## PANTHER PRIDE

## 3rd Quarter Honor Roll (Elem. \& MS)

\& Students of the Quarter

"A" Honor Roll

Elementary (3-5 Gr.)
Payton Crum
Noah Dougan

Middle School (6-8 Gr.) Julio Valdez Ocie Webster

## "B" Honor Roll

## Elementary

Dayton Baccus
Treysen Brown
Jaylee Burnside
Julia Cisneros
Angel Cozort
Xerek Hitchcock
Skylar Hopkins
Hunter Kelley

Elementary
Blake Priddy
Quanté Sellers
Stephanie Story

Middle School
Emileigh Jackson
Kaylie Minter
Skyler Moore

Reminder: High School students do not get quarterly grades, only semester grades. Therefore they are not listed on the $1^{\text {st }}$ or $3^{\text {rd }}$ Qtr. Honor Roll.

## Students of the $3^{\text {rd }}$ Qtr.

Elementary - Kyler Harrington Middle School - Julio Valdez High School - Johnnie Davidson

Oklahoma School for the Blind

2018-2019, Issue 6
April 10, 2019
Editor: Maggie Mattox
Special points of interest:

- Braille Challenge
- Oklahoma Close Up
- Special Olympics
- Manufacturing Day
- Scouting Update
- History Trip
- Creek County Literacy Spelling Bee

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## Social Services Department - News, Tips, etc.


"Caught Being Good"

- Julia Cisneros - offered to help a student with getting her belongings.
- Audrey DeBrosky - helped an adult by using "patience".
- Trinity Lewis - helped an adult with a chore.
- Josie Cox - helped another student to the line for seconds in the cafeteria.

It's never too late to be caught being good.... So keep up the good work students!! We are proud of you all!

Word of the Month for March-April "Synergy"
by Jake Marsh \& Thomas Raines
"Synergy is better than my way or your way. It's our way." - Dr. Steven R. Covey.

Synergy, to put it simply, is cooperation such as a team working together to getting things done. When a team works together to overcome their problems and differences
that is an act of showing synergy. Open mindedness and working with people with different points of view is an important key in having synergy.

In short synergy is vital for building bonds and learning to work together.

Sylvia Sterling,
Social Services Dept. Social Services Dept.

GREAT JOB EVERYONE!!!
"



## A "spy look" into our Elementary

Reading time at Mrs. Eckerson's class...


## Braille Challenge

by Richelle Zampella



OSB's $17^{\text {th }}$ annual regional Braille Challenge took place on March 7, 2019. This year marks the $100^{\text {th }}$ birthday of the Braille Institute, so it was quite a celebration (complete with delicious cupcakes baked by Andrea Hamen)! We even saw some familiar faces of alumni and previous staff members who came back to put their braille expertise to use in the score room.

Altogether, 13 scorers and 11 test proctors were present.

There were 27 contestants competing in 6 categories according to grade level and reading ability: apprentice, freshman, transition 1, sophomore, junior varsity, and varsity.

Apprentice, freshman, and transition 1 took tests in proofreading, reading comprehension, and spelling, and all other groups took speed and accuracy, proofreading, reading comprehension, charts and graphs tests.

Here are the results!

## Apprentice

Gold Ocie Webster, Briggs
Silver Mykel Eagle, Stilwell
Bronze Kesslee Travis, Muskogee

Transition 1
Gold Lydia Bradley, Stilwell
Silver Zoie Zavala, Ardmore
Bronze Morgan Hudson, Westville

## Freshman

Gold Hunter Kelley, Claremore
Silver Stephanie Story, Tulsa
Bronze Quanté Sellers, Oklahoma City

## Sophomore

Gold Kaylee Ragon, Tecumseh
Silver Lilith Pederson, Anadarko
Bronze Kolten Pennington, Roff

Junior Varsity
Gold Katelynn Zampella, Muskogee
Silver Elbin Carrillo, Oklahoma City
Bronze Julio Valdez, Oklahoma City

## Varsity

Gold Richelle Zampella, Muskogee
Silver Tai'Yauri Thomas, Oklahoma City
Bronze Ariana Richardson, Enid

Overall Apprentice, Transition 1, and Freshman
Hunter Kelley, Claremore

Overall Sophomore, Junior<br>Varsity, and Varsity<br>Richelle Zampella, Muskogee

National finalist results will be released May 1, and the national competition will take place at the University of Southern California campus on June 21-22.

Putting on Braille Challenge is a team effort and takes work from inside and outside OSB. Many thanks are owed to Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Holder, who pour their all into coordinating the Braille Challenge every year. (OSB students deserve some credit, too - from baking the cookies in the gift bags to testing and distributing braille writers for the contestants, they definitely did their part.).

Not to mention our generous sponsors for the event:
Oklahoma School for the Blind
Braille Institute of America
Humanware
Liberty Braille
Frank Dirksen
NanoPac
NewView Oklahoma
LS\&S
Sapulpa Lions Club
Ruth Kelly Studios donation of photos
Oklahoma AER
Oklahoma Council of the Blind Muskogee County OHCE

Thank you all for a great event, and we can't wait for next year!

## Oklahoma Close Up

by Thomas Raines


OK Close Up happened from February $19^{\text {th }}-22^{\text {nd }}$.

Students came from across all Oklahoma to spend 3 days exploring current events and how Oklahoma's government impacts their lives. They met with key members of the Legislature, the Executive Branch and the Judiciary to
learn from them and to discuss issues with them.

The OSB students who went this year were:

Jillian Matthews, Kaylee Ragon and Preston Fenton.

They did some pretty interesting things such as:
$>$ debating things going on in the state and creating their own bills to debate on.
$>$ Jillian and Kaylee shadowed a District Attorney (DA) and discovered what a DA does.

## Special Olympics "Track and Field"

By Jake Marsh
On March $27^{\text {th }}$ the OSB Special Olympians traveled to Poteau to compete in their annual Track and Field events.

They had a great time and came home with lots of ribbons!
Below is a list of the results:

## Conner Hilton

$3^{\text {rd }}$ in 50 m dash and
$1^{\text {st }}$ in softball throw
Miracle Jones
$2^{\text {nd }}$ in 50 m dash and
$1^{\text {st }}$ in softball throw

## Kolten Pennington

$1^{\text {st }}$ in 50 m dash and
$3^{\text {rd }}$ in softball throw

## Jacelynn Shields

$3^{\text {rd }}$ in 50 m dash and
$3^{\text {rd }}$ in softball throw

## Koree Wilkerson

$1^{\text {st }}$ in 50 m dash and
$1^{\text {st }}$ in softball throw

## Jacob Nash

$1^{\text {st }}$ in standing long jump and
$2^{\text {nd }}$ in softball throw

## Lane Sutterfield

$1^{\text {st }}$ in standing long jump and $2^{\text {nd }}$ in softball throw

## Kesslee Travis

$1^{\text {st }}$ in standing long jump and $3^{\text {rd }}$ in softball throw

## GREAT JOB EVERYONE !!!



## National Manufacturing Day

by Jake Marsh
This year OSB participated again in the national event called Manufacturing Day.


This was the second year OSB has participated. Manufacturing Day is a national event where students across the country
explore careers in the manufacturing field.

Manufacturing Day's purpose is to give people an opportunity to overcome their challenges and learn about different jobs in the manufacturing business.

On March $13^{\text {th }}$, students in 9-12 grades went to NewView Oklahoma's manufacturing plant in Oklahoma City.

We left the school at 7:45 am and returned at 4:00 pm. Students dressed in business

## The Wild Life of Scouting

by Raven Decker \& Trinity Lewis Well, this past February there was a big change to where girls are now accepted into Boy Scouts, and they are now called Scouting.


Anyone who wants to, can now join either Scouting (formerly Boy Scouts - all ages) or Venturing Crew (14 or older), also part of Scouting.

On March 25, the day we got back from Spring break, Scouting was going to have a heart-to-heart fundraiser and a banquet, but it was canceled
because they didn't have anyone to do the fundraiser. So, the Venturing Crew and Boy Scouts were canceled.

In March, the Venturing Crew and Boy Scouts were supposed to go and participate in archery on a Sunday, but it was canceled due to the weather. They are in the process of rescheduling this event.

On April 27, there was going to be a campout, but it got canceled as well.

The Venture Crew are currently looking into having a campout with the Boy Scouts in the Tulsa area, during which they are planning on taking a class on how to fly an airplane. After the class, they will be able to experience flying.
casual and were prepared for a day of learning about opportunities in the field of manufacturing.

At NewView we took a tour of the manufacturing plant, ate lunch with the employees, learned about hiring practices at NewView, and learned about other programs NewView has to offer.


The Cub Scouts are having a family campout sometime in April and daily club meetings.


## proudly

The membership fee is \$25 per year and members can sign up anytime, but it is preferred to sign up before the beginning of August.

A SCOUT IS


## Cherokee Heritage Center - History Trip

by Thomas Raines

The ninth graders went to the Cherokee Heritage Center in Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

There was a statue of Sequoyah and they learned about how the Native Americans lived.

They learned several things on their trip like how they dressed and made tools.

They also learned about a few weapons they used, a standard bow and arrow, spear and a weapon called an atlatl.

## Ask a Senior

## by Tai Thomas

In this issue of "Ask a Senior", four questions were presented to the seniors.

Q: Ms. Goins asked: "What piece of advice would you give, now that you are getting closer to graduating?"

A: Malerie responded by saying, "One thing l've learned my senior year, that I wish I could have learned sooner, this is the time of your life when you should be making selfish decisions. Think about what would make you happy and will spark your interest in nature. Don't let anyone's opinions about your next

chapter in your life affect what you want to do in your future.

Q: Mrs. Maggie asked: "What is one of your most memorable moments at OSB?"

A: Nicholas responded with, "Going to the fair during the elementary years."

Q: Anonymous asked: "How do you all keep your grades up?"

A: Ariana answered by saying, "I turn in my work on time, give thorough answers, and proofread."


A spear-thrower or atlatl is a tool that uses leverage to achieve greater velocity in dart-throwing, and includes a bearing surface which allows the user to store energy during the throw. It may consist of a shaft with a cup or a spur at the end that supports and propels the butt of the dart.

Q: Trinity Lewis asked:

"What is your favorite part of being a senior?"

A: Thomas Raines replied: "it's almost over."

Thank you for reading "Ask a Senior."


## Yưut

## Prom

by Newspaper Staff
The theme of this year's prom was "Rustic Romance".

It was held at the Eight Ten Ranch and Cattle Co.


## It was beautiful!

Every table was covered in white tablecloths with burlap runners, white chairs neatly tucked under the tables, and on the center of the table was a piece of cedar wood with a mason jar filled
 with babies' breath and fairy lights.

## Wrestling Review


by Tai Thomas
Well, the
wrestling season has come to an end.

All of the wrestlers put their best foot forward by being a "student first and an athlete second."

You could tell that it was going to be a good night, dinner was catered by Gino's Italian Restaurant and we had special cupcakes from Cupcakes by Lynda! They were delicious.

We were able to take a beautiful picture behind the venue with the pond in the background. As the dance began, sparkling candlelight was shining as everyone danced the night away.

Baba Kareem stopped by for her annual visit and predicted the futures of the Seniors.
As always it was fun to see her again and the Juniors can't wait to hear their futures next year.


Everyone had positive attitudes, showed excellent team support, and represented the school well off campus.

Let's have a recap of the season:
> On Tuesday, November $27^{\text {th }}$, the Panthers traveled to Henryetta to duel the Henryetta Hens and Wilburton Diggers.

We would also like to thank the Prom Committee for organizing everything.
It was a night to remember. to thank the UAFS Delta Gamma Sorority for coming and serving dinner and dancing with us and the Oktaha Student Council for helping with the cleanup.
The QUEEN was Ms. Malerie Levens and KING was Mr.

## Conner Hilton



We also had special guests. Director Melinda Fruendt and Jody Harlan, from DRS, joined us in the festivities.


The Jr/Sr class would like

## Kr


(Continued from page 7)
Tyler and Tai both received forfeits.
$>$ On January $8^{\text {th }}$, for homecoming, the Panthers dueled Okmulgee. The wrestlers who competed were Tyler and John Duong, Kentrell Wallace, Nathan England, Dee Willis and Allen Alender.

John Duong ended the night with a win. Tai and Preston received forfeits.
> The Panther's last match was at Holland Hall in Tulsa.

## Great Job Everyone!



## Creek County Literacy Spelling Bee

by Kaylee Ragon
On Thursday, April $4^{\text {th }}$, OSB's Braille Bees headed back to Sapulpa for another successful year of spelling! This year's team consisted of first-timers Levi Smith and Mrs. Miller, as well as myself. After meeting with some members of the Lions Club, who sponsor us year after year, we settled in and got ready for the first round.

Successfully spelling words like "surreptitious," "voluptuous," and 42 others put us ahead of our competitors in the first round, winning the school's trophy for the $6^{\text {th }}$ year in a row!


After being informed of our victory, we prepared to face off in the "Ultimate Stinger Round", where - even though we got out fairly early - we continued spelling along to challenge ourselves.

A huge thank you to the Lions who sponsor our team every year. It's a lot of fun and really pushes us to step out of our comfort zones, and of course learn new words we didn't know existed!

I think I speak for Levi and I both when I say the biggest thank you goes to Mrs. Miller, who stepped in at the last minute, studied all night the night before the Bee, and helped us when we fell a team member short the day of the event. She puts in so much time and preparation for us, but
being a speller on top of it was just icing on the cake.

Levi commented: "My first time was definitely an experience! I had mixed feelings at first, but Kaylee and Mrs. Miller really helped me understand the game. Mrs. Miller and I were in charge of helping Kaylee as she spelled the words on a whiteboard for our monitor to check and keep score. In the end, we walked away with the school's trophy, ready to come back next year!"


Levi S., Kaylee R., and Mrs. Miller


## Students

| Willis, Dee | 4 | 2 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Shepherd, Chris | 4 | 4 |
| Moore, Skyler | 4 | 6 |
| Gentry, Mikel | 4 | 10 |
| Wade, Austin | 4 | 11 |
| Phillips, Rayce | 4 | 20 |

## Staff

Timmreck, Christine 4
Ferrell, Chris 4

Ramsey, JoAnnette 4
Cragg, Lynn 413
Gamble, Whitney 416
Mattox, Maggie 418
Johnson, Shawndra 427
Ogle, Jennifer 430

## Staff

| Plunkett, Brenda | 5 | 4 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Sanders, Karen | 5 | 6 |
| Brooks, Tonya | 5 | 9 |
| Brice, Nancy | 5 | 12 |
| Adams, Linda | 5 | 15 |
| Webb, Tera | 5 | 15 |
| Sterling, Sylvia | 5 | 16 |
| Woods, Gina | 5 | 17 |
| Bynum, Michael | 5 | 18 |
| Reeves, Darlus | 5 | 25 |
| Johnston, Ronna | 5 | 29 |
| Charles, Samantha | 5 | 30 |

## GOING THE EXTRA MILE -



Following employees / staff members were nominated for their devoted support of our students, staff and school:

Mr. Jackman and Mr. Carden were a huge help to me getting my B-1 boys ready for the prom. This was truly "going the extra mile". Thank you.

Cammeron Brice

## Thank you ...

- Mrs. Helen for helping our ladies get fashionably ready for Prom and ironing countless tablecloths for Prom.
- Mrs. Tracy for making the ladies stylish and ready for Prom.
- Ms. Jennifer for glamming up the ladies and straightening out the gentlemen for Prom.
- Mrs. Christina for making our ladies sassy for the Prom.
- Mrs. Harris for stitching, prepping, and trans-
porting the ladies to get pampered for Prom.
- Mr. Howard for transporting our lovely bunch to and from the Prom.

Munekia Moore

## Thank you ...

- Prom Committee and Hospitality Committee for all you do. You do make a difference.
- Cheryl Daniels for organizing Give Back Day and all the other great projects our Service Learning class did throughout the school year.
- Faye Miller and Sherry Holder for organizing Braille Challenge.
- Faye Miller for filling in last minute at the Creek County Spelling Bee, to allow our students participation after they ended up falling short of a team member, the day before the event. Referring to the students, Mrs. Miller studied all night, so she would be ready to help our kids. Thank you Faye.
- Dennis Read and Tonya Givens for always helping out where needed.
- Chris Ferrell for all the hard work with our Jazz Band, so they can proudly represent OSB at various events.
- Tera Webb for practicing after hours for SCASB Track and for taking the students to SCASB this weekend.
- M. Moore, J. Hurst and Mr. Butler for taking the kids to SCASB this weekend.
- Laci Goins for organizing our annual OSB Talent Show.
- Brenda Plunkett and our AWESOME kitchen crew, who work very hard to offer us a variety of "international" foods for lunch. You guys ROCK!


## Maggie Mattox

Thank you guys for going the extra mile.

It is highly appreciated.


Panther Pride


## Schedule of Events

## Date Time

Apr. 4
Apr. 11-14
Apr. 16 2-4 pm
$11 \mathrm{am}-8 \mathrm{pm}$

## Event

Creek County Literacy Spelling Bee
SCASB "Track", Talladega, AL
Elementary "Easter Egg Hunt" (PreK-5th Gr.) @ Civitan Park FCCLA PI Meeting - OSB FCCLA Hosting

Apr. 22 NO SCHOOL—DORMS OPEN—BUS ROUTES RUN

Apr. 23
Apr. 26-27
Apr. 30 all day
all day

State Jazz Contest, Edmond, OK
Jazz Band to Branson, MO
PreK-2nd Gr. "End of Year" field trip to Peek a Boo Petting Zoo, Gore (Adams, Thomas, and Charles' classes) (Eckerson, Leatherman, Gamble, and Barker's classes)
5:30-8:00 pm


May 1 all day
May 7 6-8 pm
May 8 all day all day
May 15
May 16
9:30 am
12:00 pm
May 17

Give Back Day
Spring Concert \& Activities Awards Assembly
Jr./Sr. Trip
Upper Elementary trip to Honor Heights Park
Elementary Awards Assembly
SCHOOL!!!
MS / HS Awards Assembly
GRADUATION - followed by Reception
Professional Development Day

## Recreation Activities April 2019

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Satur- <br> day |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\quad{ }^{1}{ }^{1}$ from frouts 5:30-6:45 pm Open Rec 6:45 pm | $\begin{aligned} & \quad 2 \\ & \text { Outside Rec. } \\ & \text { 6:30 till dark } \\ & \text { Open Rec } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \quad{ }^{3} \\ \text { Outside Rec. } \\ \text { 6:30 till dark } \\ \text { Open Rec } \end{gathered}$ | Home <br> Going | 5 | 6 |
| $7$ <br> Dorms Open Open Rec | $\quad{ }^{\text {foy Scouts }}$ from 5:30-6:45 pm Open Rec 6:45 pm | $\begin{gathered} \quad 9 \\ \text { Outside Rec. } \\ \text { 6:30 till dark } \\ \text { Open Rec } \end{gathered}$ |  | 11 <br> Home <br> Going | 12 | 13 |
| $14$ <br> Dorms Open Open Rec | $\quad 15$ Boy Scouts from 5:30-6:45 pm Open Rec 6:45 pm | $16$ <br> Outside Rec <br> 6:30 till dark <br> Open Rec | $\quad 17$Bunny Hop <br> Dance <br> $6: 30-8: 45$ | $18$ <br> Home <br> Going | 19 | 20 |
| 21 <br> EASTER <br> SUNDAY | 22 <br> Dorms Open Open Rec | 23 <br> Outside Rec. <br> 6:30 till dark <br> Open Rec | Skating at Muskogee Skate Center for MS / HS 6:30-8:15 | $25$ <br> Home <br> Going | 26 | 27 |
| $28$ <br> Dorms Open Open Rec | Boy Scouts 5:30-6:45 pm Happy Birthday for April \& May Followed by Open Rec | $\quad 30$ OSB Talent Show 5:30-8:00 Followed by Open Rec |  |  |  |  |

## Recreation Activities MAY 2019

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Outside Rec. <br> 6:30 till dark <br> Open Rec | $2$ <br> Home <br> Going | 3 | 4 |
| Dorms Open Open Rec | Boy Scouts from 5:30-6:45 pm Open Rec 6:45 pm | Spring Band Concert \& Activities Awards Assembly $6-8 \mathrm{pm}$ at Honor Heights Park Open Rec 6:30 | Outside Rec. <br> 6:30 till dark Open Rec | Home <br> Going | 10 | 11 |
| $12$ <br> Dorms Open Open Rec | Boy Scouts from 5:30-6:45 pm Open Rec 6:45 pm | Outside Rec. <br> 6:30 till dark <br> Open Rec | Rec CLOSED for Graduation Prep | GRADUATION DAY \& Home Going | 17 | 18 |

## SUMMER BREAK until August 12 ! Enrollment Sunday = August 11 ! Don't forget SUMMER CAMP !!!

Oklahoma School for the Blind 3300 Gibson Street
Muskogee, OK 74403

Toll Free: (877) 229-7136
Voice/TTY: (918) 781-8200
Fax: (918) 781-8300
It takes more than sight to have vision!

Please check out our website at:


## OSB Employee / Staff Changes:

Change in Position:
Jerry "Brent" Webster, Material Management Officer, effective March 1

## New Hire:

Kim Slaten, Independent Living (ILS) instructor, effective March 4


## UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS !!! - Save the Date/s !!!

Apr. 22 NO SCHOOL - Dorms Open - Bus Routes Run -
April 23 State Jazz Contest, Edmond, OK
April 27 Jazz Band to Branson, MO
April 30 Lower Elem. Field Trip to Peek a Boo Petting Zoo, Gore (Adams, Charles, Thomas)
Upper Elem. Field Trip to Incredible Pizza, Tulsa (Eckerson, Leatherman, Gamble, Barker)

May 1 Give Back Day
May 7 Spring Band Concert \& Awards Ceremony
May $8 \quad$ Jr./Sr. Trip
Upper Elem. Field Trip to Honor Heights Park (Eckerson, Leatherman, Gamble, Barker)
May 15 Elem. Awards Assembly
May 16 MS \& HS Awards Assembly and Graduation - Last Day of School
May 17 Professional Development (all staff)
(Please see main calendar for times.)

