

PROFILE
**CHUCK &
CHARLENE SPEARS**

NOW YOU KNOW
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PARK**

TRAVEL
**DAYCATION
DESTINATIONS**

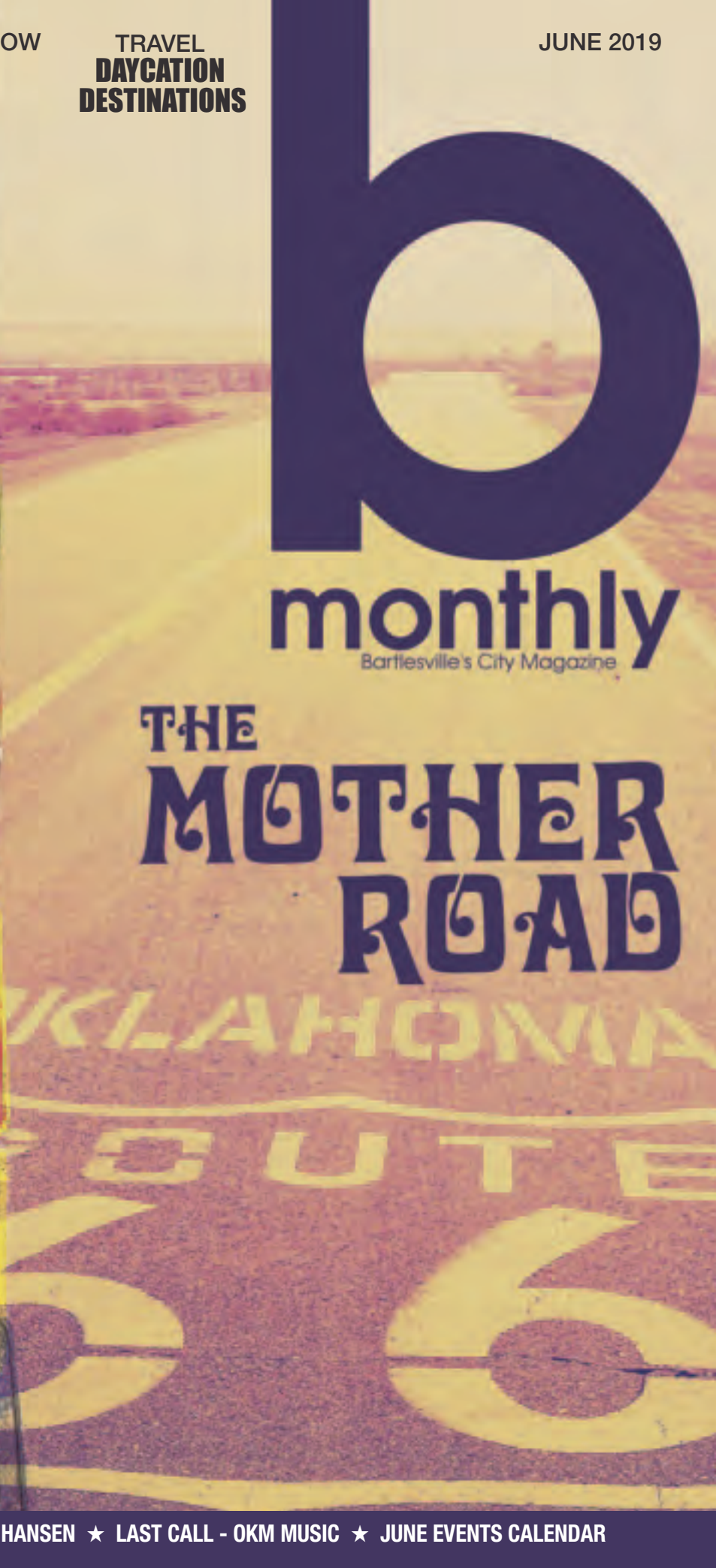
JUNE 2019

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monthly

Bartlesville's City Magazine

THE MOTHER ROAD



THIS MONTH: A GOOD WORD - CLINT HANSEN ★ LAST CALL - OKM MUSIC ★ JUNE EVENTS CALENDAR



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- A portrait of Larry McCorkell, a man with short brown hair, smiling. He is wearing a dark blue suit jacket, a white shirt, and a red patterned tie. He is also wearing a gold watch on his left wrist and a ring on his left hand.
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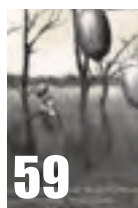
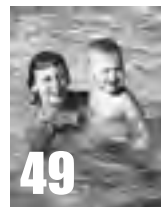
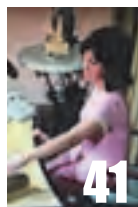
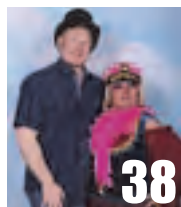
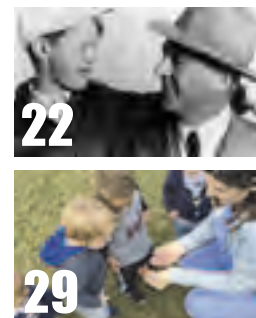
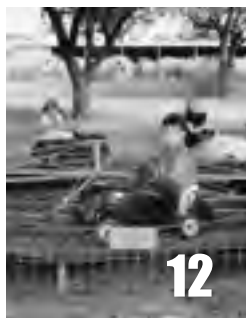
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upfront

Welcome to June, Bartlesville, and we made it through another school year. Two of our kids — James and Mary — graduated this past month from the University of Arkansas, and we could not be more proud of them. Grace finished the 7th grade with a 4.0, so great job Gracie girl. Parker is going to be a junior next year. Madison is transferring from Oklahoma State to Arkansas for her last two years of college ... so Go Hogs!

In this issue we chose Route 66 as our feature story because of just how blessed we are to have such a historic part of American history right in our backyard. We can go east 53 miles to Vinita, or 45 miles south to Tulsa — which, by the way, the father of Route 66 is from. Mike Wilt did a great job on this story, and it just makes you want to get in the car and go drive it. I am so glad that “The Mother Road” is getting more and more attention, and that the State of Oklahoma and Governor Stitt passed the Route 66 Centennial Commission Act. Lieutenant Governor Matt Pinnell pledged to make the Sooner State a leader in Route 66 Tourism.

This is a little different than the covers I have designed in the past, and for the June issue I had two or three themes to choose from and none of them really spoke to me. I went to the Memorial Bridge in Tulsa and took pictures of the monument and the actual bridge you can stand on going over the Arkansas River. I just think of the millions and millions of people over the years that passed over this bridge, and went to start a new life, taming the west all the way to California. Traveling Route 66 is about as Americana as it gets!

With June upon us, we have so many great events that are happening in the area. The first big event is Sunfest. This event is a such a tradition for this area, and every year we go get a fried Snickers bar and cotton candy. The biggest June event, and most likely the biggest event of the year, is the OKM Music Festival. Formerly OK Mozart, it has redefined itself and has some incredible concerts and performances from all different types of music. Look at our Chick-fil-A calendar to see when all the dates and times are.

We asked Maria Gus to write about some “Daycations” we selected for you and your family to visit. The two I want to

see are the new Gathering Place in Tulsa, and the Crystal Bridges in Bentonville, Arkansas — which I hear is incredible. There are so many places you can visit and come home the same day and sleep in your own bed. Try this with your family. Get your family together and pull out a big state map, lay it on the coffee table, and select some day trips that maybe each family member wants to see. Just get out of the house and explore this beautiful state. Get off the Interstate and take some back roads; you never know what your going to see.

We again this year put together an extensive kids calendar that has just about everything for kids going on in the month of June. This was Christy’s idea two years ago, to start a summer calendar, because she was always hearing about a sign up for Grace after the event had already happened. This has become very popular for parents, and you will not find this any other publication.

The biggest event for me in June is Fathers Day. We had a few of our writers write what their Fathers mean to them, and Christy also put a pen to paper and wrote a touching tribute to her dad, Del Dutcher. I never knew my real father growing up, and for me sharing this day with my kids is so very important to me. I wrote a two-page story for this issue called “Moments of a Father,” in which I look back at the years of being a new father and the struggles we faced as a family, with my addiction and how their forgiveness and God’s Grace covered and protected us as a family

I want to wish a Happy Birthday to Grace, who turns 13 on June 12, and Parker, who turns 17 on June 21. I also turn the BIG 50 on June 4, and what a half century it has been! God Bless!



Keith & Christy McPhail
bMonthly managing editors

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— Celebrating **60** Years —



Chuck & Charlene Spears

by Kelsey Walker

Spears Travel of Bartlesville has been providing positive travel experiences and excellent quality of service – at competitive prices – for more than half a century. This year the travel agency marks its 61st year of leadership under the Spears family.

Charlene Spears and two of her sons, Gary and Greg, lead the family business, which has offices in Bartlesville and Tulsa. Charlene, now retired, and her husband, the late Charles “Chuck” Spears, first took ownership of the business in 1958.

“I’m definitely proud of what my parents started and want to see that continue,” Greg says, noting his parents’ belief in treating people the right way and striving to offer a good place to work. “That’s what we’ve tried to carry on, Gary and I, after dad passed away and mom

got out of the business and retired. It’s a family business with employees that are part of the family.”

McAlester native and Navy veteran Chuck Spears came to Bartlesville in the late 40s to take a job with Cities Service Oil Company. Here he met the love of his life, Charlene Hunt, who he married in 1949. Neither knew they would soon be at the helm of a thriving travel business.

In 1952, an agency then known as Kelley World Travel opened its doors in the lobby of the former Burlingame Hotel (now home to City Hall and the Bartlesville Area History Museum). Founder Bill Kelley expanded the business in 1955 and hired Charlene as a travel agent and administrative assistant.

The business later moved to the 4th floor of Frank Lloyd Wright’s Price Tower. But then, in 1958, Kelley — who believed the travel agency business would never amount to much — decided to close the agency’s doors. However, Charlene was convinced the business could be successful through hard work and determination. Chuck and Charlene offered to buy the agency from Kelley, and he agreed to sell it to them — on two conditions. The first was that the money earned from the agency would only be supplemental income, and the second that Chuck would not leave his job at Cities Service. The Spears agreed.

In 1958, Kelley World Travel officially became Spears World Travel Service. Spears Travel relocated back to the Burlingame Hotel building. The agency

consisted of just one desk, one file cabinet, two phones, zero computers — and Charlene, who ran the agency for three years.

But the business soon began to grow, and additional employees were hired. In 1961, Chuck left his job with Cities Service and went into the travel business full time. The business later expanded again and moved into the Professional Building at 5th and Keeler.

“Travel was certainly something that interested them, but I don’t think it’s something either of them had done a lot of,” says Greg. “It was something they thought sounded interesting, and they had the love of working with people. They had that entrepreneurial spirit. After they got into it, they really got into traveling and it was something they really got a passion for. They traveled into their 80s.”

Early on in their venture, the Spears dedicated their business to God, and credited his blessings for allowing them to keep and add to their clients. The mission of Spears Travel is to be the company associates want to work for and clients want to work with.

“We’re a Christian-oriented business,” says Gary. “That’s important to us.”

“My mom and dad set in motion the Spears’ way of doing business, which is really taking care of people, really going the extra mile,” says Greg. “They always focused on Christian principles with our business.”

Chuck and Charlene aimed to employ sales- and service-oriented associates, to acquire the best technology available, and build a work environment that encouraged a commitment to quality and continuous improvement. Part of the Spears Travel mission statement reads, “We will build a work place committed to conducting our daily business with the Godly principles of honesty, integrity, candor, trust and dignity.”

The Spears never envisioned a family business when they bought the agency, nor did they push for it to be, but all of the Spears four children — Charles Jr., Gary, Greg and Carol — at some time point worked at Spears Travel. Gary now



CHARLENE & CHUCK SPEARS

runs the Bartlesville office, while Greg heads the Tulsa location. Gary’s son, Austin Spears, also works for the agency.

Both Gary and Greg Spears credit their employees — many of them who have served the agency for years — for the success of the business.

“Our number one key is our employees,” says Gary. “It all boils down to the

Early on in their venture, the Spears dedicated their business to God, and credited his blessings for allowing them to keep and add to their clients.

people that work for us, the travel consultants. They’re the experts. They’ve been there, they’ve done it, and they’ve seen it.”

The company continues to grow in both corporate and leisure sales, offering such specialties as luxury travel, astronomy travel, and sports travel. Spears Travel is currently associated with Travel

Leaders Franchise Group, one of the industry’s fastest-growing and most robust networks of travel agents. The association with Travel Leaders gives Spears Travel a global reach, while still being locally owned. The partnership offers access to special pricing for cruises, air and tour packages, hotels, all-inclusive resorts and car rentals, as well as extra amenities that can’t be found anywhere else. Plus, Spears Travel offers travel support before, during, and after your trip.

“We want to take good care of our clients and make sure they have a great experience — whether it’s a weekend trip to Branson or a two-week river cruise in Europe,” says Greg Spears. “We really can make the experience hassle-free for them and help make their travel experiences better.

“People have a lot of options for booking trips these days, but just having the experience and the peace of mind you get when you work with a really good, experienced travel agent is worth it.”

For expert advice on all your travel needs, contact Spears Travel at 918-336-2360, stop by at 500 S. Keeler Ave. in downtown Bartlesville or 8180 S. Memorial Dr. in Tulsa, or visit www.spearstravel.com.



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The Kiddie Park...

Where the Last Train Ride is Always Free!

by Debbie Neece, Bartlesville Area History Museum

The original Bartlesville town-site was surveyed in 1902 with 16.64 acres of land plotted as a City Park. Bound on the north by First Street (Hensley Blvd.), on the east by Park Avenue, on the south by Third Street (Frank Phillips Blvd.) and on the west by Santa Fe Avenue, the park was mainly used for community gatherings.

To create revenue, the Bartlesville City Council leased 12 acres on the east side of the park for industrial business.

In 1922, a civic movement began to develop the remaining 4.6 acres of parkland for children's activities and the park was renamed West Side Park. In addition, a baseball diamond and band shelter were placed for outdoor events.

Mrs. Jane Phillips was very community and civic minded. She established Bartlesville's first city-owned public swimming facility at West Side Park. Donated in July of 1922, the Children's Wading Pool became an important summer activity for area youngsters.

From 1917-1942, the Biggs family operated the Sugar Bowl Confectionery at 615 W. 3rd Street (Frank Phillips Blvd.) which became the concession stand for the children who visited West Side Park.

In the 1930s, the civic club sponsored "Play Pen" of children's rides opened at the West Side Park with a vision that lead to the conversion of the Jane Phillips Wading Pool into a "boat ride."

About 1945, Bill and Marjorie Beasley, Curtis Sporting Goods owners, took their son Ed to Independence for an afternoon of fun at the zoo and play area with train

rides. From that visit, little Ed became the inspiration for an amusement area for Bartlesville children.

After many bake sales and fundraising events, in 1947, Bill Beasley, Albert Carter and Russell Walker spearheaded the community support that added a Kiddie-Car ride, merry-go-round, airplane ride, Ferris wheel and miniature train for the entertainment of small children.

Armais Arutunoff came to Bartlesville in 1928 and joined Bart Manufacturing Co. as Vice-President. His deep oil-well submersible pump proved essential to the oil industry and about 1930 REDA Pump Company was formed. By 1953, the Company required expansion and the City granted REDA a lease for the remaining park area.

At that time, the Play Pen was moved to the City-owned Johnstone Park and the group of volunteers

worked to incorporate and acquired non-profit status as the Bartlesville Playground Association. With the oversight of a Board of Directors, the park was renamed the "Kiddie Park."

For many years, area clubs and organizations volunteered their support by working at the Kiddie Park until the park became a summer employer. Now, although there are still many volunteers supporting the park, the Kiddie Park employs 50-60 teens, 14-15 years of age, to operate the 17 rides and concession stand. This employment opportunity teaches our youth public relations, responsibility and the importance of punctuation.

Kiddie Park manager, David Lee, brainstormed the annual Spook-a-rama Halloween event to extend the Kiddie Park fun. David is an icon at the Park and performs a magic show on Wednesday nights throughout the season.

And, what would a Kiddie Park adventure be without the Bartlesville Fun Addicts Clowns who create balloon sculptures and paint faces on Friday nights?

The Kiddie Park is about community and when the Park is in need, selfless volunteers step up to do any task needed to continue the summer fun.

Kiddie Park President, Ron Adams, said "About 1974 a Railroad Stock campaign raised the \$140,000 to replace the aged train with the train we have today."

When the "Flood of 1986" swallowed the Park with 20 feet of water, it was volunteers who spent hours cleaning,



restoring and painting to make the Park ready for the children. Since that time, a new pavilion, concession stand and bathrooms have been built and the park has been enhanced with more trees, benches, picnic tables and areas for birthday parties.

In 2007, flood water covered the park with 3-4 feet of muddy water and in the midst of cleaning and praying for help, Ron Adams looked up to see a shiny Cadillac stop at the gate. The man exited the car and offered to pay all expenses to get the Kiddie Park back into order.

Recently the Carnival-style carousel broke. Volunteers from the Bartlesville Art Center painted the molded-aluminum carousel horses with advice from American Airlines aviation about the primer, bonding and paint; Chance Rides and Superior Welding made parts; and Taylor Crane lifted the 3,000 pound metal carousel top. It was a team effort.

Current renovations include new decorative fencing, parking, and beautiful signage provided by 2018 GOBond funding. And, on the horizon, a farm-themed nine-hole putt-putt golf course, joined by two new rides donated by community

For youngsters, it is not about the speed of the ride, it is about the thrill of travel. And, for those who are young at heart, it is about the generations of family memories.

supporters. But this forward motion does not happen without your support.

Since the Kiddie Park is a non-profit organization which operates four months of the year, the "Path of Friends"

fundraiser allows you to leave your mark on the history of the Kiddie Park though the

purchase of engraved paver bricks, benches, lights, planters and trees.



We have all been affected by inflation and the Kiddie Park has not been immune. In 1956, the tickets were a mere 5¢ and the current price is 50¢... still an outstanding value for an evening of fun and photographic memories. So, grab some cotton candy or popped corn for the last ride of the evening and remember..."The Last Train Ride is Always Free!"

~ Thank you Bob Fraser and Ron Adams for your assistance with this article.



Did You Know?

"The solid brass plaque created by Jane Phillips in 1922, dedicating the Children's Wading Pool to the City of Bartlesville, was recently donated to the Frank Phillips Foundation by Randy and Leslie Phillips (great-grandson of Frank and Jane), which was passed to them from his dad, Bob Phillips. The plaque is now on exhibit at the Frank Phillips Home Interpretive Center."

— Bob Fraser, CEO Woolaroc

Kiddie Park Summer Hours

Tuesday - Thursday 7-9:30 p.m. | Friday & Saturday 7-10 p.m.

Some height requirements for safety for tiny tots through 12 years of age. Reservations available for "Birthday Zone" parties.



Yum!

by Keith McPhail

Summer is finally here! Our favorite time of year for firing up the grill and enjoying fresh food! When you are ready to take a break from the heat of the grill, treat yourself to some rest and relaxation and let someone else do the cooking for you! Check out some of these options for a great dining experience in our great little city!



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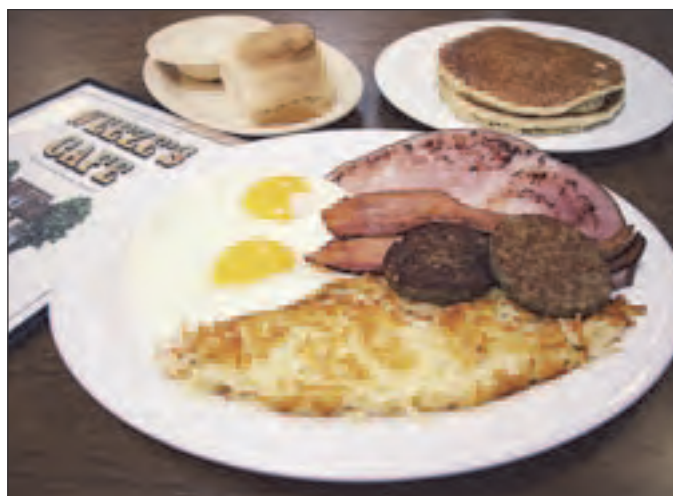
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Joanne Estes

2019 Oklahoma Freewheel Dedicated to Estes' Memory

by Lori Roll

Joanne Estes was "Sweet Joanne" to all who knew her. Just ask Bill, her husband of 56 years. "She was a neat person. She loved people and people loved her," he said. "I was one lucky person. She was the prettiest girl I ever saw, and I married her."

Joanne woke one morning last August and told her husband she had a headache. When the headache persisted for two days, they went to the emergency room. Four days later she was hallucinating. She was transferred to a Tulsa hospital where she died, just 12 days after the repercussions of a tick bite caused her organs to shut down before she could be positively diagnosed with Ehrlichiosis and treated.

"I, along with most people, had never heard of this disease. It is common in Oklahoma and is sometimes difficult to identify until it is too late. If diagnosed in time, humans and pets are prescribed the same antibiotics. Vets in this area are very familiar with it," Bill said. Joanne's funeral at the First Baptist Church filled the nave and lobby with her many friends. "I lived with her, but I didn't realize how many lives she touched. That's the example of how many people loved her," Bill said.

"If she knew you or heard of you, you got a birthday card. I jokingly told her we paid more postage than a lot of small businesses. She was very thoughtful that way."

One of two daughters, Joanne and her sister were raised by their father, a high school principal and coach, when their mother died of cancer shortly after Joanne was born. "She never knew her mother, but she was very artistic and beautiful like her mother," Bill said. Joanne was active at church, loved working in the yard, painting, designing, and making her own clothes.

The couple began bicycling in 1989 and joined the Bartlesville Peddlers, which Bill still enjoys with their son Peter. They also participated in Hotter'N Hell, one of the largest and oldest cycling events in the nation, with over 13,000 interna-

tional riders gathering in Wichita, Texas for four days of challenging and inspiring cycling activities. "Joanne and I were already signed up for Hotter'N Hell the year she died, so the day after we buried her, Peter and I did the ride together. The KOA had a sign in loving memory of her."

Bill and Joanne rode for more than 15 years in the Oklahoma Freewheel annual cross-state bicycle ride. Oklahoma Freewheel is a not-for-profit corporation founded in 1979 to promote amateur bicycle touring, cycling as part of a healthy lifestyle, and tourism in Oklahoma. Over 1,000 cyclists ride 500 miles of rural Oklahoma roads, where they are greeted along the way by small towns putting out church dinners, baked goods, and ice-cream stands. Hundreds of well-wishers cheer them on. "We usually ride about 60 miles a day, then camp in tents or indoor spaces for the night," Bill said.

The Oklahoma hills and wind make the ride very challenging, and Bill decided after 15 years to stop doing the tour. "I don't enjoy the camping as much anymore. But Joanne loved every minute of it. You can pay to have your tent set up, but she said putting up the tent was half the fun. Even though Joanne suffered with terrible arthritis, she kept right on. She rode in the Oklahoma Freewheel for the 18th time the month before she died. She loved Freewheel and they loved her."

The 2019 Oklahoma Freewheel is dedicated to Joanne, an honor her husband believes would make her happy. Bill, Peter, daughter Martha, and several grandchildren are joining the ride from Hugo, Oklahoma to Sedan, Kansas. It begins June 9, on what would have been Bill and Joanne's 57th wedding anniversary. "Our family feels the dedication to Joanne is as good a tribute as you could get. Peter and I will do the whole ride. I'm going to be 80 and this will be my final Freewheel," he said. "But I'll still ride with the Peddlers. I just rode 45 miles last Saturday."



JOANNE & BILL ESTES





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Not Your Average Coach

Bartlesville Freshman Garners National Attention as a Coach

by Tim Hudson

When the going gets tough, the tough get going, or so the old saying goes. In this case, the “tough” for this coach was the chance to coach his younger brother’s basketball team. What makes this story outstanding, however, is the fact that the coach in question is only a ninth-grader.

“A lot of the other teams were shocked that he was the coach,” said Latori Carter, of her 14-year-old son Jordan. “You usually have to pay to get in, and I’d say that he was the coach and they wouldn’t believe it. They thought he was just trying to get in for free. So most of the time I’d pay for him to get in and then they would realize that he really was the coach.”

It all started when Jordan’s younger brother, Skyler, wanted to start an Indian Nation League basketball team with friends from his fifth-grade class.

“I was at a meeting where the parents were trying to decide who would coach, and I was like ‘I can coach,’” Jordan says.

The seven-member team began practicing at Hoover Elementary, where Latori teaches Kindergarten.

“Most of the team went to Hoover, but we had one from Wayside and another from Wilson,” Latori said, adding that the league started in December and lasted until the end of February.

“They played twice a week, and there were some days where Jordan was playing with his ninth-grade team, and we’d have to rush to get him to his coaching game.”

The boys initially chose the Indian Nation League so they would be



assured of being on the same team. They played games against Dewey, Barnsdall, Pawhuska, and Caney Valley. Ultimately the team made it to the league finals, where they ended up losing to a Pawhuska team.

“They were kind of our rivals throughout the season, but after it was over, their coach told Jordan that if he kept the team together, we’d have a really great team,” Latori said.

The story of Jordan’s coaching talents eventually reached USA Today,

who ran the story. It went viral and was seen by people all over the globe.

“It made it to their social media website and got on Facebook from there. It ended up getting about a million views around the world,” Latori said. “It’s crazy that it got that many.”

Jordan says the experience taught him a lot about the game.

“It opened my eyes to a different standpoint of basketball from just being on the floor. I think it made me a better player too,” he said. “The team said they really liked having me as a coach.”

Jordan says the whole experience has opened up new possibilities for him.

“I always thought maybe I could get into coaching, and it just happened,” he said.

“Now I’ll definitely be coaching in the future. My brother said it was a lot of fun, and hopefully we will get more kids signed up next year.”





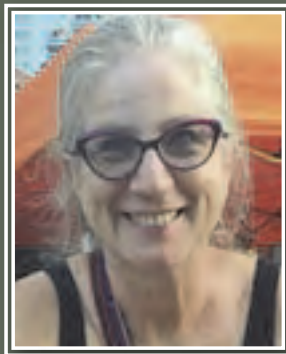
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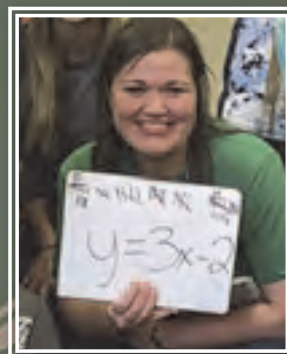
October 2018
Alex Claussen
Central & Madison Middle
Schools



November 2018
Jennifer Spina
Richard Kane Elementary



December 2018
Shelly Buhlinger
Wayside Elementary



January 2019
Erica Dennis
Central Middle School



February 2019
Heather Smith Davis
Central Middle School



March 2019
Julie Pattison
Jane Phillips Elementary



April 2019
Sandra Fratzke
Wesleyan Christian School



May 2019
Casey Brewer
Madison Middle School



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Get Your Kicks

Oklahoma is the Heart & Soul of Historic Route 66

by Mike Wilt

A gentleman was returning to Bartlesville from Oklahoma City. He was being driven in a company car when he noticed how fast the automobile was traveling. He commented to the driver that the vehicle seemed to be going around 60 miles per hour.

"Sixty nothing," the driver remarked. "We're going sixty-six."

The year was 1927 and the passenger was John H. Kane, executive vice president and general counsel for Phillips Petroleum Company. Kane was going 66 on Route 66 in a car powered by the company's new gasoline. Not long after founder Frank Phillips heard the story, newly-named Phillips 66 gasoline was being sold across the country. Three years later, the company logo changed to resemble the shield designating a national highway. The familiar shield logo exists today although its colors are red, white, and black rather than the original black and orange.

While Route 66 did not run through Bartlesville, the community had a connection to the "Mother Road" from the very beginning. And while Route 66 passed through eight states and three time zones, Oklahoma was the heart and soul of the road from the very beginning. In fact, the man credited with making the road a reality was from Oklahoma.

Known as "The Father of Route 66," Cyrus Stevens Avery was originally from Pennsylvania. In 1897, he graduated



John Kane, who helped come up with the name Phillips 66 for the company's gasoline, shown here with his son Richard.

from William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri and then married Essie McClelland. After stops in Oklahoma City and Vinita, he moved to Tulsa in 1907.

Following World War I, Avery built an inn and service station just outside of Tulsa and quickly became interested in better roads for Oklahoma and the country.

He was elected president of the Associated Highways Association in 1921 and was appointed highway commissioner of Oklahoma in 1923. But it was his 1925 appointment to the Joint Board of Interstate Highways that was

(Get Your Kicks on) Route 66

*Now you go through Saint Looney
Joplin, Missouri
And Oklahoma City is mighty pretty
You see Amarillo
Gallup, New Mexico
Flagstaff, Arizona
Don't forget Winona
Kingman, Barstow, San Bernardino*

On Route 66

the genesis of his Route 66 work. The group was tasked with establishing a federal highway system to make state-to-state travel easier.

One of the first routes to be proposed ran from Virginia Beach, VA to Los Angeles, CA. From Springfield, MO, the road would stretch west across southern Kansas, Colorado, Utah and Nevada before turning south to L.A. However, Avery successfully argued a far better route to avoid mountainous terrain should tack south through Tulsa (his hometown) and Oklahoma City (the state capital) and continue west through the Texas Panhandle, New Mexico, Arizona, and finally to southern California ending in Santa Monica. Furthermore, he successfully lobbied to have the road go east from Springfield to St. Louis, and Chicago, IL.

Federal highway officials decided to assign even numbers for roadways running east to west and odd numbers for those running north and south. Avery and others thought the Chicago-to-L.A. route should be designated as Route 60. But those in Kentucky and Virginia were stridently opposed. They wanted the number 60 for a route from Newport News, VA west to Springfield, MO. Kentucky officials offered to sign off on the Chicago-L.A. highway if Avery and his cohorts would accept the number 62. But Avery and his fellow Okies along with those in Illinois and Missouri didn't care for



that number. They later learned the number 66 was still available. On November 11, 1926 during a meeting of federal and state highway officials in North Carolina, Route 66 was born.



Buck Atom's Cosmic Curios can be found on the east side of downtown, on the north side of E. 11th St./Route 66, at the corner of S. Quincy Ave. Buck faces east. Store hours are Monday-Saturday, 10-8, & Sunday 11-5.

During its lifetime, "America's Main Street" (which often served as Main Street for many communities) showcased some of the most beautiful scenery in America. Along the 2,400 miles drivers could also find full-service gas stations, general stores, and neon-lit motels along with wonderful diners, drive-ins, and dives. Weary and hungry travelers could stop for satisfying cheeseburgers, hot dogs, corn dogs, fried chicken, chicken fried steak, barbeque, steaks, Frito pies, and pizza; malts, shakes, sodas



and floats; ice cream, custard, fruit pies, cream pies, and candy.

Then there were the attractions – the World’s Largest Catsup Bottle (Illinois), World’s Largest Rocker (Missouri), Totem Pole Park (Oklahoma), Cadillac Ranch (Texas), Maisel’s Indian Trading Post (New Mexico), Meteor Crater (Arizona), and Santa Monica Pier (California).

Route 66 reached the height of its popularity in the years that followed World War II. Author and Tulsan Michael Wallis wrote in his 1990 book *Route 66: The Mother Road* that the road “... became the nation’s most popular highway. It was the evocative symbol of freedom, fun, and escape. Americans took to it in droves.”



Adding to the allure and romance of the road was a popular tune that began playing on American radios in 1946 when Nat King Cole and the King Cole Trio released (Get Your Kicks on) Route 66. It was written by Bobby Troup who, like Cy Avery, hailed from Pennsylvania. He got the idea for the song while driving across the country to California where he planned to become a songwriter. The lyrics served as a verbal map of stops along the way.



One chuckles at the thought of Troup and Cole combining on a song about the stops in Oklahoma: Quapaw, Commerce, Bushyhead, Foyil, Verdigris, Davenport, Luther, Calumet, Geary, Arcadia, Hydro, Erick, and Texola. The list of towns is one part geography, one part trivia. Even the better-known communities don’t exactly lend themselves to

Totem Pole Park along Route 66 in Oklahoma, and the World’s Largest Catsup Bottle on Route 66 in Illinois.



musical verse: Miami, Vinita, Claremore, Sapulpa, Stroud, Yukon, El Reno, and Elk City.

While Route 66 was officially removed from the U.S. Highway System in 1985, parts of the road can still be driven. In fact, Oklahoma has the most drivable miles (over 400) of any other state.

In this part of Oklahoma, those interested in taking a “daycation” can drive Route 66 starting just this side of the state line in Quapaw. Named after the Indian tribe and home to the Dark Horse Zinc Mine, Quapaw annually holds the oldest Pow-Wow in the country at Beaver Springs State Park.

Next is Commerce, the hometown of baseball hall of famer Mickey Mantle. His boyhood home is located at 319 S. Quincy.

While it is known as a turnoff to Grand Lake, Miami is a quintessential Route 66 community. It is



home to a unique service station and the beautifully restored Coleman Theatre, both of which were built in 1929. Waylan's Ku-Ku Burgers is a landmark that is famous for its giant yellow fiberglass cuckoo bird emerging from the front wall and its huge green-and-yellow neon sign. Located just off Route 66, it is the only remaining restaurant from the original 1960s fast food drive-in chain.

Another eatery that is synonymous with Route 66 can be found in Vinita. Clanton's Café first opened in 1930 and is a true slice of Americana. It is the oldest, continually-owned family restaurant along Route 66 in Oklahoma. Vinita is also home to the World's

Cadillac Ranch along Route 66 in Amarillo, Texas.



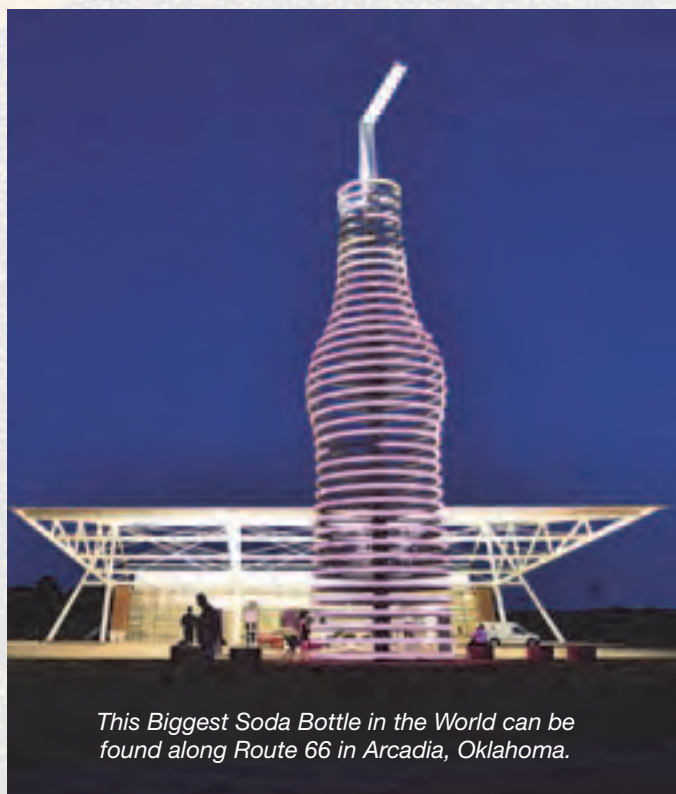


The Big Blue Whale is a notable attraction along Route 66, near Catoosa, Oklahoma.

Largest Calf Fry Festival held every September and the Will Rogers Memorial Rodeo.

Will Rogers' hometown, as everyone knows, is Claremore. Sulphur water was discovered in 1903 spawning "radium" bath houses throughout town. It is home to the J.M. Davis Arms & Historical Museum as well as the Will Rogers Memorial Museum.

One of the most recognizable attractions along Route 66 is the Blue Whale just east of Catoosa. Hugh Davis built it in the early 1970s as a surprise anniversary gift for his wife, Zelta, who collected whale figurines.



This Biggest Soda Bottle in the World can be found along Route 66 in Arcadia, Oklahoma.

Navigating Route 66 through Tulsa and to many of its historical stops takes some time and careful planning. But it can be done.

Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt in April signed into law a bill that creates the Route 66 Centennial Commission. The 21-member panel is to "plan, coordinate and implement programs and special events to celebrate the historic highway's centennial in 2026 with the support of the Oklahoma Historical Society."

Part of the legislation reads, "The centennial is an opportunity to celebrate the important history of Route 66 in Oklahoma through commemorative, educational and community events, including programs and exhibits about the history of how local communities grew and changed with construction of the highway; the development of a modern transportation system; the cultural impact of Route 66



This famous Round Barn can be found along Route 66 in Arcadia, Oklahoma.

both within the United States and internationally; the portrayal of Route 66 in music, artwork and folklore; and how we maintain the mystique and appeal of Route 66 for future generations.”

Lt. Governor Matt Pinnell will chair the commission.

“My vision for Route 66 in Oklahoma is to make a whole lot of money on it,” said Pinnell. “I’m talking about promoting the state of Oklahoma from the tourism perspective and that means communities across the state are making a lot of money in very valuable sales tax dollars.”

Lt. Gov. Pinnell pointed out that Oklahoma is one of the most sales tax-dependent states in the country. The state generates around \$627 annually and Lt. Gov. Pinnell would like to see that double to \$1 billion. Tourism already ranks as the state’s third-largest industry behind only oil and gas and aerospace. Lt. Gov. Pinnell already serves as chairman of the Oklahoma Tourism Commission.

In his introduction to the aforementioned book by Michael Wallis, Route 66 Association Founder Tom Snyder of Oxnard, CA wrote that there’s a feeling of personal involvement when it comes to the “Ribbon Road.”



A Route 66 drive-in sign from Elk City at the Route 66 Museum.

A stop in one of the small towns most anywhere along old Route 66 offers evidence that life begins at the offramp. Away from the superslab you can still order a piece of pie from the person who baked it, still get your change right from the shop owner, still take a moment to care and to be cared for, a long way from home.

Fortunately, for those of us in Oklahoma, Route 66 is home.





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Just Kids!

Children Need Time to Develop Executive Function

by Sherry Rackliff

Think about when you were a child and played outside. What did that look like? What are your memories? For many of us, it meant a freedom from chores, from parental oversight, from schedules. And a freedom to do what we wanted, when we wanted, and how we wanted. I remember watching red ants – the stinging kind – work in their anthills, taking food and building materials into the ground and wondering what it looked like inside their homes. I remember driving the garden tractor with a trailer that carried my little sister all over our 100+ acre farm in western Kansas when I was six or seven years old. I remember swinging from an old barn door on the second story of an old barn that daddy later tore down, so I assume it was dilapidated then. But, more than that, looking back at it all, I remember knowing what I was capable of and what I did not feel comfortable doing. I felt competent in the things that I did. I don't remember getting stung by an ant, but I knew to not let them get on me.

Today, when children play outside it is most often something like a game of soccer, or softball, or going to a park with special play equipment that has been carefully designed to develop their gross motor skills in a certain way. That type of play takes care of a few of the benefits of outdoor play. That gets them sunshine, exercise, and socialization. But how do they get the rest of the benefits that they need?

Taking risks help children develop in very meaningful ways. They need to be able to assess and take risks that they feel



comfortable taking. They need to stretch their physical and mental capabilities to feel competent, to learn from their successes and failures and to know the consequences of those decisions. This helps them develop their physical capabilities, but also helps them to learn to plan, prioritize, troubleshoot, be creative in their problem-solving — to grow in their executive function.

Executive function is critical for our success; we need to be able to develop a creative plan to get from point A to point B. These are skills that must be learned and practiced repeatedly. To do this, children need time to process information, to develop a plan, and to fail and try again. They need unstructured time alone and with other children to develop those skills.

Children are unable, for whatever reason, to have the opportunity to roam their neighborhoods and learn the needed skills for executive function, appreciation of nature, and the freedom and time that children from past generations have enjoyed. The map shows that in just four generations how a child's ability to roam decreased from roughly six miles to only being allowed to walk to the end of the street.

Children also need time to be able to appreciate the wonder of nature and our natural world full of butterflies, flowers, edible plants, along with the ants, snakes, and poison ivy. They need to have the time to lay on the ground and watch the clouds and wonder what is in them and how they are made.

They need to know the wonders of our world to take care of it for the future. Things that are not understood and appreciated are not cared for. How can we give children more opportunities to learn to love nature?



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1



Sunfest
9 AM; Sooner Park

2

Sunfest
9 AM; Sooner Park
Reign FK vs Storm FC
7 PM; Custer Stadium

4

Comets & Crafts (Kids)
1 PM; Bartlesville Public Library
Learn about comets, then create a cool comet necklace and a space headband.

6

Paint & Pour (Teens)
6 PM; Bartlesville Public Library

7

Family Fishing Clinic
9 AM; Osage Hills State Park
Come out to our annual Family Fishing Clinic, and learn a new way to enjoy the outdoors. Parks and Department of Wildlife Conservation staff will be on hand to teach all you need to know to get started fishing.

8

Playday
10:30 AM; Bartlesville Roundup Club

8

OKM Music Festival Kick-Off Party
3 PM; Bartlesville Community Center
Reign FK vs Irving FC
7 PM; Custer Stadium

10

Story Time, Music, & Art with Tamika Straw
10 AM; Bartlesville Public Library
Call 918.337.2787 to RSVP
"Silly Strings"
1 PM; Ambler Hall
Call 918.337.2787 to RSVP
Storyteller Fran Stalings (Kids)
2 PM; Bartlesville Public Library

11

1 Day Summer Dance Camp-Tea Party
9 AM; Stage Art Dance
\$20/each. Call 918-333-7270
Story Time, Music, & Art with Tamika Straw
10 & 11 AM; Bartlesville Public Library
Call 918.337.2787 to RSVP
Jeff Cauthen, Magician and Ventriliquists
2 PM; Bartlesville Public Library
Call 918.337.2787 to RSVP
Prince & Princess Tea
4 PM; Bartlesville Public Library
\$14 a child/ \$14 Adult. Call 918.337.2787 to RSVP

12

Violin Adventures with Seri Neubauer
10 AM; Ambler Hall
Call 918.337.2787 to RSVP
Story Time and Pianist Jenny Lin
2 PM; Bartlesville High School FAC
Call 918.337.2787 to RSVP

13

Stone Lion Puppet Theatre
11 AM & 2 PM; Fr. Lynch Hall
Call 918.337.2787 to RSVP

14

Dance and Music
10 AM; Bartlesville Public Library
Call 918.337.2787 to RSVP
Mission to Saturn (Teens)
2 PM; Bartlesville Public Library



Juneteenth Community Unity Day
6 PM; Westside Community Center
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Juneteenth Community Unity Day

12 PM; Westside Community
Center

See June 14 for event info.

Reign FK vs Inocentes FC

7 PM; Custer Stadium



Inspiral (Kids)

2 PM; Bartlesville Public
Library

The glowing anti-gravity
juggling show is out of this
world

Sci-Fi Trivia (Teens)

4 PM; Bartlesville Public
Library

From Prince Leia to black
holes, we will be shooting for
the stars with this Sci-Fi
themed trivia event. Bonus
points for being in themed
costume.

21



Woolarac Trunk Show for Kids

10 AM; Bartlesville Public
Library

Join Woolarac Museum staff
for a "travelling trunk"
presentation at the Bartlesville
Public Library. Museum staff
will present a 30-45 minute
history of Frank Phillips and
Woolarac using real artifacts
and historic images. This is a
hands-on, interactive
presentation designed for
children in Kindergarten
through 3rd grade.

23

Reign FK vs Spurs FC

7 PM; Custer Stadium

25

MST3K Screening

6 PM; Bartlesville Public
Library

Enjoy the antics of Jonah and
his robot buddies as they riff
on a so bad it's good Sci-Fi
"B" movie!

26

1 Day Summer Dance Camp-Princess & Pirates

9 AM; Stage Art Dance
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camp includes: dance
instruction, crafts, games, and
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28



Summer Sunset Screening: The Wizard of Oz

9 PM; Price Tower
The Bartlesville Film Society
and the Price Tower Arts
Center are excited to present
this year's Summer Sunset
Movies. On Friday, June 28th
we will be showing a FREE
screening of 1939 "Wizard of
Oz" outside under the stars at
the Price Tower beginning at
dusk. Bring your lawn chairs &
blankets to this event.

29

Kidsfest

10 AM; Woolaroc
June 29-30



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2019 Baseball Skills Camp

9 AM; Doenges Memorial Stadium
June 3-6, Ages 5-13

OKWU Soccer Camp

OKWU Soccer fields
June 3-5, ages 5-12
June 16-19, College Interest
June 30-July 3, College Interest

Bruins Boys Basketball Camp

9 AM; Central Middle School
June 3-4, Grades 4-6

OKWU SLC3 Basketball Camp

9AM; OKWU
June 9-12, Ages 8-18
June 13-14, Ages 4-8

OKWU Youth Baseball Camp 1

9 AM; OKWU Baseball Field
June 17-19, Ages 5-12
June 24-26, Ages 5-12

Jordan Belong Soccer Camp

6:30 PM; Robin Wood Fields
June 28-July 28

Once Upon a Time Dance Camp

5:30 PM; Stage Art
June 15-18, Ages 3-7
June 17-20, 10 AM, Ages 3-7

CRUSH Youth Fitness & Performance

Tuesdays & Thursdays;
June 6-August 1; Crossfit
Ages 4 - 6; 10:30 - 11:15 AM
Ages 7 - 11; 3 - 3:45 PM
Ages 11 - 15; 3:45 - 4:30 PM
\$130 members, \$150 non-members

East Cross VBS

6 PM; East Cross Church
June 10-13, Grades K-5

Never the Same Camp

Oklahoma Wesleyan University
June 24-28

Answers VBS Time Lab

9 AM; Calvary Chapel
June 24-28, Grades K-6

BAHM Summer Camp

1 PM; Bartlesville Area History Museum
June 25-27, Grades 2-6

Tri County Tech Summer Camp

8 AM; Tri County Tech
June 3-7, Grades 7-9
June 10-14, Grades 3-4
June 17-20, Grades 5-6

BAA June Art Camps

Grades 1 & 2: 9:00 - 10:00
Grades 3 & 4: 10:10 - 11:10
Grades 5 & 6: 11:20 - 12:20
Grades 7 & up: 12:50 - 2:00
Mixed level: 2:10 - 3:10

Week 1 Drawing:

June 3-7

Learn to draw what you see & use your imagination as well

Week 2 Clay and Sculpture:

June 10-14

Work with clay and other sculptural materials

Week 3 Painting:

June 17-21

Learn painting techniques with a variety of media and subjects

Week 4 Printmaking:

June 24-28

Make prints with a variety of materials and printmaking processes.



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JUNE 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!

Sat, Jun 1

8 AM

28th Annual Dewey Antique & Collectibles Show

Washington County Fairgrounds
1109 N Delaware Street

More than 100 booths, including dealers from five states and food catered by Bambino's highlight this event. It is one of the best vintage & antique hows in the area. Admission is \$4 per person.

Bartlesville Farmer's Market

Frank Phillips Park

Every Saturday through October.



10 AM

37th Annual Sunfest

Sooner Park

North Madison Blvd.

"Oklahoma's Biggest Outdoor Picnic" returns with its trademark combination of: A relaxed family atmosphere; quality and cost-free entertainment; a diverse range of arts and crafts; creative activities for children; and much more!

Woolaroc Animal Barn & Mountain Man Camp Open for the Season

Woolaroc Museum & Wildlife Preserve
1925 Woolaroc Ranch Road

SASS Cowboy Shoot

Woolaroc Museum & Wildlife Preserve
1925 Woolaroc Ranch Road

Bartlesville Artisan Market

Washington Park Mall
2350 SE Washington Blvd., Ste. 218

3 & 6:30PM

Stage Art Dance Annual Showcase: "Alive"

OKWU University Chapel
2201 Silver Lake Rd.

Students ages walking to adult are featured in this dance showcase for the family! For tickets call 918.333.7270

8 PM

Live Music

Price Tower Copper Bar
510 S Dewey Ave.

Sun, Jun 2

10 AM

37th Annual Sunfest

Sooner Park

North Madison Blvd.

See June 1 event for information.

3 PM

Life Drawing with Model

Price Tower Arts Center
510 S Dewey Ave.

Mon, Jun 3

10 AM

Elder Care Open House Tour

Elder Care
1223 Swan Dr.

Tue, Jun 4

12 PM

Bridges of Washington County

Bartlesville Area History Museum
401 S Johnstone, 5th Floor

Washington County Commissioner Mike Bouvier of District 2 will present a program on the subject of the current exhibit "Bridges of Washington County" from noon until 1:30 p.m.



1 PM

Watercolor & Acrylic Painting Classes for Kids

Price Tower Arts Center
510 S Dewey Ave.

The class is held from 1-8:30 pm, Monday - Thursday of each week.

Wed, Jun 5

7:30 PM

Songbox

Tinker's GlassHouse
600 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

Music + Bingo. Free to play! Win Prizes!

Thu, Jun 6

1:30 PM

Nutrition & Herb Study Group

Hopstone Cancer Support Center
206 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

Study the uses, medical & everyday, of different herbs & good nutrition practices.

7 PM

Stray Kats Movie Night

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

Fri, Jun 7

7 PM

Bartlesville Film Society Movie Night - Shawshank Redemption

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

Sat, Jun 8

TIMES VARY

OKM Music Festival Begins

Various Area Venues

OKM Music Festival is an annual, multi-genre music festival. It is a week-long, multi-location event with professional orchestra musicians, concert artists, and musical performances of the highest caliber. Concert artists include pop, country, rock, classical, chamber, jazz, blues, and contemporary. One mainstay is the beloved outdoor concert at Woolaroc, featuring a performance under the stars next to Clyde Lake.



3 PM

OKM Music Festival Street Party

Bartlesville Community Center
300 SE Adams Blvd.

A street party at the Community Center kicks off the 35th annual festival. Beginning at 3 p.m., enjoy a variety of food choices, children's activities, games, and artists, including YouTube sensation Anne Reburn, Indie-Pop duo Breakup featuring Bartlesville alumna Abby Callaghan, Stillwater's Isaac McClung, and folk group The Arcadian Wild featuring Bartlesville alumna Paige Park.




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7 PM

**OKM Music Festival presents
Brent Giddens Band & Phil Vassar**
Bartlesville Community Center
300 SE Adams Blvd.

Kick off OKM Music Festival with a country-themed concert, featuring the Brent Giddens Band and Phil Vassar as he brings his country Hitsteria tour to Bartlesville.

8 PM

Live Music
Price Tower Copper Bar
510 S Dewey Ave.

Music with Let It Ride
Heritage Theatre - Gizzy's Eatery
306 E Don Tyler Ave., Dewey

8:30 PM

Trivia Night
Tinker's GlassHouse
600 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.



Sun, Jun 9

5-9 PM

**OKM Music Festival Concert
Under the Stars at Sooner Park**
Sooner Park Band Shell
North Madison Blvd.

Join The Gothard Sisters as they perform Celtic music and lead audiences in Irish dance. At 7 pm, child prodigy Arielle will take the stage and stun audiences with her four-octave range.

Mon, Jun 10

11 AM

OKM Music Lunch Concert
Bartlesville Community Center
300 SE Adams Blvd.

Spanish-born duo Elena Martin and Jose Meliton will perform a Spanish-themed brown bag lunch concert with original compositions in the Community Hall.

2 PM

OKM Music Festival - Music through the Years with the Ad Lib Sisters
Bartlesville Community Center
300 SE Adams Blvd.

Free showcase community event.



6 PM

Vacation Bible School
Eastern Heights Baptist Church
1331 Swan Dr.

Vacation Bible School at Eastern Heights Baptist Church runs through June 14, from 6-8:30 pm each evening.

7:30 PM

An Evening with Mozart: The Tulsa Symphony Orchestra
Bartlesville Community Center
300 SE Adams Blvd.

The OKM Music Festival presents the Tulsa Symphony Orchestra, which resonates throughout NE Oklahoma.

Tue, Jun 11

10 AM

OKM Music Festival - Barbershop with the Daytime Divas
First Presbyterian Church
505 SE Dewey Ave.

Free showcase community event.

2 PM

OKM Music Festival - Harmony Project Tulsa
First Presbyterian Church
505 SE Dewey Ave.

Free showcase community event.

5:30 PM

Women's Cancer Support Group
Hopstone Cancer Support Center
206 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

6:30 PM

Music On The Grounds Series
Frank Phillips Home
1107 Cherokee Ave.
Featuring Ann-Janette & the Evolution.

7:30 PM

Steep Canyon Rangers presented by OKM Music Festival
Bartlesville Community Center
300 SE Adams Blvd.

One of the most exciting bluegrass bands pickin' and strummin' today will be today's OKM Music Festival performers. Well known for their early tours with Steve Martin, the group has now become a bluegrass favorite across the country.

Wed, Jun 12

10:30 AM

OKM Music Festival - Music in the Saloon with Bill & Rosie Caldwell
Prairie Song
402621 W 1600 Road, Dewey

Cost is \$30 per person. Buy tickets at bartlesvillecommunitycenter.com.

2 PM

OKM Music Festival - Organist Zoltan Varga
Bartlesville First Church
4715 Price Rd.

Free showcase community event.

7:30 PM

Pianist Jenny Lin presented by OKM Music Festival
Bartlesville High School Fine Arts Center
1700 SE Hillcrest Dr.

OKM Music is delighted to welcome internationally acclaimed pianist Jenny Lin to be a part of this year's celebration.

Songbox

Tinker's GlassHouse
600 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

Thu, Jun 13

10 AM

OKM Music Festival - Southern Gospel with the New Tulsans
First Christian Church
520 S Osage Ave.

Free showcase community event.

3 PM

OKM Music Festival - English Cottage Tea with Dianne Fallis
First Christian Church
520 S Osage Ave.

Cost is \$30 per person. Buy tickets at bartlesvillecommunitycenter.com.

6 PM

APDA Parkinson's Caregivers Support Group Meeting
JPMC Lower Level Classroom
3500 E Frank Phillips Blvd.

EVENTS CALENDAR

7:30 PM

Quartetto Gelato presented by OKM Music Festival
Bartlesville Community Center
300 SE Adams Blvd.

Virtuosic show pieces, romantic tenor arias, pyrotechnical solos, blazing gypsy show pieces, multi-instrument mastery, and a world accordion champion — this is Quartetto Gelato.

8 PM

Singer/Songwriter Open Mic Night
Heritage Theatre - Gizzy's Eatery
306 E Don Tyler Ave., Dewey

Fri, Jun 14

5 PM

OKM Music Festival Finale at Woolaroc's Clyde Lake
Woolaroc Museum & Wildlife Preserve
1925 Woolaroc Ranch Road

Bring a picnic dinner and lawn chairs to Woolaroc's Clyde Lake for the finale, featuring Modern Oklahoma Jazz Orchestra (MOJO) and Dallas Brass — a national brass quintet known for their patriotic and classical albums. Come early for children's activities, giveaway, and vendor booths. Fireworks cap the festivities.

8 PM

Open Mic Comedy Night
Heritage Theatre - Gizzy's Eatery
306 E Don Tyler Ave., Dewey
Call 918-440-2393 for details.

9 PM

Live Music
Solo club
408 E 2nd St.

Live Music

Osage Casino Bartlesville
222 Allen Rd.

Sat, Jun 15

6 PM

Red White and Blue Stars Bunco Bash
Elks Lodge No. 1060
1060 Swan Dr.

Social hour at 6 pm, bunco games at 7 pm. Cost is \$15 per person, or \$20 for couples. Dinner provided and prizes will be given away. The event benefits Bartlesville Blue Star Mothers, a group of veteran & active military support moms

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EVENTS CALENDAR

6 PM

OKM Music Festival Cuarteto Latinoamericano

Price Tower Gallery
510 S Dewey Ave.

Enjoy this special patron event with live music, tapas, champagne, dessert, and much more.

7 PM

Poetry Night with Morris McCorvey

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

8 PM

Live Music

Price Tower Copper Bar
510 S Dewey Ave.

8:30 PM

Karaoke Contest

Tinker's GlassHouse
600 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

Sun, Jun 16

1 PM

Free Family Funday

Price Tower
510 S Dewey Ave.

Free admission and feature themed crafts highlight the exhibition or the season.

Mon, Jun 17

9 PM

Camp Vamanos!

Cornerstone Classical Academy
300 SE Washington Blvd.

Spanish immersion language program. \$120 first child, \$100 second child, \$80 each additional child. Runs through June 20.

Tue, Jun 18

5:30 PM

CMT Family Friendly Bingo Fundraiser

Washington County Fairgrounds
HWY 75 North, Dewey

Great food, silent auction, bingo & prizes. Tickets \$12 at the door.

Wed, Jun 19

7:30 PM

Songbox

Tinker's GlassHouse
600 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

See June 5 event for information.

Thu, Jun 20

1:30 PM

Nutrition & Herb Study Group

Hopestone Cancer Support Center
206 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

See June 6 event for information.

5 PM

Parkinson's Support Group

Elder Care
1223 Swan Dr.

7 PM

Happiest Hour with Jimmie Johnson

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

Fri, Jun 21

9:30 AM

Quiltfest 2019 hosted by Bartlesville Jubilee Quilters' Guild

Washington County Fairgrounds
1109 N Delaware Street, Dewey

Quiltfest features quilts, vendor mall, bed turning, technique demos, auctions, a quilts boutique, door prizes, and more. Admission is \$7 per person, children under 12 admitted free.

6 PM

H.O.T. Street Party hosted by Bartlesville Young Professionals

Downtown Bartlesville

2nd & Keeler Ave.

HOT Street Party is back! There will be food trucks, live music, a kids' space, games, drinks & more. Don't miss the biggest street party in Bartlesville!

7 PM

Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre

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

Cost is \$18 per person. Show only.

9 PM

Live Music

Solo club
408 E 2nd St.

Live Music

Osage Casino Bartlesville
222 Allen Rd.

Sat, Jun 22

9:30 AM

Quiltfest 2019 hosted by Bartlesville Jubilee Quilters' Guild

Washington County Fairgrounds
1109 N Delaware Street, Dewey

See June 21 event for information.

7 PM

Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre

Heritage Theatre - Gizzy's Eatery
306 E Don Tyler Ave., Dewey
Cost is \$18 per person. Show only.

8 PM

Live Music

Price Tower Copper Bar
510 S Dewey Ave.

8:30 PM

Karaoke

Painted Horse Bar & Grille
110 SW Frank Phillips Blvd.

Trivia Night

Tinker's GlassHouse
600 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

Tue, Jun 25

1 PM

Summer History Camp hosted by Bartlesville Area History Museum

Bartlesville Area History Museum
401 S Johnstone Ave., 5th floor

The camp is free to students who have completed grades 2-6. The topic of the camp is learning and understanding the role of local and county governments in our lives and in the community. A field trip will offer behind-the-scenes look at county offices, the Washington County Courthouse, and a courtroom.

5:30 PM

Women's Cancer Support Group

Hopestone Cancer Support Center
206 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

Wed, Jun 26

7:30 PM

Songbox

Tinker's GlassHouse
600 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

Thu, Jun 27

5:30 PM

Golden Hour

Elder Care
1223 Swan Dr.

Free social evening with live entertainment, food, and giveaways. The event is open to anyone in the community over the age of 60. No RSVP is required.

7 PM

Music with Robbie Bell

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

Fri, Jun 28

7 PM

Karaoke

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

9 PM

Summer Sunset Movie showing of The Wizard of Oz

Outside of Price Tower
510 S Dewey Ave.

The Bartlesville Film Society and the Price Tower Arts Center present the Sunset Movie Series. The showing is free and open to the public. Popcorn and concessions will be available. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and families.

Live Music

Solo club
408 E 2nd St.

Live Music

Osage Casino Bartlesville
222 Allen Rd.

Sat, Jun 29

10 AM - 5 PM

Kidsfest

Woolaroc Museum & Wildlife Preserve
1925 Woolaroc Ranch Rd.

The main campus of Woolaroc will transform into a magical children's wonderland with Kidsfest. The event will feature crafts, games, entertainment, food, and re-enactors. Admission to Woolaroc is \$12 for adults and \$10 for 65+. Children 11-under and members of Woolaroc are admitted free.

7 PM

Family Movie Night showing of Sandlot

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

8 PM

Live Music

Price Tower Copper Bar
510 S Dewey Ave.

8:30 PM

Karaoke Contest

Tinker's GlassHouse
600 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

Sun, Jun 30

10 AM - 5 PM

Kidsfest

Woolaroc Museum & Wildlife Preserve
1925 Woolaroc Ranch Rd.

See June 29 event for information.



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
124 SW Frank Phillips Blvd
Bartlesville, OK 74003-6607




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

- 6:30 PM**

Abortion Recovery 8 week study
MUTUAL

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**

All-Ages Storytime
Bartlesville Public Library

Beginning Watercolor Art Class
Price Tower Design Center
- 5:30 PM**

WW Wellness Workshop
Bartlesville Community Center
- 6 PM**

Flow Class
Bliss Studio

EVENTS CALENDAR

- 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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SAFE-NOW - WALK A MILE IN HER SHOES



BARTLESVILLE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION - LEGACY HALL OF FAME GALA



ELDER CARE - THE GOOD, THE BAD, THE BARBECUE



On the Subject of Eloise Needleman

Local Resident Recalls her Time as an Actress in LA

by **Tim Hudson**

If there were a record of the most interesting people in Bartlesville, Eloise Needleman would make at least the top three, top five for sure.

"What was Jim Morrison like? Beautiful ... that's what I remember." ~ "Yeah I was on Batman, but I was embarrassed. I thought it was dumb." ~ "We moved to Bartlesville because of Bruce Goff, we bought the house that was owned by the curator of the Price Tower." ~ "I was only afraid of two people in those days, one was a mob-type enforcer and the other was Ike Turner."

Those were just a few sample quotes from my talk with Eloise. So yeah, wow.

When I go in Eloise's house, the aforementioned Bruce Goff home, it's an amazing mid-century modern and there's a sword right by the door to greet you. Pretty much everything in there has an interesting history and story, not the least of which is Eloise herself. It's actually hard to know where to begin because it's all good.

In the 60s, Eloise was a model and actress living in LA. She hung out at all the right places, knew all the people that you've heard of, and what's double cool is that she doesn't really wear all this on her sleeve. You have to pretty much pull it out of her; the names only come when the conversation drifts that way.

When we sit down amid stacks of books on Picasso, the Bauhaus movement, and the X-Files, Eloise is sipping a glass of something and I ask her what it is. She tells me and it's something I've never heard of [read: exotic] and that it was bought in bulk years ago from somewhere over seas, probably Morocco if I remember right [read: really exotic].

She's listening to some classical music, and when she tells me what it is, I again have never heard of it, but that makes it more cool. It segues into "Abbey Road" by the Beatles and I figure that she knows them too, but she says "I only saw George Harrison," and it makes sense.

But I digress. As you can imagine, it's super easy to get sidetracked when talking with Eloise, and all the side roads are good on their own. So it started with her acting, and as I noted before, she wasn't as impressed with the original campy Batman tv show as I was, although she did say that her scene partner, Burgess Meredith, who played the Penguin, "was totally professional, a very hard worker."

After that she did an episode of "Death Valley Days" and got an audition for "the Mod Squad," which she didn't get because producer Aaron Spelling said her 118 pounds was too big for the role. She rolls her eyes and briefly goes off on the treatment of



Needleman shown above during a scene from the Batman episode "Penguin is a Girl's Best Friend" that aired January 25, 1967..

women in Hollywood in the 60s and 70s, and again it's interesting and charming.

Then she tells me of working as Frank Zappa's manager, Herb Cohen's assistant, and true stories of Frank's brilliance and eccentricity. She also talks about some of the other artists in Cohen's roster, including Alice Cooper, who she recalls forgetting his trademark makeup for his big showcase at the Whiskey-A-Go-Go at the start of his career. "He had nothing and all I had was my eyebrow pencil," she told me. "I did it, but at the time I was wearing this green eyeliner so that's what he got."

Apparently it went pretty well, and the rest of that story is, as they say, history. Then there was the time Ike Turner tried to hire her away from Herb, showing her fancy sports cars belonging to some of his other employees. "He was like 'you see how I treat my people,'" she said, then relating a story similar to many about Ike Turner, showing his violent side. "I didn't want anything to do with that. I knew Tina, but she was really quiet around that time."

Then there was a stint at Warner Brothers, where she said "Marty Scorsese was a gofer." I literally about swallowed my gum and said "So when he makes that big movie here in town, you got the hookup?" She just smiled. I'm sure she does, I mean she knows him well enough to call him "Marty."

The story ends up in Bartlesville, after her late husband started researching Bruce Goff homes. Wow. There were also local plays with Joe Sears and Shelby Brammer. The list could go on and on, but this isn't the Eloise Needleman issue so those stories will have to wait for another day.



Thinking of You

Christy McPhail

So, I am not a writer and will never claim to be; so that is my disadvantage here. BUT, my advantage is my dad is very easy for me to talk about and I couldn't pass up this chance to brag on him. Most of you who know my dad know that he is a Marine, an avid OU fan, a great athlete, has a very funny sense of humor, loves my mom, and loves Jesus.

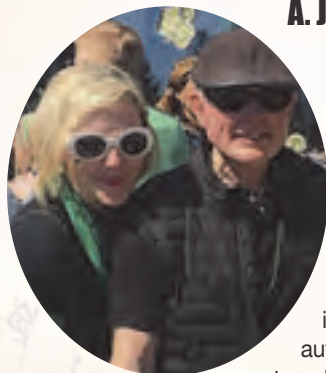
He could have done anything he wanted coming out of the Marines and finishing college, but he decided to study up on catfish farming and made that his career. I am so thankful for it, because of that, I got to spend a lot of time with my dad. Among my friends, I was the only one who was hunting dove, pheasant, and quail in elementary school. I was also catching bigger bass than most grown men have ever seen. When you fish and hunt for hours at a time, you get to share lots of stories. Who knows everything I said to him, but he would always tell me great stories — stories of Bartlesville and of his lifelong friends here.

His loyalty and compassion to care for others is something that I finally caught on to as I got older, and was another thing appreciated so much about him. (Don't tell him I mentioned that, he always kept that kinda thing under the radar.) I believe I got many characteristics from my dad: his brown eyes, sense of humor, competitive nature, and never quit attitude. It is a great thing to have a hero for a dad, to always feel safe and loved. What else could a girl want.

I love you dad! Happy Father's Day!



A. J. Webster



Having a good father can certainly give you a head start in life, but having an amazing daddy ... makes you believe you can do anything. That's what I have. He spends his life helping and encouraging others, but I've always had the assurance he was mine. My dad. A few sentences would never be enough to tell you how incredibly optimistic, funny, forgiving, visionary, brave, gifted, genuine, and truly loving Jason Elmore really is. He's the same authentic person everywhere he goes and no matter who he's with — he lights up every room.

He leads by example in so many ways, but teaching me to "understand the other's perspective" is high on the list. To always consider what the other person is going through, thinking, struggling with ... from their perspective. Then to serve them by understanding. This revolutionizes relationships. And perhaps the most valuable gift my dad gave me was the freedom and encouragement to truly be who I was made to be. The knowledge that I am a unique, one-and-only, beautiful, once-in-a-lifetime, creative expression of God. (And so are you.) Happy Father's Day, daddy. I'm so proud to be yours.

Debbie Neece

My father was a believer. After six moves to three states, he retired from Schlumberger in Texas because he believed Phillips Petroleum Company was a new beginning for his wife and four children.

My father was a hero. Arriving in Bartlesville, we traveled on what is now Silver Lake Road when we came upon an accident at the Wesleyan Church entrance. Since my father had extensive first aid training, he parked and ran to help. The little boy was hit by a car and non-responsive. We watched from the car as dad took the lifeless body

and returned life. The boy was handicapped but survived.

My father was humble beyond measure. He bravely served our nation during the Korean Conflict but when faced with the family of the child he saved, he was a humble bundle of mush.

The greatest blessing he bestowed upon me was setting aside his pride and allowing my husband and me to care for him in his failing health and final years. And I miss my hero every day.



on Father's Day

Kelsey Walker

There's so many things I can say about my Dad that it's really difficult to choose a starting point. But perhaps just that — the starting point — is one of the most lasting ways he has impacted my life.

I was born to a single teen mom. She was 18 at my birth, but stronger than she knew and determined to give me a great life despite the absence of my biological father. My (true) dad, as I've always known him, came into my life when I was just a tot living with my mom and her extended family at my grandparents' home. I can't remember a time when he wasn't part of

my life. They met and fell in love, and married when I was five years old. He made sure I always knew he thought of me as his own kid, and he went so far as to officially adopt me when they married. He forever changed my mom's life and mine, and it all started because he was willing to take on someone else's child as his very own. He's been my dad ever since. He's always serving, always teaching (including how to change a flat tire or fix a bathtub drain) and never fails to have a corny dad joke at hand.

Happy Father's Day, dad!



Lori Roll

My father was the most humble, compassionate, patient, kind, gentle, gracious and accepting person I have ever known.

Those are words of high praise, and dad exemplified the definition of every accolade.

When complimented too highly, he would shake his head and say, "Watch out, now."

Dad was a very patriotic American. He lived to celebrate 100 Independence Days and expressed his great appreciation for our freedom daily. Born the 11th child in a devout Roman Catholic family from Natrona Heights, PA, Dad was the longest-lived member of his family. They saved the best for last.

While dad studied for the priesthood as a young man, he realized his calling to serve others was in a different capacity. Dad and mom were married for 67 years and produced three children.

Dad was a businessman in long-term care and insurance after serving in the US Army Air Corps in WWII and then the airline industry where he met mom. He built the Heritage Nursing centers and owned Phoenix Insurance. We have always worked as family owned and operated businesses where our family motto is "One for all and all for one."

Dad loved his family, his community and service to others. He was very involved in arts and business organizations and helping others succeed. His word was rock solid. His handshake was an immutable contract. His stately, quiet demeanor was that of a statesman and a gentleman. He was our Rock of Gibraltar and was loved and respected by those who knew him.

Kay Little

As you can tell by the photo, I grew up in an Air Force home, which was also a very conservative, Christian home, for which I am now very grateful.

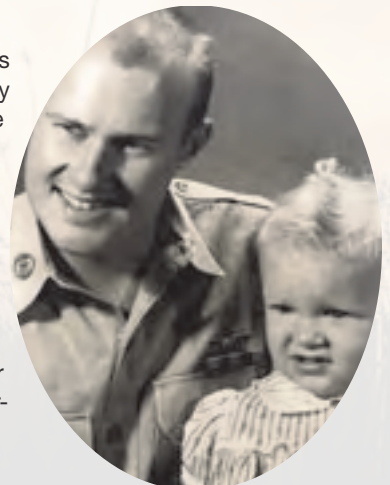
My dad is one of those people who could fix anything, and we rarely had to have a repairman come to the house.

Being in the military, our family lived in several places. From the time I was six months old to almost two years old, we lived in Puerto Rico, where my dad introduced me to the ocean. He teases me that I love to go to Hawaii because the ocean is in my blood.

My sister and I always knew daddy loved us and would do anything for us. I found out many years later that he worked a second job one year so we could have new Easter dresses. He instilled in us a strong work ethic and honesty. My dad is also a very giving man. If he finds out a family member has a need or even a want sometimes, he tries to meet that need.

Dad loves learning about all the new technology, which he has passed on to my sons. We have a picture of four generations in our family with their iPhones and pads. I am surrounded by nerds!

Happy Father's Day, dad!





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Jo Allyn Lowe Park

Namesake of Local Park Remembered for His Contributions

by Kay Little, Little History Adventures

Where in Bartlesville can you learn about the many species of trees that were planted as memorials, enjoy wild flowers, fish, feed ducks and geese (but not bread!), enjoy a miniature tall grass prairie, walk or jog around a lake, stand on the porch of a 1920s cabin, or have a picnic lunch — all for free?! Just go to the corner of Price Road and Locust Road, and you will find Jo Allyn Lowe Park, where you can experience all these fun activities.



JO ALLYN LOWE

Harold and Carolyn Price, as well as son Joe and wife Etsuko Price, donated 31.74

acres to build the park, which opened in 1974. The Prices and Phillips Petroleum Company paid most of the costs for the development of the park. Jo Allyn Lowe Park was an entrance and the first step toward the dedication of the Pathfinder Parkway system, which was opened in 1976 as a bicentennial project. Several years after the park opened, a sculpture designed by Anthony Puttnam, an architect from the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation, was placed in the park.

So who is Jo Allyn Lowe, and why was this park named for him? Price wanted to name the park for his friend in recognition of all the efforts he put into the Bartlesville community. Price and Jo's wife, Margaret, were able to keep the park name a secret from Jo until the day of the park dedication. Jo was a second generation Bartian, graduating from Bartlesville High School in 1932. He loved playing sports, outdoor activities, photography, and music. As a ninth-grader, Jo wrote in an essay that his goal was to be the director of the Bartlesville YMCA, which he accomplished after graduating from Oklahoma A&M.

Lowe was very involved with the youth in the community for over 40 years. After the Boys Club of Bartlesville, which



was the first one in Oklahoma, was incorporated in 1954, Jo Allyn Lowe became the first executive director, serving until his death in 1975. He told his wife she could run the "Boys Club" at home with their four sons, while he ran the Boys Club on Seminole and Frank Phillips Blvd.

Lowe had a way of relating to kids from all walks of life. After his death, his family had many people tell them how much Jo meant to them and how he helped them make a better life for themselves. His funeral in 1975 was the largest in memory, with crowds overflowing at the First United Methodist Church.

Jo's son, Marty, said it well when he said, "Dad was a Renaissance Man!"





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Take Time to Smell the Roses

by Lindel Fields

Where did the time go? I have been asking myself that question ever since I received notification of my 30-year high school reunion. It seems like yesterday that I was hanging with my friends at Skiatook Lake living a simpler life.

This time of year, with events like graduations, reunions, and vacations, the question about time comes up more frequently. “It seems just like yesterday” that we went on vacation. The reality is that it has been a year or maybe two. Just last week, my son graduated from high school, yet it seems like “just yesterday” that he was born, starting kindergarten, playing in his first football game, starting middle school, getting his driver’s license — I think you get the idea.

As for me and my reunion, I reflected on “where did the time go.” I thought about my life at my 10-year reunion and suspected my most significant decision was what to wear to the occasion. I was still trying to figure things out, but one thing is for sure, life was not near as simple as my care-free high school days. At the time, I had two children, and life was hectic — every moment had an activity planned. Why? Because that is what you’re supposed to do. Or is it?

I continued my reflection by pondering my life at my 20-year reunion. The kids were a bit older, and life had thrown some things my way. My career was going very well. However, cancer got the best of my mother, and I went through a divorce. The days of high school were long gone, but it seemed “like yesterday.” The conversations at the 20-year reunion were about the kids, careers, and what kind of car was in the parking lot.

As I approach the 30-year reunion, life looks way different than it did at the 20-year event. At some point, between the two occasions, the reality of “where did the time go,” began to take on a new meaning. It was during this time that I heard someone say “be careful not wish your life away.” We do this by saying things like “I wish it were Friday,” “I can’t wait for Christmas to get here,” “only six months until vacation.” The term resonated with me, and I began to appreciate another phrase regarding time, which is “take time to smell the roses.”

As I think back on the last 30 years, my best memories are of simple things. Things like sitting by a fire at deer camp with close friends and watching my wife, Leigh Ann, warm up for a bike race. Spur of the moment events like an unplanned dinner with my daughter, Jordan, on a Tuesday night. Simply being in the moment when enjoying a run through the fog in Napa Valley and watching a millennium sunrise. Simple moments like seeing tears roll down my son’s cheeks after his final football game and Eva having chocolate milk with us while we enjoy our morning coffee in bed (a daily routine for us).

Recently, my son bought me a Red Ryder BB gun. Over the last couple of weeks, we have had fun shooting cans in the back yard. The look on Eva’s face when “we” hit one is priceless. It’s the little things like this that I am sure I will be thinking about when the 40-year reunion comes around.

Time is the only thing we can’t make more of so take some time to “smell the roses” and savor the small moments.



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Memories of Sunset & Sanipool

by Rita Thurman Barnes

Here we are again almost halfway through the year, and we don't have to be kids to look forward to June days at the pool or June evenings at the lake. And, we don't have to be old folks to enjoy looking back upon those good old days when cruising, tanning, and rock and roll were the highlights of the weekend. Yep – those days “In the Good Old Summertime” are worth looking forward to for all of us.

Two local places many Bartians held dear were Sunset and Sanipool. At Sanipool, you could meet up with friends, swim and snack away the day. If you swam there as kids, you'll remember the entrance and the snack bar – the diving boards and the lifeguards and the lovely smell of chlorine pervading the whole perimeter.

June was just about perfect at Sanipool and at Sunset. Almost everyone knew someone who had a cabin at Sunset. There was simply nothing as much fun as swimming the day away at this old lake and going back to the cabin for a perfect summertime snack. Following at a close second on the fun-scale would be waking up to a cool morning breeze, enjoying a quick breakfast and making your way back to the lake again.

Sanipool is long-gone but the melody lingers on and I'm not sure if Sunset Lake is even open to the public anymore. It's been so long since I sat foot physically

“Two local places many Bartians held dear were Sunset and Sanipool. At Sanipool, you could meet up with friends, swim and snack away the day. There was simply nothing as much fun as swimming the day away at Sunset Lake.”

upon either place that they mostly linger on in my mind. But, these two fun June “places in the heart” of so many Bartians will live on forever.

There was also Johnstone Park and Sooner Park where we could play the day away but so much more important for families today is the Kiddie Park downtown where almost all of us once played. Then we took our own children to familiarize them with what we loved so much where the last train ride was always free. And now we take our grandchildren to the Kiddie Park to create a three, possibly four-generation connection. And to think, it all started in the fun and sunny month of June.

In the Good Old Summertime of old, our June afternoons sometimes began with a morning trip to the library to check out a few good books for some fun afternoon reading and then on to one of many downtown soda fountains for a Cherry Coke or a Root Beer Float. Then it was a leisurely walk back home to spread out one of grandma's old quilts under the shade of the Dutch Elm trees that grew like weeds all over Bartlesville until the day the last one was gone.

Henry James wrote, “Summer afternoon, summer afternoon; to me those have always been the two most beautiful words in the English language.” And I think I would agree if I could add my two favorite words from long ago; Sunset and Sanipool. They once were two of the most joyful words I ever heard.





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SEE YOU IN 2020!



United Way Reaches Goal

Community Effort Helps Raise \$2.3 Million

by David Austin

Thanks to a spirited community effort, the Bartlesville Regional United Way reached its most recent annual campaign fundraising goal.

The \$2.3 million raised by the non-profit Bartlesville Regional United Way (BRUW) will help fund the programs of its 13 area member agencies, as well as their 32 respective programs. The member agencies include non-profit organizations such as the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, Mary Martha Outreach, Elder Care, and the Boys & Girls Club of Bartlesville, just to name a few. The BRUW funds the Building Bridges initiative as well.



The 2018 Golf Scramble to benefit the Bartlesville Regional United Way and the programs of its member agencies raised more than \$700,000. The event was held in September at the Adams Municipal Golf Course.

The BRUW typically holds its annual fundraising campaign between September and December of a given year. It's most recent 2018 campaign saw more than 35 local businesses coordinate fundraisers and pledge drives to benefit the BRUW.

"I would like to thank our community for making our 2018 campaign such a success," says Lisa Cary, the president and CEO of the BRUW. "Our member agencies meet vital needs in Bartlesville and the surrounding areas, and we are proud to be able to support them."

The BRUW has been part of the Bartlesville landscape for more than 80 years. And during that time, it has focused on supporting programs which assist local residents in the areas of

education, health, and financial stability.

The BRUW's 2018 campaign was supported by companies such as Phillips 66, ConocoPhillips, Truist Federal Credit Union, ChevronPhillips and Arvest. David and Summer Austin served as the campaign co-chairs, while Trevor and Beth Dorsey were the vice chairs. Earl and Jane Sears served as the Pacesetter chairs, while Paul and Pam Crawford were the Retiree Campaign chairs.

The BRUW's 2019 campaign is scheduled to kick off on September 6. To learn more about the Bartlesville Regional United Way as well as its member agencies, please visit its dedicated website at bartlesvilleuw.org.



Pictured from left: Sharon Reese, Westside Community Center executive director; Lasa Carey, president & CEO of the Bartlesville Regional United Way; and Beth Beard, who handles marketing & directing for the Boys & Girls Club of Bartlesville.



EQUAL TIME

by Jay Webster

Hello my friends and welcome to June.

First, I want to say “thank you” for the outpouring of support I have received from so many of you after my last column. Based on your many messages and comments over the last few weeks, I am not alone in fighting this horrible affliction.

Apparently, many of you also have a family member or loved one (or both) who suffers from the inability to close things. I believe we on the outside of the disease may suffer as much, if not more, than the afflicted.

Maybe not surprisingly, my wife felt a bit “outed” by my column. I attribute this to the stigma still attached to “Closure Disease.” She attributes it to me being an idiot (though that’s not the exact wording she used).

I thought it only fair to offer her the opportunity for a “rebuttal” of sorts. So, ladies and gentlemen, at this time would you please welcome to the “Funny You Should Ask” Column, my lovely wife, Ann-Janette.

ME: Thank you for being here today. I guess to begin with, you didn’t really feel like this was a fair assessment of your “condition.” How do you see it?

Ann-Janette: Well, first off ... thanks for having me. I’m honored to be your guest. I hope your many fans don’t feel this is an intrusion into their monthly time with you.

ME: I think really your viewpoint is actually just more insight into my world. So really it’s a win-win for the reading audience.

Ann-Janette: I would agree that I struggle with complete “closure,” but to call it a full-blown “condition” is a bit of a stretch. As many of my women friends would agree, when living out a multi-faceted life as a company co-owner, mom, and household manager, — while moonlighting as a musician — it’s a daily juggling act. Closing cabinets to a full and complete stop sometimes gets put on the back burner.

In fact, I feel pretty great when *most* things get closed ... *most* of the way ... on any given day. That’s a win.

ME: It feels like you thought about this...a little. And, based on our other *frequent* conversations, it feels like you believe your afflictions (though real) may not be as significant as those you see in me.

Ann-Janette: Well, thankfully I feel after 26 years of marriage we are both pretty good at mentioning the good in one another more than the bad. That being said. Living with you can be “a lot.”

ME: Wow, like in a wonderful way, or...

Ann-Janette: For instance, as we’ve been working on a pretty intensive home renovation the last two years, I’ve noticed a tendency for your idealism to be super over the top. You see this grand and glorious “eventual” plan (which you are always working really hard towards) for the most perfect room ever that will be laden in gold and modern beauty; never mind there’s now a hole in the wall. When I ask if we can just patch it up for now, you say “No, I’ve got a five

year plan for that.” Meanwhile birds are nesting in the corner...

ME: Hmmm. That seems pretty specific. Is there anything else?

Ann-Janette: Well, most the time, you are pretty delightful. But, you do have a lot of specific “procedures” around the house that you would prefer all other household members follow. Like HOW we load the dishwashers (not very often, if I can help it). HOW we keep things organized: like closets, cabinets etc (i.e. your way). And, how could I forget - lighting levels.

OMG. Every single light in our lovely home is on a dimmer and has to be at just the *perfect* level of light (not too dark, but certainly not too bright) - at ALL times. I’m all for ambience, really I am. But even in the bathroom and laundry room?

It’s not a night club. It’s the laundry room and I can’t see to fold the clothes, Love.

I hope I’m not hurting your feelings, babe. I mean you’re the one who brought all this up...

ME: I’m not hurt, I’m just starting to feel a little under appreciated here. I mean, I’ve spent the last several years of my life discovering how to do things the *right* way. All I’m trying to do now, is spread that knowledge.

Emptying the dishwasher just goes faster when you load the *like silverware* together. It saves on sorting time when you’re done. When changing clothes at the end of the day, if you immediately hang them up or toss them in the dirty clothes (one touching them), you don’t have to spend time living with piles and doing it later (or not doing it as the case may be for some). And for God-sakes, life’s just too short for bad lighting. What’s the point of evolution, if we’re still going to live like animals.

Ann-Janette: Oh, I’d be remiss if I didn’t also mention your “social anxiety.” It’s odd for someone as friendly and gregarious as yourself to display these tendencies each and every time we’re invited anywhere.

ME: I guess that’s where we disagree. I don’t feel “anxious” about social events, I simply don’t want to go. That part is easy. The anxiety comes from being forced to go anyway.

Actually, I should probably re-phrase that, because it’s really not the going that bothers me. It’s the *not leaving* that bothers me. You come from a long line of “stayers.” I was brought up to leave when they start vacuuming underneath you. It’s a simple difference in upbringing.

Ann-Janette: We have a lot of great friends and family, but every time I mention that we’ve been invited over for dinner at so & so’s, or to a party with the cousins visiting from Texas, the grunting and sighing begins. “What? I thought we had a weekend with nothing.” ... “We JUST saw them at Christmas” ... “How many birthday’s can a person have?” Funny thing is, despite all the protest and squawking up front, you almost always go and are the life of the party. But it all begins with grunting and sighing ... which is why I wait until our daughter’s in bed and you’re sipping a scotch to ever mention anything social. I’ve learned you well. Talk about evolution.

ME: I feel so violated. How could you use scotch against me?

Ann-Janette: Actually, you’re right. I was raised by a group of “stayers,” but you were raised by a group of “early-ers” who arrive 20 minutes before a party’s start time (or a store’s opening time) and wait to be the first in and the first ones out ... even if it’s the last quarter of the Super Bowl. It’s amazing we ever fell in love.

ME: Yep, always leave them wanting more...

I thought we fell in love when I came to your emotional rescue in high school after your car caught on fire on my way home *early* that night. We were like ships in the night, only your ship was going up in flames.

At any rate, I guess you’re the Yin to my Yang or the Tonto to my Lone Ranger or something like that.

Ann-Janette: Oh, so we’re closing this column out now? I haven’t even had time to mention that you’re eerily quiet and move from one room to another with ninja-like capabilities, scaring the crap out of me on a regular basis. Or the fact that you subscribe to minimalism and hate all stuff — even stuff like furniture or home decor — and that all our coffee cups have to match. Exactly. Or the way you set annoying, daily alarms on your iPhone to remind yourself (and all of us) to do things that one should just remember on their own ... like picking up your kid from school or taking your allergy pill...

Well, let’s just say it’s a good thing you’re so handsome and talented and brilliant and creative.

ME: Thank you. Likewise, I’m sure.

Ann-Janette: It certainly balances everything out, and I wouldn’t want it any other way. (Well, maybe if you could fix the hole where the birds are nesting soon...) Either way, I think you’re the perfect antidote to my brand of non-closure crazy.

Perhaps our kid will land somewhere in the “normal-ish” middle. But I doubt it.

ME: Well, speaking of closure, that’s all the time we have for this month. I think we’ve all learned something here today. (I know I have.)

Until next time, have a great start to your summer. And remember, it’s only family.

Cheers.



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The Bronze Horse

Family-Owned Business Offers Full-Service Bronzing

by Lori Just

The Bronze Horse fine art casting foundry was opened in 1982 by John D. Free Sr., a world-renowned Western artist, and his wife, Rayma. As a family owned and operated, full-service bronze fine art casting foundry, he has since shared his knowledge and skills by training his sons to replicate his sculptures — down to the finest detail.

“The Free family established long relationships with bronze sculptors from Oklahoma and surrounding states, becoming what many believe to be one of the best fabrication and casting teams in bronze sculpture,” said Cindy Free, office manager. “The Bronze Horse became the first sustained fine arts foundry in Oklahoma, and thrived because of its artist-owned emphasis.”

Brothers John and Matt Free, along with John's wife Cindy, work and run the foundry in downtown Pawhuska today. Artists bring them their sculptures, usually in clay, and The Bronze Horse creates a bronze replica of the sculpture using the lost wax method. The Free family, all artist and sculptors, take great pride in working closely with their clients to ensure they cast a finished bronze piece that is faithful to the original clay. Over the years, most of their children spent summers working and learning the business and still pitch in when needed.

“Pawhuska has always been our home,” said Cindy. “Here, we are surrounded by family and friends. And now with the arrival of grandchildren and Pawhuska being home to several of them, it's hard to imagine being anywhere else. Not to mention the view, Pawhuska is surrounded by some of the most beautiful country in Oklahoma. Also having Osage heritage, the Free family has close ties to the Osage Nation and is working to commemorate their great Osage leaders in sculpture.”

When a fire destroyed half of the foundry in 2012, the Pawhuska city leaders provided the Free family with help by quickly leasing them the Armory building. Currently, they are working closely with Cody and Lauren Garnett with the Ben Johnson Cowboy Museum that opens this month. As visitors enter, John D. Free sculptures and paintings will be scattered around the entrance.

The Bronze Horse is also working with the Preserving Arts in The Osage on a life-and-a-quarter-size sculpture of Ben Johnson that was sculpted by John D. Free Sr. It depicts Ben on horseback, roping a steer.



The Ben Johnson torso of the enlarged clay sculpture is on display at the museum to promote donations towards its completion.

“Pawhuska and Bartlesville have taken full advantage of having a fine art bronze foundry in the community, and have adorned the landscape with several sculptures purchased by local citizens and business,” added Cindy.

As far as the future, The Bronze Horse plans to continue in the industry as long as it can.

“When a sculpture is finished and you know it will last forever, there is great sanctification in ‘we made that,’” beamed Cindy.

The Bronze Horse offers tours of the foundry, at 823 E. 8th Street, with advance arrangements by calling 918-287-4433. Most of their work is “in progress” and belong to the commissioned artist, but some works by John D. Free Sr. are available to purchase.



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The World is Full of Good

Tragic Twist of Life Brings Something Good to Community

by **Clint Hansen**

This world is full of goodness. Good places to visit, good food to eat, and good people to be around! Every day I hear stories of people making this world a better place!

In stark contrast to the good in the world, there is also bad. Bad places to visit, bad things to eat, and bad people to be around! Tune into any of the various media outlets and you are bombarded by bad events taking place around the world.

There are also bad things that happen in our daily lives. Sometimes we experience events that are not fun, exciting, or good whatsoever! However, I am here to assure you that even from some of the darkest hours of our lives, great things can come to pass!

Just over four years ago, my wife and I experienced the darkest day we ever hope to experience. We received word that one of our teenage children



had been killed in a tragic accident. One day he was here and the next day he was not. No warning. No time to prepare. He was gone, just like that. It was instantly as though our will to live was gone and the pain would consume us.

Through this tragic twist of life, we founded a nonprofit organization to focus on the youth of Bartlesville. That single decision has brought more blessings into our lives than we could have ever imagined! Blessings have flowed into our lives, as well as the lives of so many youth and others in town. It has given us, and others, a place to focus our energy and work to create something good from something so horrible to experience.

Our son's last written words in his journal were, "I will go. I will do the things the Lord commands. Focus on other people. SERVICE!" These words have been a gift to us. They help us focus on the good in the world and in

doing good and being good to other people.

Before his funeral and burial in his native Utah, we hiked Angels Landing in Zion National Park in Southern Utah. While resting at the top of the trail, God sent us a yellow butterfly to let us know that everything was going to be okay. The butterfly photo-bombed one of our pictures and came to rest on my wife's foot as she contemplated a future life on earth without one of her sons. In that moment of tragedy, God smiled upon us to let us know that even through this terrible situation, there was hope for the future and He would be there to comfort us along the way.

The world is full of goodness. Be good. Do good. You will see that goodness abounds as you adjust your vision to see it and focus on making this world a better place! Do as our son suggested with his last journal entry and "Focus on other people and doing good to them through SERVICE!"





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Why Choose Dewey?

'Slight' Embelishments Common in Push for Early Residents

by Bill Woodard



It must be admitted that Dewey, except for three days in July, wasn't a big tourist destination early in the 20th century. But the people of Dewey were proud of their new little community, and advertised it with the same fervor and panache as any modern tourist bureau. However, the businessmen of Dewey weren't looking for tourists; they were looking for residents. Following are a few of the qualities the businessmen advertised:

"People in older states and thickly settled communities who have not visited this section and observed conditions for themselves can have no idea at all of the remarkable opportunities offered."

"The hand of nature never designed a more ideal site for a town or city than the one on which our city was founded, and no townsite is environed with superior natural resources. The town is situated on a high plateau above the miasma or other malarial influences that prevail in the lowlands in many portions of the west. It is richly endowed with pure cold water in great abundance and is unsurpassed for agricultural climate conditions."

"Dewey is in the center of the greatest oil fields in the world. Wells within a radius of three miles have started off with a production of 2,000 and 3,000 barrels and we have several pipelines that convey this product to the Atlantic Seaboard. People who came here two or three years ago as helpers, drillers, and pumpers are now millionaires and bankers. One of our greatest resources is our inexhaustible supply of

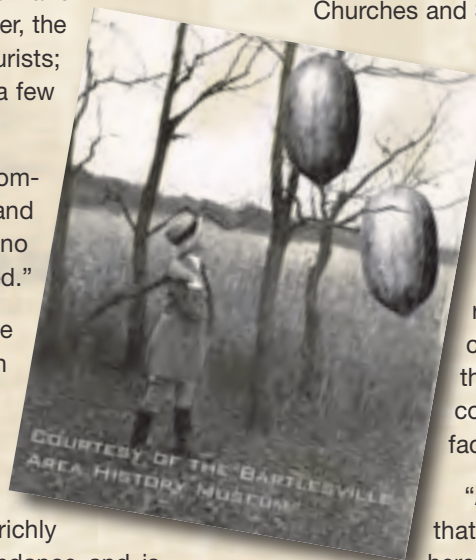
natural gas and is offered on the market at the low price of 2 1/2 cents per thousand."

"Well supplied with Banks, Business Houses, Newspapers, Churches and \$50,000. School Building under construction, and contract to be completed for the next school term. No paupers. No liquor joints, or immoral resorts, and the municipal affairs are well disciplined, and the peace and quiet of the town and community rigidly guarded. The various lodges and secret orders are well represented, and the whole is crowned with a live Commercial Club that does things, and its time is largely consumed now negotiating with manufacturers and other great enterprises."

"All crops, fruits, plants and flowers that grow in the temperate zone flourish here. The winters are short and not rigorous, and the summers cool with constant breezes. Rainfall is abundant, town lots are cheap and can be had on easy terms, while homes and employment are easily secured. Lands for the agriculturist are cheap and easily obtained, and good crops and the best markets assured."

It is possible that some of the claims were embellished. But perhaps the climate has changed in the last 100 years. The above quotes were taken from the June 25, 1909 Dewey Sentinel. On the page immediately preceding this glowing tribute to Dewey there was an ad for "Free Orchard Homes in Sunny Colorado. Sixteen thousand acres of land, in the great Pine River Valley. A coughless, coldless, non-asthmatical, bronchitisless and consumptionless climate."

Evidently a lot of competition for people in those days.



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Building Good Citizenship

Bartlesville Civitan Club Meeting Many Community Needs

by Kelsey Walker

The Latin word “civitas” means quite simply “citizenship” – and it is the core of Civitan International, a worldwide organization that has held a presence in Bartlesville for decades.

The Bartlesville Civitan Club holds the following mission statement close to its heart: To build good citizenship by providing a volunteer organization of clubs dedicated to serving individual and community needs with an emphasis on helping people with developmental disabilities.

“It’s all worth it, to see what all we can do and how much the community appreciates it,” says Club President Toni Harjo.

Internationally, Civitan has a presence in 42 countries, including a Civitan International Research Center in Birmingham, Alabama. That center is dedicated to finding cures for diseases and genetic problems that cause many developmental disabilities. Locally, Civitan candy and coin boxes at restaurants and other establishments around Bartlesville help fund this important research.

Each Civitan club works hard to serve its community, and Bartlesville’s club is no different. Civitans seek out community needs and then work to fulfill them, says Harjo.

The Bartlesville club sponsored the construction of the Bartlesville Senior Citizens Apartments on Leisure Lane more than two decades ago. Harjo says the HUD project, with 40 apartments, provides affordable housing for seniors.

The most well-known project for the Bartlesville club is likely the beloved Civitan Park — known by youngsters as the “Dinosaur Park” — at the corner of Silver Lake Road and Nowata Road in Bartlesville.

Harjo says the park, which was the first ADA-accessible park in northeast Oklahoma, came about because a Civitan family had a child “that needed a playground such as this.” Local Civitans heard about the idea and immediately jumped on board to raise funds and build the park.

Club member Susan Lagal says the playground is what brought her to Civitan. She recalls taking her granddaughter, who has cerebral palsy, to play at Johnstone Park. Her granddaughter loved the swings, but could not hold onto the chains and risked falling out of the seat. A friend told her about the newly constructed Civitan Park, which had swings the little girl could safely and happily sit in.

“The look on her face,” Lagal recalls of watching her granddaughter swing, and then



Members of the Bartlesville Civitan Club during the recent dedication of the pavilion at Civitan Park.

looking at the club name on the park sign. “Civitan ... I don’t know who they are, but I want to join them.”

The club purchased a shade covering for the playground, but it was damaged during a spring storm and removed. The City of Bartlesville, which maintains the park, is looking into options for its replacement. A pavilion at Civitan Park was constructed last year and dedicated in April.

Bartlesville Civitans support many other local organizations through donations and volunteering, including ARC Homes, Special Olympics, NAMI, Paths to Independence, On the Rock Ministries, and many more.

The club annually recognizes outstanding members for their work, but also presents a Servant’s Heart Award to a community member who serves somebody in need and “might receive no recognition for it,” Harjo says. This year’s recipients were Paths to Independence co-founders Jean Jensen and Clair Bartley.

The Bartlesville Civitan Club currently has more than two dozen members. Any person, male or female, at least 18 years of age, is welcome and encouraged to join.

The club has a luncheon meeting at noon on the first Thursday of every month, at Bambino’s restaurant. They also meet at 6 p.m. on the third Thursday of every month at the Bartlesville Senior Citizen Apartments. Speakers from organizations around the community serve as guests at each meeting.

For more information, stop by one of the club’s meetings or find them on Facebook.





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More than Just a Teacher

Art Teacher Jack Grace Left his Mark on Students' Lives

by Rita Thurman Barnes

I can still see his gangly form meandering through the classroom as he most always had something constructive to say about our day's artwork. In 7th or 8th grade we had to take art at Central Junior High, but as soon as it became an elective, I enrolled in art from 9th through 12th grade and that's how I met Jack Grace.

I wasn't a very good artist, but I enjoyed charcoal and Mr. Grace made his classes explore all mediums including charcoal. I loved the days when he would take his classes outside to sketch. We'd sit under the big tree on the north side of the campus where we'd draw the houses facing us. I particularly enjoyed one house and sketched it repeatedly through the years. I saved those pictures until one day I could no longer find them.

There once was a TV show which taught people to de-clutter. My house wasn't jumbled, but the garage surely was. So, one day I set out to make it clutter-free. Eventually I encountered the old charcoal sketch of the house by the high school. Did holding that 40-year-old sketch ever bring back memories! Suddenly the days of soft spring air and the flutter of new leaves on that ancient tree were real again. And Jack Grace's smile of approval was too.

I think Mr. Grace enjoyed those spring days as much as we did. He roamed amongst us, hands in pockets, encouraging everyone in his easygoing manner. Life went that way for me until my mother became ill my senior year. There were only a few teachers with whom I could share the weight of knowing my mom was terminal and Jack Grace was one of them.

He was kind to everyone, but our teacher spent a lot of my senior year looking over my shoulder no matter the caliber of my work. He seemed to linger just a bit longer than he had in years past. I wasn't good with oils, but he would say "nice use of color today" or "I like the way you're using the pallet knife there." I wasn't very good, and he knew it, but he kept up this positive feedback until the very last day of school. After graduation day, I never saw him again.



So, I continued to clean out my garage, holding the charcoal sketch that probably still bore the fingerprints of one of the kindest teachers I ever knew and I did a surprising thing; I discarded the sketch even though it bore a red "A" on the front. I chose to hang onto the paintings which exhibited lesser grades because I knew I actually deserved them. Jack Grace knew I needed A's that year I was losing my mother and he gave them to me. I'll never forget him for his kindness and grace. There is a lot to be said for a person's last name. Sometimes it really tells the world a lot about who they are.





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Moments of a Father

A Look at the Journey that Led from Broken to Blessed

by Keith McPhail

It was a bright, sunny, Father's Day Sunday in 2006. Waking up on that day I remember how tired, broken, and alone I was. In this **Moments of a Father** I was completely at the lowest point one man could be. It had been 13 years since I first became a father. It had been 11 months since I married the love of my life and became the stepfather of her three children. It had been six days since I had seen Christy and our seven kids. It had been 144 hours since I had seen our newborn daughter, Grace.

Here I was on Father's Day, sitting in Cushing, Oklahoma at Valley Hope Treatment Center. I was a lost, scared, beaten-down man, who was 36 years old with scars and marks down my arms and legs. There was nothing left resembling the man, husband, and father I was just 13 months before. I have never felt so alone and unsure about what was going to happen to me in the next 30 days or, honestly, in the next hour. I felt so ashamed.

Today, I look back at that Father's Day as the day that started my new life with a new hope, a new meaning, and a new chance to be the father I was when Christy said "I Do!" Christy put all the hurt I caused behind her and showed me mercy. On that day, she brought Blake, my firstborn child, and Grace, my lastborn child, to see me. This gift changed everything about me. It might not have looked like a life-changing moment, because I would return to Cushing one last time four months later. I relapsed several times after that day, but I can honestly say that moment ... that Sunday ... that Father's Day ... rooted us in OUR never-give-up attitude.

It was be easy to see how Christy and my kids felt at that moment. For Blake, Tyler, James, Mary, Madison, and Parker, I had crushed every inch of trust and stability in their lives. At that moment, Christy put herself last and did what was best for all the kids. Christy knew how important it was for Blake and Grace to see their dad on Father's Day, and how important it was to me to have something to hold on to. We did not let the younger kids know what was



Keith McPhail with his firstborn child, Blake.

going on with me. Blake had just turned 13, so he knew things were not good and saw up-close the devastation drug addiction did to his father. Through it all, Blake stood by me, even when I was crawling in my shame.

There have been some very big **Moments of a Father** over the last 26 years, and especially over the last few months, which bring this story, these words, to ink. Blake recently married his high school sweetheart. When I was watching him get married, I thought how far we have all come as a family, and

how God has blessed me beyond measure, and by His grace I stood today to see this day come. Having all of our kids in that moment at Blake's wedding brought a rush of emotions and memories forward. Even though these thoughts have haunted, healed, and humbled me to my very core, I would not change one moment. I write these words as a father who had no father growing up ... no father to lead, hold, discipline, or encourage me ... to teach me and, most importantly, to love me.

My journey of becoming a father with my first child, Blake, changed everything about me. His birth literally saved my life, and then my life was saved again with the birth of Grace, 13 years later. The path of destruction I was on with my drug addiction for six years before Blake was born devastated me physically and spiritually. When Blake was born, I was a new husband and really trying to become a new person, finding a new way of living. I was ready to get back up again after falling so many times before.

When I look back at this time in my life ... **Moments of a Father** ... the emotions of these words fall like tears of rain on this keyboard. I desperately pray for all the fathers who carry the weight of disappointment and emptiness because they feel they have failed their kids. When I look back at all the times I have let down my kids because of my choices and actions, there would not be enough paper to write them all down. In the past, I have let these failures bind me in shackles. But through God's grace and forgiveness, this journey of being a father to seven kids allows me to lift my head with pride and smile. I share my story with all my kids, so they will know that the choices they make in life will have consequences down the road — good or bad! Sure there are things I might change, wouldn't we all, but really, those roads of darkness and shame actually gave me life in the years to come. Becoming a new father to Blake made me take my eyes off myself and see life's bigger picture.

I end the story with the biggest moment of my life, which molded me into the man I am today. The day was October 8, 2009. That day shook the ground and everything we believed in. It



Keith McPhail with his lastborn child, Grace.

shook the foundation of me as a father, a husband, and our family. That day would define me as a father and a stepfather. There is really no understanding or, frankly, no way to explain the loss of a child. I watched my beloved wife go through more pain than I could bare to see. The loss of Tyler less than three years after Valley Hope changed everything about us and our family. The weight of the world seemed to be put on my shoulders. Through all the pain and wasted years, God put His blessings on me. Through His redemption, I can

stand today a blessed husband and father.

Blake played this song to me right after I got out of Valley Hope, and I believe it's fitting for all of us. The song is by Matthew West called "Only Grace." *"There is no guilt here ... There is no shame ... No pointing fingers ... There is no blame ... What happened yesterday has disappeared ... The dirt has washed away ... And now it's clear ... There's only Grace ... There's only love ... There's only mercy and believe me it's enough ... Your sins are gone ... Without a trace ... There's nothing left now ... There's only Grace!"*

Happy Father's Day ... God Bless!

Daycations

Bartians have Several Options for Nearby Entertainment

by Maria Gus

Summer is so close, and there's no time like today to start planning your next vacation! Whether you have a day, a weekend, or an entire week, there are adventures waiting around nearly every corner. From day trips to Tulsa to road trips across the state line, here are some ideas to help you start brainstorming for your next getaway. Take note, get out a map, and plan for some time to enjoy the upcoming summer days.

Gathering Place in Tulsa, OK

It seems that most everyone in northeast Oklahoma (and across the country!) has heard of the Gathering Place by now. Whether you're looking for a fun experience for the kids or a place to relax and get away from it all, you're sure to find something worth exploring at Gathering Place.

What began as a vision of the George Kaiser Family Foundation has now become one of most celebrated public-private partnerships in the country. The nearly 100-acre park is the interactive and welcoming environment that Tulsa created for its residents and neighbors — a place where people could come together to explore, learn and play.

• What to see while you're there

Children will love the various areas of play throughout the park. There are places to climb, explore, swing, and

slide. Younger children won't want to miss the Chapman Adventure Playground with uniquely fun shapes to explore, Slide Vale, or Swing Hill — both with slides and swings for children of all sizes. Older children and adults will enjoy exploring Sky Garden for a nice hike or Skate Park for skateboarding enthusiasts. Take a book to read at Williams Lodge or Willow Beach to enjoy the beautiful views and relaxing environment. We recommend visiting www.gatheringplace.org to review the area and plan your trip. It will be hard to see everything in one day so plan on visiting a few times this summer. Don't forget to pack a towel after cooling off at Mist Mountain on a hot summer afternoon!



Jasmine Moran Children's Museum in Seminole, OK



The Jasmine Moran Children's Museum in Seminole has been helping children grow their imagination since 1993. With plenty of opportunities to play pretend and become a pilot, a doctor, or a firefighter, families can have fun while learning about the grown-up world. While enjoying the museum, families can also take a train ride, explore the castle maze, and have fun trying to place themselves in a huge soap bubble.

The museum prides itself on being a place where children play to learn, and the 12,000+ square foot space is sure to have something for every child's interest. Depending on the child's age, the museum advises to plan for two to four hours to explore their various exhibits. For more information on planning this adventure, you can check out www.jasminemoran.com. Seminole is about two and a half hours from Bartlesville, and can easily serve as a day trip or weekend getaway. If your family is looking to fill a few days, stops in Oklahoma City or Tulsa can round out this fun adventure.

Science Museum Oklahoma in Oklahoma City



Everyone knows science is full of exploring and learning, and Science Museum Oklahoma is the perfect place to enjoy your next education adventure. Ever since the Kirkpatrick Center, predecessor to the museum, opened in 1978, children and families have come to NE 52nd Street in Oklahoma City to explore the hands-on exhibits and educational entertainment. Science Museum Oklahoma allows visitors to explore over 350 displays in this "amusement park for the mind."

Families can experience the wonder of space in the Kirkpatrick Planetarium, learn the science behind the storm in Wild Weather, or explore Red Dirt Dinosaurs: An Oklahoma Dinosaur Adventure to see dinosaurs that once walked in Oklahoma! In addition to these exhibits, there are plenty of other areas for children to explore in the more than eight acres of educational fun at the museum. Plan your adventure at www.sciencemuseumok.org and be sure to make plenty of time to enjoy this Oklahoma City treasure!

Crystal Bridges Museum in Bentonville, AR



Continue the family adventure, or maybe make it a romantic weekend getaway, at Crystal Bridges Museum in Bentonville, Arkansas. This one-of-a-kind museum houses an amazing collection of American artists including work by Norman Rockwell, John Singer Sargent, Thomas Hart Benton, and Andy Warhol. Plenty of temporary exhibits compliment the permanent collection, and best of all, admission to the museum is free. The museum also acquired Frank Lloyd Wright's Bachman-Wilson House in 2015 after it was taken apart in New Jersey and rebuilt on the grounds in Bentonville.

Be sure to carve out a full day to explore the artwork at this museum and plan to eat at their culinary experience Eleven at Crystal Bridges. Families can also plan to eat outside by picnicking at Walker Landing or other locations on the museum trails and grounds. For more information on special events or other activities, check out the museum website at crystalbridges.org.

What if I just can't get away?

Feel like there's no time to get away this summer? When was the last time you visited the Frank Phillips Home, Bartlesville Area History Museum, or Woolaroc Museum and Wildlife Preserve? Even if you've been before, there's always something new to discover at our local museums and attractions. In addition, you won't want to miss some of the fun events they have coming up this summer, including concerts on the lawn, children's festivals, and so much more. For details on ways to explore your own backyard go to www.visitbartlesville.com. Most of all, enjoy the journey!

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Portrait of a Watchman

Bartlesville Artist Felt Inspired to Memorialize Fouts

by Shianne Fouts

Lieutenant Robert “Robb” Fouts was born in Bartlesville in 1965. Shortly after coming into adulthood, he recognized his calling to serve. From September of 1994 to September of 2018, Fouts served the city of Bartlesville as a law enforcement officer, doing so with dignity, humility, and honor.

Fouts started his life of service as a Bartlesville Police Department reserve officer, volunteering hundreds of hours of his time over the course of three years. Then, in 1997, he was hired on full-time with the BPD. In his new role, Fouts quickly showed promise. After only two years he was promoted to field training officer, a position he held for the next three years. In 2000, Fouts was named Police Officer of the Year, proving how much of an asset he was to the department and the community at large. Unsurprisingly, Fouts was promoted to sergeant, leading his fellow officers as such for six years. The last 10 years of Fouts’ selfless career saw him as lieutenant of Adam [night] shift.

Throughout his 24 years of service, Fouts counseled innumerable men and women who looked up to him. He gave selflessly to those with whom he worked and to the city he served. In all his years as an officer and leader, he inspired others and led from a position of respect, honesty, and fairness. Unfortunately, Fouts’ law enforcement career was cut short after a brief battle with cancer ended his life in September of 2018, much to the dismay of his family, his department, and his community.

Shortly after Fouts’ passing, Bartlesville artist Kerri Fleming — a teacher at the Bartlesville Art Association — decided to paint Fouts’ portrait for his family. Her son, Officer Ethan Long, worked under Fouts for many years. Fleming recalled Fouts as being a mentor and friend to her son and knew his illness and death had a large impact on not only his family and friends, but those who worked with him and the community as a whole. Despite not knowing Fouts personally, Fleming felt inspired to paint his portrait because of the deep respect her son held for his lieutenant.

Viewing her artistic ability and love for color as a gift from the Lord, Fleming knew a pastel portrait would be the right choice to honor Lieutenant Fouts. Thus, after getting approval for the portrait from some of Fouts’ officers and family members, she enlisted help from her son, Officer Long; Bartlesville resident Kris Cordero; and Fouts’ oldest daughter, Shianne Fouts. Together, they collected a series of photos, finally selecting the one from which Fleming would work.

Painting the pastel portrait took Fleming three weeks, around 35-40 hours of easel time. Her son, having spent so



Bartlesville artist Kerri Fleming with her portrait of the late Robb Fouts.

much time with Fouts, would pop in occasionally as she worked, making little suggestions here and there. Wanting to honor her subject, Fleming prayed for the Lord to guide her hand, knowing centimeters can mean the difference between truly catching the likeness or personality of a person, or not.

Once the pastel portrait was complete, Fleming set about selecting its finishing touches. Generously, police officers had donated money for the matting and framing of the portrait, which was completed at Bartlesville’s Hobby Lobby. The framed portrait measures 22 inches by 28 inches.

On the evening of October 26, 2018, the portrait was presented to Fouts’ widow, Holly Fouts, as well as a few of his daughters, at the Bartlesville Police Department. The portrait’s reveal was met with tears, hugs, and affirmations as to the uncanny likeness of the portrait to its subject. Fleming’s gesture of kindness, honor, and respect — evident in her painting — is a true gift to the Fouts family, as well as the community of Bartlesville.

Eclectic Lineup on Tap

OKM Music Festival Promises Plenty of Genres in June

by Grace A. Birdman

The curtain will soon rise on the OKM Music festival for the 35th time, and there's no question this premiere music event has become an institution in our state and beyond. After three and a half decades of unforgettable performances, celebrated community events, and unique educational experiences, OKM has stayed true to the idea that "music is the soul of our community and a common language of all."

As the festival runs June 8-15, music aficionados will experience an eclectic line-up of performances in many genres like Country, Bluegrass, Jazz, Indie-pop, Celtic Folk, and Classical — all presented in multiple indoor and outdoor concert venues.

OKM Chairman Mary-Lynn Mihm says that the choice to feature artists across many genres reflects the philosophy of music as a universal language that unites a community.

"OKM Music's mission is to deliver high quality music and cultural experiences for all ages. At its core, it fosters the collaborative and creative spirit of musicians and artists of all genres in an effort to make the arts accessible to all. We are proud to be able to bring diversity of music genres to the festival," said Mihm.

The legendary festival kicks off Friday, June 8, with a free outdoor street party hosting a diverse collection of musicians. Those include Anne Redburn, The Arcadian Wild, and Issac McClung; all natives of Oklahoma. The entire OKM week boasts high-quality concerts, with country sensation Phil Vassar, piano duo Elena & Jose' Meliton, the Tulsa Symphony Orchestra, the Steep Canyon Rangers, and renown pianist Jenny Lin — just to name a few.

OKM Music has added a special 35th Anniversary celebration event as well this

year. On June 15th at 6 p.m. inside the Price Tower Gallery, Cuarteto LatinoAmericano will perform as a special festival add-on.

"We believe Music elicits emotion, unites us, tells a story, and provides a vital quality-of-life component," said Mihm. "Plus, OKM Music's 35th season is especially exciting because we're not only able to share talented musicians bringing

OKM Music also prides itself in creating entertaining and educational events especially for children. The wide array of "Especially for Kids" events includes music-themed programs, concerts, and parties.

"When music education is introduced to children at an early age, it broadens their love for music and the arts," said Rose Hammerschmidt, director of children's programming. "This year children can enjoy story time with music and art, a ventriloquist, story time with pianist Jenny Lin, puppets, and will end the week with music and games. We hope you'll come enjoy an educationally fun-packed week."

The OKM season concludes June 14, with festival favorite Woolaroc Outdoor Concert. Dallas Brass alongside The Modern Oklahoma Jazz Orchestra (M.O.J.O) will entertain audiences of all ages as Woolaroc's Clyde Lake grounds are transformed into a beautiful outdoor music venue once again.

"There are so many different genres of music, and each genre appeals to different people for different reasons. That is what makes this 35th season so exciting," said Martin. "We have a little bit of something for everyone."

The OKM Music team is obviously proud of its commitment to the mission to bring people together through music, and grateful to all those who've made that possible over the many years.

"OKM Music is for Oklahoma, Bartlesville, and the citizens that make up both. OKM Music only exists if individuals donate their time, money, and want to attend local live musical performances. It is an amazing feat to have an organization last 35 years," said Mihm. "When we collaborate as a community, when we promote our community, and we get involved, a synergy takes effect that results in a magical cultural experience."

beautiful music this year, but we're able to showcase very talented female artists and composers [Arielle, Gothard Sisters, Martin & Meliton, Anne Reburn, and Jenny Lin] who have left their mark on the arts."

In addition to their main concerts, OKM is packed with a variety of entertaining free showcase events for festival-goers of all ages.

"Showcase Director Grace Farmer has worked very hard on an exciting new showcase series, with musical organizations like Harmony Project Tulsa, the Daytime Divas, and the New Tulsans," said Marketing Director Ryan Martin. "We're also excited about two new showcase events: Bill & Rosie Caswell perform at historic Prairie Song on June 12, and we host a traditional English Tea event with storyteller Dianne Fallis on June 13."



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FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

for event details and locations, visit okmmusic.org

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- JUNE 8** FREE KICK OFF STREET PARTY // 3PM - 7PM
featuring Isaac McClung, Anne Reburn & The Arcadian Wild
- JUNE 8** PHIL VASSAR // 7PM
with The Brent Giddens Band
- JUNE 9** CONCERT UNDER THE STARS // 6PM
featuring The Gothard Sisters & Arielle
- JUNE 10** BROWN BAG LUNCH CONCERT // 11 AM
featuring Martin-Meliton Piano Duo
- JUNE 10** AN EVENING WITH MOZART // 7:30PM
featuring The Tulsa Symphony with Maestro Ron Spigelman
- JUNE 11** STEEP CANYON RANGERS // 7:30PM
- JUNE 12** PIANIST JENNY LIN // 7:30PM
- JUNE 13** QUARTETTO GELATO // 7:30PM
- JUNE 14** WOOLAROC CONCERT // 5PM
*featuring Modern Oklahoma Jazz Orchestra & Dallas Brass
with Children's Musical Theater of Bartlesville*
- JUNE 15** PRICE TOWER EVENING // 6PM
featuring Cuarteto Latinoamericano

CHILDREN'S & SHOWCASE EVENTS ALL WEEK!

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JUNE 8-15
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