During World War II, Hunter also remembered sitting on the viaduct and watching bales of cotton burn just south of the depot.

**See DEPOT page 45**



**BY LACI JONES**

editor@okfronline.com

## PHOTO DETAILS

The location of the Santa Fe Depot in Cushing, Okla., was kept secret for several months. (Courtesy photo)



# Depot

"They thought it was sabotage," Hunter explained, "but it wasn't. The Germans didn't come this far to burn cotton."

Cushing resident, Bob Lynch said if the cotton bales were hauled in open cars, one or two people would ride on top of each car with water buckets. When asked why, he replied it was in case the steam engines sparked.

Lynch said the north end of the depot was used for freight and express. The south end of the depot was for the maintenance crew. A barber shop was located in the basement. Segregated ticket booths, restrooms and drinking fountains were also featured in the depot. The restrooms were later renovated to remove segregation.

After World War II, people began to abandon passenger rails in favor of automobiles. The automobiles became more comfortable at this time, and the roads were better.

"In order to cut losses, the railroads discontinued a lot of your local passenger trains pulled by steam," Lynch explained. "That's when they went with the 'doodlebug' which was the rail diesel car."

The doodlebug cars were gasoline-based engines but later evolved to diesel-based engines, he added. The doodlebug was the express mail of its day, and it could haul anything from milk cans to spring chickens.

"The Stillwater, Okla., hatchery shipped thousands of baby chicks by rail," Lynch added, "and they would put them on the doodlebug."

The doodlebug was a short-haul passenger car. It would even drop passengers off at the rural road where they left their vehicles.

During the mid-1950s, Lynch remembered riding the doodlebug. His mom and two aunts would take him to Shawnee, Okla., to go shopping. They would leave early



A train passing through the Santa Fe Depot in Cushing, Okla., in the early 1940s. (Courtesy photo)

in the morning and return late in the evening.

Lynch said one of his favorite memories of the depot stemmed from having his tonsils removed at six years old. The fireman on the yard switch engine, Laurence Lanning, was directly across the hall from Lynch, and they became well-acquainted. After Lynch healed, his dad dropped him off at the depot on the weekends in the 1950s, and he would ride in the cab of the switch engine for a few hours.

After the flood of 1983, the Santa Fe tracks silted over. The Santa Fe Railway decided to get permission to abandon the tracks from Cushing to Shawnee and from Shawnee to Pauls Valley, Okla., but they still had freight in Cushing.

"They still had business in Cushing," Lynch explained, "but that was dwindling. They shut the refinery down, and it went to the Cimarron River Valley Railroad Company."

The company operated out of

the Cushing for several years. The tracks were removed in 1991 from Pawnee, Okla., to Cushing. The train depot closed in the mid-1980s, and the property was abandoned.

Cushing resident, Rick Reiley, and a group of other Cushing residents formed the Depot Foundation Committee in the late 1980s. The committee wrote the Santa Fe Realty about the state of the property. The realty company said there was no local interest, and they only received a salvage offer for \$2,500.

After working with the Santa Fe Realty, the committee was able to purchase the property with borrowed money from the Cushing Chamber of Commerce. The Depot Foundation Committee exhausted all funding options to try to restore the train depot. Ten years later, the Depot Foundation Committee sold the property to the Carson Foundation who did restore the roof with clay tile.


"Inside, all of the architectural integrity is intact," said Tracy

Caulfield, Cushing Chamber of Commerce manager.

The train depot has been vandalized throughout the years, but Caulfield said the vandalism did not impact the historical significance of the building. The Cushing Chamber of Commerce plans to start fundraising to begin restoration in the near future, she added.

These buildings remind people of the town's history as well as importance of the buildings' past, Reiley explained.

"As long as the building stands, every generation that comes along remembers that building," he added. "They may not know the history behind it, but the building is present and everyone remembers it and their memories about the building. When it's gone, there is nothing that will connect future generations to the town."

Kleckner said once the Santa Fe Train Depot in Cushing is restored, it may encourage residents to restore other historic buildings on Broadway Street. 



# EVENT LINEUP JULY 2016

**JUL  
01**

## **BOOM IN THE VALLEY FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR,**

Choctaw Nation Health Care Center. Talihina, OK 74571.

Make your way to Talihina for the Boom in the Valley Fireworks Spectacular. Celebrate Independence Day with a fireworks display, live entertainment, children's activities, a 5K run and more. Bring your lawn chair or blanket and enjoy the fireworks at dusk.

**JUL  
01**

## **BLACKBERRY FESTIVAL,**

McCloud High School Athletic Complex. McCloud, OK 74851.

The McCloud Blackberry Festival, which began in the 1940s, is one of the oldest continual festivals in the state of Oklahoma. Activities run the first weekend of July. Blackberry-themed events include the selling of blackberries, blackberry cobbler, sodas and teas, plus the annual Blackberry Parade on Broadway Street in downtown McCloud. For more information, visit [www.mcloudchamber.com](http://www.mcloudchamber.com).

**JUL  
01**

## **BOB MCSPADDEN MEMORIAL FIREWORKS SHOW,**

Vinita, OK 74301. Celebrate Independence Day in Vinita and see fireworks light up the summer night sky at the annual Bob McSpadden Memorial Fireworks Show.

Bring the entire family to the Vinita High School football field for a day of fun and festivities. Visit [www.Vinita.com](http://www.Vinita.com) for more information.

**JUL  
02**

## **CANTON 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION,**

Canton, OK 73724. Come celebrate the Fourth of July at Canton Lake. Start the evening off with races for kids and adults, an exciting egg toss competition and turtle races.

End the evening with a huge fireworks display that can be viewed from the banks of Lake Canton. Visit [www.cantonlakeoklahoma.com](http://www.cantonlakeoklahoma.com).

**JUL  
02**

## **ARTS, CRAFTS, MUSIC & CAJUN FESTIVAL,**

Grove Civic Center. Grove, OK 74344.

Visitors to the annual Arts, Crafts, Music & Cajun Festival don't have to travel deep into the heart of Cajun country to find good food, good times and good music. Spend the day in Grove and enjoy authentic Cajun music, Cajun food and a wealth of entertainers. The Arts, Crafts, Music & Cajun Festival has become a major event in the Grand Lake area. With plenty of dancing and Cajun-style fun, this festival can't be beat.

**JUL  
02**

## **KIOWA GOURD CLAN CELEBRATION,**

Carnegie City Park. Carnegie, OK 73015.

Witness American Indian dancing by the Kiowa Gourd Clan at the annual Kiowa Gourd Clan Celebration in Carnegie on July 2-4. Visit the Kiowa Gourd Clan Celebration to see gourd dancing, stunning shawls and drumming exhibitions.

**JUL  
02**

## **HUCKLEBERRY FESTIVAL,**

Downtown Jay. Jay, OK 74346. Hop on over to Jay for the city's annual Huckleberry Festival and celebrate the wild huckleberries that thrive in the area.

The unique berry, more intense in flavor than the common blueberry, has spawned this festival that draws visitors from around the state and beyond. Browse through exhibit halls filled to the brim with arts and crafts, a quilt show, homemade goods and various vendors. Jay's Huckleberry Festival is ideal for the family and is the perfect way to spend a summer afternoon. Learn more about the Huckleberry Festival by visiting [www.jaychamber.org](http://www.jaychamber.org).

**JUL  
04**

## **FREEDOM FESTIVAL,**

Eldon Lyon Park. Bethany, OK 73008.

Celebrate Independence Day at Freedom Festival in Bethany. This free, family-friendly event begins in the morning with a day full of pony rides, carnival rides, inflatables and games for the children. Several vendor booths will be scattered through the park offering goodies, and a live band will be playing throughout the day. The night ends with an impressive fireworks display. This annual tradition brings out over 20,000 people taking part in the festivities and is sure to be a day to remember. Learn more about the Freedom Festival by visiting [www.cityofbethany.org](http://www.cityofbethany.org).

KIOWA GOURD CLAN CELEBRATION





**JUL  
04**

**OLD-FASHIONED INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION,** Redbud Park. Marlow, OK 73055. Marlow's Old-Fashioned Independence Day Celebration will kick off with a parade on

Main Street. Huge crowds gather to watch floats, horses, classic cars, antique tractors, Shriner clowns and more. The parade leads to a full day of fun for the entire family in Redbud Park. This event includes arts and crafts, game booths, rides, various food vendors and historic re-enactments. Crowds gather in the park all day and all evening for great entertainment. Stick around until 10pm for the Old-Fashioned Independence Day Celebration grand finale: one of the largest fireworks displays in southern Oklahoma.

**JUL  
04**

**WATERMELON SEED SPITTING' WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP,** Thompson Field in Wacker Park. Pauls Valley, OK 73075. This Independence Day, Pauls Valley will celebrate

with the nationally-renowned watermelon seed-spitting contest, family events and firework displays. Immortalized in the original edition of the popular, best-selling family board game, Trivial Pursuit, the annual Watermelon Seed Spittin' World Championship has become synonymous with Pauls Valley. Since 1957 when the contest began, the Watermelon Seed Spittin' World Championship has been featured in the Guinness Book of Records and Ripley's Believe It or Not. Registration begins at 6pm in the football stadium at Wacker Park. Registration and admission to the event is free, but space is limited for contestants so be sure to be on time to sign up.

**JUL  
06**

**GREATER OKLAHOMA HUNTER JUMPER PREVIEW & HORSE SHOW,** Oklahoma State Fair Park. Oklahoma City, OK 73107. Come see riders show off their equestrian

skills at the Greater Oklahoma Hunter Jumper Preview & Horse Show in Oklahoma City on July 6-17. With 4 days of rider and horse preview followed by five days of competition, this exciting display of horses and their training is fun for the entire family. Visit [www.goshow.org](http://www.goshow.org) for more information.



OLD-FASHIONED INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

**JUL  
07**

**COMMERCE DAYS,** Sill Park. Commerce, OK 74339. Commerce Days welcomes everyone out for a weekend of fun on July 7-9. There will be live music from The Route 66 Western

Swing Band on Thursday. Then on Friday, July 8th, The Band DeLorean will be taking the stage at 7pm. Big Smitty will be taking the stage on Saturday July 9th at 7pm and playing until around 12am.

**JUL  
09**

**BEATS & BITES FESTIVAL,** Riverwind Casino. Norman, OK 73072. Feast on delicious entrees and snacks from various food trucks at Riverwind Casino's Beats & Bites music and food truck festival.

**JUL  
10**

**INTERNATIONAL FINALS YOUTH RODEO,** Heart of Oklahoma Expo Center. Shawnee, OK 74804. This six-day event features two performances each day by contestants from

all over the United States. Bring the whole family out to watch this exciting youth rodeo on July 10-15 that includes barrel racing, pole bending, breakaway roping, goat tying, team roping, calf roping, steer wrestling, bull riding, saddle bronc riding and bareback riding. A full Western trade show will also be held at the International Finals Youth Rodeo.

**JUL  
13**

**WOODY GUTHRIE FOLK FESTIVAL,** Okemah, OK 74859. The Woody Guthrie Folk Festival celebrates the life and musical legacy of one of America's

greatest folk music songwriters and troubadours, Woody Guthrie. Held in Guthrie's hometown on July 13-17, this festival offers music, children's activities, poetry readings and more throughout the city. Daytime main stage performances will be held indoors at the Crystal Theater and other locations in downtown Okemah, while evening main stage performances will be held at Pastures of Plenty. Head out to the Woody Guthrie Folk Festival to commune with like-minded music lovers from all over the world. For more information, visit [www.woodyfest.com](http://www.woodyfest.com).

**JUL  
14**

**PORTER PEACH FESTIVAL,** Downtown Porter. Porter, OK 74454. The Porter Peach Festival on July 14-16 celebrates the area crop of peaches with a myriad of activities and events

perfect for a bright summer day with the family. Purchase or pick peaches at nearby orchards, or head to Porter's downtown Main Street for arts and crafts, games, live music and a wide variety of fair food. Bring the whole family to this old-fashioned festival for carnival rides and more. Visit [www.porterpeachfestivals.com](http://www.porterpeachfestivals.com) for more information.



**JUL  
15**

**GENE AUTRY OPEN RODEO**, 6247 Gene Autry Rd. Ardmore, OK 73401. Named after the original singing cowboy of Hollywood, the Gene Autry Open Rodeo brings together cowboys and cowgirls from across the state for some exciting competition on July 15-16. Events include mutton bustin' for kids six and under, team roping, junior barrel racing for riders 14 and under and senior barrel racing. There will also be tie down and breakaway roping.

**JUL  
15**

**CARNEGIE RODEO**, Carnegie Lower Park Rodeo Arena. Carnegie, OK 73015. For more than 50 years, the annual Carnegie Rodeo has been entertaining audiences. Step into the Carnegie Lower Park Rodeo Arena for this family friendly event on July 15-16.

**JUL  
15**

**11TH ANNUAL WAURIKA RANCH RODEO**, Rex Dunn's Coyote Hills Arena. Waurika, OK 73573. The 11th annual Waurika Ranch Rodeo is a WRCA sanctioned rodeo and will be held at 8 p.m. on July 15-16. For more information, visit [www.waurikachamber.com](http://www.waurikachamber.com).

**JUL  
16**

**STRATFORD PEACH FESTIVAL**, Stratford City Park. Stratford, OK 74872. A celebration synonymous with summer, the Stratford Peach Festival is family entertainment at its finest. It is held in the self-professed "Peach Capital of Oklahoma."

**JUL  
19**

**AMERICAN BUCKSKIN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW**, Tulsa Expo Square. Tulsa, OK 74114. The American Buckskin Registry Association is holding the annual World Championship Show on July 19-23. All classes of riders compete in keyhole, showmanship, riding, horsemanship, barrel racing, pole bending and reining. Three sets of American Buckskin Registry Points are up for grabs during these triple-judged equestrian events. The World Championship Show is the premiere event for buckskins, duns, red duns and grullas.

## NATIONAL DAY OF THE COWBOY



**JUL  
20**

**TULSA COUNTY FREE FAIR**, Tulsa Fairgrounds. Tulsa, OK 74112. The Tulsa County Free Fair comes to the Exchange Center at the Tulsa Fairgrounds on July 20-22. This event is open to the public and features 4-H and community exhibits as well as learning events and competitions. On Friday night, the Tulsa County 4-H holds the Festival of Fun with entertainment for the entire family. Admission includes ice cream and live entertainment. There is something for everyone at the Tulsa County Free Fair. Visit [www.oces.tulsacounty.org](http://www.oces.tulsacounty.org) for more information.

**JUL  
22**

**AMERICAN COWBOY TRADE DAYS & CELEBRATION OF THE AMERICAN COWBOY**, Whitaker Park. Pryor, OK 74361. Make your way to Pryor for the annual American Cowboy Trade Days & Celebration of the American Cowboy for everything cowboy-related. Visitors to the American Cowboy Trade Days & Celebration of the American Cowboy in Pryor will also be treated to period re-enactments, stagecoach and buggy rides, food and entertainment. Browse the event grounds for a little taste of everything Western, from saddle-makers to furniture craftsmen on July 22-24. Visit [www.pryor-chamber.com](http://www.pryor-chamber.com) for more information.

**JUL  
23**

**NATIONAL DAY OF THE COWBOY. CHISHOLM TRAIL HERITAGE CENTER**, Duncan, OK 73533. Join the Chisholm Trail Heritage Center to celebrate cowboy history with the National Day of the Cowboy event in Duncan. There will be free family-friendly activities for all ages. Visitors will have the chance to see the 4D Experience Theater, watch animatronic Jesse Chisholm near the campfire, listen to live music and meet special guests. The 2016 National Day of the Cowboy event will focus on celebrating the American cowgirl. For more information, visit [www.onthechisholmtrail.com](http://www.onthechisholmtrail.com).

**JUL  
27**

**WORLD WIDE PAINT HORSE CONGRESS**, Tulsa Expo Square. Tulsa, OK 74114. At the World Wide Paint Horse Congress, horses and riders compete in a wide variety of events at Tulsa Expo Square on July 27-31. Don't miss any of the western riding, showmanship and pole bending at this event that is fun for the entire family. The barrel racing and stake races are especially exciting. It all happens in Built Ford Tough Livestock Complex. For more information on the World Wide Paint Horse Congress, visit [www.kansaspainthorse.com](http://www.kansaspainthorse.com).



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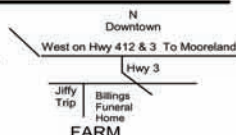
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Bold Blueboon  
TRR Model Playgun  
Boon San  
Aspecial Firewater  
Coronas Fast Dash

Metallic Cat  
Paddys Irish Whiskey  
Two Eyed Red Buck  
Sophisticated Catt  
Hydrive Cat  
Smart Chic Olona  
Cats Moonshine  
Third Cutting  
Hickorys Indian Pep  
Real Smart Mate  
Show Me A Song Joes  
Poco Dot Lena  
Justa Genuine Jack  
Hot Scotch Hollywood  
DR Shining Spark  
Cats Quixote Jack

### DIRECTIONS

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- 2013 stud by **Hydrive Cat**, out of a Smart Little Lena mare. He is 14.3 and stout – an awesome horse!
- 2 yr. old solid Buckskin stud by **Hydrive Cat** out of a daughter of Yellow Roan of Texas.
- 3 yr. old black gelding by Herman Goldseeker, big and stout - 15 hands. Been ridden all winter.
- 2 yr. old gelding by Boon San, out of a daughter of **Hydrive Cat** – smaller type horse.
- 2 yr. old gelding by **Hydrive Cat** out of a daughter of Maxi Lena
- 8 yr. old stud by **Smart Chic Olona**, out of a mare that has won over \$30,000 in NRHA. He's broke to ride!
- 3 yr. old stud by Hickorys Indian Pep, out of a daughter of Docs Stylish Oak. Really broke!
- 2014 stud by **Cats Moonshine**, out of a daughter of Royal Fletch, gorgeous and broke to ride!
- Beautiful bay roan daughter of **Two ID Sweet Jack** – Big, thick and pretty headed – Could be a show mare!
- 2 yr. old black daughter of Smart N Pepto, out of a daughter of Rhinstone Bartender. Pretty!
- 2 yr. old bay roan daughter of Rhinstone Bartender, out of a daughter of Davis Gold Angel.
- 2 yr, old big stout Palomino gelding by Aspecial Firewater by Firewater Flit, out of an Easily Smashed mare – Barrel Prospect!
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- 4 geldings by World Champion **Show Me A Song Joes**, all eligible for the Pitzer Ranch Horse Invitational.
- Palomino stud by **Show Me A Song Joes**, out of a daughter of Tanquary Gin.
- Red Dun gelding by **Real Smart Mate**, out of a daughter of Genuine Hombre
- Sorrel gelding by **Poco Dot Lena**, out of a daughter of CD Olona
- Dun gelding by Justa Genuine Jack, out of a daughter of Boonlight Dancer.
- 10 yr. old buckskin gelding by **Paddys Irish Whiskey** – solid head and heel horse. 14.3 – 1200 lbs.
- Finished rope horse on either end – Money earner in the USTRC and World Series Team Roping!





**C**hristmas in July at Foss State Park, just north of Foss, Okla., is one of the largest family-friendly outdoor events in western Oklahoma. Since 1990, the Foss Lake Association has sponsored Christmas in July. What started as a celebration to honor soldiers returning from Operation Desert Storm has turned into an annual event to honor all veterans. This year, the celebration will begin at noon on Friday, July 8, and last until after the fireworks display on Saturday night, July 9.

Visitors who arrive for Christmas in July are greeted by the U.S. flag and flags from each branch of the military displayed on either side of the entrance to the park. The main festivities take place just north of the marina in the center of the park. On Saturday morning, visitors crowd around the grassy area, waiting for the flag raising ceremony to begin. At precisely 9 a.m., Reveille begins to play as soldiers from Altus Air Force Base

present the flags. The U.S. flag is raised while spectators stand at attention, watching the flag ascend with their hands placed over their hearts.

"This is a great family-friendly event," said Eric Puyear, owner of B & K Bait House at Foss Lake and president of the Foss Lake Association. "Our purpose is to celebrate and honor veterans from all U.S. wars and all branches of the military."

Christmas in July is a partnership between the Foss Lake Association and the Foss State Park. The highlight of the event is the flag-raising ceremony, held to honor veterans.

Following this presentation, speakers, including both former and current Oklahoma state legislators, recognize the veterans in attendance and provide a pin of recognition for their service. Veterans from the Oklahoma Veterans Center, Clinton Division, attend every year to observe and participate in this ceremony.

In an effort to educate visitors, this year a local Boy Scouts of America troop will demonstrate the proper way to dispose of an American flag. The group will dig a pit on the shore of the lake, fill it with firewood, and burn flags that are no longer in service. Typically, a U.S. flag is taken out of service when it becomes too tattered and worn to use. To dispose properly of a U.S. flag, the flag must be cut into pieces so that the fire remains small and the ceremony respectful.

Although the focus of the celebration is on the sacrifice made by veterans, many family-friendly events are planned as well. The Foss Lake Little King and Queen Contest is an opportunity for kids ages birth to 12 years old to display their poise and talents.

The only requirement for those from birth to two years old is to look cute. Kids ages three to seven are judged on an interview and their dress, while a talent contest  
**See CHRISTMAS page 53**



**BY STACI  
MAUNEY**

prestige prose@gmail.com

**PHOTO DETAILS**

Christmas in July at Foss State Park is a celebration to honor all veterans. (Photo by Eric Puyear, owner of B & K Bait House and president of the Foss Lake Association)





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is included for older contestants up to age twelve. One boy and one girl winner are crowned in each age group.

Vendors set up in the park, with a variety of food offerings as well as arts and crafts, jewelry and antiques.

In addition to good food, spectators can watch the boat parade. A motorcycle parade is held for those who enjoy riding, with the entry fee going to the Oklahoma Veterans Center, Clinton Division. New activities this year include a carnival and a Dam Fun Run for walking and running enthusiasts. To close out the festivities, a band entertains the crowd on Saturday night before the fireworks display begins.

Foss Lake is the largest lake between New Mexico and Oklahoma City, drawing visitors from all over Oklahoma as well as North Texas.

The weekend of Christmas in July is easily the biggest weekend of the year for the park. Visitors arrive at the campgrounds during Fourth of July weekend, and many stay to enjoy the Christmas in July festivities the following weekend. The RV campgrounds at the park fill up, along with hotels in the nearby town of Clinton. Approximately 3,000 to 4,000 people enjoy the park during Christmas in July.

In order to pull off a successful event, the Foss State Park Service relies on the participation of local law enforcement agencies, including the Custer County Sheriff's Department, Oklahoma Highway Patrol, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Butler EMS and Volunteer Fire Department, Foss Fire Department, Weatherford Police Department and park rangers from other Oklahoma state parks.


Before the fireworks begin on Saturday night, volunteer law enforcement officers are honored with a cookout. Because the



Reveille begins to play as soldiers from Altus Air Force Base present the flags. (Photos by Eric Puyear, owner of B & K Bait House and president of the Foss Lake Association)

number of agencies involved is so great, this has helped foster relationships and develop camaraderie between law enforcement personnel and various agencies throughout the years.

"We hope everyone has fun coming out here," said Barry Hardaway, Foss State Park manager. "We want everyone to stay safe and have a good time in a family-friendly environment."

For more information about Christmas in July on July 8-9, visit [www.FossLake.com](http://www.FossLake.com) or the Foss State Park Facebook page. To make a reservation, visit [www.gocampok.com](http://www.gocampok.com). 



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# OKLAHOMA STATE PARKS

## *Beavers Bend State Park*



**K**nown for its hospitality, Beavers Bend State Park is the place to visit all year round, according to Jim Miller, park manager at Beavers Bend State Park.

"In southeast Oklahoma, the terrain is semi-mountainous once you get to Beavers Bend," Miller said.

Miller, who has been working at Beavers Bend State Park for 35 years, said visitors see a different environment coming from any direction. The state park is located just south of the Kiamichi mountains.

"In our area, it's timbered hills with a lot of trees—pines and hardwood," Miller explained. "It's a mixed vegetation and it's just beautiful."

Normal annual visitation for the state park is 950,000 to 1,000,000. The majority of Beavers Bend visitors are from the Dallas-Fort Worth area, he added.

"We get a lot of comments from visitors," Miller said. "Relaxation is probably one of the

most frequent words they use to describe Beavers Bend. I think it's such a change for those people to come out of their daily lifestyle and come into ours for a few days."

The "relaxing" state park is one of the seven original Civilian Conservation Corps parks in Oklahoma.

"The state park got the nickname Beavers Bend because the land was donated by Johnny Beaver, and there is a bend in the river," Miller explained.

Beaver sold the land to Dierk's Lumber Company prior to the 1930s.

At that time, the company donated approximately 800 acres of land to the State of Oklahoma to develop a state park.

"We have a couple of buildings that were built by the CCC," Miller said. "You can see their work in some of the rock work around here, especially in the walls and shelters."

The CCC built a swimming area, bathhouse, cabin and a group

camping facility, he explained. Members of the CCC also developed the road system throughout the camp.

"When you think about the tremendous work they did with the equipment they had back in the 1930s, it's not like the equipment we have nowadays," he explained.

The Corps of Engineers later moved to help control flooding in southeast Oklahoma, he continued. They built a hydro power plant to generate and make electricity.

They also built Broken Bow Lake just north of Beavers Bend in the late '70s. The lake is 26 miles long with 180 miles of shoreline and 14,000 acres of water.

"The Corps of Engineers developed it and turned it over to us," Miller added. "Now we've got campgrounds on the lake, boat ramps, a marina and now we have a lodge up there on the lake."

The 40-room lodge sits up on the bluff looking down on Broken Bow Lake. **See PARK page 56**



**BY LACI JONES**

editor@okfronline.com

### PHOTO DETAILS

Beavers Bend State Park is one of the seven original Civilian Conservation Corps parks in Oklahoma. (Photo by Laci Jones)



Bow Lake. Fishing is a popular activity at Beavers Bend, he added. Almost 20 years ago, the state park started stocking trout in the spillway creek. Miller said enough cold water is released through the bottom of the spillway where trout can live year-round.

“I think it’s the best trout fishery in Oklahoma—right here in Beavers Bend,” Miller added. “It really has brought people to stay in our cabins and campgrounds, especially in our off-seasons because that’s when trout fishing is really good.”

Just north of the state park, there is an 18-hole golf course. Today, the state park also has 48 cabins, a museum, a couple hundred RV sites and primitive sites.

“We have 14 private businesses now that operate in the park,” Miller explained. “These include restaurants, miniature golf, canoe rentals, riding stables, and a train. We also have two portable vehicles that drive around and sell snow cones, a marina and duck boat rentals.”

The state park also introduced their new six-tower zip line in May, and the last run is 1,100 feet over water. Adding the new zip line took many years of preparation, Miller added.

“At one point, it was just a concept,” he explained. “I had that thought in my head, and I heard how popular they were.”

Next thing Miller knew, the state park was accepting proposals, finalizing the building contract and building the zip line.

Miller said future plans for the state park involve cleaning up the state park. Last May, the state park flooded and had record lake levels.

“Our structure is built that the spillway has to be opened as the water approaches the top of it,” he explained. “In May, they opened the spillway two-and-one-half feet, which did considerable

damage to our river and our trout fishery.”

In December, the state park had another record lake level, and they opened the spillway three-and-one-half feet.

Miller said the flooding did more considerable damage to the park’s trout fishery, bridges and walkways. In fact, the flooding tore out a bridge at the state park.

“Future plans are to step back and fix what was damaged by the flood,” Miller added. “That’s the critical thing for us right now.”

Miller said the state park has two special events—Kiamichi Owa-Chito Festival and Fall Festival. The Owa-Chito Festival is the “Festival of the Forest” and is the third weekend of June. The festival involves chainsaw events where competitors cut trees and logs.


“Then they compete with what they call bucking logs,” he explained. “You chain the logs up and get them ready to be drug out, and they operate skidders.”

The Fall Festival is held in November, and Miller said the event is all about handmade crafts. He said the festival is held mostly at the Heritage Center at the state park. Approximately 60 to 80 craftsmen set up booths at the Fall Festival, and more than 14,000 visitors attend each year.

“Fall colors is a good gamble sometimes, Miller said. “Sometimes it’s early and sometimes it’s a little later.

“Normally the last two weeks of October and first two weeks of November should do it. A lot of people really enjoy the fall colors.”

Miller said visitors can drive north on U.S. Highway 259 to U.S. Highway 1 to get a colorful view on top of a mountain.

For more information on Beavers Bend State Park, call 580-494-6538. 



(Top to bottom) The area is timbered hills with a lot of trees—pines and hardwood. The CCC also built Broken Bow Lake just north of Beavers Bend. Beavers Bend has 48 cabins available for rental. (Photos by Laci Jones)





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# Grazing Oklahoma

## Giant Ragweed

**Characteristics:** Giant ragweed is an annual, warm-season forb native to North America. It can occasionally reach more than 15 feet in height when growing in moist, nutrient-rich soils but commonly reaches six feet. Thick green stems are covered with stiff white hairs, which make them very coarse to touch. Leaves can vary in shape depending on size. New leaves are often lanceolate, becoming divided into three or five lobes when mature. The three-lobed pitchfork-shaped leaf is often the greatest distinguishing characteristic for this plant. Leaf margins are usually serrated. Many of the upper stems terminate in a cylindrical spike of yellowish green flowers in August to October. Another

common name of this plant is bloodweed because of the reddish purple sap apparent when stems are rubbed or broken.

**Area of Importance:** In Oklahoma and Texas, giant ragweed is primarily found in disturbed areas and along the margins of wooded areas. On recently disturbed ground, it can form very tall, dense thickets. Abandoned crop fields, vacant lots, stream banks, and along roadsides and railroads are easy places to spot giant ragweed.

**Attributes:** Giant ragweed and its smaller cousins, western

and common ragweeds, are the primary sources of hay fever in the U.S. Its genus name is from the Greek word “ambrosia,” which means “the food of the gods.”

In spring and summer, giant ragweed makes excellent forage for wildlife. The large leaves are often stripped from young plants by white-tailed deer. Seeds of giant ragweed contain more protein than most other grains with which we are familiar, including corn and wheat, and are eaten by quail and other game birds.

Livestock producers often curse

giant ragweed and spray it out at first opportunity, but sheep, goats and cattle often prefer the leaves of giant ragweed to bermudagrass in spring and early summer. However, if too much giant ragweed is allowed to persist in open spaces, it can impede the growth of other warm-season forbs and grasses that are more desirable to livestock at different times of the year. ☒



**BY JOSH GASKAMP**

jagaskamp@noble.org

### PHOTO DETAILS

Giant ragweed leaves vary in shape depending on size. (Courtesy of The Noble Foundation)



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	= PERENNIALS
	= WARM SEASON
	= COLD SEASON
	= NATIVE
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**BOWIE LIVESTOCK SALE BARN-** Horse sale May 1. Now taking consignments. Tack sale starts at 2 p.m. with horses to follow. **940-872-5441**.

**VERNON LIVESTOCK MARKET-** Cattle sale Tuesdays at 11 a.m. [www.vernonlivestockmarket.com](http://www.vernonlivestockmarket.com). **940-552-6000**.

**MCALESTER UNION STOCKYARDS-** Regular sale every Tuesday. 10 a.m. Calves & Yearlings. 6 p.m. Cows & Bulls. **918-423-2834**. [mcalesterstockyards.com](http://mcalesterstockyards.com)

## for sale

**SAM'S BEST BUYS-** A family owned surplus farm type store. Established 1945, we offer department store quality goods, personal service and real bargains. Like us on Facebook and see us on Yellowpages.com. Located at 2409 South Agnew Ave. Oklahoma City, close to the stockyards. **405-636-1486**. 06p

**CUSTOM BUILT WW LIVESTOCK SYSTEMS-** Hydraulic chutes to fit your specific needs or requirements. **580-439-8802** or **1-800-657-6062**.

**FOR SALE.-** Hesston 956A baler. Has all updates. **405-282-0507** or **405-640-5989**. Guthrie, Ok.

**FOR SALE.-** 1968 Chevrolet farm truck, runs, tandem axle, C60 8 cylinder, 2 speed, 2 ton, metal bed, hoist hydraulic lift, air brakes, tachometer. \$8000 obo. Enid, OK. **580-493-2391**. 07pd

**D&L FARM & HOME-** pet food, hay, feed, shavings, animal health, organics, lawn & garden and gifts. Visit [www.dandlfarmandhome.com](http://www.dandlfarmandhome.com) for more information.

## hunting

**LIFETIME DEER BLINDS.-** Custom orders welcome. Call Mike Jordan at **806-781-8726** or visit [www.lifetimedeerblinds.com](http://www.lifetimedeerblinds.com). 07pd

## livestock

**BLACK GELBVIEH BULLS.-** Ready to turn out. 15 available. Pure bred and registered. Excellent EPDs, great genetics. Add growth, milk and performance. Great disposition. Good condition. Le Grand Gelbvieh **405-747-6950**. 07c

**REGISTERED ANGUS BULLS-** Females, semen and embryos for sale. Top bloodlines from Gardiner, Express, Wezhmann and Woodside. Top 1 percent EPDs and performance tested. For more info call Rocking P Angus, Paducah, TX, **806-626-8657** or email [landon@rockingpangus.com](mailto:landon@rockingpangus.com). 04-07c

**777 CHAROLAIS RANCH-** Registered bulls for sale. Large selection commander bloodline. Also we have hay for sale. Call Jack or Claudell Higgins **580-276-3285** or Jim Lemmons at **580-276-8052**. 05-07p

**PRAGUE STOCKYARDS-** Regular cattle sales every Tuesday. To consign, call Prague Stockyards. **405-567-0180** or **940-389-4519**. [www.praguestockyards.com](http://www.praguestockyards.com).

## real estate

**400 +/- ACRES-** \$740,000; 100 head capacity, flat to gently rolling topography, beautiful large hardwoods, creek, ponds. For more information contact Accredited Ranch and Land Brokers, **844-ALB-LAND**

**FOR SALE-** 520 acres, 5 ponds, 2 box cars and 2 hay barns. Good water well and electricity is available with really good neighbors and really good Bermuda grass. Lots of clover, 2 large meadows, 4 pastures with 2 entrances. Also registered Angus cow herd and bulls for sale. For more info call **580-320-4702**. 07p

**387 +/- ACRES-** \$815,000; Over 5,000 sft home, barn, five ponds, creek, clean Bermuda pastures, large mature trees. Accredited Ranch and Land Brokers, **844-ALB-LAND**

**FORT WORTH-** Beautiful 4800+SF ranch house on 3+ acres in Remuda Ranch Estates. 6BR, 5+ Baths, 3 car garage, pool, luscious lawn & huge trees. \$425,000. Tri Goldthwaite **817-266-5501**.

## wanted

**ATTENTION MINERAL OWNERS.-** Advocate Oil & Gas, LLC is buying oil/gas mineral interests in all areas. Give Kathy ray a call at **405-207-7818** for your best price today. We have a proven track record of taking care of our clients. 07c

**WANTED-** Baby pigmy goats in good health. Possibly registered. Call Lynn or Shelly **405-651-5809**. 07p

**WANTED-** All kinds of classes of horses. Daily markets, cash paid on the spot. Highway 33 next to the Sale Barn in Perkins, OK **405-547-8337** or **612-963-0712**. 07p



# OKFR / parting shot



## **Boys and their guns**

Photographer, Kathie Freeman captured this image of a young boy showing off his skills for his father who was home on leave from the military. She said he was a nice young man with great manners. (Photo by Kathie Freeman)





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