

**SHOP LOCALLY!
SHOP WISTER!**
Remember to patronize local
Businesses FIRST!!

- LeFlore County Livestock Auction
 - Soggy Doggy Pet Grooming
 - Long's Bait & Tackle
 - Mitchell Veterinary Clinic
 - Dorthea's Beauty Shop
 - Serenity Water Gardens
 - Turnipseed Heating & Air
 - Short Stop
 - Dollar General
 - Wister Food Market
 - Trucks 'n Stuff
 - White's Tax Service
 - J & J Storage
 - Young's Muffler
 - Poor Boy Livestock Auction
 - Rainbow Home Health
 - Wister Road & Tire
 - Garner's Garage
 - Dugout Restaurant
 - Mt. Gateway Standard Poodles
 - Dewitt Enterprises
 - Hammons Heating & Air
 - Frieda's Home Daycare
 - Bev's Home Cookin'
 - Jay Gas
 - Tote a Poke
 - G & S Tractor Service
 - Community State Bank
 - Gingerbread House Florist
 - Larry Paulen, Knife Maker
 - Simple Simon's
 - This 'n That Shop
 - Dairy Hut
 - Field's Veterinary Clinic
 - SE Animal Health & Hardware
 - Country Style Health Care
 - Arlene's Antiques
 - W. D. Ford Construction
 - Wildcat Laundromat
 - Ruby's Café
 - Davy's Tractor
 - Bob Ryburn Construction
 - Shawn Goad Garage
 - Duck Martin Construction
 - Prancing Pony Furniture
- Don't see your business name here?
Call 655-7654 for your FREE listing**



BEV'S HOME COOKING

Bev's Home Cooking is the Wister Community News Business of the Month for July. Located on Highway 271 just as you enter Wister from the North, Bev's is one of the first businesses you spot as you come into town. Though the building has been there for a longer period of time, Beverly Loomis opened her restaurant on September 22, 2008. Loomis said that they do as much hands on cooking as possible at the restaurant, making the hamburger patties by hand instead of using frozen patties and breading their cube steaks for chicken fried steak. The chicken fried steak is a favorite of many of the patrons. Friday's Special of Fish, Shrimp, Ribs, and Frog Legs is also a big draw. Hours of the restaurant are from 5 AM till 8 PM Monday through Saturday and 5 AM to 2 PM on Sunday. There are two separate dining areas, one for Smoking patrons and the other for Non-Smokers. A plan to start a Buffet from 11 to 2 Monday thru Thursday and 11 to close on Friday are in the works. Loomis said they hope to start it in late July. The Buffet will also be available on

Sunday from 11 to 2. Beverly was born in Missouri but moved to the Panama area in 1978 and graduated from Panama High school. She is married to Larry Loomis who is the Wister Chief of Police. They have been married for 23 years and have lived in Wister all of their married life. Larry Loomis was raised mostly in Poteau and graduated from Poteau High School. He and his family moved to Wister during his Senior year of HS. The Loomis family has two children, Anthony, who followed his Dad into Law Enforcement, and Jessie, a Senior at Wister High School. The Loomis family is expecting their first grandchild in late November. Before starting Bev's Home Cooking, Beverly worked with her Father-in-Law painting houses. When asked what is her favorite part of running Bev's Home Cooking she replied that meeting interesting people was what she liked most. She also stated that her least favorite part is the cleaning up. We congratulate Bev's Home Cooking as Wister Community News July Business of the month. and wish them success..

Business of the Month

FREE!

Wister Community News

Sponsored by Friends of Wister Public Library

Volume 2, Issue 15
July 2009

FREE!

CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF OUR NATION!



Join the Wister July 4th celebration! The parade starts at 10 am with floats lining up at 9 am at the school. Following the parade, walk to the park and enjoy free hotdogs sponsored by Community State Bank, soft drinks to be sold by Wister Pride, fun and games for children and teens - all in the lovely setting of our park. Mark your calendars today and plan



and Philadelphia draw huge crowds to their festivities. In Boston, the USS John F. Kennedy often sails into the harbor, while the Boston Pops Orchestra holds a televised concert on the banks of the Charles River, featuring American music and ending with the 1812 Overture. Philadelphia holds its celebrations at Independence

to be a part of celebrating our country's liberty. America celebrates July 4 as Independence Day because it was on July 4, 1776, that members of the Second Continental Congress, meeting in Philadelphia, adopted the final draft of the Declaration of Independence. Following its adoption, the Declaration was read to the public in various American cities. Whenever they heard it, patriots erupted in cheers and celebrations. In 1777, Philadelphians rang bells, fired guns, lit candles and set off firecrackers. However, while the War of Independence dragged on, July 4 celebrations were modest at best. When the war ended in 1783, July 4 became a holiday in some places. In Boston, it replaced the date of the Boston Massacre, March 5, as the major patriotic holiday. Speeches, military events, parades, and fireworks marked the day. In 1941, Congress declared July 4 a federal holiday. Over time, various other summertime activities also came to be associated with the Fourth of July, including historical pageants, picnics, baseball games, watermelon-eating contests, and trips to the beach. Common foods include hot dogs, hamburgers, corn on the cob, apple pie, cole slaw, and sometimes clam bakes. While the Fourth is celebrated across the country, historic cities like Boston

Hall, where historic scenes are reenacted and the Declaration of Independence is read. Other interesting parties include the American Indian rodeo and three-day pow-wow in Flagstaff, Arizona, and the Lititz, Pennsylvania, candle festival, where hundreds of candles are floated in water and a "Queen of Candles" is chosen. The second president, John Adams, would have approved. "I believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival," he wrote his wife, Abigail. "It ought to be celebrated by pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations from one end of this continent to the other..." John Hancock, the president of the Second Continental Congress, was the first to sign the Declaration. All 56 men who ultimately signed the Declaration showed great courage for announcing independence from Great Britain was an act of treason, punishable by death. The Declaration of Independence has become one of the most admired and copied political documents of all time. It was written by Thomas Jefferson and revised by John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, and Jefferson and is a justification of the American Revolution, citing grievances against King George III.

PROUDLY THEY SERVE!

PFC Kaitlyn Brooks, US Army, She is the daughter of Vickie and Ben Standefer of Wister.

DC Nick Covey, US Navy, is stationed in San Diego, CA. Nick's specialty is Damage Control. He is the son of Robin and Casey Covey of Wister.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Charlie A Prigmore, US Navy, returned to the states mid-May and has been home on leave. Charlie is the son of Bonnie Prigmore and the grandson of Loretta Bullard, both of Wister.

Staff Sgt Niklas Webster, US Air Force, is stationed in Anchorage, Alaska. Niklas is the son of Donna Matthews and grandson of Mae Rose both of Wister.

Staff Sgt. Troy S. Langley, US Army, is stationed at Ft. Bliss, El Paso, TX. He is son of Gene and Leslie Langley of Wister.

Sgt. Corey Coats, US Army, is currently serving in Iraq. He is the son of Wes and Michelle Coats of Wheelless, OK, and grandson of Donna Mathews and great grandson of Mae Rose, both of Wister.

PFC Anthony Billy, US Army, is recuperating and temporarily stationed at Ft. Chaffee, AR. He is the son of Donna Billy of Wister.

Do you have a family member or loved one serving our Armed Forces? Call



YOUTH HAPPENINGS

Be Creative @ Your Library. *By Sheila Reid-Pickering*

Summer reading is over and we are left with pleasant memories of another month that has passed by too quickly. Now it's time to get ready for July and all of its marvels. First we have a favored holiday the Fourth of July aka Independence Day! The library will be closed Sat July 4th in celebration of this most important historical day. Then on July 10 I fly to Chicago for the American Library Association annual conference and I am very excited to go. At this conference I will learn many incredible things to bring back and help make our already wonderful library a more magnetic place for the whole community. I will be attending sessions that cover families, technology, programs, partnerships, and books. I fly home July 15 and will be back in the library July 18. Come by and see me on the 18th and I will tell you all about my time in Chicago. This conference trip was made possible by a grant from the Oklahoma Department of Libraries. We are genuinely honored to have an organization like ODL to help provide us with the many workshops, classes, and other opportunities that help us provide the best services we possibly can to you, our amazing and supportive community. Have a fantastic July!



MAKE FLAVORED ICED TEA YOURSELF!

Flavored iced teas are very popular beverages. Making flavored iced tea is very easy, and can be much more economical than purchasing individual bottled iced tea beverages.

The next time you want something fruity and cold to drink that includes the health benefits of tea, try making this simple and tasty flavored iced tea recipe!

White Grape and Lemon Iced Tea Recipe

- Ingredients 2 gallons of water
- 12 tea bags (white tea, green tea, or black tea)
- 2 cups of sugar or granulated Splenda
- 1 1/2 cups of white grape juice
- 2 envelopes of unsweetened lemonade drink mix (Kool Aid or another brand)

Directions: Place water and tea bags in a large stock pot and bring to a boil. Cover and allow to steep for 10 minutes. Remove the tea bags. Add the sweetener, white grape juice, and lemonade drink mix. Stir well, being sure that granulated ingredients dissolve thoroughly. Pour into a pitcher and allow to chill before serving.



JULY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

What can you do in Wister in July? Here is a listing of some of the activities that you may be interested in attending or knowing about. The calendar is provided so that you may keep track of what is happening this month.

July Calendar

July 1st & ea. Wed -Chess Club

July 2 & ea. Thursday @ 2 pm Free Popcorn

Theater @ the Library

July 4th Celebration in Wister @ 10 am

July 20th Quarry Queens Book Club

July 31st Friends of Library Meeting 10 am

Every Friday@ the Library - Coffee & Conversation 10 – Noon



Save money @your library

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



Library life has been hectic this month. School is out and Summer Reading Program is in full swing. We love having

children and young people in the library and we have lots for them to do. Books, movies, newspapers, magazines, crafts, chess, games, gaming....we have it all. If you have a grandchild, niece or nephew visiting this summer, come to the library and ask us how we can sign you up so they can check out our many materials. I bet you've been wondering where I've been so far this summer. I was fortunate to receive a grant that enabled me to attend the huge Book Expo America conference in New York City at the end of May and beginning of June. I returned for just a few days then was off to an Oklahoma Library Association Leadership Retreat in Tulsa. Now, I'm composing this column from home while taking weeks vacation. This is the time of year that Sheila and I have to take vacation and it's also the time of year that major conferences occur. Sheila will have a busy July as she's going to Chicago to attend the American Library Association conference, then, upon her return, will almost immediately takes quite a nice vacation. Don't worry; well be back at work together in August making plans for you and your library in the upcoming year. By the way, visit us each Thursday @ 2 in July for free Popcorn Theater featuring a new movie each week. The popcorn is free, the drinks are .50 and the movies will be fun. Hope to see you and your family for these cool afternoon matinees in July. Don't forget that your library card is your passport to the world. Library cards are free! Contact us at 655-7654, look us up at www.wister.lib.ok.us or email us at langley@oklibrary.net **Look us up and check us out!**

Leslie



Coffee & Conversation

Every Friday morning @ 10 @ Wister Library.

Contact Leslie @ 655-7654 to have your church, school or family event posted to the calendar - Free!

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Seventy-six-pound flathead catfish sets new Oklahoma state record

This article was posted on the Oklahoma Wildlife website at www.oklahomawildlife.com

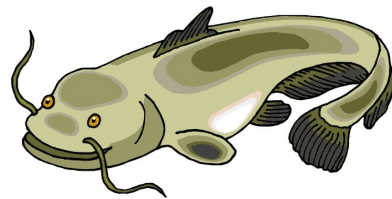
When Tommy Couch of Howe was reeling in his 76-lb. state record flathead catfish from the Poteau River June 13, he just knew it was going to be a carp. "He stayed right along the bank and right along the bottom," Couch said, similar to carp he has landed in the past. "When his tail finally came up — that's when I realized what he was." On the bank, someone with Couch screamed, "That's a record! That's a record." And it was. Couch's fish outweighs the previous 72-lb., 8-oz. record flathead catfish caught by Ron Cantrell in 2004 at El Reno Lake. Couch was fishing the old Poteau River channel below the Wister Dam when he landed his state record. He was not having much luck using night crawlers, so he switched to red worms and caught the fish just after 1 p.m. The catfish measured 51 1/2" in length and had a girth of 58 1/4." Couch was using a Ambassador 5000 reel on a Master Spector 10' graphite rod. His 20 lb. test line was rigged with a 2-0 Eagle Claw hook. Couch said he has never had a fish fight on the line quite like his record fish — or like a catfish in general, which is one reason he

recommends catfish angling to other sportsmen. Couch is an avid catfish angler, and he said "anytime the barometer is rising" is a good time to be casting for catfish. Flathead catfish are popular among Oklahoma anglers, as are channel catfish and blue catfish. All three catfish are readily available in the state's lakes, ponds and rivers, and they can be caught using a variety of methods, including rod and reel, trotlining, juglining, limblining and noodling. Couch had initially considered donating the fish to an aquarium facility, but it died before he found a location that would accept it. He and friends decided to eat the fish and have already sampled the meat. Don Groom, northeast region fisheries biologist for the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, verified the fish for the Wildlife Department. "Poteau River is known for producing large flatheads," Groom said. "This is a great fish, and we congratulate him for his catch." Couch's flathead catfish also qualifies as a lake record for Wister Lake. To view other lake record fish, log on to the Wildlife Department's Web site at wildlifedepartment.com. For a complete list of record fish and the procedures regarding certifying state record fish, consult the current "Oklahoma Fishing Guide" or log on to wildlifedepartment.com. Anglers who believe they may have hooked a record fish must weigh the fish on an Oklahoma State Department of



TOMMY COUCH AND HIS STATE RECORD CATFISH

Agriculture certified scale, and the weight must be verified by a Wildlife Department employee.



Wister Community News is brought to you by Friends of Wister Public Library
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How To Make Your Own Laundry Detergent And Save Big Money



I've been experimenting with making lots of cleaning supplies at home, but this one is by far the craziest - and the most successful. Basically, I made a giant bucket of slime that works incredibly well as laundry detergent at a cost of about three cents a load. For comparison's sake, a jumbo container of Tide at Amazon.com costs \$28.99 for 96 loads, or a cost of \$0.30 a load. Thus, with each load of this stuff, I'm saving more than a quarter. Here's what you need:

- 1 bar of soap (whatever kind you like; I used Lever 2000 because we have tons of bars of it from a case we bought a while back)
- 1 box of **washing** soda (look for it in the laundry detergent aisle at your local department store - it comes in an Arm & Hammer box and will contain enough for six batches of this stuff)
- 1 box of borax (this is *not* necessary, but I've found it really kicks the cleaning up a notch - one box of borax will contain more than enough for tons of batches of this homemade detergent - if you decide to use this, **be careful**)
- A five gallon bucket with a lid
- Three gallons of tap water
- A big spoon to stir the mixture with
- A measuring cup
- A knife

Step One: Put about 4 cups of water into a pan on your stove and turn the heat up on high until it's almost boiling. While you're waiting, whip out a knife and start shaving strips off of the bar of soap into the water, whittling it down. Keep the heat

below a boil and keep shaving the soap. Eventually, you'll shave up the whole bar, then stir the hot water until the soap is dissolved and you have some highly soapy water. **Step Two:** Put three gallons of hot water into the five gallon then mix in the hot soapy water from step one, stir it for a while, then add a cup of the washing soda. Keep stirring it for another minute or two, then add a half cup of borax if you are using borax. Stir for another couple of minutes, then let the stuff sit overnight to cool. And you're done. When you wake up in the morning, you'll have a bucket of gelatinous slime that's a paler shade of the soap that you used (in our case, it's a very pale greenish blue). One measuring cup full will be roughly what you need to do a load of laundry - and the ingredients are basically the same as laundry detergent. Thus, out of three gallons, you'll get about 48 loads of laundry. If you do this six times, you'll have used six bars of soap (\$0.99 each), one box of washing soda (\$2.49 at our store), and about half a box of borax (\$2.49 at our store, so \$1.25) and make 288 loads of laundry. This comes up to a cost of right around three cents a gallon, or **a savings of \$70.**

This article was written by Trent Hamm, author of **365 Ways to Live Cheap: Your Everyday Guide to Saving Money** and found on his website **THE SIMPLE DOLLAR @ <http://tinyurl.com/3d2uqs>**

July Quarry Queens Book Club Meeting Date Set



The Oklahoma Quarry Queens, our local chapter of the Pulpwood Queens Book Club, met for the first time June 15th at the home of Leslie Langley. 6 charter members came together for an evening of fun and discussion of the book **SAINTS IN LIMBO** by River Jordan. The July QQ meeting will be held Monday, July 20 @ 7pm (call the library for the location). Kaya McLeran's book, **ON THE DIVINITY OF SECOND CHANCES** will be discussed. Several things are mandatory — tiaras (we'll pass them out at the door) wear pink and/or an animal print, and have a good time. Make plans to join us for this terrific evening. Details are available @ the library or by calling 655-7654.



Do you have produce to spare from your garden?

MOORE'S PRODUCE in Poteau is searching for local growers of summer fruits & vegetables. They currently have carrots from Wister, squash from Panama, peaches from Spiro and jams and jellies from local producers. Contact them @ 647-3969. They're at the vegetable stand all day so leave them a message and they'll call you back. This is a good opportunity to make a little extra money and help others.

Sherry's Hodgepodge



More "Summer fun", and still more to come. Hot weather is on its way, (correction: It is here)

so that means lots of water to drink, more icy cold liquids, like iced tea, soda, and if you have children around you will want some of those juicy pop things that you keep in the freezer. One thing to remember is when it is a hot day, and you are outside working in the garden, yard or just playing, to drink lots of water. I think I will throw in a healthy pitch, (but I'm really not one to talk?) A lot of those sodas, and Popsicle things are just loaded with sugar. If you check out some of the health sites online, you will find reports that high sugar foods, can promote early onset of diabetes, as well as obesity. So, why not compromise? Get some unsweetened juice, (Pineapple is the sweetest) dilute it with water and freeze in those little plastic molds, or paper cups. Some other juices would be grape juice, but watch the sugar content. Sometimes making your homemade treats are less expensive as well as healthy. You can even get the kids to participate in making them. Here is one website I found that has a recipe for some peachy/yogurt frozen pops. Some of the articles I have read, also state that it is healthier to eat whole fruit rather than drink fruit juices. So, I would think why not get some good strawberries, wash them,

and then freeze them? You could give the kids a hand full of these, instead of some sugary treat, and it would keep them cool, and refreshed. It would also cut down on the sugary hyper fits. Another idea would be to take fresh strawberries, or another fruit of your choice, puree it in a blender, add sugar-free lemonade to it, then pour it into those pop-molds and freeze. (Yogurt is another good additive for more nutrition) I have a recipe to share with you, but it is probably one you will want to save for a cold day. I got this recipe from a wonderful, kind woman whom I met over a year ago here in Wister. You may know her. I think she is amazing. Her name is Gloryann Young and I am sure if we could get her to write an article or two, she could share some history of Wister. I do know she makes a mean pumpkin roll during the holidays. I ordered one at Thanksgiving, and then I made sure to order another one for Christmas. In May, Gloryann and I were talking about recipes, and she told me about a Chicken and Dumpling recipe she got from her mother in law. I asked her to share it. Here is her recipe as given to me. "When I was a kid my mother made drop dumplings. I hated those big blobs of

dough! Then I met Dean Young, whose mother, Vivian, made the best dumplings I'd ever eaten. They were rolled thin and cut in narrow strips. Here is her recipe:

Vivian Young's Dumplings

1 cup flour, 1/2 tsp. salt, 1/4 c. shortening.... Cut the shortening into the flour and salt. Add 2 tbs. of water and one (1) egg. Roll out thin and cut in 1 inch wide strips (I use a pizza cutter). Drop into boiling broth, cooking for 10 minutes. I double the recipe and add one (1) can of cream of chicken soup and chicken bits of meat. - Gloryann Young" Enjoy TODAY, live, love, have compassion and do something for someone without them knowing it. (You will have a wonderful secret to hold on to) **By Sherry Miller**



FRIENDS TO MEET IN JULY

Join us Friday, July 31 at 10 am for the regular Friends of Wister Library meeting. Meet new people and enjoy coffee and sweet treats as we make plans for the library and community. If you're not a Friend, consider joining us and attend our meetings. You'll be glad you did! Call 655-7654 for details.



SOGGY DOGGY MOVES

Michelle Gibson, owner of Wister's Soggy Doggy Dog Grooming and Kennels is moving her business to a new location on the highway. "The Wister Flower & Gift Gallery building became available and I followed God's lead and bought it so that I could expand my business and make it more visible in a better location. It's in the Lord's hands now and I've got a good feeling. He's going to help me make it work", said Gibson. Join in the fun Saturday, July 11 from 10 am until 4 pm for an Open House that will feature free doggie dips, a rabies clinic with discounted prices sponsored by Doc Fields, and more. The first day of business in the new location will be Monday, July 14 and the Soggy Doggy's new hours will be Mon through Fri from 10 am until 6pm. They offer dog grooming and boarding and hope to soon open a doggie daycare. Call 655-3131 for details.



If you're looking for local work or yard light chores, drop off a brief resume at Wister Library with your name, contact information and what tools, etc. you own and when you will be willing to work. So far, in June, we've had many responses to our ad and have kept several people very busy working. Maybe we can help you too! Need more info? Call 655-7654.



FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Tips for a Safe 4th of July Celebration

The Fourth of July traditionally presents the biggest fire danger to citizens and is the cause of a great number of fires and burn injuries due to fireworks. Each year hospitals across the nation report thousands of cases of burn injuries as a result of fireworks. These are only the numbers of fireworks injuries reported to hospital emergency rooms; experts believe that the total number of fireworks injuries may be far more. Fourth of July can be one of the most fun and prettiest holidays as long as general safety precautions are followed such as the following:

- Remember restrictions on fireworks are for a good cause
- Inspect fireworks; never use damaged or leaking fireworks
- Read and follow instructions on fireworks
- Never give a small child fireworks
- Store fireworks in a cool dry place
- Light only one item at a time
- Keep spectators at least 10 feet away
- Wait a few minutes before

going over to a "dud" firework; do not try to relight it

- Use fireworks in a clear area at least 20 feet away from house, wood fences weeds, or brush
- Have a pail of water ready to place used or malfunctioning fireworks in.
- If your clothes catch on fire: stop right where you are: drop to the ground and roll cover your face with your hands and roll until the flames are put out. If someone is injured or a fire is started call 911 immediately. The Wister Fire Department would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Fourth of July and don't forget about the pa-

GOOD STUFF TO KNOW

- The **Transfer Station** (just west of Poteau on Cedar Road) is open Tues-Sat. from 8am-4pm. Call them at 647-8516.
- You can print resumes or anything from the Internet at the library for .10 per page.
- The **Wister Post Office** is open Monday - Friday from 9am-noon. Then from 1:30 pm -4:00. There is no window service on Saturday's. Call them at 655-7570.



ON THE BEAT WISTER PD

POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS

Heat warnings might be aimed at small children, the elderly and chronically ill, but heat also poses a threat to young, healthy people too. Of the people who die of heat-related causes this year many will be 25 to 64 years old. Often, adults will ignore the warning signs of excessive heat until it can be too late. Dizziness, excessive sweating, tiredness, muscle weakness and nausea are initial signs of heat exhaustion and if untreated can quickly lead to heat stroke if not taken care of properly. In our area, other than recreation, heat exhaustion occurs in the hayfields where direct sun temperatures soar and shade is not abundant. The elderly and chronically ill are often more vulnerable because they perspire less and are more likely to be taking medications that can impair the body's response to heat. Those medications include antihistamines, heart drugs, over-the-counter sleeping pills, antidepressants, antipsychotics, major tranquilizers and some medications for Parkinson's disease. People should check with their doctor or pharmacist to find out if their medications make them more sensitive to heat. Seniors on fixed incomes often do not have air conditioning or feel they cannot afford the

expense of running it. Since many senior citizens live alone, people should check on elderly relatives and neighbors regularly to be sure they are not suffering from the heat. The state's toll-free senior assistance hotline, 1-800-211-2116, is available to report any senior adults or persons needing assistance. Children are also sensitive to heat. They need to drink plenty of fluids during hot weather. Infants and young children should never be left unattended in hot environments, especially cars, even if they are running with the air conditioner on. A car's interior takes only a few minutes to reach oven-like temperatures, putting anyone left inside at risk of overheating. Children also should not be allowed to play in or around cars. Small children can quickly be trapped because they are not big enough to open the door or roll down a window to escape. We have, unfortunately, experienced 2 deaths in Northwest Arkansas recently when 2 young children were playing around their vehicle and became trapped in the trunk. Both children died in a short period of time due to the heat. Be heat smart with yourself, your children, your neighbors and your relatives this summer.

POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS

Gone Fishin'



Another state record broken! Tommy Couch caught a 76# Flathead Catfish June 13 in Wister Lake on hook and line with 20# test using red worms for bait! Congratulations Tommy!

Fishing this past month has been good. The water at the spillway is running hard and the fish are coming up the river. A 70# flathead, 53# flathead, 42# flathead, 36# flathead, 22# flathead 32# blue cat, 18# blue cat and a lot of 6 - 7- 8# blues and channel cats were caught. The Crappie is doing good on the lake and below the dam. A lot of nice ones have been caught. Sardis is also catching a lot of Crappie. Some big bass have finally shown up in the lake and in ponds. I saw an 8 and a 10# large mouth. Shad, perch, cut shad and cut perch is doing well for big fish bait. Fishing will be good for the upcoming month too. Come on in the bait shop and let's talk fishin'! We've got bait and good fishin' supplies. We don't want all your money, just a little at a time! Don't forget we open at 4am every day and the coffee pots always on. Good Luck and Good Fishin'! **Submitted by Bill Long**

~IN THE MARKET~ REAL ESTATE NEWS

WHAT'S IT WORTH?

You have decided to sell your home. You have spruced up and cleaned up in and around your home. You have a reputable agent who can market your place to the greatest number of potential buyers. But what is your home worth? How will you price your property? One approach is to calculate what you paid for it, add in all the improvements you've made, plus the value of the sweat equity and sentimental memories you have invested in your property. However, this may not be the best approach. While those are important considerations for the homeowner, a potential buyer has a different perspective. A better approach is to use a Comparative Market Analysis (CMA) which your agent should prepare to help determine a fair market value for your home. A CMA will include the price of properties similar to yours that have sold in recent months. It may also include properties similar to yours that are currently on the market. Those properties are your competition and you need to know their prices. Yes, you want the best price you can get when you sell, but buyers also want the most for their money. If your price is too high when you list your property,



buyers who may have been interested will keep shopping and your place will just sit on the market. In the long run, it can cost you more to price it high because you may end up having to price for much less just to get buyers interested after so many months on the market. If you would like more information about a Comparative Market Analysis or if you have other questions about listing your property, contact Donna Billy at 918-647-6817, United Country/Mixon Realty or visit www.unitedcountry.com/poteauok You can also call our office: United Country – Mixon Realty, 918-647-9114.



LAUGHTER FROM THE GARDEN

What do you get if you divide the circumference of a pumpkin by its diameter?
Pumpkin pi.

Have you heard of the garlic diet? You don't lose much weight, but from a distance your friends think you look thinner.

What would we have called the color orange if it wasn't a fruit? Why does cleave mean both split apart and stick together? If vegetarians eat vegetables, what do humanitarians eat? If corn oil comes from corn, what does baby oil come from?

What do you call a cow who works for a gardener?
A lawn moo-er.



Every Child Can Go To College

Discover the promise of FREE college tuition! Oklahomans want to see deserving students succeed – students who study and work hard, but whose families find it difficult to afford college. If your child dreams of going to college and works to achieve it, then we can help make it a reality! To make that happen, the Oklahoma Legislature has set up a unique program for 8th, 9th and 10th-grade students (homeschool students must be age 13, 14 or 15) that will help pay for their college education if their family's income is \$50,000 or less at the time the student applies for the program.* This program is Oklahoma's Promise. But college isn't easy. So to make sure students get ready for college while they're still in high school, the program requires students to take certain high school courses. They will have to pass those courses and keep up their grades. And besides staying on top of the books, students will also have to show that they're in control outside the classroom. That means staying away from trouble like gangs, drugs and alcohol. In short, the student promises to prepare academically for college and stay out of trouble, and in return, the state of Oklahoma promises to help pay the student's college tuition. If you don't qualify for this program, there are still other ways to pay for college, including scholarships, grants and student loans. For more details, call the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's information hotline at 800.858.1840.



BULLETIN BOARD

This is the spot for local announcements and upcoming events. Call 655-7654 or email wisternews@gmail.com

Clothing Giveaway July 9 from 9 AM to Noon at **Bethel Baptist Church** annex, west of the church on Highway 270.

Wister City Council Meeting, Monday, July 1 @ 6:30 pm. At City Hall Council Room. Public invited

DON'T FORGET TO SUPPORT THE WISTER MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE by dropping your loose change in the donation buckets at area stores. Your donations help your friends and neighbors!

Local Telephone Numbers of Interest

City Hall	655-7421
Wister School	655-3132
Post Office	655-7570
Wister Police	655-3188
CS Bank	655-7257
Library	655-7654
WPWA Water	655-7421
Allegiance Cable	866-245-0151
Windstream	800-842-5690
PSO Electric	888-216-3523
Kiamichi Electric	800-888-2731



Free wireless Internet @ Wister Library!

SWAP.SAVE & MORE

Have something you'd like to swap or trade or list? This is the place to do it! Must be 25 words or less.

- ◆ Gently used clothing; all sizes. Call Lisa @ 918-635-0259
- ◆ Used books for sale @ the library.
- ◆ Need yard work or light chores done? Call Leslie @ the library 655-7654. She has a list of people willing to work.

QUICK TIPS TO SAVE ELECTRICITY AND MONEY

- ◆ Raise the temperature setting on the thermostat.
- ◆ Install ceiling fans if you don't have them
- ◆ Make sure your ceiling fan is spinning the right way—down!
- ◆ Use an AC timer
- ◆ Close registers in unused room
- ◆ Make sure your AC is the correct size for your room or home
- ◆ Keep the AC filter clean

Wister Community News is brought to you by Friends of Wister Public Library
101 Caston Avenue, Wister, OK
918-655-7654



Coffee & Conversation

CHURCH NEWS

WISTER MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST AT BETHEL BAPTIST is open to everyone the first Saturday of each month at 8 am.

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST All men of Wister are invited to the monthly Men's Prayer Breakfast on the last Saturday of each month at the Wister United Methodist Church in the Fellowship Hall at 6 am.

Church of God Seventh Day All women of the community are invited to spend a relaxing evening each month on the 2nd Tuesday at 7pm tying quilts and preparing them for new homes, Contact Loretta Bullard at 655-3213 for more information.

Wister Church of the Nazarene is a SHARE FOOD distribution site. **NEW LOWER PRICES** If you eat, you qualify to save up to 50% on your grocery bill. July order dates - Wed. July 8-5pm, Thurs. July 9 10am-1pm, Fri. July 10 10am-1pm, Sat. July 11 from 10 am - noon & Mon July 13 from 10 am - noon. Distribution day is July 25th from 8:30 - 9:30 am.

WISTER CHURCHES

Bethel Baptist	655-7913
Nazarene Church	655-7433
United Methodist	655-7989
Believer's Fellowship	658-2348
Church of God 7th Day	655-7400
First Assembly of God	655-7415
Ellis Chapel	655-7706
Wister First Baptist	655-3175



Did you know?

WISTER PRIDE REIGNITES THE COMMUNITY SPARK

Wister Pride, Wister's only civic organization, was formed in September of 1999 when a group of like-minded citizens banded together to brainstorm about improvements that needed to be made in Wister and planned fundraisers to accomplish the projects. The first project was to purchase Christmas Decorations for the downtown area using the proceeds from a fundraising effort. Wister Pride bought 9 large decorations for the utility poles and also purchased lights to go around City Hall. The following year, with the help of a grant and donations from the Wister Alumni, Wister Pride purchased and installed 3 playground sets, 2 play horses, 5 park benches, 2 picnic tables, 2 BBQ grills and also planned and installed the asphalt walking track. When that was completed, Wister Pride purchased a 2 rail fence to be put around the park that was installed in the Spring of 2001, around two sides of the park. In May of 2002 the next goal was decided upon and this one was ambitious. Wister pride members worked hard to raise funds and have the scrolling sign that we've come to rely upon for information installed in the park. The sign, which is used by the school, churches, individuals and other organizations, is a

great way to send birthday and anniversary greetings for a nominal fee of \$5.00 a week. The money generated from the sign is used by Wister Pride to purchase parade trophies. The next project was a large one and resulted in the beautiful gazebo that graces the center of the park. It was built in May 2003 and paid for with donations and a Keddo grant. Additionally, a rock flower bed and shrubs and flowers were planted around the gazebo. In June 2003, a large flag pole was erected that now flies an 8 x 12 American flag. Smaller flags were purchased at this time and they are affixed to the utility poles on appropriate patriotic holidays. Directly following that, a rock walk was laid from the gazebo to the walking track. The park is the envy of other towns in our area and well used by our citizens. Wister Pride is pleased to have been able to do so much for the Town of Wister. As soon one project is completed, it's time to look forward to another. The phrase "can't be done" is not in Wister Pride's vocabulary. All previous projects were made possible with grants and contributions by the generous folks of Wister who like to see something positive



being done in small towns. All the work that went into putting the playground equipment, benches, fence and installing the sign were done with the help of volunteers and the men in our own Fire Department. Wister Pride sponsors the Annual July 4th Parade, Halloween in the Park & Free Wiener Roast and the annual Christmas Parade with free pictures with Santa, other projects with the Fire Department and anything else that can be done for the Town of Wister. Wister Pride is currently planning a Bingo Night in September so stay tuned for further improvements in town. There are many projects that being considered and Wister Pride is planning monthly meetings. Anyone who is civic minded and motivated is encouraged to join. Wister Pride is motivated to reignite the civic spark and need your help to do so. For more information call Sherry Garner at 647-7819, or Kaye Elmore at 839-0063