

## **FIRST QUARTER 2018**

### **JANUARY**

#### **Jan 8, 2018**

Garrett A. Day, 23, was arrested in Shawnee on Jan. 4. on a complaint of first-degree arson following a cooperative effort by area law enforcement, said State Fire Marshal's Office District Supervisor Judah Sheppard.

Garrett is jailed in the Pottawatomie County Public Safety Center on a \$125,000 bond; formal charges have not been filed.

Shawnee firefighters responded to the house fire at 31 Whispering Meadows, where Shawnee Fire Marshal David Anderson said fire crews made a great stop on the fire to save the home, although there was quite a bit of fire damage inside.

#### **Jan 18, 2018**

Shawnee police on Thursday arrested a 26-year-old man after he allegedly walked into Shawnee's Red Rock Behavioral Health Services and pointed a loaded firearm at a receptionist. No injuries were reported. He was later charged with "feloniously pointing a firearm."

#### **Jan 28, 2018**

Whitney D. Breslin, 22, and her reported boyfriend, Cashe K. Graham, are both charged in the death of 2-year-old Jame Denise Murdock. Pottawatomie County District Court records show both were scheduled for preliminary hearing Friday, but neither occurred.

Breslin's waiver of hearing means her case will be scheduled for arraignment. Graham requested — and was granted — a continuance of his preliminary hearing until March.

Both Breslin and Graham have been jailed in the Pottawatomie County Public Safety Center since their arrest in September 2017.

### **FEBRUARY**

#### **Feb 5, 2018**

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Pottawatomie County is currently under drought conditions and there is no more than an inch of rain in the forecast over the next three days. A majority of the county's fire officials agreed that an extreme fire danger exists.

Eight of the county's 14 fire chiefs polled in the area voted in favor of the burn ban, while five were opposed. One chief had no response.

In the county's burn ban resolution, it states that "any person violating this resolution shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$500, to imprisonment of not more than one year, or to both such fine and imprisonment."

Exceptions to the ban may be allowed through a permit process if those are applied for and approved by fire chiefs.

#### **Feb 7, 2018**

A Shawnee attorney was arrested and charged in Cleveland County Wednesday on a felony charge of harboring a fugitive.

Shelley L. Levisay, 32, was booked into the F. Dewayne Beggs Detention Center in Norman at 3:24 p.m. Wednesday, jail records show. No bond amount was listed on the jail record, although the warrants shows a \$10,000 bond was issued.

A felony charge of harboring a fugitive from justice also was filed in Cleveland County District Court. According to that filing, Levisay is accused, from Dec. 29, 2017 to Jan. 24, 2018, of harboring, equipping, aiding or assisting Adrian David Ray Gerdon, who had an outstanding warrant of arrest in Pottawatomie County. The filing shows Gerdon had previously been found guilty of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, with the harboring charge alleging Levisay provided Gerdon with supplies and access to a vehicle so he could escape arrest.

### **Feb 10, 2018**

In Oklahoma in the past week, flu-related hospitalizations are reported to have added almost 500 more cases — 3,000 since the season started in September — now almost three times the number recorded the first week of January, which was 1,020. Data on deaths is still climbing — reporting 129 this week, compared to last week when it stood at 92. In comparison, this season's deaths have now surpassed figures tallied from entire flu seasons in the past, and this season is just past the halfway mark. There were 110 flu-related deaths in the state during the previous flu season — just below the now-previous record of 114 deaths four years ago.

The Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) said that illness is widespread and that flu-related deaths have been recorded in all regions of the state. A total of 23 deaths have been recorded in Tulsa County this season and 14 in Oklahoma County, the state's most populated counties.

The six counties that make up the central region in central Oklahoma (Oklahoma County is tallied by itself) are Pottawatomie, Lincoln, Logan, Canadian, Cleveland and McClain; reportedly there have been a total of 408 flu-related hospitalizations and 20 deaths, so far.

## **MARCH**

### **Mar 8, 2018**

The Pottawatomie County Relay for Life event will be held April 27 at FireLake Arena in Shawnee. This is the first year the event is combining the Shawnee and Tecumseh events into one, Relay for Life Team Ambassador Tiffany Hile said.

“Instead of planning multiple events, it makes sense to combine forces and be able to raise more money for a good cause,” Hile said.

Last year, the Shawnee Relay for Life event raised roughly \$86,000 and with the area coming together as one event, this year's goal is \$110,000, Hile said.

### **Mar 15, 2018**

While voters backed a 0.495-cent Pottawatomie County sales tax increase for schools — with .005 of that going to the Family Justice Center (FJC) — Citizen Potawatomi Nation (CPN) has voluntarily stepped up to make contributions, as well. To date, since November 2016, CPN has given \$296,149.09 to help fund county school districts and the FJC.

This month, CPN split up nearly \$50,000 to the 14 school districts in Pottawatomie County and the FJC. This is the first of typically four handouts per year CPN has freely doled out since the county's education tax began.

### **Mar 28, 2018**

As educators across the state brace for a potential walkout, community members are making arrangements to provide care for displaced students.

On Monday the state House passed funding to provide about \$6,000 in teacher salary increases and the Senate passed the bill Wednesday evening, but the measure still has to go to Gov. Mary Fallin's desk. If

an agreeable deal does not get all the way through this week, a statewide teacher strike has been threatened.

Oklahoma teachers have not had a raise since 2007.