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This Weekend Commemorates Black Sunday in Guymon

The 75th anniversary of Black Sunday is to be commemorated in Guymon on Friday and Saturday, April 9-10. Survivors of that terrible dust storm are sought to share their memories at Draper Farms headquarters west of Guymon on Saturday, April 10.

On Friday, April 9, there will be a showing of the documentary The Plow That Broke the Plains and the movie The Grapes of Wrath at Guymon's Northridge 8 Theatres at 3 p.m. for 35-cents. Prior to that there will be live music of the era featured for movie-goers.

Saturday's events will begin at 8:30 a.m. at Draper Farms west of Guymon. Follow signs along Highway 54 for directions. All events are free that day, no registration is required, and one may attend any or all of the sessions. Major funding for this event is provided by the Oklahoma Humanities Council.

Dr. Paul Bonnifield, author of The Dust Bowl: Men, Dirt and Depression, will speak at 9:10 a.m. on the topic, "The Days of the Dust Bowl."

Dr. Sara Jane Richter, head of the humanities department at OPSU will give her talk, "Down and Dirty, But Not Out: Women of the High Plains During the Dust Bowl" at 11 a.m. Richter is also the author of a readers' theatre production to be presented at 3:45 p.m., If Only It'd Rain .

Dr. Pauline Hodges will speak on the topic "Okies' Lives in the California Migrant Camps" at 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 10. Dr. Hodges "came home" to teach at OPSU in 2003 after teaching at Colorado State University . She also edits local history books, reenacts local history, and appreciates the Panhandle way of life.

Other speakers for the day include Gary McManus of the Oklahoma Climatological Survey, Steve Drillette of the National Weather Service and Mark Harrison, Oklahoma Conservation Commission. Oklahoma Conservation Reserve Program director Rod Wanger of Stillwater will speak at 3p.m. Dr. Guy Logsdon, an expert on Oklahoma music, Woody Guthrie and the music of the 30s will speak at 6:15 p.m. on the topic, "Oklahoma Music in the 1930s." He will also lead a gospel sing-along,

A free soup line supper will be held at 5:30 p.m. featuring stew and corn bread prepared by David Kidwell and helpers. Square dancers from Perryton , Texas will be featured during the meal. The evening will end with dancing at 8 p.m.

For a complete schedule of events with times, see the event website at thegritinyourteeth.com

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