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MIAMI *News-Record* REID NEWSPAPER GROUP

Serving Miami and surrounding communities since 1903.

Friday, November 5, 2021 | Vol. 120 No.87 | 50¢



Photo by Gary Crow

Girl Scouts wave American flags while riding in a Veterans Day parade in Miami.

AMERICAN LEGION WILL RAISE 100'S OF FLAGS FOR VETERANS DAY

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Veterans Day is Nov. 11 and American flags will be flown all over Miami in tribute to military veterans who've served in all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces. Members of the American Legion will be putting up about 350 to 400 flags beginning the morning of Nov. 10. They must start a day early because they have so many flags to fly. "We put up flags about 10 or 12 times a year for businesses and residences," said Bill Tritthart, current

commander of American Legion Post 147 in Miami. "Anyone can sign up for the service." American Legion members set up the pole and properly raise the flag at each location on numerous national holidays, especially those that are military related. Memorial Day, Flag Day, President's Day, Labor Day, 9/11 and Independence Day are just a few of the days the flags are flown. If there's inclement weather, they won't put out the flags, but they'll fly them on an alternate holiday to make up for it. The next date they'll be out to raise

the red, white and blue is on Dec. 7 for National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. Once the holiday passes, Legion members come back out to properly lower and remove each flag. They also remove the pole and replace the cover that keeps the hole from filling with water or becoming a trip hazard. The patriotic flag raisings are part of the American Legion's fundraisers, so there's a nominal annual fee for the service. For the first year, the fee is slightly

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Miami recognized by city for Arts Council award

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Mayor Bless Parker read a proclamation declaring November 09, 2021, as Barbara Smith Day in Miami after Smith was recently awarded the Oklahoma Arts Council Governor's award. Parker said at the regular meeting Monday evening, "Barbara has done a lot

of things and taught a lot of students in Miami and her input and help are appreciated." The Governor's Arts Awards is an annual event recognizing individuals and organizations for their contributions to the arts in Oklahoma. First awarded in 1975, the awards are presented by the governor during a special

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NEWS

Pinnell talks tourism at summit in Miami



Photo by Gary Crow

Oklahoma Lt. Governor Matt Pinnell speaks during Tuesday's travel and tourism summit in Miami.

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Lt. Governor Matt Pinnell spoke to an eager audience about how tourism in Oklahoma could be better during the Travel & Tourism Summit at the Coleman Theatre on Tuesday, Nov. 2. He emphasized that the tourism industry brings valuable tax dollars to communities, but it can also lure new residents to the state. The event, hosted by the City of Miami, Visit Miami OK (CVB) and the Coleman Theatre Beautiful, was held in partnership with the Oklahoma Travel

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Toilet paper rains from the stands Tuesday night during the annual TP game at Northeastern A&M. A basket by Eric Ruston just seconds into the contest against the Missouri Southern State University JV started the fun for the Golden Norse fans. NEO rolled to a 113-55 victory in the season opener.

OSBI is seeking leads in Ottawa County murder

The Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation has joined the investigation in a case where an Ottawa County woman — who had been found insane in the drowning death of her infant son in 2003 — was found dead Monday. The OSBI has identified the victim as Toni Moran, 47. Her body was found 3 miles north of Commerce. The Quapaw Nation Marshal's Office

requested OSBI assistance with the case. The Oklahoma Office of the Chief Medical Examiner will determine cause and manner of death. No arrests have been made and the investigation is ongoing, according to an OSBI release. Persons who might have any information that can help with the investigation, please contact the OSBI at 800-522-8017 or tips@osbi.ok.gov.

EVENT

Elks Lodge holds Veterans Day dinner

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In an ongoing effort to support veterans in the community, the Miami Elks Lodge is hosting a Veterans Day dinner on Nov. 11 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The dinner will be held at the Lodge located at 401 S. Main St.

Lodge members are providing the meal via a potluck, so there'll be a variety of meats, sides, salads and desserts. Volunteers helping to set up for the dinner, then tear down and clean up afterward include Sherry Beard, Jennifer Koch, Russ Campbell, Susie Campbell, Kim Payne and Jenn Simpson.

The dinner is open to the public and meals are free of charge to veterans providing proof of service. Veterans can bring a guest, who also receives a complimentary meal.

Non-veterans attending the dinner will pay \$5 if they're an Elks member and \$10 if they're not a member. After covering expenses, proceeds from the event will be earmarked for future veteran's activities.

"We'll ask veterans to stand and state their name, length of service and branch," said Jennifer Koch, one of the dinner's organizers. "We'll also discuss our Adopt-A-Vet and Welcome Home Kits programs. We're taking this

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Flags

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higher to cover the cost of the flag and pole. The home or business owner is responsible for drilling the hole for the pole, but Legion members take care of everything else.

Other fundraisers the American Legion regularly schedules are its Coffee & Donuts Get-togethers every Tuesday and Thursday from 9 to 10 a.m. and Biscuits and Gravy Breakfasts on the last Saturday of each month from 9 to 11 a.m. Both recurring events take place at the post at 2129 Denver Harner Drive. They were recently started and are doing well.

“We just had our first all you can eat biscuits and gravy breakfast on Oct. 30,” said Tritthart. “About 35 or 40 people

showed up. We ran out of biscuits but we went and got some more.”

There’s no cost to attend either event, but donations are welcome and appreciated. You can also schedule a tour through the American Legion Military Museum located on-site.

American Legion members also plan to attend the Veterans Day Parade hosted by the Ottawa County 4-H and Ottawa County OSU Extension office. The parade is scheduled at 5 p.m. on Nov. 11 in downtown Miami.

If you’d like a flag flown at your home or business during appropriate holidays, call the American Legion at 918-542-6227 to get set up in time for the New Year.

Echoes from the past THE OKLAHOMA SLAVE NARRATIVES

D Bruce Howell

The Great Depression of the 1930s created an enormous challenge to provide jobs for financially destitute citizens. The Federal Writer’s Project, offered employment for those with expertise in scientific research. The Oklahoma Historical Society participated in the project from 1935-39, when interviews were conducted with former slaves ranging in age from the late 70s to over 100. One hundred fourteen were interviewed who originated from several states. The Cherokee, Creek, Chickasaw and Choctaw tribes had taken the practice of black slavery from the Europeans, while the Seminoles adopted them into their tribe. The Indians reputedly showed more humanity to their slaves than the whites and it became evident in the interviews.

Many of those chosen were born in southeast states, attracted to Oklahoma during the first land rush in 1889 and others that followed. They were encouraged by E.P. McCabe, founder of Langston, who owned a newspaper and touted “free land.” McCabe hoped settlement would create a political power block, possibly an all-black state. More than 50 communities developed, but eventually most closed. The following excerpts of interviews include slaves owned by the Five Tribes and from southern states. Random excerpts on several topics ranging from a humorous incident involving the Ku Klux Klan to daily life as a slave are included.

...Bert Luster, 85,



Oklahoma City “There was some white folks who would take us to church after the war. One night we was sittin there with Aunt Mandie who only had one leg when them Klans shot in amongst us, Aunt Mandie beat us all home.

...Phoebe Banks, 78 Chocka Bottoms, described how her uncle, who fought with the First Kansas Colored, prepared for battle. “The captain of this company wanted his men to be brave and not get scared, so before the fighting start, he put out a tub of white liquor (corn whiskey) and steam them up so’s they’d be mean enough to whip their grannie! The soldiers do lots of riding and the saddle sores get so bad, they grease their body every night with snake oil so’s they could keep on going.”

...Joe Bean 89, Hulbert, described a whipping. “One time I saw a slave whipped on another plantation. He was a new slave, what I mean, they had just bought him and the overseer said the whipping was “just to break him in!” First, they beat him with a whip, then with a strap, after tying him to a log. Peeled off his shirt and laid

on with the whip, and then pour salt and pepper water over his so’s his back would sting and burn.”

...John Brown, 87, Tulsa, reflected upon how his grandmother was lured aboard a slave ship. “One day a big ship stopped off the shore and the ship men sent a little boat to the shore and scattered bright things and trinkets on the beach. Grandma said everyone made a rush for those things when the little boat left. Next day white folks did the same thing and the folks was feelin’ less scared and the next day some walked up the gangplank to get things off the plank and off the deck when they feel the ship move. They rushed to the side, but the plank was gone. Boatmen came up from the below where they had been hiding and drive the slaves down in the bottom with whips and clubs. When the slaves was landed at Charleston, the blacks was driven through the streets without any clothes and sold on the market.”

...William Hutson 98, — Tulsa, a houseboy, describes when he was set free from the plantation by his owner,

Dr. Allison, “When we gets back to the plantation he sounds the horn to call the slaves. They talk about it the rest of the day, but there wasn’t no work after the Master tells us we’re free. Then some of us goes into town and gets work. That was the first money I earn and then I have to learn how to spend it. That was the hardest part ‘cause the prices was high and the wages was low.”

...Mrs. Josie Jordan 75, Tulsa, recalled one incident where creative slaves outsmarted their master. “My mammy told me about one Master who almost starved his slaves, mighty stingy I reckon he was. They was seven hogs fat and ready for fall hog-killing time, just before they was ready, somethin’ happened to them porkers. One of the field boys found them dead and com a-telling the master. When the master see the hog’s he asked what happened? The Negroes standin’ round all said Malitis and acted like they don’t want to touch the hogs. Master say dress them anyway, but not for the house, keep the meat for the slave families. When Josie asked her mother why they kept the meat she said “Don’t you know what Malitis is?” She laughed and explained, “One of the strongest Negroes got up early, skittered to the hog pen with a heavy mallet...mall-it-is.”

The Oklahoma Slave Narratives provide a unique insight into America’s “Peculiar Institution.”

Note: Cherokee Echoes is available at Amazon.com and BARNESANDNOBLE.com

Miami Friends Church

Miami Friends Church pastor David Frazier shared a message, “Faithful.”

“And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.” Philippians 1:6

November marks the Frazier’s 15 years in service to Miami Friends. The Frazier’s time has been underscored with love, and are grateful for the people and the community that surrounds us.

Faithful people built the church and the vision still remains. We are to endure till

the end. “So let’s not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don’t give up.” Galatians 6:9 NLT. It’s always good to do the right thing, even when we don’t reap the benefits.

We are to be grateful for all God has done, as “gratitude to God will fuel our ability to rise above difficult circumstances.” Our future is in His hands.

Miami Friends is a church family that believes everyone has value and purpose.

We welcome people from all walks of life to join us to worship Sunday’s at the meeting house across from NEO.

First Christian Church

First Christian Church, 2424 North Main St., Miami, Oklahoma. Morning services are at 8:30 and 10:45. Bible School classes for all ages are available at 9:45. There is Children’s worship during the 10:45 service.

We will continue to offer online opportunities for services through the church’s YouTube Channel and on the church’s Facebook video.

If you have any questions during this time, call the church office at 918-542-9816.

This Sunday, Senior Minister Brian S. Brubaker will be preaching. The title of the sermon is “Living a Godly Life” from Second Timothy 3:10-17.

The sermon is part of a series entitled “Faithful to the End.” All are welcome.

Johnson County tops Lady Norse, 3-1

Unable to take advantage of a second-set win, Northeastern A&M suffered a 3-1 loss to Johnson County Community College Wednesday night in a volleyball district semifinal match.

The Lady Cavaliers breezed 25-10 in the first set, but NEO evened things up by taking the second 25-23.

Johnson County then rolled 25-10 and 25-12 to complete the win.

“It was a tough one,” said NEO coach Alli O’Banion. “There were lots of ups and downs, but I am glad we were able to get the second.”

Johnson County (28-6) was the third-place finisher in the Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference while the Lady Norse (18-9) were the Region 2 champs.

The win was the second of the season over the Lady Norse for JCCC. It claimed a 3-1 victory Sept. 24 at Overland Park, Kansas.

It sends the Lady Cavaliers to the Plains B final at Friends University this weekend.

The winner then moves on to the NJCAA Division II national tournament Nov. 18-20 at Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

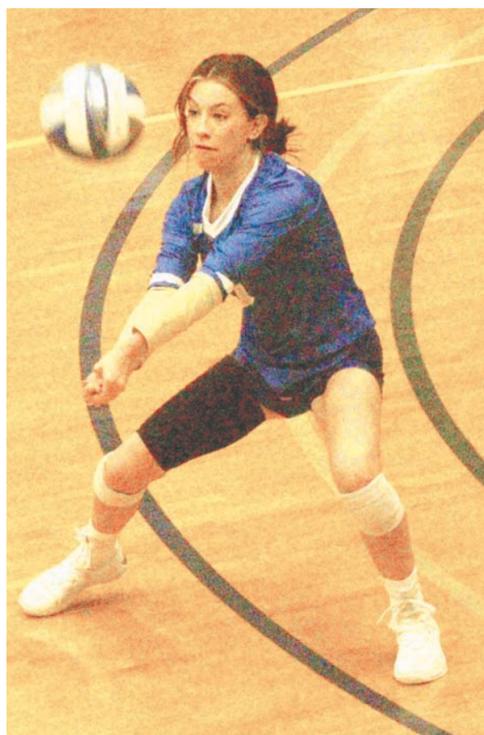
NEO’s statistical leaders included:

Kills — Symone Morris, 13; Breanna Dossey, 9; Paige Schrader, 5

Blocks — Symone Morris, 2.0; Paige Schrader, 2.0; Makayla Wagner, 2.0

Assists — Addison Berry, 27, Gabriella Guerrero, 2; Symone Morris, 2

Digs — Gabriella Guerrero, 16; Abbygail Thoren, 10; Addison Berry, 7



Gabriella Guerrero of Northeastern A&M concentrates on the ball during a game in Wednesday night’s volleyball district semifinal with Johnson County (Kansas) Community College.

TWO NEO PLAYERS RECEIVE ALL-REGION 2 HONORS

Northeastern A&M’s Maddie Heffelman and Sergio Gonzales were named to the all-Region 2 second team for soccer.

Heffelman is a freshman midfielder from Grove and Gonzalez is a freshman defender from Spain.

Rose State College forward Chelsie Hay and Seminole State midfielder Sidney McGregor shared women’s most valuable player honors.

Damorney Hutchinson, a forward from Northern Oklahoma-Tonkawa, was the Region 2 men’s MVP.

Others named to the women’s all-region first team were forwards Milica Bulatovic, Northern-Tonkawa, and Lauren DesCamp, Seminole State; midfielders Shannan Farnsworth, Rose State; Paris Nance, Rose State; Natalie Montanez, Seminole State, and Janet Moreno, Northern-Tonkawa; defenders Josie Jarvis, Northern-Tonkawa, and Taylor Eddy, Rose State, and goalie Sophie Augustin, Seminole State.

Joining Heffelman on the second team were forwards Rennie Ferla, Arkansas-Rich Mountain; Kiana Tulloch and Aya Wyatt, Seminole State; midfielders Britni Belmont,

Eastern Oklahoma State; Maddie Castro, Seminole State, and Rhiannon Holmes, Arkansas-Rich Mountain; defenders Caitlin Worthington, Rose State; Morgan Johnson, Arkansas-Rich Mountain, and goalie Mackenzie Miller, Rose State.

The men’s first team included forwards Cesar Solis, Murray State, and Jesus Aleman, Northern-Tonkawa; midfielders Marcovich Brown, Northern-Tonkawa; Kason Shrum, Arkansas-Rich Mountain; Logan Ferrall, Murray State, and Sean O’Mara, Murray State; defenders Kareem Williams, Northern-Tonkawa, and Barkan Kilic, Arkansas-Rich Mountain, and goalie Edward Garcia, Arkansas-Rich Mountain.

William de Dios, Murray State, and Harry White, Eastern Oklahoma State, joined Gonzales as second-team defenders.

Others on the second team were forwards Marco Alongi, Eastern Oklahoma State; Jack Wood, Rose State, and Antonio Galarzo, Arkansas-Rich Mountain; midfielders Jaron Frye and Daniel Clark, Northern-Tonkawa; Periale Noutcaha, Murray State, and Jake Lario, Rose State, and goalie Everado Garza, Murray State.