

The Times on Rock Creek

1910's - early 1980's

2023

+ JAN - FEB - MARCH 2024

Firey Family Calendar

Newspaper Article Pages Only

The Times on Rock Creek

1910's - early 1980's

I am a subscriber to a website called Newspapers.com (to go along with my Ancestry membership). A person can access all kinds of newspaper articles and pages just by putting in a location and subject and date range. It was very interesting to look at the various articles that popped up from years ago. So thought I'd share a few of them on this calendar according to theme. A person realizes when reading some of these that a person's family and social life was celebrated after-the-fact in print back then free of charge. Long before social media like Facebook came along, the happenings were right in the paper. When some family event happened, the mother of the

household (in this case, Sylvia Firey) would send in a written article about the happening to the local newspaper (sometimes to more than one) and it would soon be printed and be in the mix with all the other news (social and other news) of the community. So if you wanted to keep up – you subscribed to and read the paper. Not only HOW news was shared is obsolete but newspapers themselves are becoming that way. How times have changed! I have also included a few general interest news articles mixed in. I thought the first befitting article(s) to share was about the history-rich Root Ranch built by William P. Root after the turn of the century in the early 1900's. The rock house still stands and is

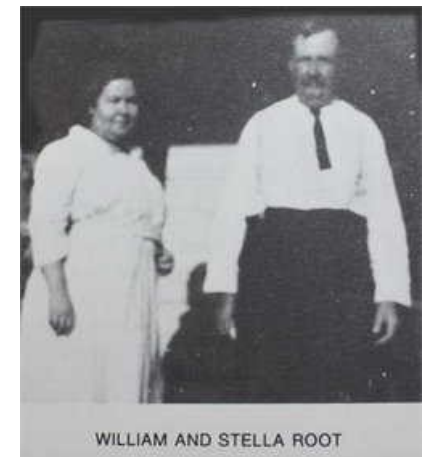
owned by Clarence Gilbert today. This is not necessarily tied to the family directly (but in a way it is-John Kenneth Firey was born in that house-the family home being just across the road) but is definitely the oldest, tied to the creek and is the most historical place in the Rock Creek Community. The dirt road to and from Sapulpa dead ended at his place up until the late 1940's until 209 came through from the north. John Kenneth Firey helped by mixing mortar for the rock of the one lane bridge that was recently replaced. Most of the other articles and excerpts are tied to the family in some way directly or indirectly. Once printed out, I realized some of the print is tiny, but though tiny, its high

resolution enough and clear enough that a person could read with a magnifying glass (there are fancy ones of these nowadays). You can also zoom in on a smartphone-I've tried to make mobile friendly. These tiny print articles contain multiple names, places and activities long gone. So decided to go ahead and include them, rather than leave them off because of lack of space. The Keystone News type articles are not the most important ones but if someone wants to take a closer look, they will find them interesting. Hopefully the family will find this all as interesting as I did. - Diana Firey

The Root Ranch (now listed at 5737 S. 209 W. Ave.) was also known as The Rocky Retreat



Being the first attorney in Sapulpa, William and Stella Root's main residence was in town at 411 S. Main Street but the Root Ranch was their summer home.



Root Ranch Near Sapulpa In Path Of Late Storm Left Mass of Ruins

Sapulpa
Herald
June 5, 1935

More results of the Sunday evening storm were reported this morning when it was learned that the W. P. Root ranch, which is located 13 miles northwest of the city, was in the direct path of a cyclone that dealt much damage in its 12 mile path that extended from a point about five miles west of the Root ranch and on northeast for a stretch of several miles.

A large barn, chicken houses, an apple orchard of approximately 30 trees and a water pump were completely destroyed when the twister struck the place. The only structure left standing was the two story rock house in which the family lives, but every window was blown out. A large pecan tree, that was about 40 inches in diameter was snapped in two as though it were a match, observers reported. No injuries were reported at the Root place.

The cyclone traveled northeast from the ranch destroying much property and injuring several persons. A negro man and his wife were hurt when the twister crumbled their frame house and pinned them under. A young boy, who was said to be about 14 years old, received an injured back when a tree fell on him.

Listed among the other damages done by the storm was a negro schoolhouse which was lifted from its base and set down in the middle of the road, about 150 feet from its original site. It was completely destroyed. A horse was found late yesterday afternoon pinned under a large tree that had fallen on it. The animal was still alive when found but it is not expected to live.

PARTY TO CAPTURE FISH THAT BARKS

If the weather is favorable Saturday, Attorney William P. Root, Judge S. K. Decker, and C. W. B. Hinds will go to the Root ranch to capture the catfish which gets out on a stump and barks like a dog. Root owns the ranch and has refused to believe the catfish story, but eminent scientists who have seen and heard the fish, declare the narrative a true one, and it is the intent to capture his nibs and send him to the Smithsonian Institution at Washington. While no such fish was ever before found in this section of the state, Major Amos Ewing, while a territorial official in Western Oklahoma, captured several of them in the waters near the Salt Plains, now in Alfalfa county. This may be one of the same specie and as those caught by Major Ewing and associates were small and not preserved for science, the efforts to capture this one and have the specie defined will be carried forward with dispatch.

Sapulpa Evening Light - Aug. 1, 1911

That "Good Will Club" which has recently been organized, according to reports, must have had one great big time yesterday out at the Root ranch northwest of town.

In the party yesterday were 23 ladies with their husbands and the program of the day must included many things. First of these was the promenade over the broad acres, viewing the splendid crops, etc.

After dinner the entire party went fishing and caught enough for supper. Mr. Quanstron was the hero in this line, having landed by actual measurement a bass 48 inches long.

In the boat riding that followed Mrs. Blake was pronounced the champion oarsman.

Next came the bathing and all proved excellent swimmers except J. S. Woofter, and it is said he would have drowned had it not been for the heroic work of Mrs. Bell, who is said to be an expert swimmer.

The day ended with a lovely supper and all report a most excellent time and are loud in their praise of Mr. and Mrs. Root as entertainers.

The Okla Farmer
June 14, 1912

Sapulpa Evening
Light - Jan. 6, 1911

Mrs. Josiah G. Davis chaperoned a party of ten young people to the Root ranch Sunday, the young people going out to try and get a glimpse of the famous cat fish which barks like a dog, but the high waters prevented this ambition being realized. Dinner was served on the banks of Rock Creek, Attorney Root supplying the fish the party failed to catch. In the party, besides the chaperon, were Misses Davis of Vinita, Shaw, Blythe, and Turner; Messrs. Burton, Killbrew, Potter, Crawford and Potter.

Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Root and Miss Gladys Bleeker, their niece, were host Sunday to a party on the Root ranch. In the party were the Misses Ethel Bruhn and Eva Claiborne, and the little Misses Hazel Monroe and Vev Callahan; Messrs. George Monroe, Lark Hopkins and Fred Campbell, the latter of Tulsa. A squirrel and fish banquet followed the invasion of the ranch, and the only mar to the pleasure was over who caught the most fish for the fry.

W. P. Root is having his ranch northwest of the city prepared for the usual spring maneuvers. Unless the other sportsmen grow jealous of the ranch, Root will maneuver his foxhounds early and see that they are in coon fighting order.

Sapulpa Evening Light - April 3,

WOLF CHASE TOMORROW

Attorney W. P. Root and Guests Will
Have Great Sport With
Dogs.

At the Root ranch, north of Sapulpa, tomorrow, there will be a wolf chase. Attorney Root and a party of mighty huntsmen will endeavor to round up a bunch of wolves. There will be a ten mile run up Rock creek. Several fine dogs have been secured for the sport.

Creek County Republican
Friday, Nov. 28, 1913

Gray wolves were also extirpated in Oklahoma in the mid-to-late 1930s. Some of the last ones were recorded at the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge. Habitat destruction and hybridization with coyotes and domestic dogs seemingly led to the disappearance of the red wolf by the late 1960s or early 1970s.

With the Arkansas river dredged out that the Grand river steamers might ply, Attorney Root may put in a fast steamship line on the creek, out to his ranch. Root figured on this some years ago, but felt the line would not pay because of so much low water in the Arkansas river at bass fishing season.



The Good Ol' Days

The "Fall Fashion Forecast" pamphlet was 46 years old, but the styles were similar in many respects to those of today.

The pamphlet, from the Kaufman and Mayer store in Sapulpa, was one of several items found by Mr. and Mrs. John Childress inside the walls of a house being renovated northwest of Sapulpa near Lake Sahoma.

Price tags, however, were a bit different. The stylish dresses and coats for women ranged in price from \$19.95 to \$79.95 for the top line.

Also among the items was a yellowed newspaper sports page dated July 18, 1926.

Prominent on the page was a baseball game account of the New York Yankees defeating the St. Louis Browns. Herb Pennock was the Yankee winning pitcher and the lineup included such names as Mark Koenig, Joe Dugan, Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Tony Lazzeri and Benny Bengough, while the Borwns' lineup featured George Sisler, Wally Schang and Oscar Mellilo.

The Democrat
News - Tues
Nov. 9, 1971

It is said that when the recent cold weather was with us, that a school of black bass on the Root ranch chased over the ice for 400 yards, to hit the deeper water where the ice was not frozen so deep as to hinder their athletic exercises. Since the Morris fever has been in this locality, according to Root, an observing person can find the bass in the creek which was made for the Root ranch, training beneath the water.

Sapulpa Eve Light
January 11, 1911

5 pound catfish

OLD CITY RESIDENT IS TAKEN

W. P. Root, a Pioneer,
Passes Portal; He
Was Active In All
Early Affairs.

W. P. Root, pioneer citizen of Sapulpa and a pioneer resident of the state, died this morning at 11:30 at the City hospital where he had been rushed late yesterday evening for emergency treatment.

Mr. Root was born in Douglas county, Illinois, 1864, and reared on a farm but later became a sailor and spent several years on the Great Lakes. Prior to the year 1889 he moved to Dodge City, Kansas, where he married Miss Stella Hammond. He came to the Indian Territory in 1890 and settled on a ranch near Duck Creek which was near Twin Mounds, southeast of Sapulpa. When the Cherokee strip was opened in 1893 he located near House Creek in Pawnee county where Terlton now stands.

Mr. Root was admitted to the bar in 1898 and became Sapulpa's first city attorney. There were only two other attorneys in Sapulpa at that time and they since have moved away, making Mr. Root the oldest attorney, considering the period of time. He was a charter member of the Knights of Pythias and a member of the Odd Fellows lodge.

Besides his widow he is survived by one brother, George Root of Portland, Oregon, and two sister, Mrs. Ben Johnson of Sapulpa and Mrs. Molly Bunyan of Pond Creek, Okla. His brother, Ed Root, who was justice of the peace here, died a few years ago and since his death Mr. Root cared for his children and adopted one daughter, Pauline. Another brother, Robert, died in the same year that Ed Root succumbed.

Mr. Root never aspired to public office and while nominally republican was independent in politics. He came to Sapulpa when it was but a small village and has seen it blossom into the city that it now is.

Funeral services at the home, 411 South Main street, will be held at 2:30 Thursday afternoon, September 11. Interment will be made in the family burial lot in the Sapulpa cemetery.

Sapulpa Herald
Tues. Sept. 9, 1924

Reunion News

Three Families Join In Annual Reunion, Picnic

Members of the Varner, Haney and Hudgins families assembled at Rock Creek park Sunday for the annual reunion and picnic.

Three oldest members of the families attending were M. T. Haney, W. R. Varner and Frank Huff, each 84 years old.

Others attending were these Sapulpan Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Montgomery and son, Amanda Haney, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Hudgins and Deanie, N. O. Varner, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Hudgins and Bryan, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Mozarko and family, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Mozarko, Nancy Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Vern Spiller and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Varner, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Turner and son, Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy McCall and son, Mrs. Dorothy Haney and son, Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Haney and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Miller, and Emmett Miller.

Out of town guests were Mr.

Out of town guests were Mr. and Mrs. Matt Haney and Jim, McCloud, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Burchart and daughters, Broken Arrow, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Shope and son, Mr. and Mrs. Don Shope and family, Sand Springs, Katherine Thomas and Lalah Bertling, H. M. Varner, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Varner, J. G. Varner, all of Tulsa, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Varner and Merla Scott, Mannford.

Nettie and Bill Mead, Lyons, Kan., Mr. and Mrs. V. E. Varner and daughter, Chandler, Florence Thornton and sons, Eakley, Okla., Joe and Betty Jean Strousbough and daughters, Delores Strausbough, all of Kansas City, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Firey, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. William F. Firey and son, Rev. James Zimbrook, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hay, Mr. and Mrs. John K. Firey and family, and Mrs. Eva Firey, all of Sand Springs, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Clouch, Atoka, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Haney and family, Broken Arrow.

Also Mr. and Mrs. Marion Landes and children, Bartlesville, Freida Varner Rose, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Hagegusch and family, all of Nowata, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Shope, Coalgate, Kenneth Crane, Centrahoma, Mr. and Mrs. John Varner, Okmulgee, Fritz Haney, Broken Arrow, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Varner and son, Oklahoma City, Tommy Varner, Jeanie Varner, Chandler, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Haney and family, Del City.

Sapulpa Herald - August 10, 1966

VARNER-HANEY FAMILY—Oldest member at this year's reunion was Evalena (Haney) Firey, 81, above. The reunion was started in 1954 by Willie Varner and Rosie Varner Hayes and was held at the Old Sand Springs park. Five years later the site was changed to Rock Creek Park on Bill Firey's place. In the upper snapshot, Bert Varner, Mayme (Varner) Mozarko, John Varner, Worley Varner, Nettie (Varner) Mead and Willie Varner posed at an earlier reunion. At right above is a shot of Rock Creek park, a typical reunion site.

Sapulpa Herald - August 13, 1978



Photo above of the Firey Family on Stage and The Firey Brothers Group below were taken by Margie Deere in 1978



Reunion Picnic Held By Varner, Haney Families

The Haney and Varner families held a reunion Sunday in Rock Creek park where a basket dinner was served to 103 members and relatives of the two families.

Coinciding with the reunion picnic was the 58th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Haney, 14 West Hobson.

In the party were Florence Andrews, Larry Andrews and Marsha Andrews, T. E. Varner, Anna Paul, Owen Cusick, Lee Ellen Cusick, Edd Varner, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Varner, Janice, Kenneth, Margie and Ernie Varner and Johnnie Brunhauhl, all of Missouri.

Mr. and Mrs. N. E. Varner and Mary Ann, Chandler, Mr. and Mrs. Don Shope, Janice, Larry, Rita, Donne and Robin Shope, Rosa and Ray Hays, Linda, Paul, and Tola Shope, Edwin and Marie Rice, all of Sand Springs; Ruth and Matt Haney and Jim Haney, Harrah, Okla., Ella Mae and Eddie Robinson, Bill and Katie Haney, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Haney, Gus, Jr. and Sue Ann Haney, Oklahoma City.

Bill and Juanita Firey, Deana Gale and Kathy Firey, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Wilkinson, Sharon Dawkins and Gene Olmstead, Guthrie; Georgia and Linsy Collins, Bixby; Lewis and Joan Eden, Bernice Stidham, Tonya Eden, Hershal and Etta Wallace, Katherine Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Firey, Lalah Bertling, Tulsa.

Sapulpan were Mr. and Mrs. N. O. Varner, Retta Runyan, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Mozarko, Omar Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Mozarko, David and Michael, Norma Paylor, Judy Paylor, Charles Harrison, Claude Haney, Lillian and Helen Varner, Pat and Helen Varner, Mr. and Mrs. Mose Haney, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Montgomery and Bobby, Earl Firey, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Turner and Gary Wayne, Mr. and Mrs. John K. Firey, Bill, David, Linda, Steven, John Paul and Ken Ray Firey, Mr. and Mrs. Worley Varner, and J. D. Varner.

Sap Herald - August 08, 1961

Birthdays-Events-Births-Military News

Three Brothers Honorees At Birthday Fete

Mr. and Mrs. John K. Firey, north of Sapulpa, were hosts at a party recently celebrating the birthday anniversaries of their three sons. Honorees were 20 year old Bill Firey, whose birthday was January 25, David, 14, whose birthday anniversary fell on February 3, and eight year old John who was born on February 11.

Entertainment included games, home movies, music by John K. and Bill Firey, Jr., and Joan Richardson; singing by Patricia Richardson, Betty and Janice Shope, Linda and Diana Firey, and a ventriloquist act by J. W. Firey, grandfather of the honorees, featuring "Amos The Dummy."

Refreshments were served to those named above and these other guests Nita Gale, Cathy, Steve and Ray Firey, John, Larry, Rita, Donnie and Robin Shope, Jimmy Russell, Frank Huff and Earl Firey.

Sapulpa Herald
February 13, 1962

Mrs. John K. Firey entertained in her home Saturday evening with a dinner and party in observance of her husband's birthday. Those present to enjoy the hospitality were Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Firey, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Firey and daughters, Earl Firey, Paul Shope, Mrs. Donald Shope and family, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Swift, Mr. and Mrs. Wiley White, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bertling and son of Tulsa.

The Cleveland American
Thursday, Nov. 26, 1959

Two Honorees At Thursday Birthday Fete

A surprise birthday party was given in honor of Steve and Ray Firey Thursday evening at the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. John K. Firey, Rock Creek community.

Guests present for the occasion were June Moxer, Joe and Jim Firey, Jana Moser, Betsy Moser, David Firey, Howard Griffith, Mildred Zinn, Mrs. E.K. Richie, Margaret Moser, Gwen and Bill Firey, Gary, Linda and Stacy Spess, Betty Moser, Elberta Richie, Kemp Richie, Jr., Bill Moser, John Firey, Kenneth Firey, Mrs. Alberta Charles, Bristow, Dean Trone and Sylvia Firey.

Sapulpa Herald
August 12, 1973

Mrs. Cynthia Reed of Benecia, California, who has been visiting relatives and friends in Oklahoma, was honored at a family get-together Sunday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. John K. Firey, Route 1. Pictures were made and also tape recordings. The group also enjoyed singing.

Attending were Mr. and Mrs. Matt Haney and family, Meeker; Mr. and Mrs. Gus Haney and children, Oklahoma City; Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Firey, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Firey, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Mose Haney, Mr. and Mrs. Don Shope, Paul Shope and Linda, Earl Firey, Frank Huff, Frank Fulks, Mrs. Monty Montgomery and son Bobby.

The Democrat News
Thursday, March 29, 1962

Sp. 4 David A. Firey, son of Mr. and Mrs. John K. Firey, northwest of Sapulpa, is stationed in Chu Lai, South Vietnam. His year's tour of duty ends Nov. 28, at which time he will return to the United States.

Firey enlisted in the service in April, 1969, and received his basic training in Oakland, Calif. He was assigned to Southeast Asia at Long Binh, South Vietnam, last November.

David had completed his junior year at Oklahoma State University when he enlisted. He plans to return to college upon return home.

Sapulpa Herald
October 25, 1971



A BOY For Mr. and Mrs. David Firey, Sand Springs. He was born Dec. 10 at St. Francis hospital, Tulsa. He weighed seven pounds, six ounces, and has been named David Andrew.

Sapulpa Herald
Dec. 19, 1974

Mr. and Mrs. Moody Haney of this city announce birth of a daughter this morning at 1:25 a. m., at the local hospital. They have named her Sallie Mae.

Sapulpa Herald-June 19, 1947

House Guests Entertained At Wiener Roast

Recent visitors in the home of the John K. Firey family, northwest of Sapulpa, were the Jim Bracheisen family, Hugoton, Kan., Mr. and Mrs. Gus Haney, Del City, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Haney, Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Smith, also of Del City, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Spess and daughter Stacy, Tahlequah.

The Brecheisens are prominent wheat and corn farmers in southwestern Kansas. On the visit were Mr. and Mrs. Brecheisen, their son Billy, and a friend Mark Brubaker.

Weekend entertainment for the guests included a wiener roast and a fish fry. Special music was provided by the Firey brothers.

Sapulpa Herald
May 1, 1973

Crop and Garden & Fair News

PAGE SIX — Sapulpa (Okla.) Herald, Tuesday, December 2, 1969



TURNIP HARVEST was bountiful at the John K. Firey garden, 12 miles northwest of Sapulpa. Mrs. Firey displays an ordinary-size turnip alongside one eight inches in diameter. (Staff Photo)

Sapulpa Herald - Tuesday, Dec. 2, 1969

Gold Wire, Red Worms Win Hereford for Vess

A hook of gold wire, finely filed, and a tid-bit of red worm won a registered polled Hereford heifer for young Paul Vess. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Vess of 901 Douglas.

The heifer was first prize in the annual Memorial fishing derby at Flying G ranch southwest of Sand Springs, owned by Mr. and Mrs. George Campbell.

Second place winner in the derby, with the prize of a saddle horse, was Danny Boatman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Boatman, 1009 E. 8th St.

Young Vess' fish measured a whopping 1 and 2/32nds of an

inch, with Boatman's 1 and 15/32nds running a close second.

Becky Moore, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Moore of the Coyote Trail, won third prize with a fish length just slightly longer than Boatman's. Her prize was a peacock.

The all-day event attracted more than 2,000 from the Sand Springs and Tulsa areas to fish, as well as to swim and play on the park-like ranch grounds.

According to judges' reports, more than 700 children under 15 entered the contest, but final entries at the judges' stand were narrowed to slightly more than 200 when a limit of 2 1/2 inches was set on the catches.

Parents hiked, drove and rode to the ranch's many streams and ponds in the 90-degree weather to watch their children angle for the illusive quarry.

The contest closed at 5 p.m., with judging by members of the Sand Springs Sportsman's club. Prizes were awarded by District Judge Eben L. Taylor.

Other prize winners, after the first three, received peacocks, bantam chickens or guineas.

They were David Firey, Charles

Oklahoma Farmers Union

By ALICE SPURGEON

Special guests at the Annual Tulsa County Farmers Union Christmas Dinner were Mr. and Mrs. Larry Bailey of Oklahoma City. Mrs. Bailey is Farmers Union State Leader. Hams were cooked by Mrs. Bowman and Cottom and were furnished by Tulsa Co. Farmers Union and Eureka Local.

The Farmers Union Youth Groups were highlights of the evening. Mrs. Cleo Cottom's Junior Group presented a Christmas program. Clem Cottom Sr. showed slides of 1974 Farmers Union junior camp at Redlands. Mrs. Ball and Tollette made table decorations. Linda Ball and Debbie Sexton arranged the decorations.

Tulsa County youth leader Mabel Cottom presented Farmers Union awards to following youth: Jimmy Firey, Randy Firey, Tom Sexton, Travis Firey, Ervin Griffin, Joe Firey, Pat Griffin, Gary Sexton, Debbie Sexton, Debbie Smith, Linda Ball, Chet Cottom, Bobby Tollette, Barbara Firey, Mike Todd, Jerry Cottom, Sandra Cottom, Vicki Cottom, Ray Firey. Vicki and Ray both received \$200. Farmers Union scholarships are attending OSU. Sylvia Firey and Cleo Cottom were presented leader pins and first year pins. Mabel Cottom earned her fifth year pin. Tulsa County youth group had 20 enrolled with 10 completed

Sapulpa Herald-Mon. Dec 16, 1974



A recent fire at the John K. Firey farm resulted in the loss of a barn containing ten tons of hay and the fall peanut crop.

Cleveland American - Dec. 15, 1960

John K. Firey, who lives near the Rock Creek Park, is planning to increase his acreage of blackberries to six acres. He especially likes the popular Lawton blackberry used in the Chamber of Commerce program.

John is interested in locating plants to increase the size of his berry patch. Berry producers who received plants through the Chamber of Commerce who have not seen fit to carry out the program might drop a card to John Firey informing him where plants might be obtained.

Sapulpa Herald - March 15, 1953

Bill Firey is Delegate to Farmers Union Meet

J. W. Firey will attend the two day national convention of the Farmers Union organization March 18 and 19 at Denver, Colo. He is an official delegate to the convention, representing the insurance department. A bus load of representative from the state will meet at Oklahoma City and go in a group to the convention city.

Democrat News - March 14, 1957

Keystoners Take Awards At Tulsa Fair

Helen White

Friday and Saturday was the Tulsa county fair, held at the fairgrounds in Tulsa. Twenty-five members of the Keystone 4-H club entered articles in the fair. Viva Raborn, Jacque Hoppes, Linda Firey, Diane Firey, and Doris Mills entered complete exhibits. Linda Firey received eighth place on her clothing exhibit and third place on her canned fruit. Jacque Hoppes received 10th place on her clothing exhibit and ninth place on her hand towel. Linda Bartels received 11th place on her apron. Sidney Pavatt received a blue ribbon on a room divider he entered in open class handicraft; and David Firey received a red ribbon on a shoe shine stand. These two articles will be entered in the Tulsa State Fair.

Cleveland American
Thursday,
Sept 14,
1961

The Times - July 6, 1961

The below transcript came from a video made of Aunt Kathern Firey Thomas' story at the 80th Birthday party of Uncle Bill at Steve Firey's House in December of 2005. This is pretty much transcribed word for word:

JAMES CAGNEY PAT O'BRIEN
JUNE TRAVIS 4th "CEILING ZERO"

JAMES CAGNEY PAT O'BRIEN
CEILING ZERO

CEILING ZERO
 JAMES CAGNEY PAT O'BRIEN
 JUNE TRAVIS

CEILING ZERO
 JAMES CAGNEY PAT O'BRIEN
 JUNE TRAVIS

YALE THEATER

Presbyterian Guild
presents
LEWIS MEYER
reviewing
**"GONE WITH
THE WIND"**
FEB. 27—8 P. M.
Presbyterian Church
Admission 25c

Feb 27, 1940

THE YALE
CLOSSES TONIGHT
Fred F. Hedges
RETRAINE POWELL
Broadway Melody
of 1940
JOHN HODGES
JOHN HODGES
JOHN HODGES

● **STARTS WEDNESDAY**
Edwina Booth
Kathleen Collins
in **'MAIN STREET LAWYER'**

● **STARTS FRIDAY**
PAUL MUNI
in Another Triumph
'WE ARE NOT ALONE'

● **Coming! Sat. PREVUE**
NORTHWEST
PASSENGER
Sponsor: Tracy—Robert Young

GOVE WITH THE WIND
STARS MARY HAYES & RAY
RESERVED SEATS NOW
FOR SIGHT SEES & Sunday
Matinee 12:15 and 2:30
Week day Mats. Continuous
new reserved (12c and 15c)
This production will not be
shown anywhere except at
advance price—no heat
and fuel

STATE
Any Seat 15c-12c Anytime
CLOVER-KOFT
WALLACE HEBBY
ROBERT TAYLOR
"STAND UP AND FIGHT"

STARKS LOMBARDSON

'GOOD GIRLS GO TO PARIS'
MELVYN DOUGLAS-JOAN BLONDELL

Announcing
GOE WITH THE WIND
Starting
SUNDAY AFTERNOON, Mar. 24

For night shows and weekly matinees all seats reserved. There are now no so-called "reserved seats" any more. Matinees, performances will be reserved seats. Come complete show.

BUY RESERVED SEATS NOW
Plenty for All Shows are Still Available.

On sale at Miller Trust in York Township.
NIGHT SHOWS 12 p. m. to 10 p. m. all seats reserved. \$1.00
SUNDAY MATINEE 2 p. m. to 5 p. m. all seats reserved. \$1.00
WEEKLY MATINEES: 2 p. m. to 5 p. m. all seats reserved. \$1.00

MAIL ORDERS for reserved seats accepted now. money order or cash order and stamped envelope.

Patrons will be waiting at this production.


While this production is limited this production will not be shown anywhere except at advance prices—It went until

YALE



Holiday Values

You will find all the good things to eat to make your Thanksgiving Dinner a huge success here at the Farmers Exchange. Shop and save here for good foods, priced right.

	CRANBERRIES CELERY	Cello Bags 24 Inch Oregon Fascal	lb. 37c lb. 15c
CAULIFLOWER	Fancy California, Snow Ball		lb. 15c
WALNUTS	Fancy California Baby Emeralds		lb. 45c
SWEET POTATOES	Louisiana Yarns		lb. 10c

PUMPKIN No. 2 1/2 Cans can 18c	PEAS Belle Isle, No. 2 Cans can 15c	CORN Menu Whole Grain, No. 2 can 17c
--	---	--

Come to Farmers Exchange for FANCY DRESSED POULTRY

TURKEYS Young, Fat and Plump! lb. 59c	MINCE MEAT FOR THOSE LUSCIOUS PIES! lb. 29c
GEESE or DUCKS lb. 49c	
FRYING CHICKENS lb. 55c	
YOUNG HENS lb. 47c	

U. S. GOOD BEEF IN ALL CUTS! CUT TO YOUR ORDER!

FRESH OYSTERS per pint **89c**

Farmers Exchange

FINE FOODS

PHONE 61 "WE BUY AND SELL FARM PRODUCTS" 103 N. MAIN

See "Gone With the Wind"
at NO COST to You

No doubt you are planning to see "Gone With the Wind," the remarkable motion picture that has gained such nationwide success.

From now until the picture starts (March 24) at the Yale Theatre, Downtown, Famous Community will show, at no cost to you, One Ticket (\$1.12) with one \$25 purchase or two Tickets with \$50 or more purchase at our store.

Buy That New Furniture You Need
Now and See This Picture Free

See These Furniture Values
at Low Cost to You



Get Ready for Spring!
Introducing a New, Modern
Gas Range

As a special value we offer a table-top, black enamel, four-burner, electric range, with oven, free from fire, flame, broiler, toaster, warming rack, compartment. As an attractive gas range at an attractive price.



With This Set
We Give
2
Tickets
FREE!

Modernize Your Bedroom

Stance your bedroom at low cost! Here's a handsome set on attractive, solid finish with material finish (no cheap corners). Drawn out drawer glides, smooth wheels easily. See a brand-new set here that has helped a rare value!

\$39.50

\$1.00 Down
Easy Terms

Buy the Range-Get
"Gone With the Wind"



Your Room Will Always Be in Good Taste With
Jenny Lind Beds

A popular feature in thousands of homes, Jenny Lind beds, actually fall into two categories in value and finish. A handsome addition to that spare bedroom!

\$1.00 Down
Balance on
Easy Terms

\$7.95



Just What You've
Been Looking For!

Breakfast Set

A modernistic breakfast set with table and four chairs. Full dining room table. Finished in a soft gray enamel with red and black decorative for modernity. A special value at

\$12.75

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FURNITURE COMPANY

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900

Get Well Soon

Eddie Brimmer In Tulsa Hospital

Eddie Brimmer, 21 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Brimmer, Wekiwa, is confined to a Tulsa hospital because of a swimming accident recently, at Rock Creek Park, southwest of the city.

He dove head first into shallow water and is paralyzed on his right side.

Eddie, who is married and has a baby daughter, lives at 418 Industrial and is employed in Tulsa.

The Sand Springs, Leader
Thursday, July 25th, 1957

Bill Firey, Jr., returned home Sunday from a Tulsa hospital where he recently underwent an appendectomy.

The Cleveland American
Thursday, February 4, 1960

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Swift and Mr. and Mrs. Wiley White visited with Mrs. John K. Firey in Hillcrest hospital in Tulsa Tuesday evening.

Cleveland American
Thursday, April 2, 1959

THE CLEVELAND AMERICAN, 1

KEYSTONE NEWS

Car Wreck Injures Four Near Keystone

Helen White

Our school was saddened Tuesday morning when the news reached us that Mrs. Bill Firey, Diane, Gayle, and Cathy had been involved in a one car wreck on the Coyote Trail Monday evening on their way to the Christmas program.

The car hit loose gravel, causing Mrs. Firey to lose control and hit a concrete bridge abutment. The car was completely demolished.

Mrs. Firey received severe cuts and bruises and a broken foot; Diane cuts and bruises; and Cathy, slight bruises.

Mrs. Firey and Gayle are in Oklahoma Osteopathic hospital in Tulsa, with Diane being dismissed on Christmas Day.

The Christmas pageant, "The Christmas Eve Visitor," was well attended at the school on Monday evening. School was dismissed Tuesday afternoon for the holidays and will be resumed on Monday, January 6.

The Cleveland American
January 2, 1958

Area Men Injured In One Car Crash

An automobile accident, at 9:50 p.m. Wednesday night, sent Billy Firey, Jr., of Rt. 2, Sand Springs, to Oklahoma Osteopathic Hospital for treatment of internal injuries.

Firey was driving east, alone, on Coyote Trail, six miles west of Prattville, when he lost control of his pick-up truck. The vehicle left the road, knocking down a fence, and turned over before coming to rest, on its side, in a pasture.

Oklahoma Highway Patrolman Randell Fewell, stated that Firey's pick-up travelled a full 42 feet after leaving the highway.

Firey was cited for reckless driving.

The Times
November 13, 1966



INJURY ACCIDENT—Billy Firey, Jr. was taken to Oklahoma Osteopathic Hospital for treatment of injuries he sustained when his pick-up truck went out of control and carshed through a fence on Coyote Trail last week. The accident occurred six miles west of Prattville. Investigating the accident was Oklahoma Highway Patrolman Randell Fewell.

Helen White

Mrs. Gertrude Hambley received word Monday of the death and burial of her brother, William Ayton Cox of St. Louis, Mo.

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Swift spent Thursday in Oklahama City on business.

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Hambley and Linda were in Tulsa Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Willie Scroggins and family spent Sunday in Cushing.

Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Veteto, Mr. and Mrs. Chester Veteto and daughter, and Mr. and Mrs. Claud Washington and family attended church Sunday at an Indian church near Bixby. Afternoon visitors in the Washington home were Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Franklin, Tulsa, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Island of Texas.

Mrs. Vern Campbell and family, Tulsa, spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Jack Waren and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe T. Frazier, Atlanta, Tex., and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Bishop, Baton Rouge, La., spent Saturday visiting Mr. and Mrs. Plez LeGrand.

Miss Dale Fink spent the weekend in Tulsa with Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Coffey and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Dean Sutton and family, Sand Springs, were visiting in the Jesse Sutton home Saturday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Peterman and family spent Easter Sunday in the Sutton home.

Mrs. Janice Hobbs has moved to Tulsa, and is employed by the Southwestern Bell Telephone Co.

Mr. and Mrs. Wiley White attended the Maundy Thursday banquet of the Sand Springs Consistory club in Sand Springs Thursday evening.

Carl White, Tahlequah, spent the Easter holidays here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wiley White.

Ronald Boone, Tahlequah spent the Easter holidays here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. David Boone.

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Bowen, Sheila and Alan, left Sunday morning for a two weeks vacation trip to California.

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Swift and Mr. and Mrs. Wiley White visited with Mrs. John K. Firey in Hillcrest hospital in Tulsa Tuesday evening.

evening.

Clyde Yarbrough, Tahlequah, spent the Easter holidays here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Yarbrough.

Mrs. Frances Ashley, Sand Springs, spent the weekend in the E. E. Hambley home.

Mrs. Charles Smith, Bartlesville, and Ronald Barlow, Oklahama City, were visiting Mr. and Mrs. Ira Stephens Sunday afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Treve Smelser, Sand Springs, were visiting in the Stephens home Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. A. C. Brodell spent Thursday visiting Mrs. G. F. Myers.

Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Myers spent Easter Sunday in Tulsa visiting Mr. and Mrs. Jay Quackenbush and boys.

Rev. and Mrs. Edward Zickefoose and family were in Sand Springs Sunday afternoon visiting Mr. and Mrs. Carl Lord and family. Mr. Zickefoose visited Monday with Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Clifford near Hulbert.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Tillock left Monday for Oklahoma City on a business trip. They sold their house here to Mr. and Mrs. Claud Washington and expect to move soon to Oklahoma City.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Lang were visiting at various points Sunday afternoon. They stopped for a visit near Coweta with Mr. and Mrs. John Van Noy and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Crimmins and family, then drove on to Hulbert for a visit with Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Clifford.

Mrs. Cleo Underhill, Sand Springs, spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lang and family.

Funeral services were held Saturday morning in the General Baptist church in Sand Springs for Mrs. Alice Carter, who passed away in a Tulsa hospital on Thursday. Mrs. Carter had been hospitalized for several months with a broken hip. Burial was in Rose Hill cemetery in Tulsa.

A crowd, which broke all previous records filled the General Baptist church to overflowing Sunday morning. There were 167 there for Sunday school. There was also a large crowd present Sunday evening for the showing of a film on "The Crucifixion."

Larry Turner, Oklahoma City, spent the weekend with his grandmother, Mrs. Selena O'Kief.

Miss Emmalette Cochran, Durant, Mr. Russell Cochran, Cotter, Ark., Mr. and Mrs. Troy Diamond, and Lynn Leib, Tulsa, and Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Hughes and family, Mannford, were callers in the D. L. Leib home Sunday.

Helen White

Mrs. Willie Pavatt has bought the house where she is living from Mr. and Mrs. Miles McArthur of Alpena, Michigan.

Mrs. John K. Firey entertained in her home Saturday evening with a dinner and party in observance of her husband's birthday. Those present to enjoy the hospitality were Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Firey, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Firey and daughters, Earl Firey, Paul Shope, Mrs. Donald Shope and family, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Swift, Mr. and Mrs. Wiley White, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bertling and son of Tulsa.

Mrs. Plez LeGrand entertained in her home Saturday evening with a birthday party honoring her daughter, Sue.

Mr. and Mrs. Carther Gatin and family, Sand Springs, and Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Stroup were visiting Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Scroggins on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Vaughn and daughter, Denise, Tulsa, were visiting in the Harmon Baker home Sunday. Mrs. Baker is ill at this writing with rheumatic fever.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Thorn and Mrs. Mary Mayfield and boys of Tulsa were visiting in the Plez LeGrand home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack McNutt of Sand Springs and Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Swift enjoyed a waffle supper with Mr. and Mrs. Wiley White on Monday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Brown announce the arrival of a 7 pound, 3 ounce, baby boy, named Russell Wayne on November 21 in a Tulsa hospital. Mr. and Mrs. Joe Brown and Mr. and Mrs. Sam Boone of Mannford are the grandparents.

Mr. and Mrs. Oather Brown and family, Oklahoma City, spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Joe Brown.

Mr. and Mrs. Allan Sisson of Drumright visited Thursday with Mr. and Mrs. Ira Stephens. On Saturday the Stephens were in Pawnee on business.

Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Yarbrough have bought the L. C. Clifford place on Fort Gibson lake and plan to move there soon to make their home.

**Cleveland American
Thurs, Nov. 26, 1959**

Group Enjoys Outing

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Swift and Sandra Yarbrough, Mr. and Mrs. Wiley White, Carl and Randall, Mr. and Mrs. John K. Firey and family, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Firey and family, and Frank and Cecil Fulks spent the weekend at Ft. Gibson lake.

David Boone and Douglas, Robert Lang and Robbie, Fred Lang, Darrell Sullenger, Chil Bachus, Edward Zickefoose and Gary and Kenneth Lord spent the weekend fishing on Ft. Gibson lake.

Mrs. Robert Lang Shelley and Johnnie, and Mr. and Mrs. Walker of Sand Springs, spent the weekend visiting relatives in Forum.

**Cleveland American
Thurs, Sept. 4, 1958**

News From Keystone Community

Helen White

Mr. and Mrs. Jack McNutt and son, Prattville, were visiting in the A. W. Swift home Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. John K. Firey and family returned home Wednesday evening from a weeks visit with relatives in Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Boone and son, Tulsa, were visiting in the Daniel Boone home on Wednesday. Mrs. Vestor Pace made a trip to

McAlester Friday to take her mother, Mrs. Martha Gear, who has been visiting in the Pace home.

L. M. Yarbrough, Coweta, was in Keystone on business Saturday.

Mrs. Dewey Selvidge is very ill at this writing.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lang and family returned to their home in Sand Springs Saturday night after spending the past two weeks here.

Mrs. Clara Sullenger, DeSoto, Mo., is spending this week in the Fred Lang home and visiting with friends in Keystone.

Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Pogue spent Sunday in Collinsville with Mr. and Mrs. K. W. McGlamery and sons. They returned by way of Prattville and attended church at the Trinity

**Cleveland American
Thurs, August 25, 1960**

Several of these are "close to the paper" - tiny but clear so a magnifying glass might be helpful.

All of these articles have Firey Family News in them mixed in with all the other community news

**Cleveland American
Thurs, Feb. 4th
1960**

KEYSTONE NEWS

Mrs. Edward Zickefoose, Bruce and Gary, were visiting Mr. and Mrs. Errol Houston near Mannford Sunday afternoon.

Bill Firey, Jr., returned home Sunday from a Tulsa hospital where he recently underwent an appendectomy.

Billy Firey came home Wednesday for a weeks visit with his parents, the John K. Fireys, between semesters at OSU, Stillwater.

Keystone News

Cleveland American - Thurs, April 2, 1959

Keystone in 1946

The Tulsa World - February 24, 1946

Keystone Old Settlers Fear City Soon Will Be At Bottom of Lake

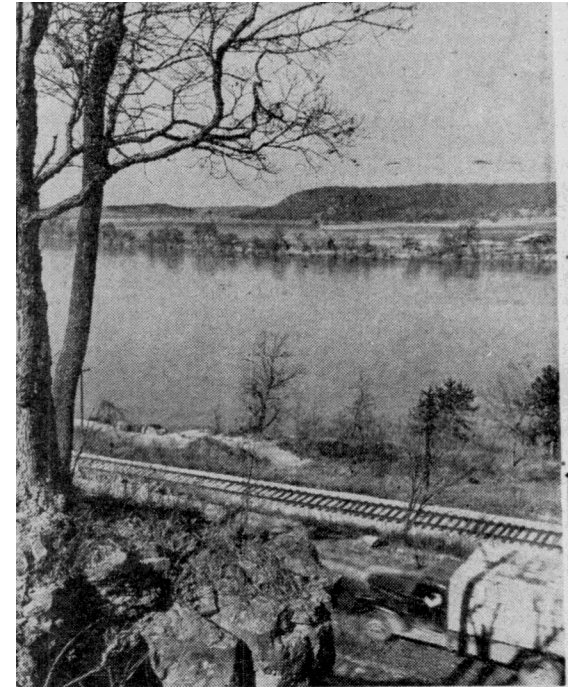
—World Staff Photos
RESERVOIR MAY DOOM HISTORIC SITES

The construction of the proposed Keystone dam across the Arkansas river, 15 miles west of Tulsa, as another important link in the flood control project of the river and its tributaries, would completely inundate the town of Keystone, the site of many historical landmarks. Shown (above, left) is a scene, taken from the south bank, of the Arkansas at approximately the point where United States engineers would construct the dam. Right (below) four old timers of the community discuss location of the dam, as they refer to a map on the ground. They are, left to right, E. A. Nunneley, 72, Keystone resident for 47 years; George Kinney, 74, with cane, resident for 45 years; J. B. Whittenburg, 60, resident of 40 years, and Nat Aldridge, who works for the L. C. Clifford general merchandise store in the background, resident of 25 years. Above (right) is a view of the main street of Keystone, the town of 406 souls that some day may be at the bottom of a reservoir by the same name.

The citizens of Keystone go about their daily tasks as usual, knowing that someday in the near future they may be asked to move from the banks of the Arkansas, which in normal times, is a wide, sandy-stream, bordered by a fringe of timber and low, rugged hills.

They wonder if Keystone, the town, or Keystone, the dam, will live in posterity.

(Excerpt of Large Article)



1946 - Feb. 21st

Keystone Reservoir First Proposed
by Army Corp of Engineers

1946 - March 3rd

Cleveland, Pawnee County &
Keystone Leaders Publicly Oppose
Dam

1948 - June 6th

Tulsa Keystone Boosters in favor of
the Dam Predict clear flowing
Arkansas flowing by Tulsa upon its
creation

1953 - October 21

Dam site finalized to half mile
below confluence of Cimarron &
Arkansas Rivers

1956 - July 26th

Keystone citizens meet in the
Keystone School gymnasium to
discuss moving or abandoning the
town and accepting government
appraisals

1956 - November 22nd

Land outside of town of Keystone
being purchased for dam

1957 - January 31st

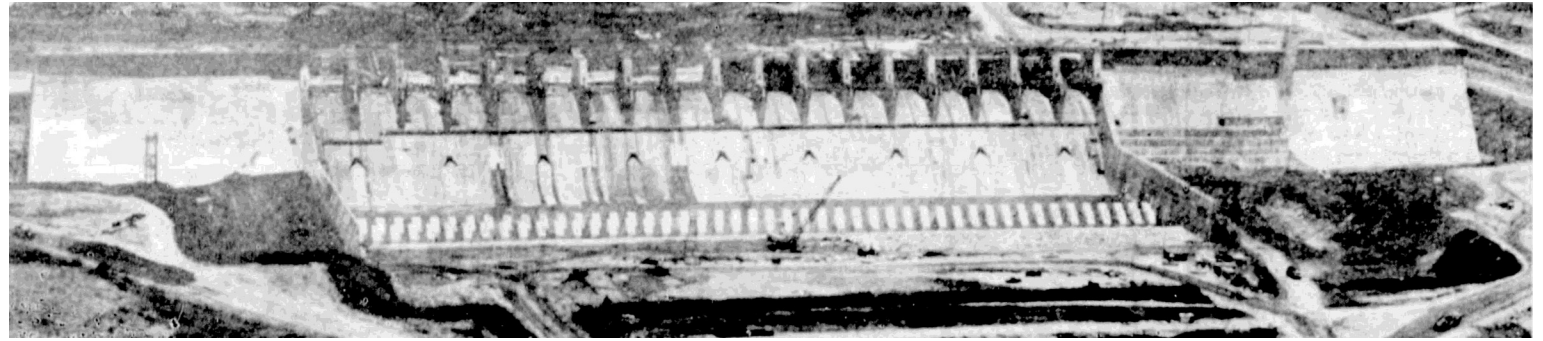
Appraisal of land begins in town of
Keystone

1960 - March 10

Bids submitted on Highway 51
relocation

1960 - December 7th

Keystone Reservoir Bridge Bids
Opened*



(According to News Articles Found in Area Papers)

1962 - January 7th

Exodus from Old Mannford begins

1962 - September 28

Final bucket of Concrete poured at
the dam. Total concrete is 770,000
cubic yards. Dam is 56% finished

1962 - August 23rd

Cloverleaf of 151 & Highway 64
takes shape

1963 - January 16th

President John F. Kennedy had
agreed in 1962 with Senator Robert
S. Kerr to come in 1964 to dedicate
the Keystone Dam. (Robert S. Kerr
died January 1, 1963 of a heart
attack and JFK was assassinated
on Nov. 22nd of 1963)

1963 - February 13th

River flow channel diverted to go
thru dam sluices

1963 - September 10th

Reports of booming real estate
sales for land around the Keystone
Lake.

1963 - Year End

Reservoir and Dam projected to be
80% completed.

1964 - July 16th

Keystone State Park near
completion

1964 - July 16th

Final touches of Dam fall in place

1964 - August 27th

Tulsa County Commissioners vote
for \$500,000 right-of-way land
purchases for Keystone
Expressway thru City of Sand
Springs.

1964 - September 3rd

Month+ Contest is held on predict-
ing when the lake will reach power
pool elevation of 723 feet. A boat
with accessories is prize to the win-
ner.

1964 - September 3rd

Closing of the Dam Ceremony is
held on 09-11-64 complete with
Pawnee Indian rain dancers and
top dignitaries attending. Ceremony
is held on overlook area south of
Keystone Dam.

1964 - September 11th

Reservoir set to start filling this date

1964 - Nov

Keystone Lake is filled to 723 feet
on November 20, 1964, 35 seconds
past 2:49am - by upstream heavy
rains. Robert Treece, an Indian
Electric Coop employee, predicted
closest and won a boat, motor and
trailer

*Keystone Dam
& Lake Timeline*

**My dad was a bridge carpenter and
worked on several of these bridges.-DF*

Keystone Farewell Station Only Business Left in Deserted Town

KEYSTONE (AP)—Dewey Selvidge, the last person still working in Keystone, lives on the edge of uncertainty. Selvidge runs a service station here, the last business left in this town that once had 500 residents.

And he doesn't know when the Army Corps of Engineers will tell him to close up and get out.

"I might have to close in six months, or at 6 p.m.," he said.

Keystone, already almost dead, will receive a decent burial under more than 40 feet of water as soon as the Keystone Dam on the Arkansas River is completed.

The dam, plainly in view less than two miles from the skeleton that was Keystone, will be completed in 1965.

Cattle now roam the streets of this town and only two buildings, the service station and the roofless hull of what was once a dry goods store, are still standing. The rest of the buildings have been torn down or moved.

Keystone could have lived, Selvidge said, but the residents chose to let it die. The government would have paid the municipality for property it will lose under water, and a new Keystone could have been started elsewhere.

But the residents took the government money for their personal property and scattered, Selvidge said.

Selvidge, who moved to Keystone in 1917, said he didn't really care what happened to the town.

"Most of the people here were pretty unhappy about it, though," he said. "The government bought their homes from them, but hardly anybody got enough to start over.

The residents scattered into three counties, but many of them manage to make it back into Keystone every week or so. Most who come back spend an hour or two in the service station. Some are bewildered over the move, not quite sure about what to do next.

"Many of them took the money they got from the government and bought cars, washing machines and the like," Selvidge said. "Then they had to borrow money to get a place to live."

Others, particularly ranchers around the town, made money from Keystone's death. One resident, a pipefitter, bought 80 acres before the dam was started and later sold it for \$60,000, Selvidge said.

Tall stands of hardwood, much of it never touched by ax, have been ripped out and burned, and the bulk of Keystone lies in a valley that might have been touched by war instead of progress.

Although he has few customers except engineering crews, Selvidge hangs on and Keystone lives a few moments more.

And the end of Keystone may be for the best, Selvidge said. "I think it did the people good," he added. "Just like a covey of birds, people ought to be flushed out of a place once in a while."

The Tulsa World - February 17, 1963

1962 - October 13th

Keystone Post Office closed (with 13 patrons). It had 175 patrons just 5 years before. Gas and electric to be shut off on 12-01-62. Many families moving to Coyote Trial area.

LAST CALL FOR MAIL—Mrs. Harriet Howard (left), postmaster at Keystone, passed out the mail today for the last time. The post office, established in 1900, is being closed to make way for the Keystone Reservoir and in a few days Army Engineers will offer the building for sale. Among those who called for mail today was Mrs. Claud Washington, a Creek Indian whose home will be moved Monday to avoid the water. Next week Mrs. Howard will be working in the Tulsa Post Office, and Mrs. Washington will be living on a hill overlooking the future lake area. (Tribune Photo)



Ground was broken early Saturday morning for the new \$269,000 Keystone school, to be built just south of the new highway 51 and due south of the new Keystone Dam. Shown taking part in turning the first spadeful of dirt are from left to right, Randy White, Mrs. Wiley White, Victor Ottinger, Wiley White, superintendent, A. W. Swift, president of the school board, Mrs. Swift, John Firey, clerk, Mrs. Firey, Marion Roark, architect, and Carl White.

Cleveland Lakeside Times—Feb. 17, 1962

KEYSTONE SCHOOL MOVES TO COUNTY

World's Own Service

KEYSTONE, Aug. 20—The board of education has selected a 20-acre site in Tulsa county for rebuilding the Keystone school.

This tiny town located on the Tulsa-Osage county line will be inundated by water following completion of the Keystone dam.

Site of the proposed school is a gift of Tulsa developers who reportedly plan to sub-divide 475 acres 2 miles south and 1 mile east of the present town.

Asked if this might mean a new Keystone, Wiley White, school superintendent, said: "I'm not sure. Officially the town is not making plans to move, but the school definitely will be moved."

New Site Chosen For Keystone School Building

A new site for the Keystone school has been determined by the school officials. The school will have to be moved because of the Keystone lake.

While the school will not be inundated, it will be so isolated and practically surrounded that it will be necessary for a new school to be built.

At a meeting last week the school board chose a new site located southeast of the present school. The engineers, surveyors, architect, school board and school principal spent Saturday surveying the new site.

The site will be used, provided water can be located on it. The army engineers are to start immediately testing the site for a water source.

04-21-60

07-07-60

New Keystone School

Commencement At Keystone On May 22

"Gates" is the theme chosen for the Eighth Grade Commencement exercises at Keystone school which will be held on Tuesday, May 22, at 8 p.m. in the school auditorium.

Baccalaureate services will be held in the auditorium on Sunday evening, May 20, at 8 o'clock. The Rev. Edward Zickfoose, pastor of the Keystone General Baptist church will be the speaker.

The all-school picnic will be held in Mohawk park on May 23.

Beverly Zickfoose, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Zickfoose, is valedictorian, and Sandra Sweatt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Al Sweatt, is the salutatorian. Karen Raborn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Raborn, and Dennis Bartley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fount Bartley were chosen to receive the American Legion awards.

Other members of the class are Kenneth Bartley, Kathy Hoppes, David Firey, David Harp, Doris Mills, Gary Bartley, Snowda Brehears, and Larry Shaeffer.

05-03-62

04-18-63

Contract Let For New School At Keystone

Contract for construction of the new Keystone school building has been awarded by the Board of Education of Keystone to B. & G. Constructors, Inc., of Oklahoma City.

Estimated to cost \$269,000, the building will be constructed in a circular design and will contain seven elementary classrooms, home economics room, auditorium, gymnasium, lunch room, science room, auditorium, shop rooms and a bus garage will be constructed south of classroom building.

Site of the new building is to be 800 feet south of the east end of the four-lane section of relocated highway 51, in the center of the school's transportation area.

A. W. Swift, president of the Keystone Board of Education, and members I. C. Raborn and Kenneth Firey met in special session last week to make final arrangements for the contract letting.

08-23-62

Keystone School Site Cleared

Helen White

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Swift, Mr. and Mrs. John K. Firey, Mr. and Mrs. Wiley White, Carl and Randy, and Victor Ottinger and Arnold Young of Cleveland enjoyed a sunrise breakfast Saturday morning at the new Keystone School site. A crew spent Saturday clearing and grading the school site. Mr. and Mrs. Bennett, construction foreman, Oklahoma City, visited the school site Saturday afternoon and made plans to begin moving in equipment this week.

County Supt. Tom Summers, and Guy Schubert, Tulsa, were visiting in the Wiley White home Thursday morning. They were delivering some new textbooks for the new school term.

Mrs. Ruby Beck arrived in Keystone Sunday to make preparations for the opening of school.

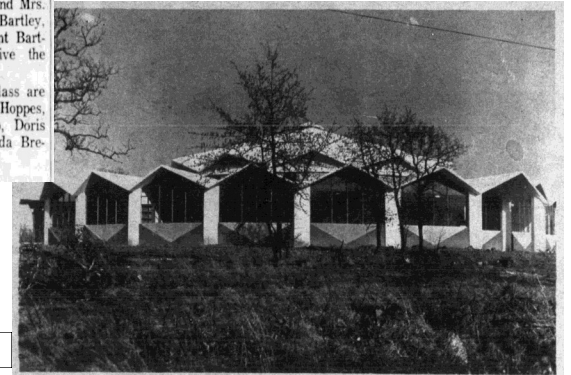
Wrecking crews are busy tearing down the Kurtz Garage store.

Miss Carol Thompson, Tulsa, was a Sunday dinner guest in the Wiley White home.

School will open Monday, Aug. 27. There will be school all day on Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. John K. Firey and family have returned from a vacation trip to San Angelo, Texas.

08-23-62



Catching the eye of thousands of motorists traveling new SH51 to Tulsa is the new Keystone School Building which has been labeled as the most modern county school building in the nation.

Keystone Open House Sunday

05-02
1963

Area residents will have an opportunity to inspect the new, modernistic, circular Keystone Grade School building this Sunday afternoon from 2 to 5 p.m.

Principal Wiley White

HOSPITAL NOTES

has announced that an open house will be held during those hours and the general public is invited to attend.

The new circular building sits atop a hill overlooking the new Keystone Dam on the south side of new state highway 51.

New School In Keystone To Open

Mrs. Edward Zickfoose

The Keystone School is planning to move into their new building this week, according to Wiley White, Superintendent. Although some of their cafeteria equipment has been lost in shipping they hope to get it in a few days.

Nick Zickfoose Dies

Nick Zickfoose, 75, was found dead in his trailer home at the Keystone school on Tuesday, July 7. Funeral services were conducted at the Manford Cemetery on Thursday, July 9, at 10 a.m. with Rev. Edward Zickfoose in charge. Nick was caretaker at the Keystone school and was an old-timer in the Keystone area.

He leaves two sons, Francis Nicholas of Tulsa and Ned of Sand Springs, and one daughter, Nina, of Alden, Kan.

05-02-63

07-16-64

Keystone School Is Finished

Mrs. Edward Zickfoose

The new Keystone school is completed. The contractors turned the building over to the school board last week. No definite date has been set for the change-over to the new location. Nick Zickfoose has been hired as night watchman for the new school building.

Lester Pendergraft moved his house last Wednesday from the LeRoy community to a location on the Hattie Besser farm and near the new county road.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Studebaker moved their house from the LeRoy Community to Prattville about two weeks ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Willard Otter of Coyote trail, purchased the house formerly owned by Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Bowen. It was moved out of Keystone last Thursday.

Nick Zickfoose sold his house to Alvin Shaeffer and they are in the process of tearing it down. The house belonging to Uddell Day is almost dismantled also.

03-07-63

Community Cemeteries

Old Tigerbone Cemetery Being Slowly Destroyed

By Dale Speer

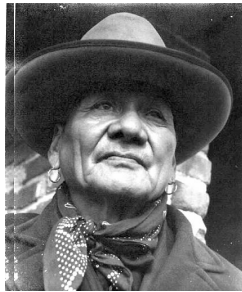
"Rest In Peace" is an ironic inscription for graves in the old Tigerbone cemetery near Rock Creek. There no tombstone is left standing, and the grave of the best-known person buried there cannot be seen.

The cemetery is located on the Sam and Grady Ballard property east of the Rock Creek picnic grounds. Cattle on the Ballard land have toppled every tombstone, and many are broken.

According to the Ballard brothers, owners of a Tulsa grocery store, they knew of the cemetery but there had not been a fence around the property when they purchased it eight years ago.

The 50x80 foot plot has been overrun by cattle and in the plot containing more than 20 graves, only a handful can be found.

A fence, which once surrounded the plot, has been torn down several years. Residents of



12-08-60

the Rock Creek area have tried to keep the cemetery in good condition, but have not been able to do so.

The most recent grave placed there was the grave of William G. "Billy" Bruner, a Creek Indian for whom Bruner station was named.

Upon Billy's death, he left an estate valued at more than \$50,000, but no marker stands to mark the grave.

The first date shown on the cemetery's tombstones is 1883, the date of burial of Soleca, daughter of Tigerbone, but several graves were in the cemetery before her death.

The Creek Indian plot is named for her father, Tigerbone, who was found murdered near the cemetery in 1887.

From markers found scattered through the cemetery, it appeared that the cemetery was then used as a family burial ground for the

Bruner clan, no one has been buried in the plot since Billy Bruner, in 1951.

But the history of the small cemetery is overshadowed by the circumstances of the late history and death of Billy Bruner, past 100 years of age at his death.

Most people became familiar with him as an almost constant passenger on the old trolley between Sand Springs and Tulsa.

His attempt to marry a seventh time on his 98th birthday, and his knowledge of Indian history in the state, brought him wide recognition.

Billy died in 1951, leaving an estate from the sale of his Indian grant lands valued at more than \$50,000. A legal battle followed his death for control of the money from the estate, between the heirs of the old Indian.

After conflicting wills were presented, the claim was settled, and the Rev. Mr. Jonas Partridge, Sapulpa, pastor of a Tulsa Indian mission was named executor of the estate.

But from the \$50,000, no marker was ever erected showing the place where Billy's grave lies. According to Mr. Partridge, Mrs. Annabelle Cates, 523 S. 47th W. Ave., Bruner's granddaughter, was to erect the stone. Mrs. Cates said she understood that it was to be done by the estate.

So neither the estate, nor the

Believing that if their community is good enough to live in, it is good enough to die in, residents of the Coyote Trail area have begun a cemetery improvement project.

The small community cemetery is located on the west side of 209th Avenue West, long known to the residents of the area as "Rock Creek Road."

The present cemetery contains about three-quarters of an area and was started in 1934. Community residents plan to purchase an additional 10 acres for cemetery use and improve the present site, including landscaping and platting of lots.

A group of community residents met Friday night, July 10, at the Cedar Grove Baptist Church on the Campbell Creek Cemetery Association.

Elected officers at the meeting were: Paul Shope, president; Ozzie McClellan, vice-president; Mrs. A.W. Swift, treasurer; Mrs. Ray Morrow, secretary; Mrs. Ozzie Mc-

granddaughter has erected a marker to one of Sand Springs' most colorful citizens.

The only evidence that the cemetery has been visited by anything other than livestock, is a faded artificial flower, and a few pines for Memorial Day decorations, which remain at the bases of two tombstones.

Members of the Rock Creek Pentecostal Holiness church, disgusted with the poor repair of the cemetery, have volunteered to keep the cemetery cleaned if a fence is put around the plot.

The executor of the estate, Mr. Partridge, said Monday that the family had not known that the fence was down, and that they would put one up.

Mrs. Cates said Tuesday that she had not been contacted.

The owners of the property, Sam and Grady Ballard of Tulsa, said they would not mind the family's erecting a fence around the little cemetery.

So the situation remains. Many of the older tombstones are being slowly covered with moss. The newer ones lie in disarray. Parts of the older stones, broken by the cattle, are scattered through the cemetery. A part of Oklahoma's history is slowly being destroyed.

Clellen, assistant secretary, and trustees, Samuel Bibbs, Walter McLauren, Jerry McLauren, Roscoe Baker, Buck Sanders, and Dean Sutton.

Plans were made to raise \$4,000 to buy the 10 acres. Members collected \$200 and hope to raise \$1,800 more by September. They will need \$2,000 more by September, 1971.

When the money is raised, members want to obtain the services of an attorney to make the proceedings strictly legal. "As we understand it, the first land was obtained as a "handshake deal" between the land owners and those burying there. We're not sure it was ever recorded and whether we own the present cemetery site. We want all this cleared up before we go in there and make improvements," Mrs. Ray Morrow, association secretary, said.

After the cemetery is enlarged and landscaped, lots will be platted at which time members will know for how much to sell the lots. They will need to sell

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

In one of your recent issues of your paper I was deeply interested in the story of the old Tigerbone cemetery, near Rock Creek, southwest of Sand Springs.

Articles like this are very interesting and important as a part of Oklahoma history. I enjoy articles like this you bring us in your paper.

Sincerely yours,
J. W. Firey
Rt. 1, Box 55B
Sand Springs, Oklahoma
★ ★ ★

Famed Indian, Billy Bruner, Dies In Tulsa

TULSA, Okla., April 14—An Indian legend died here Sunday in the person of William G. (Billy) Bruner.

Bruner, a spunky full-blooded Creek Indian, got into many scrapes with the law in his youth. When he later switched sides, his accurate Winchester was a big help in the efforts to establish order in the frontier Indian territory.

Bruner did not know how old he was. Relatives said he was from 98 to 100, but a 1946 news article listed him as 110.

Billy was jailed by federal authorities while he was young for shooting U. S. Marshal Bill Moody. A posse had come to his home one night, intent on returning him to prison for liquor trading.

Believing the posse was a band of unfriendly Indians, he opened fire and the marshal was killed. While Billy was in federal prison in Columbus, Ohio, that state's governor became interested in the youth, reviewed the case, became convinced the shooting was accidental.

Later, William McKinley went on to become president of the United States, and one of his first acts as chief executive was to pardon Bruner.

04-14-52

them for enough to break even on expenses and perhaps to hire a caretaker. Presently, people in the community "who feel like mowing the gravesites" do it, Mrs. Morrow indicated.

The cemetery is located one-fourth mile off Coyote Trail which forms a junction with the Campbell Creek Road, land on which the cemetery is located is believed to have been a part of the Mullendorf estate (Cleveland bankers). The property was recently sold to three men, who have agreed to sell the Rock Creek Cemetery Association the 10 acres, provided total payment is received by September, 1971.

Since the first half of \$2,000 is due in only a little more than a month, members trust that if they show good faith in raising the money, the time for the first half payment may be extended if necessary.

"September is awfully close," Mrs. Morrow said.

The cemetery has approximately 50 graves, some unmarked and most with homemade markers.

Progress on Rock Creek



(A Photo and caption I happen to stumble upon when working on this project. Notice John K. Firey to the right of center. He was very involved in all things of the community.)

BRIDGE PLANS for a proposed \$228,000 structure over Rock Creek on South Hickory were presented by engineers Friday to a delegation of county and city representatives. Regulations which would require the bridge elevation to be 9 feet higher than anticipated have delayed the project, at least temporarily.

Among those present were W.T. Smith, far left, Clyde McMasters, Rep. Heber Flach Jr., Sen. John W. Young, Dwight Maulding, Herbert P. Johnson, Otis Rule, Guy Berry and Otis Humes, (Staff Photo)

(Because of length, the below are mainly excerpts)

11-01-45

Vote YES On The Bond Issue Tuesday and Enjoy Good Roads

Sixteen and one-half miles on Coyote Trail, beginning on Skyline Road and 41st street, one mile south of Sand Springs bridge and thence west to Keystone.

Three and one-quarter miles on Mud creek road, beginning on Federal 64, midway between Keystone and Sand Springs, thence south to Coyote Trail at 41st st.

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Three and one-quarter miles on Mud creek road, beginning on Federal 64, midway between Keystone and Sand Springs, thence south to Coyote Trail at 41st st.

11-01-45

GREER LEAVES OFFICE AND MILES OF GOOD ROADS TO THIS DISTRICT

13 of 16.50 miles proposed on Coyote trail, partly completed, \$43,000;

Not attempted but proposed were the following: 3.25 miles on Mud Creek rd.,

07-03-47

Sept. 1, 2008 Photo taken of cracked 209 One Lane Bridge Foundation. (We sent photos to Tulsa County requesting a bridge replacement.) As everyone knows the bridge has been replaced finally in July-Oct. 2022. According to William F. (Bill) Firey, John K. Firey mixed up the mortar for the county man or men that built the sandstone foundation. The original bridge date is probably 1948.

Sorely Needed Roads, Bridges, Up for Vote In County Proposals

Sixteen and one-half miles on Coyote Trail, beginning on Skyline Road and 41st street, one mile south of Sand Springs bridge and thence west to Keystone.

Three and one-quarter miles on Mud creek road, beginning on Federal 64, midway between Keystone and Sand Springs, thence south to Coyote Trail at 41st street.

09-19-45
COUNTY ASKS
\$1,750,000
ROAD BONDS

11-09-45

Improve Coyote trail from Sand Springs-Sapulpa road junction to Keystone, 17 miles.

Improve Mud creek road from U. S. No. 64 to Coyote trail, four miles.

06-17-48

In Commissioner John Couch's district, a one-mile long road is being opened from the Coyote trail to the edge of Creek county. Approximately a half mile of the dirt road has been completed, according to his superintendent's office. Improvement of the shoulders is under way along the West Edison road to Sand Springs. Oiling crews are operating in Irving addition and south of Union avenue, while Oakhurst roads are being graveled, according to superintendent W. O. Gillean.

Rock Creek Cemetery Improvements Planned

07-19-1970

Sapulpa Daily Herald

The Honors Roll

Firey to visit Holy Land

Mannford tour host gives, receives

The Bible says it is better to give than to receive, but Creek County resident Steve Firey will experience both as he hosts an eight day-tour of the Holy Land. Firey is inviting area residents to go with him on the tour which is conducted through Master's Tours.

According to Firey, the tour will leave from Tulsa on November 9. Cost of the tour is \$1,699, which includes round trip airfare from Tulsa, three meals per day, and lodging. Firey noted that all the hotels where all the tourists will stay are four and five

star rated hotels. Among the places Firey said tourists will visit will be such Old and New Testament sites as Amman, Jordan and the King Hussein Bridge; Jericho; the Mount of Temptation; the Dead Sea; Tiberias; Sea of Galilee; Mount of the



STEVE FIREY
Tour Host

Sapulpa Herald

07-15-83

Beatitudes; Magdala; Jordan River; Caanan; Nazareth; Valley of Armageddon; Bethlehem and the Basilica of the Nativity; Shepherd's Field; the Milk Grotto; Manger Square; Jerusalem; Mt. Moriah; Western Wall; Via

Dolorosa; Calvary, site of the cross; Church of the Holy Sepulchre; Garden of Gethsemane; Mt of Olives and King David's Tomb.

Other spots include the city of Tel Aviv, the Hebrew University Cam-

pus and its shrine of the Book Museum; the Al Aska Mosque and the Caves of Qumran, where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found. Firey noted that places where the tour might visit will be the cities of Luxor and Cairo and Masada, where a Jewish community battled Roman Legions.

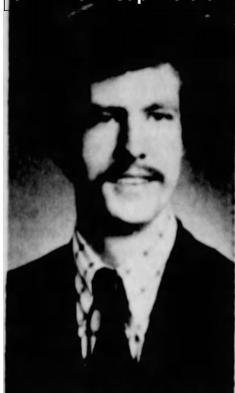
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tour," Steve added, noting that he'll be taking a week off from school for the tour.

He said that those wishing to go on the tour may contact him at Rt.3, Box 450, Sand Springs: 224-3353 or 245-7750.

Those wanting to go must sign up by October 9, he said.

02-27-76 - Sap. Herald



JOHN P. FIREY

Two Honored

John P. Firey has been honored as No. 1 first year salesman in the home learning division in competition with more than 6,800 college students, the Southwestern Co. of Nashville, Tenn., announced.

A student at Oklahoma State University, he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John K. Firey, north of Sapulpa.

His brother David was among the top 35 first year salesmen in his division. The company sells Bibles and religious reference works.



KENNETH FIREY, Rt. 2 Sand Springs, is recipient of a Stanley Home Products \$750 scholarship award. The son of Mr. and Mrs. John K. Firey, he is a student at Charles F. Pope High School, Sand Springs.

04-29-73

Sapulpan Wins Treasure Hunt

Ray Firey, son of Mr. and Mrs. John K. Firey, Northwest of Sapulpa, won first place in the Junior Division at the World's Championship Treasure Hunt, held at Territory Town U.S.A. near Okemah, recently.

Ray won a "Garrett Provider" metal detector, and a trophy.

06-08-71

SS man publishes book

SAND SPRINGS — Teacher and gospel singer Steve Firey can add another title to his name.

Firey, who with brothers John and Ray make up the gospel-folk trio "The Firey Brothers," has published a compilation of inspirational anecdotes, one-liners, short stories, quotes, poems, and sermonettes.

Entitled "The Best of the Best," the 158-page book marks the results of a 15-year effort by Firey.

The book includes the

works of such authors, commentators and leaders such as Robert Frost, Paul Harvey, Martin Luther King Jr. and John Wesley.

Firey, in his introduction to the book, says the book was the result of his desire to share the inspirational messages and credits the sayings with aiding his "Christian growth."

The book, Firey says, is aimed at the public audience as well as Christian pastors, Sunday school teachers, public speakers and evangelists.

Ray Firey Due OFU Honor

Ray Firey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Firey, Rt. 2, Sand Springs, will be one of six young members of the Oklahoma Farmers Union to receive the torchbearer degree in Oklahoma City Feb. 9.

Ray, a freshman at Oklahoma State University, has served on the senior advisory council, attended senior camp in 1971-73 all states camp in 1974, was a scholarship winner in 1974-75.

His youth leader has been Mrs. Mable Cottom.

The ritual will be part of the youth night program opening the OFU 70th state convention Feb. 9 in the Skirvin Hotel, Oklahoma City. Chief qualification for the honor is completion of five years of senior youth work.

01-21-75

06-12-83

Music Thru the Years

New Life Assembly

and
Pastor Jimmy Jones
Invites You To Special Services
Featuring

THE FIREY BROTHERS
Sunday, May 7 at 7:00 P.M.



05-05-78

Bicentennial

06-27-76

Theme Used In Birthday Party

Jay McCall's bicentennial year birthday anniversary was celebrated Monday night at South Heights Assembly of God Church.

Featured in a program of singing and playing were the Firey Brothers from Rock Creek.

Hostesses were Linda Bell and Sally McCall who served a bicentennial cake with punch, candy and nuts.

Guests were Mr. and Mrs. John Hocker, Mrs. Gearldine Rouk, Mrs. Elba Gall, Mr. and Mrs. Laurie McGouty, Mrs. Ronald Cook, Rhonda Cook, Mark and Kevin Rouk, Mike Parnell, Cindy Speak and Jack, Cheryl Patterson, Marilyn Hocker, Serita Nation, Ray Firey, John Firey and Steve Firey, Ruthie, Sally McCall, Linda Bell, Denise Bell, and Alma McCall, mother of the honoree.

Firey Brothers To Be At Church

Local Church

Hosts Singing

North Heights Free Will Baptist church, 8th at Fern, will host its monthly singing at 7:30 p.m. Saturday.

Featured groups will include the Mobley Family, Winters Family, Firey Brothers, Nambrick Family, Pat Langston, the Way Lighters and others.

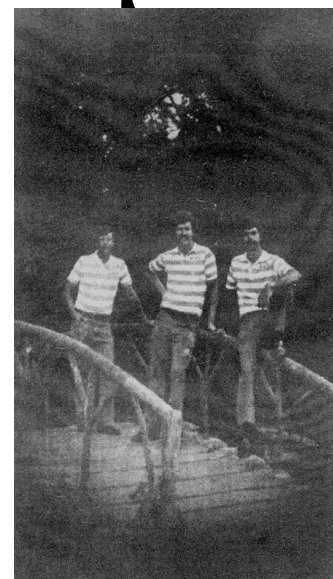
The public is invited.

Beams Of Light

Hosts Singers

The Firey Brothers of Rock Creek will be singing in evening services Sunday at the Beams of Light church, 1831 S. Water. Services begin at 7 p.m. and the public is invited, a spokesman said.

09-13-74



The Firey Brothers will be the guest of Okmulgee Christian Center Sunday, Feb. 26 at 9:45 a.m. and 7 p.m. The church is located at 14th and Oklahoma. Rev. D. L. Ghram is pastor.

The Firey Brothers consist of three young men, brothers both naturally and spiritually, who have dedicated their lives to the spreading of the Gospel. They each sense God's call to communicate the message of God's love through the medium of music. Growing up together in the scenic hill country of Northeastern Oklahoma, about the only way they had to entertain themselves was singing and playing their guitars. But God was preparing their lives for a special purpose.

Since their beginning as a group in 1973, their ministry in music has touched the lives of many people throughout the southwest. They have ministered in churches of every major denomination as well as hundreds of other public places, Television, Radio, etc. Also, several times each year they go into Old Mexico to work with various

missionaries. On one such occasion, they found themselves laying stones for a church in a remote village, high in the Sierra Madre mountains. It was a timely answer to prayer when the brethren from Oklahoma who had some experience with masonry came driving into this village where they wanted to build a stone church were familiar only with adobe.

Coming from a conservative, rural background, their music is a basic folk style, combining both a traditional and contemporary flavor. Their musical material includes many original songs emanating from their own relationships with Christ. With so many mixed up motives that people have for being in the ministry today, it is refreshing to see young men who are motivated by the love of Christ and the desire to share this love with others. This is their purpose, this is their goal: to impart to others the love of God through the medium of Gospel music.

02-25-78

Recipes from A Rock Creek Reader

Buttermilk Brownies

1 stick oleo
1 cup water
 $\frac{1}{4}$ c. cocoa
 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. oil

Bring to a boil and pour over

2 cups flour
2 cups sugar
Dash of Salt
 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. buttermilk
2 eggs

1 teaspoon soda
1 teaspoon vanilla

Pour in 12x16 flat pan and bake 20 minutes in pre-heated 350 degree oven.

While still warm. Spread icing on cake

Icing

1 stick oleo
One-third c. buttermilk
 $\frac{1}{4}$ c. cocoa

Bring to a boil, cool slightly and add 1 box powder sugar and 1 t. vanilla and a dash of salt. Spread on warm cake and sprinkle with 1 cup chopped pecans.

(Sylvia Firey, Sand Springs)

01-06-81

Broccoli and Rice

2 tablespoons butter
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped onion
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped celery
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped green pepper
2 cans of cream of mushroom soup
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups of Minute Rice
1 package chopped broccoli
18-ounce jar Cheeze Whiz
Saute butter and chopped onion, celery, and green pepper. Add cream of mushroom soup, minute rice and chopped broccoli.

Add Cheeze Whiz and bake in 350-degree oven 35 to 40 minutes.

Sylvia Firey
Sand Springs

12-24-86

Cocoa-Cola Cake

2 cups flour
2 cups sugar
1 cup butter
1 cup cola beverage
2 tablespoons cocoa
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup buttermilk
2 eggs, beaten
1 teaspoon soda
1 teaspoon vanilla
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups miniature marshmallow
1 cup chopped pecans
Combine flour and sugar.

Melt butter; add cocoa and cola and bring to a boil. Cool slightly, pour over flour and sugar mixture and stir until blended.

Add buttermilk, eggs, soda and vanilla. Mix well.

Stir in marshmallows.

Pour mixture into greased and floured 9 x 13-inch pan and bake in a 350-degree oven 40 minutes.

Remove from oven; frost with Cocoa-cola frosting while still hot.

Cocoa-cola Frosting
2 tablespoons butter
2 tablespoons cocoa
6 to 8 tablespoons cola beverage
2 cups powdered sugar
1 cup chopped pecans
Combine butter, cocoa and cola in pan and bring to a boil.

Pour over powdered sugar and mix well.

Stir in pecans and spread on cake.

Sylvia Firey
Sand Springs

11-09-86

Letters to Santa

Dear Santa,

I am glad Christmas is here, and that the Christmas vacation is here. All I want for Christmas is a buffalo set and a basketball and a croquet set and some Christmas cards. We have got a big chimney so you can slide down easy. We will make sure that the fire is out so you won't get burned.

Yours truly,
Steven Firey

Sapulpa Herald - 12-25-63

Dear Santa,

My name is Ray Firey. I am seven years old, and in the second grade. I live about twelve miles from Sapulpa in a big rock house. We have a big chimney that you can slide down easy. I will leave you

something to eat so you won't get hungry. I have been a good boy and I want you to bring me a pair of leather gloves, a good hunting Knife, a gun, a holster and a picture scope. My brothers would like to have a croquete set. Thank you Santa.

Your friend,
Ray

Sapulpa Herald - 12-25-63

I am glad your coming soon. I have been a good boy and all I want for Christmas is a buffalo hunter set, a good pair of lether gloves, a good warm cap with some earflaps and a cowboy belt, and a nice warm shirt, and maybe an undershirt. Thanks you very much. Oh, yes tell Rudolf hi! for me.

Yours truly,
John Firey

Sapulpa Herald - 12-25-63

letters to santa
this is for Christmas. I want

a piano an a BarBra an BaBy dolls an a car station an sweat shirt an some bretches an a jroy box an some socks an shoes. an some pannys an some under shirts.
this is for Christmas from

Kathy Firey to Santa Clause.
Kathy Firey
Sand Springs, Okla.

Sapulpa Herald - 12-24-64

Keystone - Tulsa Trip Took Full Day 40 Years Ago

By Lon R. Stansbery

IN 1882 THE Frisco railroad was brought into Tulsa, a bridge was built across the Arkansas river and tracks were soon laid on into Red Fork and Sapulpa.

The country west of Red Fork was an open range for cattle and the many outlaws who had their hideouts in the unsettled hills. The Turkey Track trail ran from Red Fork to the old Turkey Track ranch and was the only road leading west at that time. It went across the prairie where Pumpkin Center is now located, but at that time there were only two houses along the trail, the one at Pumpkin Center being called the Timmy Fife place and the other the Jane Wolf place on Salt creek. There were no other houses until one reached the Turkey Track ranch, located in the Sac and Fox reservation and bounded by the Creek nation on the east.

This old trail was used by the Indians to get to the western territory and Sac and Fox reservation, and could tell many stories of the coming of the white settlers and the building of modern towns, among which are Guthrie and Stroud. In the early day this trail ran through the hills above Rock creek. This was the camping place for all travelers going west, and was known as Sand Springs for years until the late Charles Page bought the Colonel Adams Springs, west of Tulsa, built a town and called it Sand Springs.

When old Oklahoma was opened and the town of Keystone started, the road was such a poorly built, makeshift affair that it would take a whole day to make the trip from Tulsa to that new little village on the other side of the hills. First there was the Arkansas river to ford—then on to Red Fork, taking the Turkey Track trail to old Sand Springs at the top of the divide. From there one left the main trail and went north and west through the hills over a rough trail to Keystone. Old Sand Springs was called the half-way camping ground from Keystone and the Bland ranch on the Cimarron to Tulsa.

THE HILLS west of Red Fork to the Cimarron river were the stopping grounds for outlaws for many years. They would go over into old Oklahoma, rob banks, saloons and trains, then dash back into the Creek nation along the Cimarron, over in the Osage, on to the wild, sparsely-settled country along the Arkansas. It was hard for the United States officers to trail them in this country as there were so many ideal hiding places for them in the hills.

Three miles west of Mannford is located the Dalton cave, hideout for one of Oklahoma's most famous gangs of outlaws. Of the three brothers, Emmet, Bob and Grat, who were in this hard-fighting gang, only Emmet is left to remember those days when they were always on the scout.

Above excerpted from a page long article in the Tulsa World April 25, 1937

Pumpkin Center (Oil Boom Area in Teens) - Turkey Track Trail - Rock Creek

08-03-1911

W. R. Russell and son are installing a telephone line from Red Fork to Limestone and expect to extend it to Pumpkin Center soon after they reach its present terminus.



Only remnants of Pumpkin Center - Original Tire Building and Gas Pump Foundation near road.



A sign frame on the property with a pumpkin on top.

Sapulpa Field (Pumpkin Center)
This field is located in township 18-north, ranges 11-12 east of Creek county, and the surface elevation above sea level is about 800 feet.

The field was opened in 1909 and it is a northwest extension of the Glenn pool. The structural conditions of both fields are about the same from a geologic viewpoint. The oil recovered from the Pumpkin Center field is reported as 24-25.8 baume. The surface formation is the Nellie Bly, and the producing structure is an anticlinal fold.

The production chart for the Pumpkin Center field is as follows:

Perryman, Glenn, Tanewah, Dutcher, Mississippi and Wilcox.

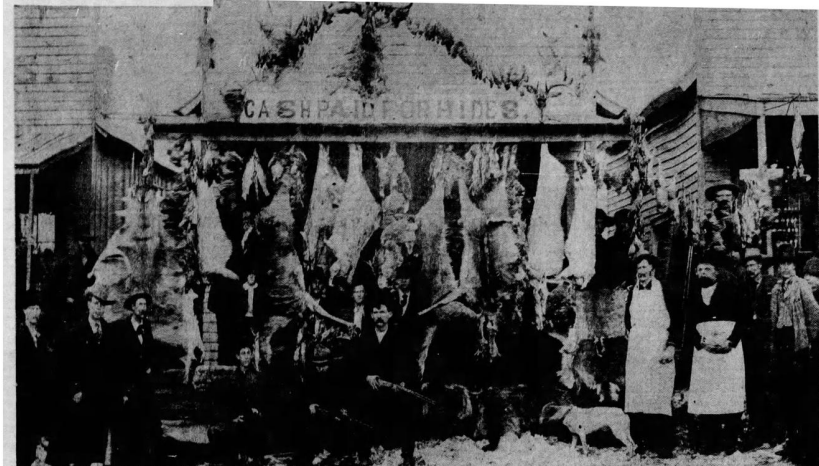


Darrell Barton, who currently owns the property, talking with J.W. "Bill" Firey at the Pumpkin Center location May 8, 2009



Francis Ivey Griffith (1870-1953) on left standing next to Helen Weaver, the proprietor of Pumpkin Center. Fannie lived nearby on Rock Creek with her husband Andrew and was the grandmother of Bessie Claunch Bills (who loaned me this photo.)

Turkey Track Trail crossed where the Pumpkin Center area is now - probably at the creek just south (before the two lakes) where Timmie Fife lived. There is a PDF I did back in 2009 on the Firey Trails website under Rock Creek Highlights of History.

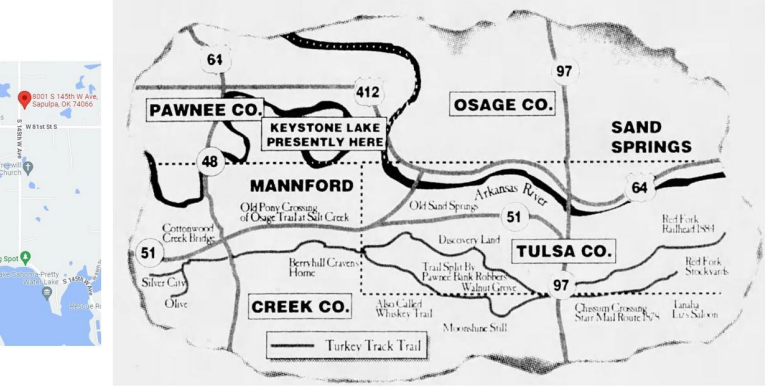
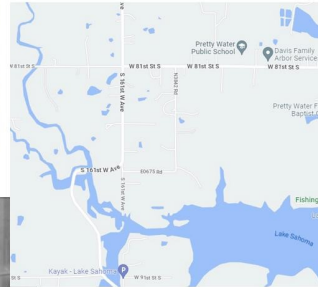


Some in front of the Wallace and Gilson Eschbacher shop, 117 So th Main street, where the Strand theater is now located, during the Christmas season of 1896. The deer in the picture were killed near old Sand Springs, west of Red Fork and across the river and in the hills from the present town of Sand Springs.

Uncle Bill and I took a drive to visit what used to be Pumpkin Center in 2009. The address is 8001 S. 145th W. Ave. Uncle Bill remembers getting his first gas there as a young man and gas was 15 cents per gallon.



Possibly the original pumpkin on top of the Pumpkin Center road sign.



Heritage marked by trail

By LORRIE J. QUINNELL
Herald Staff Writer

SAND SPRINGS — When history buffs marked Turkey Track Trail here Thursday morning, they did more than just erect a sign in the dirt.

They marked a piece of Oklahoma's and Creek County's heritage.

Tally Johnson of Turlington, one of a number of historians who actually live along the trail and are known as keepers of the trail, was on hand Thursday's for the event. He said he hopes the markers will help preserve a touch of history for future generations.

The marker placed Thursday at the intersection of Coyote Trail and Campbell Creek Road near the Sand Springs-western limits is the first of six that will mark the trail through Creek and Tulsa counties, said Mike Porter of Mannford.

Porter spearheaded research on the trail for the Keystone Crossroads Historical Society. Turkey Track Trail is a network of pathways and trails spanning across Mannford from West Tulsa to Payne County. It was used extensively by the plains and woodlands Indians as a trade route and connecting link to western buffalo grazing lands, Porter said, and was significant because it provided a path through the dense brush of the Cross Timbers.

The last Indians to dominate the trail were the Osage, he said. But after the relocation of tribes, prior to the Civil War, more than 10 different Indian nations used Turkey Track Trail for hunting and trading.

Although the Osage had no name for the trail, the Creeks called it Red Fork Trail after the Arkansas River, then known as Red Waters, Porter said he discovered in his research. But when Sac and Fox Indians formed Turkey Track Ranch, the trail gradually changed names.

Research into the trail and its origins and marking the trail is the joint project of the Keystone Crossroads and Tulsa historical societies



Our sign lasted 2 wks before stolen

Tulsa County Commissioner John Selth and the new signs going up to mark Turkey Track Trail. (Herald Staff Photo by LORRIE QUINNELL)

and the Sand Springs Museum and Cultural Center. Together with Tulsa County Commissioner John Selth and Paul Roberts of the Tulsa District's Corps of Engineers, the groups have been able to plot and document the trail and gain permission to erect the markers, Porter said.

The trail, however, is more than just a project to Johnson and fellow keeper of the trail Ploas Craven. Both have vivid memories of life

on Turkey Track Trail while it was still in use.

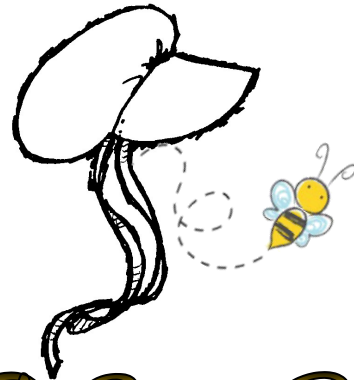
"It went as far as Fort Gibson," Johnson said. "It was probably an old stage coach line. There's an old (stage coach) station still standing (along the trail) in Tulsa."

As a child, Craven watched men on horseback and teams of wagons ride Turkey Track Trail on a regular basis. A third generation resident of the trail, Craven said it was a shortcut from Berryhill to Cushing.

"They used it all the time," he said.

But Porter, who has personally researched and charted 27 miles of the trail, said Turkey Track dates even further, about 10,000 to 15,000 years to the Paleolithic Age. He said caves along the trail contain prehistoric drawings from that period.

Porter said there is some interest in continuing research into the trail through Arkansas.



Bee In The Bonnet Productions