4 Charged with murder in Ezell’s death

By Jennifer Pitts
TCH Reporter

Rep. Wallace named vice-chair of Wildlife Committee

Speaker Jeff Hickman has appointed Lincoln County Rep. Wallace to be vice chair of the Wildlife Committee of the Oklahoma House of Representatives.

Wallace will chair the committee in the absence of the chair and help schedule all bills and hearings.

He will also serve on the Agriculture and Rural Development Committee and the Business, Labor and Retirement Committees.

Regular session will convene on Feb. 2.

Municipal openings

General Election

April 7

Candidates for municipal office in Lincoln County municipalities were file for re-election of Candidacy on Feb. 2, to 5 p.m., Feb. 4, at the County Election Board Office.

Open offices are run by the local boards in Meeker, Wellston, Chandler, Harrah, Carney, Cushing, Lincoln, Warwick and Agra.

McLoud feels the heat

By Rex Hogan
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By Jennifer Pitts
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With the current dry condition and the wind over the past few days, grass fires have kept the area fire departments working daily. This fire started not far from I-40 and McLoud Road on Friday, Jan. 23. Residents of Candidacy of Lincoln County (OKC) were called to fight a pasture fire that was larger than the one they fought last Thursday.

Fire Chief Rhett Sparks said McLoud firefighters were called after the fire burned more than 10 acres, crossing the median of Interstate 40 near McLoud Road. “It was bigger than last week’s fire”, he said.

He said last Thursday’s fire burned about 10 acres of pasture land, Tuesday’s blaze destroyed about 160 acres. He said there is nothing suspicious about either fire. He did not say anything that was evidence of an accidental. Maybe a cigarette thrown out a car stopped when it collided with a tree. She was transported to St. Anthony’s Hospital by RE with a broken foot.

The long-time Meeker resident was leaving the parking lot of Anthony’s Foods when she noticed her rear, sliding door edge and got out of the vehicle to shut it, according to a collision report from the Meeker Police Department on Friday, Jan. 16.

However, her van began rolling backwards and she was knocked down by her own, driver’s side door. As she tried to get back into the rolling backwards, the front tire ran over her foot before eventually stopping when it collided with an entrance post to the grocery store.

She was transported to St. Anthony Shawnee Hospital by RE.

FELONY MURDER

Carrie Ezell, 29, was captured of Thursday, Jan. 29, was captured in Nowlin on a $100,000 bench warrant issued for December 31, 2014, for failing to appear on felony case information.

Criminal charges were initially filed on Dec. 1, 2014, against Charles Anthony Chambers, 26, of Spavinaw, Okla., as the first suspect in the case. He entered a plea of not guilty and was released on Jan. 6, without bond, and entered a plea of not guilty during his preliminary hearing.

A second investigation into Ezell’s death continued on Dec. 8, the felony case information was later dismissed and no more defendants were

HARRAH - In the first six months of the fiscal year, the city of Harrah is running about 10 percent ahead of projects for sales taxes and just over 3 percent of use tax collections.

Fiscal years run from July 1 to June 30.

Patty Coleman, city treasurer, said, sales tax receipts from July 2014 through December 2014 total $1,066 million.

Last June, when the Harrah City Council approved the city budget for the 2014-15 fiscal year, they estimated sales tax revenue for the six-month period would total $962,000.

Coleman said the council determined the estimate by tacking the total sales taxes for the previous fiscal year and dividing that number by twelve.

The monthly number setting this fiscal year projection is $160,333.

At the half way mark in this fiscal year, sales tax collections are 9.8 percent above projection.

The best month for sales taxes was in November when the city received a $205,560 check from the state Tax Commission. The second highest month for sales taxes was in July when the check was $184,347.

In use taxes, the city has collected $415,461 in the first six months of this fiscal year. The council estimated that use taxes would average $6,069, a month, or total $40,000 to this point in the fiscal year.

Coleman said use tax woes are a product of 26 percent ahead of projects.

The highest month for use tax came in October when the city earned $8,304. The second highest month was in July, in the total of $3,385.