

November 2022

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Serving Eastern Oklahoma Since 1968



KI BOIS NEWS

The Man Who Saved Times Square



In August, while attending the National Community Action Partnership Conference in New York City, Jan Garner, Doyleene Knowlton and Royce Alverson, along with Doyleene's husband David, met an extraordinary street vendor named Duane Jackson. Duane is much more than just a street vendor who peddles "I Love NYC" t-shirts and souvenirs, he is a hero.

In conversation, the Vietnam Veteran shared that in May, 2010 while working his cart on the corner of 8th & Broadway, he noticed something odd about an illegally parked, abandoned vehicle. He recalls hearing a "pop, pop, pop" coming from the vehicle and then detected the smell of a cherry bomb or firecracker. Being the eyes and ears of the police, and sensing something was off, Duane alerted the authorities. They quickly realized that explosives could be in the vehicle.

Tourists and vendors were moved away and the area evacuated. Little did they know that the vehicle was armed with fertilizer and a gasoline bomb. Duane, along with other Veteran vendors, helped to thwart a terrorist attack at one of the busiest intersections in the world... Times Square.

For his bravery, Mr. Jackson received a call from then President Obama and has since written a book about the experience. Very humble and friendly, he shares his story every day at the same corner as the would-be attack occurred. His book, *May First*, is available on Amazon.

LATIMER COUNTY FOOD PANTRY HAS NEW LOOK AND NEW MANAGER

Recently named the Latimer County Food Pantry Manager Stephanie McCann, is pictured in one of the rooms being utilized by the Latimer County Food Pantry in Wilburton. The pantry recently received a facelift with the installation of new carpet. Also, through a grant received from the Dollar General Store, new shelving, tables, and returnable grocery bags were purchased for the distribution. Cold storage capacity has been increased with the purchase of a new refrigerator and two upright freezers.

Two additional rooms make distribution as streamlined as possible: one for Veterans and one for cold storage items received from the Dollar General Store and fresh produce received from the community food bank. "Stephanie is doing a great job and we are thrilled with the additions to our Food Pantry," said Claudia Jeffrey, County Coordinator.



From the Desk of Executive Director / CEO

R. Carroll Huggins



This time of the year make me thankful to live in our beautiful Southeastern Oklahoma. The wonderful fall weather and the beautiful fall foliage add to the natural beauty of the lakes and woodlands. It seems so peaceful here compared to the events in other parts of the world that we see on television each day.

When giving our daily devotions we need to remember the leaders of our state and country and especially our men and women in uniform who preserve our freedom on a daily basis sometimes at a great cost to themselves and their families. On November 11th our great nation honors all Veterans.

We ask for special prayers for our Board Chairman and friend John Cook who is very ill! We pray for the Medical Staff who are providing medical care for him. We pray for his complete healing!

As we start to think about Thanksgiving and the many wonderful things that we have to be thankful for I encourage you to be especially mindful of those in your local community who are in need. Many of them we serve on a daily basis and many who are too proud to ask for help. Please take time to volunteer with your local community groups and churches that prepare annual Thanksgiving Meals for the needy or deliver Food Baskets to the hungry.

I wish you and yours a Safe and Happy Thanksgiving!

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

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KI BOIS NEWS

is published monthly by
KI BOIS Community Action
Foundation, Inc.

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There are a couple new faces at the KI BOIS Board & Administration office in Stigler. The Human Resources department has recently welcomed Brandie Goodman— HR Benefits Coordinator and Katie Simpson—HR Coordinator. Both ladies are Haskell County natives. Brandie previously worked as receptionist for Dr. Stephen Woodson, and Katie worked as an insurance agent at Sockey Insurance. "I am thrilled to have these two ladies join our team," said Doylene Knowlton, Human Resources Director.



November 11
November 24
November 25

Veterans Day Holiday
Thanksgiving Day Holiday
Thanksgiving Holiday





McAlester Public Schools Make Donation To SSVF



Thank you McAlester Public Schools for your donation to the KI BOIS SSVF Program. It's very much appreciated. Pictured is SSVF employees Sharron Hammers and Kendall Spears.

Welcome TO THE WORLD LITTLE ONE



Hallie Rein Faulkner was born October 20, 2022. She weighed in at 7lb 7oz and was 20.5 in long. Miss Hallie's parents are DJ & Makensi Faulkner. She is the granddaughter of DD Program Coordinator Jennifer Faulkner.

KATS driver Bill Fazekas began his career at KI BOIS on August 6, 1997. He's shown receiving his 25 year service award from KATS Director Charla Sloan. Thank you Bill for all you do for your riders. You are appreciated and congratulations!



KI BOIS Community Care Case Managers Janee' Lewis and Jamie Stinson recently received their 15 year service awards. Congratulations ladies, and thank you for what you do for your clients.

IN *Action*

RESOURCE FAIRS & EXPOS



Stigler



Sallisaw



Wilburton

A KODAK MOMENT...



At approximately 6:30 pm on Saturday, October 15, Claudia Jeffrey was driving west on Hwy. 270 in Wilburton. As she rounded the curve leading out of town all she could see was KATS buses. It was quite a sight to see. The buses were lined up waiting to re-fuel after providing shuttle service at the annual Robbers Cave Fall Festival. It was definitely a photo moment and she stopped to capture it. We are so proud and honored that KATS always assists the attendees at this annual event.

Bell Ringers Needed!

It's that time of the year, again! Bell ringers will be needed in Stigler, Wilburton and McAlester. Contact the County office if you're interested in helping out.

Christi Jones, Stigler: 918-967-3325
 Claudia Jeffrey, Wilburton: 918-465-3381
 Megan Reames, McAlester: 918-423-3525



KATS recently received 14 new buses. They are pictured lined up and ready to be put into service. KI BOIS is proud to administer this top-notch rural transit system with hard-working, dedicated employees who go above and beyond for their riders.

IN *Action* Halloween Fun



KI BOIS Golden Girls. What a hoot. KI BOIS Central Office staff Nicole Dotson (Blanche), Christi Jones (Sofia), Brandie Goodman (Dorothy) and Katie Simpson (Rose).



Latimer County employees John Hancock , Stephanie McCann , and Jessica Sheldon ready for a fun day at work on Halloween.



Karen, a/k/a Jodi Briggs. The perfect costume. We sure love her... especially on pay days.



Halloween Costume Contest Winners at the DD Halloween Dance/Party on October 25th were...

- 1st place: Misty Roberts - Poteau
- 2nd place: David Wallace - Stigler
- 3rd place: Michelle Brown - Poteau

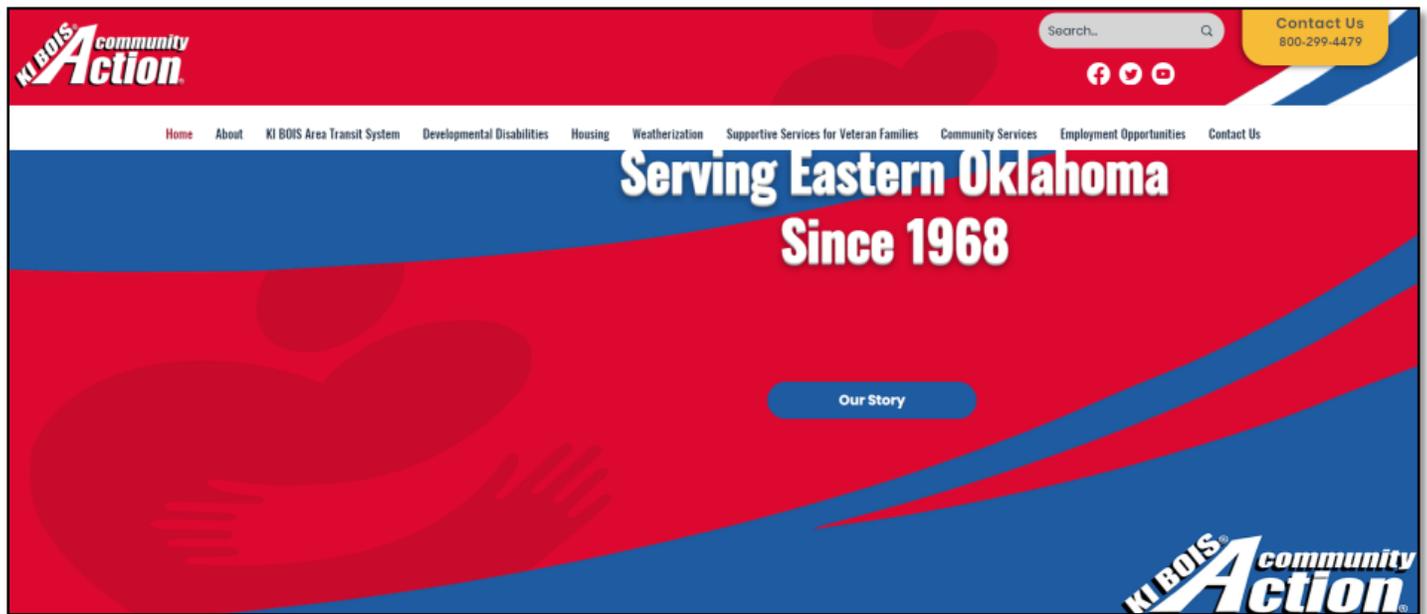
Fun! Fun! Fun!

Halloween Dance

October 25th



CHECK OUT OUR UPDATED WEBSITE



EMPLOYMENT Opportunities

All employment opportunities are posted on our website, 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. 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.