

WELCOME TO THE PONCA CITY AREA



The History of the Hospital in Ponca City

Ponca City didn't have a hospital as the 1918 flu pandemic swept across the country. In order to be prepared in case there was another outbreak, the Ponca City Chamber of Commerce took charge and worked to establish a hospital facility in Ponca City in 1919.

The Chamber purchased a building known as Jones Flats on West Grand Avenue to serve as a temporary hospital until one could be built. The building was purchased from Mrs. Lizzie Jones for \$15,000. E.W. Marland agreed to purchase \$12,000 worth of equipment, including two ambulances for the hospital. He would loan the equipment to the hospital and agreed to build a private hospital within a year. A committee of six people, two of whom were designated to be women, was appointed to manage the hospital for a year.

Ponca City Hospital opened December 3, 1919 with 14 beds. **The Sisters of St. Joseph Take Over**

In 1921, during a Chamber of Commerce board meeting less than two years after Ponca City Hospital opened on Grand Avenue, the expense of running the hospital was a serious topic of discussion. "The hospital has cost a mountain of money thus far" and it was because of the excessive cost that the Chamber voted to get out of the hospital business and work out some permanent policy plan. During the 14 months the Chamber had run the hospital, the maintenance of the hospital had cost approximately \$19,000 over and above the collections made from patients for services rendered.

With E.W. Marland as the conduit, the Chamber reached an agreement with the Sisters of St. Joseph of Wichita, Kansas to take over the hospital. The Sisters were already running several hospitals in Kansas and were willing to manage the Ponca City facility, as well. The final details, in connection with the transfer of the Ponca City hospital to the Sisters of St. Joseph of Wichita occurred on the afternoon of January 16, 1921 when the deed, abstract, canceled notw and mortgage were turned

over to the new owners, who took possession of the hospital at 6 a.m. on January 17, 1921. At that hour, Mrs. Given, who had done commendable work the past fourteen months as superintendent, yielded the management to Sister Lawrence. Three Sisters and four trained nurses were on duty.

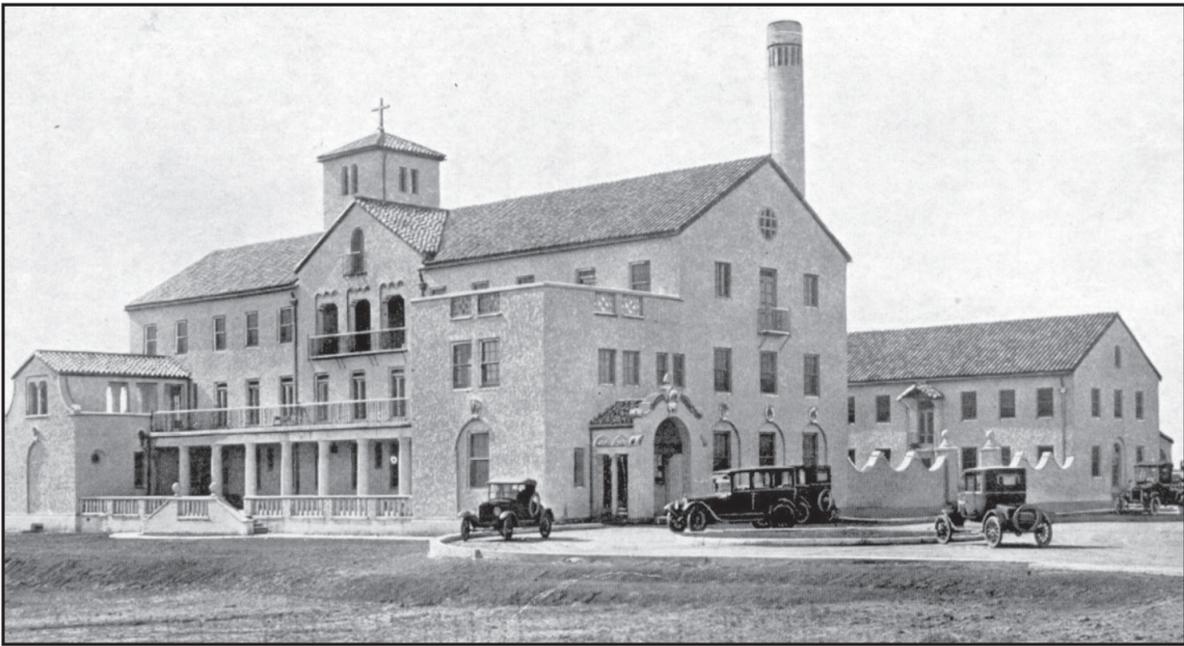
A Modern, Fireproof Hospital

The transition in management from the Chamber to the Sisters of St. Joseph of Wichita went smoothly and the hospital continued to be very busy. Many of the patients were workers from the oil fields in the area. However, there was concern about the condition of the hospital building.

The hospital was at capacity and there weren't enough rooms for the patients. They were being treated in the hallways and in every available space in the building. There was great concern over the safety of the facility. Sister Lawrence reported that there were now 15 nurses, all busy; and there were 30 stove fires to watch at all times. "If the people of Ponca City and community were conversant with the condition of the present frame hospital building, they would rise up en masse and demand a change", said the chairman of the Chamber.

The need for a new, "modern" hospital that would be fireproof was top-of-mind in the community and in the oil fields. One oil man said "Unless Ponca City provides a modern, fireproof hospital, well equipped in every way, it will be necessary for the oil companies to send injured employees to hospitals in Oklahoma City, Wichita or Tulsa. This is in itself sufficient argument for a new building to replace the firetrap we are now using in Ponca City."

The new hospital, which would be built for \$250,000, would be the best in the country that could be built for that amount of money. The plans for the hospital were on display at national physician conferences and the money, which would come from contributions or "subscriptions", started pouring in from citizens and businesses in town. A lot of the money came from



THE HOSPITAL in Ponca City as it appeared in 1926.

oil companies that were working in the area. E.W. Marland, who had founded Marland Oil three years earlier and was in the process of building the Marland Mansion, and his interests pledged \$125,000.

It was agreed the hospital would be built at the on North Fourteenth. The site was just across the street from the Pfeiffer farm residence and just north across the section line from the Acre Homes Addition, where Fourteenth Street and Virginia Avenue come together. It was a five-minute drive from the business section of Ponca City, and with two hard-surfaced streets leading to it.

"Hospital on the Hill"

The fundraising campaign for the new hospital was a true community project. Every business in town was asked to participate at 100%, meaning every employee made a contribution. There was not a set dollar amount asked from each business, just that all employees participated. The goal was \$125,000 (to be matched by E.W. Marland and his interests) and the first person to write a check was Waite Phillips, brother of L.E. Phillips of Phillips Petroleum, who donated \$2,000.

Contributions poured in from everywhere including the post office where employees gave a total of \$100, to oil companies that donated as much as \$10,000, to prominent citizens such as Mrs. Virginia Marland who contributed \$2,500.

Marland, McFadden, Phillips and Wentz are all names associated with oil and wealth and they all helped make the new Ponca City hospital possible.

The campaign was successful and construction of "the most ideal hospital that can be built" was completed in July 1926. On November 11 of that year, a crowd estimated to be between 3,500 and 6,000 attended the house warming and dedication of the 50-bed "Hospital on the Hill". The doors were opened at 1:00 p.m. and the people continued to come until 6:00 p.m., there being a continuous crowd during the entire afternoon.

Bishop Kelly of Oklahoma City, the head of the Catholic diocese in Oklahoma, gave the dedication sermon. Bishop Kelly impressed on the minds of the people that the hospital is a Ponca City institution, built for the convenience of Ponca City people. His message was "Charity Above All".

"I want each of you," said the Bishop in his speech, "to take away with you this afternoon a souvenir. I do not mean you should take an article, belonging to the hospital, however small it might be, but rather that you should take with you as a souvenir the proper idea of charity which I am seeking to convey. Charity is above all things."

"Continued Expansion"

Ponca City Hospital continued to thrive and grow making it necessary to have multiple expansions. After World War



PONCA CITY Medical Center as it appears now.

II, a third expansion became necessary. This time the citizens of Ponca City financed the \$244,000 project with two bond issues. This expansion brought the hospital to a capacity of 100 beds with a new maternity floor and delivery room in 1948.

Population growth continued at a rapid pace in Ponca City and ten years later, history repeated itself. Overcrowded conditions existed at the hospital. As many as 120 patients at a time were being cared for in the 100-bed facility.

On December 6, 1962, a new wing of Ponca City Hospital was dedicated. The new expansion project added 48 beds to the hospital as well as new surgery and recovery rooms, cafeteria, kitchen, expanded business and administration offices, pharmacy, medical records department and fully equipped emergency and examining rooms.

Critically short of ancillary department space, and more room for qualifying beds, the Board of Trustees of the hospital approved a \$10 million expansion project in 1973, to be completed in 1975.

As part of the expansion project, plans were also made to remove the original "Hospital on the Hill". The old hospital structure could no longer meet federal fire and safety codes and it was a heavy financial burden, too, because of the cost of insurance, utility bills and maintenance.

On May 1, 1975 the name of the hospital was changed to

St. Joseph Medical Center in recognition of its development from a hospital into a center attracting physicians, many of whom were highly specialized, and drawing patients from a larger and larger area.

The new medical complex was dedicated on May 18, 1975. The Master of Ceremonies was Dr. Lawrence Fulgenzi, clinical psychologist and former member of the Board of Trustees.

The Sisters of St. Joseph managed the hospital for 31 more years until Via Christi Health System sold the hospital to Community Health Systems in 2006. The name of the hospital was changed to Ponca City Medical Center. Since becoming a CHS-affiliated hospital, the hospital expanded again with the construction of a new emergency department that opened in 2008.

Today

Ponca City Medical Center continues to expand services and provide safe, quality care to its patients. The hospital was named one of the nation's 100 Top Hospitals(r) by Thomson Reuters in 2011 and 2012. For three consecutive years, the hospital has been named one of the nation's Top Performers on Key Quality Measures by The Joint Commission, the leading accreditor of health care organizations in America.

Earlier this year, we became one of only three hospitals in Oklahoma to achieve the status of Accredited Chest Pain Center.

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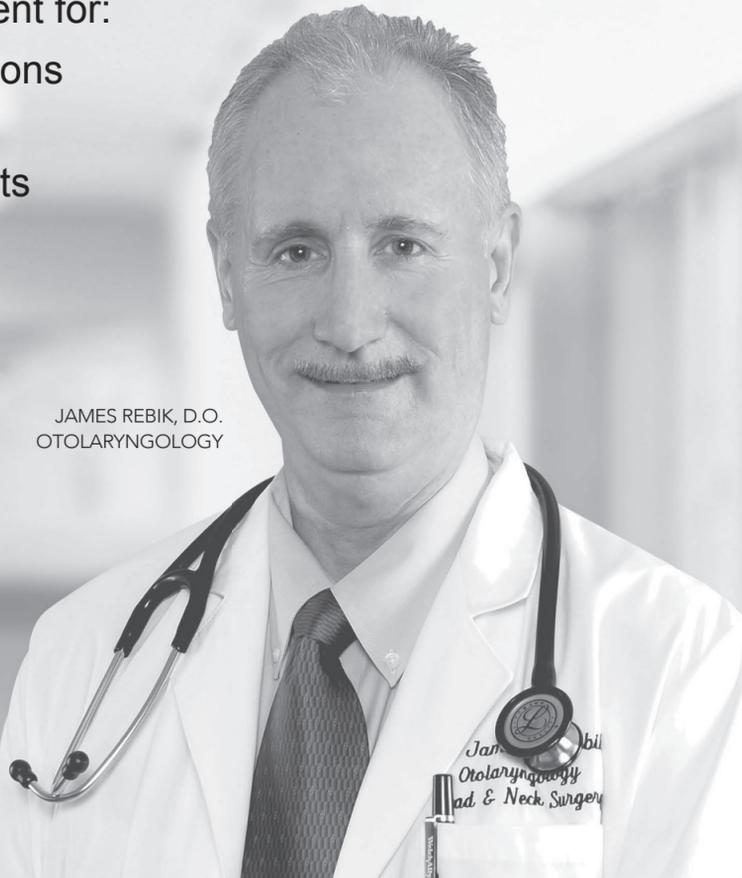


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Architectural Accomplishment at Home

The Marland's Grand Home is the former home of Ernest Whitworth Marland, tenth Governor of Oklahoma, who came to Ponca City to visit the 101 Ranch. He remained to build a vast oil empire. He was the founder and president of Marland Oil Company, now Conoco/Phillips Inc.

After making a fortune in oil, in 1916, he built the 22-room home located at 1000 East Grand Avenue. It is listed on the Oklahoma Landmarks publication as one of Oklahoma's outstanding architectural accomplishments. The hanging staircase is one of its most beautiful features, and the home boasts one of the first indoor swimming pools in Oklahoma. Inside the home, artifacts including relics, paintings, and other memorabilia dating back to the early 1700's are exhibited.

The City of Ponca City bought the home in April, 1967, to house the Ponca City Indian Museum started in 1936. It had long outgrown its space in the basement of the public library and in 1968, was moved to the Marland's Grand Home and dedicated. In 1972, the third floor rooms were opened as a DAR Memorial Museum, but since have been

moved to the first floor area. The lower level houses 101 Ranch memorabilia. When the City bought the Bryant Baker Studio, it also was moved into the home and provided a step-by-step review of the building of the Pioneer Woman Statue. The Bryant Baker display is now housed in the Artist Studio at the Marland Mansion Estate.

During the heyday of the oil empire, the Marland's Grand Home provided magnificent gardens which spanned 8 acres. The gardens were designed by Marland's Japanese gardener, Henry C. Hatashita. A 9 hole golf course was included on the Marland property. Reminders of Marland's love of beauty and nature are still seen in the majestic trees, shrubs and beautiful parks of Ponca City.

Indian Museum
A major attraction of the Marland's Grand Home is the Native American artifacts representing tribes from across the United States including Navajo, Hopi, Quiluite, Klamath, and Tlingit.

Exhibits place special emphasis on the five neighboring tribes: the Ponca, Kaw, Otoe-Missouria, Osage, and Tonkawa show the artistic

use of beading, finger weaving, and ribbon work and is demonstrated in displays along with arrowheads, knife sheaths, moccasins and clothing among the many artifacts on display. Visitors will also see relics from Fernandina, an early French-Indian Trading Post that dates back to 1719 and is said to be the first white settlement in Oklahoma. Generous gifts from citizens have made it possible to provide an excellent display of archaeological materials.

D.A.R. Memorial Museum
The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Memorial Museum was formally opened on February 20, 1972, and contains relics and artifacts that date back to the birth of this country. A 13-star U.S. flag, picked up on a Revolutionary War battlefield, is just one of the remarkable items on display.

The museum is patterned after the DAR Museum in Memorial Continental Hall in Washington D.C. Articles featured here are accepted through a museum committee and must meet the historical, education, and patriotic objectives of the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution.



THE SOUTH Veranda of Marland's Grand Home is pictured. (News File Photo by Louise Abercrombie)

Marland Mansion Is a Major Attraction in State

By LOUISE ABERCROMBIE
News Staff Writer

A major attraction in Oklahoma is the Marland Mansion, 901 Monument Road. This elaborate mansion was built as the home oil baron E.W. Marland, 10th Governor of Oklahoma.

The three floor Mansion has been named the number one attraction in Oklahoma and recognized as a National Historic Landmark as

well, as, being featured in America's Castles television program. After Marland lost his fortune he sold the Mansion to the Carmelite Fathers and later it was occupied by the Felician Sisters. The citizens of Ponca City voted a two-year, one cent tax on themselves to purchase the estate from the Sisters when they moved to a warmer climate.

Also on the grounds are the Bryant Baker Studio and Lydie's Cot-

tage. Baker is the sculptor of the Pioneer Woman Statue, which was Marland's idea. Miniatures of the 12 statues that were entered in a nationwide contest to select the model of the Pioneer Woman, are on display on the lower level of the Mansion.

The cottage was refurbished and dedicated to Marland's second wife Lydie, who was an adopted daughter of the E.W. and Virginia Mar-

land. After the death of Virginia, the adoption of Lydie was annulled she and Marland were married.

The historic mansion is open for tours from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., daily Monday through Saturday, and 1 to 5 p.m., on Sunday.

Guided tours on weekdays are scheduled at 1:30 p.m., and 1:30 and 3 p.m., on Saturday and Sundays. The Admission fee is Adults - \$7;

Seniors 65+ - \$5; Students ages 12 to 17 - \$5; Students ages 6 to 11 - \$4. Admission for Ponca City residents is free.

Motor coaches are welcome and call (800) 422-8340 to reserve a special guide for your group. School tours are also welcome, again call (800) 422-8340 to reserve a special guide for students. Also an education tour study packet will be mailed upon request.

Applications Accepted for Police Academy

Applications for the 19th session of the Citizen's Police Academy will become available this fall. They will be available on line or by stopping by the station. In previous years more applications are received than the limit of 20 participants. Since each session builds on the ones that follow, weekly attendance is required.

Police Chief Don Bohon

says "The Citizens Police Academy has been a very valuable program for the Ponca City Police Department. It has helped us build a stronger relationship with the citizens and business community. This department has enjoyed the benefits of a very supportive community and we hope to continue that tradition".

Classes meet each Thurs-

day evening from 6:30-9:30pm. The course is a blend of lecture, demonstrations, tours and practical applications. Nearly every facet of the operations of the Police Department is covered during academy, and there is no cost for participants. Topics that are covered include: Emergency communications, Community Policing, Hiring and Training, Patrol, Domestic Violence, Traffic enforcement and crash investigations, DUI and alcohol related offenses. Also covered are firearms, juvenile

crimes, gang activity, special operations, property crime and crimes against person, the use of force simulator and more.

District Attorney Brian Hermanson, a CPA graduate commented on his experience "Great chance to see all the workings of the police department - absolutely enjoyed it and I looked forward to every class!"

The instructors are members of the Ponca City Police Department. For more information, contact Police Captain Randy Tyner at 767-0370.

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CPT. WATKINS of the Ponca City Police Department is pictured with a youngster during a recent Coffee With a Cop program.

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KAY COUNTY assessor Carol Purdy, left, is retiring this year and will be replaced by Susan Keen. The assessor's office is located in Newkirk at the courthouse. The office number is 580-362-2565. (News Photo by Sharon Rowen)



THE KAY COUNTY Election Board is located in the basement of the county courthouse in Newkirk. Staff members are First deputy Carol Leaming, left, Secretary Cheryl Howard, center, and Lacy Holman. The office can be reached at 580-362-2130. (News Photo by Sharon Rowen)

Enrollment Information for Ponca City Schools

Summer is here and that means that the beginning of school is quickly approaching. Oklahoma law requires all children ages 5 through 18 to attend school.

Elementary (Pre-K - 5th) Enrollment Monday, August 4th

All children Pre-K through fifth grade are to register at their appropriate zoned school. All elementary students will enroll on Monday August 4th, 2014, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. All students who pre-registered still need to attend enrollment.

Since Woodlands Elementary is undergoing renovations, all Woodlands' students will enroll at Washington Elementary located at 1615 North 7th.

If parents are not sure which school attendance area they reside in, they may call the administration building at 580-767-8000, stop by the administration building and

pick up a map, or view the map on the district's website at www.pcps.us

Adults enrolling pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st grade, or new students should bring the following items to enrollment:

- Proof of residence
- Birth Certificate (pre-K, Kindergarten & 1st Graders)
- Immunization Records
- Social Security Number
- Special education or gifted/ talented records are needed at the time of enrollment for new students in order to assure proper placement.

West Middle School (6th - 7th)
All 6th Grade students are scheduled to enroll on Monday, August 4th from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at West Middle School located at 1401 West Grand. If you have questions, you may contact West at 580-767-8020.

7th Grade students are scheduled to enroll on Wednesday, August 6th from

2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at West Middle School. We look forward to seeing parents and guardians at the WMS enrollment.

Make-up enrollment for 6th & 7th grade is Thursday, August 7th from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

East Middle School (8th)
All 8th Grade students enroll on Tuesday, August 5th from 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. at East Middle School located at 612 East Grand. If you have questions, you may contact East at 580-767-8010. We look forward to seeing parents and guardians at the EMS enrollment.

Senior High School Students (9-12)

All 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students will enroll at the Senior High School located at 927 North 5th Street in the Sr. High Commons and Assembly Center. For questions about Sr. High enrollment information, you may

contact their main office at 580-767-9500.

All 9th Grade Students will enroll on Tuesday, August 5th 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

All 10th Grade Students will enroll on Tuesday, August 5th 7:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

All 11th Grade Students will enroll on Monday, August 4th 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

All 12th Grade Students will also enroll on Monday, August 4th 7:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

HS Make-up Enrollment will be Wednesday, August 6th 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

High School Virtual Enrollment is Tuesday, August 5th Wildcat Academy located at 1312 North 7th

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Wildcat Academy Alternative Program Enrollment

Enrollment for the Wildcat Academy Alternative Program is by referral from the high school only. The Wildcat Academy office is located at

1312 North 7th and the phone number is 580-718-3850.

Teen Pep Students Enrollment Info

Teen Pep is located on the Roosevelt Elementary School campus. Enrollment is scheduled for Wednesday, August 6th 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. The program is located in the butterscotch building behind Roosevelt with an entrance on Poplar Avenue. You may contact them at 580-767-9560.

Immunization Information

In Oklahoma, vaccinations are required before children are enrolled at school. Proof of immunization must be presented at the time of enrollment. Students will be allowed to attend school if they have received the first dose in the series of a multi-dose vaccine, but they must complete the series on schedule.

This is the fourth year for the new requirement for students entering 7th grade.

They must have a Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis Booster.

For more information on immunization requirements, please contact your health care provider or the Kay County Health Department at 580-762-1641. You can also find more detailed information on our website at: www.pcps.us.

Important Change

Children whose health insurance covers the cost of vaccinations are no longer eligible for VFC (vaccines for children) vaccines through the County Health Department clinic sites.

Parents are encouraged to seek vaccinations through their primary care providers. If your provider does not administer vaccines, area pharmacies offer vaccines to insured children.

Vaccines are also administered by area physicians, urgent care clinics, health centers, and tribal clinics.

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Upcoming Events for Arts, Humanities Council

Ponca City Arts and Humanities Council is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit arts organization that was incorporated in 1986 to coordinate the Affiliated Artist Program for Conoco. Today, local businesses such as Phillips66, RCB Bank, Osage Casino, Martin Jean and Jackson Attorneys at Law, Ponca City Tourism and Pemberton Chevrolet continue to generously support the projects which are managed by the Council. Additional financial

resources are generated from individual donors, and an annual fundraiser, usually held in the Fall. PCAH also receives assistance from the Oklahoma Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts with grants which are written for specific artistic events.

Ponca City Arts and Humanities Council is proud to carry on the tradition of providing free arts events to the community and surrounding area for the

past 28 years.

The board of directors for PCAH is comprised of 15 members and meets monthly. Each board member serves on at least one committee, and there is a part-time Executive Director who is a non-voting member of the board. The communities in this area which are served by the Council are Ponca City, Stillwater, Perry, Blackwell, Tonkawa, and Newkirk, OK., Wellington, and Arkansas City, KS.

Because Ponca City is 90 miles from any metropolitan area, the Council feels a responsibility to make quality performances available for all patrons of the arts so they can be entertained and exposed to diversified aspects of music, art, and theater without having to leave town. Another specific goal is to introduce area young people to arts programming and participation. Since art and music curriculums have been drastically cut in the public schools, Ponca City Arts and Humanities Council feels an obligation to help fill that gap.

The demographics of audiences for each event vary, depending on the offering. Current programming targeted towards young people, senior citizens, and to minority communities have added to the diversity of the audiences, both in age and ethnicity. The Council does not charge for the events, so anyone can attend. For more information on Ponca City Arts and Humanities Council or their upcoming events, please contact Leslie Schaulvliege, Executive Director, at 580-765-3966, or visit their Facebook page which is listed as Ponca City Arts & Humanities Council.

Free upcoming PCAH events include:

- July 15, 2014: Despicable Me movie, Poncan Theatre
- Oct. 9, 2014: The Tulsa Playboys, Hutchins Memorial Auditorium
- Nov. 14, 2014: The MoJo Men, Poncan Theatre
- March 27, 2015: Equilibrium band, Poncan Theatre
- June 26, 2015: Emerging Artist Showcase, Veterans Plaza in downtown Ponca City

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Sign Removed at Airline

By LOUISE ABERCROMBIE
News Business Editor

The downing of the Airline Theater drive-in movie marquee marks the end of an era — for sure this time. The 8.3 acres of land at Waverly and Highland, will now be put to use as a low rent housing addition. The theater was first opened in 1953 and enjoyed success for a number of years. After a run of three decades the drive-in movie theater closed in 1983.

However the drive-in enjoyed an encore in 1994

when the City Planning Commission okayed the opening and renovation by Bill and Kate Guzinski, Ponca City, of Nichal Theaters. At that time the concessions and restroom areas were revamped and landscaping improved. Also the sound came through car FM radios or any FM radio.

In 2004, the new owner was Terri Fry. Three years later the drive-in closed for the last time. The land was sold at auction as part of the Paul Otto farm in April 2007.

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ON AN informal quarterly schedule, the Ponca City Police Department provides citizens an opportunity to visit with their officers in a casual setting. Coffee with a Cop is just that setting. On June 5, George and Ramona Santiago Davis, owners of the local McDonald's Restaurant hosted this event. Chief Don Bohon began this program just over a year ago. Citizens are invited to ask questions, voice their concerns or just visit.



CHAD VANHOESEN visits with citizens during a recent Coffee With a Cop event.

Commissioners Review Broadband Charges

By STEVE DYE
News Staff Writer

The Ponca City Board of Commissioners met Monday in regular session, and among other items in a lengthy agenda approved measures that will standardize broadband charges in Ponca City while also lowering the rates for many local users.

The City of Ponca City provides broadband service carried over fiber optics to most large industries and many small businesses in the community. The city also provides "dark fiber" connections to organizations that need separate business locations connected without internet capability.

The new ordinance drops the previous charge for most customers — entities that use between one and 10 megabytes comprise over 95 percent of Ponca City users — from \$300 per megabyte to \$200.

Technology Services Director Craig Baird explained to commissioners that the rate decrease is the result of successful negotiations with service provider AT&T.

"We renegotiated the prices and were able to obtain a 35 percent discount in broadband services," Baird said. "We know a lot of our smaller business customers have been waiting for a rate decrease, and we are pleased to be able to do that at this time."

The ordinance also will allow City Manager Craig Stephenson to negotiate

rates with any business that will require more than 10 megabytes. At present, Ponca City has just a single business with demands that exceed the established range. It was submitted that by allowing the city manager to negotiate prices in those few instances that an entity needs more than 10 megabytes, the city can respond quickly and meet time requirements for large bandwidth requests.

"It certainly sounds like a good piece of business to be able to arrange a rate decrease and then pass along the savings to the people of Ponca City," said Mayor Homer Nicholson before the commission voted unanimously to approve the measure.

The commission also voted to effect the changes in rate structure immediately.

In other business, the commission gave its final stamp of approval to adjustments to the operating budgets of the various city funds.

The changes for the 2014-15 annual budget — which have been much discussed over a six-month period and enumerated in previous editions of the Ponca City News — are required by state statute to be adopted by resolution of the governing body no later than seven days prior to the beginning of the new fiscal year that begins on July 1.

That resolution was passed unanimously by the board.

Other budget revisions previously discussed in

detail — namely a resolution setting non-utility rates, fees and charges for the City of Ponca City and the Ponca City Utility Authority — were presented by the city's Finance Director Marc LaBossiere, and were also unanimously approved.

"I'd like to commend Marc and his entire staff for preparing an outstandingly detailed report," Nicholson noted.

The board followed the recommendation of the Ponca City Planning Commission and did not elect to approve an application for a commercial water meter requested by an oil company for a rural tract of land.

Orion Exploration, a Tulsa-based private equity concern that is developing oil and gas projects in several central Oklahoma locations, had applied for the meter to be installed in Kay County Rural Water District #3.

Kay County's rural water districts had been notified in February that, due to concerns prompted by ongoing drought conditions, the City Commission would be adopting a more stringent standard for variances in allowing city water for rural usage.

"Our staff recommendation is predicated on previous discussions with the commission, and the consensus reached that when we make these allowances outside of our policy it generally backfires," said Developmental Services Director Chris Henderson.

"It is wet today and we have had recent rains, but overall there is still grave concern with the drought cycle."

"We are getting to the point where we have no choice but to concentrate our concern with the overall water situation," said Nicholson. "We certainly want to incentivize and help business grow, but where do we stop?"

Nicholson then asked Henderson to delineate the geography of the situation, noting that Ponca City has a policy of extending service into its greater electrical service area.

Henderson stated that the Orion location was two miles outside that area as the crow flies and three miles by road. The commission then voted to deny the request for the variance.

With that, the regular session was adjourned and commissioners moved on to the Ponca City Utility Authority meeting.

The board first voted to approve the operating budgets for the various departments of city services for the upcoming fiscal year.

Commissioners then con-

sidered a construction bid for a liftstation replacement for Briar Ridge.

The city received four bids for the project, all of which came in over the budgeted amount. The lowest most responsible bidder was determined to be Ron Welcher Construction.

Water Utilities Manager Todd Smith stated that the city had worked with Ron Welcher Construction on three previous projects to replace lift stations in the past and that those projects went very well.

The bid for \$415,235 exceeded the budgeted amount by \$84,135, which city staff attributes to changing

market conditions explained Stephenson.

In an effort to reduce the funding deficiency, two non-essential items included in the original bid were deleted for a deduct amount of \$8,260.

In order to fulfill the remaining funding deficiency, the staff requested that \$61,875, saved from several other Wastewater Treatment Plant capital projects, be transferred to support the Briar Ridge Liftstation Project.

The commission voted to accept both the bid and recommended changes in how the project funds would be allocated.

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Ambulance Service Offered

The Ponca City Ambulance Service is a function of the Ponca City Fire Department and is governed by its own set of regulations and training requirements.

Fire department personnel are cross-trained in the emergency medical services (EMS) to varying degrees of licensing, including Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) - in Basic, Intermediate, and Paramedic levels. These dedicated individuals are able to bring some of the more critical skills of the local emergency room into the field.

Technician Education
Emergency Medical Technicians receive continuing education year-round to maintain their certification. These classes are designed to keep personnel prepared to handle all aspects of an emergency medical call, including:

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- Family pre-hospital care
- Scene safety
- Providing Excellent Customer Service

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Noon Lions Invite Newcomers to Join

Welcome Neighbors. The Ponca City Noon Lions would like to welcome you to join us in providing service to those in Ponca City who are less fortunate.

The Ponca City Noon Lions is one of the largest and most active civic clubs in town with 100 members, all working to follow the Lions Club motto, "We Serve". The Noon Lions Club has been in existence for 92 years and its membership is like a historical census of leaders in the community dating back to E.W. Marland who was the club's first President up to present Mayor Lion Homer Nicholson.

Lions are men and women who volunteer their time to humanitarian causes in their local and world communities. By conducting service projects and raising funds, Lions strive to help those in need; wherever need exists. Beginning in 1917, the association has grown to an international network of one million three hundred thousand men and women in 202 countries who work together to answer the needs that challenge communities around the world.

In 1925, Helen Keller addressed the Lions at their annual International Convention, challenging them to become "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness". Since that time service to the blind and visually impaired has become one of the association's most significant activities. One child goes blind every minute and half-

a-million will have lost their sight by the end of the year. To combat this problem Lions International has raised over \$500,000,000 to stop all preventable blindness around the world. And most of the local Lion's programs are related to blindness and the visually impaired.

Oklahoma Projects

The local club supports two major projects of the Oklahoma Lions Service Foundation, the Oklahoma Lions Eye Bank and the Oklahoma Lions Boys Ranch. This is done through two major fund raisers, the White Cane Drive in the spring and the Cowboy Cadillac campaign (a statewide fundraising raffle for a new pickup) in the fall.

Local Projects

Lions ChildSight — The Noon Lions have embarked on a project to do free eye screening for ALL Ponca City children from 6 months of age to four. Prevent Blindness Oklahoma provides screeners for this testing and uses digital cameras which do not require verbal response. They are able to determine six major areas of potential eye problems which, if caught early, can more readily be corrected. The Lions hope to reach 1500 Ponca area children in this age group. Upcoming free screenings will take place at OktoberFest, at Goblins on Grand, and other locations to be announced.

For information on these screenings call Dr. Kelly Campbell at 304-7918. Free

screenings are also being held at selected daycare centers.

Visually Impaired Support Group — The Noon Lions initiated and supports this organization of visually-impaired citizens who meet the first Monday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at the First Christian Church. The group has their own officers and organize their programs and activities. The Lions provide transportation and aid at the meetings. In addition to regular meetings, the group has one or two annual picnics, and occasional out-of-town field trips. For information call Millie Stafford at 762-4249.

Eye Glasses for Children and Adults — Lions provide assistance to those who are in need of eyeglasses but due to financial hardship are unable to obtain them on their own. The club works closely with local optometrists who greatly discount the total cost of examination, frames, and lenses to such a degree that the Lions can reach a greater number of worthy clients. The Noon Lions spent over \$14,000 this past year on this project and have spent over \$200,000 for eyeglasses for the needy in Ponca City. They are aided in this cause by local optometrists.

Electronic Visual Aids — These units are hand-held or in-place electronic magnifiers that are loaned to recipients who have macular degeneration, retinitis pigmentosa, or other eye-related problems. Noon Lions have over

\$12,000 worth of equipment on loan or available for loan. These units help the visually-impaired read, write checks, fill syringes and many other tasks that most of us take for granted.

Juvenile Diabetes Support — The Noon Lions support local children with Type1 Diabetes. They provide the school nurses with snacks to help the students with diabetes when they are in need.

The Lions also helped The Northern Oklahoma e-Lions Club with a LionsStrides walk for Diabetes, which promoted awareness and also provided funds for the various Jr. Diabetes projects.

The Noon Lions provide scholarships for those students in need, to the state Diabetes Camp Endres each summer. We recently donated \$1,000 to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

Collecting and Recycling Eyeglasses — Containers are placed in various locations around Ponca City to collect eyeglasses. Those glasses are collected, prescriptions identified and cataloged, and then distributed to needy in underdeveloped areas.

Lion-sponsored clinics are held where eyes are checked and proper prescription eyeglasses are then supplied. Noon Lions collected over 2,500 eyeglasses this past year for this humanitarian project. Used eyeglasses can be donated at the drop box in the tag agency foyer, the drive-by drop box in the Hastings/University Learning Center parking lot on north fourteenth, at ConocoPhillips or at Dr. Bill Stuever's office.

work with some Ponca City teachers on implementation of this project. Lions Quest supports character development, improved learning, civic values, substance abuse prevention and much more.

Cell Phones for Soldiers — The Noon Lions have joined forces with Cell Phones for Soldiers and Operation Pioneer Spirit to collect cell phones and accessories at their local eyeglass collection boxes. These cell phones are turned in to CPFS who in turn provides calling cards for Operation Pioneer Spirit to place in their boxes prepared for our soldiers in Afghanistan and Kuwait each month. The Lions have collected over 135 cell phones for OPS in less than the one year we have been in operation.

Mobile Health Screening Unit — An Oklahoma Lions-owned 18-wheel unit is made available to the Ponca City Noon Lions twice a year. This MHSU is used to check local residents free-of-charge for diabetes, glaucoma, high blood pressure, visual acuity, and hearing problems.

Diabetes Awareness and Screening — Several times per year the Noon Lions sponsor a diabetes screening at different locations (including the Ponca City Health Fair and OktoberFest). Many blood-sugar problems have been detected and referred to physicians which have helped prevent future major issues.

Lions Quest — The local Lions sponsor a program designed to provide positive youth development. Noon-Lions brought in trainers to

work with some Ponca City teachers on implementation of this project. Lions Quest supports character development, improved learning, civic values, substance abuse prevention and much more.

Lions Cubbies — The club has just started the cubbies for Lions' young children and others, with the purpose of learning early about service with a strong emphasis on fellowship.

Other Projects — Lions are also involved with Salvation Army Bell Ringing, Festival of Angels, and sponsor high school students to Oklahoma Boy's State and to Girl's State. The club also provides two scholarships to Senior Leo Club members each year. Club members also are involved in the Adopt-a-Road project, help monitor testing at Ponca City High School, and in addition, help clean up Lake Ponca areas.

Financial Support — In addition to the White Cane drive and Cowboy Cadillac campaign for state projects, local projects are financed by two major fund-raisers. The Lions have a Western concert in the spring, and an Auction and dinner in the fall. These two projects help fund the local projects mentioned above.

If you would like to join the Ponca City Noon Lions in their service to the community please contact Ted Matson at telephone number 763-3424 or by eMail at redmoose29@att.net.

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Prince of Peace on Turner Road

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, at 2800 Turner Road in Ponca City, is a member congregation of the Arkansas — Oklahoma Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). For those who appreciate formal worship but are tired of the church hierarchy, Prince of Peace Lutheran church, "The Welcome Place", is a true refuge. We offer the sanctuary of a small, warm, relaxed and friendly environment where all who wish to worship Christ, the Lord, are welcome.

Worship service is held on Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m with a Fellow-

ship gathering after the service. Sunday school classes meet at 10:00 a.m.

We believe: This is God's world. It is the object of His love as well as the scene of our human struggles. Christ is the son of God the Redeemer. We live in a time of the Holy Spirit, which is a time of hope, new life, and great possibilities.

There is a place for you here at Prince of Peace and we welcome you. We are a church that boldly shares God's grace. Faithfully, we embrace each and every individual as a whole person - human imperfections, questions, complexities and all.

If you are new to the area, or are not a member of a local church, we would like to invite you to become a part of our congregation, part of a fellowship of faith and a visible expression of God's love. We want you to join us as we share the grace, peace and love of God for all people.

Alternately, if we can be of service to you, your family, friends or neighbors, please contact us at (580) 762-7698 or (580) 304-7450.

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From Home Fires to Tornadoes, your local Red Cross is ready to respond.

The American Red Cross is ready to respond to disasters 7 days a week, 365 days a year here in North Central Oklahoma, providing shelter, food, clothing and emotional support at no cost to those in need. The American Red Cross is responsible for the safety and preparedness of people in Eastern Kay, Northeast Noble and Pawnee counties. Last year, in its mission to alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies, the Ponca City American Red Cross responded to 59 disasters and provided more than \$ 23,262.96. In addition, our office also teaches organizations and corporations how to be prepared for emergencies through free educational presentations, last year reaching 8,056 people through free programs.

The Red Cross is well-known for responding quickly to the scenes of large disasters such as floods and tornadoes. However, the most common Red Cross disaster response is to single-family home fires. Red Cross volunteers respond at all hours of the day and night to bring comfort and critical financial assistance for safe lodging, meals, clothing, shoes and vital medications to help families get back on their feet.

In the days following a disaster, the Red Cross provides mental health counseling, cleaning supplies, basic kitchen wares and assistance with replacing medical equipment such as canes, hearing aids and dentures. The Red Cross also provides financial help with first month's rent and security deposits as needed.

"Nearly 70% of families we help have no insurance on their homes or belongings," says Kelsey Wagner, Administrative Coordinator. "In many

cases, the Red Cross help is what keeps those families from falling into overwhelming debt or becoming homeless."

In addition to caring for disaster victims, the Red Cross supports first responders on-scene. Red Cross teams bring critical hydrating beverages and energy-sustaining meals and snacks to the site for emergency responders who may be working in extreme conditions for extended periods of time.

Helping people learn how to prevent and prepare for disasters is a key part of the Red Cross outreach to the community.

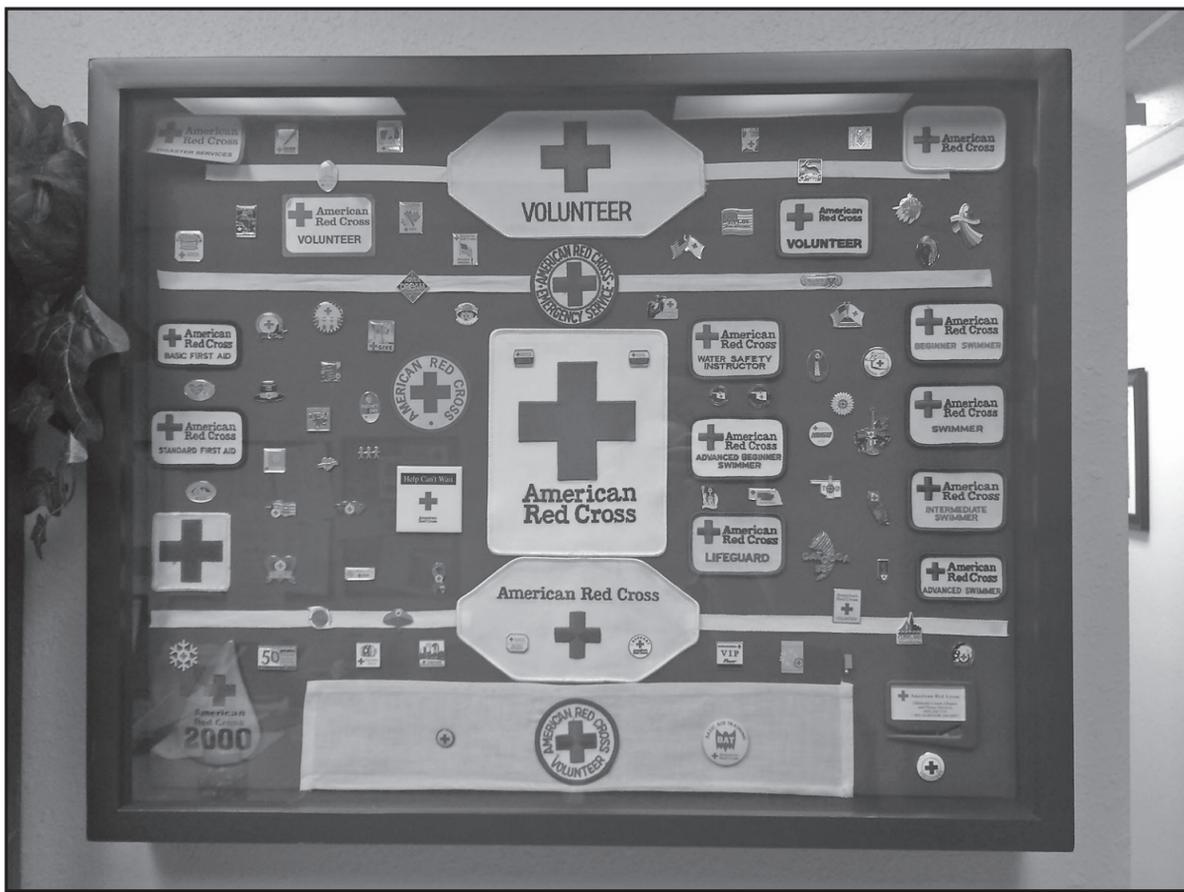
A number of Red Cross mobile apps are available that help people know how to prepare for emergencies, as well as what to do during and after an emergency. Apps for wild-fires, tornadoes, First Aid, earthquakes, flood and hurricanes are available free for iPhone and Android at www.redcross.org/mobileapps.

The American Red Cross also brings families closer together by delivering family emergency messages to Oklahomans serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. Last year, there were 34 Emergency messages delivered on behalf of families in the Ponca City Service Center area.

"The Red Cross is not a government agency," says Wagner. "The services we provide to the community are possible only through the work of volunteers and generous financial donations from companies, foundations and individuals."

For more information about Red Cross services, or how you can help the Red Cross as a volunteer or with a financial gift, call the Red Cross office at 580-765-6605.

About the American Red Cross:
The American Red Cross



THIS SHADOW box hangs in the Ponca City Red Cross office. The pins and patches that scatter the display demonstrate the level of dedication that local Red Cross volunteers have had in their many years to Local and National Disasters, Blood Drives, Community Preparedness, Life-Saving Trainings and other misc. programs. Each pin was earned by a Ponca City volunteer. This board was put together by Roy Neal, a long-time Disaster Responder for the Ponca City ARC.

shelters, feeds and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and

their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to perform its mission. For more information, please visit www.redcross.org.

Something for Everyone at Lake Ponca

Lake Ponca supports many of the traditional outdoor activities including: Fishing, Boating, water-skiing, camping, outdoor picnic and an adjacent golf course.

Permits for fishing, boating and skiing may be purchased from the Park and Recreation office located at 905 W. Hartford.

Lake Ponca Recreation Areas serves as an ideal location for individual, family and group and community events throughout the year.

Lake Ponca Campgrounds:

A camper/RV area is located behind East Lake Ponca, on East Dam Road, for recreational use. (East Dam Road joins LA Cann, just East of Lake Ponca Park or off LA Cann.)

Camping Sites may be rented for a minimal fee on a first come first served basis. (No reservations) Hookups are available as is a small dump station and restroom/shower facility. The maximum number of nights is 5.

Lake Ponca Park This area features play areas for young-

sters, duck ponds and covered shelter house suitable for large group gatherings. A restroom is located on site.

The covered picnic shelters are equipped with wood burning fire places, electrical outlets, lights, stationary tables and benches.

Water and a large charcoal pit are located close to each shelter.

Reservations are required for use of the picnic shelters and may be made up to one year in advance.

The park is closed from

November 1 through January 31 for the annual holiday light displays.

You may arrive up to 20 minutes prior to the beginning of your reservation and must leave promptly at the end of the scheduled reservation.

Center tables are not to be removed from the shelter house or rearranged at any time.

The Lake Ponca park Duck Ponds are designated as Youth Fishing Ponds. Fishing is restricted to children age 15 and under.

Emergency Management Maintains System

Emergency Management operates and maintains a warning system for the Ponca City area. Radio-controlled outdoor warning sirens are tested every Thursday, weather permitting. When the sirens are activated, citizens should turn their radios or TV to a local station for information and instructions. The sirens are an outdoor warning system only. Residents should identify another warning source to be utilized when inside. One example would be the NOAA Emergency Alert Radio. There are also services available that will provide warnings on a cell phone or computer at no cost from several weather internet websites.

NOAA Weather Radio

The Kay County Amateur Radio Club and the Ponca City Emergency Management Office secured a grant and local contributions in order to install a new local NOAA Emergency Alert transmitter. The transmitter is maintained by the National Weather Service. Information and warnings originate from the National Weather Service office in Norman.

They are transmitted to the local transmitter over phone lines. The information is then transmitted to anyone with an emergency alert radio receiver in the Kay County area. The receiver will automatically broadcast messages for weather warnings to be received by citizens. Many of these receivers

are located in schools, businesses and homes in the Ponca City area. This system can also be used for local non-weather emergencies.

Cable Override System

Emergency Management has access to the Cable Override System. When activated, an audio only, voice message will interrupt local cable TV broadcast with emergency information for citizens. If you are using a satellite dish for TV broadcasts, you will not get the message.

More Warning Methods

Emergency Management informs the local media of emergency related information, such as severe weather, evacuation, and sheltering in place

information that needs to be broadcast to the public.

A variety of radar and weather data is utilized by emergency management during severe weather. The information gathered is passed on to local "storm spotters" in the field. Spotters assist with the warning decision by providing current reports on conditions. These reports are also forwarded to the National Weather Service.

City Owns Solid Waste Collection System

The City of Ponca City owns and operates its own solid waste collection system. This means that the City has a fleet of specialized trucks that are used to provide a variety of residential and commercial waste collection services.

On the residential side, alley and curbside pick-up of 105 gallons of waste (three 35-gallon

bags or cans) is provided twice a week with special pick-ups provided (for a fee) on a call-in basis. Residential services also include:

The annual Spring Cleanup Week that allows residents to cleanup around their home and a free leaf collection in the fall

A Household Hazardous Waste Day every two years

where residents may bring their household chemicals and such to a drop-off point for free disposal

A drop-off recycling center for those individuals who recycle

Commercial services include various sizes of dumpsters, roll-off containers, and compactors.



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Kaw Lake Association Plays Tourism Role

How do you improve the economic climate of an area? One way is through tourism, Oklahoma's third largest industry.

The Kaw Lake Association plays a major role in the tourism industry for north-central Oklahoma by marketing the many attractions, facilities and conducting events throughout the year. Not only does this non-profit organization promote the lake, but also many communities in Kay, Osage, Pawnee and Cowlitz counties.

An award-winning publication, travel shows and the staging of events throughout the year keep this organization, composed predominantly of volunteers, busy. Fall is the time when volunteers and staff contact businesses throughout the area to encourage them to advertise in the annual Kaw Lake magazine.

A previous Redbud and merit award winner at the Oklahoma Governor's Conference, this 48-page publication features fishing, hunt-

ing and articles on various communities in the area. Also included are area attractions and events. It is distributed through Corps campgrounds at Kaw Lake, Oklahoma Tourist Information Centers, chambers of commerce, local businesses, the Oklahoma fulfillment program, travel shows, and in response to requests to the Kaw Lake Association office.

Travel shows staffed by volunteers are another way the Kaw Lake Association spreads the word about tourism in our area. Each year booths are manned at the Kansas State Fair in September; Kansas Boat, Sport and Travel Show in Wichita in February; a Home Show in Enid in the spring and the WBBZ Spring Expo in Ponca City. Periodically the Kaw Lake magazine is also distributed at other shows in partnership with Red Carpet Country, Northwest Oklahoma; Green Country, Northeast Oklahoma, and the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department.

Four events organized by the Kaw Lake Association and spread throughout the year provide an additional reason for people to visit our area.

The third Saturday in January is the annual Ultimate Eagle Watch in Kaw City. With one of the largest numbers of bald eagles in Oklahoma, Kaw Lake provides a program coupled with guided tours to view eagles in their native habitat.

Spring brings the Kids Focus on Fishing where children ages 5-12 learn about fishing and have the opportunity to compete with others on their team for prizes. Summer is KawFest. This "party on the beach" features live music, kids games, sand volleyball and more.

As a marketing association, the Kaw Lake Association also participates in various advertising programs and offers cooperative opportunities to area attractions and businesses result in a cost savings way for them to also reach potential visitors to the area.

These include the Guide to Green Country, Red Carpet Country guide, Oklahoma Today, Oklahoma Travel Guide and various advertising programs in southern Kansas and western Oklahoma, the two primary areas targeted by the association.

Members also work to create a regional network of communities to promote tourism as economic development in northern Oklahoma and southern Kansas from an office on Lake Road, staffed by parttime executive director Kathy Tippin and several volunteers, RSVP volunteers, a 22-member board of directors and numerous other volunteers.

The organization markets the area including the surrounding communities of

Blackwell, Braman, Burbank, Fairfax, Kaw City, Pawhuska, Pawnee, Ponca City, Shidler and Tonkawa in Oklahoma and Arkansas City and Winfield in Kansas.

Individuals and businesses support the association through memberships, advertising in the guide and partnering in advertising co-op programs.

"We serve often as the first call people make when inquiring about the lake and field calls about surrounding communities, their events and attractions," Tippin said.

"We network with organizations in these communities and throughout Oklahoma and Kansas to provide accurate information to the inquiries and direct people where to go for additional information."

The Kaw Lake Association is a non-profit organization and receives a small portion of funds from the State of Oklahoma as a part of the multi-county marketing organizations fund based upon the amount of private sector money raised.

For more information about the Kaw Lake Association, please contact the Kaw Lake Association office at 580-762-9494 or 1-877-671-6985 or e-mail kawlake@cableone.net.

The purpose of the Kaw Lake Association is to build a region-wide partnership of towns, businesses, service agencies, and local governments within the North Central Oklahoma Kaw Lake area.

Its mission includes recruitment of a broad membership base, creation of a financial support system, addressing infrastructure needs, tourism development, broadening the business base, and marketing the region as a whole.

Local Hospital Earns Accreditation

Ponca City Medical Center (PCMC) recently became the first Accredited Chest Pain Center in northern Oklahoma and one of only three in the state. PCMC recently applied for and was granted full accreditation by the Society of Chest Pain Centers (SCPC) — a designation held by only 12 percent of hospitals in the United States.

To receive accreditation, the hospital has demonstrated its expertise and commitment to quality patient care by meeting or exceeding a wide set of stringent criteria and completing on-site evaluations by a SCPC review team.

"This is momentous not only for our hospital and patients, but the community as well," said PCMC CEO Andy Wachtel. "It's another step in our commitment to providing superior emergency and cardiac care to the residents

of Ponca City and the communities we serve. While the focus is on our emergency department, this accreditation is possible because of the work and commitment of a multi-disciplinary team that includes employees, physicians and Ponca City EMS."

Chest pain is among the top symptoms of patients who visit the PCMC Emergency Department (ED). This designation means that any patient who comes to PCMC experiencing chest pain can be confident he or she is receiving care that meets or exceeds the highest national standards of care. Positive patient outcomes depend on timely intervention, diagnosis and treatment. Cardiologists, emergency department physicians and patient care staff at the PCMC Accredited Chest Pain Center consistently demonstrate expertise in

streamlined diagnosis and treatment, integration with paramedics/EMS, community education and other key factors that ensure better outcomes for patients.

The investment in establishing an Accredited Chest Pain Center demonstrates the hospital's ongoing commitment to providing superior team-centered cardiac care.

"Quick response, diagnosis and treatment save lives and heart muscle," says Chadwick Ross, D.O., Medical Director of the new PCMC Accredited Chest Pain Center. "Our skilled team of cardiologists, ED physicians and nurses, integration with paramedics/EMS, advanced technology and exceptional response time to cardiac emergencies will give patients the best chance of survival and recovery."

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Arts Adventure Camp at NOC in July

TONKAWA — An exciting, fun-filled week awaits area youngsters entering Grades 6 through 12 at the 23rd annual Arts Adventure day camp hosted July 21-25 on the Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa campus.

Sponsored by the Arts Adventure Foundation, the camp begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Top-notch artists help each camper to express his or her own personality through the arts and work to provide a rewarding learning experience for each one. Students meet in large, air-conditioned classrooms and camp staff are always on hand to provide assistance and information.

Each camper will choose morning (8:30 a.m.-noon) and afternoon (12:30-4 p.m.) classes in visual arts, computer graphics, vocal music, computer music, photography, dance, theatre or writing. Campers can explore new areas of the creative arts or improve their talents and skills in a familiar field. There's something for everyone.

A number of 90-minute "short" classes in the morning and afternoon sessions in addition to three-hour "long" classes in the morning and afternoon are offered. Students may mix and match "short" and/or "long" classes from among 18 selections. According to Arts Adventure faculty, students can either sample more areas of the arts or focus intensively on two areas.

New art classes include Wild and Woolly fiber art and Stage Make-up. Wild and Woolly students will make animal and



APPROXIMATELY 80 ARTS Adventure 2013 campers pose with their instructors and camp apprentices on the steps of the Kinzer Performing Arts Center at Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa. Sponsored by the Arts Adventure Foundation, the 2014 camp will be held July 21-25 on the Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa campus. Deadline for the registration fee is July 2.

character sculptures, a wool "painting" and more from colored wool fleece, according to instructor Betty Bowen. Instructor Christina Rich-Splawn promises hands-on experience with beginning theatrical make-up techniques with each day focusing on a different aspect of Stage Make-up.

Native American Arts will be offered this year with Jena Kodesh helping students to create object art with an emphasis on sun designs from several tribes. "Students will construct Kachina Dolls, Corn Husk Masks, Dance Fans,

Dance Arm Bands, Sand Paintings, Baskets, Medallions and more," Kodesh said.

In addition to their chosen classes, campers will sample the various Arts Adventure offerings at morning and afternoon assemblies where select instructors and classes will share their talents. Concluding the camp Friday evening, students will show off their best work at an extravaganza gallery exhibition and on-stage performance in the Kinzer Performing Arts Center. The extravaganza is free and open to the public.

Total cost for the Arts Adventure 2014 camp is \$150 and includes an Arts Adventure t-shirt, a camp photo, class supplies and lunch upon request. Campers may bring their own lunches but must remain on campus during the lunch period. Students will need to provide their own transportation. Group transportation from Ponca City to Tonkawa and back is available through Cimarron Transit at a cost of \$45 per person for the week. Parents may call 580.718.0444 to make arrangements.

Registration deadline is

July 2. Registration forms, along with a \$40 registration fee, should be mailed to Arts Adventure, c/o Kerri Gray, PO Box 310, Tonkawa, OK 74653-0310. Scholarships based on financial need are available upon request, accompanied by the \$40 registration fee.

Deadline for the remaining \$110 camp fee is July 14. For

more information or for registration forms, call 580.767.1439 or 580.628.4710, check the Arts Adventure website at www.artsadventure.org or visit the NOC website at www.noc.edu/ community and click on Arts Adventure. Brochures and registration forms are also available at area Chambers of Commerce and public libraries.



ARTS ADVENTURE apprentices are on hand each day to welcome campers, escort them to classes and aid faculty in giving them individual assistance as they work on their projects.

Wachtel New CEO in Blackwell

BLACKWELL — Andy Wachtel has been named chief executive officer of INTEGRIS Blackwell Regional Hospital. Wachtel, who has 25 years of experience in hospital management and operations, is also the CEO of Ponca City Medical Center, a role which he will continue. Although Community Health Systems completed the acquisition of Health Management Associates in January it was not announced locally that Blackwell hospital was part of the acquisition.

Through its affiliates, Community Health Systems now owns, leases or operates 206 hospitals in 29 states.

The organization's affiliates employ more than 135,000 people and approximately 27,000 physicians serve on the medical staffs of CHS-affiliated hospitals. CHS's headquarters will remain in the Nashville, Tennessee, suburb of Franklin.

"In his dual role, Wachtel will help to drive success for the individual entities and support the shared goals to expand the availability of quality healthcare services in both communities," said Bob Gingerich, PCMC Board of Trustees Chairman.

"Having a strong leader as CEO of both hospitals will help strengthen connections between our organizations, opportunities to share resources and strategies to

accelerate our growth," said Bruce Dale, chairman of the board, INTEGRIS Blackwell Regional Hospital.

"Working together, we can leverage our resources to attract more physicians and expand the local availability of primary and specialty services."

"We are fortunate to have these senior leaders who have good solid roots in our organization, our communities and in healthcare," said Dale. "They share a passion for building hospitals that are quality-driven, clinically sound and financially strong: all strong components to help accelerate our individual and combined successes."

Wachtel has been CEO of PCMC for the past six years. Prior to joining the Ponca City team, he was chief operating officer at Deaconess

Hospital in Oklahoma City. Sheryl Schmidtberger, the current chief financial officer at INTEGRIS Blackwell, will also be the CFO at PCMC. Schmidtberger has been CFO in Blackwell for the past eight years and served as interim CEO there for the past four months. Schmidtberger has 30 years of financial and leadership

experience. "This is an exciting time in the evolution of health-care and our hospital's role as the hub of our community's physical and economic health," said Gingerich. "I believe this is a great opportunity for our hospitals — individually and together — to expand the ways we take care of our communities."

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Housing Authority Provides Assistance

For over 30 years, the Ponca City Housing Authority (PHA) has provided assistance for low-income families, the elderly and persons with disabilities.

The mission of the Housing Authority is to provide decent and safe rental housing to the community. The Ponca City Housing Authority achieved the status of "High Performer" with a score of 97 percent for the last several years from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). HUD monitors facility management, financial accountability, property inspection and resident surveys before determining a status and score.

The groundwork to establish public housing in Ponca City began in 1968. The construction of family unit duplexes was completed in 1975 and the elderly and disabled housing complex was finished in the fall of 1977.

The Ponca City Housing Authority operates two different programs: The Public Housing program and the Housing Choice Voucher program also known as Section 8. Currently these two programs provide housing to over 600 individuals within Ponca City. The programs are subsidized with funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Public housing in Ponca City comes in all sizes and types from single-family units to a high-rise apartment for seniors. The public housing program serves as landlord to

177 units it owns and leases to the public. The Section 8 program has 134 vouchers available for low-income families to choose and lease privately-owned rental housing that is safe, decent and affordable.

The elderly high-rise complex, Broadway Plaza is located at 201 East Broadway. A total of 104 apartments are available consisting of efficiency and one-bedroom apartments and a few one-bedroom suites.

Broadway Plaza offers secure, simplified living for seniors, nearly elderly (over 50) and disabled persons living on fixed incomes. It is conveniently located just minutes from downtown Ponca City.

The complex has indoor mail, laundry facilities, 24-hour video monitoring cameras in all public areas, 24-hour emergency maintenance personnel on call, elevators, fire alarm and sprinkler systems, and individual air and heating units. Each apartment is totally electric, equipped with range, refrigerator, smoke detector, mini blinds and carpet.

The grounds are beautifully landscaped with a gazebo area and patio/grilling area to entertain. Other services offered are gospel band entertainment monthly, pot luck dinners, bingo night, movie night, game night, church services in the lobby, blood pressure, sugar and oxygen testing, pedicures, Friendship Feast van service, Meals on Wheels delivery, and Cimarron Transit service.

As well as the elderly com-



THE ELDERLY high-rise complex, Broadway Plaza is located at 201 East Broadway. A total of 104 apartments are available consisting of efficiency and one-bedroom apartments and a few one-bedroom suites.

plex, the Housing Authority has seventy-three single-family duplex units that are scattered at ten sites throughout the City. They can accommodate various size families offering one, two, three and four-bedroom units. These duplexes are located at N. Osage, N. Palm, N. 1st, N. Gary, N. Ash, S. Sunset, S. 6th, S. 9th, S. 10th and W. Grand. The Housing Authority is responsible for all maintenance and lawn care.

Major renovations have been in progress for the past three years on the scattered sites and the elderly/disabled complex. Scattered site units have been completely remodeled with new tile floors, bathroom vanities and tubs, kitchen cabinets, sinks and countertops, energy efficient windows, doors and storm doors. Washer and dryer hook-ups are available.

The elderly complex has just completed a major renovation project of its common areas.

New canopies have been installed on the outside of the building with updated landscaping. The common areas have been completely remodeled with ceramic tile, carpeting, and all new furniture.

The apartments are updated as vacated with new carpet, paint and tile. New mini blinds were installed the Fall of 2012.

The housing choice voucher program assists low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled to afford decent, safe and sanitary housing in the private market of Ponca City.

An individual is issued a voucher and is then responsible for finding a suitable housing unit where the owner agrees to rent under the program.

Rental units must meet the minimum standards of health and safety as determined by HUD. A housing subsidy is paid to the landlord directly by the PHA on behalf of the participant who pays the dif-

ference between the actual rent charged by the landlord and the amount subsidized by the program.

Anyone interested in the public housing and housing choice voucher programs must apply in person. They will need to meet the annual income limit guidelines set by HUD as well as have good landlord, police and national background reports. In public housing, deposits range from \$100 to \$250 and utilities must be set up in the applicant's name.

To qualify for our family units, you must be working a minimum of 20 hours or going to school full time (12 hours a semester). Applicants are urged to return applications immediately to be included in the Housing Authority waiting lists.

The waiting period for the public housing program has increased this past year with a wait of six to eight months to be housed. There is an

approximate waiting time of sixteen to eighteen months for the Section 8 program.

In 2011, the Ponca City Housing Authority and the City of Ponca City worked together to provide homes to Section 8 voucher holders from funds provided through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program.

The City applied for a grant from this stimulus program and their application was approved. It allowed the City to purchase several houses in the City and completely renovate the properties.

The City then deeded the homes over to the Housing Authority to lease to Section 8 participants. All of these homes were leased as of Sept. 1, 2011.

The Housing Authority is governed by a board of commissioners who are appointed by the mayor. For more information, please call 580-762-4445 or drop by Broadway Plaza at 201.

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University Center Is Your Future

"Welcome to Your Future." That's the creed for individuals who attend the University Center at Ponca City. The UC is poised to celebrate its 15th year in operation this fall. Thank you Northern Oklahoma for making the UC the essential higher education agency it is today!

Partnering with Oklahoma colleges and universities allows students in this area to receive a high quality education without the hassles of travel, parking, or busy facilities. Students enjoy the University Center because it was designed to meet the needs of today's student.

Providing ample classroom space, study space, or full ser-

vice computer labs, the UC is a convenient place to study, learn, and utilize to achieve your degree.

Classes are currently underway at the UC which is located at 2800 N. 14th. College and university degree programs and coursework from several Oklahoma higher education institutions are offered daily. The University Center provides associate, bachelor and master's degree programs as well as higher level certification programs.

Courses are taught through numerous distance learning channels, such as interactive television, as well as professors who teach in person at the University Center.

Interactive television allows students and instructors to see, hear, and talk to one another as if they are physically sitting in the same classroom.

The University Center partners with Oklahoma higher education institutions including Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Northern Oklahoma College, and Northwestern Oklahoma State University.

The UC's more popular degree programs include: Accounting, Adult Education Management/Administration, Business Administration, Computer Science, Counseling Psychology, Criminal Justice, Early Childhood Education, and Educational Leadership Administration. The UC's new Bachelor's in nursing program is overwhelmingly successful. With its recent national ranking for the programs academic quality, affordability, and suc-

cess rate of its nurses, the BSN program is the highest rated in Oklahoma.

Students who are admitted to this prestigious partnership through Northwestern will have the benefit of having a full time on site instructor in Ponca City. Degrees are also available in Elementary Education, Guidance and Counseling, Management, Organizational Leadership, Secondary Education, Special Education, Psychology and more.

Academic advisement is available Monday through Friday to assist students in enrollment, admission and college or university selection. Financial aid and scholarships are available for those who qualify.

For more information visit the University Center's web site at www.UCPoncaCity.com, call 580-718-5600 or stop by the University Center, 2800 N. 14th.

Club Plans Meeting

The Motorcycle Group of Ponca City meets the first Monday of the month at 6 p.m. at Pizza Hut in Ponca City. The group would like to invite any motorcycle riders that are new to town to come visit the meeting and also come ride. They have lots of fun and Ride for the Son.

For additional information, contact Mike Liebelt 580-628-0805 or Joyce Myers 580-765-3164.

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Sample Ballots Available For County Elections

Sample ballots now are available at the Osage County Election Board office for voters who want to get a preview of what will be at stake in the Primary Election on June 24.

Andrea Conner, Secretary of the Osage County Election Board, said that sample ballots can be viewed at the Election Board office, located at 630 Kihekah Ave. in Pawhuska, during regular office hours, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sample ballots also will be posted outside every precinct polling place on Tuesday so that voters can review them before casting their votes.

A new state law which took effect on November 1, 2013, changes the dates and times voters have come to expect for early voting in Oklahoma. Now, early voting begins a day earlier, on Thursday and continues on Friday and Saturday, Osage County Election Board Secretary, Andrea Conner, explained today. Of special note, all early voting on Monday is discontinued.

These changes have occurred due to the approval of SB 869, which was signed into law in May, 2013, Conner said.

The new law also adjusts the hours for Saturday in-person absentee voting to begin and end one hour later than previously authorized. Conner explained that during federal and state elections, when voter turnout is often heaviest, the Saturday option gives voters a third opportunity to vote early prior to the election day.

Among the changes which

become effective on November 1, 2013:

In-person absentee "early" voting now occurs from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and continues on Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (during State and Federal Elections only). Under the new statute, Monday voting is discontinued entirely.

Previously, early voting began on Friday and continued on Monday. Under the old statute, Saturday hours were 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

More information about absentee voting in Oklahoma, as well as other election related information, is available at www.elections.ok.gov.

Visit Garden

Cann Memorial Garden is a 10 acre estate located in the heart of Ponca City at the Junction of Highway 77 and Grand Avenue.

Home of the Ponca City Herb Festival.

The estate was given to the City of Ponca City by Elsie Cann Brown, daughter of L. A. and Mary Cann in August 1975, in memory of her parents.

Lester Cann was an early pillar of the community serving over 25 years as a commissioner and City Manager. The estate was donated with the stipulation that it would be maintained as a memorial garden for use of the people of Ponca City and as a meeting place for the numerous Garden Clubs.



JONI DYER teaches a tutor training class.

Council Improves Literacy

The Ponca City Area Literacy Council began serving those in need of improving literacy in 1985. The council offers one to one tutoring to adults needing basic reading and communication skills and to those who need to learn English as a second language. In addition to those activities, the council conducts one class for men and one for women at the Kay County Deten-

tion Center. The Council also offers a book club available to our learners.

The office is located in the lower level of the Library, and is open from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

It is open by appointment any time the Library is open. Our tutors are volunteers who complete a training program called "Open Minds." A tutor

support session is held monthly for those who can attend. All supplies needed by the tutors and learners are provided by the Council. The tutoring sessions take place in the Library in a well equipped designated tutoring room.

The Council is a 501 c3 charitable organization which depends on grants and donations for financial support.

As with all charitable orga-

nizations, volunteers are always needed. No prior teaching experience is needed. Many of our tutors and learners become lifetime friends.

Helping an adult improve reading and communication skills is a very rewarding experience. Anyone interested in volunteering should call at 580-767-0351 for more information.

Animal Control Ordinance in City

Animal Control Spay & Neuter Ordinance Update. The ordinance went into effect on June 9, 2009.

The permits for pet owners to keep their animals intact have been drawn up by City Attorney Kevin Murphy and are currently at the printers. They will be duplicate forms. The original will be maintained at the AC Shelter and the owner will be given the copy. The fee is \$100 for the first year and \$20 annually thereafter. The permits will be sold at the AC Shelter.

Same for the whelping permit. This permit is required

of owners that have a female cat or dog that has a litter. The permit is \$100 and will be sold at the AC Shelter and must be purchased within days of the birth of the litter. A limit of one litter per 12 month period for any female cat or dog.

The tracking of the sale of permits will be done at the AC Shelter.

The brochures, designed cleverly by Jan Rodd, are complete and will be distributed to several places such as Conoco Phillips, DHS, AC, Humane Society, Health Department, Employment Office and Pioneer Technologies.

Public Service Announcement material has been sent to all local radio stations.

A copy of the brochure and the entire ordinance has been given to Dana to post on the City's website as well as on the City's local Channel.

The City Corner Article featuring the new ordinance in detail will print this week including exceptions, fees, etc. Details of the ordinance have also been in the PC News at least three times in the last two weeks.

The Ponca City Humane Society authored a grant and was awarded funding through

PetSmart Charities. With the grant money and the generous reduction for sterilization rates from our local veterinarians - families with an income of \$45,000 or less will qualify. The applications are available at the Humane Society.

Municipal Judge Bill Kirkpatrick has reviewed the new ordinance and has set a \$200 fine for the first offense plus court costs of \$44 unless he finds that there are unusual or mitigating circumstances.

He has set a fine of \$500 for the second or subsequent offense for the same or a similar violation along with \$44 court costs.

Water Quality Improves in State

"Voluntary conservation practices have helped place Oklahoma among the water quality elite again this year" reports Shanon Phillips, Oklahoma Conservation Commission's (OCC) Water Quality Division director. The partnerships created with farmers, ranchers and other landowners in conjunction with conservation districts, OCC, and the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service and EPA Clean Water Act Programs have resulted in the removal of nine more streams from Oklahoma's 303(d) list of impaired streams, including Deer Creek in Kay and Grant Counties. In previous

years Bois 'd Arc and Beaver Creeks were also removed from the impaired streams list. Others counties with water quality success stories are Bryan, Choctaw, Coal, Garfield, Logan, McIntosh, Osage and Pontotoc counties. Streams were removed from the list of impaired waters due to reduced turbidity or the amount of sediment suspended in water. Sediment load was reduced by an estimated 9,732 tons. Oklahoma ranks second in the nation in reducing harmful nutrients in streams and rivers, and has placed in the top ten states in reported non-point source nutrient reductions.

"This shows what can happen

when we work together, respect individuals' private property rights and when the State and Federal governments give landowners the financial and technical assistance they need to make changes," says Kim Farber, President of the Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts, "Locally-led, voluntary conservation works!"

Because drought naturally reduces turbidity, these streams were delisted using pre-drought data from 2004-2009. Improvements are a result of installation of conservation practices such as riparian buffers, fencing-off stream banks from livestock, and reducing tillage with its potential of soil erosion into streams.

Maintaining practices in times of drought are particularly important as stream flow decreases and pollutants become more concentrated. Maintained vegetation and soil cover can trap accumulated fertilizers and motor oil, preventing them from reaching the streams when a rain event does occur.

Wentz Camp, Pool Open

Wentz Camp and Pool may be rented for the following activities:

- Class reunions
- Events for the community
- Family reunions
- Sponsored camps
- Wedding receptions

The facility is available from April 1 through September 30th of each year. The Dining Hall, which may be rented by itself, has a working kitchen as well as tables and chairs for up to 120 people.

Camp Fee
The camp fee, payable in advance, entitles campers usage of the dining hall, shower house, cabins, and camp facilities. These facilities include a sand volleyball court, a softball field, and a horseshoe pit. The camp's cabins, bunks, and mattresses

can accommodate up to 144 people.

Wentz Pool

Wentz Pool may be used at an additional charge. It is also open to the public Tuesday through Sunday, 1 to 7 p.m. beginning Memorial Day. Labor Day is the last day of the swim season.

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Crime Stoppers Works for Community

"Crime Stoppers is working for our Community," says chair Kelly D. Ailey. "In the first six months of 2014 we have received tips that have led to the arrest of seven and our board of directors has approved \$730 in rewards to be paid out to individuals that gave the information that led to an arrest or recovery of stolen property and all the while were able to remain anonymous", Ailey added.

PCACS was created in 1984 as a group of volunteer citizens dedicated to involving the public in crime prevention in our community. The program is run strictly on donations and your help is needed.

"Your monetary donation to the program will help fund rewards paid on tips that result in arrests or the recovery of stolen property of illegal drugs in the coming year" Ailey said.

Crime Stoppers empowers people to make their neighborhoods, schools and business safer through anonymous information about crimes.

In 2013, PCACS received 188 anonymous tips.

The cases the tips provided information about drug related crimes, burglaries, armed robberies, domestic abuse or assaults and inhumane treatment of animals. In 2013, seven arrests were

made directly from Crime Stoppers tips and \$1,365 in rewards were paid to those providing information that led to arrests and remained anonymous through the process.

The current PCACS board members are: Kelly D. Ailey - Chair, Dwain West - Vice Chair, Harriet Simpson - Treasurer, Nesley Fortenberry - Secretary, Larry C. Bittman, Carole Jeffries, James R. Kelly, Katy Muller, Tina Stracener, James Thompson and Rob Bodick.

The Crime Stoppers Board meets on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30am at the Ponca City Chamber board room. Anyone is welcome to attend.

The arrests made as a result of the tips represent criminals, weapons and drugs taken off of the streets of our community. It also represents stolen property has been returned to citizens of Kay County.

Crime Stoppers tips assisted the Ponca City Police Department in solving crimes that affected every neighborhood and every type of business in our Community.

The PCACS organization also sponsors and funds the Campus Crime Stoppers programs at the Junior High and High School levels in the Ponca City school system.

Since 1984 the total number of tips received is 2,048. Recovered stolen property totals \$479,704 and illegal drugs recovered have an estimated value of \$315,558. The rewards paid since 1984 total \$60,498.

"Look at the return for the dollars paid out. Crime Stoppers is working in our community and it is due to the support of our community, specifically people like you, that we are able to fund this valuable and much needed program" concludes Ailey. Donations to PCACS can be dropped off at the Chamber or mailed to P.O. Box 1109, Ponca City, OK 74602.

580-762-5100
crimestoppers@poncacityok.gov

CRIME STOPPERS

Text PCPD plus your message to CRIMES (274637) from your cell phone.

Plenty of Summer Camps Offered

Two summer camp staff members took a pair of Camp McFadden's new kayaks for an overnight trip on Kaw Lake over Memorial Weekend in preparation for training other staff and campers on how to use them for the upcoming Teen Kayak Program to be offered for the first time this year.

The resident children's camp on the shore of Kaw Lake will offer three dates for Teen Kayak Trips this summer for those entering ninth-twelfth grades, along with the seven one week sessions and two "short sessions." These are scheduled for June 22-July 4, July 6-18 and July 20-Aug. 1.

The programs are limited to a maximum of 10 campers per session.

"They will gain new skills while circumnavigating Kaw Lake," said Camp Director Mickie Schmith.

Helping lead this new program at Camp McFadden will be second year staff member Jeremie Fansler of Winfield. Joining him on the Memorial Weekend adventure was new staff member Michael Tillett of Bartlesville.

Schmith and Fansler kayaked to the southeast part of Kaw Lake where they camped overnight kayaking back to camp on the following morning.

The Camp McFadden Summer Resident program was restarted in the summer of 2009 when the McFadden family provided the Board of Directors an opportunity to



BEFORE ROWING out on a trial run for Camp McFadden's newly implemented Teen Kayak program, staff members Michael Tillett and Jeremie Fansler agree that the reason the kayak crosses the lake is to get to the other side.

open its doors to more children. Since that time the cabins, lodge and surrounding facilities have been filled with the sounds of hundreds of happy children's voices due to the opportunity for campers to play and learn about the outdoors while making new friends in a safe and friendly environment.

Some of the other summer camp activities include swimming, canoeing, volleyball, archery, hiking, and zip line.

Camp McFadden is a resident camp with campers spending two to five nights, depending upon the term. Outdoor activities from the Ropes Course Challenge to evening campfires are all under the guidance of well-trained staff.

Originally founded by oilman William McFadden as a children's camp, Camp McFadden sits on over 250 acres overlooking the west shore of Kaw Lake.

The mission of Camp McFadden, Inc. is to operate and maintain a camp that provides outdoor recreation, education, relaxation and the appreciation of nature for children and families.

For information about the summer camp program for children or to rent the facilities at the Camp McFadden contact Mickie Schmith at 580-762-9955 or e-mail campmcfadden@campmcfadden.com.

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Day Camp Filled With Fun

Forty-nine Cub Scouts and their leaders descended upon Camp McFadden at Kaw Lake during the first week of June for the annual Cub Scout Day Camp.

Directed by Lisa Eisele and Jennifer Douglas, the scouts experienced activities including archery, shoot-

ing BB guns, learning to play badminton, making survival bracelets, crafts and riding a pony.

Cub Scout Day Camp is for Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts and Webelos.

These younger scouts attend the Day Camp for five days. According to the

Boy Scouts website, camping takes you on exciting adventures into the natural world. Scouts learn to live with others in the out-of-doors and to be a good citizen of the outdoors — and when Cub Scouts camp, they pick up skills they can use later in the Boy Scouts.

"Camping is fun, and it's good for your mind, body, and spirit. It helps you learn to rely on yourself — on your own skills and knowledge. Day camp provides an activities program which provides fun and adventure in the outdoors. We try to emphasize new experiences difficult to obtain in our normal indoor meeting atmosphere. Our goal is to create a positive learning experience that is fun with a purpose," said Eisele. "Camp McFadden is the perfect location for camp. It has plenty of space for all kinds of outdoor activities. In addition, it has indoor facilities to allow our scouts to cool off and continue activities in the event of bad weather."

During camp, all scouts earn a variety of academic and sports belt loops and pins, a participation patch and complete requirements for several special awards.

Regular Camp McFadden summer camp sessions began the week of June 8 and run through July. There are one week and three-day sessions and a new Kayak Program for teens still available.

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