



# Get Out!

Enid Comic Con returns Aug. 3-4 with more tables, myriad things to pique the interest of comic enthusiasts.

A6

# Cell by cell

Oklahoma County struggles to fully staff its jail.

In Monday's paper



# Enid News & Eagle

2 Sections 20 Pages \$1.00

Enid, Oklahoma

enidnews.com

July 26, 2019

FRIDAY

## Quake swarm

### 27 earthquakes in 24 hours detected in Kingfisher County; well site shut down

By Mitchell Willetts  
Staff Writer

KINGFISHER — A well site was shut down indefinitely Thursday after 27 earthquakes, nine registering more than magnitude 3.0 and 18 less than magnitude 2.5, were felt in Kingfisher County in less than a 24-hour period.

The latest quake, magnitude 3.1, was centered 8 miles west of Kingfisher at 1:10 p.m. Thursday, according to U.S. Geological Survey, while the first quake, magnitude 3.2, was detected at 6:25 p.m. Wednesday, 8 miles west-southwest of Kingfisher.

The largest felt was magnitude 3.8, detected at 12:48 a.m. Thursday, 7.4 miles west of Kingfisher, where a magnitude 3.3 quake also was registered by USGS at 4:39 a.m.

A site where well completion work was being conducted by Encana Corp. was advised to shut down, Oklahoma Corporation Commission spokesman Matt Skinner said.

At the Newfield/Encana site, workers took steps to mitigate seismic activity, pausing for hours at a time to relieve stress in the underground formation, but activity continued to climb, Skinner said.

Given the intensity of activity, OCC's Induced Seismicity Department called a meeting Thursday morning to decide if operations should be allowed to continue, Skinner said. It soon contacted company officials and urged them to pull out of the site.

They are "stopping all operations indefinitely" at the site, "pulling their crew, pulling their equipment," he said.

See 27 EARTHQUAKES, Page A3



The orange dots show where 27 earthquakes were reported in the Kingfisher area Wednesday and Thursday. (USGS Map)

## Lahoma Courts demolition



A track hoe (above) demolishes a vacant house in the former Lahoma Courts addition on Thursday. The land is being cleared for a retail shopping development to be known as The District. A worker (left) sprays water on one of the houses being demolished to keep down dust in the air.

Billy Hefton /

Enid News & Eagle

## Energy project coming to NWOK

### Construction will include portions of Garfield, Alfalfa and Major counties

By Mitchell Willetts  
Staff Writer

The "largest combined wind, solar and energy storage project in the U.S." is slated for construction in Northwest Oklahoma, with a collective footprint to include Garfield, Alfalfa and Major counties, Western Farmer's Electric Cooperative announced Tuesday.

The Skeleton Creek project will consist of a wind farm, a solar farm and an energy storage facility, all of which will be adding power to the Southwest Power Pool electric grid region. Oklahoma and 13 other states are part of the grid, spanning 546,000 square miles of the United States.

Upon completion, the project is expected to produce 500 megawatts of power and provide 200 megawatts of power storage, for a total potential output of 700 megawatts.

Western Farmer's entered into a purchase power agreement with NextEra Energy Resources LLC, the company developing the project.

"At Western Farmer's, we are always looking for ways to better serve our customers with reliable, low-cost and environmentally-friendly energy," Western Farmer's CEO Gary Roulet said in a Tuesday statement.

"With the price of wind and solar energy lower than ever, we are now able to



This photo shows Babcock Ranch Energy Center in Punta Gorda, Fla. The project, by NextEra Energy, is similar to the Skeleton Creek wind farm, solar farm and energy storage facility planned for Garfield, Major and Alfalfa counties. (NextEra Energy Photo)

pair it with battery storage to make more affordable, renewable energy available to customers for more hours of the day — even when the wind isn't blowing and the sun isn't shining," CEO of Western Farmer's, Gary Roulet said.

The three-piece project will come online in two phases, with a 250-megawatt producing wind farm expected by the end of 2019.

The solar farm, which also will produce 250 megawatts, won't come online until 2023, the statement said.

Skeleton Creek's energy storage facil-

ity will be in operation around the same time. When the batteries at the facility are fully charged, it can put another 200 megawatts into the grid for up to four hours, NextEra Energy spokesman Bryan Garner said.

"Wind energy is an intermittent source, solar energy is an intermittent source," he said, but a battery makes both sources more reliable.

During hours of peak energy demand, stored power can be released, increasing

See ENERGY PROJECT, Page A3

## Leaton named NOC Enid vice president

By Mitchell Willetts  
Staff Writer

Northern Oklahoma College announced Thursday morning that Raydon Leaton, head baseball coach for the NOC Jets, will become the new Enid campus vice president.

Leaton's first official day as vice president will be Aug. 8, an NOC release said, a role previously filled by Ed Vineyard since the campus first opened nearly two decades ago.

"I'm pleased that Raydon has accepted the responsibility of leading NOC Enid," NOC President Cheryl Evans said. "He is respected internally at Northern and in the wider Enid community. He is a man of integrity, and I am confident that he will help guide NOC Enid in a positive direction with a focus on recruiting new students and helping the institution fulfill its mission in the Garfield county area. Raydon cares about students and their success, and I'm certain that he will bring his strong work ethic to this new role resulting in great outcomes for the campus and the community."



Raydon Leaton

Leaton joined NOC Enid in 2000, tasked with starting up the Jets baseball program, as well as teach in the college's business division, the release said. This past season, at David Allen Memorial Ballpark, his team won the NJCAA Division II World Series for the first time in school history.

Reporting directly to Evans, Leaton's new duties will include providing "leadership in the planning, organizing, and follow through of the Enid campus' educational offerings for NOC," the release said.

Each fiscal year, he will also teach six instructional hours.

"I want to thank Dr. Evans and the search committee for the opportunity they have given me," Leaton said.

See NAMED NOC VP, Page A3



VOL. 44, No. 306

### INDEX

Business ..... A9  
Classifieds ..... B7  
Comics ..... B6  
Funerals ..... A5  
GetOut! ..... A6  
Opinion ..... A4  
Sports ..... B1  
State ..... A2

### WEATHER

▲ 93 ▼ 67

Today, sunny and hot. South wind at 6-13 mph. Tonight, clear. South wind at 6-9 mph.

A10

Got a news tip?  
Call 233-6600 or (800) 299-6397  
Email at enidnews@enidnews.com

SCAN HERE TO VISIT US ONLINE



Page designed by: David Christy

**IT'S COMING: THE BIG SALE!**

**Saturday July 27 10am - 3pm**

**Garfield FURNITURE**  
**Mattresses Too**

**(FORMERLY CRAZY DAYS)** Corners of Maine & Grand Downtown Enid

garfieldfurniture.com

Red Carpet Country.com