



No. 19: February 2016

# What's Happening in LG

A Free Local Newsletter

Sponsored by the Locust Grove Arts Alliance

Visit *Horsefeathers*. See Page 4.



## ROMP rummage shop to open Feb. 25

The ROMP Rummage Store, which will help fund the work, upkeep and programs of the nonprofit Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry, is opening on Main Street Feb. 25. The store, which will stock items of use to people who might not be able to afford them new, will be in the In-N-Out Center corner at 110 E. Main St.

Shaun Perkins, ROMP director, said she wanted to start a rummage or thrift store from the time she saw a particular one in Enid a few years ago.

"It was a huge store with all kinds of items, a kind of typical thrift store, but what was unique about it was all of the profits from the store benefited the local arts organization. I thought that was a great way to both fund a nonprofit arts organization and provide a service to the community," Perkins said.

The store will stock items found in typical thrift stores, like clothes, bedding, kitchen items, appliances, furniture and electronics. All items will be in



**NEW SHOP DOWNTOWN . . ROMP Rummage Store will open Feb. 25 at 110 E. Main Street in the In-N-Out Center.**

good, working condition, or they will be labeled as needing repair or for parts.

"My family has really helped out in getting the store started with their donations, and my hope is that the community will also help me keep the store stocked with their dona-

tions," Perkins said.

As a federally-recognized, tax-exempt charity organization, ROMP is asking for donations and will offer tax donation receipts in return, and all donations can be noted on tax returns.

"I hope that the store

will be a useful addition to town and that people will be able to find things they need there. As a person who does not have a fulltime job with any benefits or health insurance, I know how hard it is to just have basic things you need for your house and person," Perkins said. "While I have 4 part-time jobs and a variety of volunteer jobs and the help of friends and family, it is still hard to keep the museum paid for."

"The museum's financial report for 2015 showed that we spent twice the amount of money that we took in, and that money came out of my pocket. I would like to have the museum more self-supporting, and this store is one of those ways I'm going to try for that."

In 2016, ROMP, located at 6603 S. 438 Rd., will have three events, including the annual ROMPfest on April 9, which is partly funded by an Oklahoma Humanities Council grant.

The museum has received grants in the past  
(Continued on Page 3)



**SALE BARN THURSDAYS.** . . *The Old Sale Barn Rummage is still active during the winter months on sunny days, but the vendors and number of people braving the cold temperatures is fewer. But bargains are still to be had, and tradition keeps Locust Grove citizens coming out on Thursdays.*



**NEW OWNERS.** . . *Andrea Soo, left, is the new owner of Spring Creek Country Store, which was formerly Rowland's Country Store, south of town on Highway 82. She is shown with her son, Eric Cook, who helps operate the business. Soo took over the store on Oct. 13, 2015.*

## **Girl Scout cookies on sale Feb. 6**

Girl Scout cookies sales will begin Feb. 6, and the girls will be going door to door selling the popular cookies. "Part of the money raised this year will be put toward helping the community with a couple of projects planned with the arts alliance and others," said Erin Dishong, Girl Scout leader.

## **LGAA meets Feb. 10 at VFW**

The next meeting of the Locust Grove Arts Alliance will be at 5:47 p.m., Feb. 10 at the VFW Hall. The group will be making plans for its annual art show during the town's Founder's Day event May 7.

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.

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

## **PAAHC plans Bunco fundraiser**

Pryor Area Arts and Humanities council will present "Bunco 4 a Cause" at 12:30 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 13, at the Graham Community Center, 6 North Adair Street. Deadline for registration is Feb. 1, by sending name and payment to PAAHC, P.O. Box 1043, Pryor, OK 74362.

Cost is \$15 which includes desserts, drinks, door prizes, raffles of art and jewelry created by local artists, and a 50/50 drawing.

## **Google to host workshop in LG**

Google is planning a workshop in Locust Grove which will be of benefit to business owners, according to Marsha Evans, Chamber of Commerce secretary. The workshop will be held from 6-8 p.m., March 10, and business owners will be provided info with a hand-delivered invitation to attend.

## **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](mailto: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](mailto:roxannperkins@gmail.com). As LGAA is a nonprofit organization, advertising must support the publication of this newsletter. Your support is greatly appreciated.

# Reader has lots of questions, few answers

This monthly column presents a question about the LG community and an answer from Rumor, LG's resident trouble-shooter.

Q: "Who has purchased the land east of the Little League Baseball Field? The property being cleared behind Walmart to the south, anything going in there? Shortys: Who purchased this and what is coming in: restaurant, I hope. Old Kum n Go. . . Anything going to happen with this? Also the new theater better explanation would be greatly appreciated?"

A: Wow! That's a lot of questions, and Rumor does not have the answers to all of them. There's enough here to keep Rumor busy for about six months!

But, here goes. . . Rumor Has It that Rick Stephens just sold the "Spring Creek" cabins, which old-timers also know as the Walker Cabins at Pipe's Springs. But we can't find out to whom.

The property to the south of Wal-Mart was apparently cleared to make an easement for the house that is southeast of the store.

Shorty's has been purchased, and Rumor Has It,

## Rumor has it. . .

by people who plan to open a Mexican restaurant in it.

The Kum N Go has not currently sold to anyone.

The Top Hat Magic Shop & Theater, next door to Cook's Restaurant, will have a retail shop, classes, and a nightly performance, and Clark and Marcia May, the owners, are also considering a dinner theater, since they also purchased the former restaurant.

I know that's not much information, but that's all Rumor could conjure up before press time. She'll keep digging.

In the meantime, if a reader has a question about a local issue, please email it to RumorHasIt@mail.com. The person can remain anonymous, and she will answer questions in a future issue of "What's Happening in LG."

This anonymous writer offered up some good questions that indicate to Rumor that lots of activity is happening in L.G.

## - ROMP Store -

*(Continued from Page 1)*

and Perkins intends to apply for more. However, she notes, "The utilities, repairs, upkeep, property tax and insurance for the museum are the main expenses, and grants won't cover those things."

The ROMP Rummage Store will also have a corner dedicated to Locust Grove information.

"Since we don't have a designated tourist information center or a Chamber of Commerce office, I'd like to be a place where people can come and pick up brochures and flyers and get information about the town," Perkins said.

Individuals, organizations, businesses and others can bring their information to the store for display or to hand-out.

The ROMP Rummage Store will be open Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from noon to 6:00 p.m. Donations can be made during that time or by calling or emailing Perkins at 918-864-9152 or ROMPoetry@gmail.com. For more information about the store and ROMP, visit ROMPoetry.com.

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# Horsefeathers is not about nonsense

By Roxann Yates

One may think that a business labeled "Horsefeathers" is all about nonsense. Not true.

Deeana Vaughn's shop title, Horsefeathers Embroidery and Sewing, is all about her love of sewing...and animals.

Although she raises chickens and rabbits and trained horses for barrel racing until recently, Vaughn is an expert seamstress too.

"I created a shirt with cuffs, collar and button holes in my high school Home Economics class," she said. "It was my first experience in sewing."

Deeana (Barton) Vaughn graduated from Locust Grove High School in 1975, and she has been crafting her art ever since.

After graduation, Vaughn worked at Fabricut, constructing balloon shades, cornice boards, head boards and Roman shades by using



**HORSEFEATHERS.** . . Deeana Vaughn stands in front of her window display at her sewing shop on Main Street. Horsefeathers is on the south side of the In-N-Out Center.

commercial machines.

"The difference between Fabricut machines and household machines is like the difference between a truck and a pickup," she said.

Whether using heavy

duty or light duty equipment, sewing, embroidering, doing alterations and mending are second nature to Vaughn. However, she often engages in difficult

projects.

"Altering a wedding dress is challenging. It's fancy and sometimes has two or three layers to work with," Vaughn said.

Sometimes she completes the wedding apparel for an entire bridal party. This writer knows because she made my '70s-themed wedding dress, fashioned eight poet shirts and an Elvis jumpsuit.

In 1994, she married Ray Vaughn, who is Locust Grove's Fire Chief and owner of Vaughn's Auto and Truck Salvage and a wrecker service.

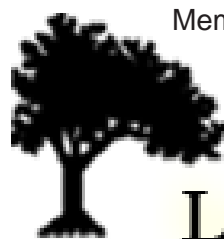
"We met while cruising town. At first we just waved at each other. He drove a one-ton truck that was gray and maroon with pink pinstriping. It caught my eye," said Vaughn.

The Vaughns raised three girls: Shelrania, Shawnda, and Kristin.

Until last year, Vaughn  
(Continues on Page 5)



**CLASS HIJINKS.** . . Students in Nicole Bennett's seventh grade English class take a silly picture as a break from some active poetry techniques led by Shaun Perkins, director of ROMP.



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# Horsefeathers continues. . .

(Continued from Page 4)  
raised horses and trained them for barrel racing competitions.

"I barrel raced horses and raised kids. Compared to sewing, barrel racing is a lot faster. In 2007 I qualified for the National Board Association's world show," said Vaughn.

The show was held in Georgia, and Vaughn had an unusual experience that kept her from competing and demonstrated to her just how fast her horse could run.

"My horse Babe got loose and ran through traffic because she didn't like



**BARREL RACING . .** Deeana Vaughn competes in barrel racing atop her horse Yancy, Babe's daughter, at the Inola Round-Up Arena in 2013.

being away from home," she said.

Her job, too, has been unlike what she had imagined it would be.

"It's been busier than I

thought. There's a bigger demand for my job than I thought there'd be," said Vaughn.

A frequent alteration she makes is sewing up expensive jeans.

"They don't hold up. They make the \$100 jeans look old, and they have to be repaired like old jeans," she said.

When she is not working, Vaughn goes on wrecker calls with her husband. She also takes care

of her chickens and rabbits.

"My cousin said, 'You love on them, then eat them.'"

Vaughn has a contrasting viewpoint.

"They could have a worse life than they do."

When she gets a break from work, she likes to travel with her husband.

"I'd like to go to Corpus Christi again. We like to walk on the beach and eat Cajun food. Shrimp down there tastes different than what you buy here," Vaughn said.

But here in Locust Grove is where she wants to work.

"I enjoy the people that come in. I'm close to home, and I don't have a boss," she said.

Stitching is fastened to her future plans.

"I'll probably sew until I can't sew anymore. Then I'll retire so Ray and I can enjoy more time together," Vaughn said.

Located at 102 East Main, Horsefeathers hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. On Wednesday Vaughn's business is open 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. And on Saturday, her shop is open 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Or call her at 918-694-8095. Horsefeathers is the name, and that's not nonsense.

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# Sisters train to become coffee baristas

By Roxann Yates

After three days of measuring, grinding, tamping, brewing and slurping, my mind was full of coffee possibilities. That's what happens after attending a three-day training at Texas Coffee School in Arlington.

Sisters Kelly, Shaun and I recently plunged into the world of coffee culture. We learned about the coffee house business and the crafting of hot and cold coffees and teas.

We did this in preparation for the fall opening of Kelly and her husband Mark's Wonder City Coffee shop.

On day one, we were schooled in the proper creation of espresso and frothy milk. Tom Vincent, the master coffee instructor and owner of the school, educated us in all that is espresso.

Tom's type A+ personality was a bit intimidating,

but he was very thorough.

He told us that we should be "disrupters" in the coffee business by emphasizing quality over quantity. If we tried to be all things to all customers, our beverages and establishment would be mediocre. We would become forgettable.

Tom was no mediocre instructor. He pointed his teacher finger at each of us when asking what we had learned. Once I answered a question he was asking another classmate.

"I didn't ask you!" Tom said.

"And I had the right answer!" I didn't say.

The answer to making quality drinks is in the preparation and even in the body movements. Tom demonstrated how to whip the milk for espresso by putting his forearms in front of him, closely together, to cup the small pitcher of milk and to prop-

erly spin it to a pleasing hum.

The sister baristas-in-training couldn't mimic this stance...for a couple of reasons. Anyway we tried. Shaun and Kelly put their pitchers under the espresso machine wand and steamed the milk to the

sound of a low whirring.

Tom almost smiled.

My turn. No whirring. Just a morning-mouthwash gurgling noise.

"There's one in every crowd," Tom said.

"I'm just trying to be a 'disrupter,'" I said...in my head.



**3 OKIES UNDER TEXAS STAR. . . Sisters Roxann Yates, Shaun Perkins, and Kelly Palmer take a photo while they were in attendance at the Texas Coffee School in Arlington. The three plan on offering the best coffee in northeastern Oklahoma when Kelly's coffee shop is opened in the fall. The Wonder City Coffee Shop will be located in the old Ford's Variety storefront on Main Street. Kelly also tentatively plans to offer soups and desserts.**

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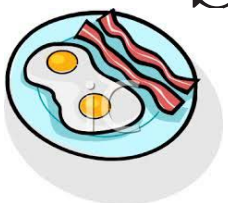
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## Sisters Sweets

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Open: 5 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.





**THE PENNY JEWELER.** . . Local artist Jennifer Downing creates unique jewelry using pennies as artwork. Downing will be one of the new artists to exhibit at the LGAA Art Show Saturday, May 7, during Founder's Day activities.

## PAAHC presents open mike night

Pryor Area Arts and Humanities Council will host an Open Mic Night for high school and junior high students from 6-9 p.m., Feb. 13 at the Mayes County Cultural Center in the Graham Building Auditorium.

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## Family's talents displayed too Willard Stone exhibit observes 100th mark

The Willard Stone family will mark the 100th birthday of their late patriarch with a celebration of his work with shows in several Oklahoma museums.

The show will not only feature the work of the world-reknown wood sculptor, but will also exhibit the work of many members of his talented family.

The celebration will kick off Feb. 29, the 100th anniversary of Stone's birth with "Willard Stone Centennial: A Legacy of Art Through Family."

Nearly a dozen family members will display a variety of media including jewelry, a bronze cast made from one of Stone's sketches, wood sculptures, and paintings.

The exhibit will be on display at the Oklahoma Hall of Fame at the Gaylord-Pickens Museum from Jan. 21 to April 30, 1400 Classen Drive in Oklahoma City.

Daughter April Stone says that from there, the family is working on moving the exhibit to Bacone College on June 11, followed by an exhibit at the Pryor Area Arts and Humanities council, and finally a show in Locust Grove, with dates for these shows to be announced later.

April, also director of the Locust Grove Arts Alliance's Children's Theater Group, says she hopes to have an original performance ready for the Bacone opening. The performance is also scheduled for Pryor and Locust Grove during their annual art shows. Locust Grove's show is scheduled during its annual art show May 7 during Founder's Day activities.

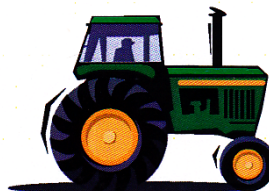
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## Pryor group plans showing of silent films

The Pryor Area Arts and Humanities Council will host a Silent Movie Night, beginning at 7 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 20 at the Graham community Center, 6 North Adair.

Movies to be viewed include Buster Keaton in "the General," and Our Gang (the Little Rascals) in "The Mysterious Mystery." A short feature with the Little Rascals will also be shown.

Tickets will be available at the door at a cost of \$7.50 for adults, and \$2 for children 12 and younger.

Lending an authentic note to the evening, Bill Rowland will offer accompaniment on the piano to the movies.

A concession will be available



**CAREER FAIR GREETERS. . . Welcoming visitors to the Locust Grove Career Fair Jan. 26 were Mackenzie Newton, freshman; Ashlee Tugmon, senior; and Nathan Biggs, sophomore. the fair was held during the day for students and from 4-5:30 for interested adults. Participating companies included Cherokee Nation Career Services, Ameri-**

**can Castings, RAE Manufacturing, DRS, GRDA, Salina Spaavinaw Telephone Company, SYGMA, Oklahoma State University IT, Northeast Tech Center, Wal-Mart, Tulsa Fire Department, Parfab, Jerry's Auto, and MESTA. Students were able to fill out applications and interview with company representatives.**



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