

Death Notices

Jud Leach
Jud L. Leach, 77, died Sept. 12. Services are 11 a.m. today at St. John Nepomuk Catholic Church, 600 Garth Brooks Blvd., Yukon. (Yanda)

Winson McFarland
Winson Lee McFarland, 86, died Sept. 11. Services were Tuesday. (McNeil)

Anna Vincent
Anna Rita Vincent, 77, died Sept. 12. Services are 10 a.m. Thursday at the Lookeba Cemetery. (Yanda)

Send death notices to layout@the yukonreview.com

Gae Von (Logsdon) Cossairt was born Nov. 26, 1935, in Ada to Clifford and Gaynelle Logsdon. While she faced some difficult times growing up, she always felt loved by her parents and had the blessing of a large extended family, something that brought her joy throughout her life. She graduated with a B.A. in secretarial science from East Central State College in Ada, and with the money she made from her first real job, she bought one of her most prized possessions — a yellow 1957 Chevy hardtop. Gae met Don Cossairt, a student at East Central State, and

they married in Boston in 1960. They lived in Boston, Great Falls and Phoenix before finally settling down in Oklahoma City. Gae stayed at home to raise their two children, Jana and Kevin. When her children got older, she found a new direction as an Avon representative. She filled a bookcase with the Mrs. Albee figurines she received for her sales efforts, but it was the one-on-one conversations with the women she served that made the work so rewarding for her. Music was woven throughout Gae's life. Her mother was a piano teacher and



almost everyone in her father's family played an instrument. Gae, herself, played piano by ear. She loved many kinds of music — classical, jazz, bluegrass,

country, folk — and she attended concerts with her family throughout her life. She and Don especially enjoyed watching young musicians play. Her faith was always important to her. She grew up in the First Baptist Church of Ada and attended Falls Creek in the summers. After she and Don moved to Oklahoma City, they attended Portland Avenue Baptist Church for many years. And though she did not attend services regularly in her later years, she loved her devotionals and gospel music. Gae was a deeply

kind person and she truly enjoyed spending time with family and friends. While dementia made her later years a challenge, she was ever loved by those who knew her. On Sept. 5, she was called to be with her heavenly father. Gae was preceded in death by her parents and her brother, John Clifford Logsdon. She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Don Cossairt; her daughter, Jana Cossairt; and her son and daughter-in-law, Kevin and Kathy Cossairt. Arrangements are under the direction of John M. Ireland Funeral Home, Moore.

Marshal From page 1A

much did whatever my wife told me, and that was it," Hickman said, chuckling. "Life was good." Then, about a year ago, Hickman received a call from the chairman of the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal Commission, who asked if Hickman could fill in as interim fire marshal. "I agreed to do that," he said. In October, Hickman began work as the interim fire marshal. And by the time the

COVID-19 pandemic picked up steam in March, he had begun a few projects in the department that he would like to see completed. As the months passed, he said, the fire marshal commission — the group that handles the hiring and firing of fire marshals — kept asking Hickman if he would commit to staying on as fire marshal, rather than simply on an interim basis. "I finally decided that I'll hang around

for a while, if they would like for me to be here," Hickman said. "I'm not going to commit to any particular time frame. But I am absolutely honored that they would ask me to fill in, and to name me the full-time state fire marshal." Under state statute, the fire marshal's office has three main areas for which it is responsible: fire and arson investigation, code enforcement and public fire education. As far as Hickman's

goals, he said the department is in the process of changing its record management to a new software system. "That's a big deal," he said. "We are on an antiquated system that really is no longer being supported, so we're changing everything over to new software and new records management." The process began in spring and Hickman hopes to have the new software fully operational by the beginning of 2021.

"I think it will make our operation much more efficient," he said. "As it is now, an agent in the field has to call in to the state office for information on inspections or on a building they may be looking at. This (new software) will provide him or her access in the field without having to call in." Hickman said he also hopes to spearhead changes within the fire marshal's office that will provide better services for fire and police departments through-

out the state. He hopes to implement a kind of task force that would allow multiple agents to respond to high-profile incidents. "The team could respond immediately and be able to cover a lot of the investigative duties within a short amount of time," he said. "It's good customer service, and good professional service. We need to be able to provide the help that's needed and do it in a professional way."

Redstone From page 1A

while he doesn't have final numbers, he expects the project to come in below the original estimate. "We are very blessed," Simeroth said. "The construction company did such a good job." Simeroth said he is excited to vacate "mini Redstone." "We are in the real Redstone," he said. During Friday's tour, teachers got an opportunity to see their rooms and were able to walk through the building. "It was fantastic. You should have seen the teachers on Friday. It is so nice to walk

through a building and see what you like instead of looking for things to fix. It changes the attitude," Simeroth said. Meanwhile, the former Sixth Grade Academy will be used for additional classrooms for seventh- and eighth-grade students. "It will give us more social distancing opportunities," Simeroth said. Meanwhile, Yukon's prekindergarten through third-grade students were scheduled to return to the physical classrooms on Wednesday. The last time most Yukon students attend-

ed school in person was in March before spring break. Since then, students have attended class virtually because of the coronavirus. Officials had not expected to return to the physical classroom until after fall break. However, the number of people being diagnosed with COVID-19 has declined to fewer than 10 cases per 100,000 people for four out of the last five weeks. At Simeroth's recommendation, the school board voted 4-1 last week to return to the classroom early.

AT A GLANCE

Returning to school

- Yukon's pre-kindergarten through third-grade students return to the physical classroom Wednesday.
- Yukon's fourth- through 12th-grade students return Sept. 21.
- Redstone Intermediate students will be open beginning Sept. 23.
- Meals for all students under 18 will be provided free through Dec. 31. However, officials encourage parents to complete a free and reduced-cost meal application.
- Start times that were approved by the school board in the spring will go into effect with the return to the classroom. Elementary students will attend from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; Intermediate students attend from 7:40 a.m. to 2:40 p.m.; high school from 7:50 a.m. to 3:07 p.m.; middle school from 8:25 a.m. to 3:25 p.m.
- Bus route information is available at the school district's website, www.yukonps.com

Retire From page 1A

Crosby turns 80 on Jan. 20. Crosby began his second stint as city manager in April 2016, four months after officials learned the city's finances were in dire condition. At the time Crosby was brought back, the city's reserve funds had about \$3,000 remaining. Crosby slashed the budget, laid off several employees and helped bring the city back to prosperity. In August, Crosby announced that the city's reserves now had almost \$8 million with a goal of reaching \$10 million.

Crosby also served as Yukon's city manager from 1994 until December 2010, when he first retired. That first retirement lasted only a few months when he accepted a position with Piedmont, where he also helped improve the community's finances. Crosby said this week that his goal was to help make sure Yukon is a place where people want to live and that the community continues to thrive. "The city is again in excellent financial shape. The major projects that I was challenged with when I

returned to the city are finished or are under construction," he said. Those projects include improvements to streets, as well as major projects such as the widening of State Highway 4 and the creation of an interchange for Frisco Road and Interstate 40. The first phase of the SH-4 project is well underway and the acquisition of rights-of-way for the second phase is nearly completed, Crosby said. Meanwhile, crews began work on the I-40/Frisco Road interchange project on Monday.

"The city will continue to grow and the challenge to you and future councils is to ensure that we have quality management and growth. We must continue to develop quality retail to keep our financials strong so that we can continue to provide the best police, fire, utilities and roads to our residents," he wrote in his letter. By announcing his plans to retire now, Crosby said he wants to give the council plenty of time to find his successor. Assistant City Manager Tammy Kretchmar served as

the interim city manager between January and April 2016 after the council chose not to renew the contract of previous City Manager Grayson Bottom. Crosby said he would be willing to help the council with the search for his successor, should they ask. "Hopefully, we can have a smooth transition," he said. Crosby said the decision to step down was difficult, but is the right one. "I owe it to my wife to spend some quality time with her while I still can," he said. Crosby also pointed

out that very few city managers are still active at his age. Crosby said he remains in good health, but you never know what the future holds. "There is always a challenge of tomorrow," he said. "It's time." "When you talk about 80 and you look at how many quality years you have left, you never know, but you want to make the most of it," he said. Crosby said he is looking forward to his time off. "My wife and I are really looking forward to it," he said.

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