



No. 4, November 2014

What's Happening in LG

A Free Local Newsletter
Sponsored by the Locust Grove Arts Alliance

Local LG citizen Robert Davis enjoys a LGAA event at Pipe Springs.



Museum receives tax-exempt status

The Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry (ROMP), which is located two miles west of Locust Grove on Road 438, has recently achieved its 501 (c)3 status and is looking to expand its visibility.

Shaun Perkins, museum director, is looking for any commercial space in downtown Locust Grove that an owner would be interested in donating to the museum.

If a donation is not possible, a greatly-reduced price or minimal rental fee would also be possibilities. Perkins is not looking to move the museum but to create an annex that would have exhibits and workshop spaces in it.

The annex would be a place to share the museum's work and to offer writing, art, and creativity classes for both children and adults.

The annex would also promote local artists of all kinds and contribute to the vitality and look of downtown Locust Grove.

A donation of property to the museum would be tax-deductible and would constitute a positive commitment to Locust Grove and the arts for all citizens.

For more information or to donate, email or call Perkins at rompoetry@gmail.com or 918-864-9152.

Tellebration scheduled at ROMP

Locust Grove's Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry (ROMP) will celebrate an international day of storytelling from 5-8 p.m. Nov. 15. Tellebrations take place all over the world, usually the weekend before Thanksgiving or sometime near that date.

The ROMP event will feature museum tours, poker poetry, and fun with words. Hot cocoa and storytelling around the bonfire, along with s'mores making are all planned. Bring a stick to roast a marshmallow and a story to tell, if you wish.



Trick or Treaters... Brittney Williams and her 2-year-old daughter, Kaydance buzzed into the VFW for treats from members of the Locust Grove Arts Alliance. The LGAA took part in the Chamber of Commerce's downtown event on Halloween.

Local student wins contest

Lauren Breedlove, a Locust Grove High School senior and a concurrent student at Rogers State University, won the Scary Poem Content held by the Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry (ROMP) Oct. 25.

Other winners were Ken Lusk, second; Justin Howe, third; and Jeff McGuffin, fourth. All poems entered in the contest were read at the Dark and Scary Night event sponsored by ROMP.

Approximately 40 people attended that event, visiting the museum, and reading scary poems around a bonfire. Mason Duck, 7, also presented a scary poem about Freddie Kruger.

See Lauren's winning poem inside.

News Briefs

Community Thanksgiving worship service

The Locust Grove Ministerial Alliance is sponsoring an annual community Thanksgiving service to benefit the Food Pantry. It will be at 7 p.m., Nov. 19, at the First United Methodist Church. A spokesperson for the alliance asked especially for donations of peanut butter and canned fruit.

Chamber meets

The Locust Grove Area Chamber of Commerce will meet Nov. 12 at noon at Senior Citizens Center.

Arts Alliance meets Nov. 12

LGAA's monthly meeting is also Nov. 12. A change of location has been announced for this month only when members will meet at the ROMP Shop, 6603 S. 438 Road at 5:30. Call 918-864-9152 if more information or directions are needed. All interested Locust Grove citizens are invited to attend.

Romp Tellabration

A night of stories, poetry and campfire goodness at the Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry will be held from 5-8 p.m., at the museum. Visit rompoetry.com for more information.



Dark and Scary By Lauren Breedlove

The lights were out;
the huge room silent.
The whole town was
a graveyard.
Human life nowhere
to be found.

Wind was howling
like a wolf,
night air cold as ice.
The world was
disconnected.
The blinking green
light disappeared.
Screens were blank,
black like the night.
Never to light up again.
The wi-fi was out.

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November senior dance 'Turkey Trot' Nov. 22

The November 22 senior dance, sponsored by the Locust Grove Chamber of Commerce, will have a Thanksgiving theme, "Turkey Trot," and will feature music by the "Hole in the Wall" gang, and a turkey-ham dinner with desserts by the Locust Ladies.

The meal will begin at 5:30 p.m., and the cost is \$5. Costumes are always welcome.



IN THE SPIRIT. . .Three local ladies got into the spirit of Halloween for the October senior dance at the Locust Grove Community Building. From left: Margie Dry, Jerry Rogers and Jane Rogers.

TAKING A SPIN. . . Jeff Rogers leads his mother, Margie Dry, around the dance floor at the October senior dance at the Locust Grove Community Building.



Don't Forget!
LGAA Christmas Home Tour
Dec. 13 from 11-4
Tickets: \$10 available from
any LGAA member

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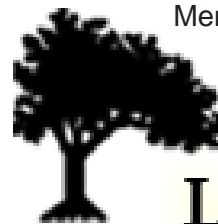
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Tickets on sale now for Christmas Home Tour

The Locust Grove Arts Alliance is gearing up for its first, in what is hoped to be an annual event, the Christmas Home Tour on Dec. 13

Tickets are \$10 each and can be obtained from any LGAA member or by calling Shaun Perkins at 918-864-9152. A family rate of \$25 for three or

more family members is also available.

Homes to be toured this year include those of Clay Saffell, Fern McFarland, Joan Bennett, Mark and Kelly Palmer, and the law office of Tammy Ward. Maps will be available at the VFW before the start of the tour which runs from 11 a.m.

until 4 p.m.

A \$5 pancake breakfast will be held at the VFW before the start of the home tour from 9 to 10:30 a.m. The breakfast will include pancakes, sausage, fresh fruit, juice coffee and hot chocolate.

This is one of only two fundraising events which the alliance has held. The

other was an Art Tour that featured three local art facilities: The Willard Stone Museum, Gourds, Etc., the studio of Verna Bates, and the Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry. The non-profit group publishes a community newsletter (you're reading it), and takes part in other local events.



NOVEMBER LGAA MEETING . The Nov. 12 meeting of the Locust Grove Arts Alliance will be held at the ROMP Workshop at 6603 S. 438, in the facility that once was Ruby's Readery, a bookstore. The group will meet at 5:30 p.m., and all members and prospective members are invited to attend this meeting when plans will be made for the LGAA Christmas Home Tour. Directions from the high school: Travel two miles west on County Road 560, turn right (north) on County Road 438. The shop is on the right about 1/2 miles down 438. Signs will help you find the workshop.

LGAA meets Nov. 12
at ROMP Workshop
5:30 p.m.
Everyone welcome

More Halloween Trick-or-Treaters



Children's Community Theater thrives

Locust Grove's Children's Community Theater meets every Wednesday after school and is free to students in grades K-12.

The program began during the summer with a production at Pipe Springs Park, when a cast of 20 kids performed a history lesson about the Battle of Locust Grove during the Civil War.

"We had so much fun, and the kids learned a lot," said April Stone, director. "We decided we have to do that play again next year on July 3."

But in the meantime, the children's theater class is working on another play, and is busy writing its own story.

"We want to do a play about pirates, and right now we are working on our stories," Stone said. "We need to get it in script form, and then we plan to start play practice in January. The play about pirates will be performed the first weekend in March."

"We had so much fun...we decided we have to do that play again next year."
--Director April Stone

During the Christmas holiday, the community theater group will practice getting in front of an audience by performing fun skits for residents at area assisted-living facilities.

Anyone interested in being a part of the children's theater group is welcome. The class meets at 4 p.m. every Wednesday at the LG Boys & Girls Club. For more information or to help donate items for stage props and costumes, contact April Stone at 918-729-0487, or find the group on Facebook.

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.



SUMMER PRODUCTION. . . Robert Davis enjoys the inaugural performance by the Locust Grove Children's Community Theater last summer at Pipe Springs Park.

Autumn is good time to reflect on future

Standing on an autumn hill encircled by torch trees, I feel the rhythm of the seasons. My grandon and the dogs blanket themselves in the orange, brown, green, yellow dropping of the trees. I smile and watch as life and nature turn. It is the flower of the year; its garden is everywhere -- on the porch, in the yard, against the barn.

Color blooms possibilities inside my head and

Small Town Matters

by Roxann Perkins

outside my door. I've retired from high school teaching. I'll take on a writing gig. I'll bathe my bedroom in new swatches of color -- calming lavenders and greens and splotches of autumn. I'll get married again because it is right, because it is worth doing again when the colors and torch of nature feel most

right for the flame in me.

At the age of 55, a fire burns within to do whatever I have always thought that I could not. It only takes a thought and a step to begin.

Life is seasonal and simple. We complicate it with the darkness of doubt.

I will not live there again.

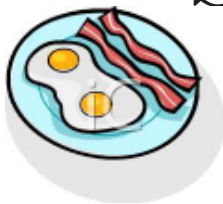
I will only blanket myself with color and inspiration. I think I'll write something today or paint something or repurpose something -- just make something flower -- because it is autumn in bloom, and I know I can.

*"Seasons of mists and mellow fruitfulness,
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun..."*

from "Ode to Autumn" by John Keats

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