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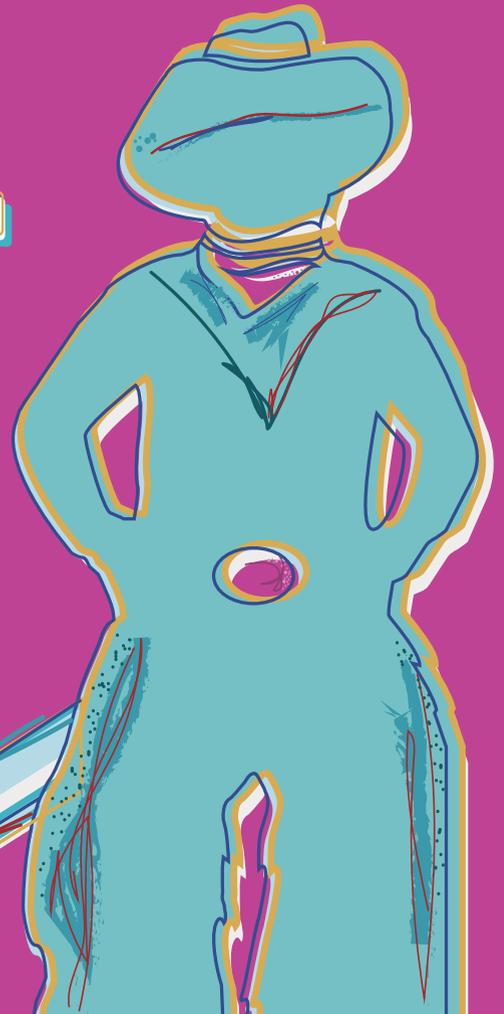
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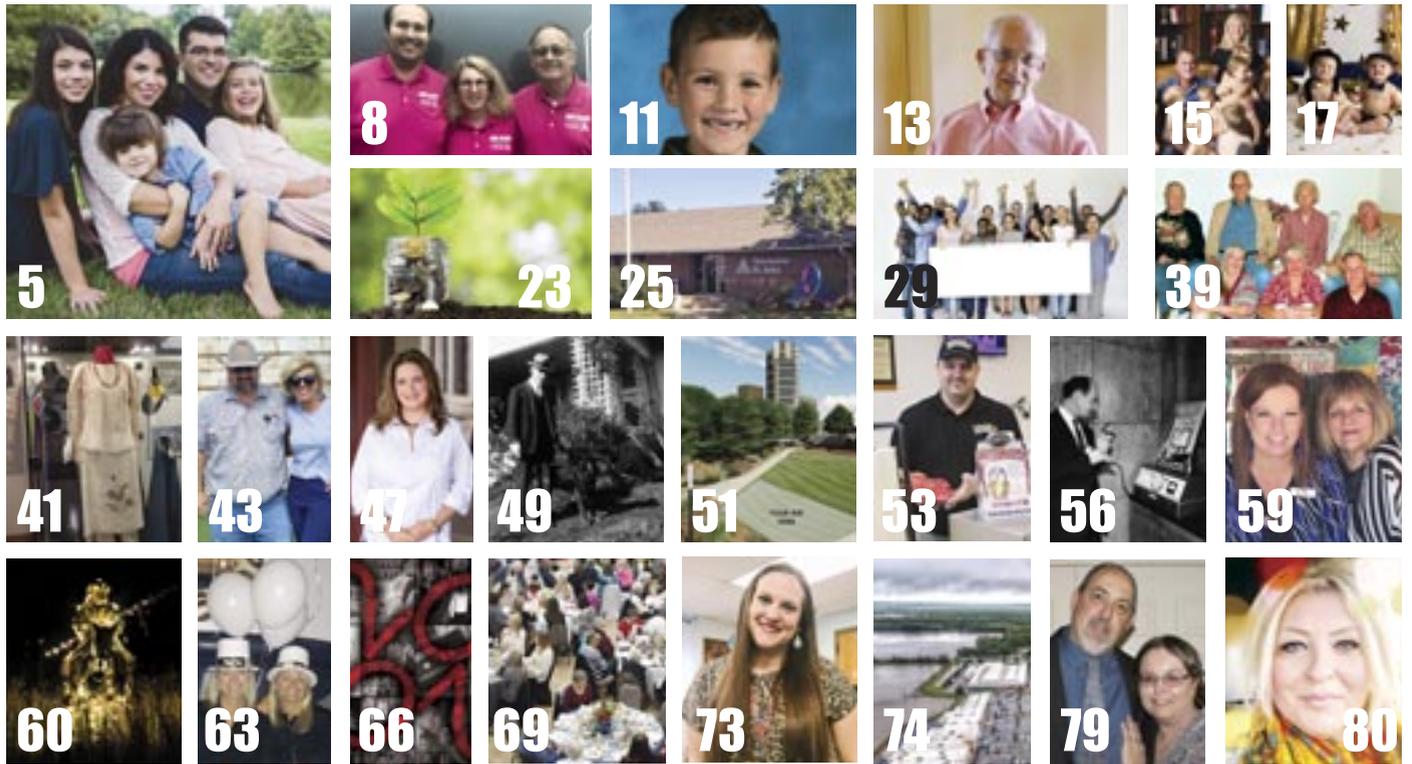
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upfront

Happy New Year and Welcome to 2020, Friends!

This month we bring you our annual “Baby New Year” issue, and oh, what a baby contest it was! Christy and I knew it was going to be big this year based on last year’s contest, but I think we were both surprised by how popular it has become. When we opened our Facebook page for baby entries, we had 75 babies signed up in the first two minutes, and the remaining 25 babies within the next 10 minutes. Wow! In a one week period, the baby contest post was seen by over 122,000 people from all 50 states and in 17 countries around the world. The total votes cast for all these beautiful babies was over 31,000 votes.

Christy and I always take ourselves out of judging the baby contest. We always seem to have four or five babies we know in the contest, and this year was no different. This year we selected 11 judges to cast their votes to determine this year’s winner. These judges selected their picks from the top 11 People’s Choice babies. As you can see on the cover, Miss Louisa Blakemore was our 2020 cover winner. What a precious baby cover this is! That look and those blue eyes just makes your heart happy when you look at her.

We also want to congratulate our People’s Choice winner — twin boys — Hudson and Declan, who had over 1200 votes. We had some of the most beautiful babies this year. This is our favorite issue, because we can put the spotlight on ALL of these precious babies. We are so happy for each one of them. We want to give a big thank you to all the moms and dads for allowing us to showcase your babies, and we can’t wait for next year.

I really can’t believe 2019 is over and we’re all starting a new year and a new decade. Where did those 10 years go? I thought it would be interesting to look back through the last 10 years, so I had Mike Wilt write a four page story on the last decade. His article includes many things that happened in Bartlesville that we sometimes seem to forget. I also asked Mr. Doug Quinn, one of our favorite people and the nicest man you will ever meet, to write our Good Word this month. As always, his words provide wisdom and clarity for us all.

This past year has been so good to us, and also a little crazy. The people we have met and the places we have been because

of *bmonthly* leave us pinching ourselves. This magazine is a direct reflection of Christy and I, and the love and great pride in the stories we write and the history we uncover, so you can better understand this great city we all call home. I have yet to visit a city this size that has more culture, history, and pride than Bartlesville. Sure, we have problems and issues like other towns do. But after living here for the past 35 years, one thing that has always stood out to me is the people. The men and women of the past that built this city’s foundation and legacy, and the ones today who keep it going for generations to come, make this city great.

What’s your new year going to look like? There are so many things I think and pray about so I can be a better husband, father and friend. I’m so far from perfect that even Google maps can’t get me where I want to be, but the journey to get there is how we grow and become the people we are today. The roads that brought me here, writing this to you, have been crazy, and only by God’s Grace do these words come to paper.

Finally, Christy and I pray for all who read these words, that your New Year will bring you hope where there is hopelessness, strength when there is weakness, healing where there is sickness, forgiveness from a broken heart, and compassion for the unfortunate who struggle day to day just to live or for some just to exist. I especially pray for the ones who still battle their addictions, and say that I believe in you and that you can defeat this. Miracles do happen, and silent prayers do get answered. When the world tells you it can’t happen, faith and hope step in and say just believe! Happy Birthday Madison, who turns the big 21 this month. God Bless!



Keith & Christy McPhail,
bMonthly managing editors



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ABOUT THE COVER

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Making a move this year?



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A New Beginning

Hand-Droege Bringing Her Real Estate Expertise to the 'Ville

by Baker Murray

"As the house lights went up and the crowd went wild with applause, I stood, thinking am I really in small town Oklahoma? This performance rivals concerts that I've attended in New York and Chicago," said Keeli Hand-Droege, as she reflected on a show by piano legend, Robin Sutherland, at the Bartlesville Community Center.

Almost every birthday for the last 18 years, Keeli's parents-in-law, Dan and Melinda Droege, have given her a week long "stay-cation" with babysitting and season tickets to OK Mozart, now the OKM Music Festival. Keeli's husband, Tom Droege, grew up in the area, so after many summer and weekend visits, Bartlesville became her surrogate hometown.

"As a child, my family and I moved almost every two years, and I never really felt like I had a hometown," Keeli explains. "The more time I spent in Bartlesville, the more it felt like home."

A classically-trained pianist herself, Keeli graduated from the University of Northern Colorado, then moved to Tulsa to be closer to her family while pursuing her passion for music. On the side, she also earned her real estate license and one thing led to another.

"Being a pianist is extremely rewarding, but it can be lonely at times. I wanted to get out and interact with people more, instead of spending so much time in a practice room by myself," Keeli recalled.

She and her mother, Cindy Hand, started their real estate partnership, The Hand Team, in 2000. After five successful years, they took a leap of faith and joined a new start-up real estate company with 12 other agents called Chinowth & Cohen, Realtors. Keeli and Cindy launched the Owasso branch of C&C and The Hand Team became Metro Tulsa's top-selling real estate team, according to the Tulsa Business Journal.



Now the company is Oklahoma's largest locally-owned real estate company.

"Keeli works hard to make sure her clients are taken care of, as if they are personal family. Her work ethic is strong and she keeps herself on the cutting edge of real estate," said owner and CEO Sheryl Chinowth. "Whether it be education, technology, or marketing, Keeli has the answers!"

After the birth of her third child, Keeli began to feel the conflicting emotions that many working mothers experience. "I felt so fortunate to have a successful career, but the long hours were taking precious time away from my family," she said.

In 2016, she and her husband decided to move to Bartlesville. They were drawn to the strong sense of community, the high-quality education, and the peaceful pace of the 'Ville. Keeli has spent the last three years focusing on her family and helping behind the scenes, marketing The Hand Team. She also teaches children's music at her church and volunteers for organizations such as Kane Elementary PTO, PEAK, and the Phillips 66 Splash Club.

Keeli has decided to bring her real estate expertise to the Bartlesville market. After taking a step back, she realized that by being more selective and offering more customized service, she can still have the job she loves, spend time with her family, and give back to the community.

"I've had great experiences with Keeli, both as a seller and a buyer. Keeli is warm and personable, while always remaining professional and knowledgeable. When you are her client, she really takes care of you. She is always looking out for your best interests," said Mariah Evans, one of Keeli's past clients.



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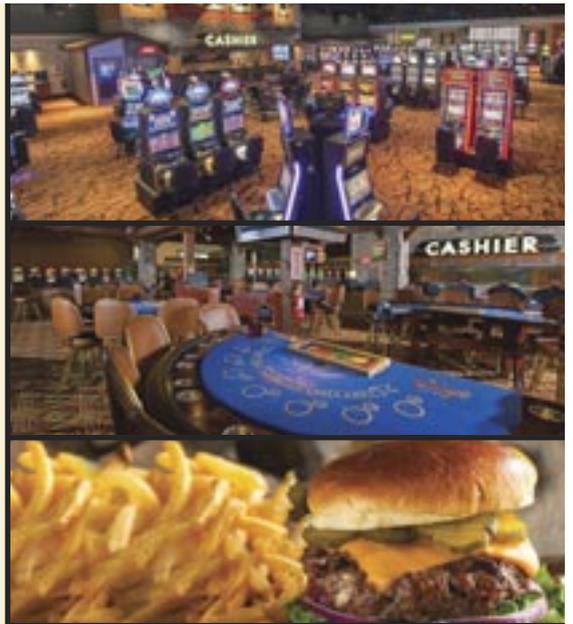
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Glenn Security Systems

by Kelsey Walker

Bartlesville native Ron Glenn and his family have created a lasting business that helps their clients rest easier — with peace of mind. “We believe everyone deserves to live and work in a safe and secure environment,” Ron says.

Glenn Security Systems, founded by Ron in 1974, will celebrate its 46th year in business in 2020.

Glenn grew up in Bartlesville. His dad worked for the city, serving as Captain of Detectives when he retired. His mother retired from Phillips. Ron attended Bartlesville schools, graduating from Sooner High School. He remembers that the City of Legends seemed much smaller back then.

“The population doesn’t seem to have changed that much, but there’s just so many more buildings and cars and stuff like that than there were when I grew up here in the ‘50s and ‘60s,” he said.

Glenn moved to Stillwater in 1971 to attend Oklahoma State University, graduating in 1975 with a Business Administration degree. He then attended the University of Tulsa to study law, graduated, and passed the Oklahoma bar exam.

He didn’t have time to practice law, because before he had even graduated from OSU, Glenn had laid the foundation for a successful security company. He worked as a night watchman at his apartment complex in Stillwater, and later sold security systems for a Tulsa-based company. That company decided Stillwater was located too far from Tulsa for their services.

“At that point, I had people that I had made sales to in Stillwater, and I didn’t

want them to be abandoned,” he recalled. “That’s how I really got into the business.”

At the time, there were not very many security businesses — not like there are today, Ron said. He served customers all over the Northeastern and Northcentral Oklahoma region, including Enid, Ponca City, Muskogee, Tulsa, and Bartlesville.

The business began in 1974 and officially incorporated in 1977. A Bartlesville office was first opened where On the Rock Ministries is currently housed, then later moved to the former 66 Federal Credit Union building, where a central monitoring station opened in 1980.

With the opening of the central station, the business officially changed to a 24/7 operation. The company now offers alarm and surveillance systems, access control, 24-hour service and 24-hour monitoring for residential and commercial clients.



“We’re probably one of the oldest continually owned alarm companies in Oklahoma,” Ron said. “It’s a tough environment because of the corporate companies, but there’s always a need locally for the personal touch that we offer.”

Glenn Security Systems later moved to the Reda building, before moving to its current location on the 14th floor of the Price Tower nearly 20 years ago. The Price Tower, which had been used by Phillips Petroleum for storage since 1981, was donated to the Price Tower Arts Center in 2000 to return to its multi-use origins with a museum, inn, restaurant, and leased office spaces.

“We were the first tenant back in the building after it came out of mothballs,” Ron said. “We were part of the security plans for the building, because we’d be here 24/7, and we moved in six months before anybody else really occupied the building. It was pretty lonely at first.”

The company, which started with just one employee – Ron, now has 18 employees and is under the leadership of three Glenn family members.

Ron’s wife, Jani, joined the business in 1995. A Tulsa native, Jani also graduated from OSU, in 1978, and ran a flower and gift shop with her mother and grandmother. Ron and Jani, who met on a blind date, were married in 1984. They lived in Owasso for a few years with their two sons, Mike and Joseph, before moving to Bartlesville.

“We decided it was time,” Jani says. “We thought it was better to raise a family here. It’s definitely home now.”

Ron and Jani’s son, Joseph, joined the family business in 2014. Joseph, who is also an OSU graduate, has spent



Joseph, Jani and Ron Glenn, of Glenn Security Systems. The family-owned business will celebrate 46 years in business this year.

the past six years learning the business from the bottom up. He now serves as the residential security consultant and director of marketing.

“He’s a big part of the business,” Jani said. “We didn’t know what we were going to do with the business when Ron and I retire. Joey came to us and wanted to be a part of it. And we said, come on bud, we need you.”

Building relationships and taking care of customers with a personal touch has been a goal of the Glenn family, ever since Ron initially started the business to avoid abandoning those first customers.

“There are probably people with fewer internal morals who could just walk away from that, but I think it’s how he was

raised, how he raised me, and what our business encompasses,” Joseph said.

A new location for Glenn Security Systems is currently under construction on Price Road. Planning for the building has been underway for two years, and the Glenns officially broke ground in the fall. They hope to open the new, larger facility by this summer.

The larger facility will be stormproof and self-sufficient, and offer more space for the central station. It will also allow all the employees to be under one roof. But it also offers peace of mind to Ron and Jani, as they eye the future of their business.

“When Joseph came into the business, that was the real factor in taking that next step forward,” Jani said. “Otherwise, it was uncertain what we were going to do.”

“It’s great,” Ron said, of being able to eventually turn over the family business to his son. “It gives our customers continuity of people that they deal with ... and helps us maintain that personal touch.”

Jani added, “Just knowing when we decide to retire that the company Ron created in ’74 isn’t going to be bought out and the customers left high and dry ... It’s fulfilling knowing that we can pass it on to Joseph and it’s going to be taken care of.”





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Looking Back to 2014

Former Baby New Year Eli Shelton Still as Kind & Happy

by Maria Gus

With each new year comes hope and opportunity. Perhaps that's why people love *bMonthly's* Baby New Year contest each January. Not to mention the appeal of adorable children and their bright faces, ready to meet the world.

One of those bright faces, Eli Shelton, was the 2014 Baby New Year, and today he's still as full of hope as he was then.

Eli's parents are Alicia and Tyson Shelton, and his younger sister, Abigail, is five. Eli is in second grade at Ranch Heights Elementary, and his mom says he's never met a stranger.

"Eli is very laid back and easy going," said Alicia. "He's everybody's friend. He has the sweetest heart and he loves helping other people." Alicia also said that Eli is very patient with his younger sister.

Eli has certainly grown and changed over the last six years. At one time he thought he wanted to be a tree when he grew up. Today, he loves anything he can do outdoors and playing baseball. "I also think he's part fish," added Alicia. "He loves to swim!"

When Eli received the recognition in 2014, he was about 18 months old. Today he still has a copy of the issue in his room and there's a framed copy on the wall in the home. Eli is very proud of his Baby New Year title.

"He has taken the magazine to school to show all his friends," said Alicia. "He wanted to give them all a copy."

Eli is not unlike other children his age. His interests include drawing, and although he's not sure what he wants to be when he grows up, he absolutely loves school.

"He's the opposite of the other kids," added his mom. "He doesn't want to go on breaks!"

For the recent holidays, Eli spent time with his family in



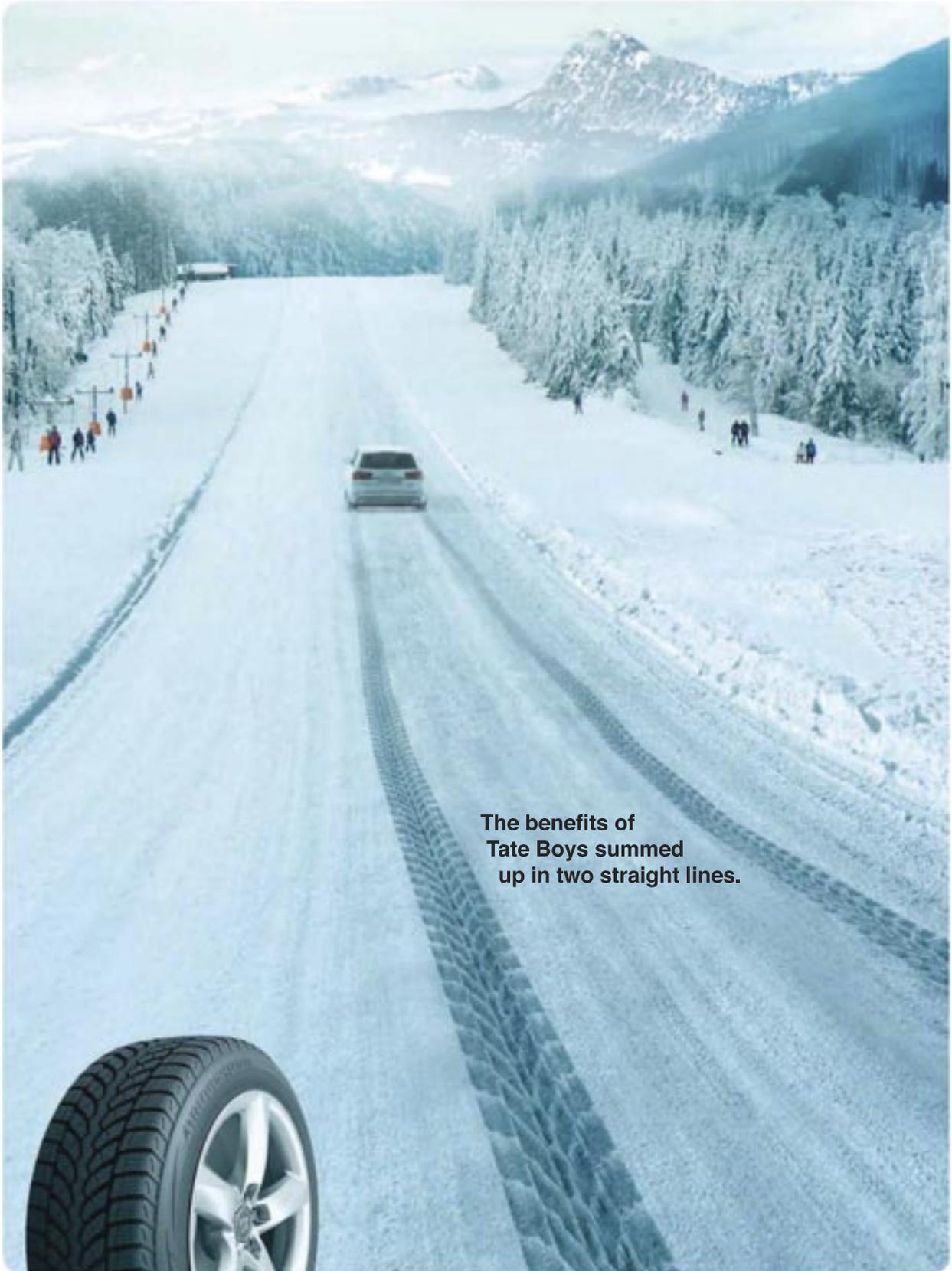
Bartlesville and Skiatook. He loves spending time with his cousins over Christmas, and his mom said they even sprinkled reindeer food on Christmas Eve.

When asked if his reign as Baby New Year has made Eli yearn for the spotlight, his mom said he's quite content with his quiet life in Bartlesville. "He still loves the Kiddie Park and go-karts in the summer," said Alicia.

However, it was still an exciting moment in Eli's life, and one the family will never forget. "I was kind of shocked," his mom added. "Of all the cute little babies, they chose mine! It was a cool experience, just a cool and exciting time."

As for 2020, Eli's mom said she looks forward to watching her children grow and learn. "We're just excited for a new year. No big changes, so hopefully smooth going."

Eli will hopefully keep up his great work as 2014 Baby New Year with his unending kindness and good works. His family couldn't ask for anything more!



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Have a Vision for the Future

“Where There Is No Vision, the People Perish”

by Doug Quinn, Board Member for The Journey Home

Only a short time ago, 2020 knocked on my door and now has raced across the threshold ... A New Year; a new decade! How many “I did it again” frustrations will come to mind before I stop scribing 2020 above crossed out 2019s? I wonder...

The year 2020 reminds me of an eye examination. “Read the letters on the bottom line!” “Is this image better or worse?” All the while nervously wondering, hoping for a passing grade! Impaired vision can bring peril!

My father, a car dealer, sent me with a customer to bring home a trade-in. About 25 minutes later, title in the front seat and keys in hand, my return voyage began. Normally no problem! Except this car had no windshield! Sprinkles began! Raindrops felt like needles piercing my face. My blue windbreaker’s hood was pulled tightly around my face, until only a small opening remained. The harder it rained, the faster I drove. Blinded by rain, I was part of a two ton “missile” barreling down the road — guided home by the Grace of God.

Where there is no vision, the people perish (Proverbs 29:18). This concept has sometimes been parsed, “*If you don’t know where you’re going, you’ll likely end up somewhere else.*” Good vision has everything to do with God’s word. If divine guidance is cast aside, one doesn’t have to use much imagination to see what a world with no vision might be like.

What vision do we want for 2020? Following are thoughts that might be helpful.

Envision what you want your life to look like! Think about that end goal. What type of man or woman do you want to be? What do you want your family to look like? Is your career choice really your passion? Picture it in vivid detail.

Dream BIG! Don’t allow fear or lack of confidence to shortchange your vision. If your vision doesn’t make you a little uncomfortable, then you probably aren’t dreaming big enough. It should be scary, but also exciting!

Seek out people whose lives you admire. Ask them how they got where they are and why they do what they do. Ask people close to you if your vision is on point and to hold you accountable.

Be open to the fact that your vision may need to be changed or tweaked as time passes and circumstances change. Think of your vision as a living thing.



Doug Quinn is a board member for The Journey Home.

Envision a vision for your life that makes the world better for others.

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If your vision lacks fulfillment, seek God for the answers to fill the void. He wants your vision to be clear, healthy, and unimpaired. If you will yield to His will for your life, this vision is possible.

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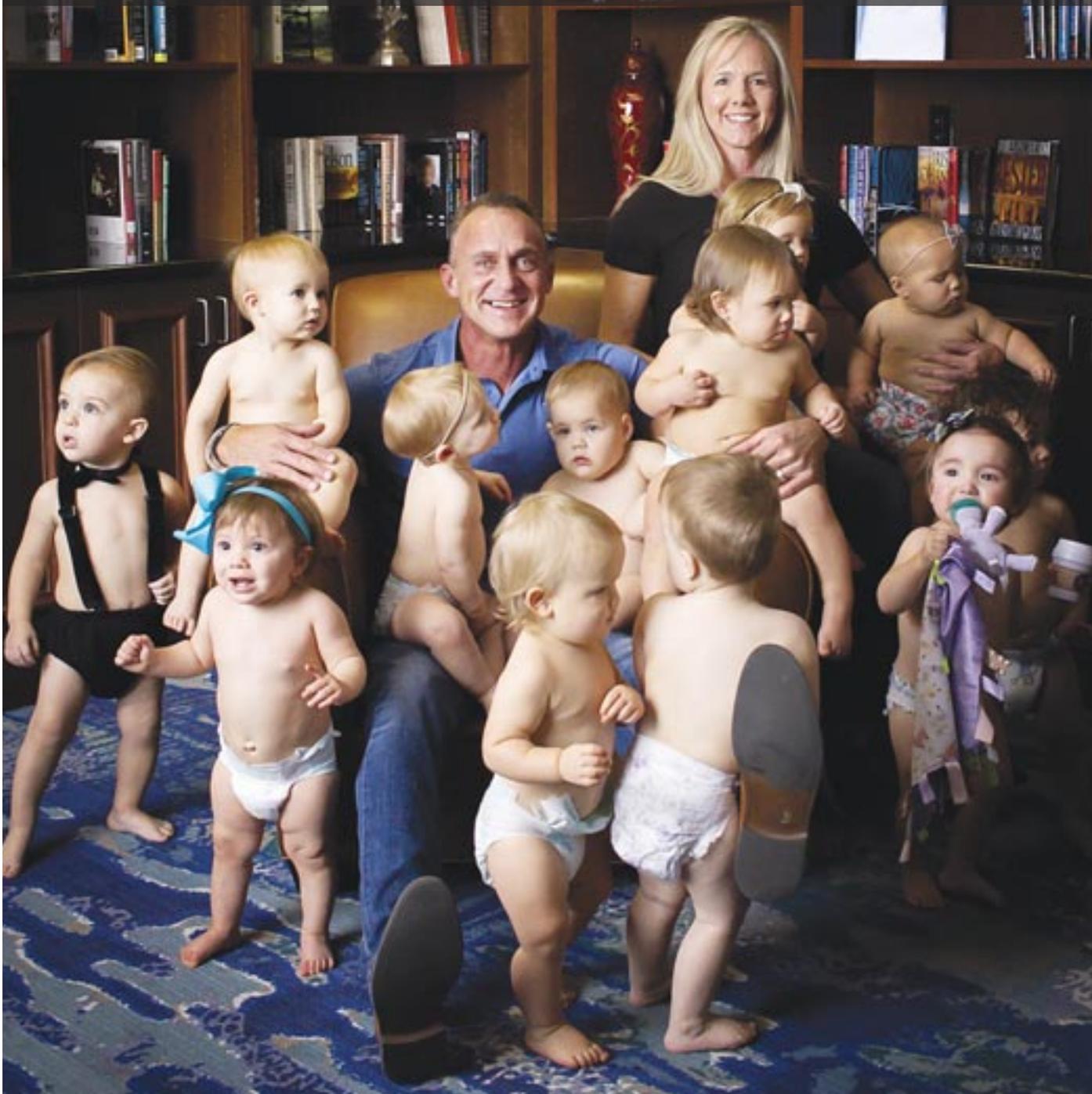
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Oh baby!

Thank you to everyone who signed up and made this year's New Year Baby competition another great success! Bartlesville undoubtedly has some of the cutest babies around, which always makes choosing just one for the cover almost impossible for our judges! Thank you to our sponsor, Sutterfield Financial Group; our photographer, Karsyn Shalae; and Hilton Garden Inn for providing the space to hang out with all these cuties! Thank you!





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HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Declan was born at 7:34am on September 19, 2018 weighing 5 pounds 15 ounces. Two minutes later, at 7:36am, Hudson was born weighing 6 pounds 5 ounces. Declan loves to read books. He sits in front of the bookshelf pulling books down and looking at them. Hudson loves to mimic everything. For

example, if you sneeze, he will then sneeze and wait for you to say “Bless you,” and then sneeze again. They both love to dance and play with each other. They are best friends. Declan has only two teeth, while Hudson has 10. Declan is a little more of a daddy’s boy and Hudson is more of a momma’s boy.

**READER'S CHOICE WINNER****Hudson & Declan**



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Ashton



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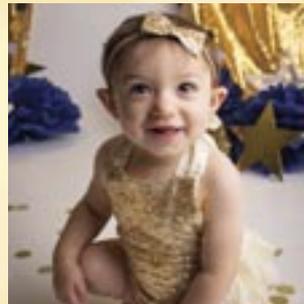
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Kinsley & Camille



Landri



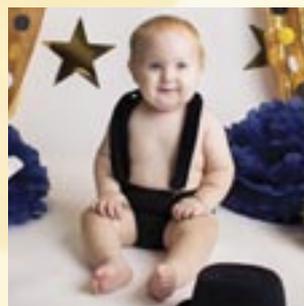
Landrie



Lane



Layla



Lazarus



Leighlah



Levi



Liam



Lindy Jane



Louisa



Lucas



Mac



Mason



Maverick



McCoy



McKinley



Meadow



Melodee



Michael



Oliver



Paige



Penelope



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Eye exam? Check.
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Sutterfield Financial Group, Inc. of Bartlesville encourages clients to proactively monitor their finances by creating a financial plan and doing an annual review. A financial plan covers every aspect of your financial life, from spending to taxes, from investing to your outlook for retirement, plus much more. Having a plan and doing annual checkups tell you where you're at financially, if you are on track for your goals, and what areas need to be addressed to meet those goals.

“Our unique platform of in-house services, along with the depth of experience from years of serving others, allow us to provide our clients with solutions no matter how simple or complex the situation,” said President and CEO Trevor Sutterfield. “We take great pride and joy in every client relationship we have; developing and managing plans is the

core foundation of success for every financial situation that exists.”

The right financial planning team can make managing your finances easier and much less stressful. Founded in 1995, Sutterfield Financial Group Inc. is a comprehensive financial services provider based in Bartlesville, with advisor affiliates across the United States.

Sutterfield Financial Group's mission is to assist clients in every aspect of their financial lives. SFG strives to provide financial services to individuals, families, and businesses. Additionally, SFG serves as a professional magnet for advisors looking to create more sustainable, client-centric businesses. SFG's comprehensive financial planning and investment advisory firm has a wide-range of experience in all key financial practices.

Sutterfield Financial Group, Inc. also assists individuals and families with savings, retirement, education, and estate planning strategies. SFG serves small business operators with developing plans that best meet their needs relating to taxation, investments, cash flow and estate planning services. On a larger scale, the firm serves small and large companies as an external CFO with the purpose of managing all aspects of financial operations.

Start the new year off right — contact Sutterfield Financial Group, Inc. to talk about your plan! For more information, call 918-338-2255 or 800-291-5778, or visit them online at www.sutterfieldfinancial.com. Sutterfield Financial Group is located at 501 E. Fourth St. in Bartlesville.

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ascension.org



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St. John**

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All Ascension St. John facilities have new interior and exterior signage displaying the new unified brand. Pictured is Ascension St. John Nowata with new signage.

A New Look

Unified Brand Brings Together St. John & Ascension

Ascension St. John has a new look.

St. John, established in 1926 by the Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother, and Ascension, one of the nation's leading non-profit and Catholic healthcare systems, now share a unified brand. Updated branding, including new signage, brings together honored legacy and the future of healthcare.

The unified brand became official on October 1, 2019, and external and internal signage throughout the health system's six main medical facilities — Ascension St. John Medical Center, Ascension St. John Owasso, Ascension St. John Broken Arrow, Ascension St. John Jane Phillips and Ascension St.

John Nowata, and physician facilities now under Ascension Medical Group St. John — has been changed to reflect St. John's integration into the national ministry of Ascension.

The new look brings a new brand to Ascension St. John. "While we are first and foremost a medical organization, we are also a faith-based one," said Ascension St. John CEO and Oklahoma Ministry Market Executive Jeffrey D. Nowlin, FACHE. "The symbolism contained in our new brand — the tri-colored trinity and the very name 'Ascension,' a reference to Jesus' ascent into heaven — serve as a reminder to us and as a confirmation to our patients that we hold a

promise of healthcare that is safe and leaves no one behind."

St. John became an Ascension Ministry in 2013. With 2,600 sites of care in 20 states and the District of Columbia, Ascension employs 150,000 associates. Each year, \$2 billion in care is given to people living in poverty and other community benefit programs. With the unified brand, Ascension St. John is now more closely united with a national healthcare organization offering a shared identity and a shared mission.

While the symbol of Ascension St. John has changed, the meanings of the colors of the Ascension trinity — green for growth, blue for health, and purple for compassion — are a promise that as the



Ascension St. John

health system continues to transform the delivery of healthcare, the continuation of the healing ministry of Jesus Christ will remain at its core.

RUSTIC PONY

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HOME DECOR & MORE

TUES-FRI 11:30-5:30 | SAT 10:30 - 3:00 | CLOSED SUN-MON @RUSTICPONYHOMEDECOR @RUSTIC_PONY

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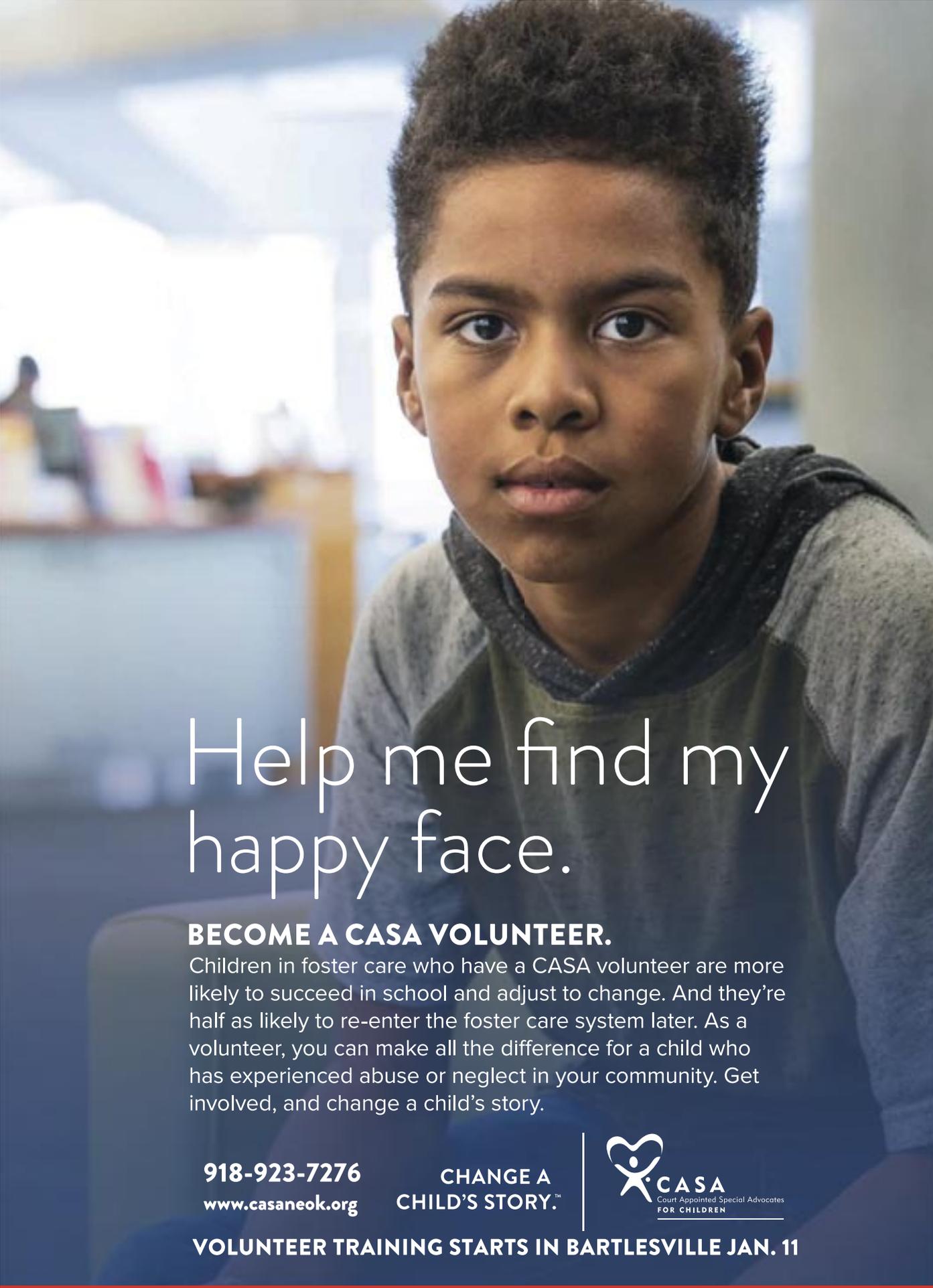
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www.casaneok.org

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CHILD'S STORY.™**



VOLUNTEER TRAINING STARTS IN BARTLESVILLE JAN. 11

Be Happier in 2020 — Volunteer!

With CASA You Can Lend Your Voice to Children Who Need It

by **Angela Henderson**

The start of a new year brings with it an opportunity to reflect on what went well in 2019 ... and what didn't go so well. If 2019 ended on a down note for you, it's time to start thinking about what might make you feel happier in 2020.

One of the simplest ways to get a happiness boost is to volunteer your time helping others. Volunteering shifts our focus away from our own issues and onto the needs of others. As we help others and we see the difference we're making, our self-confidence grows and we feel a natural sense of accomplishment from the magical act of doing good. The better you feel about yourself (and the more empowered), the more likely you are to have a positive outlook on life and your ability to meet future challenges.

One organization that needs volunteers in 2020 is CASA of Northeast Oklahoma. CASA stands for "court-appointed special advocate." CASA volunteers are ordinary citizens who lend their voices to abused and neglected children. They speak up for what is in the best interest of each child, so that they are completely safe and do not grow up in foster care. CASA volunteers work hard to change a child's story — from victim to victor, from hopeless to hopeful.



Angela Remke Henderson is a 1987 graduate of Bartlesville High School. She has been the Executive Director of CASA of Northeast Oklahoma for 15 years. CASA of Northeast Oklahoma is headquartered in Claremore, Oklahoma and will be opening an office in Bartlesville soon.

CASA of Northeast Oklahoma carefully screens all potential volunteers. Those who have passed the screening requirements are invited to train utilizing the National CASA Association's Pre-Service Training Curriculum.

The first training class for 2020 will be four Saturdays - January 11, January 18, February 1, and February 8 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day at East Cross United Methodist Church, 820 S. Madison Blvd. Each trainee will observe court twice before being sworn in as a volunteer.

CASA volunteers collect factual information about each child and family to whom they are assigned, monitor the case goals, facilitate services for children, and advocate in court for the best interests of each child.

CASA of Northeast Oklahoma is a regional CASA program serving the 11th, 12th, and 13th judicial districts in Northeast Oklahoma. Services are provided in Rogers, Mayes, Craig, Ottawa, Delaware, and Washington counties.

For more information, please contact Angela Henderson, Executive Director, at (918) 923-7276 or by email at angela@casaneok.org.



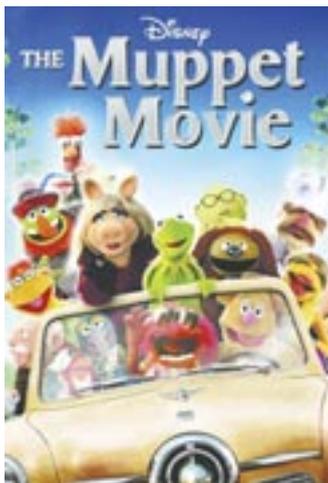
JANUARY CALENDAR SPONSORED BY



SAFARI SMILES

CHILDREN'S DENTISTRY

3



Family Movie Night featuring Muppets
7 PM; Heritage Theatre Café

4

Teen Gaming Event
11 AM; Bartlesville Public Library
Tulsa's Microsoft Store will be bringing the fun to BPL for this special, all-afternoon event just for TEENS! They will be offering Virtual Reality gaming, a Minecraft build challenge for prizes, digital art workshops, an Xbox Rocket League tournament and more. Visit the library's website for session information and to register.

6

BPS classes resume
All of Bartlesville Schools

7

BHS Basketball vs. Broken Arrow
4 PM; Bruin Fieldhouse (JV/G)
5 PM; Bruin Fieldhouse (JV/B)
6:30 PM; Bruin Fieldhouse (G)
8 PM; Bruin Fieldhouse (B)
Bruin Swim vs Broken Arrow/Booker T Washington
5:30 PM; Phillips 66 Aquatic Center

9-11

Conoco/Arvest Basketball Tournament
Times Vary; Bruin Fieldhouse

11

OKWU Basketball vs Kansas Wesleyan
3 PM; OKWU Gym (W)
5 PM; OKWU Gym (M)

13

Bruin Wrestling vs Tulsa Will Rogers
7 PM; Phillips Fieldhouse

15

OKWU Basketball vs Ottawa University
6 PM; OKWU Gym (W)
8 PM; OKWU Gym (M)

17

BHS Basketball vs. Broken Arrow
4 PM; Phillips Fieldhouse (JV/G)
5 PM; Phillips Fieldhouse (JV/B)
6:30 PM; Phillips Fieldhouse (G)
8 PM; Phillips Fieldhouse (B)

20



Martin Luther King Day/No School
Bartlesville Public Schools

21



Central Spelling Bee
TBA; Central Middle School

24

OKWU Baseball vs Bacone College
1 PM; OKWU Baseball Fields
OKWU Wrestling vs Ottawa Dual
7 PM; OKWU Gym

Extended Hours

Monday - Thursday
8:00am - 8:00pm

Friday
8:00am - Noon

Saturday
9:00am - Noon
No Appointment Necessary



William Davito, DO Mark Erhardt, DO
Daniel Holdman, MD Elizabeth Sherrock, MD
Janice Shippy APRN, DNP Donald Simmons, MD
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25 **OKWU Wrestling vs Bacone Dual**
12 PM; OKWU Gym
OKWU Basketball vs Avila University
3 PM; OKWU Gym (W)
5 PM; OKWU Gym (M)

28 **BHS Basketball vs. Bixby**
4 PM; Bruin Fieldhouse (JV/G)
5 PM; Bruin Fieldhouse (JV/B)
6:30 PM; Bruin Fieldhouse (G)
8 PM; Bruin Fieldhouse (B)
Bruin Swim vs Bixby/Owasso
5:30 PM; Phillips 66 Aquatic Center

31 **OKWU Baseball vs Lyon**
1 PM; OKWU Baseball Fields
BHS Basketball vs. Broken Arrow
4 PM; Bruin Fieldhouse (JV/G)
5 PM; Bruin Fieldhouse (JV/B)
6:30 PM; Bruin Fieldhouse (G)
8 PM; Bruin Fieldhouse (B)

Winter Break is Over!!!

Bartlesville Public Schools resume classes on January 6.
Let's make 2020 a great year!



Llon H. Clendenen, DDS MS

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Mystery Breakfast Giveaway

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b JANUARY EVENTS CALENDAR

Know of an upcoming event you would like to see on our calendar? Visit us at www.bartlesvillemonthly.com to submit a free listing!

Wed, Jan 1



1 PM

Christmas in the 'Ville Final Week
Downtown Depot

The Christmas in the 'Ville ice rink will be open daily, from 1-9 p.m., through January 5. A \$10 admission fee includes ice skates.

Thu, Jan 2

9 AM

28th Annual Creative Writing Contest
Bartlesville Public Library

600 S. Johnstone Ave.

Local aspiring writers are invited to enter the 28th Annual Creative Writing Contest, sponsored by the Bartlesville Friends of the Library. Contestants must be current Bartlesville Library cardholders. Original, unpublished work can be entered in the categories of poetry, fiction, non-fiction and children's literature. Entries can come from authors in the 8th grade and older. Cash prizes will be awarded to the winners at the ceremony in April. See the rules and get an application at the Bartlesville Library, or through the Library's website. Submissions are due by February 1.

1 PM

Christmas in the 'Ville Final Week
Downtown Depot

See January 1 event for information.

1:30 PM

Nutrition & Herb Study Group
Hopestone Cancer Support Center
206 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

Study the uses, both medical & everyday, of different herbs and good nutritional practices.

7 PM

Stray Kats Movie Night
Heritage Theatre - Gizzy's Eatery
306 E Don Tyler Ave., Dewey

Fri, Jan 3

9 AM

Caregiver Support Group
Hopestone Cancer Support Center
206 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

1 PM

Christmas in the 'Ville Final Week
Downtown Depot

See January 1 event for information.

7 PM

Family Movie Night Showing of Muppets
Heritage Theatre - Gizzy's Eatery
306 E Don Tyler Ave., Dewey

9 PM

Live Music
Solo Club
408 E 2nd. St.

Live Music
Osage Casino Bartlesville
222 Allen Rd.

Sat, Jan 4

9 AM

Ahna Jennings with Kyle Brown Acoustic Show
Hitchin' Post
815 N Delaware St., Dewey

10 AM

Open House
Richard Kane YMCA
101 N Osage Ave.

Kick the year off with an open house! Join us for FREE hot dogs, FREE bounce house fun, FREE fitness classes, FREE swim clinic, FREE games, and more! To top it all off if you become a member during this event we will WAIVE THE JOINING FEE!

Bartlesville Artisan Market
Washington Park Mall, Ste 218
2350 SE Washington Blvd

Held every Saturday, 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.



11 AM

Digital Gaming Day for Teens
Bartlesville Public Library
600 S Johnstone Ave.

Tulsa's Microsoft Store will be bringing the fun to BPL for this special, all-afternoon event just for TEENS! They will be offering Virtual Reality gaming, a Minecraft build challenge for prizes, digital art workshops, an Xbox Rocket League tournament and more. Visit the library's web site for session information and to register.



1 PM

Christmas in the 'Ville Final Week
Downtown Depot

See January 1 event for information.

7 PM

Murder Mystery Theater - Killer Chiller
Heritage Theatre - Gizzy's Eatery
306 E Don Tyler Ave., Dewey

Sun, Jan 5

1 PM

Christmas in the 'Ville Final Week
Downtown Depot

3 PM

LifeDrawing with Model
Price Tower Arts Center
510 S Dewey Ave.

Mon, Jan 6

10 AM

Eldercare Open House Tour
Elder Care
1223 Swan Dr.

Wed, Jan 8

6:30 PM

Health Awareness Series with Josh Wright
Bartlesville Public Library
600 S Johnstone Ave.



"Friendly dealers, great showroom and vehicles, very accommodating. Really appreciate being called by name." — Matt from Wichita, KS

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EVENTS CALENDAR

Thu, Jan 9

6 PM

ADPA Parkinson's Caregivers Support Group

JPMC Lower Level Classroom
3500 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

Fri, Jan 10

7 PM

Karaoke

Heritage Theatre - Gizzy's Eatery
306 E Don Tyler Ave., Dewey

9 PM

Live Music with Ahna Jennings

Solo Club
408 E 2nd St.

Live Music

Osage Casino Bartlesville
222 Allen Rd.

Sat, Jan 11

7 PM

Poetry Night

Heritage Theatre - Gizzy's Eatery
306 E Don Tyler Ave., Dewey

Tue, Jan 14

5:30 PM

Women's Cancer Support Group

Hopestone Cancer Support Center
206 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

All women are invited to participate in this group regardless of cancer type, stage of treatment, or years of survival. Come join this amazing group of ladies and get the support you need.

Thu, Jan 16



12 PM

Cooking Around the World Series with Chef Sandy

Bartlesville Public Library
600 S Johnstone Ave.

1:30 PM

Nutrition & Herb Study Group

Hopestone Cancer Support Center
206 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

See January 2 event for information.

5 PM

Parkinson's Support Group

Elder Care
1223 Swan Dr.



6 PM

BPS Foundation Scholars Showcase

Hopestone Cancer Support Center
206 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

Want to learn how the BPS Foundation supports our schools? Join us at the Scholars Showcase to see our grants and initiatives in action, then help support the Foundation by participating in our live auction! Event tickets can be purchased for \$20 and are available at bpsfoundation.org/showcase.

Fri, Jan 17

7 PM

Movie Night

Heritage Theatre - Gizzy's Eatery
306 E Don Tyler Ave., Dewey

9 PM

Live Music

Solo Club
408 E 2nd St.

Live Music

Osage Casino Bartlesville
222 Allen Rd.

Sat, Jan 18

8 PM

Live Music with Whiskey Poet Society Band

Cherokee Casino - Ramona
31501 US 75, Ramona

TBA

To Be Announced

Heritage Theatre - Gizzy's Eatery
306 E Don Tyler Ave., Dewey

Mon, Jan 20



6:30 PM

Bartian Youth Astronomers Meeting

Our Savior Lutheran Church
300 Madison Blvd.

Bartian Youth Astronomers (BYA) is open to ages seven years through high school. For safety reasons, children under age 13 must be accompanied by an adult. Setup/social time will begin at 6:30 pm and the meeting will start at 7:00 pm. Bartian Youth Astronomers is a group within the Bartlesville Astronomical Society that works together with parents and adults at BAS to develop new skills through projects, workshops, seminars, star parties, and other hands-on interactive activities.

Fri, Jan 24

7 PM

Murder Mystery

Heritage Theatre - Gizzy's Eatery
306 E Don Tyler Ave., Dewey

Cost is \$12 per person.

9 PM

Live Music

Solo Club
408 E 2nd St.

Live Music

Osage Casino Bartlesville
222 Allen Rd.

Live Music with Zodiac

Cherokee Casino - Ramona
31501 US 75, Ramona

Sat, Jan 25



11 AM

Bartlesville Polar Plunge

Hilton Garden Inn
205 SW Frank Phillips Blvd.

A Polar Plunge is a fundraising challenge made to an individual or group challenging them to dive into a cold body of water in order to raise money for Special Olympics. Each participant collects pledges from family, friends and businesses in the hopes of raising lots of money for Special Olympics. Registration begins at 10 a.m. For event information contact Jennifer Lightle at 918-481-1234 or email at jenniferl@sook.org.

7 PM

Movie Night Showing of Labyrinth

Heritage Theatre - Gizzy's Eatery
306 E Don Tyler Ave., Dewey

Tue, Jan 28

5:30 PM

Women's Cancer Support Group

Hopestone Cancer Support Center
206 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

See January 14 event for information.

Thu, Jan 30

6:30 PM

Song Box

Heritage Theatre - Gizzy's Eatery
306 E Don Tyler Ave., Dewey

Fri Jan 31

7 PM

Open Mic Comedy Night

Heritage Theatre - Gizzy's Eatery
306 E Don Tyler Ave., Dewey

9 PM

Live Music

Solo Club
408 E 2nd St.

Live Music

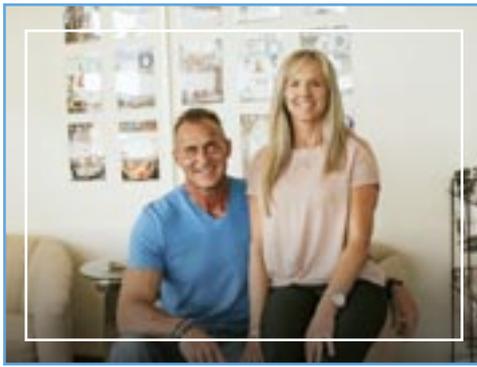
Osage Casino Bartlesville
222 Allen Rd.





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RECURRING EVENTS



2nd Street Flat
118 A W. 2nd St.



Angelo's Tavern
130 S. Cherokee Ave.



Bartlesville Art Association
Price Tower Design Center
500 S. Dewey Ave.



Bartlesville Artisan Market
Washington Park Mall
2350 SE Washington Blvd.



Bartlesville Public Library
600 S. Johnstone Ave.



Bartlesville Weight Watchers
Bartlesville Community Center
300 SE Adams Blvd.



Bartlesville Yoga
MON/THURS: Bartlesville
Civic Ballet Studio, 110 W. 2nd
TUES: Hillcrest Country Club,
1901 Price Road



Bliss Studio
319 S. Dewey Ave.



Elder Care
1223 Swan Dr.



Osage Casino
222 Allen Road



Painted Horse Bar & Grille
110 SW Frank Phillips Blvd.



Solo Club
408 E. 2nd St.



**Upper Room Noon
Worship Service**
Johnstone/Sare Bldg. - 3rd Floor

MONDAY

9 AM

Flow Class

Bliss Studio

10 AM

Citizenship Class

Bartlesville Public Library

4:30 PM

Flow Class

Bliss Studio

5 PM

Vinyasa Yoga

2nd Street Flat

5:30 PM

Spanish Class

Bartlesville Public Library

TUESDAY

8 AM

Flow Class

Bliss Studio

9:30 AM

Gentle Yoga & Meditation

Bliss Studio

10 AM

Fine Art Class

BAA Price Tower Design Center

Caregiver Support Group

Elder Care

6 PM

Prana Vinyasa Flow Yoga

Hillcrest Country Club

Flow Class

Bliss Studio

7 PM

Tuesday Trivia

Painted Horse Bar & Grill

Darts

Solo Club

WEDNESDAY

9 AM

Flow Class

Bliss Studio

9 AM

Tapestry Weaving Class

Price Tower Design Center

10 AM

Babies & Toddlers Storytime

Bartlesville Public Library

11 AM

Preschooler Storytime

Bartlesville Public Library

1 PM

Open Studio

Price Tower Design Center

4:30 PM

Flow Class

Bliss Studio

6 PM

REFIT

Bartlesville Public Library

Vinyasa Yoga

2nd Street Flat

Citizenship Class

Bartlesville Public Library

THURSDAY

8 AM

Flow Class

Bliss Studio

9:30 AM

Prana Vinyasa Flow Yoga

Bartleville Civic Ballet Studio

Gentle Yoga & Meditation

Bliss Studio

10 AM

Babies & Toddlers Storytime

Bartlesville Public Library

ESL Conversion Class

Bartlesville Public Library

WW Wellness Workshop

Bartlesville Community Center

11 AM

Preschooler Storytime

Bartlesville Public Library

1 PM

Beginning Watercolor Art Class

Price Tower Design Center

5:30 PM

WW Wellness Workshop

Bartlesville Community Center

6 PM

Flow Class

Bliss Studio

7 PM

Nightshift Karaoke

Osage Casino

9 PM

Angelo's Karaoke (21+)

Angelo's Tavern

FRIDAY

5:30 AM

Power Yoga & Meditation

Bliss Studio

9 AM

Flow Class

Bliss Studio

10 AM

Fine Art Class

Price Tower Design Center

11 AM

Power Yoga & Meditation

Bliss Studio

12 PM

Eat Healthy, Be Active

Bartlesville Public Library

9 PM

Live Music

Solo Club

9 PM

Live Music

Osage Casino

SATURDAY

8 AM

Bartlesville Farmers Market

Frank Phillips Park

8:30 AM

Flow Class

Bliss Studio

10 AM

Bartlesville Artisan Market

Washington Park Mall

WCSPCA Adoption Event

Petco

Gentle Yoga & Meditation

Bliss Studio

7 PM

Gentle Stretch Yoga

2nd Street Flat

SUNDAY

7 PM

Gentle Stretch Yoga

2nd Street Flat

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How the Time Flies

Love & Value the Time You Have with One Another

by Rita Thurman Barnes

The name Jerry Wallace may not mean anything to you anymore but many of you may still recall the lyrics to his hit song from 1958 called *How the time Flies*. It was a silly song for the most part opening up with early-day Rock n Roll verbosity, but the soul of his song lingers with me to this day.

During the summer of 1958 at age 11, I was just a star-struck reader of movie magazines and periodicals that featured Rock n Roll singers of the time and I don't think I ever pondered the meaning of this particular song Jerry Wallace sang. But I was a big fan of the music of my youth and in my free time I had either the radio or my 45 rpm records playing loud enough for the whole neighborhood to hear.

Music continued to be at the center of my life as it was for most youngsters of the 1950s but as we got a bit older it was our friends and hobbies and school activities that took up most of our time. Boys were busy with sports year-round and girls babysat for neighbors and had sleepovers. As the years moved along, we left junior high and high school behind and headed off to college degrees, serious relationships, marriage and families of our own. We were so busy that we never thought much about the passage of time.

When a grade school friend lost her older sister, I remember wondering why everyone was crying so much and when I was a preschooler and the little neighbor down the street passed away, I remember asking my mother where he had gone. My dad's parents died before I was born, and my mom's folks lived long healthy lives, so I never experienced what it was like to lose a grandparent until I was in my 20s. However, I was never terribly close to my grandparents and their loss just wasn't that devastating to me.

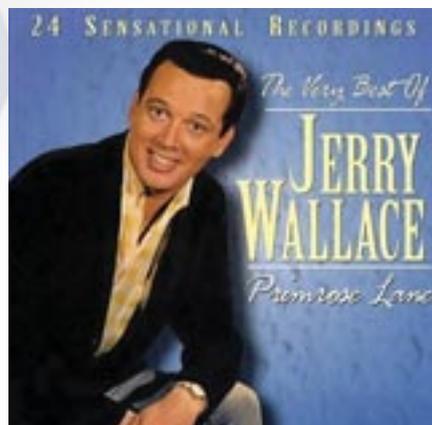
Some of us may have lost friends and older family members during those glori-



Pictured are this story's author, Rita Thurman Barnes, with her siblings and their spouses. The photograph was taken more than a decade ago.

ous days of the 50s and 60s but unless it was our best friend or one of our parents, we managed to escape the earth-shattering kind of pain we had no idea even existed. The lucky among us kept our grand-parents and even our great-grand-parents in our lives long enough to bond with them and miss their passing but for the most part, we thought it was only terribly old people who died.

I guess it's this time of year when we've passed through the holidays and a new year is upon us that we ponder people, places and things that used to be,



and we wonder at how the time has flown. It's no longer you who is 30, 40 or 50 years of age. Rather, it's your son or daughter, niece or nephew or perhaps your grandchild. The lyrics to the old song say - *How the time flies when I'm near you. When I'm near you, how the time flies. Seems like heaven when I'm near you. When I'm near you, how the time flies. Wonder why when we're alone the hours always pass so fast. The time just doesn't last.*

The photo you see is of me and my three siblings and their spouses. It was taken more than a decade ago, but I still wasn't wondering about the loss of them in my life. It happened one by one. First it was my brother in the sweater and then my sister-in-law, top left followed by my brother on the right and my sister next to him.

The holidays were wonderful this year, but, the entire back row of my family is gone. Only my sister-in-law, Joyce, my husband and I are left. We dearly love and value the time we have with one another. But, oh, how the time does fly.

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Exhibits Detail Nowata's Past

by **Roseanne McKee**

The Nowata County Historical Society Museum is full of exhibits about the fascinating history of the city of Nowata and the county that surrounds it.

"This area was under 600 feet of water at one time. It was an ocean," Museum Curator and Nowata County Historical Society President Carroll Craun said, as she explained the Prehistory Exhibit. "Over time, the water receded, and people moved in."

A list of early cultures that lived in the area are listed on the prehistory panel – Ozark Bluff Dwellers, Lower Mound Builders, Clovis Mammoth Hunters and Folsom Bison Hunters among them.

Tribes used fossils and beads to barter for supplies, Craun said. Many fossils and bones have been found in the county and donated to the museum. Arrowheads from various tribes including grinding stones, monos, scraping tools, and other artifacts are also on display.

Craun pointed out that one of the grinding stones, or metatate, has a narrow canal in the center, allowing ground grain to travel out of the stone and into an adjacent bowl.

"These fossils were found on one of the farms outside of town. They are known as shark food because sharks ate these things. ... on a lot of these you can see the sharks' teeth marks, so we know they were here," Craun explained.

In the 1700s, Osage settled in the area living in villages. A museum panel states that the tribe went on seasonal buffalo hunts and sold the furs and hides to French traders.

"Two French traders, August and Pierre Choteau, built a trading post on the Verdigris River and established trade agreements with the Osage," the panel states.

The Cherokee were instrumental in the formation of Nowata County, using their allotments to form towns, schools, and churches.

The Osage were eventually driven out of what is now Nowata County by the Cherokee in the Battle of Strawberry Moon Massacre fought at the Claremore Mounds within the Cooweescoowee I.D., Craun said.

The Delaware Tribe, also called Lenape, were present in what is now Nowata. Charles Journeycake, the last Principal Chief of the Delaware Tribe before the tribe became part of the Cherokee Nation, made his home in the area in Alluwe, Craun explained. His home was torn down in the early 1950s when the area became part of the Oologah Dam, fed by the Verdigris River. After the dam was created, Journeycake was among



those who moved to land near the original town, and established the town of New Alluwe.

Nellie Johnstone, a member of the Delaware Tribe, was the owner of the mineral rights in the Cooweescoowee District, where the first oil well gushed. The deer hide dress worn at the dedication ceremony of the oil well replica (in Bartlesville) is on display at the museum.

The city of Nowata was named after a Cherokee Delaware word that means welcome, Craun said. According to legend, the city was named by Roberta Campbell Lawson, the granddaughter of Chief Journeycake, who called it *No we ata*. Sadly, the man who painted the sign was drunk and misspelled the name, Craun said. The federal government refused to correct the spelling and the city of Nowata was born.

There is a signed photo of William Keeler, Principal Chief of the Cherokee, with good wishes to the museum dated June 18, 1971, in a display case. "That's about the time the original museum opened," Craun said.

The museum, which had outgrown its space, moved into the Landers Supermarket building at 136 S. Oak, in May 2016. A panel describes the history of the store. "It was the first store in the area that had automatic doors," Craun said.

Some of the other exhibits at the museum are about early communities, one-room schools, hardware stores, gas stations, Native American history, rodeos, military history, the Dawes Commission, early medical practices, and genealogy.

The museum receives support from a foundation begun by Nowata oilman Claude Charles Harmon. The Harmon Foundation also funded the 2013 renovation of the Glass Mansion in Nowata.

The Nowata County Historical Society Museum is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., and they may be reached at 918-273-1191.



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Ain't No River Wide Enough

Doing the Texas Two-Step North of the Red River

by Kelly Bland

It was a chance meeting that day in Waco, Texas — but looking back, it may have also been a Divine appointment. This Tourism Gal had headed down south of the Red River to check out Chip & Joanna Gaines' *Magnolia Market* and came home with more than home décor!

It was the rain that herded the shoppers under the large covered area in the courtyard at the Silos that day. I sat down next to a friendly-looking older gentleman. "You know who that is?" he asked, pointing at a gentleman standing at the back of the arbor. "That's Jimmy Don Holmes, from their show. You know, the metal artist."

I looked at who he had pointed out and replied, "Really? You think so?"

"Yep," he said. "My wife took a picture with him a little while ago."

Hmm ... I was actually here for more than shopping. Osage County has seen a tremendous tourism explosion since the opening of the Pioneer Woman's Mercantile in October of 2016. Waco, Texas had also been experiencing the same growth. I had ventured south of the Red for a meeting with the Waco tourism director to talk shop and compare notes. She and I had enjoyed a downtown Waco lunch and she had given me a first-class tour, then dropped me off at the Silos for a bit while she tended to some other meetings that afternoon. I decided to introduce myself to the burly western gentleman pointed out to me and get a little souvenir pic myself.

In about five minutes following a great selfie moment, it was Jimmy Don who came up to the Tourism Gal — along with his friend, Frank White. They sat down beside me, as the rain kept pouring, and struck up a conversation about Pawhuska and Osage County. Ever met someone that the conversation just flowed easily? That's how this went — and it ended with a "Y'all Come See Us Invitation" from me with a cell phone number exchange on all parts.

Call it Marketing 101, or just a brilliant random thought, but tying these two tourist attractions together was a no-brainer in my mind. Texas is known to presently have 9X greater tourism than Oklahoma. Linking these two iconic places together as one "experience" went together as naturally as chicken-fried steak & gravy — and could be a tide-turner on those numbers for Oklahoma. I would rather neighbor with our southern state than fuss with them. So, Oklahoma began courting Texas to come up north of the Red, and Mr. Jimmy Don Holmes, with his outgoing personality and Texas charm, was going to be the poster boy for that campaign.

On July 4, Texas came calling on Osage County, during the Patriotic Party on the Prairie Celebration on the streets of Pawhuska. Osage County Tourism and the folks of Osage County rolled out the red carpet for our visitors and put them up



Kelly Bland, right, with Jimmy Don Holmes, of HGTV's Fixer Upper.

at the **Texas Oklahoma Bed & Bath** (which was actually named for Jimmy Don and his crew). They visited **The Ben Johnson Cowboy Museum**, toured the **Tallgrass Prairie Preserve**, and the **Pioneer Woman Lodge** with **Roaming the Osage Historic Tours**, attended a BBQ at the **Oilman's Daughter**, enjoyed a hearty breakfast at **The Pioneer Woman Mercantile**, and danced on the streets to the music of **Jake Hooker & the Outsiders**. They were also treated to a night at the **Pioneer Woman Boarding House**, compliments of the Pioneer Woman, herself. Hospitality is something we definitely do NOT run short of in Osage County. 😊

We sent them back to Texas well fed, well rested, and hopefully soon-to-be well vested in Osage County — as Jimmy Don left saying he can't wait to come back. Since then, we have met one more time down south of the Red, and Jimmy Don and Frank took time to record an episode for the "Osagin' It" podcast, available on iTunes and Spotify. On this episode, Jimmy Don tells of first meeting Chip and Joanna Gaines, as well as Ladd and Ree Drummond. For the rest of the story, we hope you will pull up our "Osagin' It" podcast and give it a listen. Then take a short drive to come see us in Osage County, Oklahoma where #TheSmilesAreAlwaysFree!

For more information about what's happening around Osage County, check out VisitTheOsage.com, and download the free Visit the Osage app.

BEN JOHNSON

COWBOY MUSEUM

Ben "Son" Johnson

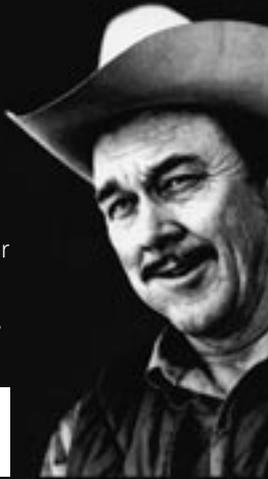
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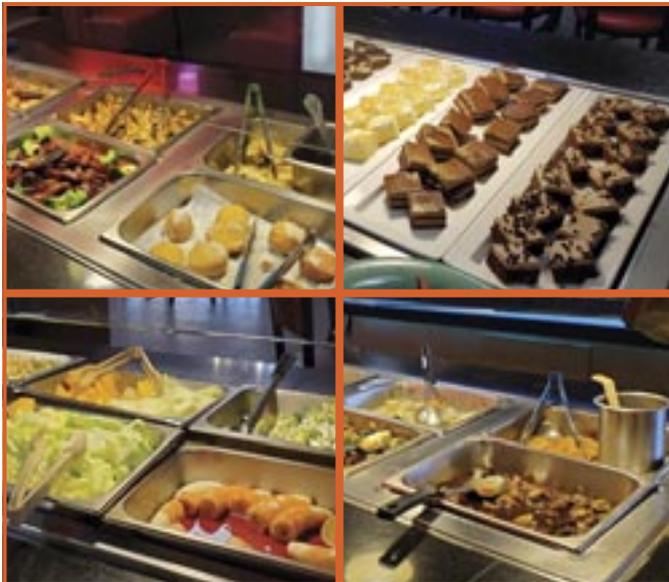
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A Life-Changing Opportunity

Internship Program Changed the Life of RSU Graduate

by **Angie Thompson**

In 2007, Rogers State University alumna Amy Ashlock was offered a life-changing opportunity while a student at RSU-Bartlesville. In 2005, RSU expanded its presence and purchased the former TRW building on the corner of 4th and Dewey. Moving its campus and administrative office to downtown Bartlesville created new possibilities for the university and students, one of which was a new partnership opportunity with ConocoPhillips (COP) designed to support their changing workforce needs. The internship program (or “CO-OP” as it is known today) offered RSU students an opportunity to work at COP while completing their degrees.

Ashlock grew up in the Bartlesville area, graduating from Copan High School. She knew a college degree was an important component for increased earning potential, but as a single mother, she also knew the commitment would be significant and challenging. “RSU provided the degree that would give me the education I needed to attain the career I desired. It offered campus convenience and affordable tuition, which allowed me to take care of my family while still pursuing my degree.” As a full-time student, she worked part-time in the admissions office at the RSU-Bartlesville campus, and also as a paralegal in a law office. After completing her associate degree in 2004, she immediately enrolled in the bachelor’s degree program. As she approached her final year, she and four other RSU-Bartlesville students were hand-selected to represent RSU in a brand new CO-OP program at COP.

In the initial interview, Ashlock was asked about her skill set and her degree. “I was strong in accounting, but really had an interest in a different area. I think this impressed them. During the interview, they brought in other people from the company to interview me to be part of a new ‘change management’ initiative. I was hired to be part of that team for the 16-week program [a semester]. After four short weeks, I took a leadership role in this program, and at the end of 16 weeks, they approached RSU about extending my internship. An internship that was intended to last a semester turned into a permanent opportunity with a major Fortune 500 company. I knew it was a life-changing opportunity for me. I am convinced that being a hard-working student at RSU is the reason I was chosen.”

Ashlock continued to work full-time at COP while finishing her bachelor’s degree. “As a single parent, RSU-Bartlesville was a perfect fit for me. It was affordable and convenient, and the flexible course schedule meant I could continue working full-time while completing my degree. I didn’t have to choose between an amazing career opportu-



RSU ALUMNA AMY ASHLOCK



nity or completing my degree. I could do both.” Ashlock has been employed at ConocoPhillips for 12 years, and currently leads a logistics project in her position as Senior Logistics Analyst in the Supply Chain group. While a student at RSU, Ashlock was also a scholarship recipient. Now she gives back to the next generation of RSU students as a proud supporter of the annual RSU-Bartlesville Scholarship Fundraising Breakfast — a local campaign raising funds for area RSU students. To learn more about the 2020 RSU Bartlesville Scholarship Fundraising Breakfast, contact Angie Thompson, RSU development officer, at 918-338-8023. Registration and event details are located online at www.rsu.edu/bsb.

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Civil War Guests Of Legion

From Realtor to Missionary

The Story of Carlo B. Gray

by Kay Little, Little History Adventures

Happy 123rd Birthday Bartlesville! In November, we learned about a Bartlesville founder by the name of Nelson Carr. This month we will learn about a lesser-known founder, Carlo Gray. Next month we will learn about three of his sons, who also contributed greatly to our community.

Carlo Briton Gray was born in Kentucky in 1844. He served in the Civil War for a couple of years, and in 1866 he married Matilda Ball. They made their home in Virginia, where they had 11 children.

Shortly after the last child was born, Carlo left Matilda behind and moved west, eventually landing in Bartlesville in the early 1890s. When he came to this area, he brought four of his children; sons James, John, and Cella, along with a daughter, Mary, and her husband, Joshua Thompson.

While living in Virginia and Kentucky, Carlo was involved in farming, real estate, other business interests, and was a missionary preacher for the Baptist denomination.

In 1884, after moving west, Carlo married Mollie Gentry in Missouri. They moved to Caney, Kansas and eventually Bartlesville, where they had three children together. They were the second white couple to settle in Bartlesville, Indian Territory. Because Carlo was a traveling preacher, he appears in the census of Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Missouri.

According to several sources, Carlo helped start what is now First Baptist Church of Bartlesville in 1888, in the band hall located just north of the Johnstone Keeler Store along the southern bank of the Caney River. He was known to preach to the Indians, using an interpreter. Henry Armstrong said, "He was the best posted



Carlo Gray with his dog.

minister I ever heard." At one time, he was also pastor of the Caney Baptist Church.

The December 22, 1899 issue of the local weekly newspaper, The Bartlesville Magnet, announced the election of C.B. Gray as the third mayor of Bartlesville by the City Council, succeeding Frank N. Overless, who resigned. According to the newspaper article, "Mr. Gray will make an efficient and painstaking officer. He is public spirited and alive to the interests of our town. No better selection could have been made." He only served as mayor for a few months, and then went on to serve the community by being a school board member for 15 years.

Just months before becoming mayor, the Magnet reported, "Reverend C.B. Gray filled the pulpit of the Baptist Church Sunday night and delivered a very interesting discourse. His theme was the perseverance of the saint

and his remarks were illustrated by numerous forceful and mirth-generating figures."

Carlo died March 6, 1930 at age 86, following months of illness. Reverend Buckner of Virginia Avenue Baptist Church officiated. He was buried in Memorial Park. He left a widow, Mollie, and nine children. According to Carlo's obituary, "he was well known in the area and leaves a host of friends to mourn his loss."

Carlo's life was very complicated, as there is no record of a divorce from Matilda and the children of both wives really did not have anything to do with each other. Also, First Baptist Church has no record of his involvement with the church, but I did find several documents at the history museum telling about his involvement there. He did leave a great legacy, which we will learn more about next month.



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A Call to Artists

Tower Center at Unity Square Calling for Artistic Center Piece

With the grand opening of Tower Center at Unity Square just months away, a call to artists has been extended to local, state and nationwide artists to submit ideas for an artistic center piece for the urban gathering place. The Design Committee's primary purpose for this competition to provide a unique centerpiece for the green space. The chosen solution will be an artistic installation with an interactive water component which celebrates unity, community, and the unique attributes of Bartlesville.

In 2018, our citizens voted to develop an urban gathering place to unite Taliesin Fellowship's Community Center and Frank Lloyd Wright's Price Tower. Tower Center at Unity Square will celebrate the arts with a performance venue, artistic play areas, open lawns for play and relaxation, inviting native stone and plantings, the sounds of water, and intriguing sculptural pieces. The goal is to provide a gathering place where all people can interact with each other and the arts in a variety of ways. Static art displays will be joined by interactive art pieces, performances, and festivals to bring everyone together regardless of circumstance, culture, or lifestyle. It will be a place where we can dream our own dreams, and connect with our neighbors.

The centerpiece of Tower Center at Unity Square is the subject of this art competition. This installation will be located at the intersection of the design grids of the Community Center



and Price Tower and will signify the coming together of all people with the arts and the natural environment. The winning design will be an artistic installation that is completed by public interaction, and will include a water component for play by the child in all of us. The unveiling of the final installation will be in the Fall of 2020.

Funding has been set aside by the Bartlesville City Council for this important focal point in Tower Center at Unity Square. The budget for the entire project is \$150,000, which will include all Artist, Tower Center at Unity Square, architectural and structural design, and contractor costs. JonesPlan, Tower Center at Unity Square's contractor will have completed their work by the time this contract is awarded, but will remobilize to complete whatever items are required for the installation.

Submissions will be juried by a committee consisting of representatives from Price Tower Arts Center, Bartlesville Community Center, Bartlesville Art Association and selected community citizens. Ideas will be judged on relevance: whether or not the solution addresses the Tower Center at Unity Square's goals of Unity, Art, Community, and Interactive appeal; Audience Appeal: whether or not the solution appeals to diverse audiences, including adults, children, and citizens of all socioeconomic groups; and Quality: whether or not the proposed project offers unique, innovative, and thoughtful ways of connecting Bartlesville citizens and visitors to Tower Center at Unity Square.

Artists interested in submitting a proposal are invited to find additional detailed information regarding submissions and how to make them on the Bartlesville Community Center website. Visit it at www.bartlesvillecommunitycenter.com under the Call To Artists tab.



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Meating a Need

Price's Meat Market Offers Deli, Lunch, and Much More

by Roseanna McKee

Price's Old Fashion Meat Market, located at 4025 Nowata Road in Bartlesville, offers premium-quality beef, pork, and chicken cut to order.

Regarding their beef, Owner Dean Price said, "Everything we carry is midwestern grain fed choice or higher beef, and all the processing is done in store. All of our ground beef is produced from the whole muscle without using additives or preservatives.

Dean learned the business from his family. His grandparents owned a small grocery store, which his father and mother eventually took over. His parents purchased a larger grocery store in Canton, Oklahoma and operated it for 30 years.

After high school, Dean attended a technical school in Burns Flat, Oklahoma, to fine-tune his butchering skills. After completing the course, he started his career with United Supermarket in Cordell, Oklahoma.

Over the years, Dean worked for multiple national grocery store chains both on the retail and wholesale side of the business, until he opened Price's in April 2005.

Price's Meat Market is a family business. Dean's wife, Deana Price, worked with him the first three years until their two daughters, Sydney and Taylor, reached school age. At that time, Deana returned to teaching. The couple's daughters are both students at Bartlesville High School, and continue to help at the meat market when their schedules allow.

Over the years, their products and services have expanded from just a meat market. Price's Meat Market is now also a deli serving hot meals, while also offering a catering service. Recently, Price's added more seating for lunch customers to meet demand for in-house dining.

Price's currently serves lunch Tuesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. but there are plans to begin serving lunch on Saturdays in 2020. "We have a full menu every day," he said.

Lunches are very affordable and include multiple entrées and sandwiches. "Homestyle meals are our specialty, featuring items like pot roast, meatloaf, chicken and dumplings, beans and cornbread, or our fully loaded Frito chili pie," Dean said. "It's always been a customer favorite."

In addition, Price's has around eight different soups, which they rotate throughout the week. Among them are chicken and sausage jambalaya, potato, and cheddar poblano.

Price's offers catering services for most events, large or small. Visit their website at pricesmeatmarket.com for complete menu options.



Price's also has a premium quality deli counter with a full selection of meats and cheeses. "We also make a variety of sausages in house, including polish and summer sausage," Dean said.

Price's makes some prepared foods, like Italian-style meatballs and homestyle meatloaf, on-site that customers can take home and cook or bake for dinner.

"We make a variety of our own deli salads in house — cheese and ham spreads, antipasto with cherry tomatoes, salami, olives, mozzarella balls, and fresh tabouli," Dean said. "We carry a variety of Oklahoma-made products including marinades and rubs. One of our most popular is Daddy Hinkle's, which includes both a liquid and a dry rub. I prefer the dry rub. A dry rub tends to give a hint of the taste without overpowering the true flavor of the meat."

Dean welcomes any special request and can often locate hard-to-find items not available in other stores. You can always contact Dean by phone at 918-766-0811 or through Price's Facebook page with questions or concerns.

Price's is always willing to give tips on preparation of all products they sell, and has a free tip sheet available from the Oklahoma Beef Council to help cooks with techniques in preparing steaks and roasts.

One of Dean's favorite tips is to use a meat thermometer. "If you cook to given temperatures, that is as accurate as you can get," he said.

Dean said after being in business in Bartlesville for 15 years, he would like to thank all of his loyal customers that have made Price's Meat Market a success. He could not have asked for a better town to raise a family and a place to call home.

Price's Old Fashion Meat Market is open Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., with hopes to expand their hours in 2020.

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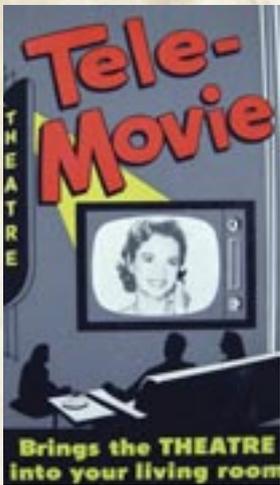
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The Early Days of Movies

Bartlesville Gained Notariety for Pioneering Telemovies

by Debbie Neece, Bartlesville Area History Museum

Although Philip Isley dreamed of a career in Broadway, the Isley Stock Company, a tent-show theater troupe, brought him success and connections. As the family business toured Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas, their daughter, Phylis developed her own dreams of an acting career. Under the stage name of Jenifer Jones, she worked with the likes of John Wayne, Gregory Peck, Humphrey Bogart and Laurence Olivier, which brought her Golden Globe nominations and Academy Awards.



Philip Isley began acquiring movie theaters in southern Kansas and northeastern Oklahoma during the 1920s including the Circle Cinema – Tulsa’s first suburban theater, which opened in 1928 and holds the claim to Tulsa’s oldest-standing movie theater. The Circle Cinema is located on Route 66 and was placed on the National Registry in 2003.

During the stock market crash of 1929 and the Great Depression that followed, Isley’s business dealings continued to excel. In 1934, Philip Hays Sr. took a job at

Coffeyville and learned his way around the theater business under the wing of Phil Isley, known as the head of the west coast theater syndicate at that time.

In 1939, Isley also owned a theater on Main Street in Tulsa and Phil Hays Sr. managed the theater. John Wayne’s debut movie, Stagecoach, was playing at Isley’s theater; for advertisement, Isley borrowed an old stagecoach from Pawnee Bill who was once a circus partner with Buffalo Bill. Since John Wayne once performed with his daughter, this was a special event for Isley.

In 1941, Griffith Theater Company purchased the Isley theater interests and Hays was one of only three managers retained after the purchase. Griffith then sold to Video Independent Theaters and Hays settled in Bartlesville. He put in long hours, arriving early each morning and leaving late each evening, caring for his managerial duties from his Osage Theater office.

In 1935, Phil married his high school sweetheart, Elizabeth “Bettye” Peirce. The two were in high



school during the time the *Betty Boop* cartoon was popular and the nickname stuck for Bettye, with Phil being nicknamed “Betty Boop’s Boyfriend.”

Their bundles of joy consisted of son Philip Glyn Hays Jr., daughter Gaye Lynn and their parrot John Silver (as in Long John Silver, the parrot-wearing wooden-legged pirate of Robert Louis Stevenson’s *Treasure Island*). John Silver was well-known in the Bartlesville theater world. He was often seen in his cage at the Hilltop Theater with the menagerie of animals; until his two-day escape, at which time he safely stayed at the Hays home.

Both Hays’ children attended school in Bartlesville, Phil eight years older than his sister Gaye Lynn. When the Hays’ opened the Hilltop Drive-in Theater, Emily Sharp lived near their Limestone area home and became Gaye Lynn’s babysitter.

Emily was connected to the Hays family through her babysitting and was not particularly interested in Phil Jr., in fact, she didn’t really like him. They both attended College High School, class of 1955, but never had classes together.

Later, Emily worked at the Hilltop box office and operated the telephones at the downtown theaters on the weekends. She dated Phil Jr. a little during high school but quit dating when he went to Bartlesville’s Central Christian College. He started dating girls at the college so Emily dated other boys and she was married briefly. The Hays’ lived in Effingham, Illinois while Phil Jr. was in military service and Phil and Emily had lost contact with each other.



Tulsa Movie Theater managed by Phil Hays Sr. The old stagecoach, used as promotion was borrowed from Pawnee Bill, one time partner in circus with Buffalo Bill. Stagecoach was John Wayne’s first big picture, 1939.

He visited Bartlesville once and called Emily to ask for help in gathering some of the kids who used to work at the theaters for a meeting at Johnston’s Drive-in restaurant,



located on West Frank Phillips Blvd. Emily and Phil Jr. remained life-long friends with the “kids” who worked at the theaters.

That reconnection developed and they were married in 1961 at Effingham where Phil Jr. worked at the newspaper. Then, they transferred to California and finally moved back to Bartlesville in 2000 where they both worked at the Green Country Free Clinic. Philip Hays Jr. passed away in 2011.

In the meantime, from 1948-1957, Phil Hays Sr. managed the Osage, Arrow, Hilltop and Belle Mead Theaters in Bartlesville. He was also in charge of the Telemovie Experiment, which brought Cable Cinema to Bartlesville and gave our town notoriety in newspapers across America as well as large-scale magazines like *Life*.

After 40 years of movie entertainment, the Lyric Theater at 325 S. Dewey Avenue closed March 17, 1957 to make way for Telemovie equipment. After renovations, the Telemovies began operation on September 3, 1957, with about 300 city residents watching two full-length motion pictures on their home television.

Oklahoma Governor Raymond Gary sent a telegram to Mr. Hays Sr. commending him for pioneering the Telemovie Project and thanked him for “putting the National Spotlight on Bartlesville and our great state.” In addition, for Mr. Hays’ efforts, Governor Gary commissioned him as honorary colonel on his staff.

Due to operational policy differences, on December 16, 1957, Phil Hays Sr. resigned from Video Independent Theaters, the Vumore Company and the Telemovie Experiment. With only eight months and 20 days of service, the Telemovie experiment ceased May 23, 1958.



Upon his resignation, he leased the Fox Theater in Carthage, MO for a short time. Then established himself in Effingham, IL as the manager of the Frisina Amusement Company theaters and addressed the Chamber of Commerce with a proposal to construct a five-channel television distribution system. Well-known actors like John Wayne sent Mr. Hays personal telegrams for his Effingham accomplishments.

Mr. Hays Sr. was never an idle man. By 1965, he became the president of the newly formed Illinois-Indian Cable Television Association, Inc. Then Mr. and Mrs. Phil Hays Sr. moved to Albuquerque, NM about 1967 and lived in retirement until their passing – Bettye Hays in 1975 and Phil Sr. in 1994.

One might say Mr. Philip G. Hays Sr. “made it” in the entertainment field. He had entertainment in his blood and had the opportunity to fulfill his lifelong dream of theater, just from the management side of the business. Bartlesville appreciates the Hays family for their theater experiences.

Did You Know?

In the United States, the number of home television sets rose from 6,000 in 1946 to some 12 million in 1951. The television was barely 30 years old in 1957, but nearly half of American homes had a television set. In comparison, there are an estimated 120.6 million now.

Now You Know*

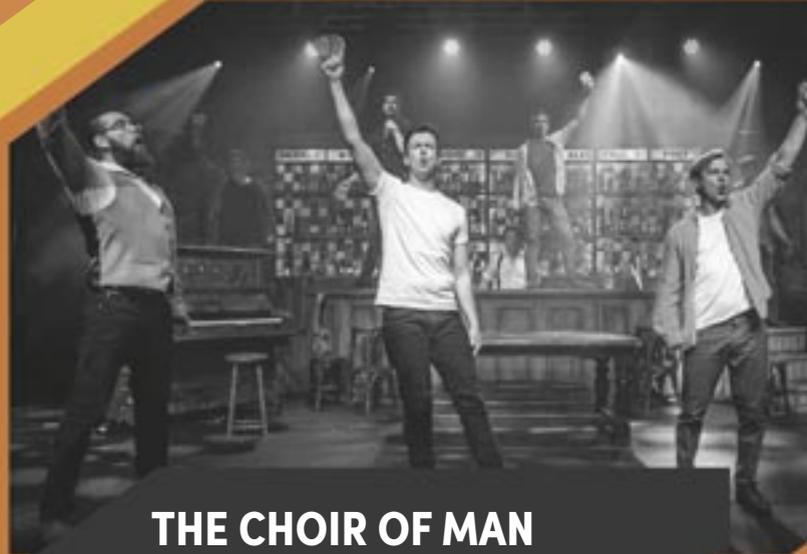


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Kathy Spears Hughes

Histographer Captured Vibrancy of Bartlesville

by Lori Ward

What do you call yourself when you are equally passionate about history and photography? If you are Kathy Spears Hughes, you coin a new term — Histographer. Well, the term itself is not new, but the meaning is. In Kathy’s world, histography signified a healthy balance of history and photography, combined.

Although photography came first, circa 1972, Kathy’s love of Bartlesville history was a natural segue after taking more than 100,000 photographs of Bartlesville and the surrounding area. Her early career was spent on the back roads of Oklahoma “getting her shot.” This involved capturing the vibrant Oklahoma sunrises and sunsets, along with rural landscapes, trees, flowers,



Kathy Spears Hughes
August 15, 1950 - December 3, 2019

and cloud formations. A fervent Christian, Kathy often described the sky and cloud formations as God’s handy work, and if the scene rose to the level of magnificence, she would say, “Look, God is showing off!”

Although she left the community in 1986 to follow her husband’s career, her heart always remained in Bartlesville. When she got the opportunity to move back in 1997, she took it, and so began her adventures in sleuthing. Inspired by the Nancy Drew adventures she read as a child, her youthful imagination was primed for a resurgence. After meeting a local business owner with a warehouse full of Bartlesville newspapers (ahem, aka history), her future course was set.

Histography never saw what was coming. The newspapers dated back to the early 1900s, and the prolific-minded Histographer assembled a group of friends and volunteers over the past decade to read, clip, organize, and file Bartlesville history. Combined with her photographs, this collection would become the lifelong project for her children, a daughter, Lori Ward; and son, Kirk Hughes.

With Kathy’s passing on December 3, 2019, her life’s work suddenly became a legacy, and now the Bartlesville community will be enriched henceforward with her findings. You can stay in touch with Kathy’s work and adventures at Discover Bartlesville, where you can also subscribe to gain access to her archive of Bartlesville obituaries that have been meticulously hand researched and vetted.

~ Lori Ward &
 Kirk Hughes
 DiscoverBartlesville.com



CHRISTMAS IN THE 'VILLE



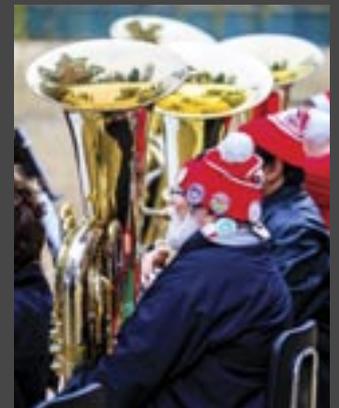
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Fresh Beginnings

Enjoy the Gool Old Days While You're Still Living In Them

by Brent Taylor

I love New Year's Eve, although I have an aversion to parties. I would rather sit in a corner and engage in singular conversation. However, I'm working on my character deficiency and beginning to understand that celebration is not a vice, but rather a natural progression of life itself.

One recent New Year's Eve, Karen and I, along with friends Bob and Sheila, were in California wondering how the marginally famous celebrate. So, we reserved a table at the Sunset Inn for New Year's dinner. The folks in Malibu are laid back and look as if they inhabit names that roll by silently in movie credits — the producers and directors and the sheltered famous — hiding behind walls we can't see over. But we were determined to endure elective social stress amongst Malibu's jet set. Each of us would meet one person, and if possible, someone famous.

Our first challenge was Gary Busey, accompanied by a notably younger woman and a boy, perhaps 6 years old, who wore a shirt with the word *fart* on the front. Bob wished Gary Happy New Year while extending his right hand in greeting. Gary said, "Huh!" Bob repeated, "Happy New Year!" Mr. Busey said, "Oh, Happy New Year," while refusing the hand shake. Bob is Mr. Congeniality — nobody refuses Bob's greeting. We were taken aback by the handshake refusal and awaited a moment of superficial social justice. Soon, that moment arrived, as Mr. Busey posed for a picture with the woman and the boy and Karen urged Sheila, "Photobomb them!" Without any fear of humiliation, Sheila lunged across the room and dove into the family history of Gary Busey.

There was also a handsome guy we called *The Hawaiian*, and an actual native Hawaiian woman named Malaya, who danced over to me and asked, "What's your name?" I flashed my wed-



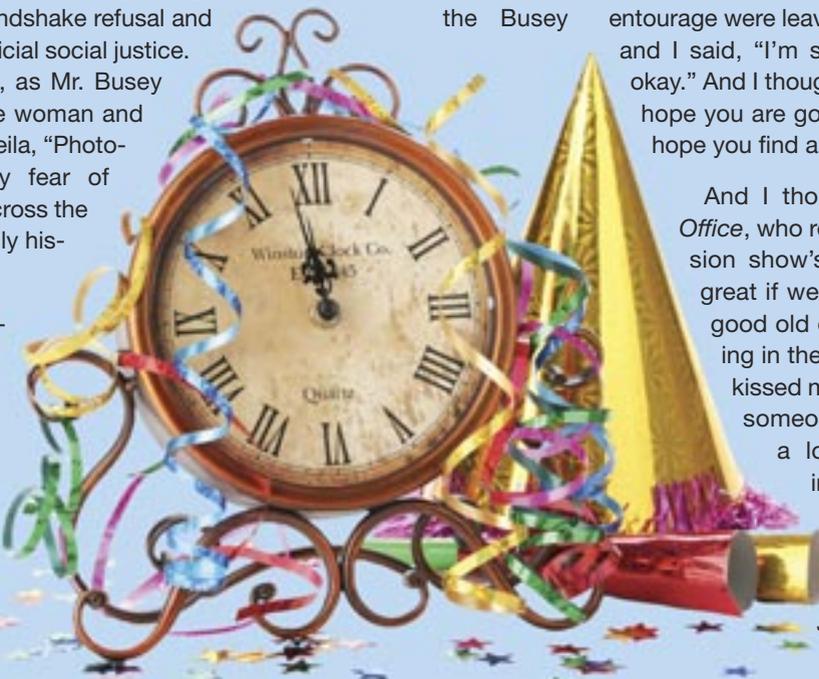
ding ring and replied, "I'm Bengt," not wanting to reveal my true name. Bengt was a guy from Norway I had just met, who lives in Malibu with his French wife, whom he met in Paris. Bengt thought it funny that my name was almost the same as his. Bob and I talked with Bengt about surfing and snow skiing and about our shared initial B. We met a couple from St. Louis, freshly de-nested, their children living in Portland. And we met Sam, a pleasant

diminutive Jewish anesthesiologist who grew up in the Bronx.

Just before midnight, we walked out to the beach and I considered those we had just met. I thought about a foreigner, Fabio, from Austria. He was visiting his sister in Malibu, but tonight he was alone. He came by himself to a New Year's Eve party in a foreign country. Somehow, I thought it was we who were brave. But it was Fabio — awkward, slightly out of rhythm, just a bit geeky, a stranger in a strange land, a little bit like us, only more so.

I still don't quite understand what an introvert like me was doing in La La Land that night. But I won't soon forget that evening. I realized that people are just people, the movie stars, the homeless, the famous, the spat upon, and the kid with a bodily function lettered across his shirt, whom I bumped into as the Busey entourage were leaving. I looked down at him and I said, "I'm sorry." The kid said, "It's okay." And I thought to myself, thanks kid, I hope you are going to be okay too, and I hope you find a new shirt someday.

And I thought of Andy from *The Office*, who reflected during the television show's finale, "Wouldn't it be great if we knew that these are the good old days, while we're still living in them?" I blew a kazoo and I kissed my wife softly like you kiss someone with whom you share a lovely secret. These are indeed the good old days. Happy New Year!





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I prefer the idea of making a list of things you're exceptionally grateful for this year. I made a similar list about this time last year. I'd like to do it again if you don't mind. Thanks.

Now, just like last year, obviously at the top of that list are of course: God, Family and 'Merica. But, for the purposes of this column, let's believe "these truths to be self evident," and list a few of the other gratitudes ... in no specific order.

The 'VILLE — Over the holiday season, I was forced to attend...I mean, invited to...a number of parties and dinners. On several of those occasions, I was struck by what a unique town we live in. Specifically, what a unique collection of humans we all live with here.

This city has been colonized by nearly all 50 states and maybe as many countries. I actually know very few people who were born and raised here. Most of your friends and neighbors have immigrated from beyond our city limits, and we're immeasurably richer for it.

Think about it. Plenty of cities have rolling hills and a lazy river and open fields. Thousands of cities were built on industry. But we're the only city with this precise collection of odd and wonderful people.

The reasons why those people came are just as unique: the pursuit of the arts, the pursuit of love, job transfers and career opportunities, aging parents, and prodigal karma. And they all have the same reaction when they arrive to "a tiny town in the middle of OK..." — "Oh God, how will I survive this?"

Then after six months of meeting you and coming to your homes and experiencing the best of the arts and eating in our restaurants ... you can't get them to leave. Soon they become the new face of our town. They bring all their creativity and energy and ideas — it's like getting a sort of human transfusion every 12 months. I dig it.

'Merica — OK, I know this one is supposed to be off limits, but this *gratitude* is bigger than just us as a nation. Here's what I mean.

Yes, I am proud of America. I love living here. I always have.

I also think most people feel that way about their countries of origin. The English, The Germans, The Russians, The Mexicans and Canadians, probably even the Tanzanians ... all love their people and their nation. We all believe there are things we can do better in our respective countries.

But nobody ... NOOOOOOObody does comfort the way we do comfort in the US. This morning I got up, turned a knob and hot water came out. I mean, hot enough I could burn myself if I wanted. And not just a little, I could have read a book in there ... I don't know why you'd want to do that, I'm just making the point — it's a lot of hot water.

From the shower I went from room to room and there was light — everywhere. Not only that, but the air in those rooms was exactly what I wanted it to be, because I turned on a heater and filled my house with warm air.

I eventually had to go outside because a large mechanical truck had come down my street and carried away all the waste I had accumulated that week. The truck took my trash off to some magical place in the country and so I returned my empty trash can (on wheels) back to within 10 feet of a door to my house.

I will admit, I was hungry, — but that's because I literally have had too much food to eat, so now I am actually forcing myself to eat less. I feel like the Ghost of Christmas Present — the one who's fat and surrounded by wealth and holding a turkey leg ...as long as it's baked and not fried — because the diet, you know.

The Change — By nature, I'm the kind of person who needs a lot of change. My wife will tell you there are a number of restaurants I have banned, simply because we went there way too many times in one season or another in our lives here. After a while, they become dead to me. Siri won't even suggest them anymore for fear I might add her to the list.

But that's not the change I'm talking about. I mean "THE Change." That Change you go through as you reach a certain age and you start to recognize the pace of life and how temporal things are — and it softens you so you... I dare say ... you start to like or appreciate or even love people more.

I haven't lost my passion, if anything it's worse. I have just discovered there a lot fewer hills I am willing to die on; whether politically, socially, economically, or otherwise. I just want people to shut up and get along. Is that too much to ask?

I've mentioned before that I grew up Catholic. Catholics have taken a lot of lumps over the years, and many were well earned. But they've also done tremendous good. This is a group that's not afraid to get dirty in doing the work of helping those less fortunate.

They also have a beautiful tradition in their Mass. Every time they gather, they re-enact the last supper in what they call Communion. That's where they share bread and wine. Among other things, it honors the way Jesus was broken and poured out for us and invites us to do the same for each other.

But before any of that can take place, you have to examine your conscience. If you have any unforgiveness in your heart, you're supposed to deal with it on the spot. Then you turn to your physical neighbors there in the pew (often family) and bless them — showing your heart is right toward them, by saying "Peace be with you."

It's hard to imagine if you go through that practice sincerely week after week that you can follow up that sacrament with hate or bigotry or even emotional or physical violence. At some point, the honesty would just wear us down.

If any of that makes sense to you, maybe you'd like to go through "The Change" too — regardless of your age. You can even adopt this simple meditation — it may help. Repeat after me: Just shut up and get along... Just shut up and get along...

See. Doesn't that already feel better?

What's on your "gratitude list" this year. Maybe you'd want to write it down and share it with someone. It's certainly easier to do than keeping a resolution.

Happy New Year my friends. I hope it's a great one.

Cheers.



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Helping Abuse Victims

Breakfast Benefits Samaritan Counseling & Growth Center

by Kelsey Walker

An upcoming breakfast fundraiser will help ensure abuse victims receive counseling, regardless of their financial ability to pay.

The Daughters of Lot breakfast begins at 9 a.m. Saturday, February 22, at the Adams Boulevard Church of Christ gymnasium. Guest speaker is Dr. Sonya Torbert. The event will include “Sip & See” time, followed by a delightful breakfast served by area clergy and volunteers. The fundraiser features beautiful tables individually decorated by local supporters, a keynote speaker, and fun door prizes. This year’s theme is “Faith is a Beacon of Hope.”

The Daughters of Lot breakfast is a creative, festive, and beautiful event that raises money for Samaritan Counseling & Growth Center’s Daughters of Lot subsidy program.

“The Daughters of Lot breakfast is a special event which raises money for a great cause,” said event co-chairs Suzanne Duhon and Karen Leinen. “Funds generated through the event allow Samaritan to offer counseling services at a reduced rate — or even free of charge — to those who have been sexually and/or physically abused.

“When you support the Daughters of Lot breakfast — and ultimately an excellent non-profit and Bartlesville Regional United Way member agency such as Samaritan — you help ensure that all



abuse victims can receive counseling, regardless of their ability to pay.”

From January through October of 2019, Daughters of Lot funds were used for 152 counseling sessions with 42 different clients. During that same time period, \$17,750

in funds were used for clients who experienced sexual or physical abuse.

In 2018, a total of \$19,170 was used by the Daughters of Lot program to sup-

port victims of abuse, which included 223 client hours for 35 clients.

From January 2018 to October 15, 2019, a total of \$36,920 has been used by Daughters of Lot for counseling.

Tickets for the Daughters of Lot breakfast are \$25 per person, or a table can be sponsored for \$250.

For more information on the breakfast, visit www.supportsamartan.org.



About Samaritan Counseling & Growth Center

Samaritan Counseling & Growth Center provides faith-based counseling services for adults, teens, adolescents, and children with a focus on the integration of mind, body, and spirit. Experienced, licensed therapists offer counseling for individual, couple, or family issues, specializing in various areas including depression, anxiety, grief, ADHD, abuse issues, and much more.

The center, located at 245 SE Madison Blvd., maintains a partnership with the Bartlesville Regional United Way and

many Bartlesville churches of various denominations. Accreditation is through the Samaritan Institute in Denver, Colorado. The center operates under the leadership of Executive Director Dr. Larry Cowan, a licensed professional counselor and licensed marital & family counselor.

With a mantra of “You talk. We listen. Life gets better,” Samaritan Counseling & Growth Center served 900 individuals in 2018, with approximately 4,850 counseling sessions.

New in January...

#lifehacks

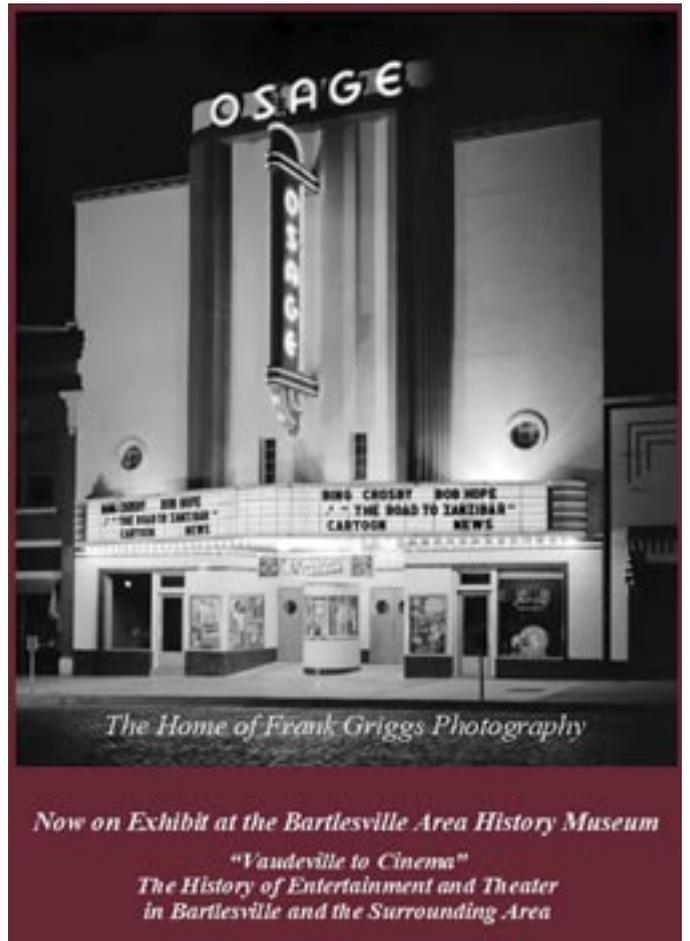
It's hard to adult. Maintaining a car, laundry, buying insurance, cooking, budgeting money, organization, time management, school/work and more. It's overwhelming!

The Library is kicking off a fun series called **#lifehacks**. Free classes will be held monthly for young adults 16-23. Each class will include a cooking segment taught by Tara Burkhead of TCT and a practical life hack. Join us for:

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We'll recognize one winner each month now through the end of the school year.

The Teacher of the Month will be featured in our next month's issue and receive an awesome prize package. Nominations are due by the 10th of each month. Once nominated, every teacher will remain a contender throughout the school year.

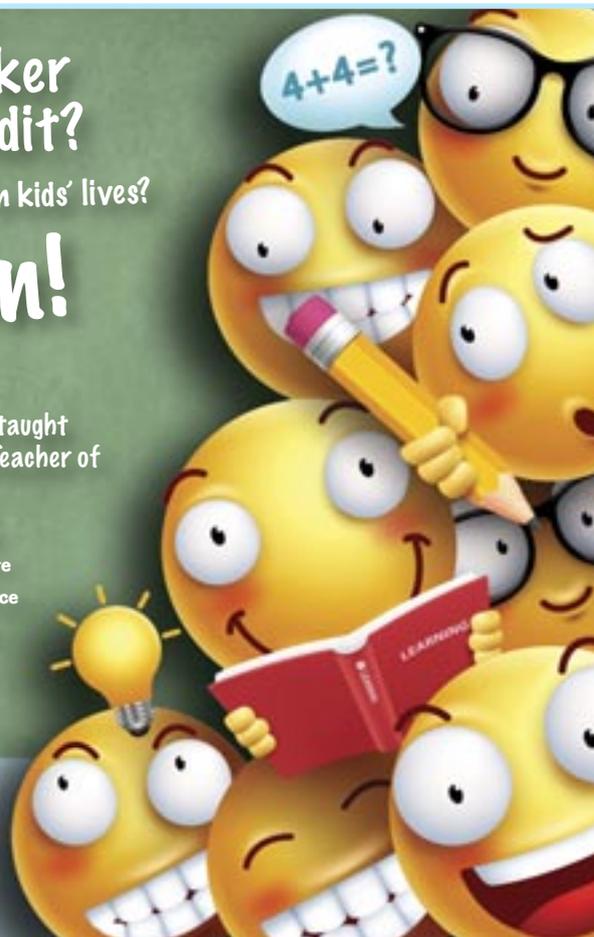
All winners will be entered into our Teacher of the Year contest.

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Teacher of the Month: Carrie Christensen

Wilson Elementary Teacher Claims Monthly Honor

by **Tim Hudson**

BMonthly is proud to announce that the January Teacher of the Month is Carrie Christensen. Currently a 5th Grade teacher at Wilson Elementary, she spent three years teaching in Guymon, where she taught 6th grade English Language Arts, and three years in Sapulpa, where she taught 3rd and 5th grades. She is currently in her fifth year in Bartlesville. The nomination for Carrie read in part “*she goes the extra mile and makes the extra effort to do project-based learning with her students ... from decorating her room to be Hogwarts, to taking her students on meaningful field trips. Not only is she a phenomenal teacher, she’s an outstanding person and team player.*”

b *What’s your favorite subject to teach?*

A: My favorite subject to teach is reading. I love sharing good books with my students and teaching them how to really dig into what they’re reading to understand it. It’s like opening a whole new world to them through the pages of a book. I love sharing my love for reading with my students every day.

b *What made you want to start teaching?*

A: I have always enjoyed working with kids, so teaching was a natural choice for me. Being able to impact children and help them learn is my passion. I also had great teachers that I looked up to when I was in school.

b *Can you give us a story where you felt like you made a difference in a student’s life?*

A: One of my favorite units to teach each year is a novel study over *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone*. This is an opportunity to engage my students in reading in a way that reaches out to children, by decorating my room like Hogwarts, I also dress up in a robe and glasses while we read, and I do *Harry Potter*-themed cross-curricular activities. Providing this kind of hands-on experience has impacted my students every year,



and I have a handful of students, who never would have picked the book for themselves, go on and read the entire series and love it. I love it when I hear “This is way better than the movie!”

b *What do you wish people knew about teaching?*

A: I wish people knew that for most teachers, teaching is more than a job. It’s a passion and a calling into which they pour their hearts every day.

b *What are your plans for the future?*

A: My plans are to continue teaching fifth grade at Wilson Elementary. I love this school and the people I get to work with, and I plan to stay here for a long time.





A Decade of Local Memories

From Blizzards to Floods and Everything in Between

by Mike Wilt

It's conventionally thought the month of January is named for Janus, an ancient Roman god usually depicted as having two faces. While one face looks to the future, the other face looks to the past. Now that it's January 2020, we turn our face to the past and recall many of the local happenings from the last 10 years.

Obviously, the following is not all-inclusive, but we hope you enjoy a stroll down memory lane.

2010

The decade got off to a rough start. The Bartlesville City Council approved budget cuts in an effort to make up a \$1.4 million deficit, a police drug dog had to be euthanized, a zoning request for a Sonic Drive-In at Cherokee Ave. and Frank Phillips Blvd. was pulled after city staff recommended denying it, Bartlesville lost a bid to permanently host the American Legion World Series, and law enforcement officers were called to Bartlesville High School to investigate a device that appeared to be a time bomb. It was determined to be a hoax. The teen responsible later surrendered to authorities.

In November, popular OB/GYN physician Dr. David Miller passed away at 57.

On the lighter side, Hollywood came to town as Oscar-nominated filmmaker Terrence Malick returned to his Bartlesville roots to shoot *To the Wonder* starring Ben Affleck, Rachel McAdams, and Javier Bardem.

The Oklahoma Wesleyan University (OKWU) men's basketball team soared to a number one ranking and made the NAIA Final Four.





2011

Facing a \$2.2 million reduction in state funding, the Bartlesville school board closed Oak Park Elementary in May.

“Strategic repositioning” was the phrase used by ConocoPhillips officials in July when the company announced it would divide into two publicly-traded, stand-alone companies. The announcement came 10 years after Phillips Petroleum Company merged with Conoco and moved the corporate headquarters from Bartlesville to Houston.

Record cold, heavy snow, sweltering heat, and no rain. We had it all. On February 1, the area received over a foot of snow. Nine days later, Nowata had the state's lowest temperature ever recorded at minus 31 degrees. Later came the hottest summer and the hottest August, breaking records set in the 1930s.

One of the more noteworthy criminal cases that got resolved was the sentencing of 51-year-old Robert Boyce, a former restaur-



rant owner who caused a fire that nearly destroyed the May Brothers Building, now known as the Johnstone-Sare Building.

Elsewhere, citizens raised almost \$80,000 to save Sooner Pool after it was closed in 2010 due to budget constraints, the new Washington County Detention Center became operational, the roundabout at Silver Lake and Price Road opened, and Bartlesville hosted its first Great American Conference D-II college basketball tournament.

2012

An 18-year-old BHS student who was planning a Columbine-style school shooting was arrested on December 14. Later that same day, 26 people died during a shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary in Connecticut.

The last portable classrooms for Bartlesville Public Schools were finally eliminated with the construction of an early childhood education pod at Richard Kane Elementary, Bartlesville fire chief Bob Hasbrook retired, BlueStem Cardiology opened a modern 16,000-square-foot facility, and Rogers State University completed \$1.2 million in building renovations that included all-new energy-efficient windows that restored the original appearance of the 100-year-old structure.

Hollywood again came to the area in September for the filming of the movie *August: Osage County* starring Meryl Streep and Julia Roberts, and produced by George Clooney. The first day of shooting occurred at Jane Phillips Medical Center while other scenes were filmed in Pawhuska. Locals enjoyed exchanging stories of celebrity sightings.



Film crews set up for filming August: Osage County.

2013

A nearly four-year legal battle over an Oklahoma girl that captured national attention came to an end in September when a South Carolina couple took custody of "Baby Veronica." The child's biological mother was from Bartlesville while the biological father was a Native American from Nowata. After the mom had agreed to an open adoption, the father fought all the way to the Supreme Court to keep the girl citing tribal sovereignty and federal law. However, the courts awarded custody to the South Carolina couple stating the Indian Child Welfare Act did not apply in the case because the father had abandoned the child prior to her birth.

Bartlesville native Tyler Dodd was hailed as one of many heroes following the April 15 bombing at the annual Boston Marathon. Only there as a spectator, Dodd assisted medical personnel as they treated wounded victims.

Oklahoma Wesleyan University opened the Keating Center and its school of business.

An 18-year-old BHS student pleaded guilty to possessing a machete on school property, and nine city employees pleaded guilty to embezzlement for selling city-owned scrap material.

It originally was a hard sell, but citywide residential poly cart trash collection began in May.

On June 19, legendary rancher John Hughes passed away at age 80.

2014

Tragedy struck in the early morning hours of January 4 as a house fire in the 300 block of Sunset Boulevard killed five residents including three teenagers.

Contraception was all the buzz after news reports that some local physicians were prohibited from writing prescriptions due to the hospital's affiliation with St. John Health System in Tulsa. The issue was eventually settled but not before a lot of media and social media attention.

Elsewhere, Phillips 66 donated \$1.7 million to Bartlesville Public Schools for STEM courses, the Sooner Park Play Tower

re-opened after being closed for more than 20 years, John Banks was named chief for the Bartlesville Fire Department, ABB completed a 100,000-square-foot expansion, and the Silver Lake Road extension opened between Frank Phillips Blvd. and Tuxedo Blvd.

The community lost one of its giants on December 16 as former Phillips Petroleum Company CEO and philanthropist C.J. "Pete" Silas passed away at the age of 82. Barry Lowe, another charity-minded civic leader, also passed away in December. He served on the local school board for 10 years including four as president.

2015

Hearts were heavy following the September 19 passing of Wesleyan Christian School football player Ben Hamm. The junior had sustained a head injury during a game eight days earlier.

Tragedy struck again six weeks later when a fire at Prairie Song Village claimed the lives of Mark and Sherry Tate of Dewey.

ConocoPhillips announced in October that it would reduce its local workforce by ten percent, which resulted in 170 layoffs.

The first class of ninth-grade students began attending the new Freshman Academy at BHS. For the first time since 1967, students in grades 9-12 were on one campus.

The BHS girls tennis team finished second in the state while the Oklahoma Wesleyan University croquet team won its third national title in four years.

BPSD Superintendent Gary Quinn announced his retirement effective June 2016, and Chris Rush stepped down as publisher of the Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise.

Longtime cattleman and community leader John F. Kane passed away at age 80.

2016

This was a pretty significant year for Bartlesville Public Schools. In March, the school board voted unanimously to hire Chuck McCauley as superintendent.

In August, students returned to Central Middle School after being relocated to the Sooner/Mid-High campus during renovation work. Madison Middle School students were relocated to Sooner/Mid-High as the original Madison building was demolished.

The BHS cross country teams swept the Class 6A state championships in October. It was the third consecutive title for the Lady Bruins and the first title for the boys. The boys swim team earned state runner-up honors for the fifth consecutive year.



Construction began in March on a \$5.9 million project to upgrade the city's central fire station and add a new police station, renovation of the ConocoPhillips Plaza was completed in May, Atwood's moved to a new location in July, and Ree Drummond in October opened the Pioneer Woman Mercantile in Pawhuska.

On February 22, business owner, civic leader, and philanthropist Sherry Musselman Cox passed away at age 71.

2017

It was an exciting year for many things new.

The Bartlesville Police Department in April moved into its new facility on the northwest corner of Adams Blvd. and Johnstone Ave.

In October, crowds quickly flocked to the opening of Silver Lake Village Shopping Center and Hobby Lobby's new location in Eastland.

In December, the Boys and Girls Club opened its new facility, and the Bartlesville Chamber of Commerce hosted its inaugural "Christmas in the Ville" featuring a wildly successful ice skating rink.



The Frank Phillips Foundation, which operates Woolaroc, became the new owner of the Frank Phillips Home, and the Price Tower held its very first Wright Chef culinary competition as part of an artist-in-residence program.

BHS boys basketball coach and athletic director Tim Bart resigned after 17 years, and the OKWU baseball team competed in the NAIA World Series for the second time in four years.

Washington County Commissioner Joanne Bennett passed away at 93, and Lennie Baker, "Godfather of the Bartlesville music scene," passed at 75.

2018

It was a long time in coming, but Chick-fil-A restaurant finally opened on January 25. Two days earlier, Siemens announced that it was closing the local facility, thereby affecting 135 jobs.

Tri County Tech was one of five recipients of the prestigious Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, and it purchased Jarrett Farm with plans to develop a leadership retreat center.

Bartlesville teachers joined thousand of others in April for a state walkout to protest low pay and classroom size. BPSD in general and Superintendent Chuck McCauley in particular were leaders in bringing an end to the ten-day strike as lawmakers finally reached an agreement on salaries and funding.

BHS senior Rilee Rigdon was named the Gatorade Oklahoma Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year, and the BHS girls swim team won its fourth consecutive Class 6A state championship. Five of the athletes would go on to swim at the collegiate level.

BHS football coach Lee Blankenship surprisingly departed the program after less than one year, and the OKWU women's soccer team was the NCCAA national runner-up.

Unusually strong winds on June 11 felled 121 trees at Hillcrest Country Club forcing the facility to close for clean up.

In August, Mike Bailey became Bartlesville's new city manager following the retirement of Ed Gordon. Tracy Roles was named the new police chief following the retirement of Tom Holland. City Attorney Jerry Maddux stepped down after 43 years, and Washington County Sheriff Rick Silver Jr. retired at year's end.

On May 24, the community and the medical profession lost one of its most beloved friends as longtime cardiologist Dr. Stan DeFehr passed away at age 67. On December 28, Randy Weatherly, landscape architect and a longtime leader of the annual Fantasy Land of Lights, passed away at 61.

2019

Scott Owen was sworn into office as sheriff On January 2.

In February, the BHS girls swim team celebrated its fifth consecutive Class 6A state championship.

Three structures between the county courthouse and the county administration buildings were demolished to pave way for a new parking lot, and a groundbreaking was held for the Tower Center at Unity Square between the Price Tower and the Bartlesville Community Center.

Longtime and beloved radio man Charlie Taraboletti stepped away from the microphone in April after being news director and operations manager for KWON-AM 1400 and FM 93.3 for 22 years.

Days of heavy rains in May resulted in over 80 local homes being flooded. The Caney River crested at 18.2 feet, well above flood stage level of 13 feet.



In June, Dr. Jim Dunn officially became the sixth president of Oklahoma Wesleyan University succeeding Dr. Everett Piper who retired after 16 years. Meanwhile, the OKWU men's soccer team made its ninth straight NAIA tournament.

On November 4, BHS Athletic Director Spence Rigdon passed away after several years of bravely fighting colon cancer. He was 46.

With apologies to author Vern McLellan, what the new decade brings to you will depend a great deal on what you bring to the new decade.



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Debbie Neece

A Look at Bartlesville's 'History Rock Star'

by Kay Little, Little History Adventures

I was excited when asked to write about my fellow history rock star friend, Debbie Neece.

I met Debbie while I was working at the Bartlesville Area History Museum in 2006, when she was a volunteer compiling stories for the “Family Histories of Washington County and the Surrounding Area” book. I knew right away that she loved preserving and telling local history.

Debbie was born in Kansas, moved to Texas, and finally arrived in Bartlesville in 1968 when her father retired from Schlumberger and took a job in the R&D Department of Phillips Petroleum Company. She is the oldest of four children, and graduated as a Sooner High Spartan in 1973.

After graduation, Debbie worked at Bestyet Grocery, then accepted a position at the Bartlesville-based Center for Coaching and Mentoring, Inc. (CCM) with Matt Starcevich, where she worked until CCM closed in 2018.

Debbie began her employment with the Bartlesville Area History Museum in 2008 as a part-time grant facilitator & photo archivist, and in 2010 became the museum's collections manager, while still working at CCM.

In the meantime, she has authored “Kent Tibbets, Memoir of a Cowboy: The Stories of a Ranching and Rodeo Cowboy,” co-authored books with Bill Alexander, “Meet Me at the Roundup 1908-1949: The Life and Legacy of Jacob H. Bartles,” with Vicki Stewart and Barbara Garrison “If Bartlesville Walls Could Talk,” and with Ronnie Roe, “Vaudeville to Cinema: The History of Entertainment and Theater in Bartlesville and the Surrounding Area.” Starting in 2017, she began writing articles about local history for the *bMonthly Magazine* that we all enjoy. She has written a family cookbook and several family genealogy books. She also gathers photos of all of her grandchildren and creates photo



books of their yearly activities as a Christmas present. She gets as excited giving the gifts as the children receiving them. Can you say maybe a workaholic?

Debbie has two children, eight grandchildren — with the ninth to arrive in April 2020 — and is mom to one of the sweetest, smartest, and most loving two-year-old chocolate lab fur babies on earth, Sadie. Many of you know her husband, Steve Neece, as the friendly guy at the Eastside U.S. Post Office from several years ago. He has since retired and tries to keep Debbie from working too hard. Good luck, Steve! He also can be seen daily at the Cooper Dog Park with Sadie.

Debbie has a soapbox that many of us have heard her preach from many times. It has to do with technology changes. In her own words, “Not many people still have the ability to read floppy

disks or zip drive discs on their computer, so anything stored in that medium is lost. Computers are changing to USB-based devices. Laptops are becoming web-based and some do not even have USB ports. Plus, we all have cell phones, which have become our camera and photo storage device. Although we share the photos with others via social media or text messages, seldom do the photos travel to an external ‘cloud storage’ or external storage device. Then the cell phone dies and we have lost a generation of photos. We must be diligent in safely backing up our data.” So, print some of those photos and store them correctly!

Debbie and I are very grateful for early photographers Frank Griggs, Oscar Drum, and Elmer Sark for leaving us with many photographs as records of our history. Thank you Debbie Neece for sharing and making history fun!

It's Time

Make the Most of Your Days Going Forward by Looking Back

by Lori Kroh

It's hindsight. 20/20. I feel like this new decade is already telling us to look back and learn from our past.

As memories on Facebook pop up, the little captions of everyday life that were ordinary to me then are now extraordinary with hindsight.

Now, what truly matters is the time I have with my family, my loved ones, and what I can give to the world with the life I lead. Usually, every year I will get a new planner and fill it out, list all my goals, and buy the glitter and sparkle stickers to help me match up the important dates. It's always colorful and intentional and filled up with so many plans. It's filled up, booked up, and seemingly going places — yet was I contributing the best of my life to who mattered and to the world?

I would look at it and slowly, over the months, it became a daily reminder of how much I want to do and how I haven't achieved all I desired or dreamed. It sits there staring at me, and a sense of uncertainty and hopelessness can set in.

Even though my stickers are shiny and embellish the days that I think are important ... a fear of 'I'm not enough' starts to create doubts within me. All the glitter stickers in the world cannot give me the value I need or the validation I seek.

This year, because it's 2020 I chose to go simple. I want to have the hindsight now. I'm going to write a lesson I have learned from my memories as they pop up on Facebook. I'm going to take the time to make the most of my days going forward by looking backward. I want to capture the daily lessons and have them down for me to read at the end of this year. It's a history book for my future and I hope maybe you might just join me.

Each day, write down one thing you learned from years past that stands out to you that day. Whatever speaks to your heart ... whatever you believe made you become what you are now. Today. This very moment in time.

One lesson that came up for me is *Being Awesome*. It's true. Waking up and going into the world knowing that your giftings are valued, needed, and awesome. I want to inspire others as they go about their morning routine, and how just the mere thought of 'What if I'm Awesome?' inside your head, your heart, and your actions could change the ordinary days into extraordinary days!

Your life matters and your giftings are needed in this world. What if you really believed when you woke up each day that today was all you had to be the best of yourself? What if you looked in the mirror and smiled at your face because you're



alive? You knew in your heart that you have the ability to change lives and make a difference. You are free because of this land we live in, you are free because of the Stars and Stripes. You have a choice with your life and you get to choose.

What if deep down inside your heart you could be free from anger and forgive others? What if the story you once believed about yourself was just that ... a story? Is it time to create new chapters? Has the bookmark stayed in the same place too long and your life become stagnant because of fear? What if that feeling you get when a high five moment occurs with your favorite sports team was the same as if you high fived yourself? What if you knew deep down that what you know, do, and can teach others is awesome?

Your belief in yourself is the biggest thing you can give to others. What if you just looked at your planner and saw a reflection of your life as a mirror of moments? What if you stared at all the pages and the days and the to-do lists and realized that your entire life is created of moments? This moment. This life. This time.

What if You're Awesome? And you knew it.



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2020

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