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Home of Sheila Fisher

Wednesday March 19, 2014

Around
YUKON

Coffee Comes to AT&T

The Yukon Chamber of Commerce Community Coffee is this Friday, March 21 at AT&T, 1600 Garth Brooks Blvd. Networking starts at 8 a.m. with announcements at 8:30 a.m.

Veterans Meet Today

The next meeting for the Yukon Veterans Museum will be 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 19 at the museum, 601 Oak (second floor of the Yukon Museum and Arts Center). All are invited to discuss ways to further the museum. For more information, call curator Rick Cacini at 350-7231.

Republicans Group

Canadian County is starting a Young Republicans Group. If interested and between the ages of 18-40, please contact Andrew Lopez at 405-885-2706 for more information.

Zumbathon Benefit

A Zumbathon will be held on Saturday, March 29 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Jenks Simmons field house in El Reno, 420 S. Country Club Rd. The event will support the families affected by the tragic car crash in El Reno on March 1. Your \$10 donation will see all proceeds go to the affected families.

Yukon Turning 123

The Yukon Historical Society will host the 123rd birthday of Yukon at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 29 at the Ernest Berousek Farm Museum, 3rd and Cedar. Refreshments will be served. Yukon's actual "birthdate" is March 28, 1891 when the town received its first post office.

AARP Offering Tax Help

Help preparing federal and Oklahoma income tax returns is available from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays at the Yukon Senior Center, 1200 Lakeshore. Returns are prepared and e-filed for free for citizens of all ages with low- and middle-incomes. AARP is not certified to prepare returns for farms, businesses and rentals.

Library Book Sale

The Friends of the Mabel Fry Library's annual Spring Book Sale is set Friday, April 25-26 at the Robertson Activity Center at 1200 Lakeshore Drive (next door to the Mabel C. Fry Public Library). Hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

Call Our Office - 354-5264

I-40, Frisco Rd. interchange viewed as City's 'top priority'

By Conrad Dudderar
 Editor

Development around Interstate 40 and Frisco Road is critical to Yukon's future, a guest presenter advised business and community leaders at a recent luncheon.

Because of Yukon's proximity to Oklahoma City, the community is seeing substantial growth coming out of the metro area through the Interstate 40 and N.W.

■ Mitchell: 'Road to change' will key future economic development

Expressway corridors. And the "road to change" centers around I-40 and Frisco Road, Yukon Economic Development Director Larry Mitchell said at the March 13th Yukon Chamber of Commerce luncheon.

Yukon city leaders want to ensure commercial development occurs in an orderly

and efficient manner.

"We're seeing that growth coming out toward Yukon," Mitchell told Chamber luncheon attendees. "We believe it's very prudent to make sure we do what we can to protect the city's interest and try to protect the community as that growth occurs."

The City Council last Au-

gust established the Yukon Economic Development Authority, and Mitchell (Lawton's former city manager) shared several of its key priorities at the Chamber luncheon.

TIF DISTRICT

Among them is establishing a tax-incentive financing (TIF) district to finance \$25 million in public infrastruc-

ture improvements - notably an interchange at I-40 and Frisco Road. The interchange will cost an estimated \$20 million, with Yukon's share \$6-\$8 million.

The City Council on March 4 approved Yukon's first TIF district, which encompasses about 250 acres near Frisco Road on both

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Abby Menz eyes her target as instructor Dennis Warren assists with the shot. Warren, Yukon Parks and Recreation Supervisor, held two archery courses Monday at the Jackie Cooper Gym, 1024 E. Main. (Photo by Erik Jackson)

Parks and Rec offering spring break options

■ Group providing numerous opportunities for youngsters

By Erik Jackson
 Staff Writer

For those confined to city limits this spring break, Yukon Parks and Recreation is offering a bevy of family-friendly activities. Supervisor Dennis Warren held archery classes Monday and Tuesday, and states his

hobby is catching acclaim statewide.

"We're seeing archery teams forming in smaller schools, such as Calumet and Kingfisher," he said. "Interest continues to grow, and we expect larger schools to form squads in the coming years as well."

"Four year ago we received a grant

to purchase all of our archery equipment. We teach the basics, such as safety, etiquette, and shooting skills. The classes target those ages 9-12, as they have developed the upper body strength necessary to fire."

A kickball tournament begins today at 10:00 a.m. at Sunrise Park. A

See Programs, page 3

Road usage agreement authorized

■ Co. Commissioners approve wind farm plan

By Erik Jackson
 Staff Writer

An agreement between Kingfisher Wind LLC, a subsidiary of Apex Wind Energy, and the Canadian County Board of Commissioners was reached Monday. Authorization was granted for road use, repair, and improvements in the greater Piedmont area for wind farm construction.

Commissioner Jack Stewart stated that the county has worked with Apex previously and was pleased with the outfit's work.

"Two to three years ago, they undertook a project on Highway 81 West to Mayberry Road," Stewart said. "Apex was extremely professional, very proactive, and simply did a great job overall."

"They will leave the roads in as good as shape or better than how they found them."

See Road, page 3

Wish Week fulfills its mission

■ \$23k raised by Yukon High School leadership classes assist cancer patients

By Jim Powell
 Staff Writer

A Skyview Elementary third-grader and a Mustang student, who are both suffering from life threatening illnesses will have their biggest wish come true as a result of the efforts by a group of Yukon High School students.

Numerous fundraising efforts by YHS Leadership class students raised \$23,000 to donate to Make-a-Wish Oklahoma that will be used to fund a dream trip for the two

youngsters who both have leukemia.

Gage, who attends Skyview Elementary, will enjoy a trip to Lego Land in Orlando, Fla. while Victoria will visit Hawaii this summer.

Students in Darryl Andrews' Leadership class contact Make-a-Wish each year offering to raise money to fund the wishes of kids with serious illnesses. They have raised anywhere from \$5,000 to \$23,000 per year to

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Skyview Elementary third grader Gage received a check to pay for his vacation from Wish Week. From left: Katie Hargis from Make-a-Wish, Gage (holding check), his mother Dawn, sister Peyton and dad Tim. (Photo by Jim Powell)

Thomas seeks senate seat, one of several Republican candidates

■ Homebuilder says 'people compelled me to run'

By Jim Powell
 Staff Writer

Yukon's Mark Thomas has tossed his hat in the ring as one of several Republicans in the race for Okla-

homa Senate District 22 in the state legislature, which includes almost all of Yukon.

He is seeking the Senate post being vacated by Rob

Johnson (R-Kingfisher).

Thomas is a homebuilder and has been in the construction business most of his career. He was born and raised in Yukon and has lived here the past 10 years after also residing in north-

west Oklahoma City and Bethany.

Thomas said he decided to run for the Senate seat because "people kept compelling me to do so."

"I've had a few retired state senators and a few

seated legislators out of both houses of the legislature that encouraged me to run," Thomas said, adding that he was also encouraged by people within the Canadian and

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