

Oklahoma CENTENNIAL

1907 & 2007



1946 Saw Post War Prosperity



THE PONCA CITY Chamber of Commerce, The Tourism Authority and the Economic Development Authority are all housed at the building on the southwest corner of Grand Avenue and Fifth Street. The is an important point of contact across the street from the newly refurbished City Hall. (News Photo by Rolf Clements)

It was a good year for Ponca City in 1946. The Chamber of Commerce saw its post war plans for new industry unfolding even faster than had been hoped.

The housing business was booming with the construction of 98 new houses, 25 commercial properties, and expenditure of thousands of dollars in alterations and repairs. Building permits issued represented an investment of \$670,000.

In May, civic leaders including Mayor Overstreet, Chamber President I.H. Needham (who became mayor in 1956), and Chairman of the Industrial Committee G.P. Broadus successfully wooed Piper Aircraft Corporation to come to town and establish a manufacturing plant here. Ponca City won out over 28 other towns in the bid for Piper's Midwestern division. The Chamber of Commerce, with the help of the citizens of Ponca City, raised \$85,000 to construct a railroad spur to the proposed plant site. Piper leased the Darr School property north of the airport. The plant had an annual payroll of \$400,000, with 300 workers building planes.

At the end of July, the first six Piper J-3 planes were completed at the Ponca City factory, and flown out to distributors in six states.

The Cities Service Oil refinery denied a rumor that the company was pulling out of Ponca City. Later in the year, they announced that they would construct a \$16,000 telephone office to serve the gas company and refinery.

George Ade Davis, president of the Oklahoma Gas and Electric Company, announced an expansion program of more than \$2.5 million.

Charles P. Howell was reelected superintendent of Ponca City Schools for the 12th consecutive year.

The Federal Housing Authority had allocated 25 family dwelling units for veterans. The FHA halted the project due to lack of funds, and 12 were finished and sold.

First Christian Church is the first church in Ponca City to install an air conditioning system.

Ponca City's two banks, Security and the First National, have more than \$17 million in deposits, a 32 percent increase over 1945. Loans total \$2.5 million.

A group of citizens in Osage

County circulated petitions for construction of a new river bridge and straightening the road into Ponca City. Lew Wentz conferred with Gov. Robert Kerr about the city's concerns.

Construction of flood protection works along Arkansas River was approved. Estimated cost was \$148,000, with Ponca City's part being \$26,000.

Buildings on the north side of Grand Avenue, from Fourth Street to Fifth Street, part of the property owned by the Marland Estate, were sold to Mrs. Helen Clarke Donahoe.

Mr. C.M. McVay opened a flying school at the airport.

Santa Fe's new depot opened in April.

H.B. "Pete" Drake announced plans to purchase the 70-acre Marland park, land that had been used as a golf course. The land was the property of Marland Estate Inc., under the control of former mayor, William H. McFadden. Interested citizens put up \$5,000 and McFadden added \$10,000 in an effort to purchase the Drake contract.

In May, plans for a \$10,000 addition to the Donahoe building were announced. Forty feet were added to the rear of Drake's Jewelry and Van Winkle's Clothing store.

On Aug. 14, 15,000 people participated in the first anniversary celebration of V-J Day.

It was the largest crowd assembled in Ponca City since the 1930 dedication of the Pioneer Woman Statue.

By Aug. 22, seven more Cub airplanes, manufactured completely in the new Mid-continent branch of the Piper Aircraft corporation in Ponca City, were certified for immediate delivery to distributors.

Braniff Airways reinstated airline service to Ponca City.

Conoco promoted their new Touraides, the set of maps and travel advice that were tailored to the needs of each customer. The company distributed almost 245,000 Touraides in 1946.

Confusion hit the city because of a national railroad strike. Forty men were idle, the freight yards were full of consignments, passenger service was almost at a standstill and the mail service was only a trickle of its usual volume.

At the beginning of the school year, the Ponca City Military Academy was filled to capacity with 99 cadets. Total enrollment in the pub-

lic schools on opening day was 3,692 —70 more than the prior year.

Conoco filed suit in Oklahoma City seeking an injunction against the state highway commission, to prevent the rerouting of Highway 60 through the refinery.

In October, a total of 1,067 veterans in the Ponca City area were given information concerning G.I. benefits.

Due to the increased cost of living and the critical teacher shortage, the Board of Education announced that all employees of the Ponca City School System would receive a pay boost during the first five months of 1947, amounting to \$12 each month.

City firemen embarked on an intensive inspection of all hotels and rooming houses located in the business district.

1947 — Ponca City's population increased to 25,600, a boost of more than 3,000 since 1945.

Continental Oil bought the defense plant it operated during the war, and it became Conoco's South Plant.

Conoco's exploration teams, known as "doodlebuggers," roamed the United States looking for drilling prospects.

Wally Edwards, home from the service, opened the Edwards Implement Company with the franchise for Massey Ferguson farm equipment.

The Wildcats winged-T formation, drawn up by Coach Earl Sullins, carried the team through the regular season undefeated. They went on to win the district football title.

The first Piper PA-12 Super cruiser rolled off the assembly line.

The City bus company was granted a 25-year franchise in a city election.

Ponca City civic and study clubs named Mrs. Francis Smith Catron, supervisor of music, "Woman of the Year."

More than 150 citizens interested in art met to form The Ponca City Arts Association.

Ponca City celebrated again with its three traditional big events — the Cherokee Strip Celebration, the Ponca Indian Powwow and the Wentz bathing revue. All three drew record-breaking crowds.

Laura Clubb, Kaw City, announced that she was giving her \$1 million art collection to the Philbrook Art Center in Tulsa.

W.J. Casemore, owner of Casemore Plumbing Company, was elected mayor. His

opponent was T.J. Cuzalina, local pharmacist.

The American Business Club hosted 2,000 youngsters at their annual Easter egg hunt.

On April 7, Ponca City telephone workers joined the Bell Telephone union employees in a nationwide strike. They walked off the job at 6 a.m., ending all service except emergency calls. Normal service resumed on May 18 after settlement of the strike.

A \$244,000 bond issue was approved to construct an addition to the Ponca City hospital. The hospital was expanded to 100 beds with a new maternity floor and delivery room to accommodate the post-war baby boom.

Organized baseball returned to Ponca for the first time since 1938. In their season opener, the Ponca City Dodgers, managed by Boyd Bartley, former Brooklyn and Montreal infielder, defeated the Bartlesville Oilers, 9-5.

D.F.B. Harsh resigned as Kay County sheriff to become Ponca City's new chief of police, succeeding Joe McFadden.

On July 14, 20 people reported seeing "flying saucers" wheel across Ponca City skies.

The next day, temperatures reached 104 degrees. On July 18, Mrs. Evelyn Pierce, 714 South Fourth Street, fried an egg on the sidewalk in 106-degree heat.

The wheat yield in Kay County was estimated at 3.035 million bushels.

The county agent received 1,000 pounds of poison to combat grasshoppers.

The first railroad car of watermelons grown in the 101 Ranch area were shipped to Racine, Wis.

In August, the board of county commissioners was awarded a farm-to-market contract to build the local lake road. Construction began immediately.

Dan Moran, in ill health, resigned as president of Conoco. He was replaced by Leonard F. McCollum, who reestablished the research department and refocused the company's exploration effort.

The Ponca City Chamber of Commerce announced that 96 new business firms had opened or established businesses had been purchased in 1947. Retail sales were estimated to be more than \$22 million, compared with \$8 million in 1937.

Chamber Historic Community Leader

By LOUISE ABERCROMBIE
News Business Editor

From the early days of Ponca City the Chamber of Commerce has played a vital role in the well being of retail and the community as a whole.

Since the days of E.W. Marland, businessmen and businesswomen have given volunteer time to serve at the helm of the Chamber.

Oil man E.W. Marland, was the first president from 1919-1920.

He was followed by L.S. Barnes, in 1920-21; Felix Duval, 1922-23; Harry Cragin, 1924-25; Orville M. Savage, 1926-27; J.M. Shornden, 1928; G.H. Niemann, 1929.

Serving in the 1930s were: D.J. Donahoe, 1930; Clyde Muchmore, 1931; W.W. Vance, 1932; C.E. Northcutt, 1933; L.D. Edgington, 1934-35; Jay G. Paris, 1936; T.R. Gogges, 1937; Col. T.D. Harris, 1938; W.D. Beard, 1939.

In the 1940s the Chamber leaders were Harper Baughman, 1940; L.R. Northcutt, 1941; Clifford Wetzel, 1942; L.A. Farmer, 1943; T.H. Parkinson, 1944; G.P. Broadus, 1945; L.H. Needham, 1946; W.D. Edwards, 1947; J. Gray McBride, 1948; F.M. Overstreet, 1949.

Leading the Chamber charge in the 1950s were: C.D. Northcutt, 1950; C.A. Nickles, 1951; E.H. Goff, 1952; J.C. Hampton, 1953; M.P. Long, 1954; Flavel Perry, 1955; R.C. Walker, 1956; William H. Robertson Jr., 1957; Don Wright, 1958; Melvin Ford, 1959.

TOPS Group Originated During 1969

This week you're an angel. Next week you may be a turtle or a pig. But if you stick by the rules, someday you may be a KOP.

Angels and KOPS are likely candidates to be crowned queen or king, or maybe win an occasional bowl of fruit. The only winners are losers.

In 1969 a group of women with a common enemy banded together at the Bois D'Arc Community Center to discuss ways to fight their battles.

They are members of Ponca City TOPS (take pounds off sensibly) and all have a vital interest in weight control. By virtue of their membership, they have a running contest with their own eating habits and with other members.

Perfect achievement for a club would be to have every member become a TOP KOP. A TOPS member becomes a KOP if she loses the weight set as a goal by her doctor, and maintains the weight for three months.

Best weight loser for the year represents the club as queen at the TOPS state recognition day, which is held in Tulsa or Oklahoma City. Graduation exercises are held for KOPS and queens. Also there is recognition for kinds and junior TOPS for the chapters which have men and junior age dieters as members.

Ponca City TOPS was started in 1959. In 1967, the club had the best record of any club in the state with a 19.36 pounds per member weight loss for the year. The record showed only 8.5 pounds loss per member the year before.

The group went on to become TOPS OK308 Chapter in the state organization. In 2007 the group has grown in membership and is one of the leading weight loss groups for the area.

TOPS is a non-profit organization whose members desire to lose or maintain weight. Members are encouraged to develop individual weight loss and exercise programs.

Meetings are held each Monday at 433 North Fairview with weigh-in 5-5:30 p.m. For more information contact Diane Smith, 718-0136 or Natalie Welch, 765-3271.

Chairmen in the 1960s were: Allan Muchmore, 1960; Robert Spray, 1961; James A. McNeese, 1962; Glen Hickman, 1963; Paul Northcutt, 1960; Goodwin Broadus Jr., 1965; Robert L. Brookshire, 1966; Cliff Slay, 1967; J. Robert Meek, 1968; Ellsworth Rains Jr., 1969.

The 1970s were led by Gene F. Blake, 1970; F.J. Fretwell, 1971; L. Enloe Baumert, 1972; Richard L. Sturdevant, 1973; James W. Buttram, 1975; R.D. O'Meilie, 1976; Dr. Warren L. Jensen, 1977; Lloyd L. "Jerry" Evans, 1978, and Charles W. Casey, 1979.

John B. Sutton was the chairman in 1980, followed by David Beard, 1981; Guy P. Clark, 1982; Rex E. Edgar, 1983; Larry T. Hughes, 1984; Tom P. Cleveland, 1985; C. Richard Pitts, 1986; Walter Beam, 1987; Charles Hollar, 1988; Hal Haver, 1989.

The 1990s saw some changes. David Cummings was the chairman in 1990, and was followed by the first woman chairman, Patt Hughes, in 1991; and a second woman chairman, Cheryl Fletcher, 1992; Chuck Westerheide, 1993; Dennis Parker, 1994; Velta Reed-Johnson, 1995; Tom Muchmore, 1996; Tim Burg, 1997; Larry Felix, 1998; Richard Severance, 1999.

In 2000, Craig Myers took the helm, followed by Barry Bickle, 2001; Dan Gilliam, 2001; Tom Quillin, 2002; Linda K. Brown, 2003; Keni Ray, 2004; J. Brad Parker, 2005; Kelly Johnson, 2006, and Derrin K. Hiatt, 2007.

Outstanding Citizens
Beginning in 1970 the Chamber began annually recognizing an "Outstanding Citizen." The first honoree was Claude Braudrick.

Other honorees have been Elec Rains, James A. McNeese, Herman Smith, Allan Muchmore, John Sutton, Larry E. Stephenson, Warren L. Jensen, R.D. O'Meilie, Sen. Roy Grantham, Charles W. Casey, C.D. Northcutt, Louise Abercrombie, Milt Heartsill, John Raley, Larry T. Hughes, E. Lee Brown, E.C. Yeary, C. Richard Pitts, Lowell Doggett, Charles Hollar, Pat Hughes, Larry Buck, Pat Mulligan, Cheryl Fletcher, Carl Renfro, Danny Head, Jerry Evans, David Mills, Barry Bickle, Marilyn Andrews, Tom Muchmore, Mark Detten, Patti Evans, Fred Boettcher, Tom Quillin and Linda Brown.

Red Rose Garden Club Organized in 1931

The miracles of Mother Nature were shared with children at the Special School through a program sponsored by the Red Rose Garden Club in 1969.

Members collected seeds and bulbs for distribution to the children. The children planted the seeds and bulbs, watched them grow and develop.

The Red Rose Garden Club was organized in 1931 at a tea in the home of Mrs. H.R. Kidder. Mrs. H.L. Parker was elected its first president.

Officers in 1968 were Mrs. Luther M. Miller, president; Mrs. Edward Lindsay, vice president; Mrs. E.O. Glover, recording secretary; Mrs. J.L. Stewart, treasurer; Mrs. Harold Hunt, corresponding secretary; Mrs. M.D. Timberlake, parliamentarian; Mrs. Glenn W. Peel, historian; Mrs. Winston Lindsay, publicity and Mrs. Leslie Ott, council representative.

The club has been responsible for many beautification projects in the city, including redbud trees, iris and tulip beds. Members have sup-

ported the Bluebird and Wild Flower trails and make tours to outstanding city and state gardens.

The club's main purpose is beautification through study, activity and conservation. Programs on horticulture, tree pruning, culture of roses, flower arranging and bird lore are conducted annually. One of the most interesting meetings each year is the exchange of plants among members.

The Red Rose Garden Club has assisted in staffing the Garden Center Library at the

Cultural Center. Members have given memorials to the library, hospital and churches. In earlier years the club was responsible for two 15 minute radio programs on gardening. Members helped to beautify the grounds around the Kaw Dam.

Reflecting the high standards horticulture practiced by the club, it has won several blue ribbons on its year book and the coveted standard rating at the Oklahoma State Conference of Garden Clubs.

The officers for 1969-1970

were Mrs. Edward Lindsay, president; Mrs. M.C. Paynter, vice president; Mrs. James Osborne, recording secretary; Mrs. T.R. Boggess, treasurer; Mrs. M.T. Eubank, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Luther M. Miller, parliamentarian; Mrs. E.P. Hester, historian; Mrs. Harold Hunt, publicity and Mrs. L.J. Fetwell, council representative.

In 2006 Red Rose Garden Club members met at the Cann Garden Center for the first meeting of the 2006-07 year.

I'm Proud to Represent YOU in the Great State of Oklahoma!

Should you have concerns or input regarding legislative issues in District 20, feel free to contact me at either office:

2201 N. 14th, Suite 132, (Ponca Plaza)
Ponca City, OK 74604, (580) 762-5294

2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., State Capitol-414,
Oklahoma City, OK 73105 (405) 521-5628

Regards, Senator David F. Myers

Chapman Shoe Emporium

2601 N. 14th
Ponca City
Mon.-Sat. 10-6
Sun. 1-4

STEP RIGHT UP

for Oklahoma's

GENTENNIAL CELEBRATION!

Since 1981, Chapman Shoe Emporium has brought to Ponca City the finest name brands in footwear. During that time, we've changed locations and expanded our store to offer an ever-increasing selection of quality merchandise. This summer, we added a "Boot Space," and began a mobile-unit service that brings workboots to businesses anywhere in a 60-mile radius of Ponca City. We're proud of our long history, and we look forward to being a part of Ponca City for decades to come.

— CHAPMAN SHOE EMPORIUM OFFERS YOU —

Name Brand Family Shoes • Hard-to-Fit Sizes
Caps • Skatedecks • T-Shirts • Bags
Diabetic • Steel Toe • Sporting Goods
Casual, Dress & Specialty • Boots

SLIM	6-16
NARROW	6-16
MEDIUM	4-16
WIDE	5-16
W-WIDE	5-16

True whole and half sizes. Some colors do not come in all widths.

QUALITY, SELECTION & SERVICE

McFadden Came for Health But Instead Built Oil Wealth

Editor's Note: This speech on William H. McFadden was given by Gareth Muchmore, the late editor of *The News* to the Pioneer Historical Society on Sept. 14, 1977. McFadden was one of the "wheels of fortune," who came to Ponca City from Pennsylvania in the early 1900's.

William H. McFadden
We talk a lot about Ernest Whitworth Marland but when you go back and study history you wonder whether it was William H. McFadden who made Marland tick, who guided his promotional energies and abilities, and who made Marland rich.

Certainly McFadden himself was a tremendous personality, a character, if you will, and a man who left as great a mark on this community as the others we count as our heritage, Marland and Lewis Haines Wentz.

Strangely, but not from coincidence, they all came from the Pittsburgh area to Ponca City, and on Pittsburgh money.

Marland came here financed by John J. McCaskey, attracted by a kinsman's description of the geology. As a onetime millionaire in eastern oil fields, he tried to regain his wealth in West Virginia and Western Pennsylvania and fizzled. So he came to Oklahoma. McCaskey so the story goes — sent the Pittsburgh high school coach, Lew Wentz, out here to find out what E.W. was doing with all that money.

McFadden, who made and kept a fortune made in steel himself said "you can spell that either way" — came to Oklahoma for his health.

Marland had teamed with George L. Miller of the 101 Ranch in drilling on Indian lands. He was not doing well. Eight holes were mostly dry, along with his bank account. McFadden's money financed the ninth well, the Willie Cries for War No. 1, which started Marland toward his Oklahoma oil fortune.

McFadden became president of the 101 Ranch Oil Company. He was executive vice president of the Marland Oil Company, and an executive of several of its subsidiaries. After Marland lost out, McFadden continued to make big money in Southland Royalty, an affiliate.

But back to the man himself. He was a rugged, rangy, healthy man who loved the outdoors. He had a camp east of town in the Osage, and loved roughing it there.

He donated Camp McFadden and browbeat his friends into building cabins for the girls. He gave a trust fund to maintain the camp, but only on the McFadden principle: he'd match your donations. He tried to give the Marland Golf Course to the city on that basis, the city wouldn't vote its share, so the land was developed between Grand and Highland, Tenth and Fourteenth.

He was a human sort of man. Prohibition didn't stop him from liking a drink, so there was a secret cellar tun-



WILLIAM "Bill" McFADDEN was one of the men who was instrumental in establishing Ponca City and the surrounding area as an oil Mecca in the early days. He came to the area in 1911 and served as mayor from 1914 to 1920. (News File Photo)

neled back from the regular cellar at the residence he long occupied at 300 North Third the block on which *The News* stands. There are stories of a tank car half full of straw that brought the stuff in from Canada by the dozen case lots. And had an armed guard parked atop the tank while it came into Marland railroad yard.

After Charles Urschel, another wealthy oil man, was kidnapped McFadden carried a pair of little Remington double-barrel derringers, one in each pant pocket, and said any kidnaper would be sorry. That would be like Mr. Mac, as we came to know him.

McFadden was born in West Virginia, in 1869. At the age of 15 he moved to Pittsburgh, Pa. He went to work in the McIntosh-Hemphill steel mills with the avowed goal of becoming its president. He did reach that goal, 27 years later.

A forceful, driving man, he pushed himself as hard as he did others and in 1911 believed his health failing. He went to Arkansas, met John J. McCaskey, and from him learned of the 101 which operated at times a sort of dude ranch.

McFadden pitched a tent on the ranch where George L. Miller and E. W. Marland were drilling for oil. Marland, like McCaskey, had known McFadden in Pitts-

burgh. McFadden was interested in the venture and when drilling funds ran out he was approached by the wildcat-

The story was told that he had a large sum of cash in a pill case and that E. W. said to George Miller: "How are we going to get the so-and-so to put up some money?" And that McFadden overheard, and answered: "Just make the so-and-so a good proposition." However it was done, the next well succeeded.

McFadden's health and wealth both improved; staying with Marland made them both wealthy.

McFadden was mayor of Ponca City from 1914 to 1920, the last mayor under the old council form of government. He liked to be mayor, and liked participating in fire and police activities. But he also was active in improving the city government by changing to the commission form we have now.

They tell that after Marland persuaded L. K. Meek to start Ponca City Savings & Loan Association, Marland once went with McFadden to attempt to influence the banker in regard to an employee's loan. Meek declined, diplomatically, and McFadden saw the point, commenting to the effect that "He knows finance and we know oil; let's get out of here." (See MCFADDEN, Page 12H)



THE AUTWINE Bridge over the Chikaskia River is shown in 1914 with flood waters at the bridge floor. Shown from left are Autwine residents Charles Williams, Frank Smith and Steve Bond.

Autwine Once Wanted To Be Virginia City of Kay County

Editor's Note: The following was obtained from the publication *The History of Kay County*.

AUTWINE — Located in the northeast quarter of section 19, township 26 north, range 1 east and seven miles west of Ponca City, was Autwine.

The people of Autwine went through some frustrating times just to get a name for their town, and then the one they got wasn't what they wanted.

W.A. Bradford platted the town June 17, 1899, as Virginia City.

Complications entered the picture when a man named Pierce was successful in getting the government to locate the post office on his land, a mile and a quarter south of the business district. The post office was named Piercetown.

In still another of the independent and confusing actions, Santa Fe Railway Company called its Virginia City railroad depot Arta.

It didn't take long for townspeople to recognize that the guessing game had gone far enough. They insisted that the three-way name had to go, and also that they wanted none of the names already in use.

They held a town meeting and agreed on the name Autwine, in honor of Antoine Roy, Ponca Indian. Roy was a familiar and respected figure in town. Autwine remained so until long after the town had disappeared from the scene.

One version of the error is that the town clerk who sent the name to Washington to get it recorded wrote it carelessly and official approval came back with a "U" spelling instead of an "N."

The other is that a Santa Fe Railway employee read the spelling hastily and painted all the railroad signs as Autwine. Then according to the second version, railway company officials refused to change their signs when the error was discovered.

The change from Virginia City to Autwine was not filed in county records, but on Oct. 17, 1899, the name on the abstract appeared as Virginia City (Autwine). In later records, the name Virginia City was dropped.

The last evidence that Autwine existed was erased in 1966 when Santa Fe removed the whistle sign "AUTWINE."

In its day, Autwine was an important hog and cattle shipping center in the midst of a thriving agriculture area. Among the regular shippers from Autwine stock yards were 101 Ranch and Big V and Little Bainum, hog grower, and Ola Goodson, cattleman.

Louis L. Bellinghausen who lived in the vicinity where Autwine was located, recalls that on shipping days Bainum would bring hundreds of hogs through town on foot from his farm. Bellinghausen said children would run along enjoying the procession and many adults would join in to keep the hogs in line.

Bill Vansalous, owner of Big V Ranch, shipped his White Wonder seed corn from Autwine to many parts of the country. His corn storage building was said to be a quarter mile long.

Autwine was the home to three grain elevators, which often were inadequate to handle the grain until it could be shipped out. One was owned by Mrs. Ben Duvall and another by Alex E. Esch.

James S. Hutchins, in whose memory Hutchins Memorial was built, bought the Duvall elevator plus an area comprising slightly less than half the area of the town in 1906.

Newspaper accounts related that Hutchins had to buy the large area in order to get the owner to sell the elevator.

In the nine-block business area there were three gro-

cery stores, a black smith shop, implement yard, general store, dry goods store, hardware, bank (meeting hall on second floor), restaurant, drug store (operated by the town doctor, E.J. Orvis), Modern Woodman Hall with pool room on first floor, Royal Neighbors Lodge, and Anti-Horse Thief Association office.

Also connected with the town were the railroad depot and telegraph office, implement yard, stock yards and post office.

Round trip runs were made from Blackwell to Ponca City with Autwine half way four times daily by mail and passenger trains and two times by freight trains. Mail was brought to the Autwine post office three times daily.

High school students rode the train to Blackwell and back every day. Grade school students attended Round Grove School south of Autwine, which was considered a part of Autwine.

Autwine had 20 homes within its city limits, and farmers and ranchers from several miles away did their trading in the town. It would have been difficult to have foreseen that this apparently solid prosperity would not be around for many years.

But the town was still building when the slide started (about 1904) and in a few short months, the town found itself in a serious economic situation.

Ponca City and Blackwell were growing much faster than Autwine and were attractive places to shop. Also, the big shippers started sending livestock elsewhere and Autwine's railroad business dwindled.

The bank and restaurant closed in 1904 and other businesses suffered. Though the last grocery store held out until 1930 and the elevator for several years after that. Autwine died for all practical purposes in 1905.

In August of that year, a fire destroyed nearly the entire business section. An empty general merchandise store building was the only major building which was left standing.

Mrs. Zella Harden, who died in 1979 at the age of 96, furnished information on the fire. She had lived in Autwine less than a year and played the popular card game "Flinch" with three friends until 11 o'clock on the night of the fire.

She retired to her room, which was in the back of a storage building, and had been in bed only a short time when the alarm was sounded. Mrs. Salem Pouts, one of the persons with whom she had played cards, aroused her to tell her there were explosions and a fire in the cattleman.



**Trophies • Plaques • Ribbons
Engraving • Name Tags & More
2ND GENERATION OWNER**

BALL
TROPHY & ENGRAVING
106 East Grand
Next to the Ponca Theatre
(580) 762-7265

hardware store.

Mrs. Harden said there was time only to throw a skirt around her nightgown and run barefooted to safety. She said she and others worked to save mail and supplies in the post office and such equipment that could be removed from other buildings.

The empty building which survived the fire was bought in 1906 by Orville Horton, who operated on of the elevators in Autwine. He opened a general store and reopened the telephone office in the store. Mrs. Harden, who had been telephone operator in the general store which burned, also worked as operator in the new store.

Mrs. Harden built a house on four lots she purchased for \$40 across from the Horton store, and later moved the telephone office into her home. Mrs. Harden did dressmaking and clerked in the store in her spare time, and later became railroad station agent. She also boarded teachers and depot agents in her home.

The last businessman in Autwine was J. Dan Goodin, who ran a grocery store and grain elevator. His store closed in 1930 and the elevator a few years later.

This story was taken from the Ponca City News of Sept. 19, 1976, by Mrs. William (Velma) Powelson daughter of Mrs. Harden. Four of Mrs. Harden's children were born in Autwine.

The following is an incident that appeared in the Blackwell Journal in 1976.

Allen Lowery tells that during the late teens and early 1920s he and Dowis "Cy" Dyer, a brother of Vassar used the Autwine area as their favorite hunting grounds.

He said that neither of them had a car and used to ride the train from here to there. They would take the 4:40 p.m. train to Ponca City, alighting at Autwine, do their hunting, then catch the 8 p.m. train back home with their kill.

(See BRIDGE, Page 12H)

*"Ponca City's Hottest Jalapeno
on the Runway!"*

ENRIQUE'S

**Started in 1983 with a
Staff of Three!**

**Thank you Ponca City
for all your Support!**



Authentic Homemade Mexican Food!

**At The Ponca City Airport • 762-5507
& 116 W. 7th, Newkirk • 362-2273**



Dodgers Win Title; Coffee Price Go Down in 1948

In 1948 the Ponca City Dodgers won the K-O-M baseball championship. In a hotly contested battle, the pro team, managed by Boyd Hartley, defeated the Independence Yanks for the league title.

Local restaurants lowered coffee prices back to five cents a cup after disgruntled patrons boycotted the 10-cent price.

Conoco purchased a 100-octane plant for \$3.125 million.

Piper's aircraft assembly plant closed due to a glut of aircraft on the market.

Dairyland Creamery started using cardboard bottles.

Southwest Ice Company planned an \$18,000 addition.

The first Santa Fe "Texas Chief" streamliner arrived in Ponca City.

Dan Moran, Conoco president, died April 3 after a long illness. He had resigned on Dec. 1, 1947, after 20 years of service.

The V.F.W. dedicated a new mural at their local hall.

In April, City Manager L.A. Cann retired after 13 years of service. Prior to his position with the city, he had been Kay County commissioner for 24 years.

Conoco announced plans for a \$7.75 million refinery expansion program. The major part of the construction was the installation of a 30,000-barrel daily capacity crude topping unit. The project would make Ponca City's refinery the largest in Oklahoma and one of the largest in the nation.

The new \$244,000 hospital wing was dedicated on May 30.

In July, Frank Winsted came to Ponca City from Cherokee to fill the city manager position. The city's annual budget for fiscal year 1948-1949 was \$906,232. Retiring L.A. Cann reported that the city owned \$2,661,625 in property.

The city gained possession of the Darr School property in late July. Darr hangar became a storage site for 15,000 bushels of surplus wheat.

In September, a record 42,000 citizens enjoyed the Ponca City Cherokee Strip celebration.

The Ponca City News signed a contract to purchase WBBZ Radio from Mrs. Adelaide Carrell.

Citizens approved a \$475,000 school bond issue.

There were 185 new homes built in 1948 valued at close to \$1.4 million.

Plans were announced in October for a million dollar building program at Chilocco.

A span of the Highway 60 bridge over the Arkansas River collapsed under a semi-trailer truck in November.

A pontoon bridge that had served in the 1944 flood was put in place until the span could be raised.

The first traffic lights in Ponca City were installed downtown at four Grand Avenue intersections. They were activated in December. Grumbles from speed-happy motorists were overshadowed by the grateful pedestrians.

Oklahoma Gas and Electric completed its new plant.

1949 — On Jan. 10, five inches of sleet pelted down, causing the collapse of the Church of Christ building. Many roofs all over town were severely damaged. Eight days later, the city was blanketed by a six-inch snowfall and temperatures dropped below zero.

During January, the city received more than 25 inches of snow.

First Baptist Church was destroyed by fire on Jan. 24. Firemen battled the blaze for six hours in 16-degree weather. Estimated loss was more than \$200,000, the costliest fire in Ponca City history. Snow and sleet kept the fire from spreading.

In February, Ponca City's new three-way police radio system went into full time operation. The police department also adopted several traffic safety improvements that were recommended by the National Safety Council.

The Jens Marie Hotel celebrated its 25th year in March.

Laura Valentine, long time manager, purchased the Arcade Hotel.

A mass X-ray survey in April revealed 67 Ponca City residents had symptoms of tuberculosis. There were 7,775 citizens X-rayed in Ponca City, and a total of 14,000 in Kay County.

A hailstorm pelted the city in late May, damaging roofs all over town. Winds were as high as 72 miles an hour.

The Ponca City War Memorial was dedicated at Ponca City High School.

LeW Wentz died on June 9 after an illness of sever-

al months. Known as Ponca City's "first citizen," he had been a benefactor to thousands. Nearly 1,500 people attended his funeral. Merle P. Long was one of the administrators of the Wentz Estate. He served as a trustee of the Masonic Charities Foundation of Oklahoma that received one-fifth of the residual of the Wentz Estate.

The familiar "Number, please" voices of the telephone operators were changed to a buzzing dial tone. In July, the telephone office moved into its new building, and installed dial service.

Plans for the new Arkansas River bridge were finalized and a Muskogee construction firm was awarded the contract with a low bid of \$720,000. Kay County commissioners announced an additional budget of \$596,000 for county roads and bridges.

Officials agreed to extend U.S. highways 60 and 77, construct straighter routes and provide the necessary right-of-way.

The Sisters of St. Felix purchased the Carmel priory from the Carmel Fathers for \$50,000.

The nuns announced plans to establish a high school and convent at the original Marland Estate.

On July 4, more than 3,000 people visited the Wentz farm to view 88 Shetland ponies and riding horses. The animals were all sold at the Wentz Stables in October. Top price was \$4,000 for a 7-year-old stallion. Sales totaled \$78,165.

The Ponca City municipal

band, directed by A.H. Long, presented its first Independence Day concert in North Park.

In August, Lester Woolard, manager of the Ponca City state employment office, announced that close to \$2.5 million had been paid to local veterans since the inception of the GI Bill of Rights.

John L. Smith, 20, joined his father as junior partner in Smitty's Men's and Boys' Wear.

The City Commission voted to accept a grant of \$36,403 from the Civil Aeronautics Authority to expand the airport.

The Ponca Indian Powwow opened in August with nearly 1,000 people participating. Chloe Eagle, a descendant of Chief White Eagle, was chosen as princess of the Powwow.

More than 1,000 youngsters participated in the city's first Small Fry fishing derby at Lake Ponca Park, sponsored by the Park Department.

Conoco moved its headquarters operations from Ponca City to Houston, and created regional headquarters to decentralize operations.

Conoco was marketing 304 different products made from petroleum and owned 1,050 retail stations in the United States.

Conoco now ranked as the eighth largest producer in the United States, producing oil and gas from more than 8,000 wells in 11 states and Canada.

Exploration and production had been stepped up,

and Oklahoma ranked fifth in the company's production.

L.H. Kurtz started construction of a \$56,000 motel on Central at Fourteenth Street in October.

In November, Kay County ranked third in automobile registrations and license collection, according to a report of the motor vehicle license division of the Oklahoma Tax Commission.

On Nov. 14, a fire at the Chilocco Indian school caused more than \$75,000 damage. Nine days later, a second fire caused \$5,000 more damage.

Ponca City schools celebrated the 56th anniversary of the first school completed in Ponca City. Located at Sixth Street and Grand Avenue, it was built two months after the Cherokee Strip Run.

Central Airlines started east-west air service through Ponca City.

Ed Souigny purchased 60 acres of land adjacent to the city limits in the southeast district of town, with a bid of \$25,000.

He planned to provide additional living space contiguous to and south of the present Dixie Hill. The new area would bring residents out of the river bottom where their homes were periodically flooded by the Arkansas River. The central portion of the property was platted to include 74 building sites to be for sale to "Negro" purchasers.

Mr. and Mrs. C.M. Sanders won the residential competition in the Christmas lighting contest.

School, Church, Post Office Centers of Peckham Activity

PECKHAM — The town of Peckham, located seven miles west of Newkirk, was named for Ed L. Peckham of Blackwell, who promoted the Frisco Railroad southwest of Arkansas City, Kansas to Enid Oklahoma in 1899. The town built by farmers on a quarter section of land once had a population of around 400.

A number of business establishments including a furniture store, four lumber yards, a bank, livery stable, realty company, restaurant, grocery, drug store, implement store, general store, meat market, candy and confectionery, barber shop, hotel, post office and others did a thriving business during the oil boom days.

The school built in 1894 was taught by Emma Bardo for a 120-day term and she received \$30 per month. There were 47 students. High school grades were taught from 1922-24.

A new brick building was constructed in January 1952.

Several additions have been added. With the annexation of other school districts the school now employs teachers for grades kindergarten through eighth grade. Peckham school is the only remaining rural school in Kay County that has classes through the eighth grade.

The hot lunch program was initiated in 1952 with Mrs. Clifford Smith as head cook who retired after 25 years of service. Mrs. Fred Loving and Mrs. Clifton Gray were also cooks.

Post Office
The Post Office was established July 15, 1899, with Clyde Harp the first postmaster. He was succeeded by Schlosser, Beulah Mounce, Fred Carroll, Mrs. Mabel Brooks, Maggie Heffron, Jennie Long, Bessie Gasaway, Floyd Preston, and Marie Manion. Gladys Hutchins is the present postmistress.

It was temporarily closed in 1974. Gladys Hutchins was postmistress at the time. At one time the town had a star mail route from Newkirk.

In 1905 the downtown included James Bradley's general

store, near the area where Harry's Grocery also stood in the 1960s. The Baughman's building, the Livery Barn owned by Billy McMann, which became the Peckham Motor Company. Lee Allen owned the first lumber yard, now Peckham Lumber Company building.

The Peckham Christian Church stands at the East end of the mainstreet. It had an annex and educational building.

From the West end of the main street on the south side of the street stood Anderson's Drug store, Tom Regan's Implement store, W.B. Harp's General Store and Dr. Johnson's office. Dr. Johnson, who was a general practitioner, pulled teeth, delivered babies, and performed minor surgery.

The Peckham State Bank stood next to Dr. Johnson's office. Early-day bankers were Paul Ibach, Ted Gilbert, Basil Cronan, I.L. Fuller and A.R. Fenton. The bank was destroyed by fire and moved into the Hotel Building later. It was robbed three times during its existence.

Tarpenning and Van Etten Meat Market, a barber shop, general store and hotel com-

pleted the block. A confectionary was operated by Charles Lancer and Frank Mayne.

The lumber business boomed along with the oil business when production began in the Dilworth Field. There were four lumber yards in Peckham: Hellar Lumber Co., Long-Bell Lumber Co., American Lumber Company, Crabin Lumber Co. They dealt mostly in oil field equipment and rig timbers.

In the 1960s activities center around the church and the school. The people lead busy lives although the boom was over for Peckham. The quiet little town, with its neat homes is surrounded by rich wheat land, dairy and cattle farms.

Buggy Tale
Former residents Earl Trenary, Floyd Trenary, Walter Mounce and Steve Lute would tell about an experience they had when young boys who attended campouts for their Sunday School class. On one occasion after eating they sat around the campfire telling ghost stories and eating crumbs from the skillet on the dying fire. The next morning they discovered they had eaten fried June bugs which had been attracted by the firelight.



TODAY'S KAY County Commissioners shown speaking at a 2006 event. From left: Wayne Leven, Dee Schieber, and Laile Wilson. (News Photo by Sharon Rowen)

County Commissioners First Gathered in Old 'Santa Fe'

Editor's Note: The following was obtained from the 1968 publication Newkirk and Kay County

NEWKIRK — The first county commissioners were: G.W. Bachelder, Baxter Brown and E.R. Richey.

The commissioners held their first meeting at the town of Santa Fe, now Newkirk.

The remaining original county officials were as follows: Probate Judge B.N. Woodson; clerk of the District Court, F.M. Beale, who also served as U.S. commissioner; A.A. Byers, county attorney; G.S. Fenton, sheriff; J.C. Jamison, register of deeds; C.S. Robb, county clerk; W.R. Journey, surveyor; J.D. Biggs, coroner; and R.A. Sullins, county superintendent.

On Wednesday, Sept. 20, 1893 the Santa Fe Democrat issued the following items in the newspaper:

"The county officials were on hand getting acquainted with the people last Monday and will soon have good buildings and be permanently located, where they may be easily found."

The preceding officials were appointed by the governor, William C. Renfrow, to serve until the regular election in November 1894. Three political parties named candidates in the election: Democrats, Republicans and Populists. The Republican ticket was elected, with the exception of the commissioner from the second district who was a Democrat.

Those elected were A.M. Thomas, third district, Hugh Owens, second district and J.B. Hart, first district. They took their oath of office and assumed duties on Dec. 1, 1894, and served until January 1, 1897.

There was no money to pay warrants and the only revenue available was from saloon licenses and fines. In the spring of 1894 as assessment was taken of property but the average settler had not yet moved his family and

possessions to his claim, so the stocks of good and town buildings were about all there was on the tax rolls.

A Road and Bridge Fund was established by the legislature in July 1895 totaling \$3,800.

Interpretation of the law in those days was largely according to opinion and errors were sometimes made.

A.M. Thomas, an early county commissioner observed that the rank and file of settlers were not informed as to the true conditions of county and state government, the needs and obligations, and complained about taxes then, worse than we do today.

The barren land created tremendous problems.

There were few roads, fewer bridges and little monies available for improvement. As the farm trails began to wear, the repair was donated by farmers plowing in worn ruts or hauling rock to throw into mud holes. Later

the work was done by poll tax labor, each male persons between the ages of 21 and 50 being required to work four days single hand, or two days with man and team.

The first settlers were, by and large, young and healthy, willing and able to work, and though they were not rich, there was little need for charity work in the first years.

As the need arose the public funds were administered by the county commissioners. It was their duty to see that those in need had a side meat, beans, corn meal, salt and as rare luxuries, flour and coffee.

When charity work increased and the "Strip" had an increase of elderly persons, the disabled and abandoned and other less fortunate people, an organization called the Humane Society took charge in 1919. Later the name was changed to Welfare Society. (See COUNTY, Page 12H)

Fabric • Books • Notions

Completely Quilted

315 E. Grand Ave.
Ponca City
718-9300

Store Hours:
Mon. - Fri. 9 am to 5 pm
Sat. - 10 am to 4 pm

BERNINA
Sales & Service
Custom Quilting
by Suzy Taylor

Plaza Wine & Spirits

2005 N. 14th, #105

GREAT WINE SELECTION

- Special orders
- Discounts on cases (any 12 bottles)
- Over 800 wines

HUGE BEER ROOM

- Over 95 brands
- 140 varieties
- Import & Domestic
- Mix & Match 6 pks

UPTOWN LOOK - COMPETITIVE PRICES

762-1611

S.W. Corner of Ponca Plaza

1950 Saw Many Changes With Highways, Facilities

The Ponca City Commissioners had a busy year in 1950.

In June, voters approved city bonds by a 20-1 majority to purchase the right-of-way for expansion of U.S. Highways 60 and 77. In July, the city began purchasing property for the construction. By October, final bids had been approved by the state.

City officials and the executors of the Lew Wentz estate reached an agreement on city management and ownership of Wentz pool and camp.

The Commission banned left turns at Grand Avenue and intersections of Second, Third, and Fourth Streets. They also adopted an ordinance prohibiting "U" turns on Grand, and limiting them on Central and Cleveland Avenues.

George Biggs was named city manager to replace Frank Winsted, who had been activated for military duty.

Five county mayors met in Ponca City to organize a civil defense council.

The city needed to expand the power plant, so, in October, voters were called upon to approve a \$510,000 bond issue. The bond passed.

Herman J. "Smitty" Smith was elected mayor in April.

As of Dec. 31, construction of the Arkansas River Bridge was ahead of schedule, and OG&E agreed to move the power lines along Highway 60-77 route at their own expense.

The school board kept things active during 1950 as well. They received bids on an addition and remodeling of McKinley school. The new Lincoln Grade School opened on West Broadway. Voters approved a school bond issue to build Washington Grade School in the new Crestview addition to serve the northeast section of the city. Remodeling of the school administration building, high school, and Jefferson Grade School was also approved.

Continental Oil Company announced its new "super" motor oil.

Cy Casper of Oklahoma City was named manager of WBBZ Radio.

Zack Miller sold the remainder of his 101 Ranch property and moved to Florida.

William H. McFadden offered Camp McFadden to the Camp Fire Girls council. To insure that the camp would continue, he offered to donate \$25,000 if it could be matched with a like amount.

In May, W.C. MacMillan, executive vice president, explained Continental Oil's decentralization policy. He announced that the company's general offices would continue to be maintained in Ponca City. Harold G. Osborn was named general manager of the company's Ponca City operations.

Census figures showed Ponca City's population at 26,185. County totals were 48,922.

Local builders were busy in 1950. By July, 176 new homes had been completed, with 157 under construction, and 108 more in planning stages. County property valuation was up by \$2 million over 1949.

The Ponca City Library inherited the Matzene collection of Oriental art.

Gruner and Co., manufacturer of rock bits, opened a new plant on Waverly, after moving here from Tonkawa.

July 1950 was the wettest month in Ponca City history, with more than nine inches of rain. The Arkansas River was running bank full, and spilling into the Dixie Hill area.

The County draft board received orders to send 24 men for pre-induction physicals in the first call under a revised draft law. Oklahoma's 45th division of the National Guard was alerted for active duty in Korea, and inducted into federal service on Sept. 1. There were 80 men in the local unit. The 200-man local 321st MP CID Army Reserve unit was also called to active duty and several local doctors, dentists and veterinarians registered for the medical draft.

Continental Oil Company announced plans to build a \$2.5 million research center in Ponca City. The project was launched at a groundbreaking ceremony in September that also highlighted the company's observance of its 75th anniversary. More than 5,000 employees, their families and civic leaders attended.

In October, Continental Oil Co. moved its Touraide headquarters from Denver to Ponca City. This bureau employed about 60 people, and, except for the key personnel, all were recruited locally.

Cities Service Oil Company declared a multi-million dollar expansion program for their local refinery.

Braniff Airways started

a new northbound flight through Ponca City.

The Lew Wentz estate paid in excess of \$2.5 million in federal estate taxes.

Sculptor Bryant Baker visited Ponca City to view the Pioneer Woman Statue that he had created. He commented that she needed a bath.

Continental Oil flew seven members of the 45th division home so they could spend their 72-hour passes with their families on Christmas.

(See CHANGE, Page 11H)



KENNETH WADE ROWEN is shown in uniform in 1943. Rowen was of many that left high school in the 1940s to serve in World War II.

First Diploma Of 1943 Class Went to Recruit

The first diploma presented at the 1943 Ponca City High School commencement exercises for the largest class in school history at that time went to Kenneth Wade Rowen, who entered the Army Air Corps in December of 1942 and who attended his graduation in uniform.

After Rowen received his diploma from school board member Don V. Eells, the names of the 19 other members of the class who were in the armed services were read.

Rowen, a private first class as radio operator in the Army Air Corps, was the only one able to attend after completing a course at Camp Traux, Wis.



THE SALT FORK River flooded the 101 Ranch Rodeo grounds in June of 1923 stranding many in the area. (News Archive Photo)

Floods Have Plagued County Since Early Days of Statehood

By SHARON ROWEN
News Staff Writer

The rains and floodwaters of June 2007 damaged roads and bridges throughout the area.

Several roads including County Line Road east of Highway 156 were closed indefinitely because of damage as were many campsites.

The excessive water amounts forced Kaw Dam officials to open all eight gates on July 3 and discharge 44,000 cubic feet of water per second. Water levels at the dam reached 36 feet above the normal level of 1,013 feet.

Other significant flooding event in Kay County history includes the following:

Flood of 1923

The flood of 1923 stands out as one of the biggest floods on record, ranking first on the Top 10 crests in Chikaskia River history and fourth on the Top 10 lists of crests for the Salt Fork of the Arkansas River.

The flood left many homeless and losses in Arkansas City, Kan., were estimated at \$2 million.

It was reported that the Arkansas River rose at a rate of five inches per hour.

There was no road to Tonkawa, no mail, no telephone and a bridge to Grant County was swept away.

Ponca City was threatened with the loss of water supply. At the time the city had three wells and two were knocked out.

In 1973 the Ponca City News interviewed Clair Nickles, founder of Nickles Machine Shop, about the flood.

Nickles told the News that the 101 Ranch was having a show when the Salt Fork exited its banks and stranded many including Champion prizefighter Jess Willard.

Nickles had built a motorized river boat which was used to rescue families and deliver food to others.

Flood of 1973

The October 1973 flood ranks No. 1 on the historical Top 10 list for the Salt Fork of the Arkansas River with a crest of 28.98 on Oct. 11.

As the Salt Fork and Chikaskia Rivers receded the Arkansas River continued to rise.

People found themselves stranded and National Guard Helicopters were called into help with evacuations.

Flood damages were estimated at \$1.5 million.

Flood of 1998

The Chikaskia River crested at 34.4 feet on Nov. 1, 1998, ranking second on the Top 10 historical crests in river history.

The Salt Fork River crested at 26.29 feet on Nov. 2 ranking fifth in its crest history.

The event resulted in levees failing in Arkansas City, forcing 2,000 people from their homes.

The flood ranks second and third on the historical crests of the Walnut River with crests of 40.14 and 38.5 on Nov. 2.

It ranks firsts on the Arkansas River crests at Arkansas City, Kan., with a crest of 28.89 feet on Nov. 3.

Oklahoma Army National Guard joined forces with farmers and dropped over 200 bales of hay to livestock as part of a moo mission.

Gov. Frank Keating declared a disaster emergency in Kay, Grant, and Alfalfa counties.

Flood of 1995

In August 1995 the remnants of Tropical Storm Dean passed over Kay County dumping heavy rains in a short amount of time resulting in the Salt Fork of the Arkansas River cresting at 26.28 feet on Aug. 4, and 27.64 feet on Aug. 5, second highest and sixth highest crests in the river's history.

Parts of Interstate 35 was closed and traffic rerouted through Ponca City resulting in traffic jams.

Dogs at the Tonkawa dog pound had to be evacuated from the flood waters.

Before the remnants of Tropical Storm Dean hit the area, Kay County had received over four inches of rain in the beginning of June.

On June 10, 1995, The Chikaskia River crested at 33 feet, ranking eighth on the Top 10 crests.

Flood of 1993

The combined cresting of the Chikaskia River at 34.31 feet May 10, 1993 and the Salt Fork of the Arkansas River at 24.4 feet created a flood emergency for Kay County area.

The crest ranks third on the Top 10 historical crests of the Chikaskia and seventh and ninth on the Top 10 crests on Salt Fork of the Arkansas River crests as it also crested at 25.51 feet on May 11.

The flood forced at least eight families from their Blackwell homes and two people were rescued from high waters by Blackwell Fire units when they attempted to drive through flood waters on East Coolidge.

Many Blackwell residents called it the worst flooding since 1986.

The Kaw Dam was also over flood level resulting in 57,000 cubic feet of water per second being released.

Kay County was listed among 10 counties on a disaster declaration.

Flood of 1986

In 1986 Kay County experienced flooding conditions in both October and November.

The Salt Fork of the Arkansas River crested at 27.61 feet on Nov. 3, third highest crest in its history and the Chikaskia River crested at 34.28

feet on Oct. 3 fourth highest in its history.

The Kaw Dam began dumping 35,500 cubic feet of water per second in an attempt to lower the water level. The Old River Bridge, that was located over the Arkansas River, was closed on Oct. 6 reportedly for the first time in its history because of stress from the high water levels and debris crashing into it.

The Arkansas River crested at 13.30 feet on Nov. 16, fifth highest crest in its Ponca City history.

Flood of 1964

Flood waters in November of 1964 pounded Blackwell forcing 80 families out of their homes. The Chikaskia River crested at 33.08 feet on Nov. 17, the seventh highest crest in the river's history.

Waters of the Arkansas River backed into Kaw City forcing two gas stations to evacuate. Four Kaw City families were moved from their homes in the north end of town.

Flood of 1959

In October of 1959, it rained for six days in a row resulting in flood waters across much of the area.

The Salt Fork of the Arkansas River crested at 23.48 feet at 4 a.m. on Oct. 5 which ranks as the 10th highest crest in the river's history.

The Small Business Administration designated 13 Oklahoma counties including Kay as disaster areas.

The Top 10 crests in Salt Fork Arkansas River History are: 28.98 feet on Oct. 11, 1973; 27.64 feet on Aug. 5, 1995; 27.61 feet on Nov. 3, 1986; 26.80 feet on June 10, 1923; 26.29 feet on Nov. 2, 1998; 26.28 feet on Aug. 4, 1995; 25.51 feet on May 11, 1993; 25.12 feet on May 28, 1987; 24.40 feet on May 10, 1993, and the 23.48 feet on Oct. 05, 1959.

The Top 10 historical crests in Chikaskia River history are 36 feet on June 10, 1923; 34.40 feet on Nov. 1, 1998; 34.31 feet on May 10, 1993; 34.28 feet on Oct. 3, 1986; 33.85 feet Oct. 11, 1973; 33.42 feet on Oct. 12, 1985; 33.08 feet on Nov. 17, 1964; 33 feet on June 10, 1995; 32.90 feet on May 28, 1987, and 32.89 feet on Sept. 28, 1987.

Happy Birthday Oklahoma!

Sharla Vetter
Cell: 401-3119
Office: 762-0400

Century 21
Group One
525 Monument Rd.
Ponca City

MLS

3101 N. 14th St.
Ponca City, OK
580-765-2322

PONCA CITY'S NEWEST HOTEL!

- The only indoor pool & hot tub in the City
- Executive workspace in every room with free high speed internet
- Meeting room with 50" plasma TV
- Business center
- Exercise room
- Guest laundry on premise
- Bus parking available
- Microfridge in all rooms
- Pets welcome

***Ask about our jacuzzi suites!

Airport Progress Big News of 1952

Early in 1952 voters approved a \$220,000 bond issue for airport expansion. The city also received a \$292,000 grant from the Civil Aeronautics Administration. Air passenger service from Braniff and Central Airlines came to Ponca City.

T.J. Cuzalina, owner of Cuzalina's Drug Store, promoted Dwight D. Eisenhower when Ike was running for president of the United States. He reportedly was responsible for coining the slogan, "I Like Ike." He finally met Ike in person at a golf tournament in Denver, Colo. T.J.'s comment was, "You just have to look at Gen. Eisenhower to see he is a good man and a natural leader, for he is as plain as an old shoe."

In May WBBZ Radio moved its studio from West Grand to 1601 East Oklahoma Avenue at Spring Hill. A new tower and ground system extended the signal farther into Osage County and southern Kansas.

A large granite marker was installed at the corner of Fourteenth Street and South Avenue, commemorating the "Big Spring." The marker reads: "Located 200 feet west is the Big Spring used by Indians, explorers and cattlemen before the Cherokee Strip was opened to white settlement. After the famous run of 1893, this spring was the main source of water for early Ponca City." Erected by the Ponca City Chapter, National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution, it was dedicated on Sept. 16, 1952.

A severe drought across the entire state prevailed from late April until mid-November. The Weather Bureau listed it as the driest crop season in Oklahoma history. The dry, hot weather during the wheat harvest helped give Oklahoma its biggest crop in history, almost 108 million bushels. However, as the crop season advanced, Oklahoma had the worst corn and cotton crops in history. The state was better prepared to cope with the drought due to soil conservation programs.

On April 9, an earthquake rocked the state. It was felt in all sections except the three Panhandle counties and along the extreme eastern border.

On Aug. 1, Frank Winsted

resumed his duties as city manager with a salary of \$10,800 a year. He had been called into military service on Sept. 11, 1950, with the 321st Criminal Investigation reserve unit, assigned to duty in Germany. George Biggs, who had been acting city manager during Winsted's absence, was given the new title of assistant city manager, devoting his attention chiefly to the management of the municipal airport.

Washington School was completed at 1615 North Seventh Street. Miss Madelle Hoffman was named as principal. To promote moral and spiritual growth, Washington initiated a Wednesday morning intercom devotional program.

In November, Dwight D. Eisenhower was elected president of the United States.

The Oklahoma voters overwhelmingly went Republican in all political races.

Damage was substantial in a fire at Continental Oil Co. There were 1.25 million new motor oilcans lost, as fire destroyed the building where the cans were stored.

1953 — The Po-Hi band marched in the inaugural parade for President Dwight D. Eisenhower. Band members raised \$9,500 from citizens to fund the trip. The band won second in the high school class.

While in Washington the students met with Sen. Robert Kerr and Sen. Mike Monroney, toured the National Art Gallery and visited the Smithsonian Institute and the Washington Monument. There were 2,000 people at the local depot to greet them when they returned. In March, Gov. Johnston Murray visited Ponca City and personally presented the band with their gold trophy.

VFW announced plans to buy the old Rock Cliff Country Club building at Lake Ponca from the Lew Wentz estate. It opened in July.

In January, more than 5,000 people attended the public open house of the new home of WBBZ Radio. The station celebrated its 25th anniversary and its fourth year of ownership by the Ponca City Publishing Company.

R.S. Maxwell opened the Maxwell's Home Appliances store at 219 West Grand.

(See AIRPORT, Page 11H)



THE AMERICAN Legion Children's Home was established in 1927 by an agreement between the American Legion of Oklahoma and the

state legislature at the time. The dedication and formal opening were held Sunday, June 17, 1928, with 40 children in residence.

Legion Provided Home for Youths

Originally chartered as the American Legion Home School, the American Legion Children's Home was established in 1927 by an agreement between the American Legion of Oklahoma and the state legislature at the time.

Under agreement, the legion was to provide suitable buildings and grounds for the care and maintenance of children of Oklahoma veterans.

After World War I, some states gave a bonus to returning veterans. Oklahoma elected to have a children's home as a place to care for children of deceased and needy veterans. During the 1950s, the requirements were changed to include children whose parents had been judged unable to care for them.

E.W. Marland, oilman and, later, governor of Oklahoma, was chairman of the A.L. Endowment Fund campaign of June 1925 and worked toward establishing the home.

He donated the 120-acre site in northeast Ponca City overlooking the valley of the Arkansas River and the Osage Hills. He also built the first dormitory of the new children's home with William H. McFadden building the second one. Both billets, as they were called at that time, were furnished by Marland and McFadden.

The dedication and formal opening were held Sunday, June 17, 1928, with 40 children in residence.

The third and fourth dormitories were built by the American Legion in 1929. These two buildings adjoined and hosted the bell tower. Next construction was a garage in 1932, later converted into the central dining room, kitchen and main laundry.

The superintendent's cottage was built by the American Legion in 1937.

Children at the home today attend Ponca City public schools, participate in athletics, band and other curricular activities. On Sunday, the children may go, if they like, off campus to the church of their choice.

Any of the young people graduating from high school while living at the home are eligible to borrow from the Earl Summer Scholarship Fund, helping make it possible for them to attend the college or vocational school of his or her choice. Summers was superintendent of the home from 1952 through 1976.

In 1954 a ground breaking ceremony was held for the construction of the recreation building, a result of a campaign to raise the funds. Donations of money and pledges of services by labor groups

came in to make it possible. The building was designed to hold assemblies, Scout meetings, sports during inclement weather and a library.

The children's home is still satisfying the immediate needs of the state's children. The kids are still sponsored by the American Legion but are assigned to the home through the Department of Human Services and the court system. A sponsorship provides gifts for birthdays and Christmas, a winter coat, a clothing allowance and other expenses.

The home has a maximum capacity of 52 with facilities for some to attend classes on campus and other to attend public schools in Ponca City.

A multi-purpose building was dedicated in April 2002 and was made possible through a grant from Donald W. Reynolds Foundation.

The new building was designed to function as a gymnasium, workout room, arts and crafts room, concession stand and seating for 200-250 spectators at sporting events. Additionally there is a stage with theater lighting and sound. There is a cafeteria on the bottom floor plus a small solarium.

Renovations, construction and remodeling continued during the 1960s. An older boys building was built as well as

work on the laundry building, a girl's dormitory, landscape projects and more.

A fire was reported in the basement stairwell of the young boys dorm; all were safe and the fire was put out with little damage except smoke damage to the building.

Until the late 1970s, the children's home functioned as an orphanage with boys and girls typically remaining in residence until graduation from high school. Residency capacity was about 100 children.

To comply with emerging national child-care standards and state licensing requirements, residency capacity was lowered to 50 and the length of stay reduced so that the youth is at the home no longer than necessary.

About half of the youth were adjudicated by the courts as deprived — abused, abandoned, neglected or orphaned.

In 1991, two new dormitories were dedicated, Mabee Hall and Sarkeys Hall. McFadden Hall, a 12-bed residential dormitory was built, and Summer's Hall, named for Earl Summers and was also the old bell tower, was returned to its original purpose of administrative/support services and Holloway Hall became the new educational services center.

Security Bank Served Ponca City

Ponca City was in an active period of growth when Security Bank opened its door, Feb. 8, 1917.

Business was brisk, profits expanding and building was going forward.

A group of businessmen of Ponca City set about to organize The Security Bank with an eye to the service of business in the community. Although there were other banks in Ponca City at this time, the new bank moved to a position of community service.

The bank was first organized with Curt E. Hall as president; E. W. Marland, vice president; Wade Hampton, cashier; Roy Onstot, assistant cashier, and D. J. Donahoe, J. Donahoe, L.S. Barnes, N.W. McDowell, Dr. W.A.T. Robertson and George Niemann as directors.

That first day 30 deposits were made totaling \$24,379.77 and during the month of February 1917, the total deposits were \$283,868.33.

An average of 500 people deposit money or cash checks each day now and frequently the totals run well above \$3 million in a single day's business.

First depositor in the new bank was the late Dr. W. A. T. Robertson. Other customers came and at the end of the first day's business the total resources were \$156,693.79. At the close of the first year total assets were \$803,000.

The following is a list of customers who made deposits with The Security Bank during the first week of its operation. They were: W. K. Moore, Rosa Schreckengast, Ruth McDowell, Emil Algeyer, C. C. Johnston, Charlotte Marland, Cary Burt, W. H. Corzine, Jay G. Paris, W. H. Vanselous, C. V. Hall, stockholder, D. J. Doughty, Al Hatten, McDowell & Castator, J. F. Rankin, Ed Wittmer, Carlos Combs, W. T. Constant, W. O. Clinger, First National Bank, Bliss; Leland Defore, Walter McGowen, W. W. Snipes, R. H. Davies, William McNally, W. O. Donley, C. D. Duncan, Hayden & Gill, Ed Manley, Harry Buchheimer and Mrs. C. D. Harper.

The late L.K. Meek assumed management of the bank the following spring and by 1924 the location of the bank was changed from the northwest corner of Second Street and Grand Avenue to its permanent location, which was constructed for it in the Masonic Building.

In 1952, the resources of the bank frequently totaled over \$16 million. The bank stood solidly during heavy trials of business recessions and prosperity.

The Security Bank pioneered in banking methods. It introduced the first night depository service in the Southwest, the first bank in northern Oklahoma to install a trust department, and it was the first bank in Ponca City to install safety deposit boxes and to offer its customers a personal department.

In 1934 the bank was the first in Oklahoma to introduce accounting by photography, a system whereby every check paid for the bank's customers is photographed for a permanent record.

Other services include the Christmas club, with 1,000 customers, and the audi-

chron time service which was available to everyone on the Ponca City telephone system. Upwards of 3,000 people dialed that number each day.

W. H. Koeneke became president of the bank in 1935, having been bank commissioner of Kansas under three governors of Kansas. During Koeneke's presidency he served as president of the National American Bankers' Association.

In 1943, J. R. Meek was elected president of the bank succeeding Koeneke who had retired. Subsequently Meek returned from service with the Navy during War II. With the expansion at the end of the war the bank also expanded its facilities, reorganizing departments and installing more modern equipment.

In 1952 The Security Bank was the largest state bank in Oklahoma and the oldest bank in Ponca City.

Officers in 1952 were J. R. Meek, president; W.D. Pfeiffer, vice president and cashier; L. D. Gilbert Sr., vice president; S. B. Crawford, vice president; W. C. Bren-

gle, assistant cashier; Clay E. Jones, assistant cashier; Carl Cramton, farm business manager, and S. Ellifrit, secretary.

The bank's directors were L.S. Barnes, W. D. Beard, R.L. Bosworth, S. C. Collins, Dr. R.B. Gibson, J. R. Meek, S. O. Meek, Clyde Muchmore, Dr. George H. Niemann and T. W. Prentice.

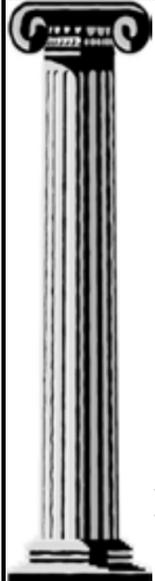
(See BANK, Page 12H)

KIDNERS & TRAILERS CAMPER

Sales, Service, Repair, Parts, Accessories, Storage, Uncover Pick-Up Toppers



2208 N. Ash • 762-8215
Mon-Fri 8am-5pm



THE STOREHOUSE SERVICES, INC.

205 W. Hartford, Ste. 120
(Cardinal Building, West of Valero)
Ponca City • 762-5581

Sharon Moreau
LaWanda Springer
John Seales

"Bringing All of Your Insurance Needs Together"

Home • Auto • Motorcycle
Boat • Workers Comp.
Commercial



We're Proud to be one of the Prettiest Palaces on Oklahoma's Prairies!



Ponca City's Marland Mansion provides the perfect setting for any event!

Weddings, Receptions & Dinners • Private Parties
Oktoberfest • Holiday Gala • Po-Hi Prom • More

Call 767-0420 for more information.

Deadly Tornado Ripped Through Blackwell in '55

By SHARON ROWEN
News Staff Writer

BLACKWELL — Tornadoes and high winds cut a path of destruction through Oklahoma and Kansas May 25, 1955. Hit hardest by the acts of mother nature were the towns of Blackwell and Udall, Kan.

Myra Hambleton, who lost her infant daughter and husband in the day's events, described that Wednesday as unsettling.

"A tornado had hit that morning before sunrise tearing the roof off the county garage where my dad worked," said Hambleton in an interview conducted on the 50th anniversary of the storm in 2005.

Hambleton's husband, Ray Riley, woke up earlier in the night crying. "I asked what was wrong and he said he dreamed that a storm had hit and he couldn't find me and my 5-year-old daughter Rita," explained Hambleton.

"We consoled each other and went back to sleep."

They awoke to find out that a tornado or straight line winds had caused damage to some buildings in the area, Hambleton thought her husband's dream had been a prelude to that event.

"I never gave the dream another thought," said Hambleton.

"It hailed on and off all day long. Ray arrived home from work around 8 p.m. I had both kids in bed."

The tornado hit at 9:30 p.m. "I heard a loud roar worse than a freight train. I looked at Ray and said 'Oh My God your dream.'"

"I handed Sherry to Ray and took Rita's hand and pulled her out of bed and that is the last thing I remember."

Ray and Sherry were found in the alley behind the house, while Hambleton and Rita were found in the street under a roof.

Hambleton was injured so badly she was taken to the armory with the dead

"I started moving around and scared a guard to death," said Hambleton.

Hambleton suffered a crushed left hand, broken jaw, eye injury, lost teeth and a severe head injury.

She was unconscious for 28 days and awoke on what would have been her infant daughter's second birthday.

Hambleton and Rita would recover from their injuries over time. The fear of storms stayed with Hambleton for a long time until she says she gave the fear back to God.

"I was living in Minnesota and the wind came up real strong, I crawled under a

table and gave it all to God and have not been afraid of storms since," said Hambleton. "I have a cave to hide in now," added Hambleton.

Another Survivor

John Hart, longtime Blackwell resident and owner/operator of Hart Floral Company, is another tornado survivor.

"I had left Blackwell early that morning to deliver a load of geraniums plants to Oklahoma City," said Hart. "On my way home I experienced rough weather the entire way. When I got home, one of my employees told me that he was glad to see me because he thought the greenhouses were going to blow away earlier that morning."

That evening Hart and his family, which consisted of his wife and four children ranging in age from 2 to 6, were in their living room watching television when a news flash came on reporting that Deer Creek had been damaged by a storm.

"I went outside and saw that it was starting to look rough," said Hart. "A short time later the wind picked up and it started to hail, so I got up and grabbed a wash pan to put over my head and ran to the greenhouse to see if it had broke any glass. About the time I got to the greenhouse I had a little talk with the Lord and he told me to go back to the house and get my wife and kids and get to the cellar."

The cellar was located under a detached garage.

"Just as we got the cellar door shut it hit with a bang and lasted for a short time," said Hart.

"After a while, I got enough courage to raise the door on the cellar and looked out, I saw the garage was still there but it was leaning. I looked a little further and saw that our home was gone and all of the greenhouses were gone. I just closed the cellar door and sat down and thanked God for everything."

Hart said he and his family stayed in the cellar for awhile before they had the courage to come out.

"It was a night that I will never forget," said Hart.

The Hart family rebuilt and the family business is still going strong in Blackwell after 90 years.

The 1955 tornado was the second of three that Hart has gone through.

Hart said he taught his children not to fear the storms but respect what they can do.

Heroic Action

Another story that resulted from the tornado was that of a plumber who tried to save his mother-in-law's life.



The widow of a 53-year-old Blackwell plumber received \$50 per month death benefit for the act of heroism that cost her husband's life.

The Carnegie Hero Fund commission made the award citing Frank Alexander Butler for heroism during the tornado that struck Blackwell.

The commission also presented Mrs. Butler a bronze medal awarded Butler posthumously.

Butler died while trying to save the life of his mother-in-law, Florence N. Isenhart, 84.

Following tornado warnings, Butler urged Isenhart to join his wife and others in a storm cellar. Isenhart, who was not well, would not leave the house and a neighbor refused to help him move her forcibly. Butler went to the shelter but when high winds became audible just before the twister struck, he ignored protests from his wife and neighbors and returned to the house for her.

He made it to the two and one-half story frame house and called for her. She was in a bedroom on the ground floor.

Then the tornado struck, demolishing the home.

Debris formed a partial bridge over Isenhart, who suffered minor injuries from which she recovered. Butler's body was removed from the wreckage six hours later.



MYRA HAMBLETON is shown looking at the 50th anniversary memorial plaque in honor of the victims of the May 25, 1955, tornado. (News Photo by Sharon Rowen)

Price of Coffee Goes Up; Tornado Flattens Blackwell

The price of coffee, approval of toll roads and population projections were big news in 1954 while the Blackwell Tornado made headlines in 1955.

Early in the year, the price of coffee went up to 10 cents.

The first Youth Traffic Court was held.

The Mid-American Music Camp, sponsored by Pete Long, Charles Cuning and Homer Luther opened in the summer.

Voters across the state approved a proposed state toll road.

The first youth traffic court was held, with Bill Boax, high school senior, as judge.

City Commissioners considered a summer theater to be located in North Park. What was originally planned to be a bandshell grew to amphitheater proportions. More than 75 citizens in the area protested the location and size of the project, and requested that the proposal be submitted to a vote of the people.

Construction throughout the city included an addition to the high school, the new First Presbyterian Church, the new Catholic Church, a carbon black plant, a new hangar at the airport, and the No. 3 fire station at Hartford and Seventh Street. The 515,000-bushel coop elevator on Ranch Drive was completed.

The American Legion and Auxiliary launched a drive for funds for a new recreation building at the American Legion Home School. They raised more than \$55,000 and construction began in May.

The S & H Green Stamp Redemption store opened.

The Jens-Marie Hotel, under new ownership, offered a free dinner in a contest to name the three dining rooms at the hotel.

The University of Oklahoma's research bureau forecast a Ponca City population in 2010 of 41,900, depending on adequate water supply.

City commissioners changed the name of North Park to War Memorial Park.

The grounds around the Lakeside Golf Course were named Lew Wentz Park.

A new tornado warning system was established by a committee of Civil Defense workers in cooperation with the CAA weather station, police and fire departments and WBBZ Radio. The warning was to be one long blast of the fire station siren and several short

ones to signal the all clear. Fifteen qualified tornado observers were appointed. The system was first activated in June from the basement at WBBZ, and was used four times that month.

City officials requested voluntary restrictions on water usage. On June 25, water usage hit an all-time high at 15 million gallons. That same day, electric power consumption hit a new record — 185,000 kilowatts. A city water main to

the Country Club, Ponca Military Academy and the American Legion Home School was being considered since it was reported water sources there were drying up.

Lake Ponca Park's water well was dry and firecrackers were banned for the area due to fire danger. The city considered drilling 100 new wells near the Arkansas River that would supply 50 million gallons per day.

(See COFFEE, Page 10H)



AHH... SERENITY

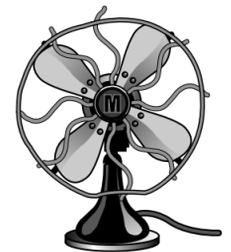
Massage • Reflexology
Body Waxing • Manicures • Pedicures
Microdermabrasion • Sports Massage
Body Treatments including
Steam Canopy, Wraps & Polishes

Bodyworks
Massage and Spa

762-5000 2002 N. 14th, Ponca City

We offer several packages to choose from. We also can customize a package just for you.
Professional and Certified Staff • Gift Certificates Available.

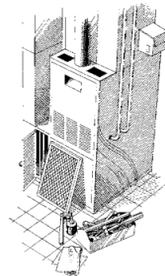
Heating and Air Technology Has Changed a Lot in 100 Years.



But since 1977, the good folks at Stolhand Heating & Air Conditioning have brought Ponca City the latest advances in comfort and energy efficiency.

The proof is in the honors we've garnered over the past 30 years, including multiple Carrier's Distinguished Dealer Awards and 2004's U.S. Small Business Administration Family-Owned Business Champion Award.

We thank our many customers for our continued success, and we pledge to "keep up the good work!"



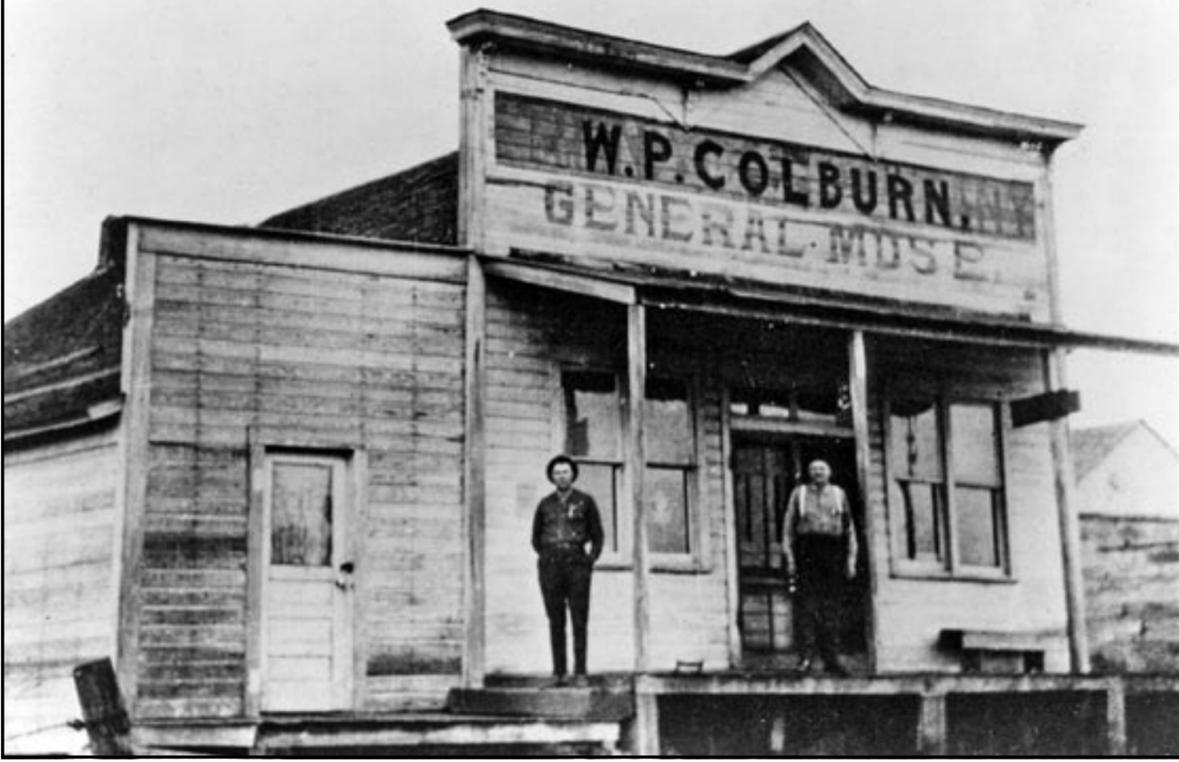
STOLHAND
Heating & Air Conditioning

Carrier

413 South Third, Ponca City
(580) 762-5935
www.stolhandheatandair.com

Many Court Clerks Served Kay County

Kay County has had a host of Court Clerks since 1907. The first was Ed P. Reed 1907-1916, followed by Otis Cross 1907-1909 deputy court clerk and reporter. Cross was born March 22, 1882, in Tarkio, Mo., and came to Oklahoma with his parents in 1900, settling on a farm east of Ponca City. He attended school in Tonkawa and in 1908 graduated from the University Preparatory School in Tonkawa, now known as Northern Oklahoma College. A week after graduation he became Kay County deputy court clerk and court reporter under Ed Reed. In 1923 he was named District Court reporter. He retired from the position in 1964. In May of 1965, Cross did an interview with the Crimson Rambler. He told the paper that his biggest thrill came on Sept. 30, 1964 when the Kay County Bar Association honored him with a resolution and presented him with a plaque inscribed: "To Otis Cross in appreciation for many years of outstanding loyal and faithful service as court reporter." Cross passed away on Aug. 9, 1971. O. H. Atteberry 1910-1914, served as deputy court clerk under Ed Reed. **Newkirk's Mr. Music O.H. Atteberry** O.H. Atteberry, the man who made Newkirk famous for its music was born in Illinois in October, 1869. He moved with his parents to a homestead south of Wellington, Kansas. They lived in a log cabin made from logs taken from the Chikaskia River bottom near Hunnewell. He attended grade school in Summer. When he was 14 years old the family moved to Meade County in Western Kansas. As a cattleman his father lost everything when a blizzard killed his entire herd. Atteberry's mother died that same year and he and his father returned to Illinois. He attended the University of Illinois for one year. Atteberry had been on the old Chisholm trail in Oklahoma herding cattle and he liked the rolling plains. He decided to make the race into the Cherokee Strip on Sept. 16, 1893. Before the opening he taught in rural schools in Meade and Sumner counties. He made the race into Oklahoma and staked an 80 acre claim in Garfield County but gave it to his brother, who later sold it. From there he went to Tonkawa where he served as principal of the public school for four years. A.D. Kersey, county superintendent, hired him to teach at Kildare, following his years at Tonkawa. He stayed in Kildare three years, where he coached a winning girls basketball team. Atteberry came to Newkirk in January 1908 and spent several years working at the court house, including two years as deputy clerk for the District Court and later as clerk of the county court under the late Claude Duval, county judge at the time. In 1918 he became cashier of the Farmers State Bank. He coached basketball at Newkirk for 12 years and built up a record of two undefeated seasons and a state championship in 1910. For several years he directed the Newkirk Methodist Church choir and the Newkirk Choral Society, which was noted for the difficult selections it presented. While working in the bank he started his first high school orchestra in 1921, cutting short his noon lunch hour to be able to spend the time in music. He later became director of music in the schools and organized a grade school orchestra to develop young musicians to replace graduates from the high school group. In 1934 the orchestra won first place in the district contest, first in Tri-State, first in the State contest in Norman and first in the National contest in Ottawa, Kan. In 1935 the high school orchestra made a repeat of the winnings, taking second in the national contests at Madison, Wis. The group traveled in a special Santa Fe train coach arranged for by Hugh Davis. Later they won a second in the National contest at Stillwater. In 1940 the orchestra went to Waco, Texas, where it won the highest honors of any orchestra entered in the contest, with a symphony of 75 members, the largest in all the years of Atteberry's service. He suffered a heart attack before the contest, unknown to members and chaperons of the orchestra, and appeared as director without the knowledge of his doctor. Approximately 300 students served in his orchestra during 26 years from 1921 until 1947 when he was forced to retire because of his health. (See COURT, Page 11H)



ALTHOUGH THE town now has only a few scattered homes, Hardy once was a thriving municipality along the Midland Valley railroad in the far northeast corner of the county.

Hardy Thrived Around General Store

The following information was published in a 1941 issue of The Ponca City News.

Hardy, Kay county's smallest town, isn't the thriving little city it once was. Hardy, in fact, has dwindled in population until the 1940 census taker could find only 41 residents.

Although the town now has only a few scattered homes, Hardy once was a thriving municipality along the Midland Valley railroad in the far northeast corner of the county. So said W. P. Colburn, former postmaster and operator of the general store there, when a reporter stopped while looking over the town Sunday afternoon.

Once Thriving Business Town

Colburn, who resides in the only brick home in the town, said he had lived in Hardy 23 years and proudly related description about the town's "better days" of World War time.

"I operated the store and handled the post office for more than 20 years," Colburn related. "I had good business, too. During the war, the sales at my store totaled \$18,000 a year and I took care of the place myself and handled the post office, too."

Colburn's store building has been closed since the postal department took out Hardy's post office more than a year ago.

The advent of modern vehicles caused Colburn's business to decline considerably before he finally closed the store.

The store is about the only unoccupied place in town. The only other place without a single resident is the old town jail, situated on a hill near one of the town's two "public" water wells.

Jail Not Used Recently

The jail, a small square structure built out of heavy wood, once was used to take care of different citizens and visitors who got out of order. It hasn't been used recently, Colburn related.

"No, the town doesn't have a marshal," Colburn answered to a question. "It hasn't had a mayor or any officers for about 10 years, I guess."

Closing of the railroad station is partly responsible for the town's decline, Colburn thinks. "Why, we once shipped out over 300 carloads of cattle here each year," he declared. "It looks like that business alone would have been enough for the railroad to keep an agent here."

The railroad, however, removed the agent and also removed the depot. It kept a section man there and he now resides in a brightly painted house near the tracks.

Family Reunion

Descendants of W.P. and Eva Colburn gathered in Arkansas City, Kan., Oct. 21, 2006, for their annual reunion.

W.P. Colburn moved his family from New England in the 1800s to Hardy. He owned and operated Hardy's only general store with the assistance of his son, Gardner William "G.W." Colburn. G.W. married Flossie Mae Salem Aug. 24, 1923. W.P. and Eva also had a daughter, Mae, who married Frank Frame who settled in the Pratt, Kan., area.

Four generations of the late G.W. and Flossie Colburn were represented at the reunion. The families of Frank and Mae Colburn Frame were unable to attend this year.

The first generation in attendance were Gardner William "Bill" and Jeri Colburn of Fairfax, Jane N. and Charlene York Colburn Sr. of Arkansas

City, Kenneth and Emma Jean Colburn Ross of Euless, Texas, Raleigh and Wanda Colburn of Newkirk. Not present due to health were Richard and Barbara "Carol" Colburn Hess. Sons Ray T. died in 1975 and John C. Colburn died in 1993.

Representing the second generation were Raymond and Carrie Colburn-Cole Barker of Derby, Kan., and her brother James N. Colburn Jr. of Arkansas City, and Charles and Phyllis Colburn McClafflin of Arkansas City.

In attendance representing the third generation were Justin M. McClafflin and Andrea C. McClafflin Farris, both from Arkansas City, and Heather R. Cole and Russell Cole of Derby, Kan.

The fourth generation attending were Skyler, Mercedes and Peyton McClafflin (children of Justin), Alyssa C. Farris (child of Andrea), all

of Arkansas City, and Dakota Owens and Colton Post (children of Heather) of Derby, Kan.

Also in attendance were family friends, Holton and Jane Payne of Newkirk and Carol Ross Johnston of Shidler.

The oldest and youngest family members honors are Bill Colburn, Aug. 14, 1925, and Colton Michael Post, Aug. 9, 2006.

Charles and Phyllis McClafflin, daughter of the late Roy Thomas Colburn, organized and hosted the reunion. Charlene Colburn, Jerri Colburn and Carrie Barker assisted in hosting the dinner.

Group pictures were taken, developed and given to families by Carrie Barker.

A newsletter in remembrance of the late Tresa Gail Colburn-Crocker Williams was presented by Phyllis McClafflin.

Bumper to Bumper Traces Its Roots to Auto Electric

Bumper to Bumper Auto Parts of Ponca City located at Grand Avenue and the railroad tracks, was founded in 1924 by Leonard Fawcett and was known as Auto Electric.

In 1934 the company moved to the present location with a total parts and service area of 2,500 square feet. Fawcett died in 1967 and Leonard Staiert was named general manager until 1974 when Bill Raulerson was made general manager.

After Raulerson's retirement in 1990 Fred Miller was named general manager.

Over the years this company has grown and changed internally to meet the needs of the time.

They now have a square footage of 15,500 square feet

with a large showroom for equipment. They also have an extensive line of small engine parts for all lawn and gardening needs.

The staff consists of Fred Miller, Franky McDaniel, Karol Ramsey, Marion Morris, Jane Miller and Cory Knowlton.

The staff's experience allows them to be knowledgeable in all areas of automotive and truck parts, from the older models to the new ultra modern computerized parts of today.

The core business has always been and will always be serving the customers and dealers in the area. The company appreciates the loyalty of all of the customers over the years.

Bluebell Garden Club Organized During 1949

The Bluebell Garden Club was organized and federated Oct. 12, 1949, by Mrs. W.H. Hird. The first president was Mrs. Roy Neal.

Bluebell Club assisted the Ponca City Garden Council with city projects and maintained the triangle North Fifth Street with tulips. In the summer the triangle was ablaze with the color of summer flowers, and greens are used for holiday decoration.

The club donated a bird house for the Bluebird Trail at Lake Ponca and has presented books to the Cultural Center library.

Members have helped with the making and distribution of

tray favors for rest homes during Christmas and have furnished flowers for the Ponca City library. The club has also participated in the radio garden club program.

To help finance projects, members hold a plant a food sale in the spring.

Officers in 1969 were Mrs. Ray C. Younger, president; Mrs. Ralph Harrison, vice president; Mrs. Wiley DeVilbiss, secretary; Mrs. Thomas Konklin, treasurer, and Mrs. Mary Eckel, parliamentarian.

In 1981 Mrs. Edward Kopisch hosted a meeting of the Bluebell Garden Club. Mrs. Vet Morgan presented the lesson about birthstones.



Golden Villa Adult Day Care Center

Thank You Ponca City For 20 Years!



1722 N. 4th St. • Suite B • 762-0264

Group Discussions • Therapeutic Skills
Games of Skill • Problem Solving Skills
Entertainment • Book Reviews • Meals
Snacks • Walks • Daily Awareness
Exercise • Music • Arts & Crafts • Films

A non-profit community-based agency serving the elderly and disabled since 1987.



Don't Let the MICE Win The Fight!
Call The Professionals Today!

Serving the Ponca City area for almost 45 Years!

PARKER Pest Control INC.
WHATEVER IT TAKES!

3616 Lake Rd. • Ponca City
762-6614 • 800-324-BUGS
www.parkerpestcontrol.com

All work directed by a graduate entomologist.

Integration of Local Schools Made Headlines During 1956

Early in 1956 Burbank Rock Company, headed by Ponca Citian Kenneth Cookson, won the contract for the Fourteenth Street improvement. His bid was \$471,863.

School board members prepared for integration that was mandated to begin in the fall.

Ponca City's population in corporate limits was 25,730.

A \$75,000 fire at Kroger's in March permanently closed the store.

The planning commission recommended an engineering study of the feasibility of an underpass at Central between First Street and Union. International Milling Company objected to that location, contending it would interfere with its operations and projected expansion plans.

Conoco became the first company to install a production platform in water deeper than 100 feet.

In April, I.H. Needham, co-owner of Mid-West Creamery, was elected mayor.

Conoco announced plans for a \$3 million expansion — an 11,000-barrel hike in capacity through a catalytic reformer — to be completed in mid-1957.

The Country Club began construction of a swimming pool, snack bar, and bathhouse.

City commissioners authorized fluoridation of city water, approved a meat inspection ordinance, sent Santa Fe suggestions for improving grade crossings, and accepted a bid to construct a city warehouse and shops at Union and Emporia.

Dr. E.C. Yeary, Dr. E. C. Mohler, Dr. H.T. Terry, and Dr. M.L. Mitchell opened their new \$235,000 medical arts building south of the hospital.

Conoco scientists developed and patented the Vibroseis method of seismic oil exploration. Vibroseis was sensitive in locating promising structures below ground and beneath oceans. It was particularly useful on land where explosives were impractical.

In May, milk prices rose an average of one cent a quart and 10 cents a gallon.

Over 500 school patrol kids ate 1,005 wieners and drank 120 bottles of soft drinks at their annual picnic.

The Camp Fire Girls sold

enough candy to purchase a 16-foot diving board for their pool at Camp McFadden.

Ponca Citians contributed \$1,600 to the American Legion Home School for an irrigation project that included drilling a 750-gallon-a-minute well on school farmland to serve 60 acres of alfalfa and oats.

W.D. Clarke, who had operated his transfer business for 40 years, sold it to Henry Dempewolf and retired.

In June, at the Bonneville, Utah, Salt Flats, Ab Jenkins, famous racing car driver, drove a 1956 Pontiac in a 24-hour endurance run. He broke 54 existing Class B stock car speed and endurance records. Using Conoco Super Gasoline and Conoco All Seasons Super Motor Oil, the car went 2,841 miles, averaging 118 miles per hour. The car went farther and faster in 24 hours than any other stock car had ever been driven, yet required only a single quart of motor oil.

The airport management board announced that \$48,500 in government matching funds was available for airport improvement.

The Chamber of Commerce passed a resolution establishing a non-profit industrial development foundation to handle land and financial requirements of industries moving to Ponca City. The budget was initially set at \$26,000. C.D. Northcutt was chairman.

The city's 400 fireplugs were painted red, yellow, and green, according to the water flow.

The Board of Education gave city teachers \$100 annual pay raises.

City commissioners authorized advertisement of bids for lease of more land at Lake Ponca, doubling the number of acres. They also approved a ski jump at Lake Ponca.

More than 3,000 people attended the Ponca Indian Powwow. Clyde Warrior, 17, won the year's title of world champion Indian fancy dancer.

Kay County Judge Walter Doggett approved partial distribution of \$5.5 million of the Lew Wentz estate to the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma, and the Lew Wentz student loan fund at OU and OSU.

The city approved purchase of \$3,000 worth of civil

defense tornado warning equipment — four sirens, two walkie-talkie radios, ground observer tower, and a trailer. They also funded maintenance of a direct-line teletype and intercom system at the warning center.

The Fourteenth Street repaving and widening project was finished.

1957 — Continental Oil joined other oil companies in raising the price of crude oil. In Ponca City, they raised the price of all grades of gasoline by a cent a gallon. L.F. McCollum, president, explained that rising costs forced the prices up.

D.F.B. Harsh, chief of police, announced that police would no longer reduce charges for drunk drivers.

The City commission approved building a heated dock at Lake Ponca, and to purchase the Wentz Estate land along the west side of Lake Ponca.

In March, city commissioners announced their support of the Kaw Lake Reservoir, and requested a survey from the Army Corps of Engineers. The Kaw Reservoir Development Assn. was organized, with Lawrence C. Cannon, retiring city commissioner, elected president.

The Oklahoma Highway Department planned a new highway parallel to U.S. 60 past Tonkawa. Improvements were also to be made to U.S. 77 south of Newkirk to Ponca City.

The 279th Infantry Regiment held an open house at the new National Guard Army in conjunction with a one day recruiting drive.

Rep. Page Belcher of Enid notified Frank Winsted, city manager, that Ponca City would receive \$28,800 in federal aid for urban planning. Ponca City was to be the first city in Oklahoma to receive this aid.

Services were held in the new Asbury Methodist Church.

History was recalled with the announcement that the city planned to remodel the civic center. The original building cost \$170,000; replacement would cost \$648,646. City fathers approved remodeling contracts for \$82,746.

Rampaging May floods broke a prolonged drought. The Dixie Hill section of town was threatened by the swollen Arkansas River. (See SCHOOLS, Page 10H)



MARLAND'S GRAND Home, 10th and Grand, is the home of an Indian exhibit, 101 Ranch collection, and DAR Museum. (News Photo by Rolf Clements)

Marland's Grand Home Restored to Early Glory

In an effort to preserve the heritage of the historic building and grounds and to provide a haven for the museums already in place at the 1916 home E.W. Marland had constructed at 1000 East Grand Avenue, the summer of 1997 saw the birth of a 501-C-3 foundation originally called "Friends of the Cultural Center."

It was during this time that the city of Ponca City, which purchased the 22-room home in 1967 for \$85,000 from Mrs. Jay G. Paris, widow of the late Jay G. Paris, a prominent furniture dealer, rancher and civic leader, determined that it might no longer be financially feasible to maintain what had become known as the Ponca City Cultural Center.

Citizens in the community rallied, headed by Marqueta Griswold Brown, and when a vote was taken among the citizens of Ponca City, it was mandated to keep the home, rather than to sell it to a private buyer. The home is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Currently, Friends of Marland's Grand Home Foundation, whose name was officially changed in August 2000, after the city changed the name of the building to Marland's Grand Home, partners with the city of Ponca City to help fulfill its mission: To preserve and restore this historic home, educate the public about E.W. Marland, founder of Marland Oil Company, and create an authentic atmosphere which portrays the Marland lifestyle from 1908 to 1928.

Designed by architect Solomon Layton, construction on the home was begun in 1914 and finished in 1916. Layton also built the civic center in Ponca City the same year.

Designed in Italian Renaissance Revival style, the 16,500-square-foot structure is flanked by one-story wings. Stucco walls, rising from a concrete foundation, are sheltered by a hipped-roof covered with clay tiles. This roof is crowned by a metal ridge cresting. The facade is dominated by a full-length veranda shaded by a hipped roof sheathed with polychrome clay tiles. Pairs of Tuscan columns support the porch roof. Arched windows, bracket eaves, and ornamental urns provide architectural significance to the facade as well.

Arts and Crafts interior woodwork and fixtures are seen throughout the interior of the building. A carriage house also sits on the west edge of the historic property, designed in the same style as the building.

Originally, the grounds and home covered an area of 640,000 square feet. Viewers standing near one of the east windows of the second floor could see all the way to what is now Fourteenth Street.

A magnificent formal garden, designed by Marland's Japanese gardener, Henry Hatashita, contained many avenues bordered by evergreen hedges and hinted of the Gardens of Versailles.

Four sun-dials or fountains, water lily ponds with gold fish, and a conservatory were located on the grounds, along with a variety of exotic plants and trees, with a large vegetable garden located on the southern border of the estate.

The full length of the home and gardens was outlined with Amur River Privet hedges and cedar trees, a few of which still exist today. Four hundred trees were transplanted from the

Arkansas River Valley and one of Marland's friends and employees, Harold Osborn, was instrumental in suggesting that scores of magnolias, considered a symbol of manorial dignity, be transported from his wife's home on Avery Island, La.

As visitors enjoyed the veranda, which stretched across the full front of the home, they looked north to observe a golf course park, containing approximately 24 square blocks of land, with Bermuda grass fairways stretching all the way to what is now called Highland Avenue. The course was bordered on the west by Tenth Street and on the east by Fourteenth Street. Lily ponds, flower beds, and shrubbery interspersed with little bridges of wood and stone added to the roughs of the course. Marland wanted the citizens of Ponca City to enjoy these greens, which were free for all to use.

After Marland lost his fortune and holdings in the oil company, the house was inhabited for a time by Dan Moran, a Continental Oil Company executive.

It later became the property of the Jay G. Paris family, who in turn sold it the city of Ponca City.

For many years the city maintained a Native American Indian collection which had formerly been housed in the Ponca City Library. However, costs to maintain the building skyrocketed and the

city fell behind in the maintenance of the property. It was at this point the Friends of Marland's Grand Home stepped in.

Much has been accomplished during the 10 years that the organization has worked with the city. A large grant was received which created a new central heat and air conditioning system for the building.

The Daughters of the American Revolution's third floor museum was moved to the first floor of the home, making it much easier for visitors to explore artifacts.

Each room has been carefully restored to much of its former glory, while many of the rooms have been updated to hold collections of various interests, including the Native American Exhibits, the Royal Air Force in Oklahoma exhibit, the artwork of the late local Native American artist Walt Harris, a vintage clothes exhibit contained in the original cedar lined closet of the Marland family, the 101 Ranch collection and a child's room in which original hand-painted ovals were discovered in the fall of 2003.

The wood floors have also been restored, and new draperies and furniture, appropriate for the period, decorate the house.

In addition, the home has become handicap accessible, with the installation of a lift on the east end of the veranda. (See HOME, Page 10H)

CHUCKWAGON SPECIALS

Every Week, All Year Long!

Every Sunday, ALL DAY LONG!

3 Pizzas for the Price of 2! That's One...

FREE Pizza!

Every Monday, ALL DAY LONG!

MEDIUM PRICEBUSTER PIZZA \$6.49

LARGE SINGLE-TOPPING PIZZA \$7.49

Every Tuesday, ALL DAY LONG!

Buy ANY Pizza At Regular Price...Get A

2nd PIZZA FREE!

Every Wednesday, ALL DAY LONG!

Buy ANY Pizza At Regular Price...Get The Next Smaller Size Pizza For Only **\$1.99**

Every Thursday is Family Value Night!

Jumbo 1-Topping Pizza for Only..... **\$12.49**

Additional Toppings \$2.05 Each

Every Friday, ALL DAY LONG!

Buy Any Size Pizza at Regular Price and GET A 2nd PIZZA* FOR... **\$4.00**

Every Saturday, MIX OR MATCH!

Medium 1-Topping Pizza, Calzone, Sandwich, Large Pasta, Quesa Pizza or Dessert Pizza **2 for \$14.49**



MAZZIO'S PIZZA

720 East Prospect • 762-6681

*Free or 2nd pizza must be of equal or lesser value. Prices shown do not include sales tax.

We're Proud to Have Been a Part of Ponca City Since 1986

THE BOAT HOUSE & RV CENTER












We'll Help You Enjoy Living in the Great State of Oklahoma!

2100 Lake Rd. • Ponca City
580-762-2414

Monday thru Friday 8:30 - 6 • Saturday 8:30 - 4
www.boathouserv.com





MORE DAMAGE is pictured of the May 25, 1955, tornado in Blackwell.

Coffee

(Continued From Page 7H)

The new Hartford Shopping Center opened with the Jane 'n' John Shop, the S.J. Harris Grocery and Variety Store, laundromat, beauty salon and bar business.

In July, Braniff Airways discontinued operations in Ponca City.

Edwards Style Shop, owned by Ed Farha of Bartlesville, opened at 401 East Grand.

More than 10,000 people visited the first Home Show held at the new agriculture building. There were 64 local and national dealers displaying merchandise.

Commissioners proposed a \$2.8 million bond issue for new water wells and expansion of the electric system, and voters passed it.

Continental Oil Company completed a new \$3.5 million coking unit, as part of its \$11 million expansion plan.

Ponca City High School retained its championship rating in a regional marching contest for the sixth straight year.

Mrs. Grace Miles and son, Forrest Miles, opened a new funeral home, Grace Memorial Chapel, on North Fourteenth.

A new restaurant, "Airport Café," opened at the airport. Flyers called it "Cross Country Café." Pilots had one-stop service with fuel, storage, mechanics, rental car service and food.

Johnnie Riggs and Fred Tindel, landowners, submitted a petition to annex the North Woodlands area into the city limits, and it was approved.

City planners approved Earl Souligny's plat plan to develop land north of Hartford between Fourth and Seventh Streets.

1955 — The city's new \$350,000 sewage disposal plant went into operation, eliminating raw sewage being dumped into the Arkansas River.

Walter Doggett, Ponca City attorney, took office as the new county judge.

W.P. Hytche, math teacher and assistant coach at Attucks, took over the Blue Moon restaurant.

Great Lake Carbon Corp. bought a 20-acre tract in Ponca Industrial acreage north of the city to build a plant for making coke briquettes out of petroleum coke.

The Chamber of Commerce had a record 640 members, with paid fees of \$3,802.

The city was given the rights to water east of the city coming from 70 wells that would pump 19,000 gallons per minute.

As one of its golden anniversary projects, Ponca City Rotary Club presented a piano to the American Legion Home School.

Doug Blubaugh won a position on the wrestling team that would represent the United States in the Pan-American games in Mexico City.

In March, Continental Oil Co. announced a 4 percent wage increase for its 3,000 workers.

The company was also constructing a research lab to house 60 scientists and technicians. The building was in the

shape of a doughnut, built out of an 80,000-barrel oil storage tank.

Ponca Indians won the first Conservation Service Award ever won in Oklahoma by an Indian farmer group. One of the few given in the nation, it was presented to 15 young Indians farming about 1,500 acres of land.

Prior to an upcoming city vote, The Ponca City News published diagrams of a proposed amphitheater in North Park. Many citizens sent letters to the paper about the issue, and 100 high school students signed a petition against it, suggesting the money be used instead for tennis courts. The proposal failed by a 5-1 margin.

A total of 1,099 children in Ponca City schools began the series of inoculations against polio with the Salk vaccine.

Joe C. Steichen, Route 4, was named the outstanding young farmer of Oklahoma.

The Pioneer Woman Statue was announced as the top tourist attraction in the state. It had 58,050 visitors in 1954.

Continental announced it would build a \$500,000 dairy wax plant at the local refinery.

On May 25, a tornado at Blackwell destroyed the northeast part of town, leaving 70 reported dead and more than 500 injured. The Hazel-Atlas glass plant was flattened and 70 blocks were leveled. Two days later, the same area was flooded by the Chikaskia River.

On May 27, the new sirens were set off for the first time in Ponca City, due to a tornado alert. The alert lasted more than 10 hours.

In June, President Eisenhower declared Kay County a disaster area, and granted \$125,000 for tornado damage. Directors of city civil defense reappraised the tornado warning system and determined that, in the future, sirens and whistles would be blown intermittently instead of continually, and the all-clear signal would be three short blasts repeated at intervals.

Bill Maugans of the local tornado warning center announced that Ponca City was in line to receive a \$50,000 radar storm spotter.

Police Chief Don Thurber began recruiting a city auxiliary police company of volunteers to function in a disaster or emergency.

Zales Jewelry bought Stanley's Jewelers, a store founded in Ponca City in 1897.

Speeches and a tournament opened the 9-hole Municipal Golf Course.

Board of Education members adopted a modified plan of integration at a special meeting in July. African-American junior and senior high school students could enroll on a volunteer basis at Ponca City junior high or senior high. Attucks Junior-Senior High School was to operate through 1956. At the beginning of the 1956-57 term, Attucks would be only an elementary school,

first through sixth grades.

American Business Club challenged the Jaycees to a whiskey contest to begin Aug. 1 for the Cherokee Strip celebration in September.

City commissioners approved a \$1.975 million budget for the new fiscal year, the biggest ever passed. All city employees received a four percent raise.

There were 754 children who received their second Salk polio vaccine shots, representing 58 percent of the children eligible.

On July 31, Mrs. Lydie Marland, widow of the late E.W. Marland, was declared missing. She had left Ponca City in 1953 and reportedly had not been seen since. In August, a motel owner in Independence, Mo., said Mrs. Marland had stayed there several months.

Cities Service announced the \$5 million expansion at its local refinery.

The Ponca City Library was air conditioned at a cost of \$10,000. The library had 31,340 books. The 480 readers in the library Vacation Reading Club read almost 7,000 books. Mrs. Gertrude Sterba, city librarian, donated duplicate books to Brazil.

The Home Builders Assn. opened 35 new homes at the Parade of Homes in September.

Final plans were approved for the new Liberty Elementary School and an addition to the Junior High School.

The Cherokee Strip Celebration in September was bigger than ever before. A pageant with 300 people in the cast was held at Lake Ponca for three nights. There were 41 ladies entered in the queen contest. Ila Slavin, 18, won, and received a four-day, all-expense-paid trip to Kansas City, plus a \$500 wardrobe. The long parade featured drill units from Oklahoma City, a six-hitch white pony team and Tulsa's Shrine Mounted Drill Team with 21 purebred Palominos plus many local floats.

The Rev. Evans Moseley of First Baptist Church was named official chaplain for the jail.

Ponca City's Arkalalah queen candidate was Miss Sue Cooper (Ziegenhain).

Fishing, boating and hunting areas at Lake Ponca were set up as duck season opened with 100 hunters on hand.

The new \$80,000 armory in Dan Moran Park was dedicated in November.

Several employees of The Ponca City News were nominated for the Pulitzer Prize in Journalism for its news and picture coverage of the Blackwell tornado May 25. The Associated Press Managing Editors Assn. also honored the newspaper staff.

The Wildcats played Bartlesville on Dec. 13, swamping them 58-41. It was the first time the two teams had played one another since the Korean War.

Schools

(Continued From Page 9H)

City employees were successful in building a dike on the east side of U.S. 77 southeast of Ponca City, which held back the floodwaters.

Large amounts of mail were backed up at the Post Office due to flooded highways and wrecked trains. Thousands of citizens flocked to the dam to see water go over the spillway for the first time since 1951. Damage to Kay County roads was over \$100,000.

The Chamber of Commerce sponsored a "Welcome Tourist" clinic and introduced a new tourist booklet, featuring the Pioneer Woman Statue. Ivy Coffey, city editor at The Ponca City News, wrote the booklet.

The Jaycees kicked off the "Air Watch," a plan to watch traffic from the air and try to cut down on traffic fatalities on weekends and holidays.

The Lake Ponca ski area was closed to out-of-state boats on Sundays and holidays to prevent overcrowding.

The Ponca City Federated Music Club observed National Music Club Week and presented a series of broadcasts over WBBZ Radio.

District Boy Scouts were out in force at the Spring Camporee with 125 boys and their leaders attending.

In June, Gov. Gary signed a \$35,000 appropriations bill for the Pioneer Woman Museum.

The continuing rains cut Ponca City's water hardness by 40 percent.

Emergency Warning and Weather Bureau agents from Washington, D.C., visited Ponca City's Civil Defense Tornado Warning Center, located in the basement of WBBZ studios. The visitors felt that the local center could serve as a pilot station for

similar severe warning systems throughout the country.

In June, 46 local Army Reservists were called to active duty at Fort Chaffee, La.

City Commissioners received bids on a new inboard motorboat for Lake Ponca to replace the city's patrol boat that sank.

A mosquito and fly control program began in July, with City park employees spraying 150 square blocks nightly from 7 p.m. to 3 a.m.

The city approved a record general fund budget of \$21,297,915 for the 1957-58 fiscal year. It was \$154,410 higher than 1956-57.

Donald H. Thurber was named new chief of police, with Sid Wilson Jr. as assistant chief.

W.D. Edwards celebrated his 25th year as a DeSoto-Plymouth dealer.

Smitty held an open house to celebrate the remodeling and redecorating of Smitty's Men's and Boys Wear.

In September, an area west of the east side of Lake Ponca was cleared of trees and the ground was leveled in preparation for Ponca City's Anniversary Pageant, "Bride of the Morning Star." A cast of over 100 contributed to the colorful show that was staged in the new Lake Ponca amphitheater.

A crowd of 30,000 lined 12 blocks on Grand Avenue to view the Cherokee Strip parade in September. The parade was 20 blocks long. The Chamber of Commerce entertained 130 old settlers and guests at a luncheon in the Jens-Marie Hotel. A.F. Buckles, 90, of 407 South Fourth Street, was the oldest pioneer present.

Wendell Wilkins and Jack Gore founded Ponca City's newest business enterprise, Wilgo Manufacturing Co.

They manufactured a press wheel for grain drills, which Gore invented.

Montgomery Ward held a formal opening of a new service center at Fifth and Cleveland.

Conoco completed the atomic radiation laboratory in Ponca City, where they ran tests to create or improve petroleum and petro-chemical products.

Ponca City Hospital purchased an ultra-modern incubator and a new \$14,000 standby electrical generator.

The latest in design and construction of new homes was featured in the two-day "Parade of Homes" sponsored by the Ponca City Home Builders Assn. in September.

Local physicians revealed that Asian flu vaccine was available here on a limited basis.

Art Ball, amateur radio

enthusiast, picked up a signal beep of the Russian globe-girdling Sputnik.

Burch Industries announced it would open a vacuum cleaner plant in Ponca City.

Over 100 public-spirited citizens gave part of a working day for the Ponca City Community Chest, chaired by T.C. Gravett. A breakfast at the Jens-Marie Hotel kicked off the \$60,054 drive and workers fanned out over the city, visiting business firms and collecting contributions.

Sam Lee, owner of Ponca City's oldest men's clothing firm, celebrated his 44th anniversary with an open house at his newly remodeled store.

F.G. Hall, commercial minnow dealer, built a heated fishing dock on West Lake Ponca.

Enthusiastic bowlers christened the new ultra modern Pioneer Bowl. Six lanes were in use on the first day of an open house, and the other 10 alleys were in operation on the second day.

Pat Murphy Buick Company moved into a new \$100,000 building on Pioneer Drive.

In October, the ninth elementary school, Woodlands, was dedicated at an open house.

Groundbreaking ceremonies were held for the Pioneer Woman Museum in November. The \$50,000 structure was to be completed by April 1, 1958.

Disc jockey Mac Starkey banned Elvis Presley on his "Homework" show on WBBZ, but still made a hit with the youth of Ponca City.

Ponca City florist Ray Sovak was one of four Oklahoma horticulturists to be honored with special awards at the OSU annual horticultural show.

A crowd of 10,000 attended the 33rd annual Kiddies Pet Parade.

The Ponca City Council of Garden Clubs planted the Red Bud Trail at Woodlands Park.

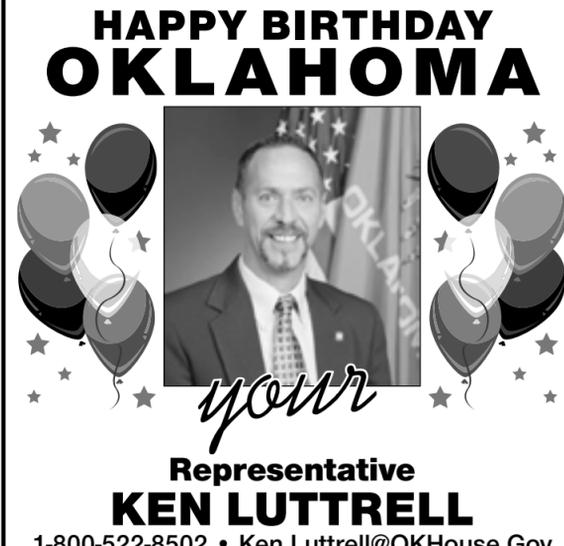
Elec Rains was appointed advertising director of the Ponca City News.

The Ponca City Art Association sponsored its first annual antique show at the National Guard Armory.

A group of supporters of the Kaw Dam and Reservoir welcomed U.S. Sen. Robert S. Kerr at an appreciation dinner. Kerr pledged the support of the entire Oklahoma delegation for the project.

City administrative offices moved back to the east wing of the Municipal Building following a six-month remodeling project, the first major improvement made at the building since the east and west wings were added in 1923.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY OKLAHOMA



your Representative
KEN LUTTRELL
1-800-522-8502 • Ken.Luttrell@OKHouse.Gov

CONGRATULATIONS OKLAHOMA!

★ 100 YEARS ★

We are proud to be a part of the business community of this great state. We have had many wonderful years serving your financial needs and look forward to many more.



www.edwardjones.com Member SIPC

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING™

Constructed 2006

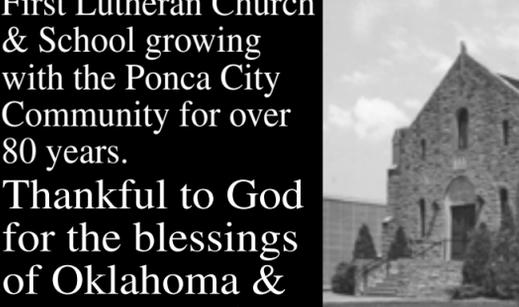


First Lutheran Church & School growing with the Ponca City Community for over 80 years.

Thankful to God for the blessings of Oklahoma & our community!

First Lutheran Church & School

Founded 1925



Dedicated 1934

Airport

(Continued From Page 6H)
 City commissioners approved the lighting of two tennis courts in North Park.
 New classrooms were added to the school administration building on the north side of Grand. The new rooms were connected to the junior high on the south side of Grand by a tunnel.
 A separate Community Library was opened at South Twelfth Street and Scott, south of Attucks School, to serve the African American community in Dixie Hill.
 S.J. Waller announced the opening of his "Lotta-Burger" stand on North Fourteenth Street.
 Ponca City Mattress Co. opened a sales store at 312 East Grand.
 The high school newspaper, the Poncan, tied for first place with Cushing and won highest honors in its class at the high school journalism state contest.
 First Lutheran School opened in April with four classrooms attached to a smaller brick veneer section.
 City Commissioners approved changes in the landscaping at the Civic Center. All the trees were to be cut down with the exception of two large elms.
 Mrs. Howard Wright opened a new children's bookstore at 109 North First Street.
 Art Mires and L.C. "Cash" Larimer went into partnership in the Mires-Larimer Tire Co. at 619 South First Street.
 W. W. Skaggs and B.J. Skaggs opened the Skaggs Rent-a-Tool at 106 South Pine.
 Representing hospital staff, Dr. E.C. Mohler proposed a polio ward be added to the basement of the new wing at Ponca City Hospital. The \$13,000 renovation included modernizing the kitchen.
 Cities Service Oil Company began a multi-million dollar modernization of its refinery.
 Guy's Service Station opened at 1300 North Seventh, operated by Guy LeMonnier.
 A group of 150 citizens convinced Herman J. "Smitty" Smith to run for mayor. He ran unopposed, and so was elected unanimously. He had been elected mayor in 1950, but his term was interrupted when he was called for military duty in Korea.
 The telephone company announced that all residences would have new phone numbers by July in preparation for toll dialing.
 Meadow Gold Dairy began full-scale operation at 203 South Pine.
 First Presbyterian Church

announced plans to build on eight acres at the intersection of Grand and Fourteenth Street.
 There were 21 local clothing stores that participated in the spring opening style show.
 The first regular meeting of the Ponca City Bar Association was held. Organized by more than 20 Ponca City lawyers, C.B. Duffy, J.A. McNeese and Lowell Doggett were on the program committee.
 In April the City Commission approved fluoridation of the city water supply.
 Welcome-N Café opened near the Welcome-U Motel on Highway 60, east of town.
 The Oklahoma State Senate introduced a bill that included provisions for a \$45,000 museum in Pioneer Woman State Park.
 The 125-room Jens-Marie Hotel at Second Street and Cleveland was to be offered for sale May 25. The property was appraised at \$200,000. J. J. Young purchased the property.
 Goodyear Service Store opened at Fifth and Grand, with George Nunley as manager.
 Discovery of a potentially rich oil pool was reported about eight miles northwest of Ponca City. The well flowed at 100 barrels an hour through a one-half inch choke. A local independent operator claimed it to be the "biggest thing in Kay County in years."
 Dr. George H. Niemann retired after 49 years of medical service.
 First Lutheran Church dedicated its Christian Education building, which was to house kindergarten and first grade students.
 Wildcat wrestlers won the state wrestling championship with two state champs on the squad, Bernard Sullivan and Doug Blubaugh.
 In May, the High School band won a superior rating in every division at the 21st annual Tri-State Band Festival in Enid, and took first in Class A in the parade of bands.
 Continental Oil announced plans to build a \$2.75 million carbon black plant south of town. T.A. Ruble, manager, announced that the plant would produce up to 140,000 pounds of finished products daily with no discharge of black particles into the air.
 In June, a new way of angle parking went into effect on one block of Grand Avenue on a trial basis. It was thought that the 29-degree angle rather than the 45-degree provided more traffic space in the center of the street. City Commis-

sioners also approved paving of Highland between Tenth and Fourteenth Streets and of Eleventh, Twelfth, and Thirteenth streets onto Highland.
 Miller's Food Store opened at Highland and Tenth Street. The new building was constructed as a suburban shopping center and included a cleaning business.
 The Board of Education approved plans for a three-story addition to the High School.
 City Manager Frank Winsted announced that, beginning Aug. 15, city employees would begin twice-a-week collection of garbage and trash to be disposed of at a sanitary landfill.
 At the same time, the city invited 15 engineering firms to present design plans for the sanitary sewage treating plant. It was reported that most cities in North Central Oklahoma were ahead of Ponca City in treatment of sewage being dumped in state streams.
 At the end of August, Wentz pool reported a record of 30,153 swimmers for the season.
 The airport completed its \$500,000 expansion project, which included a new 4,800-foot runway, a new control tower and administration building, waiting rooms, a restaurant and new taxiways. There were 20,000 people at the Sept. 7 dedication ceremony. L.F. McCollum, president of Continental Oil Co., was principal speaker.
 Total enrollment in the Ponca City public schools in September was 5,021.
 Work began on the Blanche Lucas Memorial addition to the parish house of the Grace Episcopal Church.
 A section of Dan Moran Park was selected for the \$90,000 Oklahoma National Guard Armory. It was constructed with federal and state funds.
 The Public Monuments committee of the Chamber of Commerce instructed local architect M.D. Timberlake to draw preliminary design sketches for the proposed Pioneer Woman Museum. In November, plans were shown at a meeting of the Chamber committee. The drawings called for a central structure for exhibits, an authentic log cabin and a sod hut.
 The city signed a contract to have a design made for the Hartford branch fire station building.
 On Dec. 1, Ponca Citians voted 5 to 1 for bond proposals for a \$400,000 water plant expansion and a \$350,000 sewage treatment plant.
 The IOOF Cemetery announced a \$20,000 project for expansion and beautification.
 City firemen received a pay raise from \$30 to \$45 per month.
 In the Christmas lighting contest, sponsored by the Garden Club and Chamber of Commerce, Dr. D.A. Shaffer's home was judged the "most beautiful."
 The Kenneth Barnwell home won second and the O.C. Hadden home was third in the category. Mike Landauer's home won first in the "most appealing to children" class, with Bill Timberlake and J.M. Senseman homes, second and third. Best portrayal of the nativity scene was at the W.E. Piel home.
 E.W. Marland's widow, Lydie Marland, left Ponca City. She packed her belongings in a 1948 Studebaker and drove away. She only took cash and personal items with her, plus some paintings and tapestries that E.W. had bequeathed her.

Change

(Continued From Page 5H)
 1951 — In January, work orders were issued for highway paving that was connected with the Arkansas River bridge project. In October the State Highway director finally signed four work orders for completion of paving on the rerouting of U.S. Highways 60 and 77. The project was almost a year behind.
 City commissioners approved an ordinance establishing a municipal water district over the Lake Ponca watershed.
 The City scheduled a bond election for April 3, asking for approval of nine municipal projects totaling \$1.75 million. Voters defeated seven of the proposals, and approved two, those of additional storm and sanitary sewers.
 Mayor H. J. "Smitty" Smith resigned May 27. He had been called into active duty with the Air Force. Harp-er Baughman, president of Baughman Lumber Co.; Arthur Frederick, a Cities Service employee, and D. J. Donahoe, owner of Ponca City Milling Company, filed for election. Baughman was elected to serve the remaining two years of Smith's term.
 Due to the continuous flooding, City Commissioners approved a resolution calling for bids for five reinforced concrete culverts for storm water drainage.
 Construction of the new highway was slowed down by weather. Wet weather in mid-year delayed contractors who were building the roadway.
 In late December, sub-freezing temperatures stopped the project again.
 New streetlights were installed on Grand Avenue from First to Fourth Streets.
 Civil Aeronautics Administration officials met with city officials to discuss the future expansion of the airport.
 On April 8, the new Arkansas River Bridge was completed.
 It opened to traffic prematurely because of early summer floods.
 City commissioners gave the board of directors of Lakeside Golf Course approval to plan an additional nine holes.
 The Airport Management Board suggested improvements at the airport includ-

ing an administration building and a 4,700-foot runway.
 The street department's new \$500 motor-operated "salt shaker" got its first workout as crews salted down slippery intersections.
 County Attorney Lowell Doggett and Sheriff Roy Welch announced a "get tough" policy against county bootleggers and gamblers.
 In April, the Board of Education signed the anti-Communist oath, which was required of all state employees and school officials.
 The Ponca City High School Band won the sweepstakes at the annual Tri-State Festival in Enid. They were the only Oklahoma band invited to play at the Texas State Fair.
 The Wildcats, under Coach Sullins, reached the state football championship finals for the first time in school history.
 Construction of the new Washington School began in the Crestview addition. Other improvement projects included a brick building at Roosevelt for maintenance, and expansion of the Junior High facilities located in the Administration Building.
 Regular milk in glass bottles went up to 23 cents, homogenized was at 24 cents, and milk in paper cartons cost one cent more for each type.
 County Attorney Lowell Doggett filed an application in the county court, seeking to dispose of contraband liquor seized the past two years.
 In January, 32 building permits for new residences were issued in one day. Total estimated building cost was \$273,500.
 The combination of too dry in the early spring, too wet in late spring, and greenbug infestations took a toll on wheat production in the county.
 In March, Mid-American Manufacturing Company signed a new contract with the army to make fatigue clothing. They hired 100 new employees.
 The following month, some of the employees staged a walkout. Union representatives were seeking a 10 percent wage increase and wanted to establish a union shop.
 The strike, initiated by members of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, AFL, caused several flare-ups of violence

between strikers and non-striking workers until it was settled in October.
 The Big V Ranch was auctioned in sections, plus 1,200 cattle, cars, trucks and ranch equipment were sold at auction for a total of \$1,057,973.
 The statue of E.W. Marland was unveiled on the grounds at the Civic Center on the 77th anniversary of his birth. Sculpted by Jo Davidson, the statue was a gift to the city from his widow, Mrs. Lydie Roberts Marland.
 Heavy rains throughout the year brought six floods on the Arkansas River. The July high water was the third worst flood in the recorded history of Ponca City.
 Ponca City's Joe C. Creager, vice president of the Oklahoma Ornithological Society, was instrumental in helping select the Scissor-tail Flycatcher as the state's official bird.
 Southwestern Bell Telephone won an increase from the State Corporation Commission, enabling them to raise monthly rates. Rates for businesses went up to \$7.75, and single party residence lines were \$4. There were 10,000 phones in Ponca City.
 Local Jaycees received permission from the city fathers to clean the Pioneer Woman Statue.
 They installed scaffolding around the statue, and cleaned it with steel wool. The volunteers in charge were Thornton Paynter and Harold Goodman. Baughman Lumber, Glover Concrete, and Rock Island Concrete offered to contribute the necessary materials for a six-foot sidewalk to be laid around the statue.
 Andy Andersen had a formal three-day opening of Andersen Shoe Store in a new building at Second and Cleveland.
 Smith Holt received a permit to build a \$100,000 apartment house in the southwest part of town, near Continental.
 The Ponca City News was one of 14 papers in the state to begin receiving AP news via a new statewide teletypesetter circuit.
 The new Cities Service unit went "on stream." It was the newest and only type fluid catalytic cracking unit in the U.S.
 On Dec. 30, Continental Oil Co. announced a \$7.5 million expansion plan.

Dorcas Society Helped Raise Funds To Erect New Building

The Dorcas Society of the Ponca City Seventh Day Adventist Church was organized in the fall of 1943 for the purpose of raising funds to purchase a lot and erect a building at North Third and Liberty Street.
 In 1957 when the church moved to its location at 219 North Elm, the Dorcas Society's main interest became helping persons in need.
 Food baskets were prepared and distributed at Thanksgiving and clothing and bedding were provided for the needy throughout the year. Members provided layettes for new mothers and household items and a Bible are given to families whose homes have burned.
 Another project completed was the knitting and sending of 24 bandages to the Lep-

rassarium Colony at Sierr Leone, Africa. At Christmas 1969, 24 card holders were made and distributed to the local rest homes.
 Clothing was assembled and mended to help stock the disaster relief van which traveled to disaster areas in Oklahoma or a surrounding state.
 In 1969 the Dorcas Society sponsored two non Adventist children to a Friendship Camp at Roman Nose State Park for one week.
 Donations have been made to the March of Dimes, the Mike Davis Fund and the Sheltered Workshop.
 Charter members were Maggie Aaker, Thelma Paris, Gracie Stout, Lena Wurster, Elsie Miller and Thelma Hinrichs.
 Mrs. Allen Miller was president and Mrs. L.H. Hackler secretary.

am eternally grateful for the opportunity and for the honor you bestowed upon me. I have been blessed in a manner that words cannot express. Twenty-seven years in public service has been a great joy and rewarding beyond compare. I thank you, my family, my friends, my staff and all who placed their confidence in me. I couldn't have done it without you."
 Mary Ramey Sept. 2006
 Ramey was appointed as court clerk Sept. 5, 2006, by Kay County Commissioners to replace Glenda Emerson.

Court

(Continued From Page 8H)
 "Attebery Day" was proclaimed on April 5, 1947 and a banquet was held in his honor with over 100 former Newkirk musicians paying tribute to their "leader."
 Attebery died in August 1949 but the love of music he taught his students will live from generation to generation. Children who can never know Attebery will know "of" him and be influenced "by" him because of the great music
 Fred C. Groshong 1917-1922
 Homer J. Noonan 1923-1927
 Born Oct. 14, 1987 near Billings Died June 14, 1972.
 R. E. Rader 1927-1928
 Also served as Kay County Commissioner for District 2 from 1934-35.
 Isabelle Groshong 1929-1932
 O. E. Hodges 1933- 1937 was charged with embezzlement in 1939. In December of 1940, he was vindicated of the charges
 Leola Williams 1937
 Phyrne Van Vorris 1938
 Harold L. Smiley 1938-1956 was elected court clerk in 1938 and served nine terms. Born June 28, 1895 in Barnes Pa. He came to Okla. in 1910.
 Marjorie Carver 1956-1967 was elected in 1956 and resigned in 1967.
 Hazel M. Wood 1968-1984, served as court clerk for 15 years under Harold L. Smiley and was appointed to court clerk November 1967. She ran for a fifth term in 1984.
 Her son Dennis currently resides in Newkirk.
 Glenda Coussens Emerson 1985-2006

Glenda Coussens Emerson was elected as court clerk in 1984 after defeating Hazel Wood by a count of 12,242 to 10,049 on Nov. 7.
 She said, "I ran for office because I was driven by a cause to provide, complete and courteous service to the district."
 She was challenged by Jody Mullins Frazier in 1992 for the position but was re-elected.
 She resigned from the position on Aug. 31, 2006.
 She said, "I have always considered it a privilege to serve as your Court Clerk. I

am eternally grateful for the opportunity and for the honor you bestowed upon me. I have been blessed in a manner that words cannot express. Twenty-seven years in public service has been a great joy and rewarding beyond compare. I thank you, my family, my friends, my staff and all who placed their confidence in me. I couldn't have done it without you."
 Mary Ramey Sept. 2006
 Ramey was appointed as court clerk Sept. 5, 2006, by Kay County Commissioners to replace Glenda Emerson.

Chimney Doctor

Certified Chimney Sweep
 Guaranteed, insured
 Service since 1981!

- Member of the National Chimney Sweep Guild
- Member-Ponca Chamber of Commerce

Don't make an ash of yourself!

Mike Parham
762-3838
 888-477-SOOT (7668)

You're Doin' Fine, Oklahoma!

AMC URGENT CARE PLUS

Minor Emergency & Occupational Medicine Center

Sam Hague, MD
 Parnell Adams, PA-C • Tammie Adams, PA-C
 Misty Fath, Facial Aesthetics

WALK-IN CLINIC
 No Appointment Needed!

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK!
 Monday - Saturday: 9 am - 9 pm
 Sunday: 10 am - 6 pm

- On-Site Lab • Digital X-Ray • EKG
- Fracture Care: Splints/Casting, Crutches & Follow-up Care
- Laceration/Wound Care • IV Fluids & Medications
- Sports Physicals • Treatment for Work-Related Illness/Injury
- Pre-Employment Physical Exams • DOT Physical Exams
- Pulmonary Function Testing • Employee Drug Screening (DOT/non-DOT)
- Cosmetic Facial Aesthetics • Micro-Dermabrasion • Botox Injections

WE ACCEPT MOST HEALTH INSURANCE CARRIERS AND MEDICARE.
WE FILE ALL INSURANCE CLAIMS.

Ponca Plaza Shopping Center, 2101 N. 14th St., Suite 114, Ponca City
580-762-1552



THE AUTWINE bridge was replaced by the county in July of 2005 at a cost of \$728,000. The Tonkawa Tribe paid for construction while the county paid \$47,000 in engineering costs. (News Photo by Sharon Rowen)

Bridge

(Continued From Page 3H)

He remembers that at the time Autwine not only had a depot it had a grocery store where he and "Cy" (now dead) would buy Camp's Pork n Beans, crackers, cigars, candy, etc. He believes that the depot agent was named Steve Harden at the time and that he could imitate a distant locomotive whistle better than Jonathan Winters.

"He loved to slip outside the depot, where Cy and I were waiting patiently, huddled up next to the pot-belly stove, and make

us believe the train was coming," Lowery recalls.

Fred McGee, another old timer, says that in 1910 he remembers when a group of young people were partying at Phelp's Grove near the river, they walked a mile to the Autwine depot to get the results of the world championship heavyweight fight between Champ Jack Johnson and Jim Jeffries on July 4th. The railroad men always transmitted "important" news like this across the country on their telegraph wires.

County

(Continued From Page 4H)

Past county commissioners according to records at the Kay County Court House were as follows:

District No. 1
T.K. Clark, 1905-1907
Thomas McQuirk, 1907-1911
L.A. Cann, 1911-1935
W.C. Baum, 1935-1939
C.O. Johnson, 1939-1941
Ira Taylor, 1941-1944
J.M. Barker, 1944-1945
H.W. Bothwell, 1945-1949
W.H. Casey, 1949-1953
Ralph Steward Jr. 1953-1959
Stanley Simanek, 1959-1963
Flavel Perry, 1963-1979
Esta Kirk, 1979-1983
John McFadden, 1983-1991
Glen Burgell, 1991-1995

Dee Schieber, 1995-present
District No. 2
George Alberti Jr., 1905-1911
H.C. Scott, 1911-1913
Joe Thomas, 1913-1917
Carl E. Mitchell, 1917-1921
J.H. Fox, 1921-1923
W.C. Mitchell, 1923-1929
M.A. Hiatt, 1929-1933
Mrs. M.A. Hiatt, 1933-1934
R.E. Rader, 1934-1935
George F. Thomas, 1935-1939
J.W. Meeks, 1939-1941
Roy Coleman, 1941-1942
E.C. Coleman, 1942-1945
Roy Bain, 1945-1957
Max Brandon, 1957-1963
Gerald LeValley, 1963-1975
Anthony Vap, 1975-1987

Milton Leseman, 1987-1989
Wayne Leven, 1989-present
District No. 3
H.C. Schumacher, 1905-1907
Charles Mayer, 1907-1911
L.J. Burkhalter, 1911-1913
W.H. Waugh, 1913-1917
C.R. Ogg, 1917-1921
F.M. Wiles, 1921-1925
C.C. Savage, 1925-1928
H.B. Housh, 1928-1931
George E. Tarpenting, 1931-1935
John C. Blubaugh, 1935-1939
Frank Koeling, 1939-1949
Dale Fuller, 1949-1961
Glen Craft, 1961-1967
Tom Hall, 1967-1983
Vern Willbanks, 1983-1995
Rex Purdy, 1995-2003
Laile Wilson, 2003-present

Alpha Chi Omega Is Second Oldest Alumnae Group in State

The Kay County Alumnae Club of Alpha Chi Omega is the second oldest alumnae group in Oklahoma. It was organized Oct. 19, 1928.

Charter members included Mrs. Lawrence Cannon, Mrs. Charles Duffy, Mrs. Francis Endicott, Mrs. George Lynn Bowman and Mrs. James Billings.

Alpha Chi Omega is a national woman's fraternity that was established in 1885 at DePauw University, Greencastle, Ind. It was the sixth Greek letter fraternity in existence.

In its existence the group has grown to 111 collegiate chapters and 260 alumnae chapters and clubs.

Over 67,000 were members of the organization in 1969, which was seventh in number of chapters associated in the National Panhellenic. Mrs. Jack Hudack served as president of the Ponca City Panhellenic in 1969.

Alpha Chi Omega, because of its interest in art and music, supported the Edward MacDowell Colony for Artists at Peterboro, N.J. by maintaining the Star Studio, where many nationally known writ-

ers and artists have resided. The organization spend a total of \$66,000 on philanthropic projects in 1968, with a total of 34,103 volunteer hours of service.

The national organization contributed three fellowships to aid Alpha Chi Omegas taking graduate work in rehabilitation courses. A new project was assisting students working toward masters degrees in speech pathology or audiology.

The Kay County Alumnae has furnished financial help and man hours to the Special School for Retarded Children, Cerebral Palsy Drive and The Child Development Center in Ponca City.

The Alumnae Club supports three active chapters in Oklahoma with gifts and rush help. The clubs are Psi Chapter at Oklahoma University, Gamma Epsilon Chapter, Oklahoma State University and Gamma Tau Chapter at Oklahoma City University.

Mrs. Ronald Bruce was president of Kay County Alumnae club in 1969. Other officers were Mrs. Ralph Beauty, vice president; Mrs. Jack Mason, treasurer; Mrs. Randy Glasgow, Tonkawa, recording secretary; Mrs. Ralph Insinger, Blackwell, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Jack Hudson, rush chairman; Mrs. Jack McCarty, Newkirk, assistant rush chairman; and Mrs. James Billings, lyre editor and publicity.

Bank

(Continued From Page 6H)

In 1993, Fourth Financial Corporation, Bank IV Oklahoma's parent company, purchased Ponca City Bancshares, Inc., and its subsidiary, Security Bank and Trust Company of Ponca City.

At that time the bank, had two locations in Ponca City and one each in Braman, Kaw City and Shidler, and assets of \$120 million.

On Feb. 3, 1995, Security Bank and Trust of Blackwell was assigned to the Ponca City market and William W. Rodgers was president of Ponca City's \$150 million market.

In August 1995, it was announced that Boatmen's Bancshares had purchased Fourth Financial Cooperation

with the final merger transactions taking place in February 1996.

But that wasn't all the changes. In 1997, the bank was acquired by NationsBank shares with the name change in the fall of 1997.

A news release on Oct. 1, 1998, announced that NationsBank would be known as Bank of America.

At that time Bank of America's total assets were the largest in the United States with \$572 billion.

The bank moved out of the building at Third Street and Grand Avenue, which is now occupied by Eastman Bank. The local Bank of America is now located on North Fourteenth at Prospect.

McFadden

(Continued From Page 3H)

McFadden's background in steel helped when the flush oil production came along. Just prior to World War I, McFadden recalls, he directed erection of the present tank farm, at one point achieving a rate of a tank a day.

Filled with crude oil, the tanks held a fortune when oil prices reacted to the outbreak of war in Europe by tripling.

"E. W. and the company made \$25 million," McFadden said, "and it took him till 1928 to spend it all."

McFadden loved a parade, and came here a time or two to ride a big palomino horse as parade marshal in some of Ponca City's Cherokee Strip celebrations.

He even served as parade marshal when his friend, Marland, was inaugurated as governor.

Although McFadden was a lifelong Republican, he supported Marland for governor on the Democratic ticket.

McFadden left the oil company here in 1928, in the general exodus of Marland people after the merger.

He may have moved to Fort Worth in reaction to Oklahoma's legislative enactment of a personal income tax. Certainly, his move was a loss to Ponca City and a gain for Texas.

But, he kept his love of

Ponca City, and said he would have preferred to live here, but for that tax.

As head of Southland Royalty he built that company from a lease-holding organization into an active oil company. He seemed to have a phenomenal memory for figures, which helps in any business. He once handed Bob Meek a sheet of statistics, and begged to be asked any figures on the sheet. I was there. He knew the whole sheet.

On that trip, incidentally to confer with McFadden on financing the Camp McFadden trust fund which maintains the camp, I saw the power of a millionaire oil man. We were at the Fort Worth Club, having lunch. Our return trip was by train and the train was due. He called a waiter, had a phone brought to the table, and called Santa Fe. When Bob and I reached the station a bit later we were met at the gate by an exasperated, red-faced conductor whose train was being delayed by order from on high for a pair of long-legged Oklahomans.

My father, Clyde E. Muchmore, once said of Bill McFadden, "He was one of the most dynamic forces ever to come to Ponca City and Oklahoma," and Dad said that with a full knowledge of the strong personalities of E. W. Marland and Lew Wentz.

They ranked together, really, each completely different from the other and yet all in working for their own satisfaction were promoting Ponca.

Others put it perhaps better than I could when they said of McFadden: He was a driving man who knew how to get things done. Wasn't always right, but he was always sincere."

E. W. Marland — and this episode has been forgotten by many — at one time announced a plan to give the Pioneer Woman a husband.

In 1928, while he still had some funds left, Marland announced a plan to erect a statue of a Pioneer Man equal size to Ponca City's famous girl friend, about 30 feet. That plan failed, when the money ran out.

But Bill already had been immortalized in bronze. A larger-than-life sculpture of Bill McFadden as a pioneer already had been cast, one of five such statues that gave Monument Road its name.

Frank Phillips later bought them from the estate for \$25,000, and they're at the Woolaroc Museum south of Bartlesville: McFadden, Belle Star, John Bull as an Indian warrior and his wife as an Indian woman, and George L. Miller in Cheyenne leg chaps rolling a cigarette as a typical cowboy.

County Extension Homemaker Program Helped Many Women

The theme of the Kay County Extension Service in 1969 was "Continued education is continued growth." New ideas open new doors to a wider, richer life at any age.

The Kay County Extension Homemaker program provided the key to open those doors for 625 women enrolled in 37 extension homemakers groups in Kay County.

Extension Home Economist Mrs. Margaret Collins, a member of the staff of Oklahoma State University, was the resource person in the Kay County Center. Under her direction, the annual plan of work was developed by the council vice president and representatives of all groups within the federation.

The program was divided into five subject matter groups: clothing, foods and nutrition, child guidance and family relationships, housing and home improvement and health. 4-H and other youth programs were supported by all local groups and by the County Extension Homemaker Council.

Subject matter was taught through monthly lessons and through special interest group activities such as tailoring workshops, upholstery workshops, traffic safety schools and money management.

All of the special activities were open to any interested person.

The Extension Homemaker

program was based on the idea of helping people help themselves. Volunteer leaders and local resource people played an important part in reaching this objective.

The leaders in each area of work, in each group, learned skills first hand from leader training lessons, then demonstrated or taught the skills to others in their group.

In addition to monthly lessons, groups originated and promoted many other activities, both community and charitable.

For example in 1969, about \$1,000 had been contributed to Ponca City's School for the Handicapped by the Council and local groups. Many groups continued with money raising projects for this fund throughout the year.

Information concerning problems in family living was furnished by the home economist in a variety of ways. In 1968, there were 18,000 bulletins covering a variety of subjects distributed to groups and individuals, and 2,142 individual requests for information were answered by telephone or personally. More than 15,000 letters were sent, 156 news stories provided to county news media, 246 radio broadcasts were made and 683 members attended 31 leader training sessions.

Approximately 3,000 people attended the various special interest activities in 1968.

This number did not

include attendance at the Kay County Fair nor the Newkirk Diamond Jubilee Arts and Crafts Fair.

The first Home Demonstration club, as the Extension Homemaker groups were then called, was organized in 1902 by women of the Blackwell area.

They called themselves the Domestic Science Club because they had organized to learn better methods of food preservation and cookery. Two years later the Crescent Club followed and later others.

During the period between 1902 and 1968, there were 84 clubs organized.

The passing years and social change have contributed to the demise of 47 of these units. In 2007 the groups are called Oklahoma Home and Community Education and the number has dwindled to a handful. Mary Rhyne serves as extension educator.

On Dec. 16, 1924, in Tonkawa, 21 clubs united to form the Kay County Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs. Nine of these clubs were members of the Kay County Extension Homemakers in 1969, including Harmony, Round Grove, K&G Domestic Science, Uncas Community, Sunshine, Sunnyside Mutual Improvement and Prairie View.

The first president of the federation was Mrs. Maude Sims.

PC Carpet Cleaning

580-716-2611

Quality Work At A Reasonable Price!

Commercial/Residential Cleaning, Upholstery Cleaning,
Auto/RV/Camper, Deodorization, Carpet Repair, Air Duct Cleaning

Pre-Holiday Special!
6 Areas Of Carpet Cleaned
\$125
 Up To 1200 sq. ft. Exposed Carpet Only.
 Must Present Coupon. Not Valid With Any Other Offers.
 Expires 11-30-07

Jon Page - Owner

BSF

Baskin Stevens & Freeland, P.C.

221 N. 2nd Street • Ponca City • (580) 762-8345

Our name has changed through the years, but we have offered the same local tax preparation, accounting, payroll, audit services and financial planning services for over 35 years!

Happy Birthday Oklahoma!