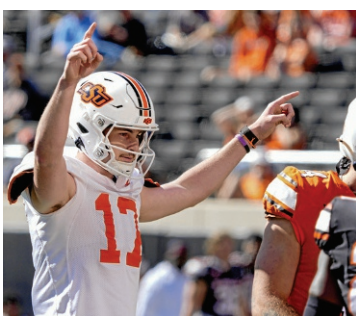


OSU's Drew Mestemaker says he wants to drop conservative approach in 2026 **SPORTS, PAGE B1**

Some GOP senators defend filibuster despite Trump pressure **NEWS, PAGE A7**



Berry Tramel: Klay Thompson not happy with Kevin Durant's justification **SPORTS, PAGE B1**

Trump again tries to curb birthright citizenship through executive action **NATION & WORLD, PAGE A5**

Friday, August 7, 2026

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The BrightSide

COMMUNITY BASKETBALL LEAGUE FILLS SUMMER GAP



STEPHEN PINGRY PHOTOS, TULSA WORLD

The River West Raiders celebrate winning the Tulsa Housing Authority's summer league basketball championship game Thursday at the the West Tulsa Free Will Baptist Church gym.

West Tulsa church and Tulsa Housing Authority team up

BELLA CASEY
Tulsa World

Competitors in the summer league hosted at the West Tulsa Free Will Baptist Church don't have the hallmarks of typical basketball teams — no official uniforms, no strict age requirements and definitely no paid coaches, Tyrone Mason explained.

They just have "a big word called love," said Mason, who is a social service coordinator for Tulsa Housing Authority.

Church members and Tulsa Housing Authority officials teamed up this summer to create a basketball league for youth ages 8-15 who live in public housing to bond, learn about teamwork and keep busy while they're not in school.



West Tulsa Free Will Baptist Church hosted a basketball league this summer in which youth ages 8-15 who live in Tulsa Housing Authority sites could go to bond, learn about teamwork and keep busy while they're not in school.

The Apache Heat of Apache Manor and the River West Raiders of River West faced

off Thursday afternoon for the championship game, where the Raiders claimed the title.

The Bright Side highlights uplifting moments across our community. Visit our website to read more and share your ideas.

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"A lot of the children that we work with are underprivileged," said Mason, who coaches the River West Raiders. "They don't have the opportunities to get involved with like AAU (Amateur Athletic Union) teams (and) different leagues that are ran during the summertime. They're pretty costly."

Please see **BASKETBALL**, Page A3

CHEROKEE NATION

Tribe bans data center builds on tribal land

Task force noted concerns from community in report

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON
Tulsa World

Citing the findings of a task force commissioned earlier this year, the Cherokee Nation announced Wednesday that it will ban the construction of data centers on land within its reservation that is held in trust or tribally owned.

"It's clear that our Cherokee Nation administration, council, and citizens have serious concerns about the construction of hyperscale data centers on our tribal lands, which affect our resources and cultural lifeways," Principal Chief Chuck Hoskin said.

Commissioned in February, the nine-member task force was charged with examining the cultural, environmental, economic and community impacts of data centers across the tribe's 14-county reservation, including proposed policies to monitor at the state and federal levels, the regional outlook for data center construction and the extent to which the tribe and its entities utilize data centers.

The task force included community members and representatives from the tribe's government and business arm.

In its report, the nine-member task force noted community concerns raised about several areas, including environmental impacts and the lack of consistently accessible, reliable regulatory information about data center projects.

"With more than 90% of the reservation being rural, many of our neighbors share a respect for the land that

Please see **CHEROKEE**, Page A4

COVID-19 RESPONSE

Fauci held in contempt by Senate panel

Dems call Paul's move to bypass full Senate vote unprecedented

AHMED ABOULENEIN
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., said Thursday he will ask the Justice Department to prosecute Dr. Anthony Fauci for refusing to answer questions about the COVID-19 pandemic after a Senate committee voted to hold the former top infectious disease official in contempt of Congress.

The Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, which Paul chairs, approved a contempt resolution on a party-line vote with Republicans in favor and Democrats opposed. The resolution accuses Fauci of failing to obey a congressional subpoena.

Please see **FAUCI**, Page A4

Vesta Realty collapse leaves tenants confused

Residents left in the dark about possible eviction, rent payments

JAKE RAMSEY
Oklahoma Watch

When the first of the month arrives, most Oklahoma tenants know where to send their rent payments.

Tenants at apartments managed by, or formerly managed by, Vesta Realty aren't so sure, however. That confusion stems from ongoing legal battles between Vesta Realty and YSA Investments 1.

As court proceedings continue, tenants



About Oklahoma Watch

Oklahoma Watch, at oklahomawatch.org, is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news organization that covers public-policy issues facing the state.

have been left in the dark, receiving conflicting information about who manages their apartments, despite a court order

transferring management responsibilities for 10 Tulsa complexes from Vesta to YSA.

"This situation is really complicated," Eric Hallett, an attorney with Legal Aid Services Oklahoma, said at a Tulsa City Council resource session. "It's so complicated that some of the best lawyers in Tulsa that I've talked to are like, 'We don't know who is in control of some of these properties.' Because we have a property owner who got loans from lots of different people and promised every single one of them they got to take it (the property) if something went wrong."

Please see **VESTA**, Page A3

Lottery

For the latest lottery numbers, point your smartphone camera at the QR code, then tap the link.

Weather

Thunderstorms
High: 96 **Low:** 75
Forecast: A2

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