

# February, 2024

Helping People. Changing Lives.  
Serving Eastern Oklahoma Since 1968



# KI BOIS NEWS

## TEAM 'KOOL KATS' IS SMARTER THAN A 5TH GRADER



Team KOOL KATS is the new defending champions in the Haskell County Coalition's Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader competition. The fundraiser was originally scheduled for January 22nd, but was postponed due to inclement weather. Ten teams fought for bragging rights on February 12th at the Stigler VFW. Coming in a close 2nd place was Homebased Services. It was a great night of fun, food and fellowship. The event raised almost \$1,000.00 to be used to fund various community projects, such as the annual Kerisa Spears Scholarship, Back to School Roundup and more. Pictured L-R are: Stacey Lewis, Charla Sloan, Redonna Perry, Todd Perry and Stephanie Sloan.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF STIGLER HOSTS VALENTINE'S DINNER

For the second year in a row, ladies from the Stigler First Baptist Church hosted a Valentine's Dinner for the Domestic Violence Services clients and staff. These ladies spent many hours planning and preparing for this great event. As the pictures below reflect, each attendee enjoyed the meal while being surrounded by beautiful decorations and best of all..... Dessert!



***From the Desk of Executive Director / CEO***

***R. Carroll Huggins***



February 2023 is here and our annual agency audit is complete. The CPA audit team reported to us that it is a clean audit with no question costs. Our compliments to our financial staff for their hard work throughout the year.

Several members of the KI BOIS Community Action staff have been in trained by the IRS to do free Income Tax Preparation for our low-income clients under the VITA program.

We are not expecting cuts in our Federal and State funded programs! Our Weatherization program has expanded in territory and funding. Our SSVF Program and our KATS Program have both received funding increases.

Our hearts and prayers go out to those who are still dealing with Covid and the Flu. We are so grateful to those in the Health Care field who are caring for those affected.

Our agency continues to grow and prosper due to the hard work and dedication of our board, staff, and volunteers. We look forward to the challenges of 2024. February 14<sup>th</sup> is also St. Valentine’s Day so don’t forget your sweetheart or you may be in trouble. We will also be celebrating the upcoming President’s Day Federal Holiday!

***R. Carroll Huggins, CCAP  
Executive Director / CEO***

**KI BOIS COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Executive Board**

Cecil Williams  
**Board Chairperson**

Joy Walker  
**1st Vice Chair**

Frank Phillips  
**2nd Vice Chair**

Jan Coplen  
**Secretary / Treasurer**

Kodey Toney  
**Parliamentarian**

**Members of the Board**

- De’Anne Booth
- Jeremy Bullard
- Henry Burris
- Rev. Rodger Cutler
- Rosalind Didlott
- Lyndon Emberton
- Lindsey Holloway

- John Jones
- Chuck Regan
- Charlie Rogers
- Bud Smithson
- Janice Williams
- Jonathan Wynn

**Executive Leadership**

R. Carroll Huggins, CCAP  
**Executive Director/CEO**

Tom Marlatt, CCAP  
**Associate Director/CFO**

Larry Hall, CCAP  
**Associate Director/COO**

**KI BOIS NEWS**

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**Did You Know That Medicaid is Changing?**

**Learn More About SoonerSelect with an Virtual Information Session**



Medicaid is changing, and the new program — SoonerSelect — will affect many current SoonerCare members. SoonerSelect offers three health plan options, similar to commercial insurance. OU Health is committed to providing you with resources and information to navigate this change. Sign up to attend one of our virtual information sessions. These will be held on Zoom, and each session will last approximately 30 minutes. There is no cost to attend.

To Register:  
<https://www.ouhealth.com/events-calendar/event-details/>



- February 13 Stigler Chamber Banquet
- February 14 Valentine’s Day
- February 19 Presidents Day Holiday
- February 26 KI BOIS Executive Board Meeting



**#kibois #BeCommunityAction #CommunityActionWorks #HelpingPeopleChangingLives**



**Haskell County Coalition**

**100% of profits will be DONATED**

From the Dolly drink!

**Dolly Parton's IMAGINATION LIBRARY**

Haskell County

## DOLLY DAY 2024 IS A GREAT SUCCESS

On January 19th, Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library affiliates across the nation celebrated Dolly’s birthday by marketing the program. The Haskell County affiliate chose to have the “My Little Golden Book About Dolly Parton” read in every Adventure Head Start, with books donated by KI BOIS Community Action. In addition, Brew & Bliss in Stigler offered a Dolly Drink of the day, with 100% of the profits donated to our affiliate. They raised \$531.75... enough to provide a book a month for 40 children for a year. This will be an annual fundraiser and we thank Brew & Bliss and Adventure Head Start for their collaboration.

## INCOME TAX

# FREE

## PREPARATION

If your income is less than \$64,000 and you have a **BASIC** Income Tax return, KI BOIS Community Action will prepare and e-file your Income Taxes for **FREE!**

KI BOIS has IRS-certified preparers to assist you in e-filing your Federal AND Oklahoma state taxes. The following Income Tax preparation sites will be available January 29<sup>th</sup> – April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024, for your 2023 Income Taxes.

KI BOIS **WILL NOT** prepare the following returns:

- Civil Service Retirement (CSA-1099's)
- Stocks
- Capital Gains/Losses
- Cancellation of Debt
- Health Savings Accounts (HSA)
- Farms
- Clergy
- Any other return that is deemed out of scope by each county office.



### ATTENTION 2024 Requirements

It is **REQUIRED** for anyone taking advantage of this service to provide the following, or we will be unable to process your return.

- ✓ Photo identification of Taxpayer or Spouse
- ✓ Social Security card for **EACH** family member named on the return
- ✓ Proof of Health Insurance Coverage (Form 1095) or Exemption Form (Form 8965)
- ✓ A voided check or letter from the bank, routing number & account number for direct deposit
- ✓ All W-2's, 1099's and 1098's (Bank Interest & Royalties) received in 2022



Wilburton: 918-465-3381  
 McAlester: 918-423-3525  
 Poteau: 918-647-3267  
 Stigler: 918-967-3325



Amy Fair, VITA Coordinator conducted the VITA tax training via ZOOM on Monday, January 22nd. Stephanie McCann is in attendance and others participated by ZOOM due to unfavorable weather conditions.

## In Memoriam



### Gary Billings

January 1, 1952 - January 21, 2024

Mr. Billings was a KATS driver in Poteau.

## In Memoriam



### James Austin Davis

April 30, 1930 - January 17, 2024

Mr. Davis was father of a KATS Maintenance Supervisor Ron Davis and father-in-law of KI BOIS Billing Specialist Shelly Davis.

*Our thoughts and prayers go out to these families.*



# FOR YOUR INFORMATION

SAVE THE DATE

## WORKING WITH FAMILIES AND CHILDREN CONFERENCE

**12 April, 2024 | 8:00am - 5:00pm**

LIFE CHURCH - MCALESTER OKLAHOMA

AN INTENSIVE ONE DAY WORKSHOP DESIGNED TO EXPLORE THE MANY DIMENSIONS OF CHILD ABUSE AND WORKING WITH FAMILIES.

- ✓ KEYNOTE SPEAKER
- ✓ BREAKOUT SESSIONS
- ✓ CLEET ETHICS CEU'S

DOOR PRIZES AND AWARDS!

Presented by Pittsburg County Child Abuse Response Effort, Inc. (Ryan's House Child Advocacy Center)

☎ 918-420-2273    ✉ info@ryanshousecac.org

REGISTRATION OPENS JANUARY 30, 2024

San Bois CASA

## Annual Cajun Celebration and Fun Fundraiser

**FEBRUARY 27, 2024  
6-8 PM**

**WILBURTON VFW BUILDING**  
108 West Ada Street

Admission is Free    Donations Appreciated

Along with the auction of downright decadent desserts, there will also be a silent auction with many treasures.

**Bring Your Favorite Cajun dish and enjoy an evening of FUN!**

*Your support makes a difference in the lives of abused & neglected children in our area!*

## OVER THE RAINBOW

### WIZARD OF OZ

**PERVASIVE PARENTING CENTER**

**WILL BE HOSTING THE 10TH ANNUAL TRIVIA NIGHT FUNDRAISER**

HELD AT HOFFMAN WILSON EVENT CENTER CASC, POTEAU, OK

# MARCH 2, 2024

\$100 TEAM REGISTRATION  
10 MEMBER TEAM MAXIMUM

REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 6:00PM  
QUESTIONS BEGIN AT 7:00PM

TROPHIES FOR 1ST AND 2ND PLACE TEAM  
BEST TEAM COSTUME AND BEST INDIVIDUAL COSTUME

For information or to register a team contact  
Terry Yarbery at tyarbery@pervasiveparentingcenter.org  
or call 918-647-1255

**1st Annual**

**A FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR SEQUOYAH COUNTY RESOURCE NETWORK**

**MARCH 25, 2024  
6:00 PM**

INDIAN CAPITAL TECHNOLOGY CENTER  
SALLISAW, OKLAHOMA

(General Admission: \$2.00)

**\$50.00**  
REGISTRATION PER TEAM  
(Up to 5 members per team)

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:**  
March 22, 2024

**WINNER WILL BE PRESENTED A TRAVELING TROPHY TO BE DEFENDED NEXT YEAR!**

**Join us to Make a Difference**

Based on the hit TV show, this spirited game will test the community supporters/contestants knowledge to assist in raising funds for local community projects.

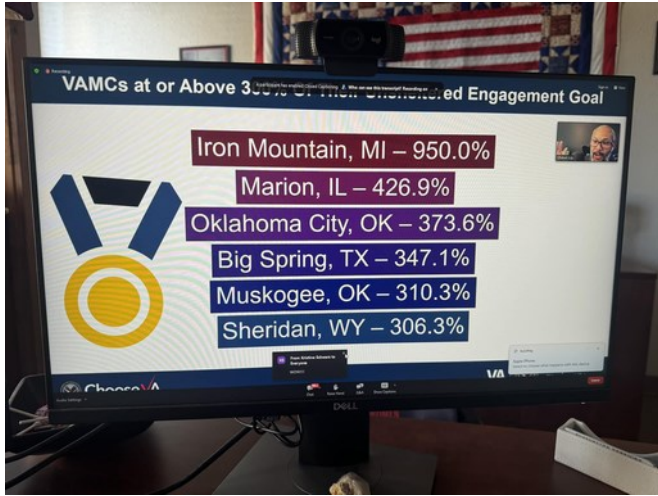
Participants will enjoy an evening challenging their critical thinking skills.

Supporters may fill out a [Team Registration Form](#) and email to [Melissa.Lowe@kibois.org](mailto:Melissa.Lowe@kibois.org)

**INDIAN TACO**    Taco + Drink    **\$10**

**CONCESSION OPENS AT 5:00 P.M.**

# IN *Action*



## KI BOIS SSVF Team Recognized

From Tammy Randazzo, KI BOIS SSVF Director....

I Have to share!!! 6 "superlatives" were recognized nationwide and 2 were our VAMC service areas! This was a goal to house homeless veterans and keep them in housing through VA homeless, SSVF, and other homeless providers.

There are over 150 and these were the top performers that exceeded the goal at 300% or more!!! National goal was exceeded at 122% .

To say I am proud of my KI BOIS Community Action Foundation, Inc. SSVF Team is such an understatement! They worked tirelessly through 2023 to ensure every veteran had a safe and stable place to call home.

## Oklahoma State Transit Directors Visit D.C.

KATS Director Charla Sloan is always advocating for rural transit both locally and nationally. She was in Washington, D.C. a few weeks ago, along with her fellow transit directors. They made a stop at US Senator Mullins' office.



We also welcomed the **Oklahoma Transit Association** to the office this week. We discussed what an achievement it is that Oklahoma public transit agencies serve all 77 counties in Oklahoma, as well as the challenges these agencies face in doing so.

# KATS

KI BOIS Area Transit System

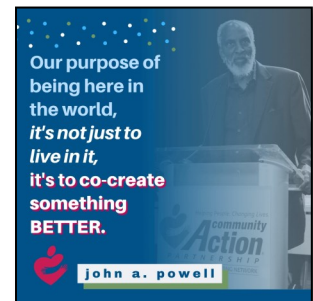
#kibois #KATS #ruraltransit

## IN OKLAHOMA



# HAPPY Anniversary

Happy 54th Anniversary on February 11th to KI BOIS Board Member Henry Burriss and his lovely life Caresse.





1964 - 2024

In every corner of America. Helping people, changing lives — for 60 years and counting.

**RECOGNIZING 60 YEARS OF COMMUNITY ACTION!**

All employment opportunities are posted on our website, [www.kibois.org](http://www.kibois.org). *These positions are open to KI BOIS Community Action Foundation Staff as well as to the public.* (ALL POSITIONS SUBJECT TO CONTINUED PROJECT FUNDING.) Deadline for all openings: Until Filled. Current employees – please submit a letter of interest to Human Resources.



Applications may be picked up at any KI BOIS Community Action Foundation, Inc. office or printed from the website, [www.kibois.org](http://www.kibois.org). Applications should be returned to:

**KI BOIS Community Action Foundation, Inc.**  
**P. O. Box 727, Stigler, OK 74462**  
**Attention: Human Resources**



## The Promise of Community Action

Community Action *changes* people's lives, *embodies* the *spirit of hope*, *improves* communities, and makes America *a better place to live*. We care about the *entire community*, and we are dedicated to *helping* people *help themselves and each other*.



KI BOIS Community Action Foundation, Inc.

## Mission Statement

KI BOIS Community Action Foundation, Inc. is a community-based organization dedicated to eliminating the causes of poverty and bettering the economic, mental, physical and social well-being of all people - most importantly the disadvantaged - by utilizing effective coordination and administration of available resources and information.