

THE KINGFISHER POST



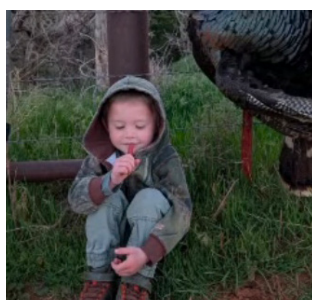
An All About Kingfisher publication
MONTHLY EDITION NO. 09 MAY 2, 2025



Contents



04 WHERE PLAY
MEETS
PURPOSE



05 TURKEY HUNT
TRANSITIONS BY
BONNY FLESHER

Features

13 THE TEACHERS PATH
STEVEN WILSON

14 HELLO WORLD
HUDSYN MICHELE

15 HAPPILY EVER AFTER
THE SMITHS



11 INSIDE CTC

06

FROM CHEMISTRY
LABS TO LAND DEALS

07

FAITH-DRIVEN,
FAMILY-FOCUSED,

10

SILENT BATTLES

Cover photo KHS Senior
Raegan Snider at the 4A
Girls Golf Regionals in
Kingfisher. Snider is a 4x
State Qualifier.
by AAK Maitland Pickle



14



12

A LIFE COLLECTED

Editor's Note



“News moves fast, but a photo can stop time.”

Jack Quirk – CEO & Founder, The All About Network

Jack Quirk, founder and CEO of The All About Network, has over 40 years of experience in journalism, photography, and video production. Raised in Rhode Island, Jack was introduced to the news world early on through his father, John Quirk, a photojournalist for NBC News.

His passion for real-time reporting led to the creation of a single social media page, which has grown into a full-scale, 24/7 regional news network. Known for his sharp eye behind the camera and instinct for breaking news, Jack continues to set the pace in local media.

When he's not chasing headlines, he enjoys coffee and downtime with his wife, Lisa, and their two cats—always ready for the next story.

Contributors



Ivan Cabral
Operations

Ivan is the engine that keeps the All About Network running smoothly. As head of operations, he's responsible for the behind-the-scenes logistics that make everything tick from managing production schedules and coordinating distribution to keeping equipment, systems, and people in sync. Ivan is detail-oriented, highly organized, and always ready to jump in wherever needed. Whether it's troubleshooting a last-minute issue or streamlining workflow across teams, he ensures deadlines are met and standards stay high.



Angela Bruner
Digital Art Director

Angela Bruner brings more than 30 years of hands-on experience in graphic design, advertising, marketing, web design, coding, and multimedia. As the Digital Art Director for the All About Network and head of the All About Hennessey Network, she leads the charge on everything visual overseeing websites and newspaper layouts to ensure every campaign looks sharp and stays true to the brand. Angela works closely with her team to brainstorm fresh ideas, create original artwork, and juggle multiple projects at once, all while keeping the network's marketing and design strategy moving forward.



Maitland Pickle
Multimedia Journalist

Maitland is a dynamic multimedia journalist for All About Kingfisher, known for her sharp instincts, creative eye, and commitment to capturing the stories that matter most to the community. Whether she's behind the camera, reporting in the field, Maitland brings a versatile skill set and a storyteller's heart to every assignment. She's skilled in video production, photography, writing, and digital content creation often juggling all four to bring local news to life. Her ability to connect with people and deliver compelling, accurate coverage makes her an essential part of the All About Kingfisher team.



Amy Smith
Business Development

Amy is the friendly face of our sales team and the go-to for customers looking for real solutions with a personal touch. She has a natural talent for building relationships, understanding what clients truly need, and delivering results that hit the mark. With a solid grasp of our products and services, Amy communicates value clearly and confidently, whether she's chatting in person, over the phone, or online. She's organized, approachable, and always focused on making sure customers walk away happy and come back for more. Amy doesn't just sell she connects, solves, and supports every step of the way.

Where Play Meets Purpose

by AAK Maitland Pickle

Exciting things are happening at Kingfisher First Methodist Church as the congregation continues to invest in community-centered projects, with a focus on creating welcoming and meaningful recreational spaces for local families. Two major initiatives have taken shape: a full-size, fenced-in basketball court and a new playground designed specifically for older children. The vision for these projects came out of conversations about how to better serve kids who had outgrown the smaller play areas, and the church adjusted its plans along the way to accommodate an upcoming housing addition nearby. Jim Butcher, a member of the church and a retired architect, graciously volunteered his time and expertise to draw up the plans that brought these ideas to life.

More than just places to play, these additions reflect the church's deeper mission. "We want this to be invitational, relational, and transformational," a member shared—words that have shaped the church's vision this year. "How do we invite people into a relationship with Christ and help them build relationships with one another?" In a time

where loneliness is so prevalent, these spaces are being built to offer more than fun—they're meant to

be reminders of God's love and presence.

The basketball court, now completed, is already making a difference. As the only outdoor full-size basketball court in town, it's designed as a multi-use space featuring basketball goals, four-square lines, and pickleball markings, with plans to add a portable pickleball net soon. But the heart behind it all goes far beyond recreation. The church is intentional even with the signage—moving beyond standard "play at your own risk" notices to messages like, "You are fearfully and wonderfully made, so treat yourself and others with respect."

While many who use the court or playground may never walk through the church doors or meet someone from the congregation, the goal is for them to still encounter a message of love, belonging, and dignity. "We may not be there when someone plays," said Rev. Jennifer Long, "but we still want them to know they are beloved by God." And the hope is that as people gather in these spaces, relationships will be formed, hearts may be touched, and perhaps, transformation begins—so that love can continue to spread outward into the community and beyond. The Methodist church is still raising money if anybody is interested in contributing. If you would like to donate, make out a check to Kingfisher First United Methodist Church and put Playground Project in the memo section. Donations can be dropped off at the church anytime between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays.



TURKEY HUNT

by Bonny Flesher

April and May are a busy time for schoolchildren. Anyone who has raised children knows you meet yourself coming. Proms, awards banquets, and graduations are just a few events during this time of the year. Many chapters are coming to an end and the next page is turned to start new journeys. Saturday, April 12th was the first of many chapters to come for my four-year-old friend Joe Grellner. Joe is the son of Ginny and John Grellner of Okarche. I mentioned Joe in a story I wrote about the chuckwagon gathering. Even though Joe's mom had said he was a chatterbox at home, that particular day he was a man of few words. Well, that quiet demeanor was about to change.

April 12th was the opening day of the Turkey season. Joe had been practicing with his 410 gun. He loves to hunt, fish, and play golf. This Saturday his practice shooting was about to pay off. In the wee hours of Saturday morning Joe, his dad, John, and their family friend Kyle had set up a turkey decoy. They had the gun in place in its stand and then they waited! As the turkey made its way to the decoy BOOM! Joe pulled the trigger and shot his first turkey. Then the celebration began. Joe had worked up an appetite so celebrating continued at the Sunrise cafe in Kingfisher. The cafe was busy with many early-morning hunters. Joe had an audience to tell everyone about his early morning adventure and he didn't hold back.

This story takes me back to my own adventures of hunting with my dad. Daddy didn't hunt turkeys. He was an avid quail hunter. He never took me with a group but I'd get to go afterwards. I had to stand right behind Daddy placing my hands in his back pockets. He knew where

I was at all times. My dad would spend summers training his bird dogs to hold points and retrieve the quail. I can hear him saying Bird in a low calm voice, he sat for hours in our backyard casting quail feathers attached to a fishing pole. He would drag them across the yard watching his dog following and holding point.

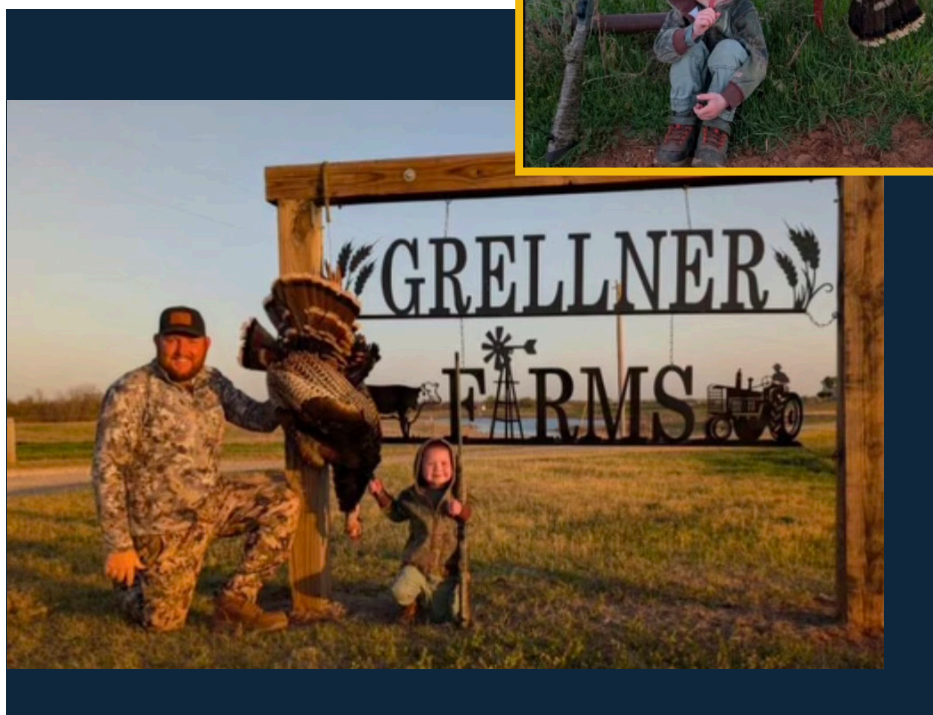
My mom gave me some advice once when it came to hunting. She told me to never learn to clean quail or fish. I know I never saw her take part in the cleaning process but boy she could cook up whatever game was brought home. My four-year-old buddy is just beginning to have that kind of memory. Next on his list is t-ball which to me is better than Saturday morning cartoons. In the adventures to come, he will pass a mountain of turkey feathers on his wall. He will probably have his



AAK Bonny Flesher

Writer and resident of Kingfisher, Oklahoma. She contributes to "All About Kingfisher" through her column "Transitions by Bonny," where she shares local stories and insights. Her work reflects a deep connection to the Kingfisher community and its history.

tongue stuck out which is known to do when consecrating and telling his story shooting his first turkey! Good job Joe!



FROM CHEMISTRY LABS TO LAND DEALS

with Dillon Smith



Dillon Smith, a fifth-generation Kingfisher native, helps Oklahomans connect with the land through his work at National Land Realty.

When you speak with Dillon Smith, it's immediately clear he's a man of depth, direction, and deeply planted roots. A fifth-generation native of Kingfisher, Oklahoma, Dillon's life path has been anything but predictable. From a rigorous academic start in chemical biosciences to long nights in a diagnostic lab during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, and eventually to a career helping others connect with the land that means so much to him. Dillon grew up in Kingfisher, where his family has farmed for generations, tracing their lineage back to shortly after the Land Run. After graduating from high school, he pursued a degree in chemical biosciences at the University of Oklahoma, an ambitious choice that he says was driven by a desire to challenge himself and prepare for medical school. "I just asked my advisor what the hardest degree was," Dillon laughs. "It sounded impressive."

His plans for medical school took a detour, however, when he found himself working graveyard shifts at the

Diagnostic Laboratory of Oklahoma during the early days of the COVID pandemic. "I was working in the lab doing bloodwork, diagnostics, pretty much any test being done in the state," he recalls. As the virus took hold, the lab pivoted heavily toward COVID testing, and Dillon found himself immersed in exhausting, high-stakes work that left little room for the outdoor pursuits he loved.

That realization sparked a turning point. "I couldn't go hunting on weekends with my family. I was literally in a lab," he says. Looking for a creative outlet, Dillon started an outdoors podcast focused on hunting and fishing. What began as conversations with friends evolved into deeper interviews with outfitters and others in the outdoor industry. It wasn't just a hobby, it was a signal pointing him back to his true passion.

One of Dillon's podcast listeners ended up offering him a job as Director of Marketing for a land brokerage, which opened the door to his current role with National Land Realty. Now in Kingfisher, he works with buyers and sellers across the state, helping people make informed, strategic decisions about their land investments.

A standout innovation in Dillon's work is the use of Land Tour 360, a patented technology developed by National Land Realty that allows potential buyers to view drone-captured panoramas of properties online. "A lot of listings only show photos from the ground, which don't tell the whole story," he explains. With Land Tour 360, users can virtually explore a property from above, getting a clear sense of terrain, water features, and layout without ever leaving their home. It's a game-changer for rural properties and has made the buying process far more efficient for clients.

Dillon also guides clients through leasing strategies, auctions, and 1031 tax-deferred exchanges, helping them unlock the full value of their land. "For families who inherit land but don't farm, that can be a huge benefit," he explains. With a restored office in Crescent, Dillon is close to home, and that's exactly where he wants to be. "Oklahoma land means something different to people here," he says. "It's not just acreage. It's legacy." **To view the podcast visit allaboutkingfisher.com**



Dillon Smith speaks with Jack Quirk on the All About Network Podcast

FAITH-DRIVEN, FAMILY-FOCUSED, AND HERE TO HELP

You could say Kayela Mosley knows a thing or two about change. In just one year of marriage to husband Justin, they packed up their lives and moved through three different states: Arkansas, Mississippi, and finally, Oklahoma. That whirlwind year set the stage for the life they've now built in Kingfisher for over a decade: one filled with camping trips, fishing days, worship nights, and two sweet daughters, Emily, 11, and Willow, 7, who keep things lively.

"I've always wanted to help people," Kayela says. "That's really my life goal." And it's that heart for service that led her to Stephenson Insurance.

Though she began her academic journey studying secondary education at ASU Jonesboro, Kayela ultimately graduated from Purdue University with a degree in Business Management, a decision that opened doors to blend her passion for people with the structure of business. When she applied at Stephenson Insurance, it was for a Customer Service Representative role. But once her boots hit the ground, it didn't take long for the team to recognize she was made for more. Today, Kayela serves as a licensed Agent, helping clients navigate coverage with confidence. She is currently focused on personal property



Kayela Mosley, agent at Stephenson Insurance in Kingfisher, brings heart, hustle, and a passion for helping people to everything she does.



but is licensed in both personal and commercial lines, as well as casualty, providing her with a broad perspective to meet various client needs. Her approach? Persistent and thoughtful: "Dig. Keep going. Ask questions." She states, "I love that we partner with over 50 companies, and it's never about what fits me best, it's about what fits you best."

Kayela's favorite part of her new role is reconnecting with the business world and building meaningful relationships. "I'm excited to network with like-minded individuals and be part of a team that feels caring and comfortable."

Outside of work, Kayela lives a full and colorful life, literally. She often spends weekends painting faces at birthday parties and local events. She and her family attend Limitless 405 in Kingfisher, where she helps lead worship and occasionally steps in for kids' church. And while she might joke that there's "not a lot" people don't already know about her, there's something deeply grounding in her favorite saying:

"Jesus knew why, and He wept anyway."

A quiet but powerful reminder that even when we understand the "why," the hurt still matters, and so does compassion.

Whether she's supporting clients, serving her community, or simply showing up with a listening ear, Kayela brings both warmth and wisdom to everything she does. By AAK Amy Smith

Silent Battles

A Journey of Faith, Healing, and Hope: The Self Family's Story



A Journey of Faith, Healing, and Hope: The Self Family's Story

In August 2024, Desirae and Chris Self moved from El Reno to our small town of Kingfisher. With their oldest child about to start elementary school, they wanted to ensure their children could attend a school where education and personal growth would be a top priority. Kingfisher, known for its strong community and educational resources, seemed like the perfect place to raise their family.

Desirae is the proud owner of her own photography business, Desirae Self Photography, while Chris works at the assessor's office in Canadian County. The couple tied the knot in 2018 and welcomed their first child, Noah, in 2020 and their second, Eli, in 2025.

After struggling to conceive for three years, they had just sold all their baby gear and quietly let go of their hopes for another child when, two weeks later, they found out they were expecting again—just one month after Desirae was told she had PCOS. "We know God can do impossible things," Desirae said, reflecting on what felt like a miraculous timing for the pregnancy. However, that wasn't the only significant news Desirae received last summer. After a few years of health struggles, she was finally diagnosed with Lyme disease.

Lyme disease is an infection caused by a type of bacteria called *Borrelia burgdorferi*, which is transmitted to humans through the bite of infected black-legged ticks, often

referred to as deer ticks. Desirae doesn't remember having a tick bite since high school, so the disease most likely laid dormant for over a decade.

Early symptoms of Lyme disease usually appear 3 to 30 days after the bite and can include a red, expanding rash (often resembling a bull's eye), fever, chills, fatigue, muscle and joint aches, headaches, and swollen lymph nodes. If not treated early, it can lead to more serious complications such as arthritis, heart problems, and neurological issues. Doctors typically treat Lyme disease with antibiotics, and most people recover fully if treated promptly.

There are four main stages of Lyme disease: early localized (days to weeks after the tick bite), early disseminated (weeks to months after infection), late disseminated (months to years after infection), and Post-Treatment Lyme Disease Syndrome (PTLDS), where symptoms persist even after the infection is gone and the patient has completed antibiotic treatment. Desirae has Late Disseminated Lyme Disease and is unfortunately past trying to fight this illness with antibiotics alone.

To make matters more trying, Lyme disease is not covered by insurance and can be expensive to treat. Desirae had her first appointment this past Monday, April 28th, to begin her SOT treatment. SOT (Supportive Oligonucleotide Therapy) is an alternative or experimental treatment where specially designed synthetic DNA or RNA molecules (called oligonucleotides) are created to target and block the genetic material of the Lyme bacteria (*Borrelia burgdorferi*). The idea is to "silence" or shut down critical functions of the bacteria, making it unable to survive or replicate—like flipping the "off" switch on the infection at a genetic level.

Here's how it works:

1. A blood sample is taken from the patient to identify the specific bacterial strains.
2. A custom SOT molecule is created based on that information.
3. The patient receives the SOT through an IV infusion.
4. The therapy circulates throughout the body, seeking out and disabling the bacteria over time.



Although experimental, SOT has a roughly 70% success rate, with each treatment costing \$2,500.

Depending on the number of targeted pathogens determines how many infusions Desirae will need. Regardless the infusions are often spaced out 8 to 12 weeks, depending on the body's response and symptom progress. Some individuals report noticeable symptom relief after just one treatment, while others may need more depending on chronicity, co-infections, or severity. Here is to hoping for the best-case scenario!



To help with costs, the family has set up a GoFundMe account with a goal of \$15K to start. So far they have already obtained 20% of their goal. If you feel led to give, please consider donating. Another way people can support the family financially is by booking a session with Desirae. Despite the challenges posed by her illness, she still plans to continue to do what she loves, meeting new people and capturing beautiful moments through her photography business. Chris is always looking for new job opportunities, knowing that if Desirae's condition worsens, it will become very difficult for him to provide for a family of four on one income alone. Be thinking of him and reach out if you hear of anything.

"I know many people experience chronic pain and illness, and it can be extremely lonely," Desirae said. "One purpose God has given me in this is to let others know they're not alone. They are seen, loved, and cared for. Joy and healing are still possible. I want people to know that the joy I have comes from Jesus and that He is my strength. I talk about my illness because if I help just one person, then my pain has a purpose."

Their family is ready to face whatever challenges come their way with love, perseverance, and faith that, no matter the trials, they are exactly where they are meant to be. Please keep the Self family in your thoughts and prayers as they continue their journey of healing, hope, and new beginnings.

by Maitland Pickle

All photos are by Desirae Self Photography.



HAPPENING

Friday, May 2

HS Baseball Regional Tournament
NO SCHOOL
Scholastic Team TOC @
Rose State College

Saturday, May 3

HS Baseball Regional Tournament 8am
Kingfisher Farmer's Market
8 – 9am Men's Bible Study at the Naz
5 – 6pm Cruise 81

Sunday, May 4

HS Band Spring Concert 2:30pm APB
2:30 – 3:30pm Spring Band Concert

Monday, May 5

Cinco de Mayo
Lions Club Banquet TBA
Teacher Appreciation Week
5 – 8pm GED Classes at Jacket Acad
7 – 9pm Kingfisher School Board
Tuesday, May 6
Teacher Appreciation Week (Day 2/5)
FFA State Convention @ Tulsa Senior
Tea @ The Gathering 1:30
STUCO Blood Drive APB 9-2
6:30 – 7:30pm 4th
Grade Musical @ Heritage

Wednesday, May 7

Teacher Appreciation Week
FFA State Convention @ Tulsa
AP English III Test
4th Grade AR Trip to OKC Comets
5 – 8pm GED Classes at Jacket
Academy

Thursday, May 8

Teacher Appreciation Week HS
Baseball Area Tournament Elks
Honors Banquet 7pm
HS Awards Assembly 11:00 in APB
SR Decision Day Pictures 11:45 APB
4th Grade Conservation Day @
Oklahoma Park
10 – 11am Coffee Vibes

Friday, May 9

Teacher Appreciation Week HS
Baseball Area Tournament AP US
History Test
Field Day
8am – 2pm 7/8 Choir - Incredible Pizza

Saturday, May 10

HS Baseball Area Tournament

Sunday, May 11

MOTHER'S DAY

Monday, May 12

Graduation Practice 1pm
Senior Awards Night 7 in APB
6th Grade Kickball Tournament
8:30 – 9:30am 6th Grade Tour of JH
12:45 – 2:15pm 5th Grade to 89er Theater
2 – 3pm Sewing Together at the Naz
5 – 8pm GED Classes at Jacket Acad
5:30 – 6:30pm Kingfisher City Council
6 – 7pm Compassion Clinic
7 – 8pm Elks Lodge Meeting

Tuesday, May 13

6th Grade Kickball Tournament FFA
Banquet TBA
10 – 10:30am 8th Grade Promotion
12:45 – 2:45pm 5th Grade to the Pool
1:30 – 2:30pm 7th Grade Awards

Wednesday, May 14

BACCALAUREATE APB 7PM
4th Grade Park/Pool Party

Thursday, May 15

HS Baseball State Tournament (Day
LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
AWARDS ASSEMBLY

Friday, May 16

HS Baseball State Tournament

Saturday, May 17

HS Baseball State Tournament HS
Graduation 11 in APB
8 – 9am Men's Bible Study at the Naz
11AM – 1 PM
CLASS OF 2025 GRADUATION

Monday, May 19

5 – 8pm GED Classes at Jacket Acad
6:30 – 7:30pm Grief Share at the
FBC Kingfisher
7:30 – 8:30pm Come & Go Prayer
at the Church of the Nazarene

Tuesday, May 20

9am – 4pm DHS Bus at Kingfisher
Methodist
6:30 – 7:30pm Sewing Together at
the Naz

Wednesday, May 21

5 – 8pm GED Classes at Jacket
Academy

Monday, May 26

MEMORIAL DAY

IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU!

April Flower Recipient

All About Kingfisher has partnered with Designs by Dennis to honor an outstanding citizen each month! All About YOU flowers are dedicated to Kristen Thoroughman and here is why: Billie Stewart nominated her because she is one of the kindest people she knows and will sacrifice to do and help anyone in need.

On behalf of All About Kingfisher & Designs by Dennis, we congratulate you, Kristen, for being nominated for just being yourself! Stay tuned for May's All About YOU, Kingfisher - to nominate that extra special person in your life! We See You!!



April's "It's All About You" Flower Recipient is Kristen Thoroughman (middle) to her left is AAK Amy Smith (right) Dennis Mueggenborg

CLASS OF 2025

InterBank®



WHEREVER YOUR NEXT STEP LEADS,
WE'LL HELP YOU GET THERE.
CONGRATS FROM
INTERBANK KINGFISHER

THE ALL ABOUT KINGFISHER POST IS PUBLISHED BI-WEEKLY ON FRIDAY BY KJ FILMWORKS

AT PO BOX 332 HENNESSEY, OKLAHOMA 73742

Jack Quirk | Publisher, CEO • Angela Bruner | Layout, Managing Editor
Maitland Pickle | Multimedia Journalist • Lisa Quirk | Office Manager

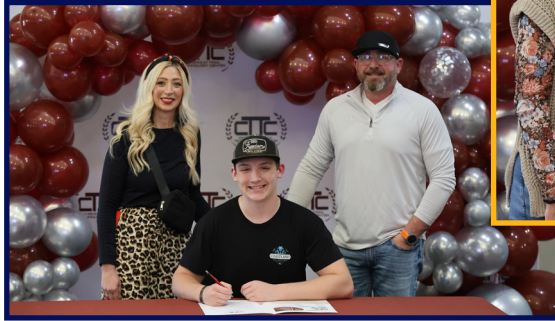
To put something in this publication, contact
Maitland Pickle maitland@allaboutok.com -
Amy Smith for Advertising 405-853-1270



Proud Platinum Member of the Kingfisher Chamber of Commerce

THE FUTURE BEGINS WITH A PEN

April 30th was a big day at Chisholm Trail Technology Center! With smiles, signatures, and support of loved ones, 64 first-year students, out of 129, made it official and signed to join the other 200 high school students already enrolled for next year's classes. The evening wasn't just about signatures, students along with their families enjoyed a meal, met their future instructors, and took a glance at their classrooms. With energy high and futures bright, CTTC is gearing up for another fantastic year! Photos by AAK Amy Smith



WBC CELEBRATES THE BIG 30



WBC celebrated its 30th anniversary in style! With 100 burgers sizzling on the grill and countless brats served up, customers, family, and friends gathered to mark the milestone. Door prizes from gift cards to shirts and more added to the fun, as guests enjoyed an atmosphere filled with love, joy, and a legacy of hard work built within those walls. Congratulations, WBC, on this incredible achievement! Photos by AAK Amy Smith

A LIFE COLLECTED

Laura Callahan has always had a heart for people, things and the stories they tell. After years of serving in leadership and support roles most recently as a co-executive assistant for the Kingfisher Chamber of Commerce Laura felt a familiar calling pulling her in a new direction. It was time to focus on something deeply personal: her antiques business, Vintage Joy.

Her passion for antiques began nearly two decades ago, rooted in memories of her father, Gary, who loves collecting and selling antiques. Growing up their family often participated in large flea markets, including the famous Canton, Texas market. First Monday Trade Days in Canton is the oldest and largest continually operating outdoor flea market in the United States, which celebrated its 151st anniversary in September 2024. Those early days of treasure hunting, trading, and storytelling sparked a lifelong love for connecting people with pieces from the past that carry history and evoke emotion.

About 10 or 11 years ago, Vintage Joy was born. Laura started small, selling at traveling shows and pop-ups. Over time, her reputation grew, along with her business. One of her proudest moments was funding her daughter's wedding entirely through profits from those shows. However, it wasn't just about making money; it was about sharing something meaningful with others.

Through booths at places like 3 Strands Vintage and The Old Store, Laura has built lasting relationships with

customers and fellow antique enthusiasts. The joy she finds in helping someone discover a long-lost memory or the perfect piece for their home keeps her motivated. Now, she's prayerfully considering the next big step: opening a brick-and-mortar location, ideally in downtown Kingfisher.

Laura brings a wealth of experience to the table. From her eight years as the Director of the Blanchard Chamber to her work in business outreach and branch management at the Pioneer Library System, she knows how to build relationships, grow networks, and engage with her community. She has gracefully juggled part-time jobs, family commitments, and her business dreams while learning valuable lessons about the importance of patience and thoughtful decision-making.



The inventory for Vintage Joy is constantly evolving. While she sources most of her pieces from her dad, she also searches for unique items at estate sales, garage sales, and other hidden corners to find the perfect treasure. Each item tells a story, and Laura delights in passing that story on to someone new.

Her time at various Chambers introduced her to countless people whose encouragement and support continue to inspire her. Friends and family stand behind her as she explores the future of Vintage Joy, and Laura remains open to advice, opportunities, and possibilities.

As she considers expanding, Laura reflects on the significance of truly connecting with people, history, and purpose. Vintage Joy isn't just a business; it's a labor of love built on years of memories, relationships, and a heart full of joy for the beauty of the past.



Hennessey Septic Tank LLC Full-Service Septic Company

- Conventional Septic Systems
- Aerobic Systems
- Maintenance, Installs & Repairs
- System Inspections
- Water Hauling
- Pump Outs

Contact Eric Smith - 405 - 853 -1367



M&D
ENTERPRISES

Bobcat

One Tough Animal & One Tough Team!

MDenterprisesOK.com

580-886-2345



THE TEACHER'S PATH



Steven Wilson, Kingfisher native and educator, serves as a teacher, coach, and mentor.

Steven Wilson's story begins right here in Kingfisher, Oklahoma, where he was born and raised. A 2005 graduate of Kingfisher High School, Steven's educational journey took him to several colleges before earning his Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education from Oklahoma State University in 2013. He most recently completed his Master's in Secondary Administration from East Central University in 2024.

He married Lauren Bell of Burns Flat on January 4th of this year, an accountant at East River Roustabout in Kingfisher. Together, they've built a life rooted in community, commitment, and passion for their work.

Steven's teaching career began in the fall of 2014, where he taught Pre-K in Cashion. But just a semester later, he was called back home to Kingfisher to step in for Mrs. Cheap's 4th-grade class after her cancer diagnosis. It was an unexpected but meaningful opportunity that set the tone for a career defined by stepping up when it matters most.

After that year, Steven moved to Geary, where he took on the role of head football coach for five years. Under his leadership, Geary made history—literally. He became

the winningest coach in Geary Football history and earned Oklahoma Football Coaches Association's Coach of the Year honors in 2017. But Steven didn't stop at the sidelines; he was also named Geary's Teacher of the Year in 2018—a rare feat for a PE teacher, but not surprising to anyone who knows his character, work ethic, and ability to connect with students.

From Geary, he returned to Cashion, where he taught 7th and 8th grade science from 2020 to 2022. During his time there, he served as an assistant football coach and head wrestling coach, helping lead the football team to back-to-back State Championship titles—further cementing his reputation as a dedicated mentor, coach, and leader both in and out of the classroom.

Steven says, "I knew I wanted to be a teacher in 6th grade. When a childhood mentor, Sam Wood, told me that I needed to give back to other children someday.

His favorite grade or grades to teach are 7th and 8th grade. He believes students at that age are easily influenced, eager to learn, and at a pivotal stage in life where a strong role model can make a lasting impact. His favorite subject to teach? That's an easy one, science.

Steven's favorite part about the job is getting to see kids grow and develop daily—and just as importantly, putting a smile on their face. For him, it's about building relationships and making a positive impact that lasts far beyond the school year.

In 2022, Steven came full circle. Returning once more to Kingfisher. Now, he teaches 7th and 8th grade History and Health at the Kingfisher Junior High. He also coaches junior high football, baseball, and wrestling, as well as high school wrestling, where he serves as the boy's head wrestling coach. His leadership has not gone unnoticed as he was voted Region 1 Coach of the Year for wrestling for the 2023–2024 season and just recently given the role of Committee Leader for the Oklahoma Wrestling Coaches Association.

Steven loves Kingfisher and wants to see it be the best it can be because it gave him so much as a child. His roots run deep in this community, and now he's working every day to pour back into the town that helped raise him.

When he's not teaching or coaching, Steven enjoys spending time outdoors—especially fishing. He is a sports enthusiast, loves watching games, and even umpires in his spare time. He is also a huge Oklahoma State fan, especially devoted to their football and wrestling programs, and a loyal supporter of the Pittsburgh Steelers. More than anything, Steven is a man of faith. He loves Jesus, and lives by Joshua 1:9—"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." He and Lauren are active members of the Cashion First Baptist Church, where they attend every Sunday.

Whether it's in the classroom, on the field, or in the community, Steven Wilson brings integrity, dedication, and heart to everything he does. And for Kingfisher, he's more than just a coach or a teacher—he's a hometown hero giving back every single day.

Hello World!

Welcoming the Newest Members of Our Community!



We are thrilled to introduce Hudsyn Michele, Kingfisher's newest little Stinger! Hudsyn made her debut on Tuesday, January 23, 2025, at 7 pounds 4 ounces and 21.5 inches long. She is the precious daughter of Joy and Dahlton Hill and the little sister to big brother Hayes.

"Three months in, our hearts are full. Hudsyn's coos and smiles light up our days, and Hayes, her adoring big brother, proudly calls her his best friend. Their sweet bond is a daily blessing," said Joy.

Congratulations to the Hill family!

PROUDLY SERVING
THE STATES OF
**OKLAHOMA
& KANSAS!**

● FOR SALE
● SOLD

CONTACT ME TODAY!

Dillon Smith
Land Professional
Licensed in OK & KS

405.922.2076
DillonS@NationalLand.com

Keys, Please! Cruising, Floating,
Camping or Off-Roading
Rates as Low as

Consumer Loan
Rate Special
Auto | Boat | RV | ATV

5.25% APR*

Using auto debit from an
F&M Bank account**

F&M Bank fmbankok.com

*Annual Percentage Rate. Offer on title-secured vehicles. 725+ credit score required to qualify. Term limits apply. \$5000 minimum loan amount. **Rate will increase if auto debit is cancelled at any time during term of loan. Loan fees apply. Loan payment & APR will vary based on loan amount, term, credit score, fees. Monthly pay only. Other restrictions may apply. Credit approval required. Limited time offer. See lender for complete details.



Happily Ever After

Shalyn and Dillon's story began long before they ever called it one. In the quiet, close-knit town of Kingfisher, Oklahoma, they grew up side by side. Sharing the same schools, the same church, and the same hometown heartbeat. Shalyn was a grade ahead, but their paths naturally intertwined. It was in pre-calculus class that Shalyn first started gravitating toward Dillon. She insisted she only needed to "check her answers"—though friends still wonder if it was the math or the boy that kept her coming back.

Through their high school years, Shalyn and Dillon were each other's steady encouragers. They may not have been a couple, but their bond was unmistakable. They cheered each other on from the sidelines—Shalyn wore Dillon's jersey on the day of the state championship football game, while Dillon could be found rallying the student section at her basketball games. They worshipped together at First Baptist Church, served in the community together, and carried a quiet but profound respect for one another.

After graduation—Shalyn in 2014, Dillon in 2015—they parted ways, each chasing dreams that led them beyond the Kingfisher horizon. Dillon pursued a degree in Chemical Biosciences at the University of Oklahoma. Shalyn discovered her passion for healing through Kinesiology at the University of Central Oklahoma, eventually earning her doctorate in Physical Therapy from South College in Tennessee. Life took them far from home, but as fate would have it, not for good.

In 2023, both Shalyn and Dillon found themselves back in Kingfisher. Shalyn returned to serve her hometown community through Physical Therapy Central. Dillon came home for what he thought would be a short visit, working in land brokerage. But when he learned that Shalyn was also back, something told



him to reach out. A casual dinner at Eischen's Bar in Okarche, just two old friends catching up, turned into something far more meaningful.

Over fried chicken and shared memories, something familiar and entirely new began to stir. The easy laughter was still there. So was the warmth. But now, there was a spark neither could deny. What had once been a friendship was blossoming into something deeper, something sacred.

Dillon pursued Shalyn with the same steady care he always had, only now, with a different type of love in his heart. He honored their shared past, their strong foundation of friendship, and the faith that had always anchored them both. Shalyn, too, found herself inspired by the man Dillon had become. Grounded, faithful, and full of quiet strength.

And on a perfect spring day—Saturday, April 26th, 2025—Shalyn and Dillon became one in the mountains of Durango, Colorado. It was Dillon's 28th birthday, and the greatest gift of all was the

promise they made to one another: to love, to cherish, and to walk through life hand in hand.

Today, their story is no longer just one of shared roots but a story of shared dreams. A love built on years of friendship, strengthened by distance, and brought full circle by grace. Rooted in the place that shaped them, woven with faith, and filled with purpose, their love is a testament to timing, trust, and the quiet power of coming home.

Congratulations to the Smiths!



This Kingfisher Monthly publication brought to you by

Visit: cttc.edu

Call: 405-729-8324

Chisholm Trail Technology Center has been serving high school and adult students from Blaine and Kingfisher counties for over 30 years.

CTTC is one of 29 technology centers in Oklahoma accredited by the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.



405-368-5777

21947 N 2855 Rd, Kingfisher & 700 E Russworm, Watonga

M6 Wrecker & Recovery covers all towing from light, medium, and heavy-duty, and all recovery needs. They serve Kingfisher County, Blaine County, and the surrounding areas with 24/7 services.



WRECKER&RECOVERY

Call: Amy Smith 405-853-1270

To learn more or reserve your space in next month's issue, contact Amy Smith at 405-853-1234 or email at Amy@allaboutok.com



**YOUR AD
COULD
BE HERE!**

Join those who make this publication possible and grow your business.

Call: Amy Smith 405-853-1270

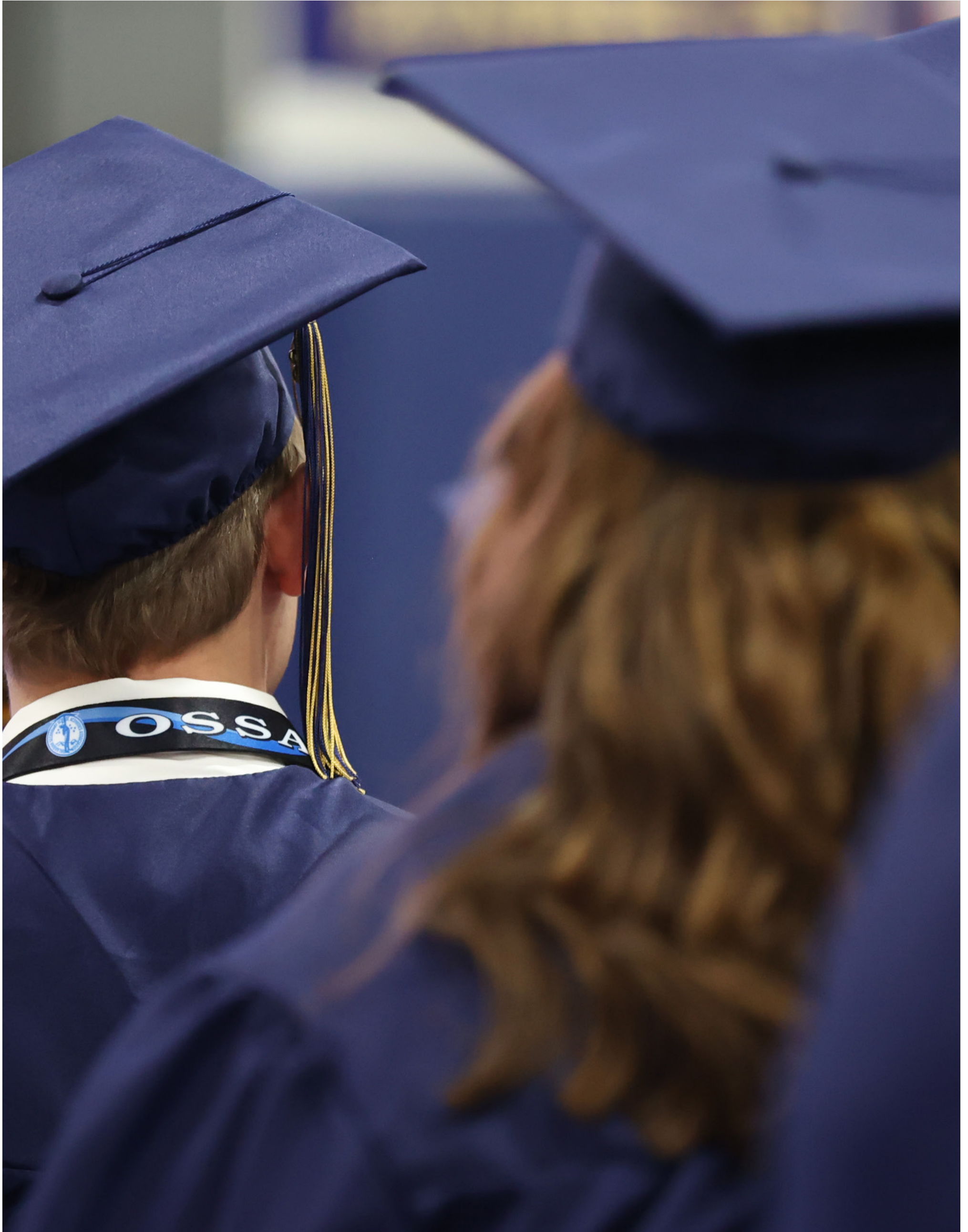
To learn more or reserve your space in next month's issue, contact Amy Smith at 405-853-1234 or email at Amy@allaboutok.com



**YOUR AD
COULD
BE HERE!**

Join those who make this publication possible and grow your business.

KINGFISHER GRADUATES 2025



KINGFISHER GRADUATES 2025



Mason Alig



Donte Almanzar



Emily Altizer



Kyle Ancill



Adah Anderman



Conner Askey



Jaden Bain



Evan Banther



Robert Barnett



Ava Barrett



Brooke Barton



Hailey Bieren



Kylie Bodnovich



Aryne Bollenbach



Hannah Borelli



Sydney Burk

KINGFISHER GRADUATES 2025



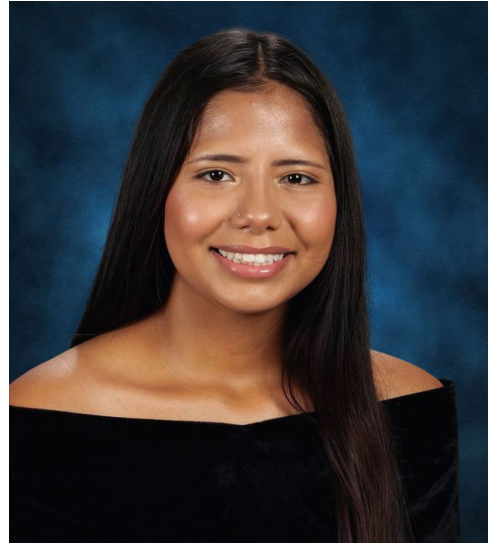
Paytun Burnham



Colton Burns



Jorge Carrasco



Julia Carrasco



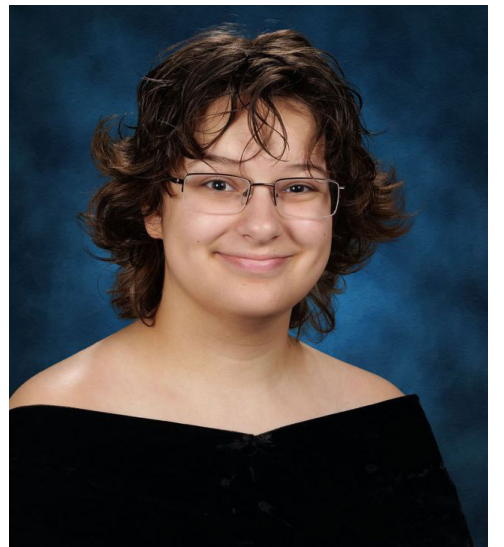
Keylun Combs



Keynun Combs



Chace Cooper



Hailey Crosswhite



Alezandro Cuellar



Kadyn Daugherty



Evan Duey



Christian Farrell



Mia Franco



Bianca Garcia



Natalie Garrett



Andrew Green

KINGFISHER GRADUATES 2025



Daniel Guerrero



Hubert Haag



Deacon Harjo



Myles Harrison



Mia Hartman



Caleb Hendryx



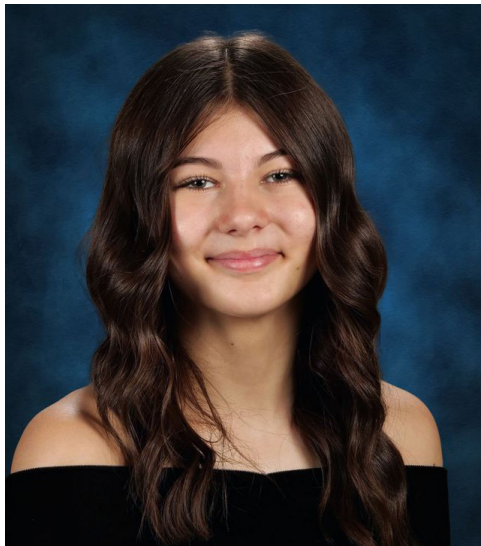
Vanessa Jaramillo



Maddox Jarvis



Tavia Johnson



Mylene Jones



Keira Laudwig



Cale Leck



Colton Livingston



Ryker Long



Lacy Maggard



Ana Marquez

KINGFISHER GRADUATES 2025



Julian Marshall



Isabella Mayberry



Kyden McClellan



Terry Ann McCully



Matthew Mecklenburg



Talor Mecklenburg



Samuel Miller



Andres Montiel



Bryant Morse



Lyndsi Moyeda



Angela Munoz



Karen Munoz



Natalia Orta Saldana



Alondra Ortega



KC Ortega



Santiago Ortega

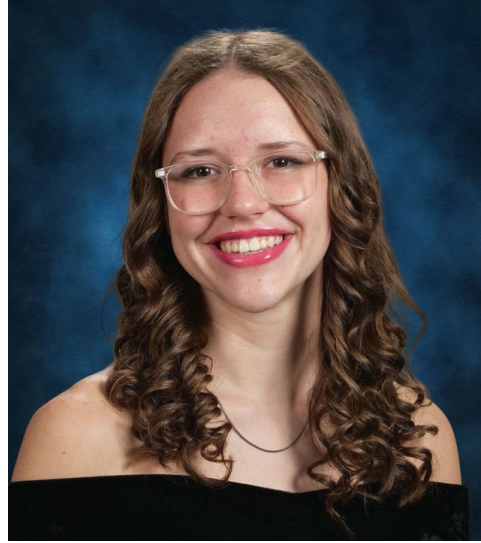
KINGFISHER GRADUATES 2025



Ethan Ortiz



Brayden Osterholt



Taygen Otey



Zander Padilla



Brian Perez



Skylar Peterson



Austin Poarch



Emma Price



Kamryn Purintun



Landon Rempe



Ariana Rivera Blas



Eli Sanders



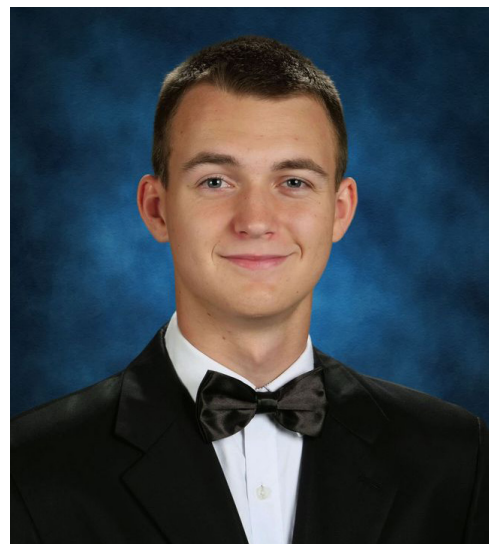
Ryan Sanders



Jose Santoyo



Landon Schroeder



William Shaver

KINGFISHER GRADUATES 2025



Jake Sisk



Ayden Smith



Raegan Snider



Avery Stutts



Braxten Toepfer



Julian Torres



Olivia Tripp



Jairo Velarde



Joaquin Wallace



Micheal Jacob Walter



Emily Warren



Emiley Watkins



Addison Wilson

FROM THE HIVE TO THE HORIZON, FLY HIGH, CLASS OF 2025!
CONGRATULATIONS ON ALL THAT YOU'VE ACHIEVED AND EVERYTHING THAT'S AHEAD.



WITH LOVE - GORDO'S CON MUCH CARIÑO - GORDO'S

KINGFISHER GRADUATES 2025



Congrats Grads!

**From Pioneer Telephone,
powering your future
with fiber-fast
connections!**



CAPS OFF TO THE CLASS OF 2025!

**TONYS
PUMP &
SUPPLY**

**YOU'VE DONE THE HARD PART;
NOW GO CHASE THOSE DREAMS.**

**CONGRATULATIONS
FROM ALL OF US AT
TONY'S PUMP**



KINGFISHER GRADUATES 2025

**Strong.
Steady. Ready
for the Road
Ahead.**

Congratulations
to the Kingfisher
Class of 2025!

Wherever life
takes you, trust
your journey,
you're built for it.

Proudly cheering you on,
M6 Wrecker



IN MEMORIAM

Luke Edward Strickland

April 24th, 2006 - April 7th, 2022

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted.' —Psalm 34:18

"Luke, your beautiful smile, gentle heart, and joyful spirit are with us every single day. This year was meant to be filled with celebration, but instead, we cling to the memories, the laughter, and the love you shared so freely. You may not be walking across the stage, but you've already left lasting footprints on every heart you touched. We are endlessly proud of you, and we carry you with us—always."

With all our love, Your family

CHARGING INTO THE FUTURE

The future is bright, and this year's graduates are fully powered up for success! Cimarron Electric congratulates the Kingfisher Class of 2025 on reaching this high-voltage milestone. Whether you're wired for college, the workforce, or new adventures, we know you'll light up the world wherever you go!

Stay grounded, stay energized, and keep chasing your dreams!



We're here to help you build what's next,
your future, your wealth, your life.

Congrats to the class of 2025
from F&M Bank - Oklahoma

F&M Bank
fmbankok.com

Serving Central Oklahoma with branches in Kingfisher, Edmond,
Yukon, Guthrie, Piedmont, Crescent and Oklahoma City.



KINGFISHER GRADUATES 2025



GRADUATION KINGFISHER

CLASS OF 2025
Saturday, May 17
11:00 a.m.



Senior Awards Monday, May 12 7:00 p.m.
Baccalaureate Wednesday, May 14 7:00 p.m.

Both will take place at the
APB 1500 S 13th Street