

THE DRUMRIGHT MUSEUM GUSHER

May 6, 2024/ Vol 16

sja PHOTOGRAPHY
Photographer: Susan Matney, D.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE OIL PATCH

Wiffle Ball Game
DHS Softball Field

Thirsty Thursday
Tidewater Winery

Alumni At The Winery
Tidewater Winery

Alumni Pancake Breakfast
Masonic Lodge



June 1st
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Drumright Museum Lawn

Oklahoma Freewheel

See Pages 7-8
for more information

URGENT

See Page 5

DOWN AT THE DEPOT

TORNADO SEASON ONCE AGAIN

Well, it is that time of year again when Oklahoma residents look to the skies and think about severe weather approaching.

Drumright has had more than its fair share of dangerous weather and tornadoes over the years.

November of 1922 was the first tornado that I found record of down at the depot. That storm did considerable damage; however, Drumright was only nine years old, and the existing structures of that time were tents and small wood frame buildings and homes. When these structures were rebuilt, they were constructed more substantially, with bricks and stronger foundations.

April 2, 1956, was the date of our second tornado. It

dipped down near the ball fields west of Whitlock Park and followed the hollow traveling northeast, coming out east of the (then) library and continuing through Way Park and down by the Deep Rock oil camp. The path was two blocks wide and about twenty blocks long, leaving forty blocks of destruction, but missing the downtown area. Sixty homes were destroyed, thirty outbuildings were laid flat, and one hundred other homes were significantly damaged. Eleven businesses and two public buildings (the Public Library and the Salvation Army building) were destroyed. Sadly, there were five persons killed and twenty persons injured. Financial losses were estimated at over \$100,000 in 1956, which would be over one

million dollars in purchasing power today.

Fifty years ago, on June 8, 1974, the Drumright community was hit by an F-4 tornado. Down at the depot, we have pictures, posters, newspaper clippings, and artifacts as evidence from that horrible day. This tornado started about three miles southwest of Drumright, in the Oak Grove area. It slashed through several homes and even the Oak Grove School. It traveled northeast going through the Haven Hill neighborhood and rolling through residential areas of Drumright, then leveled the Drumright Nursing Home. Minutes later it passed through Olive, destroying the school and damaging a church, then finally hitting Pier 51 at Lake Keystone

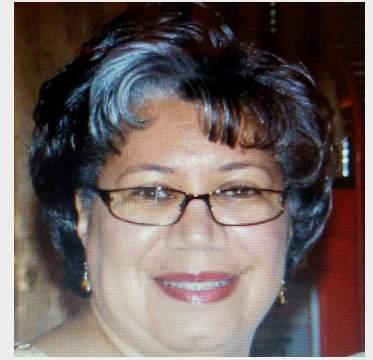
The numbers help to tell this sad story. The path of this tornado was twenty-nine miles long and its width equaled four football fields. Over four hundred homes were damaged, and ninety-four homes were destroyed. Fourteen area individuals perished as a direct result of this tornado and one hundred thirty-six people were injured. The property loss was estimated at \$3.5 million.

With the recent storms in this area, we all need to be more "weather aware"! Here are some reminders for your safety.

1) Know the difference between a tornado "watch" and a tornado "warning". With a

"watch," conditions are likely that a tornado could develop. With a "warning," an actual tornado has been spotted and you should seek shelter immediately. 2) Seek shelter in a storm cellar, a steel safe room, an underground excavation or a steel-framed or reinforced concrete building. 3) If you are inside your home, stay away from windows. Go to an interior hallway, small closet, or bathroom. Take cover under a sturdy desk, a mattress or even blankets. 4) Pay attention to local sirens and radio and television warnings. 5) Lastly, heed the advice of our local first responders in case of an actual emergency. Stay safe!

By Patti Pouncil



Patti Pouncil



Storm damage in Drumright, April 27th, 2024. The roof was lifted from the old A. B. Still building near the intersection of Broadway and Harley downtown.

A LETTER FROM OUR FOUNDER

Emma Akin's Letter

This community has a unique, exciting and moving history of boom-town wildness and rioting; of the magic brought about by the discovery of oil and Gas; of the struggles to bring law and order out of the chaos which existed from its beginning; of the efforts of men and women to establish morality, education, health, good business practices, churches, and all the finer things of life. Our town is a symbol of the era of discovery, of progress, of success.

Will we let it symbolize failure, too?

What can we do? Is it worthwhile to do anything? Why not let people passing through say, "Oh Drumright is dead! It'll soon be only a ghost town."? Shall we sit still and let the glorious past fade out of existence?

History is being made today. Don't get the idea that we intend to limit the museum to the past.

Ours is not a one-day-old-timers' program. Our organization is permanent. It will make not only past history come to life; it will make present history live for generations to come if we have the proper support of the community.

Membership should be at least 500,--it really should be more.

Every loyal citizen should turn in his membership and become active .

I can count about 11 members in this group.

Our group is doing its best, but six or seven people can't do it all.

We hope you will help us by joining us and by spreading our aims to others and influencing them to join, too.

What is hindering you, we'd like to know.

DRUMRIGHT HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM



Our organization is permanent. We make history come to life. We make present and future history live for generations to come, but this can only be done with the support of this community. We are non-political, non-competitive, non-commercial, non-controversial, and all religions, races, civic and fraternal organizations have joined in our efforts." These are the words of Emma Akin from 1966, but these words are appropriate for our current situation.

Each month for the past twenty years, the City of Drumright has contributed \$700 towards museum expenses, that, along with fundraisers, and grant writing provided by the board allowed the museum to remain open.

On May 1, 2024, the museum board was notified that this support will end on June 30, 2024. In the past year, expenses at the museum have been cut drastically, as memberships and donations have dwindled. The board decided to disconnect the gas service, cut telephone service and we no longer utilize a storage facility. The museum is open 15 hours each week and we pay our host a mere \$8.25/hour. He also serves another 5 hours each week doing general maintenance, custodial work, and groundskeeping. Depending upon heating and air conditioning costs, the monthly bare minimum expenses run \$2400-\$2700, making our annual expenses \$29,000 - \$32,400.

Without the support of the city, the board will be forced to make even more drastic changes. The most drastic being the possibility of closing the museum doors forever, but we are determined to not go down without a fight. Going forward, we must depend on you to keep our museum and its history alive. We need to increase memberships, corporate sponsorships, visitor attendance, donations and see an increase in community support for our fundraising efforts.

The time to act is now. Won't you please fill out the membership form below and start supporting your museum today?

DRUMRIGHT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

301 E. BROADWAY STREET
DRUMRIGHT, OK 74030

Thank you for your interest in the Drumright Historical Society Museum. If you would like to become a member and be a part of our history, please fill out the form below and return it to the above address. Membership runs from June 1st through May 31st of the following year. As a member, each June you will receive our annual membership letter updating you on the years' happenings at the museum, as well as our annual membership renewal form. Booster level members and above will also receive a 10% discount on items purchased from our museum gift shop, as well as special discounts for various events happening throughout the year. The Drumright Historical Society Museum is a tax-exempt 501C-3 corporation. Your complete donation is tax deductible as a charitable donation to a non-profit organization. (#730746012W)

Please make your check out to Drumright Historical Society. You may also renew your membership online at: <http://www.drumrighthistoricalsociety.org/>

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

Individual Membership	\$ 10.00
Family Membership (household)	\$ 25.00
Booster Membership	\$ 50.00
Super Booster Membership	\$100.00
Individual Lifetime Membership	\$500.00*

*Lifetime members, the letter is to keep you advised of the progress of the museum, not to solicit further funds.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL (optional) _____

Enclosed is my contribution of

\$ _____

PLEASE CHECK HERE TO HAVE FUTURE ANNUAL LETTERS, RENEWELS & RECEIPTS EMAILED TO YOU. SAVE US FUNDS & TREES!

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE OIL PATCH

A poster for a wiffle ball game. It features a large 'D' logo with a wiffle ball inside, a silhouette of a player swinging a bat on a field, and a sunset background. Text includes: 'WIFFLE BALL GAME HOSTED BY THE CLASS OF 2024', 'ON MAY 9TH, AT QUARTER TO NINE, A WIFFLE BALL GAME, A GRAND DESIGN, HOSTED BY THE CLASS OF 2024, AT DHS. ONE LAST NIGHT OF THE CROWDS ROAR!', 'ALL STUDENTS, STAFF, AND PARENTS DEAR, GATHER 'ROUND, LET'S SPREAD SOME CHEER, ONE FINAL NIGHT. GOOD OLE RED & WHITE!', 'SO SWING FOR THOSE FENCES & CATCH THOSE BALLS, AS WE PREPARE FOR OUR FINAL CALLS, FOR THE CLASS OF 2024, ABOUT TO TAKE FLIGHT, LET'S CHERISH THIS MOMENT, WITH ALL OUR MIGHT.', 'FUN FOR EVERYONE! FREE ADMISSION MUSIC AND GIVEAWAYS MAY 9 2024 8:45 DHS SOFTBALL FIELD TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME ONE LAST TIME!'

**WIFFLE BALL GAME
HOSTED BY THE
CLASS OF 2024**

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A WIFFLE BALL GAME, A GRAND DESIGN,
HOSTED BY THE CLASS OF 2024,
AT DHS. ONE LAST NIGHT OF THE CROWDS ROAR!

ALL STUDENTS, STAFF, AND PARENTS DEAR,
GATHER 'ROUND, LET'S SPREAD SOME CHEER,
ONE FINAL NIGHT. GOOD OLE RED & WHITE!

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FOR THE CLASS OF 2024, ABOUT TO TAKE FLIGHT,
LET'S CHERISH THIS MOMENT, WITH ALL OUR MIGHT.

**FUN FOR EVERYONE!
FREE ADMISSION
MUSIC AND GIVEAWAYS
MAY 9 2024
8:45
DHS SOFTBALL FIELD**

**TAKE ME OUT TO THE
BALLGAME ONE LAST TIME!**

A poster for a winery event. It shows a large patio umbrella in a vineyard at sunset. A teal banner at the bottom contains the text: 'Thirsty Thursday Free Wine Tasting Fourth Thursday of the month, 4-8pm'.

Thirsty Thursday
Free Wine Tasting
Fourth Thursday of the month, 4-8pm

Pancake Breakfast

Sponsored by The Drumright Historical Museum

Saturday, May 25th from 7:00 a.m. - 10:30 am.
\$7 for adults and \$5 for kids 12 and under

ALUMNI AT THE WINERY

- 05/24 - Alumni Mixer Open to Public
12pm-10pm
- 05/25 - Alumni celebrate the class of 1974 (Music
8pm) Open to Public 10:00am-Midnight
- 05/26 - Open 1pm-5pm
- 05/27 - Open 1pm-5pm

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE OIL PATCH



DRUMRIGHT FOOD COURT

Join us on
Facebook



MONTHLY MARKET

Join us on
Facebook



Drumright
Project
Profits Benefit:



Oklahoma Freewheel will be here June 5th and leave out on June 6th. New dynasty will be playing in Whitlock Park June 6th starting at 7pm.



If a vendor would like to set up, please contact Angela Titus 918-352-8013

Booth fee is \$20 w/o electric \$25 with electric.

Vendors will be set up from 10 am to ?

Loco Lemon, Tidewater, and 918 Munchies Shaved ice will be in the park.

Come enjoy the festivities with the Oklahoma Freewheel cyclists.

Obituaries

Marvin Ralph Campbell

Marvin was born in Yale, Oklahoma to the late Oren Campbell & Essie (Yeager) Campbell on December 20, 1944. He passed from this life in Tulsa, Oklahoma on March 27, 2024 at the age of 79 years, 3 months, & 7 days. Marvin was a 1963 graduate of Oilton High School. Marvin married Janet Pauline Freeman on September 17, 1967 in Carthage, Illinois & they remained together until her death in 2012. Marvin joined the United States Coast Guard & was honorably discharged in 1971. In 1970 the family moved to Drumright to make their home. Marvin had worked in the oilfields as a pumper for many years. However most of the time you could find him helping his brother Bythel at Thompson Pump & Supply. After his retirement from the oil fields, he became a greeter at the Bristow Walmart. While working at Walmart, he met Catherine Pipkin & they were united in marriage on December 23, 2013. Marvin loved to work out in the yard. He enjoyed bowling and was an avid knife collector. But what he loved most was spending time with his family & grandchildren. Even though Marvin did not attend church regularly his faith in his Lord and Savior was evident and strong and he never lost or wavered in his faith. In addition to his parents & first wife Janet, he was preceded in death by 3 Brothers: Dewayne, Basil, & Bythel Campbell; 3 stepchildren: Donald Drennan - Susan Marie Adams - & Cheryl Lynn Drennan-Hart.

His remaining family includes his Wife: Katie Campbell of Depew; Children: Sean Campbell of Depew - Trina Perryman and husband Kyle of Olive; Grandchildren: Mason - Seth - Marissa - & Shelby; Stepchildren: Eric Pipkin of Wagoner - J.D. Pipkin of Olive - Catherine Drennan of California; Step-Grandchildren: Katelyn - Weston - Taylor - Quinton - Carol - Stephanie - & Colin; also numerous Great Grandchildren; 1 Brother: Vernon Campbell of Missouri; 2 Sisters: Reva Myers of Missouri - Mary Bickell of Cushing; plus a host of Nieces, Nephews, Cousins, & other relatives & friends.

Obituaries

Carolyn Vinell Leonard

A memorial gathering for Drumright resident, Carol Leonard was held 2:00 p.m. Saturday, April 20 the at the City Park in Oilton, Oklahoma. Cremation arrangements were entrusted to the care of Michael's Funeral Home of Drumright.

Carol was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma to the late Faye Green & Roby Geraldine (Wiginton) on July 24, 1956. She passed from this life at her residence in Drumright on April 9, 2024 at the age of 67 years, 8 months, & 16 days. Carol was raised & educated in Berryhill where she graduated High School. She had worked for Payday Loans as a manager in Oklahoma & Kansas. She married Leo Glenn Leonard in 1991 & they remained together until his death in 2014. She had moved to Drumright from Jennings about 5 years ago. She was loved by many and was known to her friends & family as "Momma Carol". She will be greatly missed. In addition to her parents & husband, she was preceded in death by a Son-In-Law: David Jones; 1 Brother: Eddie Green; & 1 Sister: Cecilia Green.

She is survived by her children: Jimmy & Caylyn Polm of Jennings – Charla & Charlie Clark of Drumright – Rande Polm of Jennings – Mindi Polm & Kevin Reed of Drumright – Leo Leonard of Kansas; Grandchildren: Wyatt & Chelsee – Teagan – Paige – William – Tess – Jesee – Khylee – Rhylee – Ashley – Lexi – Aiden - Anna – Kyton – Trinity - & Zander; Great Grandchildren: Liam – Easton – Axton – Audrie & Collins; 2 Sisters: Donna Dillon of Tulsa – Cindy & Dale Patterson of Jennings; her Dog: Ellee Mae; plus numerous Nieces, Nephews, Cousins & other relatives and friends.



Obituaries

Justice Donshay McCormick

Justice was born in Cushing, Oklahoma to Brian Cole & Tenneah McCormick on August 12, 1995. She passed from this life suddenly at her home on April 23, 2024 at the age of 28 years, 8 months, & 11 days. Justice was raised & educated in Drumright and was a graduate of Drumright High School. She had worked in retail sales and also as a stylist in the fashion industry. She enjoyed gardening, painting, getting dressed up, and "always being right." But most of all, she loved spending time with her family and friends. She is preceded in death by her Grandmother: LaDonn McCormick; Great Grandparents: Janice McCormick – Udell McCormick, Sr. – Bee Richardson – Inez Richardson; Uncle: Steven Richardson; Aunt: Annabelle Whitaker.

Her remaining family includes her Daughter: Ariele Lewis; her Mother: Tenneah McCormick of Drumright; Father: Brial Cole of Bristow; Sisters: Vanechia McCormick of Drumright – Asia Cole of Bristow – Carlee Hallman of Olive; Brothers: Brayden McCormick & Isaih McCormick, both of Drumright – Kinston Cole & Theory Cole, both of Bristow; Grandfather: Tommy Richardson of Drumright; Aunt: Tomeka McCormick of Drumright; plus several other Aunts – Uncles – Cousins – other relatives & friends.

Mark Samuel Sherwood

Mark Samuel Sherwood, resident of Lake Worth, Florida passed from this life suddenly & unexpectedly on April 9, 2024 at his residence. Mark was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma on December 24, 1993 to Mark Sherwood & Sherry (Cagle) Sherwood. He passed from this life at the age of 30 years, 3 months, & 16 days. Mark was a beacon of kindness with a gentle soul that touched all that he knew. His laughter and music left a melody of happiness that will forever be a resonating memory. He was passionate about life, & travel, but mostly his son who he loved dearly and talked about daily. He was a devoted son, loving father, cherished brother, & beloved member of his extended family and community. Mark attended TCC College and had a passion for hospitality. He found joy in serving others and always had a kind and welcoming spirit. His dedication to his work and his warm personality left a lasting impact on all who knew him. In his free time, Mark enjoyed pursuing his hobbies which included: traveling the world, making music, helping others, skateboarding, learning to cook & serving his community. His passion for music was a source of joy for him. His talent touched the hearts of many.

Mark was a loving son to his parents, Sherry Fisher and Mark Sherwood, a cherished grandchild of Robert & Betty Cagle, and Bill Sherwood. In addition to them he leaves behind to cherish his memory, his beloved son; Josiah Lee Sherwood, who was his pride and joy; his sisters; Jessie Kay Medina & husband Luis, Kaylea Cantrell & husband Brady; Nieces & Nephews; Gabriel – Sylvia – Blair – Fallon: as well as several other cousins, relatives and friends.

Mark's kind and compassionate nature will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him. His legacy of love, generosity, and kindness will live on in the hearts of those he touched.

May you fly high my son, in the loving arms of our savior and may your memory be a blessing to us all. – Love Mom

Obituaries

Linda Carolyn Shideler

A memorial gathering for Drumright resident, Linda Shideler, was held at Joseph's Fine Foods on Saturday, April 13, 2024. Cremation arrangements were entrusted to the care of Michael's Funeral Home of Drumright.

Linda was born in Cushing, Oklahoma on July 14, 1953 to the late Richard Noah Klock & Mable Clair (McNabb) Klock. She passed from this life in the Drumright Regional Hospital on April 10, 2024 at the age of 70 years, 8 months, & 27 days. Linda was raised & educated in Drumright where she graduated in the class of 1972. She married Jimmy Lewis Shideler on October 25, 1975 & they made their home in Drumright. They remained together until his death in 2015. Linda enjoyed crocheting & watching television. She loved spending time with her grandchildren & friends. In addition to her parents & husband, she was preceded in death by a Brother: Richard Klock in 2018.

She is survived by 2 Sons: Fred Shideler of Bixby - Warren Shideler of Drumright; Grandchildren: Emma - Max - Guss - Lucas - & Harper; 1 Brother: Robbie Klock of Drumright; 1 Sister: Mary Agnes Goesby of Texas; plus numerous Nieces, Nephews, Cousins & other relatives and friends.

in
loving
memory

