Fourth of July Celebrations

By Samantha Stanbery, Communications & Marketing Assistant

On July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence. Fifty-six men made history by signing the document declaring the colonies’ independence from Great Britain.

Over two hundred years later, fireworks fill the air after a day of fishing and relaxing by the lake. People lounge in lawn chairs and on blankets with family and friends as they watch the brightly colored sparks burst in the air. The breathtaking display is reflected on the surface of the lake. The crowd applauds and awes at the display.

This is a description of common Fourth of July celebrations in the United States today. However, early Fourth of July celebrations were greatly different. Some of the earliest celebrations were mock funerals for King George III, the ruler of Great Britain when the Declaration of Independence was written. Other early celebrations included public readings of the Declaration of Independence, bonfires, parades and the shooting of muskets and cannons. The earliest annual Independence Day celebration was held by the city of Philadelphia on July 4, 1777.

After the War of 1812, more people began to celebrate the Fourth of July annually because the U.S. had once again faced-off with Great Britain. Despite the annual celebrations of the Fourth of July, the day was not made a federal holiday until 1870. It was not made a paid federal holiday until 1941.

Since the late 19th century, the holiday has lost some political importance and has transitioned to a holiday of family get-togethers, outdoor activities and barbecues. Many people still celebrate the independence of the U.S. with fireworks celebrations. Others spend time with their families and engage in outdoor activities such as boating, camping or grilling.

However, residents should be aware the city of Stillwater prohibits the purchase, selling, possession and use of fireworks within its city limits.

For residents interested in participating in some traditional Fourth of July celebrations, the Stillwater fireworks celebrations, Boomer Blast, will take place at Boomer Lake Park on Thursday, July 4. A family fishing tournament also will be held. For more information regarding Stillwater’s Fourth of July festivities or the city fireworks ordinance, contact the city of Stillwater or visit stillwater.org.

Boomer Blast Fourth of July Celebration

When: Thursday, July 4
Parking lots open at 6:30pm
Fireworks begin at 9:35pm
Where: Boomer Lake Park (Lakeview Road and Washington Street)

16th Annual Family Fishing Tournament

Cost of $12 per team; teams may consist of up to four family members
Includes boat and non-boat categories
When: Thursday, July 4
Registration begins at 5:30am
Tournament begins at 6am
Tournament weigh-in at 11am
Where: Boomer Lake Park at the south boat ramp

If you are new to OSU and the Family and Graduate Student Housing, welcome! There are few places around the world that offer the opportunity to learn about so many different cultures as we have here. Our community normally has around a 70 percent international population with about 90 countries represented at any given time. FGSH strives to provide quality, economical on-campus housing. We work very hard to provide resources that assist residents in community and academic adjustment and personal development.

As you know, the summers in Oklahoma are hot! Please keep in mind during hot weather not to over exert yourself and drink plenty of water to keep hydrated. If you keep your Venetian blinds tilted up during the day, the heat load will be lessened in your apartment; also, if you keep your windows closed while the air conditioner is running you will have less humidity and a cooler feeling apartment—and save energy at the same time. Please note non-FGSH air conditioners are not permitted in your apartment.

Have a great summer—we hope to see you in summer FRC programs and FGSH activities!

Sarah Wilkey, Ph.D.
FRC & FGSH Assistant Director
Staff Spotlight

Gwynievere Harris
Community Development Assistant

Our featured Family Resource Center staff member this month is Gwynievere Harris. She is a community development assistant and English teacher at the FRC. She currently is involved with six FRC classes including Drawing with English, Everyday English, Reading Skills, Pronunciation, Cooking Demo and Idioms and Phrasal Verbs.

Gwynievere is from Burns Flat, Okla., which is a town west of Oklahoma City. She has a bachelor’s degree in studio art with a teaching certification from Oklahoma State University. She also received Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages certification from OSU in May 2013. She is working towards a master’s degree in English with the teaching English as a second language option. She expects to complete her master’s in the spring of 2014.

Gwynievere says her favorite food is mango custard with apples and she enjoys Aikido, Judo, Jyodo, rock-climbing, reading, cooking, listening to music, making new art projects, sketching, building things, daydreaming, making new friends, and learning new things. Her favorite book is “The Count of Monte Cristo.” Her favorite thing about the FRC is the people.

An interesting fact about her is that she welded together a 6-by-7-by-7 foot origami crane for an art project.

In the future, Gwynievere plans to study abroad at Gunma Prefectural Women’s University and complete her master’s degree.

Be sure to visit one of her classes or say “Hello” when you see her at the FRC!

Resident Spotlight

Guifen Cheng
Brumley Neighborhood Resident

The featured FGSH resident of the month is Guifen Cheng. She is a native of Nantong, Jiangsu in China. She lives in the Brumley neighborhood with her husband, Yonghna Cheng, and her daughter, Qi Cheng. She holds a bachelor’s degree in physics from the Nankai University in China.

Guifen’s favorite foods are fish, crab and dumplings. She enjoys watching movies, traveling to new places, and studying English. Her favorite movie is “Life of Pi.” Her favorite book is “Gone with the Wind.” Her favorite aspect of the FRC is the English classes. Her favorite quote is, “When God closes a door, He opens a window.”

An interesting fact about Guifen is that she once caught a big fish weighing more than one pound.

In the future, Guifen plans to travel to Yellowstone Park.

If you happen to see Guifen in the neighborhoods, be sure to say “Hello!”

If you enjoy learning more about current FGSH staff members and fellow residents, be on the lookout for more spotlight in the upcoming Newsline editions!

Recent resident changes to your apartment?

Help us keep our records up to date with the names of the occupants in your apartment. Any changes in the people living in your apartment need to be documented with the Residential Life office at 100 Iba hall, 744-5353.

Please alert the FGSH staff when:
• Roommate moves in or out
• New addition (newborns, dependents)
• Extended visit from relatives/friend (two weeks or more)
• Family members move out
Pest Problems?
All residents should call pest control issues into the Facilities Management Office at 405-744-8510 so pest control can determine a solution. Issues will be dealt as soon as possible.

Welcome Your New Apartment Assistants!
Five of the seven neighborhoods now have new apartment assistants. Be sure to welcome them to your neighborhood! The new apartment assistants are:
Rais Shameer - Demaree
James Bowen - Morrison
Temesgen Helsabo - Prosser
Skyler McCrary - West
Sauyer Lay - Williams

Grill Reservations
To reserve a neighborhood grill, FGSH residents must email their Apartment Assistant. All neighborhood grill reservations must be made in writing via email; the reservation email should include the proposed date of the event, proposed start and end times of the event, and the nature of the event.

Shopping Shuttle
(free for all FGSH residents)
Sign up for the shuttle at the Laundry Mart 30 minutes prior to the shuttle's departure.

Monday & Wednesday Schedule
5:30pm (Pick Up @ Laundry) .......... To Sultan International & Crepe Myrtle Asian Food
6:30pm (Pick Up @ Laundry) ............. To Walmart & Food Pyramid
7pm (Pick Up @ Brumley Office) .............................................. To Walmart & Food Pyramid
7:10pm (Pick Up @ Walmart/Food Pyramid) .................................. Return to FGSH Apartments
7:30pm (Pick Up @ Laundry) .............................................. To Walmart & Food Pyramid
7:40pm (Pick Up @ Walmart/Food Pyramid) .................................. Return to FGSH Apartments
8:10pm (Pick Up @ Walmart/Food Pyramid) .................................. Return to FGSH Apartments
8:40pm (Final Pick Up @ Walmart/Food Pyramid) ..................... Return to FGSH Apartments

Saturday Schedule
9am (Pick Up @ Laundry) ..................................................... To Walmart & Food Pyramid
9:30am (Pick Up @ Brumley Office) ........................................ To Walmart & Food Pyramid
9:40am (Pick Up @ Walmart/Food Pyramid) ..................... Return to FGSH Apartments
10am (Pick Up @ Laundry) ..................................................... To Walmart & Food Pyramid
10:10am & 11am (Pick Up @ Walmart/Food Pyramid) ............... Return to FGSH Apartments
11:40am (Final Pick Up @ Walmart/Food Pyramid) ............... Return to FGSH Apartments

*All times listed above are approximate. Due to varying traffic flow, these times may be delayed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Apartment Assistants</th>
<th>Brumley Neighborhood</th>
<th>Demaree Neighborhood</th>
<th>Morrison Neighborhood</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Samantha Whiteshield</td>
<td>Bldg. 122, Apt. 10</td>
<td>Rais Shameer</td>
<td>James Bowen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>744-2311</td>
<td><a href="mailto:brumleyAA@okstate.edu">brumleyAA@okstate.edu</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:demareeAA@okstate.edu">demareeAA@okstate.edu</a></td>
<td>Bldg. 246, Apt. 205</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prosser Neighborhood</th>
<th>Stevens Neighborhood</th>
<th>West Neighborhood</th>
<th>Williams Neighborhood</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Temesgen Helsabo</td>
<td>Samar Abid &amp; Ahmed Moneeb</td>
<td>Skyler McCrary</td>
<td>Sauyer Lay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:prosserAA@okstate.edu">prosserAA@okstate.edu</a></td>
<td>Bldg. 73, Apt. 11</td>
<td>Bldg. 87, Apt. 5</td>
<td><a href="mailto:williamsAA@okstate.edu">williamsAA@okstate.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>744-8039</td>
<td><a href="mailto:stevensAA@okstate.edu">stevensAA@okstate.edu</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:westAA@okstate.edu">westAA@okstate.edu</a></td>
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<td>S80, S81, S82, S83, S84, S85, S86, S87, S88, S89</td>
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</tbody>
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Dessert Competition

Don’t forget! If you signed up for the dessert competition, entries will be judged and prizes will be awarded to the winners. Join us on Tuesday, July 2 at 1:30 pm in the FRC Great Room. All ingredients will be provided by the FRC. All afternoon CD classes will be cancelled that day.

Botanic Garden at OSU

Did you know that we have our own Botanic Garden here at OSU? The FRC will be taking residents to the Botanic Garden on Saturday, July 20 at 1pm to enjoy the afternoon with other residents. We will not be transporting any children and additional activities will not be provided for children. Sign-up at the FRC by Thursday, July 18 to be a part of this fun adventure.

Book Drive

The FRC is having a book drive for Better World Books to “help put literacy within the reach of people around the world.” You can drop off your extra, old or unused books and textbooks in the Better World Books’ box inside the FRC. For questions about which books may be donated or the book drive, contact Catherine or stop by the FRC.
Youth and Family Programs Schedule Summer 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten Kids Club</td>
<td>Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.</td>
<td>1 – 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kindergarten Kids Club Pool Day</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>3 – 5pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Adventures</td>
<td>Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.</td>
<td>1 – 3pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pool Day (at Colvin Center)</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>3 – 5pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toddler Time</td>
<td>Tuesday &amp; Thursday</td>
<td>10 – 11:15am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teen Club</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>5:30 – 7pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Exploration &amp; Playtime</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>10:30 – 11:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Story Hour</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>10:30 – 11:30am</td>
</tr>
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On Friday, July 19 from 8 to 10am, the OSU Women's Soccer Team will provide a soccer clinic for children ages 6 to 13. The OSU Women's Soccer Team will help children to develop and practice soccer skills. This program is only available to children enrolled in summer programs. Family Story Hour, Kindergarten Kids Club, and Summer Adventures will be cancelled due to the OSU Women's Soccer Clinic. The sign-up sheet will be available at the FRC Front Desk on Monday, July 1st.

On Tuesday, July 23 from 10am to 12pm, the Youth and Family Programs staff will be taking families with children ages 6 to 9 on a field trip to the Oklahoma Wondertorium, located here in Stillwater. Families with children under age 6 are welcome to meet us at the museum. The Oklahoma Wondertorium is an interactive children's museum with various exhibits designed to inspire curiosity to learn through play. Exhibits include Amazing Airways, Generation Station Farm and General Store, Artist's Pad, Physics Fairways, and much much more! The FRC will cover the cost of transportation and half of the admission fee. Families will be responsible for actively supervising their children and covering the remaining portion of the admission fee: $2.50. Toddler Time will be cancelled on Tuesday morning due to the Wondertorium field trip. The sign-up sheet will be available at the FRC Front Desk on Monday, July 8th.

Congratulations, Mumbe!

Congratulations to Mumbe Kithakye! She is the new Youth & Family Programs Educational Administrator and will be working alongside Amie to help with education and training initiatives and other tasks. She joined the FRC staff in November and we are happy to have the opportunity to continue working with her!

OSU Women’s Soccer Clinic

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Program Cancellations

• There will be no programs on Thursday, July 4 as it is a University Holiday.
• There will be no programs on Friday, July 19 due to the Soccer Clinic hosted by the OSU Women’s soccer team.
• There will be no Toddler Time on Tuesday, July 23 due to the family field trip to the Wondertorium.
Kid’s Page

Color this page and find the words in the word search to celebrate the 4th of July!


Barbecue  Parade
Blue  Red
Boom  Summer
Fireworks  Watermelon
Flag  White
Freedom
Upcoming Events
Use this page as a quick guide to FRC, campus and Stillwater events going on this month!
July 2013

Tuesday, July 2 – 1:30pm
Dessert Competition
FRC Great Room
All afternoon Community Development classes cancelled

Tuesday, July 2 – 10am, 1:30pm & 3:30pm
Irish Dancing
Stillwater Public Library

Wednesday, July 3 – 2pm
Teens-Top Chef
Stillwater Public Library • Grades 6-12

Thursday, July 4
FRC Closed - No programs

Thursday, July 4
Boomer Blast
Fishing tournament begins at 6am • Fireworks show begins at 9:35pm • Parking lots will open at 6:30pm

Saturday, July 6
No Survival English or Intermediate English with Ron
Saturday, July 6
University Store Closed
Saturday, July 6 – 8:30am to 4pm
Free CPR Class
Stillwater Community Center

Saturday, July 6 – 6pm
Morrison Neighborhood Gathering
Basketball • Lamb, pasta salad, fruit and drinks • Basketball court

Sunday, July 7 – 7pm
Stevens Neighborhood Gathering
Horseshoes • Fruits, ice cream, cupcakes and drinks • Stevens playground

Tuesday, July 9 – 10am, 1:30pm & 3:30pm
Monty Harper - “Dig Into Reading”
Stillwater Public Library

Wednesday, July 10 – 2pm
Teens-Make a Zen Garden
Stillwater Public Library • Grades 6-12

Saturday, July 13 – 5:30pm
West Neighborhood Gathering
Soccer • Chicken, salad, dessert and drinks • West playground

Saturday, July 13
University Store Closed

Monday, July 15 – 6:30pm
Sewing Circle
Stillwater Public Library

Wednesday, July 17 – 2pm
Teens-Book Trailer Watch Party
Stillwater Public Library • Grades 6-12

Thursday, July 18 – 5:30pm
Brumley Neighborhood Gathering
Bingo • Chicken, pasta salad, baked beans, fruit and drinks • Brumley Community Center

Friday, July 19 – 8am
OSU Women’s Soccer Clinic

Youth & Family Programs cancelled

Saturday, July 20 – 1pm
The Botanic Garden at OSU

Saturday, July 20 – 6:30pm
Demaree Neighborhood Gathering
Scavenger hunt • Pizza, chips and drinks • Demaree neighborhood grill

Saturday, July 20 – 8am to 4:30pm
NETA Group Exercise Certification
OSU Department of Wellness

Sunday, July 21 – 6:30pm
Williams Neighborhood Gathering
Fish bowl & board games • Pizza, salad and drinks • Williams playground area

Tuesday, July 23 – 5:30pm
Family Field Trip to Wondertorium
No Toddler Time class

Tuesday, July 23 – 10am, 1:30pm & 3:30pm
Professor B. Loony
Stillwater Public Library

Tuesday – Friday, July 23 – 26
92nd State 4-H Roundup

Wednesday, July 24 – 2pm
Teen Finale
Stillwater Public Library • Grades 6-12

Thursday, July 25 – 6:30pm
Prosser Neighborhood Gathering
Play cards • Pizza, salad, dessert and drinks • Demaree playground

Thursday, July 25 – 8am to 5pm
Textbook Buybacks
University Store

Friday, July 26
Last day of FRC programs

Friday, July 26
Last day for summer textbook charges

Saturday, July 27
University Store Closed

Event Guide:
FRC/FGSH Events
OSU Events
Stillwater Events

FGSH Resident’s Advisory Council

Mushfiq Alam: mdma@okstate.edu
Talat Khan: talat.88@gmail.com
Ardi Yatim: ardiyansyah.yatim@okstate.edu
Fadhil Ali: fadhil.ali@okstate.edu
Patrick Kanza: patrick.kanza@okstate.edu

The FGSH Resident’s Council is a group of FGSH residents who serve as representatives of the individuals, families, students, staff, faculty & other residents who live in FGSH at OSU. The Council helps give suggestions and input to FGSH & ResLife staff. Please contact a council member if you have a question, concern or feedback.