

First Quarter 2024 Issues – KGFF-AM, Shawnee, OK

1/9/24

Recently, Shawnee City Commissioners voted to accept a 1-million-dollar American Rescue Plan Act grant from the State of Oklahoma for the plan, design, and construction of downstream slope repair at Shawnee's Twin Lake No. 1 Dam. In September 2023, the City Commission applied for and received additional HHPD grant funding for the expansion of this field exploration. Since then, city staff has been working with the Oklahoma Water Resources Board to find more funding sources that could be used for the design and construction of the dam repair project once field exploration activities were complete.

1/16/24

Oklahoma's largest tribes won't join Gov. Kevin Stitt's new task force on law enforcement and jurisdiction issues stemming from the U.S. Supreme Court's McGirt ruling. The Five Tribes — the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee (Creek) and Seminole Nations — disagreed with how Stitt's recent executive order characterized the McGirt decision. In a joint statement, leaders of the Five Tribes said the McGirt v. Oklahoma decision, which found that much of eastern Oklahoma remains reservation land, was a positive public safety ruling that restored the tribes' ability to prosecute tribal citizens in Indian Country.

1/25/24

Area veterans looking for employment will have a chance to meet with potential employers during a Veterans Job Club/Community Hiring event set Thursday, Feb. 1 at Gordon Cooper Technology Center. The event, which is being hosted by the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission, will be 10 a.m. to noon in SkyLab 1. The first hour from 10-11 a.m. is specifically reserved for veterans, then the event opens to the community at 11 a.m. Those attending can meet with employers one-on-one for employment opportunities and networking and should come dressed and ready to interview with copies of their resume in hand, he said. The military portion of the event is open to active or transitioning service members, Guard and Reserve members, veterans, and spouses.

2/3/24

The Shawnee Police Department, on Thursday, issued a news release outlining Thursday's arrest of a Shawnee police officer and his immediate termination from employment. According to Thursday's release, on July 13, 2023, Jacob Blazer was placed on administrative leave. The Pottawatomie County Sheriff's Office and the District Attorney's investigators conducted an investigation that resulted in Blazer being arrested on Feb. 1, according to the release. Blazer also was immediately terminated from his employment with the Shawnee Police Department. Records show the 34-year-old Blazer was booked into the Pottawatomie County Public Safety Center on Thursday, but there were no court charges listed in district court records as of press deadlines despite the release indicating charges were being filed.

2/15/24

On Monday the Shawnee City Commission held a Special Call meeting to provide a public hearing and to approve proposed adjustments to Shawnee's Ward boundaries. In general, wards divide the City of

Shawnee for local governance, Shawnee City Manager Andrea Weckmueller-Behringer said, and they must be periodically adjusted to prevent unequal representation. The redistricting process ensures the population in each of the six wards remains proportionate. New ward boundaries were proposed following the Federal Decennial Census in 2020.

2/27/24

Thousands of pot plants and 600 pounds of processed marijuana were seized after state drug agents raided a marijuana farm in the Earlsboro area, according to the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics. On Thursday, Feb. 22, OBN's Marijuana Enforcement Teams served a search warrant at Aurora LLC marijuana farm in Earlsboro as part of an ongoing OBN investigation into illegal cultivation and unlawful distribution of marijuana. OBN agents seized approximately 3,800 plants as well as 600 pounds of processed marijuana. Eight people are facing charges of Illegal Cultivation, OBN reports, adding the agency was assisted by the Seminole County Sheriff's Department.

3/5/24

With cancellation of the March 25-28 jury term in Pottawatomie County, about 300 residents who received summons to appear in court do not have to report for service this month, the court clerk said Monday. Pottawatomie County Court Clerk Valerie Ueltzen said the state generates the summons notices, which were mailed out. Those who received a March 25-28 jury summons do not have to report for jury duty March 25 and are excused. The decision to cancel the March term was prompted by funding constraints.

3/12/24

It was yet another efficient game for the Potawatomi Fire as they burned the Shreveport-Bossier Mavericks 119-108 in The Basketball League (TBL) Thursday night in their first road game. Potawatomi shot 51.6% from the floor for the game, including 41.1% from 3-point land, and 72.2% from the free-throw stripe. Five Potawatomi players scored in double figures as K.D. Moore led the way with 30, Chuck Guy followed with 28, Jachai Simmons finished with 21 and Deshawn Munson and Ricky Artis II contributed 12 apiece.

3/28/24

The suspect sought in connection with two robberies and assaults that occurred at the Shawnee post office in recent weeks was arrested by U.S. Marshals in Oklahoma City, Shawnee police said Wednesday afternoon. As part of the investigation into both cases, an arrest warrant was issued Monday in Pottawatomie County District Court for 57-year-old Linny Earl Stallin. Although Stallin has been arrested in the case, formal charges have not been filed.