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Centennial
Farm

100 Years of 4-H

3



4

Wild
West
Show



IEC Employees Volunteer at 2003 Special Olympics Games

Thirty-six volunteers from IEC lend a hand on the track at Stillwater May 14 - 16.

Decked out in bright yellow shirts and tennis shoes, you'd never recognize the group on the field as electric cooperative employees. Gone are the hard hats and gloves that would mark some as linemen and office attire is nowhere to be seen. Today it's t-shirts and shorts; sunglasses and baseball caps. The flame atop the Special Olympic torch is burning, the athletes are on the field and IEC employees are taking part in a volunteer project that has become a tradition over the past 15 years -- the Special Olympics Summer Games.

"This is one of the highlights of our year," said IEC Member Services representative Cyndie Wood.

"My family plans its schedule in May around the games. Working with the athletes is prob-

ably one of the best experiences an individual could ever take part in."

Twenty-two IEC employees and 14 family members took part in this year's event, making the IEC delegation the largest group of electric cooperative volunteers present.

"One of the most rewarding experiences was seeing a kid come down the track wearing a shirt from one of the areas we serve," said Brian Cox of the IEC Engineering Department.

"It's a great feeling to know that you are part of more than just a company involved in community service. When you see those kids, you realize that this is something you do because you're part of the community."

To view more pictures and read more on this year's games, visit us at www.iecok.com.

The official
publication
of the members of
Indian Electric
Cooperative



Local Farm Earns “Centennial” Designation

IEC District 5 Trustee Wanda Foster recounts the history of the land she farms near Silver City

The first time Louisa Beartail saw her Creek County property she was 17 years old and sitting in a covered wagon. Newly married, she and her husband had packed their belongings and traveled from a rural area near Eufaula to settle on land the U.S. government had given Louisa, a Creek Indian, in 1903 when she was 4 years old. Since then the farm has grown from raising cotton and cattle, to being home to black bears and John Deere tractors.

Louisa lived on the farm, located between Oilton and Mannford, for the rest of her life, passing away in 1979. But her daughter-in-law, Wanda

Foster, still lives and works the farm, which has recently been honored as a Centennial Farm by the Oklahoma Historical Society (OHS). The Centennial Farm and Ranch program is a joint program of the historical society and the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture and is designed to recognize those farms and ranches which have been owned by the same family for 100 years.

Glen Vaughn-Roberson, state coordinator of the OHS program, says over 780 farms and ranches in Oklahoma have received the centennial designation since the program began in 1989. “The program recognizes the important role agriculture has played in the settlement and development of Oklahoma, and honors contributions of the state’s long-standing farm and ranch families,” he says. He adds, however, less than 10-percent of those 780 began as Indian allotment lands. “The majority

were homesteaded or are from the Land Run,” he says.

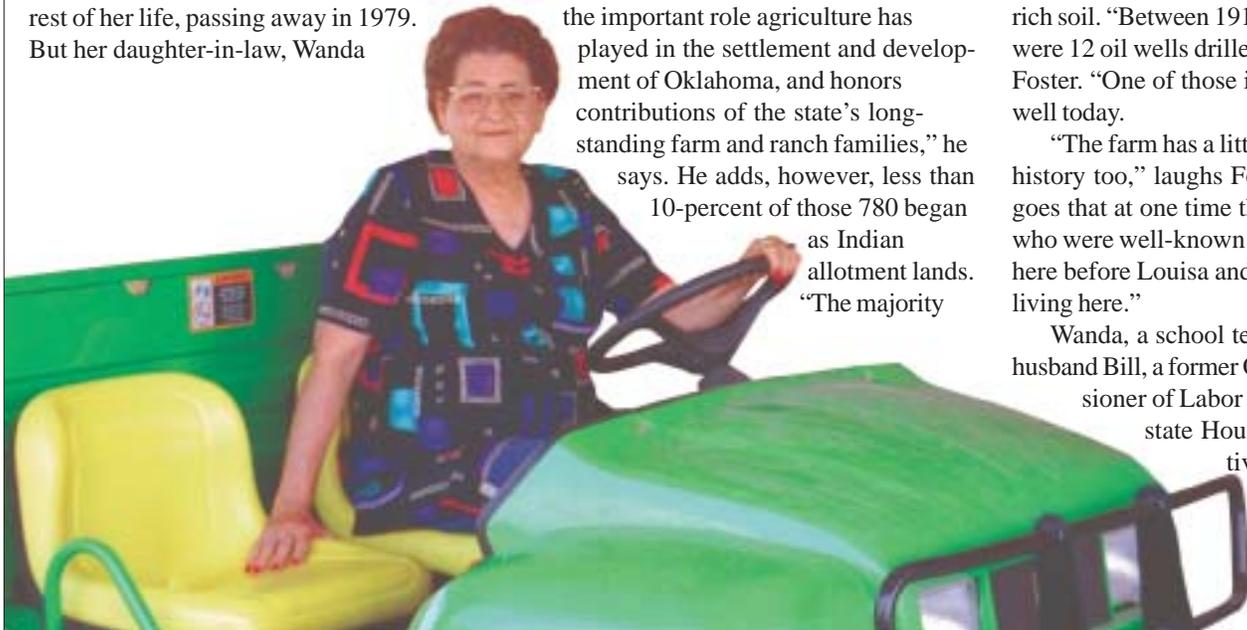
To qualify, a property must be a working farm or ranch and have a minimum of 40 acres with gross annual sales of at least \$1,000. Also, the farm must be operated by or lived on by a family member, or it may be leased out by a family member over 65 years old.

According to Foster, Louisa and her husband built a small home on her 160 acres and began raising cotton and cattle, and later alfalfa. And like much of Oklahoma, oil was found underneath the rich soil. “Between 1915 and 1920, there were 12 oil wells drilled out here,” says Foster. “One of those is still a producing well today.

“The farm has a little bit of ‘infamous’ history too,” laughs Foster. “The story goes that at one time the Doolin brothers, who were well-known outlaws, ran cattle here before Louisa and her family started living here.”

Wanda, a school teacher, and her husband Bill, a former Oklahoma Commissioner of Labor and member of the state House of Representatives, decided to join Louisa on the farm and began

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THE LAMP

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The Lamp (USPS 942-940) is published monthly by Indian Electric Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 49, Highway 64 Southeast, Cleveland, Oklahoma 74020 for the interest of its membership. Subscription price was \$0.17 per month in 2002. Periodical postage paid at Cleveland, Oklahoma and additional mailing offices.

- Postmaster: Send address changes to *The Lamp*, P.O. Box 49, Cleveland, OK 74020.



100 Years and Counting

Oklahoma 4-H celebrates a century of "Making the Best Better."

Students from across the IEC service territory and around the state gathered last month in OSU's Gallagher-Iba Arena to take part in Oklahoma's 4-H Round-Up. This year's celebration marks a special occasion - the

beginning of a new century for 4-H in Oklahoma.

Originally founded in 1902 as a corn club for local youth, 4-H now boasts over 7 million members nation-wide. Today, students from ages 9 to 19 "learn by doing" in projects ranging from agriculture to leadership and public speaking.

4-H Quick Facts

- More than 167,800 Oklahoma youth are 4-H members
- One in every seven Oklahoman's is a 4-H Alumni
- OSU's Gallagher-Iba Arena was originally built for 4-H activities and was named the "4-H Clubs and Student Activities Building"
- Membership in 4-H is free
- Nearly 4,400 adults volunteer annually in Oklahoma 4-H Clubs

"Making the Best Better" in Your Community

With hundreds of clubs and literally thousands of opportunities in projects, contests and activities, 4-H has something to offer you this summer whether you are a student or adult. To learn more, contact your county extension agent listed below or visit our website at www.iecok.com.

- Creek County: (918) 224-2192
- Kay County: (580) 362-3194
- Noble County: (580) 336-4621
- Osage County: (918) 287-4170
- Pawnee County: (918) 762-2735
- Payne County: (405) 747-8320
- Tulsa County: (918) 746-3700

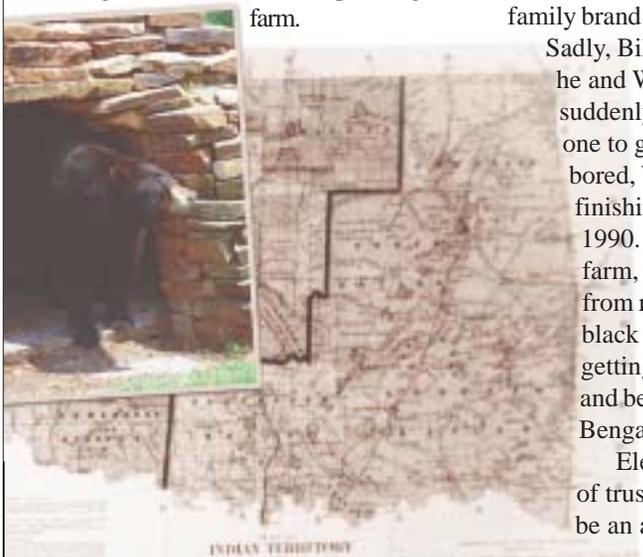
Don't have the time or no longer able to get involved? The Oklahoma 4-H Founda-

tion is always looking for former members and others interested in promoting 4-H. To see how you can participate, contact David Sorrell with the Oklahoma 4-H Foundation at (405) 744-5390.



Local Farm Receives "Centennial Designation"

building a home there. They designed and built the structure themselves. Due to Louisa's declining health, she moved into a home in Oilton and Bill and Wanda alternated between her farm home and their home in Tulsa while they continued working on their house and operating the farm.



Built of native stone, the Foster's three-bedroom home has a sunken living room with a massive fireplace built of cut stones from the old Hallett School. Bill's office is complete with his many awards and citations, and the sunken den also has a stone fireplace with the state of Oklahoma and the family brand on it.

Sadly, Bill never got to enjoy the home he and Wanda were building, as he died suddenly of a heart attack in 1989. Not one to give up on life and become bored, Wanda remained active, finishing and moving in the home in 1990. She continued to operate the farm, but with a twist. She deviated from raising cattle to raising a pair of black bear cubs. Not long after getting the bears, she branched out and began raising llamas, wallabies, Bengal cats and fainting goats.

Elected to Indian Electric's board of trustees in 1990, she continues to be an active trustee today, and is an

involved member of the Oilton Chamber of Commerce.

"With all my activities, raising all those animals just became too time consuming," she says, so she sold her exotic animals but kept her two original bears, which are now 13 years old. They enjoy life in a large cage with a stone hut in the front yard, where they entertain passersby on the highway. And Wanda enjoys life on the 100-year-old farm, where she can be seen tooling across the yard or the pasture on her green John Deere Gator.

Seventeen-year-old Louisa probably didn't envision a two-story home and exotic animals roaming the pasture when she arrived in her covered wagon. But she probably would be proud of the show-place her farm has become.

For more information or to get an application for the Centennial Farm and Ranch Program call Vaughn-Roberson at (405) 521-6387 or visit www.iecok.com.

RECIPE



Blueberry Upside-Down Cake

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 4 tbsp butter, melted, plus more for soufflé dish | 3/4 cups cake flour (not self-rising) |
| 1/3 cup packed plus 3 tbsp light-brown sugar | 1 tsp baking powder |
| 1 1/2 cups blueberries, picked over and cleaned | 1/4 tsp salt |
| | 1 large egg |
| | 1/4 cup milk, room temperature |

Heat oven to 350°. Butter a 1-quart 5 1/2-inch-diameter soufflé dish. Pour 2 tbsp melted butter into the soufflé dish. Sprinkle 3 tbsp brown sugar over butter. Scatter 1 cup blueberries over sugar. Set aside.

In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder, and salt. In another medium bowl, whisk together remaining 2 tbsp butter, remaining 1/3 cup brown sugar, and egg. Whisk milk into the egg mixture. Add flour mixture; whisk until batter is smooth.

Pour half the batter into soufflé dish. Sprinkle remaining 1/2 cup blueberries over batter. Spread remaining batter over blueberries. Bake until a cake tester inserted in the middle of the cake comes out clean of batter, about 45 minutes. Immediately unmold cake, inverting it onto a serving dish. Serve warm with whipped cream if desired.

***For a fluffy cake, it's important to use milk that's at room temperature—it keeps the butter from curdling.*

Frank Moore Remembered

Most of us measure community service in days or years, but for some, it's simply measured by a lifetime. Former IEC Trustee Frank Moore was such a



Frank Moore: IEC Trustee 1944 - 1991 man.

Frank Moore passed away Tuesday, April 29, 2003 at his home in Cleveland at the age of ninety-three.

Frank was born July 31, 1909 in Cleveland, OK. He grew up in the community and turned his high school job at a local dry cleaners into his own business in 1929. Over the next few years Frank established a plastics company with Jay Hill, worked as an agent of New York Life Insurance Company and opened a Wester Auto Associate Store. He is best remembered, however, for operating Moore's Cleaners at 121 S. Broadway from 1949 until 1974.

Frank was elected to the board of Indian Electric Cooperative in 1944. Shortly after taking office, he was elected to the position of Secretary/Treasurer of the board, an office he held until 1988 when he was elected president.

Frank's service to the members of IEC spanned nearly 50 years of exponential growth and progress. His service to the city of Cleveland and surrounding areas spanned his lifetime and included work with Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club, Cleveland School Board and the First Presbyterian Church. His dedication to progress and personal example of citizenship and character will be greatly missed.

PAWNEE BILL'S WILD WEST SHOW

Pull on your boots and cinch up the saddle, it's June in Pawnee county and the west is about to get wild again.

The original Pawnee Bill's Wild West Show will perform Saturday evening June 14, 21 and 28 at the outdoor community theater on Blue Hawk Peak of Pawnee Bill's Ranch Site west of Pawnee on Highway 64. Individual and group tickets are available through the Pawnee Chamber of Commerce at (918) 762-2108.

The all-ages show includes trick riders, ropers and whip

acts along with appearances by Pawnee Bill and Mae Lille as they reenact the marksman shooting that made them famous. Topsy returns again this year with her comic western revue and the Cavalry join Pawnee Bill in rescuing settlers and fighting lawlessness.

Jason Boland and The Stragglers will kick the first weekend off in style, bringing their reknown flavor of Red Dirt music to the stage in historic downtown Pawnee at 2 p.m. on June 14. Boland will take the stage immediately following the parade.

Pawnee is alive with history and there's simply no better time to take it all in than during the annual show season. The Pawnee Bill Ranch and ranch house will be open for tours -- an experience in Oklahoma history that is worth the trip on its own. And remember to save time and room for Bar-B-Que at the ranch. The dinner bell rings at 5:30 p.m. before each show. For more information, call (918) 762-2108.