

PROFILE
**TRACY
ROLES**

TRIBUTE
**HUGH BLAINE
FRASER, JR**

LOOKING BACK
**H. V.
FOSTER**

MAY 2019



monthly
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A portrait of Larry McCorkell, a man with short, light brown hair, smiling. He is wearing a dark blue suit jacket, a white shirt, and a red tie. He is sitting at a desk with his hands clasped.

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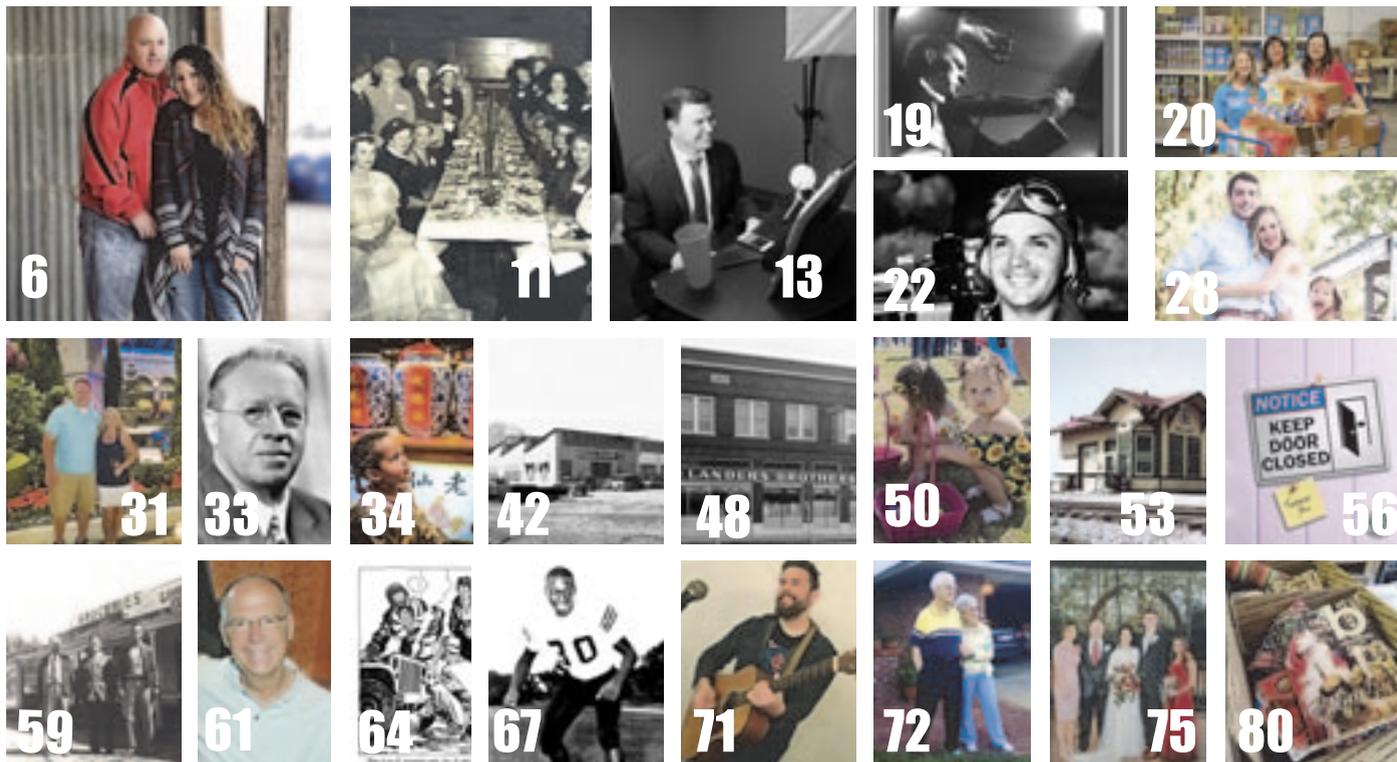
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upfront

Welcome to May! As you read this there are just over three weeks until school is out! Christy and I can not believe how this year is flying by; it's so crazy! Most of you know that we love to theme our magazines, and the month of May will always have a Memorial Day theme for the cover and the feature story. For us, this is the least we can do for the men and women who have sacrificed everything for you, me, and this great country. When coming up with the idea for the cover photo, I knew I wanted a fallen soldier's headstone and American flags in it. The more hours and hours I thought about it, I began to see our sweet, precious 3-year-old neighbor, Bridgette Blakemore, sticking a flag in the ground. As we were taking the pictures with our photographer Brooke Waller — who did an incredible job capturing this great picture — I asked Bridgie to say a little prayer and this is the picture we got! I believe it's priceless ... and should speak volumes to everyone looking at it. Christy and I are so grateful for all their sacrifices made for our family's freedoms!

In this issue we honor and celebrate three families (Zervas, Potter, and Arutunoff) who have made such an impact on our city over the years. We extend special thanks to Mike Wilt and the Community Foundation's Laura Jensen for helping us tell their stories. We also say goodbye to an annual tradition for Elder Care's "The Good, the Bad, the BBQ" at the Mullendore Ranch, which for the last 21 years has hosted this incredible event. We will miss this annual venue and all the great memories we have had at the Historic Ranch.

For us personally, we have celebrated some big events in our family this month. First of all, Blake, our oldest, married his high school girlfriend, Sammie, on April 26. I am so proud of him and the man he has become. For our June issue, I'm writing a "Father's Day Story" on the impact this has

made on me. We also have James and MaryBeth getting their degrees this month from the University of Arkansas (Go Hogs!) I also want to tell Mary and James "great job" on their accomplishments — Mary earned a 4.0 this semester and James returned to college to finish his degree after his professional baseball career.

May is one of my favorite months of the year. Everything is so green, flowers and trees are in full-bloom, and the days keep getting longer. Our office overlooks downtown, and what a gem we have! Our downtown is booming with so much activity, and as summer kicks in full-gear, it will be the place to be!

Mother's Day is May 12th this year. This will be the third year with my mom being gone, and it really still sucks. What I probably miss the most and took for granted is a simple phone conversation. So many times over the years she would call and I would just be too busy with life, not answer, and forget to call her back. I would give anything for a five-minute phone conversation with her today. Memorial Day is Monday, May 27th. We want to again say "Thank You" to all the families who have lost a loved one while serving this country. We pray for you. Finally we want to say Happy Birthday to two of our kids: Mary, who turns 22 on May 2nd, and Blake, who turns 26 on May 23rd. Have a great May and God Bless!



Keith & Christy McPhail
bMonthly managing editors

b

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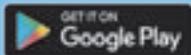
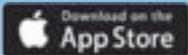
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Tracy Roles

by Lori Just

As a young boy, it was easy for Tracy Roles, Bartlesville Police Department police chief, to answer the question “What do you want to be when you grow up?”

Roles’ parents and grandparents befriended several police officers and state troopers. Growing up, he spent many nights around them and heard their stories. He became intrigued enough to start “hanging out” at the Ada Police Department.

“I would ride with officers anytime they would let me,” he explained. “I

knew early on I wanted to do the work of an officer so that I could make a positive difference in the community. I wanted to be a part of the law enforcement ‘family.’”

Roles grew up in Ada, and after graduating from Latta High School in 1991 he attended East Central University, where he received his bachelor’s degree in criminal justice. He later pursued a master’s degree in administration of justice and security from the University of Phoenix.

While working on a homicide and officer-involved shooting team with the District Attorney’s office in Colorado Springs, Roles got the opportunity to become chief investigator of the Medical Examiner’s Office in Greeley, Colorado. He saw it as a challenge and accepted the supervisor role in 2010. Since then, he’s remained in a supervisory role as the warden at a corrections facility and chief of police in Anadarko, Oklahoma.

When the Bartlesville Police Chief position opened last year due

to the retirement of Chief Holland, Roles was interested in the position for many reasons: He had spent time in Bartlesville in the past due to umpiring and knew Bartlesville was a very nice town. He thought Bartlesville would be a great place to raise a family. Roles appreciates being offered the position by City Manager Mike Bailey last fall, and was eager to begin serving the BPD and the citizens of Bartlesville.

“I have the mindset that I work for the members of our police department, they do not work for me,” he said. “It is my job to ensure their jobs are made easier and to empower them to be successful. I also enjoy the honor of representing BPD at community events.”

Roles admits that law enforcement officers across the country face difficult challenges daily. Officers are asked to deal with tasks a civilian could not imagine dealing with, and in a manner above and beyond the general public while dealing with those difficult things.

“We ask this, all the while, a small percentage of our society does all they can to shed a bad or negative light on what we do as police officers,” he said. “We, in law enforcement and in society, have to do a better job at not pointing the finger and blaming others for our failures. We have to find a way to

better communicate through respect, compassion and understanding across racial and ethnic lines.”

He continued that as a society we must have a more universal respect for others.

“The success of our department will not be determined by anything I do as the police chief,” he said. “It will be because of the wonderful members of our department. The men and women that go out every day and protect and serve our community make us great. I refuse to accept any credit for the success of our department, however if any failures occur within our department, those failures are mine, I will shoulder them.”

During his tenure as police chief, Roles wants to make BPD the department every officer in the state wants to be a part of. He plans to have highly-trained staff that are prepared with the best equipment, receive a generous salary, and have a command staff that gives them a platform to be successful.

“I am fortunate to serve such a wonderful department and wonderful community,” he stated. “It is important to the community that I am present, available, accountable, active, and transparent. The com-

munity must know that I will listen and be open to their issues, concerns, or ideas. We have a police department to be proud of, and part of my job is to carry that flag and ensure the community knows of the good work the members of the BPD do on a daily basis.”

When he’s not in uniform, Roles loves to travel, spending time outdoors camping, hiking, and at baseball games. He umpired college baseball for 27 years (including 10 college National Championships) and high school and college basketball for 20 years. He currently instructs at several umpire training camps and clinics in the area.

He and his wife, Jessica, married in 2013. They have a combined family of eight kids; four live in Colorado: Landry (15), Bates (13), Adyson (11) and Keira (nine), and four live in the home in Bartlesville; Marissa (16), Manuel (12), Braxton (five) and Kenleigh (seven months).

“My entire family loves Bartlesville and all of the exciting things to do here and in this area,” he exclaimed. “We all know we are very blessed to be a part of such a wonderful community. Everyone here has been so very welcoming to us since we got here in October. The kids have had wonderful experiences since starting school here.”



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Women Helping Women

2019 Marks 150th Anniversary for P.E.O.

by Cynthia Naylor

Visit any one of Bartlesville's five P.E.O. chapters and you will be greeted by a variety of women: teachers, lawyers, homemakers & musicians. They come in all shapes and sizes, all walks of life. No matter how different these friends may appear, members of this diverse sisterhood share one goal — promoting educational opportunities for women.

With 2019 marking the 150th anniversary of the international organization, local P.E.O. chapters are excited to share their mission. The Sesquicentennial milestone is celebratory — 15 decades of advancing and educating women, encouraging them to achieve their highest aspirations.

The history of P.E.O. is somewhat complex. It was originally founded in 1869 as a secret sorority by seven friends at Iowa Wesleyan College. Meetings were shrouded in mystery, outsiders not allowed. Even members had to offer a password for entry. Today, much has changed. While sisters still join through invitation, P.E.O. chapters are actively looking for new recruits and encouraged to openly discuss the organization and its goals.

Currently there are nearly 6,000 chapters and almost a quarter of a million members. Five of those chapters are in Bartlesville, with Chapter AW originating in 1921. Chapters CH, DW, ED, and FT followed and there are now 186 active members in the area. Of those, 24 are Golden Girls, members for 50+ years.

Jen Peterson became a member of P.E.O. Chapter DW after relocating from Canada. "I was part of a women's group in Calgary; we were intergenerational, people of different backgrounds, different professional backgrounds, but it was all women. When I



Bartlesville P.E.O. Chapter AW in 1921 on the left, and 2019 in the photo on the right.



announced we were moving, one of the women suggested P.E.O."

Her friend, a member of one of the P.E.O. chapters in Canada, thought it would be a good fit for the community-oriented Petersen, and submitted an application on her behalf via the P.E.O. website. Jen's curiosity was peaked. "All I knew was that it was about women helping women in education. How can you not get behind that mission?"

Contacted by multiple chapters, Peterson was quickly hooked — not just on the objective of enriching women's lives, but on the sisterhood as well. "Being new to a community, I knew it was another way to be connected to different people and different avenues." She was initiated into Chapter DW the following fall. "We've been in Bartlesville for six years and I've been in P.E.O. for five."

This sense of community is a draw for many members, and has also been a vital part of P.E.O.'s philanthropic success. As of 2017, over 102,000 women were recipients of

more than \$304 million in scholarships, grants, and loans. In addition, 8,500 women have graduated from Cottey College, a liberal arts and sciences college located in Nevada, Missouri. Owned by the P.E.O. Sisterhood, Cottey is ranked #7 among the Best Colleges by U.S. News & World Report.

Anna DeBough is a newer member of Chapter FT and a recipient of several grants and a loan through P.E.O. She recently graduated from OKWU with a bachelor's degree in nursing science.

DeBough describes her chapter as experienced, colorful, and very warm & welcoming. Her favorite part of P.E.O. is the lasting friendships with women who have a servant's heart. "It's more than a philanthropic organization; it's a place to be challenged with new ways to give and deeper levels of caring for our fellow man."

Women interested in joining a local chapter are encouraged to talk to other P.E.O. sisters, as a one-on-one conversation gives them the opportunity to learn more about Bartlesville's chapters and how each group is vital to the mission of enhancing women's educational prospects. Those who don't know a current P.E.O. member can contact a local group through peointernational.org.

As for the letters themselves, by definition P.E.O. stands for Philanthropic Educational Organization. Women wanting to know the meaning established by the founders will have to become a sister. That information is reserved for members only!



P.E.O. Chapter ED at a paint-and-pour event.



P.E.O. Chapter FT at the Lyons Gallery exhibit.



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The Enemy of Great is Good

by Lindel Fields

Last month I had the biggest of honor of my professional career when Tri County Tech accepted the Malcolm Baldrige Quality Award. The award is the highest Presidential Award for performance excellence in the nation. The award was the culmination of 13 years of dedication and discipline that has allowed our organization to transform thousands of lives in our community.

As a recipient of the honor, we joined four other organizations from across the nation in Washington D.C. to share our best practices with those who aspire to create an organization committed to performance excellence. We joined Donor Alliance, of Denver, Colorado; Alamo Colleges District, of San Antonio, Texas; Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center, of Jasper, Indiana; and Integrated Project Management Company, Inc., of Burr Ridge, Illinois. Each organization is unique, but the one thing that we all have in common is an unwavering commitment to excellence and an emotional connection because of our journeys. The stories we shared proved that no matter where an organization is on this journey, collective perseverance to quality could help them achieve world-class results.

Tri County Tech shared many stories, best practices, and revealed five mantras that emerged over our 13-year journey. While each one is powerful, there was one that brought clarity to our organization — “When you try to be everything to everybody, you can't be anything to anybody.” Easier said than done, right?

Whether you apply the mantra to an organization or your personal life, there is a significant upside. Also, like any opportunity that has the potential for upside, it is hard. Letting go of things even when we know we will be better off for

it is difficult to do. Often the decision to let go of things affects customers, agendas, and in some cases, the livelihoods of people, which makes those difficult decisions all the more challenging.

All too often, organizations are willing to endure the agony of the status quo to avoid being uncomfortable for a brief time. As Jim Collins put it, “The enemy of great is good.”

Early in our journey, we found ourselves saying yes to everything; we never met an idea we didn't like, which is a recipe for disaster. Sometimes, we find ourselves doing the same in our personal lives. We say yes to everything. Why are we opposed to saying no when at the very moment the words come out of our mouth, we feel regret?

The key to our organization's success was our willingness to say no. While we recognized we had some ineffective/inefficient programs and services, our first step was not to start anything new without it first passing a rigorous set of criteria — the result of saying no allowed us to focus on what we could do best. We later applied a similar set of principles to existing processes, programs and services. By using a set of beliefs, it helped to take the emotion out of the decisions. Of course, the choices were still tricky because they often affected people, but in the end, allowed for more time and resources to go toward what mattered most.

As a result, our organization is the only public institution ever to be named as a Great Place to Work® and the Baldrige Award recipient simultaneously. Of course, it took more than saying no to mediocrity; it took saying yes to risk, yes to success, and yes to a vision that would help to transform the lives of the students we serve.

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by Keith McPhail

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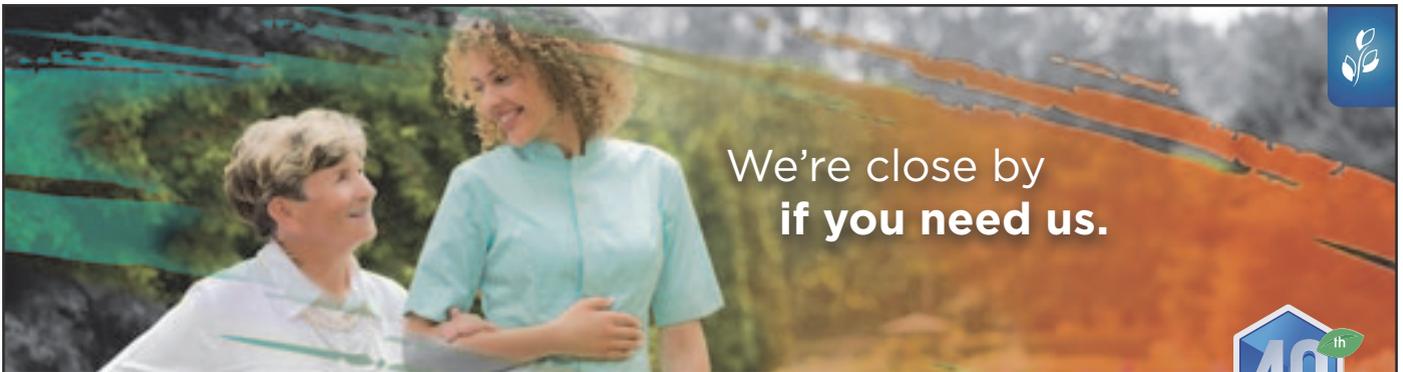
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What Might Have Been

A Look Back at the Life of Bruce Edward Hanson

by Rita Thurman Barnes

In 1940, Bruce Edward Hanson's parents moved him to El Dorado, Kansas, where 15-year-old Bruce lived with his financially secure aunt and uncle. His parents, Edward and Ida Hanson, knew this would be the best thing they could do for their gifted son. He would live and study violin there because Bruce's father couldn't support his son's education on the salary of a smelter worker.

After high school, he studied at the Julliard School of Music, and went on to advanced studies in Italy on a Fulbright Scholarship. Upon his return to the States, Bruce taught for many years in the US and Canada, where he was recognized as an incomparable violinist. But then, something changed, and he retreated to Bartlesville.

He lived alone at his modest residence for many years until it was condemned by the county and he then retreated to a motel. His tiny home revealed a lifetime collection of classical masters' sheet music, records, and years of professional music periodicals, which were among his most treasured possessions.

But perhaps the greatest treasure the humble house had contained was Bruce himself. For reasons known only to him, he gave up a highly successful musical career to move back home. Here he lived and died without family or heir. He was buried in El Dorado after a brief memorial service in Bartlesville.

His good friend said, "I often played Dvorak's String quartet No. 6 in F Major, Opus 96 for him. I played them for



Bruce the evening he arrived in El Dorado long ago. He was captivated by the music and I mention this because in the more than sixty years Bruce and I remained fast friends, from that date onward, he oft mentioned what a difference that music had made in his life. How pleased he was that I had introduced him to it the first night he and I met so many years before. It seemed to give him a foretaste, he thought, of what the future held in store for him."

Bruce wrote in a letter to the Heilmanns, "I idolize the two of you and while I will spare you the mawkish sentimentalities of Dickensian prose, I will say the influence you've both had on me over the

years has been far more than you could ever suspect."

The Heilmanns had a Christmas Eve tradition of calling Bruce to check on him and to "relive old times." They tried to reach him for the last time December 24, 2001. There was no answer. He could have left behind something singular to the musical world because Bruce played the violin magnificently but chose to stop — leaving his musical light hidden under a bushel. He left no survivors and only a handful of friends.

"For all sad words of tongue or pen, the saddest are these: It might have been." On Sunday, January 6, 2002, there appeared two short paragraphs among the death notices in the Examiner-Enterprise and Bruce Edward Hanson's music was gone.

"For all sad words of tongue or pen, the saddest are these: It might have been."

— John Greenleaf Whittier

A Million Meals

Arvest's Million Meals Initiative Teams Up with MMO

by Ann-Janette Webster

Oklahoma has made great strides in improving the quality of life for its citizens in recent years, but when it comes to providing food for those in need there's still much to be done. Oklahoma ranks 6th among the most food-insecure states in the nation, which is why Arvest Bank created its "Million Meals" initiative back in 2011.

Arvest Bartlesville Marketing Manager Annah Fischer says the community outreach project began as a way for Arvest associates to combine efforts to help feed neighbors in need and raise awareness.

"The sad fact is that so many people face food insecurity, and the communities Arvest operates in are not immune. Million Meals is a way for us to bring together resources and help advocate for our local food partners," said Fischer. "Being a good corporate citizen is part of our DNA at Arvest. We believe in donating our time and resources to help shape, support, and strengthen the communities where we live. Being a community bank means we have the privilege of playing an active part in the community, and we take this responsibility to heart."

The Million Meals initiative takes place in the more than 135 communities Arvest Bank services. Each spring, bank associates, as well as customers and community members, are encouraged to participate in fundraising efforts and nonperishable food drives to fight hunger. Through June 2, nonperishable items or monetary donations can be dropped off at any local Arvest branch. Customers can also contribute to the cause through the Arvest Go app.

According to Fischer, Arvest's partnership with local organization Mary Martha Outreach has truly aided in the campaign's success.

"MMO is an absolute gem in our community, with an extremely unique model. We know that by giving to MMO our dollars, food items, and volunteers hours are going to be multiplied greatly," said Fischer. "Last year our associates volunteered during the food pantry hours and I was blown away by the efficiency, attention to detail, and love that exists inside their facility. Bartlesville is lucky to have an organization like MMO."

Arvest Bank strategically hosts its annual Million Meals campaign in the spring months to help food pantries prepare for increased summertime needs. Food banks report



Arvest's partnership with Mary Martha Outreach raised more than 63,000 meals in the Bartlesville area last year.

a greater need for food items in the summer, when many children do not have the benefit of eating meals at the schools they attend.

"What I love most about Million Meals is that it's bigger than just one associate and one Arvest branch," said Fischer. "It's humbling to be a part of a campaign that is making such an impact in so many communities — over 70 food banks and organizations are supported by this campaign. Thinking about how our efforts translate into real dollars and real food items meeting real needs for real people makes my heart swell."

Last year the campaign hit a significant milestone by raising over 2 million meals as a bank group. Over 63,000 meals were donated in the Bartlesville area alone. Fischer hopes as the local effort grows they will be able to continue to expand their partnership with MMO, not just during the Million Meals campaign, but year round.

"Every year we are able to bring more customers and community members into the fight against hunger, and it is so encouraging that this continues to grow," said Fischer. "Our associates absolutely look forward to Million Meals. We all come together for a common goal and make a big impact in our communities. There's a lot of pride that comes with knowing you're helping make your community stronger."

For more information about Million Meals visit arvest.com.



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Body Not Recovered

by Mike Wilt



Emery Lowell Eaton was anxious to see his former employer. Before he joined the Navy in 1940, he worked for Amos Ritter at the Amos Tractor Company. He was back in his hometown on leave and couldn't wait to tell Mr. Ritter how he had the best job in the world – a fireman on the *USS Arizona*.

At 7:48 a.m. on Sunday, December 7, 1941, the Japanese executed a surprise military attack on Pearl

Harbor, Hawaii where the *Arizona* was stationed. After a bomb detonated in a powder magazine, the battleship exploded violently and sank with the loss of 1,177 officers and crewmen. The wreck still lies at the bottom of Pearl Harbor. The body of Emery Lowell Eaton of Bartlesville, Oklahoma was not recovered.

Of the 16 million Americans who served in World War II, more than 400,000 died during the war. Almost 73,000 were not recovered including 1,220 from Oklahoma. Eaton was one of 37 men from Washington County who died during WW II and whose body was never recovered.



USS ARIZONA



Like Eaton, **John Cotton** lived and worked in Bartlesville during the Great Depression. He joined the Army the same year Eaton joined the

There are 37 fallen heroes from Washington County that died during combat for this country and their bodies were not recovered. There is not a grave to be visited or decorated, and these heroes are all but forgotten. I think it is long overdue that we take a few minutes and remember these fallen heroes who gave the supreme sacrifice for the freedoms we enjoy today.

— Joe Todd

Navy. In letters home, Cotton wrote that he was having a grand time in the 515th Coast Artillery in the tropical Philippine Islands. All of that changed when the Japanese arrived at the Bataan Peninsula on Luzon Island in January 1942. The Battle of Bataan would prove to be the most intense phase of Japan's invasion of the Philippines. The U.S. surrendered on April 9. Cotton's unit was sent on the infamous Bataan Death March. Cotton died along the way. **Harold Kato** (Army), **Forrest Rowland** (Air Corps), and **Clifford Fusselman** (192nd Tank Battalion) survived the Bataan Death March only to die in Japanese prison camps.



Howard Rickman (192nd Tank Battalion) also survived the Bataan Death March. In October of 1944, he and other prisoners were placed on the Japanese ship *Arisan Maru* to be shipped off for slave labor. The ship was struck by two torpedoes fired from a U.S. submarine. Prisoners who managed to escape into the water were gunned down by nearby Japanese ships.



In June 1943, **William E. Beeman** died in Bilibid Prison in Manila after the Japanese took Corregidor in the southwestern part of Luzon Island. Despite having served in and living through WW I, Beeman reenlisted and became part of the 60th Coast Artillery.





Also seeing the inside of Bilibud Prison was **James Nowlin** (Marines). He survived the prison but also perished during the *Arisan Maru* attack.

Milo O. Smith (Air Corps) and **Melvin Jones** (Corps of Engineers) suffered similar fates. Having survived the Bataan Death March, both were put on the *Oryoku Maru*, a ship so crowded that many prisoners suffocated. The unmarked ship was hit and sunk by fighters from the USS



Hornet in December 1945.



Among the hundreds of thousands who enlisted following the bombing of Pearl Harbor was **Bill Whitlock**. He was assigned to the USS *Lexington*. Along with the USS *Yorktown*, the aircraft carrier engaged the Japanese in the Battle of the Coral Sea in May

1942. The *Lexington* was hit by three torpedo bombers. Whitlock was one of 216 crewmen who perished.

Gerald McClune left the Dewey Portland Cement Plant to join the Army Air Corps where he became a B-26 gunner. McClune and his unit were sent to Brisbane, Australia. He was killed in action on May 28, 1942 when



his twin-engine Marauder was shot down over New Guinea.



Other Washington County servicemen who were shot down include **Cecil Hammons** (Air Corps) in January 1942, **John Harrison Crowder** (30th Bomb Group) in June 1943, **Jack E. Copeland** (400th Signal Company) in October 1943, **Charles Kleckner** (Air Corps) in





January 1944 and **Hiram Roe** (Air Corps) in August 1944.

One would think that being a cook would be one of the safer jobs during war. It was not for **Carl George Shafer** who left the National Zinc smelter to join the Navy. Shafer was assigned to the USS *Juneau* in the Pacific theater. The light cruiser was escorting supply ships to Guadalcanal in November 1942 when she was hit

by a Japanese torpedo. The resulting explosion broke the ship in half. It sunk in less than one minute. Only ten survived. Shafer was one of the 687 who were killed along with the five Sullivan brothers of Waterloo, Iowa. The death of the five Sullivans led to the adoption of a policy



that protects members of a family from the draft or combat duty if they have already lost family members in military service.

Joseph Lasarge found himself on the other side of the globe as a radio operator on a B-17 as part of the Army Air Corps 95th Bomb Group in Horsham St. Faith, England. After successfully bombing U-Boat docks in Kiel, Ger-



B-24 BOMBER

many, Lasarge's crew met German fighters on the return trip. The four-engine Flying Fortress was shot down over the Baltic Sea on June 13, 1943. There were no survivors.

Born in Caney, KS, **John Francis Wine** moved to Bartlesville to work at the smelter. He became part of the Army Air Corps 380th Bomber Group and, as a waist gunner, was assigned to the most dangerous spot on a B-24. Based at Fenton Field, Australia, Wine and his cohorts made many successful raids on installations in New Guinea and other Japanese-held islands. His four-engine Liberator was shot down on October 26, 1943. The entire crew was lost.

Just 28 days later, **Leo Roy Sharpton** of Dewey was one of 644 Navy crew members who were killed aboard the USS *Liscome Bay*. The escort carrier had thirteen fueled airplanes on deck





and a full complement of bombs in the magazines below. At 5:10 a.m. on November 24, 1943, a Japanese submarine fired a torpedo that struck the forward magazine. The ship sank in twenty minutes.

Leo M. Denny was B-26 pilot for the Army Air Corps and flew the twin-engine bomber as part of a squadron based in England. He flew missions over France until his plane was shot down over the English Channel on April 11, 1944. Three months later, **Elwood Allan Ward**, a gunner on a B-24, was part of a crew lost after being shot down during a mission over Romania.



The USS *Eversole* was a new destroyer when **Frank Inda** of Dewey climbed aboard in May of 1944. The Battle of Leyte Gulf in the South Pacific is considered to



USS EVERSOLE

have been the largest naval battle of WW II and possibly the largest naval battle in history with over 200,000 personnel involved. During that battle in October of 1944, Inda was killed when the *Eversole* was struck by a pair of torpedoes.

If **Harley Hitchcock** didn't know Gerald McClune or Frank Inda the chances are good that he at least knew of them. Hitchcock also hailed from Dewey and, like McClune, worked at the local cement plant. He was drafted into the Army Air Corps and eventually assigned to the 32nd Photo Squadron. He boarded the SS *Paul Hamilton* to be



transported to Naples, Italy. On April 20, 1944, the ship was attacked in the Mediterranean Sea by 23 German bombers. One aerial torpedo struck the ship and detonated the cargo of high explosives and bombs. The ship and crew disappeared in 30 seconds. It was the largest loss of life for a cargo ship.

Like Frank Inda of Dewey, **Lonnie Lamb** of Bartlesville fought in the Battle of Leyte Gulf. But he was assigned to the USS *Princeton*. A single bomb dropped through the flight

deck to the hanger deck. At the time, planes were being loaded with fuel. The result was a massive explosion that engulfed the ship in flames. Miraculously, 1,361 crewmen were rescued. However, Lamb was among the 108 who were lost.



James Baker was killed aboard the USS *Meredith* on June 9, 1944 during a bombing raid off the coast of Normandy, France. Just three days earlier, the destroyer had provided gunfire support to landing forces at Utah Beach during the D-Day invasion.





As a member of the 338th Fighter Squadron, **Samuel Hansard** was a pilot on a P-47 fighter. Hansard and others provided air cover for B-17 bombers over France and Germany. Two days after Thanksgiving, he was shot down over the English Channel on November 25, 1944.



Just 29 days later on Christmas Eve, **Floyd Chew** of Ramona and the Army's 66th Infantry Division was put on the Belgian ship the SS *Leopoldville* and sent to France for the Battle of the Bulge. However, the ship was torpedoed and sunk by a German sub. A British destroyer picked up some survivors but 785 soldiers, including Chew, died in the icy waters.



Just 50 miles off the Japanese mainland, the USS *Franklin* had gotten closer than any aircraft carrier during the war. On March 19, 1945, it was attacked by a single dive bomber. **Robert V. Bass** was among those killed.

Two locals died during the Battle of Iwo Jima. **Dewey Erickson** (Marines) was killed on the island in February 1945. **Ferrald Jones** (Navy) was among the 300 killed aboard the USS *Halligan* in March 1945 when the destroyer hit a mine.



Being a cook on the USS *Snook*, **Ben Silva** probably



USS JUNEAU

heard his share of lame wisecracks. But he likely took pride in how the submarine had sunk several enemy ships. On April 8, 1945, the sub went on a routine dive off the coast of Taiwan. It never re-surfaced.



James Harwell (Army) served on something called a “Duck,” part truck, part boat. Along with 24 others, he perished when it was sunk on Lake Garda (Italy) in April 1945.

Aboard the USS *Bunker Hill*, **William Keith Vinsant** served as a Navy Radioman 3rd Class. The aircraft carrier had launched fighters for invasions of the Solomon and Gilbert

islands. On the morning of May 11, 1945, it was providing cover for the invasion of Okinawa when it was hit by two Kamikazes. Vinsant was one of 390 killed. His body was one of 30 that was not recovered.



President Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s favorite ship was the USS *Indianapolis* and 1938 Col-Hi grad **James Farley** was one of the 1,195 men who served on it. The ship carried the atomic bomb from San Francisco to Tinian. Just two months before the end of the war, the ship was on her way to the Philippines in July 1945. A torpedo from a Japanese sub sank the ship in just 12 minutes. The sinking of the *Indianapolis* resulted in the greatest loss of life at sea from a single ship in the history of the U.S. Navy.

Unfortunately, these fallen heroes from Washington County never made it back home to Oklahoma. But if



USS INDIANAPOLIS

Military killed in action from Washington County and body not recovered

Merle Hutchinson, Bartlesville – US Army, Died on board troop ship in 1917 – buried at sea
 Lowell Eaton, Bartlesville – US Navy; Died on the USS Arizona December 7, 1941
 Cecil Hammons, Bartlesville – US Army Air Corps. Shot down over Java Jan 29, 1942.
 John Cotton, Bartlesville – 515th Coast Artillery, Died on the Bataan Death march April 1942
 Forrest R. Rowland - Army Air Corps, He surrendered on Bataan and survived the Death March and died in a prison camp May 5, 1942.
 Billy Whitlock, Bartlesville – Died on the USS Lexington May 8, 1942 during the Battle of the Coral Sea.
 Gerald McCune, Dewey – 22nd Bomb Group; Shot down over New Guinea May 28, 1942
 Carl Shafer, Bartlesville – US Navy, Died on the USS Juneau November 3, 1942
 Harold Kato, Bartlesville– died in Japanese Prison Camp 1943
 Joseph LaSarge, Bartlesville – US Army Air Corps, 95th Bomb Group; killed in action June 13, 1943 over the Baltic Sea
 William Beeman, Bartlesville - 60th Coast Artillery – Died in a Japanese prison camp Jun 16, 1943
 John Harrison Crowder, Bartlesville - 30th Bomb Group – Killed in action over the Aleutian Islands when his plane was shot down June 27, 1943
 Jack E. Copeland - 400th Signal Company. His plane was shot down October 20, 1943 near Palmyra Island in the Pacific and there were no survivors.
 John Francis Wine, Copan – US Army Air Corps; Shot down over the South Pacific October 26, 1943
 Charles Kleckner, Copan – Army Air Corps – Killed in action January 17, 1944
 Leo M.Denny, Bartlesville – Army Air Corps, 453rd Bomb Squadron, killed in action April 11, 1944 over the English Channel
 Harley Hitchcock, Dewey – Army Air Corps – Killed in action on the USS Paul Hamilton April 20, 1944
 James Baker, Bartlesville – US Navy, killed in action on the USS Meredith June 9, 1944 of the coast of Normandy when the ship struck a mine.
 Elwood Ward, Bartlesville – US Army Air Corps, Killed in action July 22, 1944 on the Ploesti Refinery Raid.
 Hiram Roe, Ochelata – Army Air Corps - Shot down over English Channel August 6, 1944
 Frank Inda, Dewey – US Navy, Killed in action on the USS Eversole October 29, 1944
 James Nowlin, Bartlesville – US Marines, Died on the Japanese prison ship Arisan Maru October 24, 1944
 Howard Rickman, Bartlesville – US Army, 192nd Tank Battalion, Died on the Arisan Maru October 24, 1944
 Lonnie Lamb , Bartlesville - US Navy, killed in action on the USS Princeton October 24, 1944
 Samuel Hansard, Bartlesville – Army Air Corps, shot down over the English Channel November 25, 1944
 Leo Roy Sharpton, Dewey –US Navy, killed in action on the USS Liscome Bay November 25, 1944
 Milo Smith, Bartlesville –US Army Air Corps; Died on the Japanese prison ship Enoura Maru December 15, 1944
 Floyd Chew, Bartlesville – US Army, 66th Infantry Division; Died on the SS Leopoldville December 25, 1944 in the English Channel
 Melvin Evans, Bartlesville – US Army Engineers, Captured on Bataan and died on the Oryoku Maru December 15, 1944
 Lonnie Lamb , Bartlesville - US Navy, killed in action on the USS Princeton October 24, 1944
 Dewey Erickson, Dewey – US Marines, killed in action on Iwo Jima February 27, 1945
 Ferrald Jones, Washington County – US Navy, killed in action off Iwo Jima on the USS Halligan March 26, 1945
 Robert V. Bass, Bartlesville – US Navy, killed in action on the USS Franklin March 19, 1945
 Clifford Fusselman, Wann – 192nd tank battalion – Survived the Bataan Death March and died in Japanese prison in Philippines March 28, 1945
 Ben Silva, Bartlesville – US Navy, killed in action on the USS Snook April 8, 1945
 Warren Weber, Bartlesville – US Army Air Corps, 499th Bomb Group; killed in action April 28, 1945 in the Pacific
 James E. Harwell - US Army and assigned to the 605th, Killed in action along with 24 others on April 30, 1945 when the DUKW they were in sunk in Lake Garda in Italy. No bodies were recovered.
 William Vinsant, Bartlesville – US Navy, killed in action on the USS Bunker Hill May 10, 1945
 James Farly, Bartlesville – US Navy, killed in action on the USS Indianapolis July 30, 1945
 Harry Ishem, Bartlesville –US Army, Killed in action at Yonchon. Korea November 1950
 Robert Harrison Atha was born in Bartlesville July 31, 1931. Killed in action Hoengsong, South Korea, February 12, 1951.
 Robert V. Rood, Bartlesville – Born February; US Army, killed in action July 14, 1953 at Kumsong, North Korea.
 Ronald Hal Solomon - Died on the USS Thresher April 10, 1963

Like a Good Neighbor

Bartlesville Native Matt Spence Happy to Return Home

by Lori Just

Like a good neighbor, Matt Spence has returned to town to support the community through his insurance business and personal efforts.

Matt was born and raised in Bartlesville. After graduation from Bartlesville High School in 2009, he pursued a bachelor's degree in finance from Oklahoma State University. He then found himself landing a job at a State Farm office in Vinita, Oklahoma shortly after college graduation in 2013.

"I sought out State Farm because not only do they have a good reputation, but also they are a full-service company," he said. "We are the only insurance company that can handle investments, mortgages and vehicles loans. We have a full-service banking and investing side and insurance side. It sets us apart from all the other companies in the industry."

Matt worked at the Vinita office for three years. He made frequent lunch visits to the infamous Route 66 restaurant Clanton's Café featured on Dinners, Drive-Ins and Dives. He was intentional about his visits because he hoped to catch the eye of a certain waitress.

"I met my wife, Erin, while she was waitressing and attending college to be a dental hygienist," he explained. "I went in about every other day hoping to get seated in her section and catch her eye. After several failed attempts, we finally talked and it led to a proposal there a few years later surrounded by family and friends."

Matt and Erin were married in September 2017 and became a blended family with Erin's daughter, Keira, who is finishing up fourth grade.

The opportunity for Matt to purchase his own agency was completed the previous month when Kathi Swanson, a well-established State Farm agent, decided to retire in Bartlesville.

"When I saw this chance to manage my own agency in my home town, I knew I wanted to do it," he said. "I was a little worried at first how well my homecoming would be received, but I no longer have that fear as everyone has been so accepting and welcoming."

Matt took over the downtown office at the corner of Frank Phillips and Keeler. Matt now has three support staff in the office. He has plans on expanding into the vacant tenant space to the north of his current office. A wall will be removed to add more space and staff additions this summer to enhance his ability to serve more customers.

"I love having the ability to help people manage the risks of everyday life, recover from the unexpected, and realize their dreams," he said. "This job also allows me to have a flexible schedule, which enables me to be heavily involved in the community."



Matt Spence with wife, Erin, and their daughter, Keira.

Matt supports several local non-profits; he is a member of the Bartlesville Chamber of Commerce, Noon Rotary Club, Bartlesville Young Professionals, and recently graduated from the Bartlesville Leadership Class XXVIII.

He enjoys the downtown space, acknowledging that all the area downtown businesses support one another.

"Reinvesting in the community is important to me," he said. "I want to give back to the community that has given so much to me."

When he's not in the office, Matt enjoys spending time with his family, hunting, fishing, golfing, and being outdoors.

"My favorite thing about Bartlesville is how supportive people are of local business," he said. "Being the 'new guy' in town, I'm very appreciative to all my customers and community for being so supportive of my business. I hope to be here until I retire."

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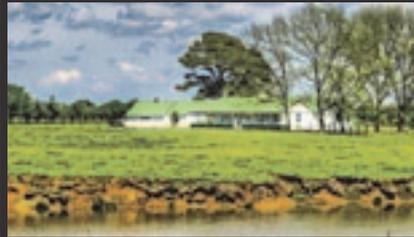


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Officer of the Year

Brandon Meyer Wins Coveted Annual Award

by Lori Just

Brandon Meyer and his dad, Jim Meyer, are best friends. Since a youngster he admired his dad as a police officer, and when he was old enough, spent a lot of time riding around with him in his patrol car.

“Once I joined the department, it was very special to be able to work alongside my dad,” Meyer said of his dad’s mentorship. “We spent close to a year on the same shift. I was very thankful to have him as a partner during that short time. He spent three decades protecting this community, and I hope to do the same.”

Every year the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) recognize an officer who has been nominated by their peers as a candidate to receive the Officer of the Year award.

“We ask of the individual nominating an officer is to give a brief synopsis in writing to the board as to why they believe the individual should be nominated,” explained Sergeant Nathan Mellen, FOP president. “We usually receive between three to five candidates for Officer of the Year. During the January meeting, we read off the recommendation letter for each candidate and they are added onto the ballot along with the officer candidates. We then hold elections and announce the winners.”

This past March, Meyer was nominated and won Officer of the Year. Mellen added that Meyer was chosen because he is a dedicated person to both the department and his community. He considers Brandon a “true friend and a great example of a good officer.” It gave him great pleasure to present him with the award and said it was “well-deserved.”

“Being nominated is special in and of itself, but to be selected by your peers means even more,” he added. “I was honored and very proud of the moment. We have a fantastic department, and I couldn’t be more proud to work for the community I grew up in.”

Chief of Police Tracy Roles said Meyer is “a great choice” as he is “a dedicated member of the Bartlesville Police Department that always strives to make things better. Officer Meyer is always willing to help a fellow officer in any way possible. Meyer is selfless and very professional.”

Originally from Kansas City, Brandon moved to Bartlesville in time for elementary and graduated from Bartlesville High School in 2005. He was hired by the Dewey Police Department in January of 2009. He transitioned to the Bartlesville Police Department two



Brandon Meyer and wife, Mindy.

years later as patrolman, then passed the exam to join the Special Operations team and Critical Response team. He previously was a participant of the Honor Guard.

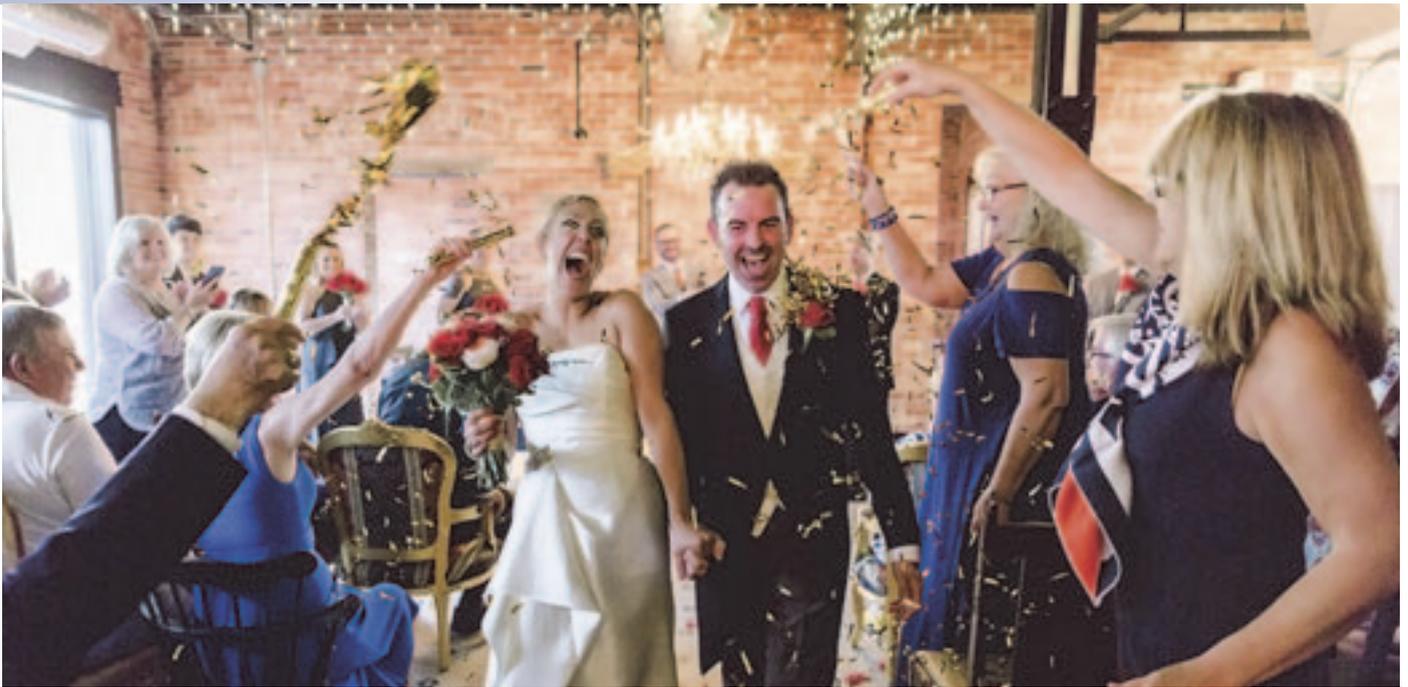
“My favorite part about my job is that there is something different every day,” he said. “You can be responding to a traffic accident one minute, then next thing you can be responding to is a shots fired call. My goal is to hopefully help someone in any given situation.”

His commitment to his department runs deep. Brandon gives several hours of his own time heading up projects to better the department and the community, from fundraisers to spending time at the range when he is not scheduled to be there — just to make other officers better. Last year, his peers noted that when the vice president resigned from his leadership position, without hesitating Brandon volunteered to assume the vice president responsibilities. He organized three fundraising games over the last three years to raise money for Blue Star Mothers, an organization that sends care packages to troops overseas, and Make-a-Wish Oklahoma. Overall, he raised over \$50,000 with those efforts.

“It’s so special to me to do these games and receive such incredible support from local businesses and the community,” he said.

Meyer enjoys spending time with his wife, Mindy, and their 5-year-old son, Ryder, at their big family gatherings. He also enjoys hunting and fishing.

“I currently work the midnight shift, and my family is very supportive,” he said. “My wife knows what this career means to me, and when I’m away at work, she steps in to pick up the slack on every occasion. She is incredible. And my son’s face always lights up when we spend time together, and it melts my heart.”



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A Quiet Man of Honor

Remembering Henry Vernon Foster

by Kay Little, Little History Adventures

LAQUINTA MANSION

"...It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20:35.

Henry Vernon Foster lived this scripture in secrecy throughout his life. It was not until after his death that stories were shared about his philanthropic spirit.



H.V. FOSTER

Darian Doornbos Kedy, great-granddaughter of H.V. and Marie Foster, said "H.V. was the best kept secret in the oil industry, and that's okay. He did not want to be in the spotlight." Much of this attitude came from his Quaker upbringing.

H.V. was an engineer in Wisconsin when he received word that his Uncle Edwin had died. That death came shortly after H.V.'s father had died, leaving him as the sole heir to the oil lease in the Osage. He was not happy about becoming an oil man, but fate forced his hand.

In 1902, at the age of 27, H.V. reluctantly took over the business of the largest oil and gas exploration blanket lease ever issued. The lease was about to expire, so he quickly devised a sublease plan. With a checkerboard-looking lease map, Foster numbered each rectangle and invited anyone interested to sublease one or more of the rectangles, whether friend or foe.

Foster's company, ITIO (Indian Territory Illuminating Oil), retained exclusive rights to

alternate lots. Foster and his company made a lot of money, and he made sure the Osage got their share. Smart man!

When H.V. arrived in Bartlesville in 1904, horses and cars were traveling the same streets amidst a building frenzy, and outlaw Henry Starr was wreaking havoc at the local banks.

After following the career of showgirl Marie Dahlgren of Chicago, H.V. married her in 1907. The following year, they established their home at 821 S. Johnstone, later the location of Hotel Phillips. Within the first two years, they became parents of daughters, Ruth and Marie.

The Fosters were very involved in giving back to the community, but usually anonymously. They often left baskets of food on the doorsteps of less fortunate locals. In 1930, while most of the nation suffered through the Great Depression, H.V. built his LaQuinta mansion, creating employment. LaQuinta is now home to Oklahoma Wesleyan University. H.V. had a passion for

hunting and fishing, so he had a country ranch built, El Rancho de la Codorniz, "Ranch of the Quail," which he preferred.

H.V. helped several young men attend college, including Robert Kerr, who became the 12th Governor of Oklahoma. His one requirement to those he helped was "All recipients of these scholarships are pledged to pass on this help when they succeed." He felt that the charity should be more than a gift, so he asked the gift to be grown through sharing.

A deeply private man, H.V. did not publicize his wealth or philanthropic deeds. When a journalist once wrote that Foster was the "richest man west of the Mississippi," he was not pleased, and resented it the rest of life.

I have just touched the tip of all H.V. Foster did for our community. Visit the Bartlesville Area History Museum and also read the book, "Out of the Osage: The Foster Story" by William Ellis, to find out more about him.



EL RANCHO DE LA CODORNIZ

Just Kids!

Brain Architecture Lays the Foundation for Development

by Sherry Rackliff



Observing children has become a favorite pastime of mine.

The child in the picture below is listening to someone talking who does not speak her language. She has been playing with children who do not speak her language. They have learned to communicate. You can almost “see” the neurons connecting from the expression on her face.

Every experience becomes indelibly etched on a young child’s brain. Their experiences shape who they are and who they will become. A young child’s brain develops at a rapid pace during the first few years of life; faster than it will ever develop again. A wide range of experiences and stable relationships are keys to helping ensure children develop into caring, thoughtful individuals who will be able to take on future challenges of new eras.

What do you do with all of that? Let’s break it down into what really happens with a young child. Every interaction you have with your child triggers connections in their brain.

A simple game of peekaboo helps a baby with visual tracking, social development, and object permanence. Object permanence is a precursor to symbolic understanding, which a child needs to develop language and pretend play. Understanding object permanence will help your child work through separation anxiety. And, best of all, they have fun with a parent or caregiver!

A child’s cognitive abilities begin to take shape right away. Cognition is the ability to think about new information, process it, and apply the information to a situation. Another simple game to promote cognition is to gather three small toys your baby can grasp easily. Give your child one toy for

each hand. When they have a toy in each hand, offer the third toy. They will likely try to take the toy without letting go of the toys in their hands. As thinking and processing skills begin to develop, they will put a toy down before grasping the new toy.

To watch a child’s cognitive skills in action, give them a few Cheerios to eat. Then, let them watch you put the final one in a glass bottle with a small opening in the top and hand her the bottle. They will be able to see the Cheerio and try to figure out how to get it out. Most children will try to put their finger in the top to reach it, some will put it in their mouth to try to get it out. Once they figure out how to tip it over to retrieve the Cheerio, they always know it. Every Cheerio put into the bottle will be immediately dumped out. Even after significant amounts of time, children will know to dump out the Cheerio immediately. You have created another level toward building their cognitive abilities.

The most important aspect of these games is that a parent or caregiver is interacting with the child. Young children need to develop in an environment of relationships, which is crucial for the development of a child’s brain architecture and lays the foundation for later outcomes such as academic performance, mental health, and interpersonal skills.¹



¹National Scientific Council on the Developing Child (2004). *Young Children Develop in an Environment of Relationships: Working Paper No. 1*. Retrieved from www.developingchild.harvard.edu.



DELAWARE CHILD DEVELOPMENT

MAY CALENDAR SPONSORED BY



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3



Stray Kat 500

10 am; Downtown Dewey
Pre-1964 Kustoms, Hot Rods & stockers. The event attracts cars from all over the United States. Pre-entry fee is \$25 day of the event is \$30. The event runs through May 5. Visit www.straykatkustoms.com for more information.

Newsies - The Broadway Musical

7 pm; BHS Fine Arts Center
Bartlesville High School presents Disney's "Newsies-The Broadway Musical." Based on the 1992 motion picture and inspired by a true story, Newsies features a Tony Award-winning score by Alan Menken and Jack Feldman and a book by Tony Award winner Harvey Fierstein. Newsies is packed with non-stop thrills and a timeless message, perfect for the whole family and every audience. Tickets are \$10/students and \$15/adults.



Go Rams Glow Fun Run

7:30 pm; Hoover Elementary
This year's GO RAMS GLOW will only be a 1 mile fun run. We won't be doing the 5k this year!! Check out our T-shirt design by Moxie on 2nd! We would love to have 100% of all Hoover students attend. It will be a great family event. We will have food, music, and bounce houses! Invite all your friends!!

4

Annual Family Fun Weekend

12 pm; Truth Tabernacle United Pentecostal Church
Entire event is free! Everyone receives a free lunch! Tickets for free cotton candy, snow cones and popcorn. There will be inflatables, dunk tank, horse riding, painting booth, water toys, and so much more!!

Jedi Training Yoga for Kids

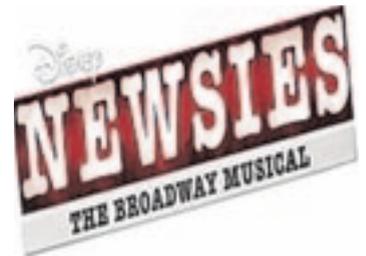
2 pm; Bartlesville Public Library
Join Dana Morris of I AM Kids Tulsa for a fun yoga-based Jedi Training workshop for kids, in celebration of "May the 4th" Star Wars Day! Costumes you

can move in are welcome!

Newsies - The Broadway Musical

7 pm; BHS Fine Arts Center
See May 3 event for info.

5



Newsies - The Broadway Musical

3 pm; BHS Fine Arts Center
See May 3 event for info.

11



Kiwanis 68th Annual Fishing Derby

9 am; Jo Allen Lowe Park
Each child must be chaperoned by an adult 18 or older. Children from ages 3-12 can register for the event at the pond beginning at 8:30 AM. Each child will be placed in one of the three age groups (3-6, 7-9, 10-12). Fishing equipment will NOT be provided, each child must



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bring their own gear and bait.
Cookie Decorating 101
 2 pm; 3 Kids & a Cake
 Join us for a 2-hour cookie decorating class where we will discuss cookie basics using royal icing!

17 Duct Tape Creations for Teens

6:30 pm; Bartlesville Public Library
 Shani Snell will lead middle and high-school aged teens in creating VERY cool items from duct tape. Take a break from studying for finals and join us for some relaxing, creative fun!

18



4th Annual Doggie Dash & Canine Festival

8 am; Cooper Dog Park
 Doggie Dash and Canine Carnival fundraiser benefiting the Washington County SPCA, Animal Rescue Foundation (ARF), and Bark Park Buddies. Proceeds will go to aid in the fight to save animal lives through education, community support and healthy living. For info visit arrowheadcharities.com.

23

Bartlesville Schools Last Day of School

24

Bartlesville High School Graduation

7 pm; BHS Football Field

25

Copan Annual Family Fun Day

9 am; Downton Copan Vendors, good food and live music! Come join us for a day of family fun

30

OKWU Volleyball Camp

9 am; OKWU Gym
 Girls and boys entering 6th, 7th and 8th grade. Cost is \$65

31



Sunfest

10 am; Sooner Park
 "Oklahoma's Biggest Outdoor Picnic" returns for a long weekend May 31 through June 2, 2019 with its trademark combination of: A relaxed, family picnic atmosphere, quality and cost-free entertainment, a diverse range of arts and crafts, creative activities for children, terrific food in abundant variety, and an eye-popping car show. This premier arts & entertainment festival – now in its 37th year – is held in Sooner Park located at Madison Boulevard and Tuxedo Avenue in Bartlesville, Oklahoma. Parking is available in several lots near the park. All types of musical

TREASURES

CUSTOM JEWELRY & WATCH REPAIR

DIAMONDS AND PRECIOUS STONES

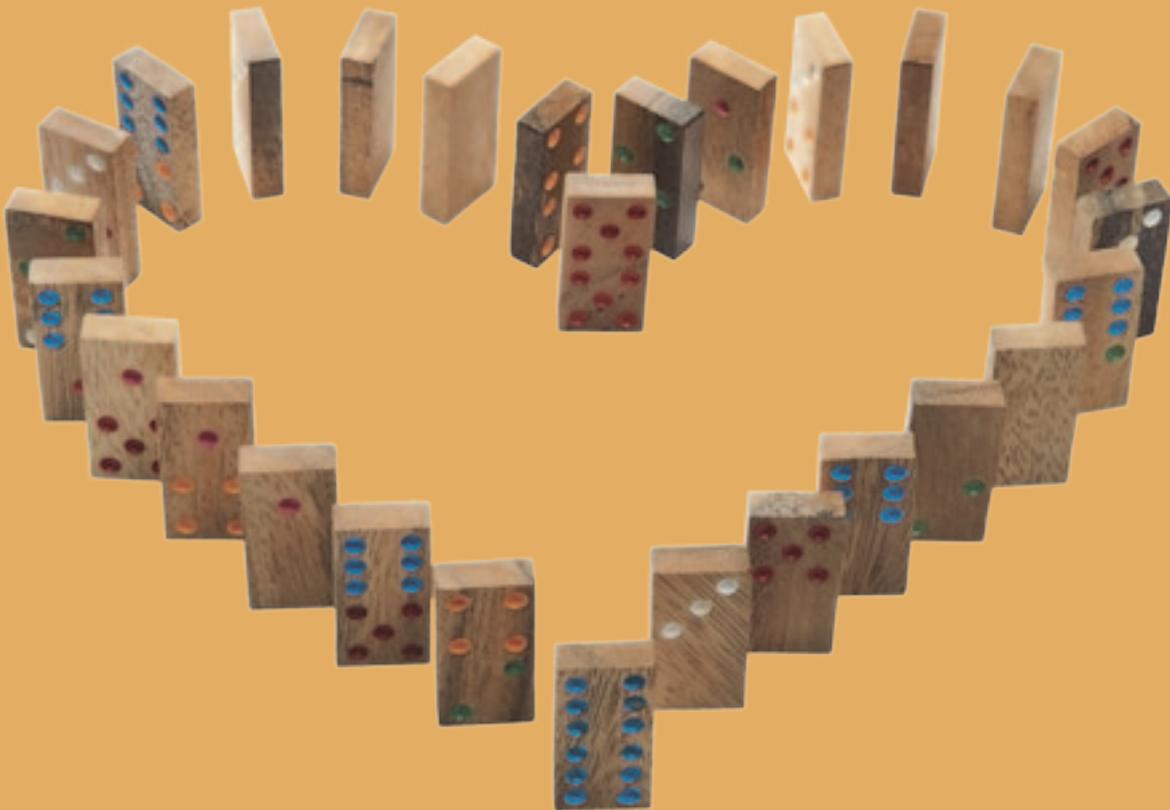
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Family Game Night

Tuesday May 21, 2019 • 5:30 – 7:30 pm



Come have some fun during Game Night! Play games and enter to win a raffle. Donate a children's book and receive a Chick-fil-A sandwich gift card!



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602 SE Washington Blvd
www.facebook.com/cfabartlesville



b MAY EVENTS CALENDAR

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

Wed, May 1

1-4PM
Open Studio
 Price Tower Arts Center
 510 S. Dewey Ave.

10 AM
Woolaroc Animal Barn Open for the Season
 Woolaroc Museum & Wildlife Preserve
 1925 Woolaroc Ranch Road

Woolaroc Mountain Man Camp Open for the Season
 Woolaroc Museum & Wildlife Preserve
 1925 Woolaroc Ranch Road

1 PM
Watercolor & Acrylic Painting Classes for Kids
 Price Tower Arts Center
 510 S. Dewey Ave.

Instructor Ashley Droigk teaches the class from 1-8:30PM, Monday through Thursday, by appointment. Cost is \$15 per student for each one-hour session. Family rate of \$10 per child is available.

6 PM
Color Theory with Pepper Hume
 Price Tower Arts Center
 510 S. Dewey Ave.

Understand how to mix colors to get the effects you want. Ages high school & up, beginner level. Cost is \$30 for BAA members, and \$40 for non-members.

7:30 PM
Songbox
 Tinker's GlassHouse
 600 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

Music + Bingo = SONGBOX. Free to play! Win Prizes!

Thu, May 2

12 PM
National Day of Prayer
 Oklahoma Wesleyan University Chapel
 2201 Silver Lake Road

The 12-1pm citywide prayer event is open to the public. Call 918-914-9808 for more info.

1 PM
Beginning Watercolor Class
 Price Tower Arts Center
 510 S. Dewey Ave.

Instructor Martha Reyburn teaches this weekly class. Finish a painting in two hours and have fun! Cost is \$20 per class, all supplies are included. Contact Martha at marthareyburn@gmail.com to register

1:30 PM
Nutrition & Herb Study Group
 Hopestone Cancer Support Center
 206 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

This group will study the uses, both medical & everyday, of different herbs & good nutritional practices.

7 PM
Stray Kats Movie Night
 Heritage Theatre Café & Pub
 306 E. Don Tyler Ave., Dewey

Fri, May 3

8 AM
Stray Kat Custom Car Show
 Downtown Dewey

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

6:30 PM
Go Rams Glow 1-Mile Fun Run to benefit Hoover Elementary School
 Hoover Elementary School
 516 SE Madison Blvd.

Enjoy live music, bouncy houses, and dinner/snack options for purchase. The run starts at 7:30. Cost is \$15 to participate and receive a T-shirt.

7 PM
Disney's Newsies musical presented by Bartlesville High School
 BHS Fine Arts Center
 1700 Hillcrest Drive

7:30 PM
Songbox
 Tinker's GlassHouse
 600 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

See May 1 for event information.

8 PM
Infinity in concert
 Heritage Theatre Café & Pub
 306 E. Don Tyler Ave., Dewey

9 PM
Live Music featuring the Brent Giddens Band
 Osage Casino Bartlesville
 222 Allen Rd.

Sat, May 4

7:30 AM
Nellie Johnstone Fun Walk, 5K & Half Marathon
 Johnstone Park
 100 NE Cherokee Ave.

Benefit for Bluestem Medical Foundation for Jane Phillips Medical Center cardiology programs and FLOWCo, a FREE community walk/run fitness program.

8 AM
Stray Kat Custom Car Show
 Downtown Dewey

Bartlesville Farmer's Market
 Frank Phillips Park
 Every Saturday through October.

3 PM
Run for the Roses Watch Party benefiting Family HealthCare Clinic
 Tinkers GlassHouse
 600 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

Watch the Kentucky Derby, bid on horses and an original oil painting & drink a mint julep while supporting Family HealthCare Clinic. Tickets are \$75 or 2 for \$125. Purchase by calling 918-336-4822, at 1820 W. Hensley Blvd., or at eventbrite.com.

7 PM
Bartlesville Film Society Movie Night - The Empire Strikes Back
 Heritage Theatre Café & Pub
 306 E. Don Tyler Ave., Dewey

Disney's Newsies musical presented by Bartlesville High School
 BHS Fine Arts Center
 1700 Hillcrest Drive

See May 3 event for info.

8 PM
Those Amazing 80's presented by Bartlesville Symphony Orchestra
 Bartlesville Community Center
 300 SE Adams Blvd.

Jeans N' Classics returns with all those great hits from the 1980's! Musicians join with the Bartlesville Symphony performing these and many more favorites, taking us all back to the days of big hair, demin jackets, and boom boxes.

Live Music
 Price Tower Copper Bar
 510 S Dewey Ave.

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Sun, May 5

3 PM
Disney's Newsies musical presented by Bartlesville High School
BHS Fine Arts Center
1700 Hillcrest Drive
See May 3 event for info.

Family Fun Mini Golf Fundraiser benefitting Mary Martha Outreach
Sooner Junior Miniature Golf
146 S. Madison Blvd.
Enjoy an afternoon of family fun for a good cause.

6 PM
Something Rotten presented by Broadway in Bartlesville
Bartlesville Community Center
300 SE Adams Blvd.

Mon, May 6

10 AM
Elder Care Open House Tour
Elder Care
1223 Swan Dr.

1 PM
Watercolor & Acrylic Painting Classes for Kids
Price Tower Arts Center
510 S. Dewey Ave.
Instructor Ashley Droigk will teach the classes from 1-8:30pm, Monday through Thursday of each week...

6 PM
Oil Painting from Life
Price Tower Arts Center
510 S. Dewey Ave.
Anne Spoon instructs the class, which runs through May 20, every Monday from 6-8:15 PM.

Tue, May 7

10 AM
Fine Art Class
Price Tower Arts Center
510 S. Dewey Ave.
Instructor Valerie Jones teaches art techniques at the level of the individual.

Wed, May 8

1-4 PM
Open Studio
Price Tower Arts Center
510 S. Dewey Ave.
See May 1 event for information.

7:30 PM
Songbox
Tinkers GlassHouse
600 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.
See May 1 event for information.

Thu, May 9

1 PM
Beginning Watercolor Class
Price Tower Arts Center
510 S. Dewey Ave.
See May 2 event for information.

6 PM
APDA Parkinson's Caregivers Support Group Meeting
Jane Phillips Medical Center Lower Level Classroom
3500 E. Frank Phillips Blvd.

Fri, May 10

8 PM
Movie Night
Heritage Theatre Café & Pub
306 E. Don Tyler Ave., Dewey
The movie will be Love, Simon and is presented by oklahomans for Equality Bartlesville & the Bartlesville Film Society.

9 PM
Travis Kidd Band in Concert
Osage Casino Bartlesville
222 Allen Rd

Sat, May 11

9 AM
Kiwanis Annual Childrens Fishing Derby
Jo Allyn Lowe Park
Each child must be chaperoned by an adult 18 or older. Children from ages 3-12 can register for the event at the pond beginning at 8:30 AM.

10 AM
The Hangover Brunch: A Fundraiser for Theater Bartlesville
Bartlesville Community Center
300 SE Adams Blvd.
A late morning brunch hosted by Andy Dossett, Emily Allen-Worrell, and Troy Martin.

Paint Your Pet Party
Price Tower Arts Center
510 S Dewey Ave.
Cost is \$60, limited to 20 participants. Another party will also be held from 2-4 pm on the same day.

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
Tinkers GlassHouse
600 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

8:30 PM
Karaoke
Painted Horse Bar & Grille
110 SW Frank Phillips Blvd.

Trivia Night
Tinkers GlassHouse
600 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

Sun, May 12



Mon, May 13

1 PM
Watercolor & Acrylic Painting Classes for Kids
Price Tower Arts Center
510 S. Dewey Ave.
See May 6 event for information.

6 PM
Oil Painting from Life
Price Tower Arts Center
510 S. Dewey Ave.
See May 6 for event information.

Tue, May 14

10 AM
Fine Art Class
Price Tower Arts Center
510 S. Dewey Ave.
See May 7 event for information.

5:30 PM
Women's Cancer Support Group
Hopestone Cancer Support Center
206 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.
For all women currently in treatment, newly diagnosed, & all survivors.

Wed, May 15

1-4 PM
Open Studio
Price Tower Arts Center
510 S. Dewey Ave.
See May 1 event for information.

7:30 PM
Songbox
Tinkers GlassHouse
600 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.
See May 1 event for information.

Thu, May 16

1 PM
Beginning Watercolor Class
Price Tower Arts Center
510 S. Dewey Ave.
See May 2 event for information.

1:30 PM
Nutrition & Herb Study Group
Hopestone Cancer Support Center
206 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.
See May 2 for event information.

5 PM
Parkinson's Support Group
Elder Care
1223 Swan Dr.
Showtime - Open Karaoke Night
Heritage Theatre Café & Pub
306 E. Don Tyler Ave., Dewey

6:30 PM
St. John Catholic School Open House
St. John Catholic School
816 S. Keeler Ave.

Fri, May 17

10 AM - 7 PM
Maisy Days Craft Fair
Washington Park Mall
2350 SE Washington Blvd.



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LIVING ASSISTANCE SERVICES



EVENTS CALENDAR

8 PM
The Ahna Jennings Band in Concert
 Heritage Theatre Café & Pub
 306 E. Don Tyler Ave., Dewey

9 PM
5th Element in Concert
 Osage Casino Bartlesville
 222 Allen Rd.

Sat, May 18
8 AM - 1 PM
4th Annual Arrowhead Doggie Dash & Canine Carnival
 Lee Lake / Cooper Dog Park
 2400 SE Adams Blvd.
 A fundraiser for Washington County ARF.

10 AM - 5 PM
Woolaroc Spring Trail Ride
 Woolaroc Museum & Wildlife Preserve
 1925 Woolaroc Ranch Road

10 AM - 7 PM
Maisy Days Craft Fair
 Washington Park Mall
 2350 SE Washington Blvd.
 See May 17 event for information.

4 - 10 PM
Relay for Life of N.O.W. Fundraiser for American Cancer Society
 Johnstone Pavilion
 Johnstone Park

6 PM
Summer Concert Series featuring Montgomery Gentry
 Osage Casino Bartlesville
 222 Allen Road

7 PM
Singing Maidens of Agave in Concert
 Heritage Theatre Café & Pub
 306 E. Don Tyler Ave., Dewey

7:30 PM
Finding Neverland presented by Broadway in Bartlesville
 Bartlesville Community Center
 300 SE Adams Blvd.

8 PM
Live Music
 Price Tower Copper Bar
 510 S Dewey Ave.

8:30 PM
Karaoke Contest
 Tinkers GlassHouse
 600 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

Sun, May 19
1 PM
Free Family Funday
 Price Tower
 510 S. Dewey Ave.

Mon, May 20
10 AM
Cherokee Avenue Historic Walking Tour
 Downtown Cherokee Ave.
 A spring event organized by the Bartlesville Area History Museum.

1 PM
Watercolor & Acrylic Painting Classes for Kids
 Price Tower Arts Center
 510 S. Dewey Ave.
 See May 6 event for information.

6 PM
Oil Painting from Life
 Price Tower Arts Center
 510 S. Dewey Ave.
 See May 6 event for information.

Tue, May 21
10 AM
Fine Art Class
 Price Tower Arts Center
 510 S. Dewey Ave.
 See May 7 event for information.

Wed, May 22
1-4 PM
Open Studio
 Price Tower Arts Center
 510 S. Dewey Ave.
 See May 1 event for information.

7:30 PM
Songbox
 Tinkers GlassHouse
 600 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.
 See May 1 event for information.

Thu, May 23
1 PM
Beginning Watercolor Class
 Price Tower Arts Center
 510 S. Dewey Ave.
 See May 2 event for information.

1:30 PM
Nutrition & Herb Study Group
 Hopestone Cancer Support Center
 206 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.

5:30 PM
Golden Hour
 Elder Care
 1223 Swan Dr.

7 PM
Happiest Hour with Jason Ray Wilson
 Heritage Theatre Café & Pub
 306 E. Don Tyler Ave., Dewey

Fri, May 24
11 AM - 10 PM
55th Annual Delaware Pow Wow
 Fred Falleaf Memorial Campgrounds
 3 miles east of HWY 75 on Rd 600, Copan

5 PM
Showtime - Open Karaoke Night
 Heritage Theatre Café & Pub
 306 E. Don Tyler Ave., Dewey

9 PM
Hi-Fidelics in Concert
 Osage Casino Bartlesville
 222 Allen Rd.

Sat, May 25
10 AM - 2 PM
Team River Runner Kayak Race
 Lee Lake
 2400 SE Adams Blvd.

11 AM - 10 PM
55th Annual Delaware Pow Wow
 Fred Falleaf Memorial Campgrounds
 3 miles east of HWY 75 on Rd 600, Copan
 See May 24 event for information.

7 PM
Poetry Night with Morris McCorvey
 Heritage Theatre Café & Pub
 306 E. Don Tyler Ave., Dewey

8 PM
Live Music
 Price Tower Copper Bar
 510 S Dewey Ave.

Sun, May 26
11 AM - 10 PM
55th Annual Delaware Pow Wow
 Fred Falleaf Memorial Campgrounds
 3 miles east of HWY 75 on Rd 600, Copan
 See May 24 event for information.

Mon, May 27
1 PM
Watercolor & Acrylic Painting Classes for Kids
 Price Tower Arts Center
 510 S. Dewey Ave.

6 PM
Oil Painting from Life
 Price Tower Arts Center
 510 S. Dewey Ave.

Tue, May 28
10 AM
Fine Art Class
 Price Tower Arts Center
 510 S. Dewey Ave.
 See May 7 event for information.

Wed, May 29
12 PM
Gone but Not Forgotten - Washington County Schools
 Bartlesville Area History Museum
 401 S. Johnstone Ave., 5th floor

1-4 PM
Open Studio
 Price Tower Arts Center
 510 S. Dewey Ave.
 See May 1 event for information.

7:30 PM
Songbox
 Tinkers GlassHouse
 600 SE Frank Phillips Blvd.
 See May 1 event for information.

Thu, May 30
1 PM
Beginning Watercolor Class
 Price Tower Arts Center
 510 S. Dewey Ave.
 See May 2 event for information.

Fri, May 31
10 AM
SASS Cowboy Shoot
 Woolaroc Museum & Wildlife Preserve
 1925 Woolaroc Ranch Road

TIMES VARY
37th Annual Sunfest
 Sooner Park
 Madison Blvd.

9 PM
Jesse Weaver in Concert
 Osage Casino Bartlesville
 222 Allen Rd.

After Hours Clinic

Monday - Thursday
 5:30pm - 7:00pm
 Saturday
 9:00am - Noon
 No Appointment Necessary

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Regular Clinic Hours

M - Th 8:00 - 5:00
 Fri 8:00 - Noon
 By Appointment Only

918-331-9979

RECURRING EVENTS



EVENTS CALENDAR



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

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

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The Arutunoff Family

by **Mike Wilt**

Armais Arutunoff was an inventor whose idea of building electric motors, especially for use in oil wells, revolutionized the techniques of deep-well pumping.

In 1916, he began his experiments in building a new type of electric motor in his native Russia. However, the Russian Revolution in 1917 did not create an environment favorable for industrial development. In 1923, Arutunoff and his wife, Kyra, and their two children made their way to the United States by way of Germany.

The Arutunoffs settled in Michigan followed by a move to Los Angeles, Calif. where the first electrical, centrifugal pumps for oil wells were built in this country.

The Arutunoffs arrived in Bartlesville in 1928 when Armais joined Phillips Petroleum Co. With the company's backing, Arutunoff refined his pump and first successfully demonstrated it in a well in Kansas. The device was manufactured by Bart Manufacturing Co. In 1930, Bart Manufacturing Co. was dissolved and in its stead appeared the REDA Pump Company, the letters representing Russian Electrical Dynamo of Arutunoff.

The company grew steadily under Arutunoff's personal leadership. It became widely known throughout the petroleum industry and a dominant factor in the manufacture of deep-well pumping equipment. By 1938, it was estimated that two percent of all oil produced in the U.S. was lifted by an Arutunoff pump. In 1939, REDA became a division of TRW. At the end of the 20th century, the company was the world's largest manufacturer of ESP systems and was part of Schlumberger.

The Bartlesville Community Foundation has selected the Arutunoff family as the inaugural recipient of the Heritage Family Award, which will feature families that were a key influence on Bartlesville's origination. The family will be one of three honored at the 12th annual Legacy Hall of Fame Gala on May 18 at the Hilton Garden Inn

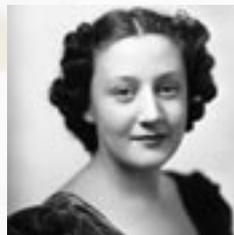
Once honored by the Oklahoma Legislature as "Mr. Americanism of Bartlesville," Armais Arutunoff was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame in 1974. A holder of more than 90 patents, Armais Arutunoff passed away in February 1978 in Bartlesville. He was preceded in death by his wife who passed away in 1970.



ARMAIS & KYRA ARUTUNOFF

The Arutunoffs were parents of three children.

Born in Russia in 1919, Sergei Arutunoff was a graduate of the Black Fox Military Academy (CA) and the University of Southern California where he majored in electrical engineering. He served in the Adjutant General's Department during World War II and spent considerable time in the South Pacific including the second wave in the Battle of Luzon in the Philippines. For many years, he served as executive vice president and comptroller for REDA Pump. He passed away in 2000 at the age of 80, leaving behind wife Margaret, two children Christopher and Christina, and five grandchildren.



ANAIT ARUTUNOFF

Born in Germany in 1922, Anait Arutunoff was a pioneer in art holography. She was married to Ralph L. Stevens for 57 years and together the couple had two children, Kyra (Kiki) Stephens Gebhardt and Randolph (Rocky) Stephens. Anait passed away in 1998.

Anatoly Arutunoff was born in Tulsa in 1936. He graduated from College High School in Bartlesville in 1952 at the age of 15. He went on to earn degrees in several different subjects including both a master's degree and a doctorate. Toly, as he has been known from a very early age, became "an amateur road racer, raconteur and car guy extraordinaire." He also authored two books and founded the first Ferrari dealership in Tulsa. Now age 82, Toly resides in Tulsa with his wife Karen.



ANATOLY ARUTUNOFF

The Potter Family

by Mike Wilt



Potters were among the estimated 50,000 people who participated in the 1889 Oklahoma Land Rush, successfully settling in Canadian County. Nearly 76 years later, Jeff and Barbara Potter made their way to Bartlesville. Jeff was a counselor at Madison Middle School and helped start the cross-country program in Bartlesville Public Schools. Barbara was a math teacher at Central Middle School and is in the BPS Hall of Fame.

The family legacy continues today with Jeff and Barbara Potter's great-nephew Kevin. Kevin grew up in Oklahoma City. His dad, Jerry, was an Oklahoma Athletic Hall of Fame football coach. His mom, Ezell, was an elementary school teacher. After a successful football career at Putnam City High School, Kevin continued playing football at Cameron University. Upon graduation, Kevin moved to Ardmore to work for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

While with FCA, Kevin met his future wife Dorea Mitchell, a native of Iowa. Dorea was in Ardmore as a member of the University of Oklahoma golf team. That evening, Dorea was awarded the Oklahoma Women's Fellowship of Christian Athlete of the Year. Later, she won the Big 8 Golf Championship and was honored as OU's Female Athlete of the Year.

After Dorea's graduation, the couple married and moved to Monmouth, Illinois. Dorea grew up in a radio family so it's fitting the Potters owned and operated WMOI and, later, WRAM radio stations.

In November 1996, they purchased KWON and KYFM radio stations. In February 1997, they settled into their new home and immediately became engaged in the community. Since that time, Kevin, Dorea and their family have participated as board members, honorary chairs, committee members, sponsors, founders, and volunteers for more than 59 organizations and causes both locally and statewide.

Kevin and Dorea have three sons, Heath, Kaleb, and Brent. All three were born in Illinois before the family made its way back to Oklahoma.

Eldest son Heath graduated from the University of Oklahoma Dental School and now practices in Bartlesville. Heath is married to

Chapel Zellers Potter and they have three daughters, Madelyn, Claire and Nora. After teaching fourth grade at Wilson Elementary, Chapel currently serves a reading specialist tutor.

Middle son Kaleb is Vice President of KCD Enterprises Inc. (KWON KYFM KRIG KPGM). He and his wife, Taylor Krebs Potter, co-own SEK Media LLC with Kevin and Dorea and operate KGGF KUSN KQQF in Coffeyville, Kansas. Kaleb and Taylor have one daughter, Caroline. Taylor also operates a strategy and innovation consulting company.

Youngest son Brent is married to Nicole Pyatt Potter. They have one son, Brody. Brent is a director for Kanakuk's KampOut initiative in Branson, MO, and is a licensed Southern Baptist minister. Nicole is a substitute teacher and works part time for Kanakuk.

Since purchasing KWON and KYFM in 1996, the Potters have established KCD Towers LLC and Potter Towers LLC., and have purchased KRIG (Nowata), KPGM (Pawhuska) and KGGF KUSN KQQF(Coffeyville).

The Potter's radio family extends to 25 employees in Bartlesville and another 10 in Coffeyville.



Young Kevin and Dorea Potter.

The Zervas Family

by Mike Wilt

The Zervas family traces its Oklahoma roots back to 1913. George Spiros Zervas was just 16 when he came to the United States from Asini, Greece. He moved from Pennsylvania to Pawhuska, Oklahoma and started The Chocolate Shop. In 1927, he returned to Asini to marry Maria Ginnias. It was an “arranged marriage” as both families lived across the street from one another. The newlyweds returned to Pawhuska to resume the candy business and begin a family.

Sperry George Zervas was born in 1928 and Dean George Zervas was born in 1939. Six months later the Zervas family moved to Bartlesville where they opened the Canteen Drive-In Restaurant on 2nd Street where Pies and Such is located today.

After graduating from Kemper Military Academy in Boonville, MO, Sperry attended the University of Oklahoma in 1947. George Zervas passed away in 1948 and Sperry dropped out for one year to help his mother. Sperry eventually graduated from OU and the University of Missouri at Kansas City dental school. After serving as a USAF captain in Alaska, Sperry returned to Bartlesville in 1957 to establish his dental practice.

Dean graduated from College High School in 1957. Following in his brother's footsteps, Dean attended OU and graduated from UMKC's dental school in 1965 then returned to Bartlesville to practice dentistry with Sperry. Sperry would eventually shift to orthodontics while Dean continued dentistry.

In 1961, Sperry married Marcia Mahan from Fairfax, OK. The couple would go on to have two children – Chris Zervas and Dianne Zervas Shadwick – and eight grandchildren.

Sperry retired in 2006 and passed away in 2008. Sperry served for many years on the United Way's board of directors and an annual sporting clays tournament is held to raise funds in his memory.

Marcia's civic involvement included Service League, Meals on Wheels, and Agape Mission.



SPERRY & MARCIA ZERVAS



DEAN & KATHY ZERVAS

In 1974, Dean married Kathy Dunn. Kathy's father, Jim Dunn, moved the family from California to Bartlesville in 1969 when his company, TRW, bought REDA Pump from Armais Artunoff. Dean and Kathy's family would grow to include three children – Steven, Melissa, and Dana – and today six grandchildren.

Dean retired and sold his dental practice to Heath Potter in 2011. Since that time he has been the clinic director and provider for the Green Country Free Clinic and chairman of the The Woolaroc national art show. Dean was a volunteer dentist for Catholic Charities for two years, and was a trustee for The Frank Phillips Foundation for three years. He is currently a member of Rotary and the Bartlesville Sportsmen's Club.

Kathy has been involved with the Bartlesville Civic Ballet for 45 years and has been the development chairman for 18 years. Service League, Bartlesville Public School Foundation, Allied Arts & Humanities Council, Agape Mission, and the Community Center Trust Authority all have benefitted from her volunteerism. She was a founding member of the Bartlesville Museum and Sculpture Garden (now Price Tower Arts Center) and serves on the Price Tower exhibits and acquisitions committee. Kathy works alongside Dean as events chairman for the Woolaroc art show.





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Mom & Pop Groceries

by Debbie Neece, Bartlesville Area History Museum

Trading posts were established in Indian Territory as businesses to barter or trade with fur trappers, Indian tribes and settlers. Very little actual cash changed hands. Native Indians and fur traders exchanged handcrafts, pelts, hides or wood for staples of sugar, molasses, rice and flour from the settlement stores.

Merchandise not produced locally traveled to trading posts via freighter wagons that brought the goods from railheads in Kansas and Missouri.

Trading posts were followed by General Stores that functioned as the center for gossip and news, food, drugs and other needs. They were the prototype of modern department stores.

The stores were false-fronted, simple buildings with pressed tin ceilings, shiplap walls and pot belly stoves for heat. Store owners often functioned as postmaster and combined their living quarters with their store.

As the population increased, Bartlesville became a city and Oklahoma became a state.

General Stores could no longer meet the growing demands of our pioneer town. This situation created “specialty stores” which brought a broader range of goods through the creation of stand-alone stores specializing in hardware, dry-goods, grocery, meat markets, or millenary, etc.

In 1907, 13 groceries or markets were available in Bartlesville; among them was the Little Giant at 203 East 2nd Street, operated by Alex Easter and George Gelbach and the Wolcott Grocery at 100

West 2nd Street operated by William Wolcott — selling dry goods, notions, shoes and groceries. Then, by 1910, the number of grocery stores more than doubled.

During the time of one-automobile households, the neighborhood market became a staple; the trusted door greeters of the community, where everyone knew your name...and your story.

It was a time of personal service...the neighborhood butcher even knew how you liked your Sunday pot roast or steak for the cook-out.

The store owner extended credit when the family was a “little short,” hoping to be repaid but knowing there was a possibility that would not happen. It was about community. Mom and Pop grocers weren’t trying to get rich...they were supporting their families and their community. If someone became ill, a call to the grocer even brought a personal delivery.

In 1920, the Mom and Pop’s had a firm foothold in Bartlesville with 56 stores in operation including the likes of Gus Mnich’s store, southwest of Smelter #1, west of town.

Poland native, Gus Mnich, his brother Lodie and Henry Rybka established Gus Mnich’s grocery in 1916 which became a household name for all Bartians. Gus was joined by his wife and sons, Tony and Mike, in the operation until Gus retired in 1958. At that time, the sons continued the store.

From the neighborhood kids who worked for the Mnich’s and returned as customers in adulthood to the special treat “bag of



goodies” customers received when they paid their monthly bill, for the Mnich family, the store was about caring for their neighbors. It was a place where memories were made...where the secret recipe of Mnich’s sausage was handmade and so good that it is deeply embedded in the memories of their customers to this day.

Originally located on State Highway 123 at 14th Street, their new building stood at the junction of Highways 123 and 60 from 1978 until the store took the brunt of the tornado of 1982. This is the current location of United Supermarket.

In 1930, 66 grocery stores were in operation including the Ferndell Grocery at 209 E. 9th, Marples Grocery at 100 N. Cheyenne, Mc & Mc Grocery at 419 E. 3rd Street, Piggly Wiggly at 308 S. Dewey, Quapaw Grocery at 200 S. Quapaw, Viaduct Grocery at 1100 Maple and a host of other Mom and Pops. There seemed to be a Mom and Pop Grocery on every corner.

Most Bartians remember the personal connection they felt when shopping at Landers or the Q Store. Kids remember grape and

orange NeHi pop was a refreshing treat and they saved the bottle to collect the bottle deposit.

Shopping at a store with a “gimmick” was an added bonus like receiving S&H Green Stamps or store coupons to apply towards the latest store promotion of dishes or pots and pans.

Stores like Marples and the Thrifty-wise stores invited the “Tallest Man in the World” as a sales promotion. Billed as standing 8’ 2” tall, Henry Hite often toured supermarkets for Wilson Certified Meats and brought amazement from customers.

The small independent Mom and Pop stores have disappeared as have home milk and ice deliveries. Now all that remains of the family-owned businesses are the thousands of memories and perhaps that is where the richness of Mom and Pop Groceries really rests.

The super stores have erased the Mom and Pop’s but one thing is for sure, begin a discussion about Mnich’s grocery and everyone has a memory.



Did You Know?

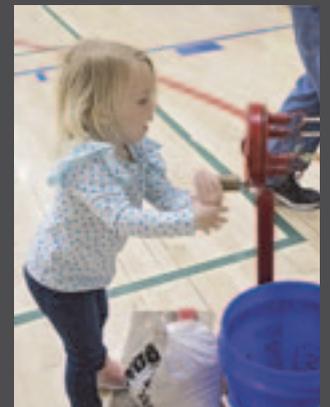
The most unusual location for a Mom and Pop Grocery was at 118 S.E. Chickasaw. The Phil-Doug Grocery was operated by Mrs. Orville “Nora” Mitchell and was “Bartlesville’s only basement grocery.”

Now You Know*

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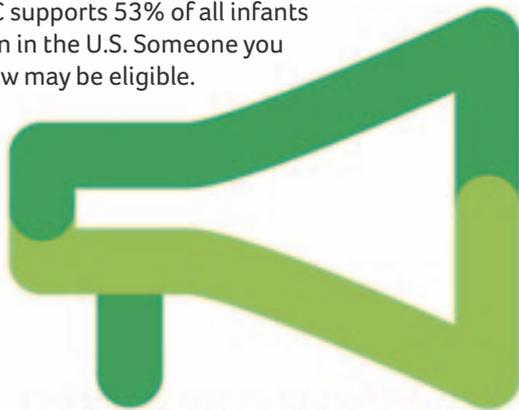
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The Hulah Depot

by Maria Gus

Located in the northeastern part of Osage County, about 15 miles from Bartlesville, there once stood a small depot in a little town with a promising future. Located in Hulah, an Osage word meaning “eagle,” the Hulah Depot was in operation from 1924 – 1957. Today, the restored building sits just next to the Bartlesville Kiddie Park and brings happiness to a very different sort of train passenger.

It all began in 1918 when rails were laid between Caney, Kansas and Pawhuska. By 1923, Santa Fe Railroad decided to build a loading station for the area, and soon the town began to grow with the addition of a dozen houses, a general store, and a school named after Charles Brown, a former Osage Chief. The Melvin “Buck” Boren and Brown families owned much of the surrounding ranchland.

By 1951, the Hulah Dam was completed on the Caney River and Hulah's small community began to move to new sites on the lake created by the dam. The tiny little building that

once saw a lot of activity began to see fewer and fewer visitors. By the 1960s, the use of railroad cars for shipping cattle and oil had begun to decline and Santa Fe Railroad decided to close their line between Pawhuska and Caney. The Hulah Depot was no longer needed.

Gone were the many memories that surrounded the depot. Namely one Wilma Siebold, who is listed as the depot agent from 1944 — 1957. Wilma, also known as “Billie,” “Hulah Bill,” or “Wild Bill,” was reportedly not to be crossed. Some accounts say she “dressed as a boy and carried a sidearm.” No matter the case, Billie was no doubt the tough character she needed to be in what was most certainly a difficult job out on the Oklahoma prairie.

As the years went by, the Hulah Depot sat quietly in Osage County, slowly becoming a shell of its former self. The town of Hulah had long since disappeared, and the depot had become part of the Mullendore Ranch.

In 1983, Kathleen Boren Mullendore, daughter of Melvin “Buck” Boren and granddaughter of Charles Brown, decided to gift the Hulah Depot to the Landmark Preservation Council. Plans were soon made to move the structure to Johnstone Park and restore the depot to its original condition.

Today, the Hulah Depot brings joy to visitors of Johnstone Park and anyone who takes a ride on the Bartlesville Kiddie Park train. Kiddie Park staff and volunteers have made the depot a festive addition by decorating the depot during their Halloween event, Spook-a-rama, and also during Fantasyland of Lights.

The old Hulah Depot is a small piece of Oklahoma history that represents so much of what made Green Country prosper in the early 20th century. Be sure to stop by, peek inside, and take a train ride at the Kiddie Park this summer. Perhaps Hulah Bill still keeps a watchful eye over this memorable Osage County treasure.





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CLOSURE



by Jay Webster

Welcome to the merry, merry month of May, my friends.

We talk about a lot of things in this column. I like to think of it as a “safe place.” A place where we can all be open and honest.

Even so, I try not to talk about my family much in this venue. In fact, I rarely even bring them up. But I’ve had an alarming realization and I can only hope that by being transparent about it, maybe it will help someone else. I’m a giver that way.

In the last few years, I have become increasingly aware of an undiagnosed — and likely untreatable — condition that my wife suffers from. (Though, to be honest, it’s really those around her that suffer the most.) I don’t know if this malady has always been there and I was just unwilling to recognize it, but now that I am aware of it, I can tell you that it’s devastating and only getting worse with each passing day.

My wife is afflicted with the inability to gain “closure.” No, I don’t mean the emotional sense of resolution or conclusion. I mean actual closure...like she is physically unable to close things. She tries, God bless her, but some neurological deficiency only allows her to get about three quarters of the way there. Now, I have no idea how rampant this epidemic is across the globe, but I can tell you in our house, it’s widespread and only increasing.

It appears that through some genetic mutation, my wife is incapable of closing drawers, closet doors, cabinets, fridges, or nearly anything else that can be opened or closed. My days are filled with closing these things to help keep a sense of normalcy in our home. Perhaps I’ve been enabling the sickness and preventing her from seeing her own disorder, but the reality is, I fear we are beyond a cure at this stage. In fact, the disease is progressing.

Now, it seems my wife is violently allergic to snaps, zippers, buckles, or screw on lids — anything that could close a bag or keep the contents of her purse sealed. *Oh damn you, cruel world! Why do you have to prey on the innocent?*

We are new to this fight. So, I am learning all I can, and in the last few months I have come to believe this defect has been handed down to our daughter. There’s not a day that goes by when her closet doors, pull-out craft crates, or drawers don’t stand agape like an open wound. My only hope is, that because she’s so young, a cure maybe found within her lifetime.

Friends have suggested a “GoFundMe” campaign to help with our expenses (child-locks, spring loaded doors, counseling). I fear I may be too proud for all that. Like so many, all too often pride causes me to simply suffer in private. My only hope is that by telling my story, someone else may be helped.

In the meanwhile, we’ve focused on various exercises that I hope will help. One of those is recycling. The act of placing “like” materials into their proper containers (cans, paper, plastic, etc.) may create a sense of “mindful motor skill,” which is necessary in most closure activities. So far, the in-home collection and processing parts of the exercise have gone very well. The whole family participates. And, I don’t even mind dropping the materials off each week at the westside collection site on Virginia Ave.

The one challenge we have run into, however, is glass. Bartlesville doesn’t currently have a facility for collecting or recycling glass, which means we have to take it to Owasso. Not that saving our planet isn’t worth a trip south, it’s just that we don’t get to the “Big O” some-

times for weeks or even months. By that time, we’re arriving with bags of separated beer, wine, and spirit bottles, along with several pickle jars, and it looks like we just left a frat house. The recycling director always gives me “the eye.” He has no idea what I’m going through at home. I just usually smile and tell him we’re from Collinsville.

Speaking of recycling, in the last issue I wrote about our pet-woes. Ultimately, we found that our best pet experiences are really ones of cohabitation. In other words, we need pets that don’t need us. That must have inspired my wife and daughter, because they quickly noticed our current home doesn’t have an outdoor fish pond like our last one. Enter stage left...me with a shovel.

Now, here’s the thing with fish ponds that have actual fish — they have to be at least three feet deep to keep the fish from freezing to death in the winter. (That also slows down the *pet recycling program*.) Do you know how hard it is to dig a three foot hole in Bartlesville, the limestone capital of the world? I watched my seven year old labor for four hours, and she barely got eight inches deep. I knew I would eventually have to step in, and so I borrowed a jackhammer from a friend. That really seemed to help her. (I’m kidding of course. We bought the jackhammer.)

This time, we’re making our custom fish pond a long rectangle. Think of an olympic-size lap pool. It’s not really that long, unless you’re a small to medium-size goldfish. A couple of the neighborhood kids stopped by while we were working on it this weekend. When they saw the shallow rectangle, I jokingly asked, “Have you ever dug a grave before?” Several of the kids laughed, but one in the back just stared at me and said, “Yep.” Now, there’s a kid without “closure” issues.

It just goes to show, you never know what goes on behind closed doors. At least that’s what I’ve heard. Thanks to my wife, our door is never completely closed. Her life is an open book, mostly because she can’t close that either.

Ugh. I told myself I wouldn’t cry, but here we go. Just remember us in your prayers. Together we can fight this thing and find a cure.

Until next time, my friends — hug your loved ones and close your doors, because you can. Thank you and good night.



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Dewey Grocery Stores

Then and Now, Mostly Then

by **Bill Woodard**

Reminiscing about the old days in Dewey with two of my oldest and best friends, the subject of grocery stores came up. We started naming off the stores we remembered and came up with this list in roughly east to west order: Chinn's, Kent's, Calhoun's, Lemmon's, Carter's, Bowersock's, Roberson's, and Gavellas Brothers. There was also Baird's Bakery, but we didn't count it as a grocery store. So in the early 1950's there were eight grocery stores in Dewey. Amazing! Five of these stores were in four blocks of the main street, three in a single block, one only 1/2 block off the main drag and another all of 2-1/2 blocks south on old HWY 75. Seven grocery stores within roughly a three-block radius.

The very first Dewey grocery store, in 1899, would had to have been the Bartles Store; although it was more of a general merchandise establishment — the equivalent of today's Walmart. In 1909 Dewey could boast of J.S. Loutzenhiser and Son, Harper and Disch, The O.K. Food Story, Cash Grocery Company, and L.B. Hering. In addition to these grocery stores, there was The City Meat Market and Van's Bakery. By 1909, the Bartles Store had transitioned to dry goods and clothing.

Dewey grocery options in 1929 included: Reed's Basket Grocery,

In 1909 Dewey could boast of:

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- Harper and Disch — *"Make a Specialty of Pure, Staple and Fancy Family Groceries, Country Produce, Foreign and Domestic Fruits"*
- The O.K. Feed Store — *"Groceries, Flour and Feed"*
- Cash Grocery Company — *"Our stock of Groceries is Bran New"*
- L.B. Hering — *"The Place to buy Groceries"*

Gavellas Brothers, Ideal Grocery and Market, S.J. Lemmons and Son, Checker Front Grocery and Market, Humpty Dumpty, Evan's Grocery, and James Chance Groceries. The Gavellas Brothers deserve special mention. They were located on HWY 75 (now HWY 123) about a block south of the railroad crossing. They grew most of their fruits and vegetables, many of them in a huge garden just east of the store. Mom didn't shop there on a regular basis, but when they were selling their fresh produce, Gavellas' was her store for fruits and vegetables.

And then there were none. All of these stores are gone. No more Lem-

mons where a junior high kid, during his school lunch break, could go buy a bologna sandwich back at the meat counter for a dime — a thin slice of bologna with mustard between two slices of white bread, still one of my favorites. No more Roberson's, who would pay young kids 2 cents for every pop bottle scavenged from the ditch along the highway.

I believe for a time there was not one grocery store in Dewey, but my sources are a little fuzzy on this point. Today Dewey is fortunate to have Marvin's, a modest but modern supermarket with a bit of the feel of an old mom and pop grocery. If real food makes any sort of comeback as opposed to the hybridized, homogenized, feed-lot-ized, syrup-filled, chemical-laden foods we consume today, maybe an old fashioned mom and pop will rise back up.



A Humpty Dumpty delivery truck above; and Charles, Mason & Pete Gavellas in front of their grocery store in the right photo.



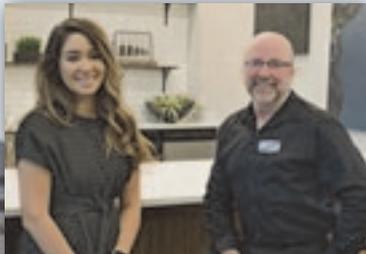
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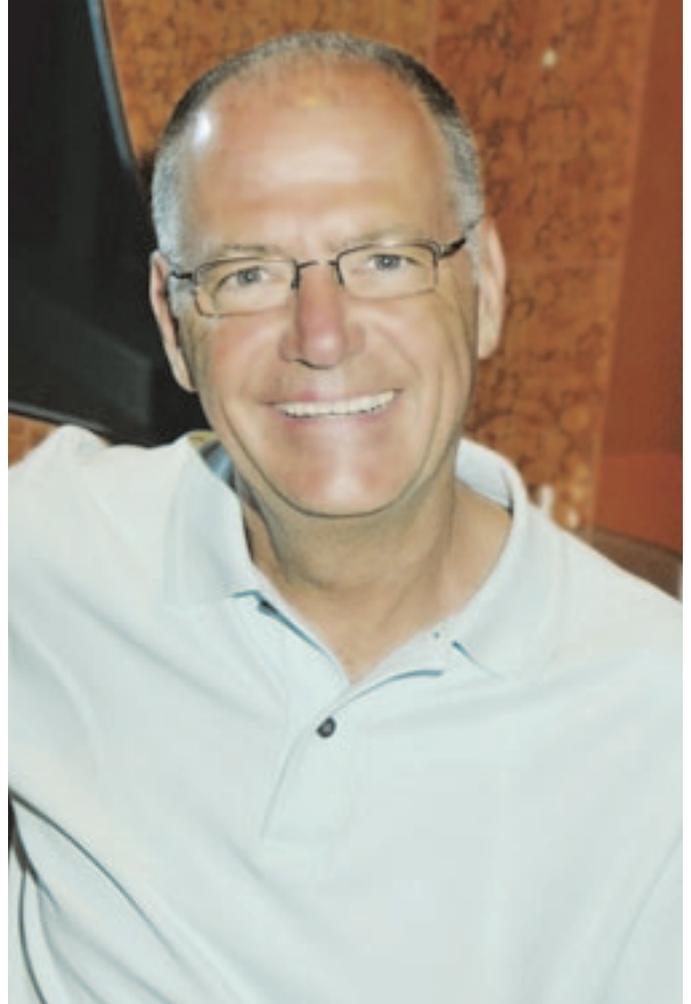
by Joe Colaw

I can remember my mother, Mabel Colaw, calling to me and asking, “Joe, did you **remember** to take out the trash?” Actually, she never asked that question if I had taken the trash out. She asked the question to help me **remember** what I was supposed to do! The question might have been about doing homework or some other life responsibility. Mother wanted me to “**remember!**”

The idea is not new; those of us who practice the Christian faith know that Jesus said that we should take Holy Communion to **remember** what He was going to do in His life, death, burial and resurrection (1 Corinthians 11:24,25). Every time we take communion it is to **remember** the sacrificial price Jesus paid on the cross for our sins. So, in the Christian faith, we encourage people to **remember** what Christ did and be thankful!

As a child growing up, I was a little confused about Memorial Day. I simply thought it was a day to go to the cemetery and put flowers out for all the deceased relatives. Most of the time I did not know the people in the cemetery, and I certainly did not know what I was supposed to **remember** about them. I was near adulthood before I understood it was really to **remember** those who had died serving in the armed forces. In fact, the idea is to **remember** and give thanks. Just like Holy Communion is how we **remember** Christ’s death, burial, and resurrection. Memorial Day is the day we are to **remember**. It is vitally important that we do not lose sight of the costly investment that every soldier makes with his or her life. We can and should **remember** and give thanks. I commend every person who **remembers** their family and friends who went to war and did not come home alive.

I would like to suggest that Memorial Day can have a greater impact. While we should **remember** and give thanks to the ones who gave their life, let’s pause and say thank you to those who served in the military and came home to walk among us, carrying the pain of war, having provided the path to and preserved our freedom. Might we add an additional element to our Memorial Day celebration? When you



Joe Colaw is the senior pastor at First Wesleyan Church

see a person in military uniform or meet a person who once wore such a uniform as their everyday clothing, take time to stop and say thank you for serving in our military. We **remember!**

I have engaged in conversation with soldiers and former soldiers to say thank you! The most common response I get is, “Just doing my job sir, just doing my job!” On several occasions I have said, “When you went to do your job, you knew you had a realistic chance of not returning home alive. Thank you for your commitment that included the possibility of surrendering your life for our freedom. I **remember** that many have died, and I thank you for serving!” **Remember!**



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Artwork by Tyler Crow



Oklahoma's Military Gem

45th Infantry Museum Well Worth a Trip to OKC

by **Tim Hudson**

Oklahoma boasts numerous attractions worthy of a day trip from good old Bartlesville, and of those, Oklahoma City's 45th Infantry Division would be near the top of the list.

According to Museum Curator Michael Gonzales, the museum is the largest state-funded military museum in the United States. "We have 27,000 square feet of exhibit areas with 10 galleries, so there's plenty to see," he said.

The goal of the museum is to collect, preserve, and display items relative to the military history of Oklahoma, specifically to "provide to the Oklahoma National Guard and visitors to the museum an educational tool designed to enhance appreciation of our state and its citizen soldiers and their participation in our nation's lineage,"



and further, to "exhibit the icons of our state's military past in such a manner that the visitor is left with a visual impact commensurate to the scope of Oklahoma's contribution to America's history, and our national defense."

No small order, but as Gonzales says, one that the museum is accomplishing with flying colors. "We really have a great collection that's well worth seeing," he said. When pressed to name his favorite part of the museum, the answer was not quite so easy. "We really do have a lot of great stuff on display," he said. "One of the biggies in my opinion though, is that we have the largest collection of Bill Mauldin's 'Willie and Joe' cartoons in the world."

For the uninitiated, Willie and Joe is a panel cartoon featuring two

archetypal GI buddies going through life in the field in World War II. Gonzales says that the 45th Infantry Division Museum's exhibit includes more than 200 of Bill Mauldin's original World War II cartoons, primarily dating from 1944 and 1945.

"He was a well-respected and much-known cartoonist in that era and was a member of the 45th," Gonzalez said. "The 45th division newspaper, which was imaginatively called the 45th Division News, started printing his cartoons." He said the strip was eventually picked up by the largest U.S. military newspaper, Stars and Stripes. Mauldin was also awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 1945, and the army honored his work by presenting him with the Legion of Merit.

"He got the Pulitzer Prize for the art that is on display at our museum," Gonzalez said. Another exhibit that Gonzalez said is a source of pride for the museum is the Jordan B. and Ruby V. Reaves military weapons collection. He said that the collection is representative of the basic infantry and cavalry weapons used by United States armed forces. The collection also includes several captured enemy weapons, and weapons from the Revolutionary War up through Vietnam.

"It is the third-largest collection of its type in the world. It is superseded only by the West Point collection and the Smithsonian collection, and the Smithsonian collection is not on public display," Gonzalez said.

When asked for a favorite artifact from the museum, Gonzalez pauses a moment in thought before coming back with "we have a British-made Whitworth sharpshooter's rifle with a very specific confederate lineage, that is very nice," he said. "They were purchased from Great Britain for a very high price during the Civil War, and all were destroyed after the war except for five. The others are in other museums. This one was donated, and we got it because one of the relatives in the family who owned it had fought with the division in both the Second World War and in Korea. Today that weapon is lauded as one of the best examples of a long gun from that time."



Other artifacts in the collection include numerous items that were the property of Adolph Hitler. "They came from the Munich apartment that he maintained, and we also have a number of items taken from his private residence by Oklahomans," he said. "We also have a mirror that was in the bunker. It was likely the last thing that he ever saw his reflection in."

The museum itself was the result of an act that the Oklahoma State Legislature passed in 1965. Gonzalez said the building that now houses the museum, the Lincoln Park Armory, was intended to be the state officers' club in the 1930s. "Those plans were published in the Oklahoman, and being during the depression people did not like that idea at all," he said.

Opened in 1936, the building was used for several things over the years, and houses several military units of the Oklahoma Army National Guard, including the 45th Infantry Division Headquarters. The building became available in 1974 and was dedicated to the museum as its permanent residence. The museum is located just east of Martin Luther King Avenue on N.E. 36th Street, south of Remington Park, Omniplex, and the Oklahoma City Zoo. The museum is closed on Mondays but is open Tuesday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., and Sunday from 1 to 4:15 p.m. Admission is free, but donations are accepted. More information may be found at www.45thdivisionmuseum.com



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Heart of the Team

Charlie Randle Won Hearts & Admiration from All

by Rita Thurman Barnes

It was a beautiful early autumn night at Custer Stadium when the 1964 College High Wildcats football team took the field. They ran through the bouncing cheerleaders' hoops to shouts of adulation. They had such amazing heart, in part, due to a young man named Charlie Randle. Only 5 feet 11 inches but each inch packed with one hundred percent intestinal fortitude, Charlie was literally the "heart of the team" and was loved and admired by friends and teammates alike.

His story began in the mid-1940s when he was welcomed into the world by his loving mother who later married Charlie's stepfather, Bert Zachary. Their home was always open to Charlie's friends and they were numerous and frequent. He had a winning smile — one that stole your heart right from the start. Charlie played both football and basketball with his lucky #30 but that's probably not how most Bartians will remember him.

The Wildcat basketball team of 1964, starring Charlie in his senior year, completed its season with eleven wins and five losses. Tied for first place in round-ball scoring, Charlie also played football at #30. In their 1964 opening football game, he led the Wildcats to a 25-6 victory. Charlie attended Southwestern Oklahoma State on a football scholarship and also attended Langston University. James Abraham recalled, "Charlie inspired me to go into law enforcement since he was one of the earliest African-Americans (he was the third) to be a part of the Bartlesville Police Department. When I was about 16, he used to let me ride along on patrol with him and later I became a Bartlesville Police Officer myself."

One of Charlie's mentors was his cousin, Larry Guery, a top athlete with the Douglass Dragons. Charlie looked up to and patterned a great deal of his life after him. Guery was one of the first black athletes to start in basketball at College High School. Another mentor in Charlie's life was the Director of the Bartlesville Boy's Club, Jo Allyn Lowe. Everyone there admired Charlie. Glenn Shoate was Charlie's best friend and they were inseparable. They attended Greater First Baptist Church along with their families and many of their activities centered around the church.



Charlie Randle was a man of value during his much-too-short life. He worked with kids after moving to the west coast and that ear-to-ear smile surely won the hearts and admiration of everyone who knew him there as well. He died of a massive heart attack in California some years ago, and Bartlesville is less because of his passing. Charlie never had the chance to grow old. He never turned gray-haired or lost his hearing. He never collected a social security check or started forgetting where

he left his keys or his glasses. But, he will remain forever young in the memories of those who admired him. Everyone who knew him will forever remember Charlie's attitude toward living this life and passing into the next. Rest in Peace, Charlie. Long live #30!

"Charlie inspired me to go into law enforcement since he was one of the earliest African-Americans (he was the third) to be a part of the Bartlesville Police Department. When I was about 16, he used to let me ride along on patrol with him and later I became a Bartlesville Police Officer myself."

— James Abraham

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Long Distance Collaboration

Local Artist Using the Internet to Make Music with Friend

by **Tim Hudson**

New band, new sounds & old friends seems to be the order of the day for local singer songwriter Josh Wright. While lucky music fans can catch him in one of several venues in and around Bartlesville on any given weekend, the world at large — via the internet — is enjoying his music in a unique way.

“The band is new and is called Midwest Ghost, and it’s basically myself and Josh Howard,” he says. “I’m living in Bartlesville and he’s living in Chicago, and we make music together.”

You heard that right: two men, two cities, one band.

“Midwest Ghost is a collaboration between the two of us on a bunch of songs that I’ve written. These are songs that have so far only been released on my personal page. Those were only with an acoustic guitar and now these have a full band,” he said.

The other half of Midwest Ghost is longtime friend and one-time Bartlesville resident Josh Howard. Wright and Howard’s friendship goes all the way back to high school, when the two met at a church camp. With Howard on bass, the two began playing music together during college in popular local acts such as Rain on the Land and Reckless Hope.

“We were in multiple projects and bands but have taken about a 10-year break after Josh moved to Chicago,” Wright says. “We always kept up with each other’s output, and he had a pretty good set of songs in a project called To Charles.”

Recently however, Wright’s music began getting a lot of attention in the TikTok app community. The app allows users to create and share short videos. Users may also create short music videos as well as short looping videos.

“It’s an app like Vine or Instagram with it’s own community. I got 12,000 followers



Bartlesville’s Josh Wright has teamed up with Josh Howard to create the band Midwest Ghost.

in four months, which is pretty massive. They found some of my old music and were using my music in their videos,” he said. “People can take my songs and make their own music with it.”

He said that soon after, other users with many more followers started to follow and promote his music.

“People with 40,000 or so followers were starting to promote my stuff. Then Josh got involved.”

The two began re-recording the songs over the internet.

“I record guitar and vocals at my house and then send them to him through drop-box. We decided that we wanted to make a band, and we came up with the name Midwest Ghost,” he said, adding that the songs are being released several at a time every two or three weeks.

“This album is shaping up to be more Americana, and I’d been more digital in the past. This one will be much more along the lines of Americana.”

Currently two collections from Midwest Ghost are on bandcamp.com, “Other People’s Songs” and “I Don’t Believe in Idols Anymore Volume One,” which contains four songs.

“We have about 15 or 20 songs in the coming months. But again, they will be released four or five songs at time. The full album will be on iTunes and Spotify.”

Next up for Wright will be a tour in Nashville for several days of shows, including some with former Bartlesville favorite Jack Settle.

For more on Midwest Ghost please visit www.midwestghost.com



Hugh Blaine Fraser, Jr.

Three Sons Pay Tribute to Their Father

by David, Bob & Mike Fraser

Hugh Blaine Fraser, Jr.: 1924 – 2019. The alpha and the omega. The beginning and the end. It's the stuff of gravestones and obituaries. But after all is said and done, a person is ultimately defined by what happens inside that “dash” — that space between the beginning and end. Our father certainly made the most out of his “dash.”

To call his upbringing difficult would be the understatement of the ages. Born and reared in the Gibson, New Mexico coal mining camp that ultimately disappeared into the desert before we were born, dad had every opportunity to repeat the mistakes of family members that preceded

him. They were fighters and drinkers — ultimately everything our father wasn't. Dad knew he had to get out of that environment, and in 1941 at age 17 he turned down the opportunity to manage the local Conoco station, packed his suitcase, and hitchhiked his way to Stephenville, Texas.

There he began to pursue his degree in Engineering at John Tarleton College — part of the Texas A&M system. The following year he attained his dream of officially becoming a Texas Aggie, making the move to College Station and attending Texas A&M University.

The college years were interrupted by World War II, and the Aggie Class of 1945 was loaded onto troop trains to serve this country with honor and dignity. In all, 20,229 Texas Aggies served in World War II — a staggering number. Dad shipped out to Europe, where he fought in Germany and France. He was awarded three Bronze Stars for heroism, and as a member of the 42nd Rainbow Division helped play a critical role in liberating the brutal Dachau concentration camp in April of 1945.

Dad's love for the beautiful girl he met during basic training and had to leave behind sustained him during those tough years of war. Dad proposed through the U.S. Mail, and mom responded in kind with her "yes." Dad followed that up by sending mom a blank check with instructions to get the prettiest engagement ring in all of Muskogee — which she did — and she has worn it proudly for these past 72 ½ years of marriage.

Mom and dad returned to College Station, where dad was able to complete his degree. He took a job with Phillips Petroleum Company and worked for them for almost 40 years. Commitment, trust and loyalty were of utmost importance to dad — whether it was promises made to his wife, his children, his employer, or his church.

Dad's word was rock solid.

He was the loyal employee who would drive extra miles in the middle of nowhere to find a Phillips Station to fuel our car.

Dad also made a huge impact on our friends in such a positive way, as a baseball coach, a church leader, or, quite simply, as a friend. After dad passed away, we received heartfelt messages from all over the world mourning his passing, evidence that his impact was felt by so many people in so many ways.



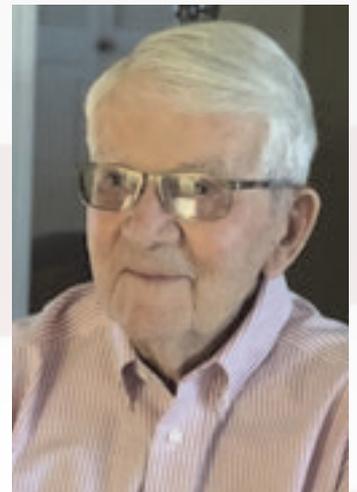
Throughout their seven decades of marriage, mom and dad navigated countless challenges and demonstrated to the end that their love and commitment to one another was the most precious thing in this world. Their's was a true love story, and we were blessed to witness it every day of our lives. Dad was dedicated to mom and he loved her until his last dying breath.

Dad was a man of faith, integrity, and character. In his final days, he taught our mom and her three sons that God really is incredibly good, and that He stands ready to embrace us and reward us for a life well-lived.

On Friday March 8th, the day before his 95th birthday, our father received his final honor. In the pre-dawn hours, mom called us to the hospital, as dad was very restless and she needed her three boys at her side. We are convinced that restlessness was meant to do exactly that, making sure that all four of us were at his side so he could share with us the presence of God and the beauty of His love.

At 8:30 am he told us, "It's so BEAUTIFUL! The stars, oh, they're so beautiful." Then, as he held our mom, he told her "We will never die, Jo An." When mom held him and told him how much she loved him, he looked up at her and stared into her eyes and said "I love you" before beginning to cry. When mom said "Don't cry," dad responded with, "This is happy crying, no more war, no more fighting. We will never die ... never die ... never die." Then he said to mom "We can do anything together. I will always love you forever and forever and forever."

Hugh Blaine Fraser, Jr.
— you have run the race
and now you are home.
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Teacher of the Month: Casey Brewer

Madison Middle School Teacher Claims Monthly Honor

by **Tim Hudson**

bMonthly is happy to announce the Teacher of the Month for May is Casey Brewer of Bartlesville Public Schools. He is originally from Harrah, Oklahoma, where he taught for two years before going to Watonga for seven years and Bethel for nine years. He has taught in Bartlesville for the last four years. He currently teaches Eastern Hemisphere at Madison Middle School, but has taught U.S., World, Oklahoma, AP World, and AP U.S. History classes, as well as World Geography.

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

A: I truly enjoy them all but would probably lean to U.S. History.

b *What made you want to start teaching?*

A: Good teachers and coaches I had growing up that did things the right way and were positive influences in my life. Also knowing that I could do something that truly mattered in kids' lives and maybe be a source of positive influence to those that I teach.

b *Can you give our readers a story where you felt like you made a difference in a student's life?*

A: One that I really cherish was when I was at Watonga. We had a talented all-around athlete by the name of Wayne Runnels, who after his freshman basketball season (he was a 6'3" freshman who started on our 20-win Area Tournament team) decided he wasn't going to play basketball anymore and just focus on football. I was his 8th and 9th grade basketball and assistant high school basketball coach and his high school assistant baseball coach. His reason was he wanted to spend more time



Casey Brewer with wife Heidi oldest daughter Katrina with husband Alex, and daughter Mollie..

in the weight room to get stronger. His dad called me that night and said "Coach Brewer, you gotta talk to Wayne and wake him up." So I did. I talked to Wayne and told him if wanting to spend more time in the weight room was the reason, then he could go lift with me after basketball practice whenever he wanted. Wayne decided to keep playing all three sports and was an All-State basketball and football player as a senior. He was a Junior College All-American at Northern and transferred and played his junior and senior years at Creighton. Wayne graduated from Creighton and today is doing wonderful.

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

A: I don't think people truly understand the stress, passion, the patience required, and challenges that we face almost on a daily basis. And most people don't realize how most of us truly care for and love our students.

b *What are your plans for the future?*

A: Well, I have 11 more years after this year, and Heidi is a couple years behind me. After retirement we plan to relax, enjoy family and future grandkids, and all the rest life has to offer.



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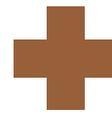


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Blue Star Mothers

Group of Mothers Providing Support for Active Soldiers

by Kelsey Walker

Angel Barrows and a dozen other women responded to a newspaper ad more than 10 years ago seeking military mothers who needed support. The women banded together to form a Blue Star Mothers chapter to serve the Bartlesville area.

“There were 13 mothers that showed up to that first meeting,” says Barrows, who serves as president of the local chapter. “Five officers is what we needed to start a chapter ... so five of us stepped up and decided to be leaders of the organization here locally.”

The Bartlesville chapter is part of the Blue Star Mothers of America organization, which was formed in a similar fashion more than seven decades ago. According to a brief history offered by the Blue Star Mothers of America, the Flint [Mich.] News Advertiser printed an ad on January 22, 1942, asking mothers of servicemen to respond. Approximately 300 mothers met February 1 in Flint, and more than 1,000 responded to the ad. A permanent organization was formed and chapters soon sprouted up across the U.S.

Fifty years later, not long after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, chapters formed in Oklahoma to support mothers with sons or daughters who were being sent to war. There are currently a dozen chapters throughout Oklahoma, including the Tallgrass Prairie chapter that serves the Bartlesville area.

The Blue Star Mothers of America is a non-partisan, nonprofit organization that provides support for active duty service personnel, promotes patriotism, and assists veterans’ organizations, according to its mission statement.

“I wasn’t aware of the Blue Star Mothers until my son came home from his first deployment,” Barrows said. “I was having a hard time with everything you go through as a parent and hearing what your child is going through.”

The group offers a support network for mothers and other family members who have loved ones serving abroad. They support veterans, attend funerals of military members, attend deployment ceremonies, and welcome home those returning from service. Membership has waned in numbers over the years, but has been held together by mothers showing pride in both their children and their country.

One of the main focuses of Blue Star Mothers is to send care packages to military men and women serving abroad. The Tallgrass chapter mails up to 30 boxes a month — packed with every-



day necessities and non-perishable food items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, socks, flip flops, over the counter pain medication, oatmeal, coffee, beef jerky, drink mixes, batteries, writing paper, and current magazines (*bMonthly* issues included) and newspapers.

Donations are accepted at drop-off boxes at the Bartlesville Public Library and at Tallgrass Motors, where the chapter has a box-packing facility on the premises. Monetary donations are accepted anytime via the website, www.bvlbluestars.org, and at fundraisers throughout the year. Volunteers and new members are always welcome, and Barrows says one does not have to be a mom to be part of the chapter.

“Dues-paying members are the mothers in the chapter, but anyone can be an associate members,” she says. “Anyone who wants to support the military can sign up on the Blue Star Mothers of America website [www.bluestarmothers.org].”

The chapter meets monthly for morale, fundraising, volunteer signups, donation drives, and fellowship. They also meet once a month to pack boxes. For more information, call 918-337-2213 or find the Bartlesville Blue Star Mothers on Facebook.

“This is a wonderful organization to be a part of,” Barrows says. “It’s more than just packing boxes. ... It’s very hard to go through deployments ... It helps to have that support group. We’d just love as many people to get involved as want to.”



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