

Fourth Quarter 2019 Issues – KGFF-AM, Shawnee, OK

10/3/19

Pottawatomie County children participated in a county-wide Walk to School Day sponsored by TSET. TSET's Healthy Living Program urges children to get regular physical activity. It not only helps reduce childhood obesity, it helps strengthen kids' brains, boost the immune system, improve sleep and reduce stress. This results in fewer absences and disciplinary problems. Aside from improved physical and mental health, active students also gain improved self-confidence and self-esteem.

10/5/19

An investigation is underway and Shawnee police and the FBI are looking for a female suspect after a bank robbery was reported at Shawnee's MidFirst Bank Friday. At approximately 12:12 p.m. Friday, the white female suspect with blonde hair entered the bank at 2320 N. Harrison and verbally demanded money from bank employees, said Shawnee Police Cpl. Vivian Lozano.

10/9/19

The Shawnee Police Association will be hosting a benefit softball game 1 p.m., Sunday, October 13 at Shawnee High School. The police officers will host a team of Oklahoma Sooners Alumni. Appearing for the former Sooners will be All Big 8 quarterback Jamelle Holieway, All American linebacker Rufus Alexander, All American defensive back & kick returner JT Thatcher, All Big 12 defensive end Auston English, All Big 12 center Erick Wren, All Big 12 fullback Dimitri Floweres, All Big 12 pitcher Rob Tasin and more. There will be an opportunity for autographs and photos immediately following the game.

10/19/19

In an effort to deter future hate crimes and ensure criminals are held accountable, Sen. Ron Sharp has filed legislation strengthening Oklahoma's hate crime law. Senate Bill 1083 would allow districts attorney to choose whether to charge hate crime offenders with a misdemeanor or felony. he bill was requested by Pottawatomie County District Attorney Allan Grubb. Grubb filed hate crime charges including aggravated assault and battery, and conspiracy and malicious intimidation, in July against Devan Johnson and Brandon Killian for the brutal beating of Jarric Deshawn Carolina on June 22.

11/1/19

Hundreds of new laws took effect today. Here are a few of the high profile bills that took effect. House Bill 2597 authorizes the open or concealed carrying of a gun — loaded or unloaded — by residents 21 years old or older (and current military personnel or veterans at least 18 years old) without a license or permit. House Bill 1071 increases certain highway speed limits. House Bill 1269 was enacted in light of 2016's State Question 780 — where simple drug possession was changed from of a felony to a misdemeanor. Senate Bill 882 creates the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Waste Management.

11/6/19

The process of jury selection is underway this week in Pottawatomie County as the defendant charged in the 2017 shooting death of Tecumseh Police Officer Justin Terney prepares to stand trial in the death penalty case. Byron James Shepard, 38, is charged in Pottawatomie County District Court with first-degree murder.

11/14/19

A female freshman from Tecumseh High School remained in critical condition Wednesday at OU Medical Center following a fatal crash that killed another student Tuesday, Nov. 12, police said. Obituary information from Cooper Funeral Home show services for Ryder Steven Kinsey, 16, will be 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 16 at the Tecumseh High School Alumni Building. Other obituary information is pending and will be announced.

11/23/19

In less than two hours Friday afternoon, a Pottawatomie County jury returned verdicts on four aggravating factors and chose the death penalty for Byron James Shepard, the man convicted earlier this week in the 2017 killing of Tecumseh Police Officer Justin Terney. Shepard, 38, of Okemah, had no reaction as the court clerk read the jury's verdict before a packed courtroom that included Terney's family and several area police officers. District Judge John G. Canavan has scheduled formal sentencing for 9 a.m. Jan. 3, 2020.

12/6/19

According to Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) Flu View reports, Pottawatomie County has now confirmed its first two flu-related hospitalizations of the season. Up until now, cases across the state this year have been trickling in gradually. This week's cases have made a significant jump. Last week's total numbered 96, while Thursday's report came in at 141 for the season in Oklahoma.

12/11/19

Tribal officials and employees gathered at the Grand Casino Hotel & Resort recently to open a new steel truss bridge at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. The opening completed a huge infrastructure undertaking for the Nation, which stemmed from the 2019 spring storm season that saw record rainfall in Oklahoma.

12/28/19

Hobby Lobby and the Green Family in December formally announced their donation of the former St. Gregory's University campus in Shawnee to Oklahoma Baptist University. St. Gregory's closed its doors in December 2017, and at that time, OBU offered a teachout agreement to current SGU students, with many of them transferring to OBU to finish their degrees. The donated property is approximately 72 acres, with 286,600 square feet contained in seven major buildings.

12/31/19

Shawnee police, along with the U.S. Marshal's Service and Oklahoma City police, on Monday afternoon arrested two of the three suspects that were being sought in connection with a Shawnee home invasion case, police said. Shawnee Police Cpl. Vivian Lozano said the arrests came after a daylong surveillance in the Oklahoma City area. Following the arrests, the investigation continued and Lozano said more details would be released as they develop. Formal charges have not been filed.