



Warning signs

City receives funding for three new storm sirens

Larissa Copeland
Staff Reporter

With tornado season underway – and several large storms already having rolled through the area – Elk City officials are working to keep area residents safe.

City Treasurer Elesia Church said recently that, years after

applying the city had received a grant allowing for three new storm sirens. This will allow for a siren in one new location and the replacement of two outdated sirens in the city.

“The ones being replaced are the old, old ones,” said Elk City Fire Chief Billy Word. “I remember seeing them as a little kid and thinking how cool they were.”

The new siren will be located east of the Elk City Airport on Gregory Road, Word said. The two replacement sirens will take the place of the sirens located behind Loves Country Store at 2703 E. Highway 66 and Bonita and Lester.

“These new ones cover a lot larger area,” Word said, noting that the city does still have some of the older model sirens

in place, but they plan to replace them as funding becomes available.

Last year, the city received two new tornado sirens, which were placed near an apartment complex east of Falcon Road on Country Club and near Walmart.

Siren tests occur at noon on Saturdays, weather permitting, Word said.



A second chance

Sheryl Ponce
Staff Writer

A little English Bull Terrier named Abby pulled on the heartstrings of people all over the nation. She began her story with her sister in Dallas where her breeder surrendered them to the animal shelter.

She had a severe heart murmur and in most cases she would have been euthanized. Because of the actions and cooperation of some dog lovers, Abby lives and is ready for a forever home.

That was just the beginning for the five-month old pup. She was underweight and the cost of her surgery was going to be prohibitive of adopting her to a forever home. Her sister went straight to adoption, but Abby had a longer road ahead of her.

There were several key people that stepped into action to get her the help she needed. May Ross of the Bull Terrier Rescue of Dallas was the first to see potential of the small ball of energy.

“She had a bad heart murmur. On a scale of one to six, with six being the worst, Abby had a five. Without the help of the national rescue organization she would have been put down because her problems were so extensive,” Ross commented.

The rescue group ran a sonogram on Abby and found that her problems were fixable. They had to find a place that could handle this type of problem. The organization, Rescue

Welfare Trust Fund of the Bull Terrier Club of America, would pay for the expenses of healing little Abby.

With the help of Marji Anderson, Clinton, she was off to Oklahoma State University Veterinary School for surgery. Anderson retrieved her from Dallas and took her to OSU to meet Dr. Ryan Braumwart, DVM, NCCIM, who is a veterinary cardiologist. Braumwart also has a local connection because his father, Dr. Alvin Braumwart, DVM has a practice in Clinton.

“Abby had two problems, which resulted in two separate surgeries. One, called Patent Ductus Arteriosus, PDA was fixed with a device put in her heart, we fused the valve. The other problem was fixed with a balloon catheter, called balloon angioplasty. She is very good now and prognosis is excellent,” Braumwart said.

The National Bull Terrier Trust paid for both procedures and her care.

“The surgeries cost around \$4,000 to \$5,000. We were able to pay for this because we had a couple of very nice donations. We help rescue Bull Terriers all over the country,” Glenna Wright, chairman of the club, said.

When the five-month-old Abby went into the rescue, Anderson cared for her. She nurtured her back to health and last Wednesday she was able to return Abby to Dallas so she could be given a second chance



Dr. Ryan Braumwart, DVM, NCCIM of OSU Veterinary School and Abby. Submitted photo.

at happiness in a forever home. “I would like to give a shout out to the Bull Terrier organi-

zation. They were top notch to work with. We always try to give discounts and work with groups, but this one was exceptional. I would also like to give credit to Dr. Zent of Elk City. He is a knowledge, caring doctor who has helped this process” Braumwart explained.

The problems Abby was born with are not necessarily typical for the breed. They have their reputations and problems, but this congenital problem was not one of them.

See Chance, p. 2A.

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May Ross
Bull Terrier Rescue of Dallas

Agenda: Commission to appoint new member



Elk City Commissioners are slated to appoint a member to fill the Commissioner Ward 2 seat, vacated by Bill Helton when he was elected Elk City Mayor in the April 7 election.

The appointment will take place at their regular meeting at 7 p.m. Monday in the commission chambers of Elk City City Hall, 320 W. 3rd.

According to the agenda, the newly-appointed commissioner will also be administered the oath of office by City Clerk Cheryl Sipes.

Other agenda items include:

Consider and approve or disapprove moving forward with developing combined residential zoning in C-3 zoning districts (General Commercial District).

Consider and approve or disapprove temporary consent for EMS Plus on month to month basis, review and renew monthly for basic long run transport from GPRMC to another medical facility.

Consider and approve or disapprove Agreement between City of Elk City/Public Works Authority and Myers Engineering for the Infrastructure Improvements to service the proposed Elementary School in West Ackley Park.

Consider and approve or disapprove bid received from Vaisala for the AWOS system at the Elk City Regional Airport in the amount of \$85,089 (budgeted item).

Commission to consider and approve or disapprove a payment requisition for Water Systems Improvement for \$10,254.30 payable to Metco.

Consider and approve or disapprove payment of \$14,208.38 to OAC for the City's 5% of the DCS CAP Project #15089 Omni Directional Approach Lighting System.

Consider and approve or disapprove payment of \$15,664.92 to OAC for the City's 5% of the DCS Cap Project #15090 Pavement Rehabilitation of Runway 17/35.

Consider and approve or disapprove pay request from Caswell Construction for Asphalt paving on 6th Street in the amount of \$122,000.00.

Consider and approve or disapprove purchase of asphalt under State contract and laid in place under the annual bid not to exceed \$440,000.00 from Caswell Construction Co, Inc. (budgeted item).

Consider and approve or disapprove purchase of concrete under annual bid contract from Caswell Construction Co Inc. not to exceed \$20,000.00 for repairs and new construction on City streets and alleys (budgeted item).

Consider and approve or disapprove purchase of concrete under annual bid contract from Dolese not to exceed \$20,000.00 for repairs and new construction on City streets and alleys. (budgeted item)

Consider and approve or disapprove Purchase Orders FY 14-15 & recurring invoices for May 4, 2015.

Commissioners will also hear a report from City Manager Lee Litterell, which includes discussion of ongoing projects, board meeting minutes and mayoral comments.

Hammon High School hosting blood drive

Oklahoma Blood Institute urges all healthy adults to donate blood at the May 14 blood drive with Hammon High School and Community in the Hammon School Cafeteria. Each donor at the blood drive, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., will receive a blood donor T-shirt.

John Armitage M.D., CEO and president of Oklahoma Blood Institute said, “Our T-shirts make the bold statement, ‘If you won't give, who will?’ Patients will not have a second chance at life without generous donors stepping out of their comfort zones and taking time to save lives.”

One in every seven people entering a hospital will need blood. However, of those eligible to donate blood in the U.S., only about 10 percent actually do. Giving blood takes about an hour, and each donation can save as many as three different lives.

See Drive, p. 2A.

Chance

From p. 1A.

Wright assumes the breeder surrendered her because she knew of the heart murmur.

"If someone is thinking about getting a Bull Terrier they need to do their research. They are considered little clowns and not for a novice owner," Wright warned.

The individuals who are part of the rescue seemed to be devoted owners and love the dogs' funny antics.

"I love this breed. It's like having a three-year-old, always a laugh. If you have more than one, it's like having a continuous birthday party of three year olds," Ross laughed.

The love that Abby received in her short life is giving her a second chance to live.

It is allowing her adoptive family the chance to love the little girl that touched so many lives along her journey back.

"She has such a sweet spirit. I'm going to miss her," Anderson confessed.

She took Miss Abby to the day spa, got her nails painted pink and wrapped her with printed scarf and jeweled collar before she left on her trip back to Dallas.

Fellow dog lover Elizabeth Wade escorted the two on their return trip. Anderson and Wade have been instrumental in Abby's recovery.

The three-week evaluation that all Bull Terriers go through before they are adopted will run short because the organization already knows her energy level, how she cooperates and gets along with other pets.

Next, it is up to the potential families to do their part and fill out the required paperwork and wait for the match made in heaven.

Abby left her mark on each person she came into contact with and she will be remembered for that sweet look and her inquisitive nature.

She has been an inspiration to each one who was put in her path. As Abby follows her destiny she may not remember her humble beginnings, but she will be remembered by all of those who loved her back to health.

'Round town

Saturday

Life Fest Walk-a-thon fundraiser and Fun Fair, 9 a.m., Ackley Park-West.

Auditions, "Why Do Fools Fall in Love," 2 p.m., Red Carpet Theatre.

Our Town, 7:30 p.m., Red Carpet Community Theatre, 422 N. Jefferson.

Monday

Southwest Art Guild paint day, 9 a.m., Jen's Java.

Elk City Museum Docents, 2 p.m., museum drug store.

City Commission, 7 p.m., City Hall.

Thursday

National Nurses Week reception, 3 p.m., rooms A and B, behind cafeteria, Great Plains Regional Medical Center.

Saturday, May 9

Auditions, "Why Do Fools Fall in Love," 2 p.m., Red Carpet Theatre.

Beckham County First Deputy Treasurer receives certifications

Jennifer Drury, Beckham County First Deputy Treasurer, recently achieved Advanced I and Advanced II Certifications for County Treasurers. After completing a minimum of seven courses for a total of 66 hours of instruction for her Basic Certification, Drury completed an additional 69 hours of coursework for the Advanced I level.

To achieve the Advanced II level, Drury completed another 61 hours for a total of 196 hours. She also completed an exercise after each course and earned a score of at least 80 percent.

Drury was honored at the County Treasurer's Association of Oklahoma's Annual School held recently in Norman.

The County Treasurers Association of Oklahoma instituted a voluntary certification program in 1992, which comprised an initial basic level. The association adopted an advanced level of educational certification in 1999.

In 2003, the program was revised to include more than 196 hours of required course work outlined in a rigorous multi-level basic, advanced, and advanced II curriculum. Each successive level has classes that are required to be taken, as well as additional courses taken at the discretion of the county official in order to meet the number of hours. Since the program's inception, more than 360 treasurers and deputies have successfully attained certification.

Course work for treasurers and their deputies encompasses subjects such as basic accounting; investments and collateral; tax sales; administration of county-owned property; basic finance; formulating and operating a publicly-funded budget; meeting strict requirements of purchasing and bidding procedures; basic mapping; tax roll corrections; land records; managing cash flow; and learning about more than 80 forms used for reporting purposes required by the State Auditor and Inspector's Office.

The program also contains courses on the legislative process; utilizing the Oklahoma Statutes and research laws; fundamentals of office administration; the Open Meetings

and Open Records Acts; communications skills; and a variety of courses on supervisory skills and mandatory issues regarding federal and state employment laws.

Courses in the certification program are conducted through the County Training Program, part of the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service at Oklahoma State University. The County Training Program is mandated by state statute and is authorized under the Commission on County Government Personnel and Training.

Instructors from OSU teach the classes for county officers and deputies at various locations throughout the state, as

well as on the university's campuses in Stillwater and Oklahoma City. In addition to County Treasurers, the OSU staff also conducts dozens of classes each year for other county officer certification programs. Many of the courses, which are usually taught in a classroom setting for 25 to 40 people, are attended by representatives from each of the elective and appointive agencies in county government.

More information about educational training for county officers may be obtained by contacting the County Training Program on the Stillwater campus at 405-744-6160, or by visiting the website at <http://www.agecon.okstate.edu/ctp>.



Jennifer Drury, Beckham County First Deputy Treasurer, is congratulated by Cindy Boyd, Oklahoma Deputy State Auditor and Inspector, Local Government Services, for receiving her certificates for attaining Advanced I and Advanced II Certifications for County Treasurers. Submitted photo.

Drive

From p. 1A.

Donations can be made every 56 days.

Although all blood types are needed, those with negative type blood are especially urged to donate. Only 18

percent of the population has negative blood types. Yet, patients with negative blood types can only receive blood from those 18 percent who have negative types.

Donors can opt to forgo the T-shirts, and instead, support Global Blood Fund.

OBI will contribute on behalf of these donors to

GBF to provide supplies and technology to struggling blood centers.

In the countries they serve, lives are lost daily due to an inadequate blood supply.

Anyone 16 and older can typically donate.

Appointments to donate can be made at obi.org or by calling 877-340-8777.

Oklahoma prison officials probe 2 inmate killings

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — The Oklahoma Department of Corrections has completed its investigation into the killing of an inmate last month at the Oklahoma State Penitentiary in McAlester and is looking into

a second homicide at a private prison in Holdenville.

Department spokeswoman Terri Watkins says investigators have finished looking into the March 28 strangulation of 36-year-old Shawn Moore in-

side his cell at the penitentiary and plan to recommend criminal charges against Moore's cellmate.

The department also is investigating the April 11 death of 30-year-old Bryan Blackburn.

Rose Marie Munford



Services for Rose Munford will be held Monday, May 4, 2015 at 2 p.m. at Whinery-Savage Chapel officiated by Pastor Lance Whaley. Burial will be at Canute Cemetery under the direction of Whinery-Savage Funeral Service.

Rose Marie Munford was born October 19, 1942 in Derby, Kan. to Margie Belle and Alvin Leroy Snowden. She died April 29, 2015 in Elk City at the age of 72 years, 6 months and 10 days.

Rose grew up on the family farm outside of Erick. She graduated from Erick High School in 1960. Rose was married to Gene Whitten on December 25, 1959 and she remained in the Erick area until the early 1970's.

She later moved to Elk

City to make her home. Rose was married to James Darrell Munford in 1977 and they operated Munford Music for several years. She later operated Rose's Thrift Shop and was most recently employed as a department manager with Wal-Mart. Rose loved working crossword puzzles and watching reality crime shows.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a son, James Munford.

She is survived by her children, Vickie DeLeon and husband, Ramiro, Erick, Bobby Whitten and wife, Linette, Clinton, Mike Whitten, Clinton, Amy Munford, Stillwater, Gillian Harmon, Elk City; nine grandchildren, six great grandchildren, three sisters, Ava Jean Sailors and husband, Zeb, Bella Vista, Ark., Donna Mae Hugg, Shamrock, Texas, Alvinita North and husband, Ben, Erick; one brother, Ransom Snowden and wife, Retta, Erick; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Condolences can be made online at www.whineryfs.com

Roger Grey Allen



Graveside services for Roger Allen were held on Thursday April 30, 2015 at 2 p.m. at the Red Star Cemetery, Leedey.

Roger Grey Allen was born March 11, 1921 and departed this life on April 27, 2015 at the age of 94. Roger spent much of his life on a farm west of Leedey, with the exception of living in Pampa, Texas from 1956 – 1962, where he worked at a Shamrock service station, and the last several years of his life where he made his home in the town of Leedey.

Roger graduated from Liberty Center High School in 1942 and began his lifelong occupation of farming and ranching.

In June of 1948 he married "his girl," Wilda Bray, and their son, Richard Gary Allen, "the boy" was born.

Roger enjoyed many roles: a farmer/rancher raising Charlois cattle, school bus driver, substitute mail carrier, basketball coach, and service station attendant. He loved the mornings at the Leedey Lumber Yard as a coffee drinker, historian, and a problem solver.

Roger was an avid sports fan and he planned his days around whether or not there was a game in town.

One of his fondest memories was coaching a girl's basketball team at Liberty Center. In his later years, he seldom missed a game that was played in Leedey. He loved his Leedey. In.

Roger's hobbies included playing horseshoes, gardening, drawing, and woodcarving. He was preceded in death by his mother and father, Richard N. "Dick" and Olive Allen; his sisters, Georgia Jackson and Anna Noyes; and his brother, John Allen.

He leaves to cherish his memory his wife of 66 years, Wilda Allen, and his son and daughter-in-law, Richard and Charla Allen of Leedey, as well as four granddaughters: Richalle Cicioni and her husband, Jason, of Cortland, N.Y.; Richanne Kegans and her husband, Travis, of Farmington, Ark.; Alicia Stotts and her husband, Jimmy, of Wellston; and CharLee McClellan and her husband, Abraham of Yukon. He also leaves behind six great-grandchildren: Raylee and Tait Kegans; Anthony, Isabella and Marcuss Cicioni; and Olivia Stotts, nieces and nephews, and a host of friends.

Condolences may be made to the family at shawfuneralhome.net.

Cremation...

A choice *this* personal deserves talking to the right person.

If you've decided on cremation, you probably have a multitude of questions. "Can I have a service?... A viewing?... What about costs?" These questions are easily answered; but only if you know who to ask.

We're western Oklahoma's cremation specialist and are available to answer your questions, big or small. Feel free to call us... you'll be glad you did.



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