

Wagoner County

COUNTY CLERK



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 Editor: Char Stevens

FROM THE CLERK

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- From the Clerk* 1
- Good Health* 5
- March Trivia & OK Fun Facts* 3
- Good Financial Health* 4
- Good Health* 5
- Calendar* 6

This month I am changing the format of this letter to ask you to become more involved in your government. Each year, the legislature puts forward a number of bills for consideration, and recently we are beginning to see more legislation that will affect you directly as a county employee.

Some of the topics addressed this year are OPERS, County officer training, and county consolidation. Items that will affect the Elected Officials and by extension, our employees, address campaign finance reporting (having the County Clerks be responsible for it) and county officer term limits (limiting terms to 12 years). The term limit bill will also make all eight elected officials stand for election at the same time, beginning this year, rather than staggering the terms.

We must be proactive with the legislature and let them know those bills which we want them to support and those which we want them to oppose and why. You can research bills by topic at www.oklegislature.gov by selecting "Legislation" from the menu at the top and then "Advanced Search", or if you are interested in joining a mailing list with daily updates, just call or email me.

I encourage you to get involved and call your legislator and those on the committees in which these bills and others which interest you are being heard and let your thoughts be known.

We all know that government is best on the local level and we need to work together to see that it stays that way.

Lori Hendricks

Life shrinks or expands in proportion to one's courage.

Special points of interest:

- OK Fun Facts
- *****
- District 3
- "Trash-Off"
- April 26th



Wagoner County—Growing from Good" to Great"!

NEXT HOLIDAY is
APRIL 18TH, 2014—GOOD FRIDAY

St. Patrick's Day in the US has a strong political history. (March 17th)

In the mid 19th century, the Irish faced discrimination much like that faced by African Americans. In a few rare instances, prejudice against the Irish was even more fierce! The Irish were culturally unique, Catholic, and because of deplorable conditions in Ireland, flooded into the US in large numbers. They were perceived as a potentially disloyal and were treated harshly. To combat this, the American Irish began to organize themselves politically. By the end of the 19th century, St. Patrick's Day was a large holiday for the Irish and an occasion for them to demonstrate their collective political and social might. While the political emphasis has faded along with the discrimination, the holiday remains ever popular as an opportunity for festivity regardless of one's cultural background.



NEXT SAFETY MEETING
March 5th, 2014
Slips, Trips, and Falls
Presented by
Indian Capital Tech Center

The County Clerk Adm. offices & Land Records will be closed one day of every month from 8:00am to 9:00am for safety classes.

OKLAHOMA FUN FACTS.....

- The bread twist tie was invented in Maysville, OK
- The shopping cart was invented in Ardmore, OK in 1936.
- The nations first parking meter was installed in Oklahoma City in 1935.
- The first Girl Scout Cookie was sold in Muskogee, OK in 1917.



MARCH TRIVIA

- For those who were born in the month of March the Aquamarine is the traditional birthstone.
- The birth flower for March is daffodil. In the language of flowers, daffodils symbolize chivalry, respect, modesty and faithfulness.

March is National What Month?

- American Red Cross Month
- Women's History Month
- International Women's Day, March 8th
- Fire Prevention **Month**



“It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade.” – Charles Dickens

GOOD FINANCIAL HEALTH

YOU AND YOUR BUDGET Continuing our series of articles regarding common ways people waste money, here are other detriments to our budgets:

Passing up Tax Breaks

There's a good chance you're among the millions of taxpayers who overpay taxes each year by overlooking deductions to which you're entitled. Failing to maintain a file of tax receipts throughout the year, rushing to file your taxes at the last minute, and fearing an IRS audit are all reasons that may keep you from claiming perfectly valid deductions. Be informed regarding current tax breaks. That money is yours. Just be sure you have the documentation to prove it.

Opting for a Low Insurance Deductible

A low deductible may seem appealing as you ponder a costly claim down the line, but you'll pay a lot more in higher premiums. Boosting your deductible from \$200 to \$500 can reduce your collision and comprehensive auto insurance premiums by 15% to 30%; raising it to \$1,000 can save you 40% or more. If your homeowners insurance deductible is \$500, increasing it to \$1,000 can lower your premiums by up to 20%. Besides, when you have a low deductible, you might be tempted to file claims more frequently for small amounts. Insurers don't like frequent claims on your record and can punish you with higher rates. Before raising your deductible, however, make sure you have enough cash in your emergency savings account to cover it if you ever file a claim. You won't have to rely on costly credit cards to bail you out.

(KIPLINGER by Erin Burke and Cameron Huddleston)



REMEMBER...DISTRICT THREE ANNUAL TRASH-OFF IS APR 26TH!!



GOOD HEALTH AND YOUR DIET

Should we eat Red Meat?

Studies of the cause-and-effect of eating red meat never find any difference in health outcomes between red meat and chicken or fish, says Michael Roussell, Ph.D., author of *The Six Pillars of Nutrition*. Many times, red meat eaters tend to be unhealthier in general—they smoke, drink, exercise less, and eat fewer disease-fighting fruits and vegetables. In fact, red meat in a healthy diet could improve cholesterol levels, according to a 2012 study in the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*. Stearic acid (a saturated fatty acid) and oleic acid (a heart-healthy monounsaturated fat) may play a role in those “good” HDL cholesterol changes. “Beef brings a unique, heart-healthy blend of fats to the table that you won’t get from other foods,” says Roussell.



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We have a new web
address!

www.wagonercounty.ok.gov

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CALENDAR



Mar 3rd Comm Mtg (Mon)
Mar 10th Comm Mtg (Mon)
Mar 17th Comm Mtg (Mon) Mar 11th Excise Board Mtg
Mar 24th Comm Mtg (Mon) Mar 25th Excise Board Mtg
Mar 31st Comm Mtg (Mon)

None are so empty as those who
are full of themselves.



*PLEASE ENJOY THIS
MARCH ISSUE...IF YOU
WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE
TO THE APRIL ISSUE, PLEASE
LET ME KNOW.....CHAR*

MISSION A MATTER OF RIGHT

"A popular Government, without popular information, or the means of acquiring it, is but a Prologue to a Farce or a Tragedy; or perhaps both. Knowledge will forever govern ignorance: And a people who mean to be their own Governors, must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives."

- James Madison