



The Voice of ISD

A publication for, about, and by the employees of the Information Services Division

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"You have brains in your head and feet in your shoes, you can steer yourself in any direction you choose!"
--Dr. Seuss

In the Spotlight

by Julie Kelly

Kara first learned of the bureau when she began pursuing her career in Criminal Justice. We are so thankful that she did and that she chose the OSBI, we are very lucky to have her as part of the Information Services Division CDCA unit, welcome Kara!

When asked what advice she had for prospective OSBI candidates she replied, "Keep trying, even if you are told no!"

Kara originally hails from Eugene, Oregon but grew up in McAlester, Oklahoma. She has a Master's degree in Crime and Intelligence Analysis (her proudest moment), and when not at work, she loves reading, makeup, and watching series' on TV. She loves spending time with her kitty Svetlana, or Lana for short. Lana is a Russian Blue, hence the name Svetlana! The one thing she could not live without—her loved ones.

If she could do another job for just one day Kara says she would be an astronaut. She would also like to have the ability to teleport. Sounds like she is definitely on her way to becoming a superhero!



Kara Miller
Administrative Technician, CDCAU



Svetlana (Lana) Miller

Kara is a pretty good sport around here at Halloween time, and loves to dress up for our Halloween parties. Last year she was Scooby Doo. I can't wait to see what the team has planned

for this Halloween!

I asked Kara what was her single most favorite food is, her answer, "I cannot choose one, I really like chicken or pizza", which is a good thing as we have a lot of pizza parties around here!

Many of us have "bucket lists", and when I asked Kara what was the most surprising thing on hers, she said she wanted to travel to see the Northern Lights. I think that is one item that is probably on a several bucket lists, I know it's on mine!

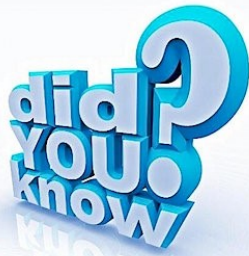
I asked Kara, "If you could interview one person (dead or alive) who would it be?" She replied, "Beyoncé, I just love her!"

Her personal philosophy is to "Do what makes you happy." When asked what three traits defined her, she replied that she is "honest, enthusiastic, and dependable", which we have seen every day that Kara has been here.

You are amazing Kara, we hope that you realize all the goals you have set for yourself. You are a definite asset to the success of the OSBI!



Scooby and the Gang




Random, mostly useless, questionably true, but somewhat entertaining information

DO WHAT MAKES YOUR SOUL HAPPY






Did you Know?





As it is almost Halloween, I thought fun facts about bones would be appropriate!


 Humans are born with 300 bones in their body. However, when a person reaches adulthood they only have 206 bones because many of them join together to make a single

bone

-  Over half the body's bones are in the hands and feet
-  The only joint less bone in your body is the Hyoid bone in your throat
-  Humans and giraffes have the same number of bones in their necks
-  Over a period of about seven years, each bone in our body is slowly replaced until it is a new bone
-  Adult human bones account for 14% of the body's total weight

 The only bone fully grown at birth is located in the ear which is also the smallest bone in the human body, the Stapes bone

 A human bone is as strong as granite in supporting weight. A block of bone the size of a matchbox can support 9 tons, 4 X as much as concrete. The strongest bone in our body is the femur (thighbone), and it is hollow

 Every second, our bone marrow produces two million red blood cells

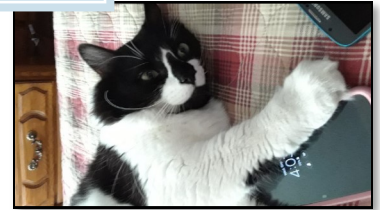


Here are some pics of Anne Simons fur babies! Oreo, Anne's daughter Claire's kitty was rescued from the Oklahoma City Animal Shelter around two years ago. Don't you just love his facial markings?

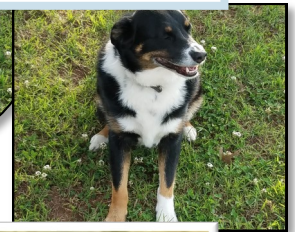
Hunter, Anne's son Alex's dog is also a rescue of sorts. He was found as a stray near Anne's parents house in Ohio around four years ago. Hunter was in the right spot at the right time as it looks as though he is one happy dog!

Then there is Sunny, a beautiful, Tennessee Walker horse. Sunny has been with Anne's family since he was two years old. He is now 20! His "official" name is Factor's Setting Sun, but to the Simon family, he is just Sunny. Beautiful, all of them!

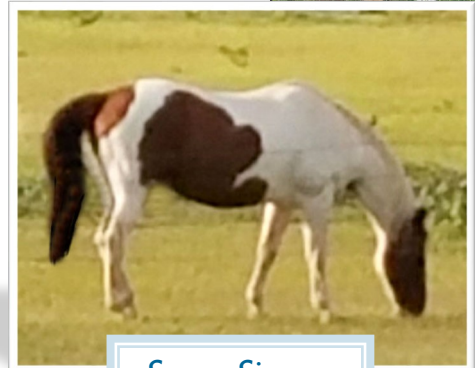
Oreo Simons



Hunter Simons



Sunny Simons





The Information Services Division's traditional holiday pot luck's are almost here!

The Halloween Pot Luck is Tuesday, October 31st. Bring your best Halloween dish and wear your favorite cos-

tume!

The Thanksgiving Pot Luck is set for Monday, November 20th.

And finally, the Annual Christmas Dinner and Dirty Santa will be held on Friday, December 15th.

All celebrations are being held in the 2nd floor training room. Check your email for details and the sign-up sheets (coming soon). We'd like to have a full roster this year, please join us!



Tips and Tricks—Winter Vehicle Edition

Be better prepared for the unique challenges that winter car care and driving brings. Hopefully these handy tips and tricks will help you survive winter driving!

- * To quickly clear a foggy windshield without leaving a smudgy mess, keep a clean chalkboard eraser in your car.
- * To fog-PROOF your windshield, put shaving cream on the inside of your windows and then wipe off. Shaving cream has a lot of the same ingredients that commercial defoggers have.
- * Turning on the AC is one of the best defoggers around, the compressor takes the humidity out of the air.
- * Keep a pair of socks in your glovebox to put on over your shoes in case you have to push your car or walk in snow or ice, gives you better traction.
- * Those extra socks can also come in handy to keep your wiper blades free of snow or ice. Raise the wipers off the windshield and cover them with the socks for easier de-icing in the morning.
- * Cheap and easy DIY de-icer: Mix three parts vinegar with one part water and spray the mixture onto your windshield to prevent ice from forming.
- * Keep plenty of windshield washer fluid on hand. Try [this recipe](#) for homemade washer fluid.
- * To prevent ice from forming on side mirrors, cover them the night before with plastic bags secured with rubber bands or clothespins. When you remove the bags in the morning, the mirrors will be ice-free.
- * Make sure you have plenty of fuel, at least half-full.
- * Bring a cell phone with emergency numbers.
- * Keep an Emergency Kit in your truck with the following items²:
 - Ice scraper or deicing spray
 - Jumper cables
 - Clay-based cat litter or sand
 - Shovel
 - Warm clothes
 - Blankets
 - High energy food
 - Flashlights with extra batteries
 - First aid kit
 - Bright fabric tie for the antenna
 - Gloves
 - Paper towels
 - Flares or triangles to warn other vehicles

[Click here for the full article from ODOT for Traveling during Winter](#)



Taken from <https://www.onegoodthingbyjillee.com/2016/01/25-clever-car-hacks-help-survive-winter.html> and ² <http://www.okladot.state.ok.us/newsmedia/pdfs/winter-weather-tips.pdf>

Have any Tips and Tricks?

Send them to: julie.kelly@osbi.ok.gov



Good Eats

Submitted by: *Lisa Merka*

Submit your recipe for inclusion in an upcoming newsletter by emailing it to julie.kelly@osbi.ok.gov

Frozen Cherry Pie



- 1 can Eagle Brand Milk
- Juice of three lemons
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 can Tart Pitted Cherries—drained
- 1 cup pecans
- 1/2 pint whipping cream
- 2 graham cracker crust pie shells.

Whip the cream until fluffy. Mix milk, sugar, and lemon juice. Fold in the cherries and the nuts. Fold in whipped cream. Pour into the graham cracker crust and freeze. Makes two pies. Great Christmas treat or summertime cool down!

Watergate Salad



- 1 pkg (4 serving size) Jell-O Pistachio Flavor Instant Pudding/Pie Filling
- 1 20-oz can crushed pineapple in juice, *undrained*
- 1 cup miniature marshmallows
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts
- 2 cups thawed Cool Whip topping

Stir the pudding mix, pineapple with juice, marshmallows and nuts in large bowl until well blended. Gently fold in whipped topping. Refrigerate one hour or until ready to serve. Garnish as desired.

Welcome Aboard!



In case you were wondering who was that person in the hall? Please join us in welcoming the newest members of the ISD team. We are pleased to introduce:



Emma Hood
Administrative Technician
CDCAU

Things to do in Oklahoma in the Fall

Oklahoma offers spectacular fall foliage viewing opportunities and fun fall festivals. Take a drive and discover some great places to celebrate the bountiful autumn harvest¹. Here's just a sampling of the many things to do in Oklahoma. For more, go to TravelOK.com.

Claremore, Oklahoma

[Pumpkin Festival](#)—September 21 to November 04, 2017

- * Celebrate fall with pumpkins, hayrides and harvest educational activities at the [Pumpkin Festival](#) at Shepherd's Cross, an authentic working farm and Christian mission in Claremore.

Checotah, Oklahoma

[Pumpkin Patch at Lake Eufaula State Park](#)—September 23 to October 31, 2017

- * Lake Eufaula State Park welcomes everyone to their pumpkin patch for fall fun. Make a trip to this beautiful part of the state and enjoy the hues of changing leaves and pumpkin patch activities. Choose a pumpkin to decorate and take home before heading out on a hay ride. Kids also love the pony rides, games, barrel train ride, panning for gems, petting zoo and playground area. Your kids can even take aim at the archery range, shooting gallery or darts board. They can also fish or tour through the Wild West Walkthrough in the woods. Picnic areas are also available, so plan to stay a while and enjoy a full meal.

Muskogee, Oklahoma

[Haunted Castle Halloween Festival](#)—September 29 to October 28, 2017

- * The Castle of Muskogee is Oklahoma's Largest Haunted attraction with over 62 acres of spine chilling thrills and excitement. Come celebrate 21 years of thrills with a combination of indoor and outdoor attractions with activities, vendors, games, shows, rides, shops, food and fun for all ages. There are 11 spooktacular events to test your nerves in the scariest and rated one of the best Haunted attractions in the state.

Weatherford, Oklahoma

[P Bar Farms Haunted Maze](#)—September 30 to October 28, 2017

- * Visit the annual P Bar Farms Haunted Maze in Weatherford for a scary good time. When it gets dark on certain nights in October, ghouls, zombies and other horrific creatures venture into the P Bar Farms corn maze to terrorize any person who enters. Visitors to the Haunted Maze will be spooked by these otherworldly beings, but the creatures do not touch or chase people. Bring your courage to the P Bar Farms Haunted Maze, then check out the haunted barn, which is decorated in a frightening manner for Halloween. This event is not recommended for small children. Check the hours tab for the full schedule.

Piedmont, Oklahoma

[Okie Sampler](#)—September 20 to November 05, 2017

- * Head to Piedmont for a sampling of what Oklahoma communities have to offer at Okie Sampler. Hosted by Chester's Party Barn & Farm, this event will showcase items from across the state. Oklahoma residents and visitors are encouraged to browse the many booths and displays. This event is a great idea for the whole family with plenty of fun activities for the kids to enjoy and delicious eats for everyone. The fun Kids Fest will feature pony rides, hay rides, a petting zoo (\$1 for food), a performance by Spaghetti Eddie and a monster truck show. You can also recharge with some tasty grub from local food trucks while listening to live music all day long.

Stillwater, Oklahoma

[Fall Festival Arts & Crafts Show](#)—November 03 to November 05, 2017

- * The 36th annual Stillwater Fall Festival Arts, Crafts & Gift Show features more than 150 vendors from Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas and Arkansas. Bring your holiday shopping list and get a head start at this indoor event, which is spread between three buildings. Concessions will be available at this fun, free event.

Enid, Oklahoma

[Enid Blues Festival](#)—November 03 to November 05, 2017

- * Relax with some soothing blues tunes blaring from the Enid Blues Festival stage this November. The various food trucks will provide plenty of nourishment, and the beer garden will refresh any palate. Meanwhile, volunteers will cook up some tasty Creole seafood for the crawfish boil. This family-friendly event also features a kids' carnival along with a car & bike show.

Tulsa, Oklahoma

[Dia De Los Muertos Arts Festival](#)—November 04, 2017

- * The Dia De Los Muertos (Day of the Dead) Arts Festival in Tulsa is a celebration of Hispanic culture and remembrance of loved ones who have passed. Make your way to Living Arts of Tulsa in the Brady District to attend lectures and workshops, watch Mexican dancing and a browse unique items for sale in the artist's market. The Dia De Los Muertos Arts Festival also features live music, Mexican food and a skeleton parade. Bring the kids out to this family-friendly event for children's activities including face painting, sidewalk art and fire dancers. Altared Spaces, an exhibit of alters made to honor loved ones who have passed on, will be on display during the festival.

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

[Downtown in December](#)—November 10 to January 28, 2017

- * Spend your holidays experiencing fun activities as downtown Oklahoma City is turned into a winter wonderland during the annual Downtown in December celebration. Experience the thrill of outdoor ice skating, exhilarating snow tubing down the nation's largest man-made slope, free water taxi excursions on the magically lit Bricktown Canal, free museum Sundays, beautifully-lit areas and plenty of holiday cheer for the entire family. This month-long, family-friendly adventure attracts nearly half a million to the city's 10-block polar playground. Festivities begin the day after Thanksgiving and run through the New Year.

De-Stress and Tap Into your Inner Child

Believe it or not, coloring has intellectual benefits as well. It utilizes areas of the brain that enhance focus and concentration. It also helps with problem solving and organizational skills. This may sound strange, and like perhaps the usefulness is being stretched, but it is all true. Our frontal lobes are responsible for these higher level activities and functions of the brain, and coloring detailed pictures activates all those properties. Think of considering complex color schemes, and using the brain to balance and make the picture aesthetically pleasing. [1]



¹Taken from http://www.huffingtonpost.com/dr-nikki-martinez-psyd-lcpe/7-reasons-adult-coloring-books-are-great-for-your-mental-emotional-and-intellectual-health_b_8626136.html

Behind the Scenes...CHRU

by Anne Simons



The Criminal History Reporting Unit (CHRU) (Left to Right): Nanci, Nugen, Cathy Miller, Louise Myers, Heather Cropper, Sylvia Coslow

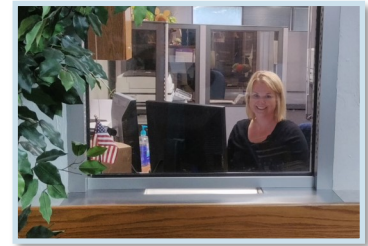
Who is that behind windows #1 and #2 at the OSBI? That is Heather Cropper and the rest of the Criminal History Reporting Unit (CHRU) team; Nanci Nugen, Louise Myers, Cathy Miller and their fearless leader Sylvia Coslow.

CHRU is the face of the agency to those needing a name-based criminal history record check. The hard-working employees of this unit process record check requests that come in by mail, fax, and in person. Customers with billing accounts can also use the Automated Criminal History System (ACHS) and receive their search results electronically.

Because Oklahoma is an open record state, anyone can request a criminal history record. First name, last name, date of birth and \$15 dollars is all that is required.

Criminal history record requests are processed by CHRU employees who search the Computerized Criminal History (CCH) database. Information provided by the requestor is used to locate potential matches, if any, and then the customer is provided the results. In some cases, the customer also requests an additional search of the Department of Corrections' Sex Offender Registry and the Violent Offender Registry.

These criminal history record checks, or "background checks" as commonly called outside the OSBI, play an important part in determining the eligibility of people applying for jobs around the state. Criminals are stopped from being put in a position to potentially



Heather Cropper @ Window 1

harm or take advantage of our loved ones.

Last year the hard-working CHRU team processed over 197,000 criminal history record requests and over 137,000 search requests of the Sex Offender/Violent Offender Registries.

Coming soon to CHRU is CHIRP, the Criminal History Information Request Portal, which will allow anyone who has a computer to receive criminal history records and pay online.



"My dog gambols around me whenever I come home from work."






USE
YOUR
WORDS

Beautiful English Words and their Meanings...

1. Ailurophile: A cat-lover.
2. Becoming: Attractive.
3. Cynosure: A focal point of admiration.
4. Demesne: Dominion, territory.
5. Ebullience: Bubbling enthusiasm.
6. Fugacious: Fleeting.
7. Gambol: To skip or leap about joyfully.
8. Halcyon: Happy, sunny, care-free.
9. Insouciance: Blithe nonchalance.
10. Lilt: To move musically or lively.
11. Moiety: One of two equal parts.
12. Nemesis: An unconquerable archenemy.
13. Onomatopoeia: A word that sounds like its meaning.
14. Petrichor: The smell of earth after rain.
15. Quintessential: Most essential.
16. Riparian: By the bank of a stream.
17. Sempiternal: Eternal.
18. Tintinnabulation: Tinkling.
19. Untoward: Unseemly, inappropriate.
20. Vestigial: In trace amounts.
21. Wafture: Waving.



OCTOBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 	17	18	19	20	21 
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 				






October

- 9th—Columbus Day
- 16th—Boss's Day
- 21st—Sweetest Day
- 31st—Halloween

"You never fail until you stop trying."

Albert Einstein

NOVEMBER 2017





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 	6	7	8	9	10 	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 	24 	25
26	27 	28	29	30		

November

- 5th—Daylight Savings Ends
- 10th—Veterans Day
- 23-24th—Thanksgiving
- 24th—Black Friday
- 27th—Cyber Monday

IF YOU
stumble,
MAKE IT PART
OF THE
dance

DECEMBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 	26 	27	28	29	30
31 						

December

- 7th—Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 25-26th—Christmas
- 31st—New Year's Eve

"When you can't change the direction of the wind—adjust your sails."

H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

Birthday's

October

- Debbie McKinney—5th
- Angie Avila—6th
- Mattie Tiger—8th
- Lisa Merka—13th
- Talia Lane—15th
- Lorna Beckloff—28th

November

- Herb Sanders—4th
- Lenedia Hendricks—7th
- Jackie Cruise—8th
- Anne Simons—10th

December

- Debbie Repine—5th
- Taylor Harrill—13th
- Emma Hood—19th



Recognition

Red Feathers

Robin Traylor
Cari Routh



MILESTONES

In State Service



Deandre' Dawson, 10/21/2017



Brain Games

Working on puzzles and solving them makes us alert, increases our concentration, expands creativity, and affects physical health by reducing heart rate and blood pressure...

Missing

			2	7		7	4	33
	8		9		8	4		41
9	2				7		3	47
3			9	0	9	8	6	46
	2	2	1	2	1		2	51
3	6	1	1	9	7	1		22
2	7	3		1	4	1	8	30
	1	2	7	6		0	8	27
								40
39	40	38	39	31	44	33	40	51

Try to fill in the missing numbers.

The missing numbers are integers between 0 and 9.
 The numbers in each row add up to totals to the right.
 The numbers in each column add up to the totals along the bottom.
 The diagonal lines also add up the totals to the right.

For the Solution to this puzzle, [click here](#)

