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Michigan was originally reported on a news program A guy buys a brand new Lincoln Navigator for $\$ 42,500$ and has $\$ 560$ monthly payments. He and
a friend go duck hunting in winter, and all the lakes are frozen solid.
These two guys go out on the lake with the guns, the dog and, of course, the new

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They drive out onto the lake ice, unload the guns, ready.
Now, they want to make some kind of a natural landing area for the ducks and something for their decoys to float on. In order to make a hole large enough to look like something a wandering duck would fly down and land on, it is going to take a little more effort than an ice hole drill. So, out of the back of the new Navigator comes a stick of dynamite with a short, 40 -second fuse.
Now these two Rocket Scientists do take into consideration that they want to place the stick of dynamite on the ice at a location far from where they are standing (and the new Navigator), because they don't want to take the risk of slipping on the ice when
they run from the burning fuse and possibly go up in smoke with the resulting blast.

They light the 40 -second fuse and throw the dynamite.
Remember a couple of paragraphs back when I
mentioned the vehicle, the guns and the dog? Let's talk about the dog: A highly trained Black Lab used for RETRIEVING. Especially things thrown by the owner. You guessed it, the dog takes off at a high rate of doggy speed on the ice and captures the stick of
dynamite with the burning 40 -second fuse about the time it hits the ice. The two men yell, scream, wave
their arms and wonder what to do now.
The dog, cheered on by all the shouting and waving, keeps coming.
One of the guys grabs the shotgun and shoots the dog. The shotgun is loaded with \# 8 birdshot, great for ducks, but hardly big enough to stop a Black Lab.
The dog stops for a moment, slightly confused, but
continues on.
Another shot and this time the dog, still standing, becomes really confused and, of course, terrified, thinking these two geniuses have gone insane.
The dog takes off to find the nearest cover, which happens to be under the brand new Navigator.
--BOOM!---- Dog and Navigator are blown to bits and sink to the bottom of the
lake in a very large hole, leaving the two idiots standing there with this "I can't believe this happened" look on their faces.
The insurance company says that sinking a vehicle in a lake by illegal use of explosives is not covered by their policy. He still had yet to make the first of those $\$ 560$ a month payments!

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Holiday Food Shopping Tips
This article was written by my good friend, Dr. Eileen St. Pierre whose business is "The Everyday Financial Planner" The usual holiday food
staples suddenly start appearing around midOctober. It's time to stock up on chicken stock, vaporated milk pumpkin filling, and Pillsbury pie crusts Suddenly everyone is making green bean casserole. You can be healthy by using reduced fat cream of celery soup and serve it with a lean meat like turkey or pork chops. The Sunday coupon harvest gets a bit more exciting.
My ultimate deals were getting something on sale (especially a BOGO) with a coupon that doubled Another great deal was buying an advertised item at a large franchise and

getting a gift card while using coupons. We accumulated over 10 pounds of pasta this way We used a series of $\$ 5$ gift cards to purchase a new electronic printer for 29 cents.
Doing monthly trips to a discount store to scour food aisles ar encouraged. Our last trip netted 12 cans of good quality black olives for \$1 each, and Cheerios for $\$ 1.50$. Just watch the expiration dates. Taking an hour or two to organize your shopping can really pay off.
I try to plan our meals at least a week (preferably two) in advance.
This way I can organize my shopping list, plan where I'm going based on the stores' sales, and get my coupons ready. If I know a staple such as chicken stock, soup, or sugar is going to be on sale, I can make plans to stock up. Remember to go to coupons.com once a month to print out online coupons.
Check the website of large franchise stores for coupons and current sales ads. Many companies are having you pre-register for Black Friday social media blitzes at this time For those pricier items we buy only a few times a year, I'll go directly to the company's website to see if they have any coupons available. It's too time consuming to do this for every product.
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DECEMBER 16, 2014 - PAGE 19

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## WHAT CAN BE DONE?

Drive around southeastern Oklahoma for a while. You will be hard pressed to find a prettier town than McAlester - especially during the Christmas season. The lights gracing the median of Carl Albert Parkway plus a number of corporate displays are unique and spectacular.
Nestled in a small valley, much of McAlester is protected by large trees and rolling hills. The downtown and adjacent City Hall area sit high on a hill. This gives people from across town a panoramic view of the beautiful Masonic Temple and the iconic gold MHS Buffalos water tower.
But there is something ugly simmering beneath this idyllic setting.
Just check out court records. A massive percentage of arrests and court appearances are for drug violations. These numbers have increased exponentially in the past decade and are continuing to grow.
As easy as it is to dismiss such a problem as coming from the other side of the tracks, that's simply not the case. Children from well-known families are finding themselves hooked. Adults who are supposed to be leaders of this community are instead participants in this mess.
Stories abound about doctors, lawyers, judges and various law enforcement officials who turn a blind eye to well-known drug dealers. Some of the very people who are in positions of authority actually contribute to the ongoing decimation of this town by being customers or enablers.
Am I quoting anyone for this piece? No. Am I naming any names? No. But I have talked to numerous people who have been affected by a drug culture that goes deeper than a few dealers trying to skirt the law -- People who have lost children to addiction; people who have witnessed first hand the duplicitous and dangerous nature of dealers and addicts alike. One mother says the drug problem is bad enough, but the corruption within official ranks is what makes her sick
Others have talked about illegal prescription drug sales going on in clear view, right in the parking lot outside a super store pharmacy. With transactions taking place like clockwork, many people wonder why law enforcement isn't watching it too - and doing something about it.
For the past two years, I've been privileged to write many stories about the people who are working to keep this town great. And almost inevitably, our conversations come back around to this growing cancer. If you know anything about McAlester -and most towns it's size -- you know the power of the grapevine. And you know the truth to the old adage, "where there's smoke, there's fire."
There are most certainly no easy solutions. But shining a light on those who have been protected or given a pass would be a good place to start. Clearing out potential meth houses that have been reported repeatedly would be a good start.
Somehow, illegal drugs and abused prescription drugs have gotten a stronghold here. The leaders of McAlester need to find a way to make sure that doesn't become a stranglehold. Or it could snuff out the lights of our community for good.

PAGE 8, DECEMBER 16, 2014

## Oklahoma Bargain Journal Online: http://www.weeklybargainjournal.com email:bargainjournal@sbeglobal.net

Dialysis centers recognized with new federal star rating
Dialysis centers operated by McAlester Regional Dialysis Center, LLC, have been awarded top ratings for quality by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.
Dr. Richard Mann, left, addresses the McAlester Rotary Club on Tuesday, Dec. 2, at The Meeting
Place as McAlester Regional Place as McAlester Regional
Health Center Chief Executive Health Center Chief Executive Officer David Keith, seen Seated at right, watches.
Keith was the Program Director for the weekly Rotary meeting
 for the weekly Rotary meeting
and introduced the hospital's newest surgeon. Mann spoke about his experiences in the Air Force, missionary work in Africa, and his expertise in surgeries such as bariatric, laparoscopic and endoscopic procedures.


Marketer Ashley Kennon met with students from McAlester High School's Service class and Frink-Chambers school to share with them a need among senior citizens for outreach during the holidays. So students wrote letters about things and people for which they were thankful. On Nov. 19, 13 MHS students traveled with Kennon and Plunkett to McAlester Nursing Center, identified as having nearly 47 residents with few, if any, family visitors. They students read their letters to about 25 of the nursing home residents. Then, on Nov. 26, Plunkett and Kennon took letters from elementary students at Frink-Chambers School and read them to the residents. "It was very emotional," said Kennon, who is also president of the McAlester Young Professionals Club. The MRHC team plans more outreach projects for the holiday season for area senior citizens. MHS students of Shawn Calaway participating in the Celebrate Thanksgiving and Write for a Cause project included Casidhe Barrett, Katelynn Creekmore, Allison Furlong, Michael Hyden, Kylee Impson, Shelby Tatum, Monica Wells, Blake Williamson, Brandi Wilson, Kaitlyn Wilson, Kelli Fontenot, Kerstin Heathcock and Brooklyn Williams.

## Ashley Kennon Marketerfor

Marketerfor
Regional Health
Center, shares
letters from
students at
Frink-Chambers
School with
residents of
Walnut Grove
Nursing Home
on Nov. 26.

fellow Marketer Chris Plunkett met with students from McAlester High School's Service class and Frink-Chambers school to share with them a need among senior citizens for outreach during the holidays. So students wrote letters about things and people for which they were thankul. On Nov. 19, 13 MHS students traveled with Kennon and Plunkett to McAlester Nursing Center, identified as having nearly 47 residents with few, if any, family visitiors. They students read their letters to about 25 from elementary students at Frink-Chambers School and read themto the residents "It was very emotional" said Kennon, who is also president of the McAlester Young It was very emotional,, said Kennon, who is also president of the McAlester Young season for area senior citizens. MHS students of Shawn Calaway participating in the Celebrate Thanksgiving and Write for a Cause project included Casidhe Barrett, Katelynn Creekmore, Allison Furlong, Michael Hyden, Kylee Impson, Shelby Tatum, Monica Wells, Blake Williamson, Brandi Wilson, Kaitlyn Wilson, Kelli Fontenot, Kerstin Heathcock and Brooklyn Williams.


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Advance notice of the ratings was made this month to the McAlester Regional Dialysis Center, also known as the W.E. Allford Dialysis Center, and the Eufaula Dialysis Center. The McAlester center was awarded 5 of 5 stars, defined as "Much Above Average," and the Eufaula center was recognized with 4 stars, which is "Above Average."
The ranking by CMMS compares facilities that are certified by Medicare for treatment of dialysis patients who use Medicare. The 5-Star ranking for McAlester distinguishes the facility as among the top 10 percent of dialysis centers across the nation. The 4 -Star ranking for Eufaula distinguishes that facility as among the top 30 percent of dialysis centers across the nation. The dialysis centers are operated by a joint venture between McAlester Regional Health Center and Jon McCauley, M.D. Dr. McCauley is the Medical Director of the Dialysis Centers and the nephrologist caring for the dialysis patients. Davenia Tate, R.N., is the Facility Administrator for the McAlester Regional Dialysis Center, and Sharon Griffith, R.N., is the Facility Administrator for the Eufaula Dialysis Center.
The agency looked at patient outcomes and treatment patterns for chronic dialysis patients to determine each center's ranking. According to the notice from CMMS, the ranking followed an analysis of 385 Medicare patients seen at the McAlester Regional Dialysis Center from 2010 to 2013. The ranking for the Eufaula Center, which opened in 2010, analyzed 106 patients from 2010 to 2013.
The McAlester Center, opened in 2002, treats an average of 36 patients each day, six days a week. This is the first year for the ranking by CMMS, and the ratings are to be published on its Dialysis Facility Compare website in January 2015.


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## MRHC emplovee earns Spirit Award from OHA <br> McAlester Regional Health unique or persistent problem

McAlester Regional Health unique or persistent problem
Center Payroll Manager Terry that may have seemed Zellmer has been awarded the Spirit of Overcoming Challenge Award by the Oklahoma Hospital Association.
Zellmer was among 53 hospital team members statewide presented the award during the 2014 OHA Annual Convention on Nov. 20 in Oklahoma City. The front-line, behind-thescenes and administrative employees received the award because they demonstrated a spirit of successfully conquering a
insurmountable to others in the organization.
Award recipients were chosen by their hospitals for exemplifying the Spirit of Overcoming Challenge by displaying courage to face challenge head on with great hallenge head on with great optimism; creatively designing solutions to a problem in order to overcome a challenge to improve patient care; demonstrating a positive, can-do attitude in his or her approach to problems and solutions; volunteering for


Terry Zellmer, leit, payroll manager at McAlester Regional Health Center, is presented the Spirit Award on Nov. 20 by Kevin Gross, Oklahoma Hospital Association board chairman and president, Hillcrest HealthCare System, Tulsa.


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others were unwilling pessimistic; or conquering a major work obstacle with determination and unique intellect.
Nominees were chosen by their peers to recognize and celebrate exceptional hospital employees whose exemplary leadership and dedication have significantly enhanced patient care.
At MRHC, Zellmer was among six nominees. The five finalists were:
-Emergency Department Nurse Manager Sheri Neighbors

- House Supervisor Jill Parham
- Denise James, HCAHPS
- Dr. Dennis Staggs, Chief of Staff and Director of the Wound Care and Hyperbaric Center
- Nicole Reich, respiratory therapist
In addition to undertaking numerous tasks in her department, consistently and without complaint, Zellmer most recently completed the "Herculean task" of moving the MRHC payroll and benefits plan to a new system. It was a job that should have taken 12 weeks. She made it happen in seven weeks.
People who knew the details of what the job entailed, and who have seen her working late hours and weekends to get the job done, nominated her for the award.
Zellmer was described by her supervisors as a "Star Performer," "Remarkable," "An Inspiration," and "A Workhorse." She is also a "Champion Advocate" for the hospital's 768 employees, they said.
"We are pleased to honor these special hospital employees who have dedicated time, talent or expertise to improve their organizations and their communities," said Craig W. Jones, FACHE, president, Oklahoma Hospital Association. "These are the type of team members who, when they see problems, consistently work to solve them."
Established in 1919, the Oklahoma Hospital Association represents more than 150 hospitals and health care entities across the state of Oklahoma. OHA's
primary objective is to promote the welfare of the
public by leading and assisting its members in the provision of better health care and services for all people.


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#### Abstract

Dairy producers urged to act now to protect their businesses against unpredictable market swings, take advantage of increased protections

\section*{Alternative Construction Parts} Specializing in Heavy Equipment Parts \& Services - New Atter-Market \& Used Parts for Heavy Construction Equipment \& Farm Tractors.  program U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that the


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application deadline for the dairy Margin Protection Program (MPP) will be extended until Dec. 19, 2014.
The program, established by the 2014 Farm Bill, protects participating dairy producers when the margin - the difference between the price of milk and feed costs - falls below levels of protection selected by the applicant. "The 2014 Farm Bill created these safety net programs to provide safeguards against the uncertainty of weather and markets, but this safety net is not automatic. Producers
must visit their local Farm Service Agency office to enroll before December 19," said Vilsack. "Despite the best forecasts, change, so a modest investment today can protect against unexpected losses tomorrow."
"For just \$100, a farmer can cover 90 percent of production at $\$ 4$ margin swings, and with affordable incremental premiums, dairy farmers can cover up to $\$ 8$ margin swings," said Vilsack. "Those who apply this year will receive a slight increase in production protection that will not be

vailable in the future Farmers who do not sign up for the Margin Protection Program for 2015 will forfeit the 1 percent base production increase. For a 400 cow operation, this would equate to an additional 80,000 pounds of milk that are eligible for coverage. It's a small step to take to ensure your business is covered.
Vilsack encourages producers to use the online
Web resource a


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www.fsa.usda.gov/mppt The online resource is on ol to calculate the best a secure website that can levels of coverage for be accessed from their dairy operation. computers, mobile They can type in specific phones or tablets, 24 operation data and hours a day, seven days a explore price projection and market scenarios to determine what level of coverage is best for them. They can also compare the data to see how the program would have helped in previous years, such as 2008, when margins dropped from $\$ 8$ to $\$ 3$ in just three months
week.
Farmers also have a chance to share comments and help shape the Margin Protection Program for the future. Last month, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced the extension CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

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of the opportunity for public comments on both the Margin Protection Program and the Dairy Product Donation Program until Dec. 15, 2014. Comments can be submitted to USDA via the regulations.gov website at http://go.usa.gov/GJSA or send them by mail to:

Programs Manager, Price Support Division, FSA, USDA, STOP 0512, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, D.C., 202500512.

Today's announcement was made possible through the 2014 Farm Bill, which builds on historic economic gains in rural America over the past five years, while

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achieving meaningful reform and billions of dollars in savings for the axpayer. Since enactment, USDA has made significant progress o implement each provision of this critical legislation, including providing disaster relief to farmers and ranchers; strengthening risk management tools;


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expanding access to rural credit; funding critical research; establishing innovative public-private conservation partnerships; developing new markets for ruralmade products; and investing in infrastructure, housing and community facilities to help improve quality of life in rural America.

## BIGURON

## ONLINE AUCTIONS

YEAR END AUCTIONS

For more information visit www.usda.gov farmbill.
To learn more about the Margin Protection Program for dairy, contac
your local USDA Farm Service Agency county office at offices.usda.gov or visit us on the Web at www.fsa.usda.gov.

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PAGE 12 DECEMBER 16, 2014
Oil \& Gas
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Gas rices impact Okidhoma oil and gas companies

We're all loving the low gas prices lately, especially here in Oklahoma. Unfortunately, less pain at the pump could make our local industries take more financial hits. The oil and gas industry makes up approximately one-third of Oklahoma's economy companies here are watching falling gas prices in hope that this trend will not last long.
Experts say the companies are losing profits which
could lead to them shutting down some oil rigs and slowing down the hiring of new employees.
When it comes to falling gas prices, Oklahoma and Texas have the most to lose. In Oklahoma alone, 1 in 6 workers are employed by the workers are employed by the industry. Oil producing states they also will be losers in a sense when the oil price decreases that means revenue will


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[^0]


decline and that's going to oil and gas company of his have an effect on other sectors of the economy also," says Dr. Abdulhamid Sukar, economist.
" Mostcompanies particularly the big public companies that drill so many of the wells they will probably have to cut back a little bit primarily because their cash flow is going to be down," says Rob Johnston, on OERB board of directors. Johnston recently started a


## EMPLOKMENT OPPORTUNITIES



Sukar says he doesn't expect this trend to last long. "There are gainers and there are losers but overall I don't hink the effect is going to be hat much," says Sukar It is still unclear how long it
will take for prices to rise again or if OPEC will decide to lower it's production levels anytime soon, but ultimately no major negative changes are expected when it comes to production here in Oklahoma.


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IRS Tax Scam

The McAlester Police scammers hang up and Department has recently received calls concerning an IRS Tax Scam. After doing some research, this scam has been going on since 2013 and thousands of people have fell victim to this. Basically how this works is:

- Scammers use fake names and IRS badge numbers. They generally use common names to identify themselves.
- Scammers may be able to recite the last four digits of your Social Security Number.
- Scammers spoof the IRS toll-free number on caller ID to make it appear that it's the IRS calling.
- Scammers sometimes send bogus IRS emails to some victims to support their bogus calls. Do not open these Emails
- You will hear background noises of other calls being conducted to mimic a call site.
- After threatening you with jail time or driver's license revocation,
others soon call back pretending to be from the local police, and the caller ID supports their claim. - The Scammer then demands immediate payment by credit card or consequences will be jail. As a rule, the IRS contacts those who owe on their taxes first by mail or with personal visits from field agents. Real IRS agents never insist on payment by debit card or wire transfer. They also don't ask for credit card numbers over the phone. If you get a phone call from someone claiming to be from the IRS, here's what you should do: - If you know you owe taxes or you think you might owe taxes, call the IRS at 1.800.829.1040 The IRS employees at that line can help you with a payment issue - if there really is such an issue.
-If you know you don't owe taxes or have no reason to think that you owe any taxes (for example, you've never
received a bill or the caller jeremy.busby@cityofmca made some bogus threats lester.com. If you have as described above), then call and report the incident to the Treasury nspector General for Tax Administration at 1.800.366.4484.
- If you've been targeted by this scam, you should also contact the Federal Trade Commission and use their "FTC Complaint Assistant" at FTC.gov. Please add "IRS Telephone Scam" to the comments of your complaint.
If you receive a call like this and they are demanding or threatening to you, this is a good sign that this is a scam. Hang up and call the IRS number above and your local police. Some content in this article was taken from Ed Richter, Journal News and tips from the IRS.
Officer Jeremy Busby is currently doing Neighborhood Watch Programs, Child Safety Programs and Fraud Prevention programs The programs are free, and if you would like to schedule a program, contact Officer Busby at (918)423-9657 or
any information on a crime, contact the McAlester Police Departments Criminal Investigation Division at (918)421-4917 or Email Sgt Chris Morris at chris.morris@cityofmcal ester.com. You may remain anonymous. To report any other criminal activity, contact the McAlester Police Department at (918)4231212 or if it is an Emergency dial 911. Have a great week and don't forget to buckle up! Detective/Public Information Officer
Sgt Chris Morris
Tip of the week: While out shopping this holiday season, be very conscious of where your purse or wallet

Thieves are targeting people that are shopping and have their purse in their shopping cart. They wait until you are distracted or take your eye off of it and then they grab it and run. If your shopping cart has a seatbelt in the child seat part, run the strap through your purse strap to help secure it. This could be just enough to keep the thief from getting away with it.


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Look in Next Week's Oklahoma Journal For Special Holiday Messages From Oklahoma Businesses


## 2 <br> From the Okdahoma Journal

# During the Holiday Season more than ever, our thoughts turn gratefully to those who have made our progress possible. And in this spirit we say, simply but sincerely 

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## Mcalester stockyards Market Report

Tuesday Dec 9TH, 2014, sold 1470 cattle. Steers $\$ 4$ to $\$ 7$ higher. Heifers $\$ 4$ to $\$ 8$ Higher. Next Special Cow \& Bull Sale is Dec 13th. "for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure." Phill. 2:13
$300 \mathrm{Cows} /$ Bulls sold at the evening sale. yielding packer bulls sold from $\$ 137$ to $\$ 140$ Average yielding packer bulls sold from $\$ 133$ to $\$ 13$ Low yielding packer bulls sold from \$125 to \$129 High yielding packer cows sold from $\$ 116$ to $\$ 122$ A11verage yielding packer cows sold from \$110 to \$122 Low yielding packer cows sold from $\$ 104$ to $\$ 111$
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Some plants have a colorful or interesting bark and twigs, colorful berries unique seed heads and foliage with subtle natural tones.
Many of these characteristics don't just jump out at you so you may have to look closely Sometimes a little stretch of the imagination is helpful to enjoy these intricate details provided by nature.
Several woody plants have interesting bark or twigs that sometimes go unnoticed until the leaves have fallen in the fall. Red twig dogwood can have bright dogwood can have bright red stems, yellow twig dogwood with yellow stems and Japanese kerria with bright green stems. Trees with attractive bark include Heritage river birch crapemyrtle, bald cypress

David Cantrell
Extension
Educator

## Sprucing up <br> a Drab Winter <br> Landscape

## This time of year can be a

 little drab when most plants are dormant. However, everal plants exhibit characteristics that can be interesting even in winter.
## FABMER FUNTIT

She turned to the ostrich. "What's yours?" she asked the ostrich.
"I'll have the same," said the ostrich.
A short time later the waitress returned with the order. "That will be $\$ 9.40$, please." And the man reached into his pocket and pulled out the exact change for payment.
The next day, the man and the ostrich came again and the man said, "A hamburger, fries and a coke.
The ostrich said, "I'll have the same."
Again the man reached into his pocket and paid with exact change.
This becomes routine until the two entered again. "The usual?" asked the waitress.
"No, this is Friday night, so I will have a steak, baked potato and a salad," said the man.
"Same," said the ostrich
Shortly the waitress brought the order and said, "That will be \$32.62."
Once again the man pulled the exact change out of his pocket and placed it on the table.
The waitress could not hold back her curiosity any longer. "Excuse me, sir. How
do you manage to alway come up with the exact change in your pocket every time?"
"Well," said the man, "several years ago I was cleaning the attic and found an old lamp When I rubbed it, a Genie appeared and offered me two wishes. My first wish wa that if I ever had to pay for


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## \#1 Steers



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lacebark elm, and paperback maple. Harry Lauder's Walkingstick has twisted, gnarly stems that really stand out in winter and make for great additions to indoor flower arrangements.
Plants with showy fruits include chokeberry, cotoneaster, dogwood, euonymus, firethorn, hawthorn, hollies, nandina and viburnum. Ornamental grasses often develop attractive plumes and the neutral tones of foliage that sway back and forth in the breezes adds additional

Average Report for 12/11/2014 Receipts: 1218 \#1 Heifers

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So, this winter take a look around your landscape and see what you can find and appreciate. And if you don't have many plants to enjoy this winter, think about planting some this year to spruce up the landscape next winter. Remember, the next time you go shopping for plants consider othe attributes that plants may have beside the typical spring/summer flower o fall color that we often seek.
anything, I would just put my hand in my pocket and the right amount of money would always be there."
"That's brilliant!" said the waitress. "Most people would ask for a million dollars or something, but you'll always be as rich as you want for as long as you live!"
"That's right. Whether it's gallon of milk or a Rolls Royce, the exact money is always there," said the man. The waitress asked, "What's with the ostrich?"
The man sighed, paused and answered, "My second wish was for a tall chick with long legs who agrees with everything I say."

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Breeders and Kemuels ss Per Weetr up to 20 Words



Pathilogical liers....Those who self inflict pain for themselves but insist on blaming others for their woes. They will lie, cheat, steal and do whatever it takes to passify their pathetic life. In doing so making everyone around them miserable. They never can or will ever see their faults, only pick apart and miscroscope others in a way to make themselves feel better for being so inadequate.

Hasn't this city had enough scandal? Murder for hire, city funds stolen, drug court funds stolen, high powered people sleeping with one another, the list continues. One would think that we have heard enough. If everyone would live right, they wouldn't be going through all the problems. How hard can it be? Really!
U.S. employers added a whopping 321,000 jobs in November, the biggest burst of hiring in nearly three years. Also, 44,000 more jobs were added to the September/October jobs reports. Job gains have been averaging 241,000 a month this year -- making 2014 the strongest year for hiring since 1999! Wages have gone up and gas prices down; better and better?

Control: When did it become a pre-requisite for a relationship. If I do not want you or your control any longer, you take everything away and continue to threaten me, using our children was a weapon to keep me afraid. I have now spoken to an attorney, the games are over and the threats will stop. I am entitled to live life too without the fear of you constantly knowing my every move and keeping my nerves shot. It is not healthy for me or our children.

Regarding the recent riots, etc., over the deaths of black youths by police officers. There is an outpouring of what to do, train policemen better, change indictment laws, etc. It seems to me a simpler solution would be teach all youths in the schools or media that if approached by a policeman simply stand still and answer all questions. Make no menacing moves and do not resist in any way. This way there can be no reason for the policeman to use force and I believe most do not want to do so.

PBS has contributed to the conversation regarding oil prices with a report indicating oil producers such as Russia and Nigeria are struggling with the low price per barrel. American shale oil production is also struggling with the low-price reality. "These prices per barrel have not been fatal yet (to shale production), but we'll see what is ahead."

I am disturbed by the failure of a NYC grand jury not to indict the police officer who used a choke hold on a man and caused his death. It doesn't matter that the officer was white and the victim was black. It does matter that all the circumstances, video, witnesses and evidence clearly show this was excessive force resulting in a negligent homicide. Many, if not most, police departments in America prohibit choke holds. The victim had committed no serious offense, if any at all. There were multiple officers present and the victim wasn't physically resisting the officer. He also said he couldn't breathe before he died. This is different than the Michael Brown case.


For shame, for shame......Charges filed, big story about money missing and spent at the casino, before the ink is dry on the page, I see the same behavior, I hope you enjoyed your evening.

The most pathetic words that have come out of your mouth to date, "only three more years and she will be eighteen, no more child support". Who thinks in this capacity? Your children should never be considered an expense, you had them they are your responsibility, even after they turn eighteen, jerk!

The strangest thing happened to me today while getting office supplies. The cashier while checking me out proceeded to tell me that she hated having hot flashes and went on and on about how she would rather have been a man. Whatever happened to customer service without all the extras? I just found the whole conversation very odd.
I have three small children who I have saved for months to buy Christmas for. When I see people asking for help to buy their kids Christmas I get upset. I am also a single mom that barely gets by most of the time, but I can always work more hours and many times throughout the year I take on extra jobs to make sure my children are taken care of. We may not live in a mansion but we live in a clean, stable and loving home. And I am able without begging to give them a nice Christmas. Just Saying.
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## THIS DAY I H HISTORY DECEMBER 11

1538 Pope Paul III exc
England＇s King Henry VIII
England＇s King Henry VIII
1638 French／Swedish troops occupy
Breisachonthe Rhine Breisach on the Rhine
1718 England
and
1718 England declares war on Spain
1728 Congregation Shearith 1 srael of 1728 Congregation Shearith Israel of New York purchases a loton Mill Streetin
lower Manhattan to buid lower Manh
synagogue
synagogue
1777 George Washington＇s army returns to Valley Forge PA
${ }_{i n}^{1790}$ A．Azece calendar stone discovered 1791 NYC Craffic regulation creates 1 st

1792 Opening of 1 st legislative assembly of Lower Canada in Québec
City 1821 Kentucky abolishes debters prisons
1862 General US Grant issues order \＃11，expelling Jews from Tennessee 1864 Battle of Franklin TN 895 George Brownell patents a machine to make paper twine Massachusetts） motorized aircraft flight（Orville Wright）

1926 German Marx government falls due to cooperation with red army 1926 Litiuuanian military state under General Augustine Woldemaras
1927 US sub＇S－4＇sinks atter 1927 US sub kills all 34 aboard 1928 John McGraw backs National League president John Heydler＇s esignated hitter idea 1936 Ventriloquist Edgar Bergen \＆ dummy Charlie McCarthy，make their Gelatin Hour

1941 German submarine U－31 sunk
1942 Allies in London sentence German war criminals
1943 Transpo
1943 Transport 63 departs with French Jews to Nazi－Germany
1944 US Army announces end of excluding Japanese－Americans from West Coast；Japanese－Americans are released from detention camps
1949 Burma recognizes People＇s Republic of China
1951 Dutch Communist Party members forbidden to be civil servants
1953 FCC approves RC
1953 FCC approves RCA＇s black \＆
white－compatible color TV specifications 1957 US successfully test－fires Atlas intercontinental ballistic missile 1963 West \＆East Berlin sign accord
about travel rules
1965 Largest newspaper－Sunday New York Times at 946 pages（ 50 d ） 1965 Astrodome opens，1st event is Judy Garland \＆Supremes concert 1965 British government proclaims end of oil－embargo against Rhodesia 1965 David Levy begins his search for
comets comets
1965
1965 Dutch government shuts Limburgs coal mine Bridgeport CT（PBS）beg in Bridgepor
broadcasting 196950 million TV viewers see singer Tiny Tim marry Miss Vicky，on Tonight Show 1969 USAF closes Project Blue Book，
extraterrestrial spaceships behind thousands of UFO sightings 1971 Cease－fire between India \＆ Pakistan in Kashmir 1972 New line of control agreed to in Kashmir between India \＆Pakistan 1972 WGVC（now WUCX）TV channe 35 in Grand Rapids MI（PBS）1s broadcast
1973 Arab terrorists shoot passengers n Boeing 737 to Kuwait 1975 John Paul Stevens appointed to the Supreme Court on WTBS in Atlanta went national
1978 Referendum approves new 1978 OPEC raises oil prices 18\％

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Lights on the
Island-Nov 22, 2014
to Dec 24, 2014
Lights On The Island in Lake Wister State Park began over ten years ago with just a few donated lights. After years of dedication to the displays, the spectacular light show has grown with radiant color each and every year. Many volunteers brave the cold each winter to greet car loads of visitors and hand out candy canes. Over 300 light displays cover the entire island with several
animated displays. Each year, children can't wait to see the huge dinosaurs, the tumbling bears and Santa Claus.
The highlight of the tour is the 32 -foot-tall Lady Liberty. Visitors to Lights on the Island love to wrap up in blankets, climb aboard a lighted carriage and let volunteers take them on a short ride through the lights. Visitors come from all parts of the area and bordering states to take the light tour at Lights on the Island. A joint effort of the staff at Lake Wister State Park, LeFlore County Development Coalition and Poteau Chamber of Commerce, each new season of the event is bigger and brighter.
Lake Wister State Park Hwy 270 Wister, OK

## Lake Eufaula State

 Park Holiday Lights-Nov 28, 2014 to Dec 31, 2014 Visit Lake Eufaula State Park Holiday Lights to drive through a wonderland of

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colorful lights. Deep Fork Campground in the park comes to life with an array of lighted displays and inflatable decorations that radiate holiday cheer. Drive through a tunnel of lights and wind your way through the campground to see all of the festive displays. Load up the whole family in the car and head out to Lake Eufaula State Park Holiday Lights for a memorable holiday experience
Lake Eufaula State Park Checotah, OK

## Historic Trolley

 Christmas Lights Tour-Dec 09, 2014 to Jan 01, 2015 Gather your friends and family together this holiday season to see beautiful historic neighborhoods in Muskogee. The Historic Trolley Christmas Lights Tour will also take riders through the spectacular Garden of Lights at Honor Heights Park which is lit with over $1,000,000$ lights. This "History and Lights" tour takes part on a vintage trolley that can seat up to 24 people. Since space is limited, reservations are required. Don't miss the chance to make new memories this holiday season aboard the Historic Trolley Christmas Lights Tour in Muskogee.Muskogee Civic Center Muskogee, Ok

Happy Holidays



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