



No. 13: August 2015

What's Happening in LG

A Free Local Newsletter
Sponsored by the Locust Grove Arts Alliance

Peyton DeChaine advertises a lemonade stand



Workshop looks at Little Free Libraries

The Locust Grove Arts Alliance will sponsor a workshop, taught by Kelly Palmer, on creating a Little Free Library Aug. 22 and Aug. 29 at 118 E. Main Street.

Little Free Libraries are a place/idea/activity gaining momentum across the nation. The first Little Free Library was built in Wisconsin in 2009. The libraries are made of any kind of outdoor box and are filled with books for people to exchange.

The first Little Free Library in this area was created by Palmer for her mother, Betty Perkins, as a Christmas gift. That library was destroyed by a storm, and Palmer created a much



LOCUST GROVE'S FIRST LITTLE FREE LIBRARY is located at on County Road 438, between roads 550 and 560 at Perkins Road

more substantial box using an old Tulsa World display stand.

That idea is what those taking the workshop will expand upon. Perkins library is on County Road

438 at Perkins Road.

After the libraries are created, participants can place their creations on their own property for people to begin the process of reading and exchanging books.

"Wouldn't it be great if we had Little Free Libraries spring up all over Locust Grove," Palmer said.

Cost of the workshop is \$50, with half of that go-

ing to pay for the newspaper boxes purchased from the Tulsa World, and the other half to pay for supplies and instruction. Half of the cost will be need to be paid by Aug. 15, in order to have the correct number of boxes on hand. The other half can be paid on the first day of the workshop.

Participants can pay with Paypal on the LGAA website, by check mailed to LGAA, 6620 S. 4382, Locust Grove, or by cash to any LGAA member.

The workshop will take place over two Saturdays to allow time for the stand to dry after painting. It will be held in the back room of the Perk Merc, a coffee shop in progress, owned by Palmer, which will be open sometime in 2016. For long time residents, they will remember the building as the old Ford's Variety Store.



"Wouldn't it be great if we had Little Free Libraries spring up all over Locust Grove?"



101 DEGREES. . . A group of enterprising neighbor kids opened a lemonade stand on one of the hottest days of the year July 16, to make some money for a trip to the creek. Pictured from left are Tate Deerinwater, T.J. DeChaine, Peyton DeChaine, Payton Ramey, Lacy Smith, Dillon Maner, Brenda DeChaine, Zeke Arneecher, Caden Bendabout, Gavin Clift, Cash Brock and Blake Rutherford. The lemonade stand started out as a project of Peyton and Payton, but it quickly blossomed into a neighborhood event. They said they had made about \$100 by 3:30 p.m.



HOLE IN THE WALL BAND. . . Members of the band which plays at the senior citizens' dance each month are Marsha Forst, David Fi, Mel Buckner, Jim Forst, and Archie French.

Dinner, dance set Sept. 5

The dinner and dance by the senior citizens group will be Saturday, Sept. 5 and will feature a Hawaiian theme, with a smoked pork chop dinner. Desserts will be by the Locust Ladies, and cost is \$6.

The Mexican-theme July dinner was well attended, Jane Rogers reported. Rogers has also completed the new wall mural on the east wall of the community building.

People of all ages are invited to the dinner-dances sponsored by the group the first Saturday of each month.

LGAA meets Aug. 12 at VFW

Members of the Locust Grove Arts Alliance will meet at 5:45 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 12 when they make plans to file for non-profit status.

Details of the workshop by Kelly Palmer will also be discussed. Palmer will lead the group in creating Little Free Libraries from old newspaper boxes. Workshop attendees will meet from 10 a.m. until noon on both Aug. 22 and Aug. 29 to complete their project. They will meet on Main Street at 118 E. Main.

The Town Council has given the group permission to place six of these boxes on Main Street.

Anyone who is interested in getting involved with the group is invited to attend the one-hour meeting.

The LGAA is actively seeking new members as it goes into its third year of helping to bring attention to the arts, and activities which support the arts. For the first time, the group has decided to attach a fee of \$20 to each membership application to help support the programs which the alliance is planning.

Members of the alliance will be on hand at the back-to-school orientation for teachers on Aug. 6 and also at the luncheon held at the First United Methodist Church. Brochures will be handed out, and teachers and administrators are invited to join the group with an annual dues fee of \$20.

HCE meets third Tuesday at FUMC

The Home and Community Education group meets at the First United Methodist Church on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Call the church at 479-6356 for more information.

About What's Happening in LG

EDITOR'S NOTE: While this newsletter is produced by the LGAA and will contain our organization's news, we also want to publish information about any activities in Locust Grove that our community might be interested in.

Please contact Betty Perkins at bperk@sstelco.com or 918-479-5617 (leave a message if no answer), if you have news on LG events, places, or people for inclusion in future issues. For advertising, call Roxann Perkins Yates at 918-530-5321 or email at roxannperkins@gmail.com.

Chamber Board has first meeting

The newly-elected board of the Locust Grove Chamber of Commerce discussed revised bylaws, seeking nonprofit status, and the SWOT surveys which were emailed to all of the group's membership when they met July 15, at Town Hall.

The bylaws committee created the new document, and after the board has had a chance to read and suggest revisions, the bylaws will go to the chamber's general membership for the same process before they will be voted on. Members of the bylaws committee are Mark Palmer, Debby Perry, Jennifer Henson, Marsha Evans and Season Stillion.

Bylaws Committee presents new document to Chamber of Commerce Board

The board also discussed the cost of filing for nonprofit status, along with the possibility of joining the state chamber to include in the papers necessary for the filing of nonprofit. The topic was tabled until the next meeting of the board at 3:45 p.m., Aug. 12, at Town Hall, just preceding the regular chamber meeting from 4:30-5:30.

The SWOT surveys look at an organization's strengths, weaknesses, op-

portunities and threats in an effort to improve its overall effectiveness. Only three surveys had been returned to secretary Marsha Evans, but she had compiled a short list of each of the categories.

The members of the board also talked about maintaining an effective working relationship with chamber members and the community. The group agreed to focus on present outcomes instead of past, but to use past outcomes to

learn how to more effectively communicate professionally.

The board also discussed website information. Members decided to provide more chamber news to the website maintainer, Shaun Perkins, so that the site can more fully indicate the events planned by the chamber. She will also be asked to check into changing the address, and, if a cost is involved, to give that information to the board.

Board members present were Jerry Yates, who led the discussion, Marsha Evans, Debby Perry, Jeff Kerr, Theresa Mennecke, Roxann Yates and Betty Perkins.

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Poet Laureate Visit



POET LAUREATE SPEAKS . . Oklahoma's Poet Laureate Ben Myers spoke to a group of about 20 people on his visit to the Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry (ROMP) July 11. Each visitor received one of Myers' books of poetry. At left above, three visitors to the museum work on a block puzzle to create a poem. At left, below, Shaun Perkins, director of the ROMP poses with the guest speaker before their panel discussion on the possibilities of poetry.



SHAUN Perkins and Ben Myers at the conclusion of their discussion.

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MURAL UPDATE. . . Artist Ray Grass works on the downtown mural and visits with Jerry Yates. Grass has completed part of the restoration shown here.



CHILDREN'S THEATER. . Members of the LGAA Children's Community Theater presented poems and songs at the July 3 production at Pipe Springs Park, marking the anniversary of the Battle of Locust Grove. From left, Jaci Tyner, Emmalea Johnson, Kaleb Nichols, Katelyn Whiteman, Brandon Osborn, Julianna Osborn, Bergen Fogleman, Danny Stone, Makenzie Fogleman and Calvin White. --Photos by Marea Breedlove



BATTLE REMEMBERED. . . Brandon Osborn recites a poem in the Battle of Locust Grove performance by the LGAA Children's Community Theater group July 3. The poem "He Died at His Post" was written by a Union soldier, J.W. Holman

A second and extended performance by the children's group, under the direction of April Stone, was given July 17 at Pipe Springs Park. Those attending were treated to a ghost story related to the locally famous battle. The Children's Theater has found a permanent home at the former upper elementary school on Grade School Hill. Stone plans a variety of activities and performances.

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Main Street

New auto repair shop opens on Hwy. 412

"Fixing other people's stuff is my purpose in life," said Ray Teigen about his business, Ray's Auto Repair. Though Teigen has been in the automotive repair business for 25 years, he's only been in his current location, 410 S. Wyandotte, since May 15.

The 1993 Locust Grove High School graduate is the son of Ray Sr. and Terry Teigen. He was raised with his four sisters—Becky, Jennifer, Stephanie and Tina.

While in high school, Teigen took automotive classes. He later earned an Associate of Arts Degree from Rose State College. But he was drawn to cars and garage endeavors. In Edmond he began a job in auto repair.

"That's where I met my wife, Lisa. She had on a T-shirt with a unique design."

Teigen learned from his conversation with Lisa that her brother had designed

BUSINESS REVIEW

the shirt.

"I asked her for her phone number to get details on purchasing a shirt from her brother. And the relationship developed from there," Teigen said. They have two children, son Tyler is 19 and daughter Kacie is 15.

This small-town automotive repairman works with the help of his employee Nathaniel Stephenson. Tiegen is thankful for local business and the skill to do tune ups, diagnostic scans, air conditioning and brake repairs, oil, lube and filter services, and much more.

"I know a lot of people in this community. It's nice to have the advantage of knowing who you're working for. I can come in here and do honest work and not



COMING HOME. . . Ray Teigen works on a car, doing what he loves to do. The Locust Grove High School graduate has come back home to open an auto repair shop.

charge a lot. I'm not looking to get rich," he said.

Throughout his career, Teigen has continually cultivated a positive attitude.

"I love working on cars. I have no problem getting up in the morning," he said.

Teigen's business hours

are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays.

Call for information at 918-479-4110 or drop by his shop because he enjoys "fixing other people's stuff."

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State arts council reps to visit Locust Grove

Two representatives from the Oklahoma Arts Council will be in Locust Grove to share information about the resources OAC has available for people in the town. Anyone seeking arts funding should come to this informative meeting, sponsored by the LGAA.

At the meeting, Molly O'Connor, director of Cultural Development, and Joshua Lunsford, Community Arts Director, will provide information about OAC grants, answer questions and discuss ways the OAC can help promote the arts in Locust Grove.

Teachers, artists, com-

munity organizational members of all types (military, arts, social, educational, etc.) should attend.

The meeting will be at 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 19, at the VFW Hall in Locust Grove. Refreshments will be provided.

Contact Shaun Perkins at 918-864-9152 or at oki storyteller@gmail.com for additional information.

The Pryor Area Arts & Humanities Council is planning its annual artist show open to the public Oct. 2-3. Local artists are encouraged to enter this judged show with cash awards. More info can be found at lgartsalliance.com



29 YEARS ON MAIN STREET. . . Justin Cowan of Cowan Insurance has maintained an office here since 1986. He offers auto, home, farm, boat, life and commercial insurance. Cowan is also a CPA who does auditing and financial planning, income and estate tax planning, corporate and individual tax preparation, and complete bookkeeping and payroll services. Call Cowan at 918-479-6136 to discuss insurance needs.



NEW CHAMBER OFFICERS. . . Locust Grove Chamber officers and board members were sworn in at the July meeting. In front Jeff Kerr, treasurer; Marsha Evans, secretary; Jerry Yates, vice president; and in back, board members Vickie Herr, Wayne Perego, Debra Perry, Roxann Yates, Theresa Mennecke and Betty Perkins. President Toni Turner was not available for the picture.

--Photo courtesy The Daily Times' Stetson Payne.

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Capture kids' world by writing about it

"I want a hot fudge fun day!" three-year-old grandson Mason said on a road trip five years ago.

Young ones sense the world. They speak with their eyes, hear with their mouths, touch with their minds. They engage all the senses and experience the world in ways adults sometimes forget to do.

Children are intoxicated with the world. A young life brings a little life to adults in need of a giggle and a happy thought.

Young ones are creative because they haven't been told that they're not. blunt because they haven't learned to be dishonest. and wise because they are allowed to be.

Write a poem or story just for and about a young person, capturing his/her view of the world.

Show them the importance of expressing themselves through a creative form—painting, cooking,

Small Town Matters

by Roxann Perkins Yates

building, writing. The end product is physical and becomes a memory less likely to be forgotten.

Although Mason is now eight years old, he's still educating his Gigi (me) and feeding my heart with "a hot fudge fun day!"

I've recorded his Masonisms and constructed a piece of art for my perpetual amusement as well as his.

Masonisms

Smells:

Mason: Branson smells like caterpillars.

And: I like to collect dead lizards but I can't keep 'em cause they stink.

Eats:

Gigi: What do you want on your hamburger?

Mason: Everything but shrimp and sausage.

Mason: I want a hot



MASONISMS. . . A display dedicated to Roxann Yates's grandson and his quirky way of seeing and saying things was part of the Mayes County Poetry Day held at the Graham Community Building in Pryor recently.

fudge fun day!

Sounds:

Mason to cousin Sapphire: I really like your name—especially the "fire" part.

Talks:

Cousin Massey: Let's go up in the tree house.

Mason: I don't have the guts for it.

Gigi: I haven't seen you in a month of Sundays!

Mason: Isn't it Sunday?

Mason's Mom: I'll buy you a couple of cheap Halloween costumes after Halloween.

Mason: A couple means eleven.

Mason: I lost a penny in my pants and don't call me Octopus anymore. I'm Super Monkey!

Mason: Don't take me to my domicile until I learn these knock-knock jokes.

Gigi: How many kids are in your class?

Mason: All of them.

Gigi: What kind of swim trunks do you want?

Mason: I want a dirty worm pattern.

Mason: Read the book again.

Gigi: No, I've read it a commodious number of times on this trip.

Mason: Okay. Just say the words.

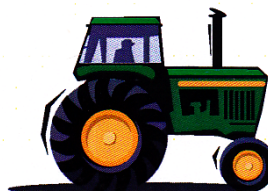
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