

# What's Happening in LG

'What's Happening' is a Free Newsletter Provided by the Locust Grove Arts Alliance GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN Even though the building is gone, Marcia Weaver Payne says the business will be back.



Get tickets now for September 20 shows

# The Circus is coming

The Culpepper & Merriweather Circus is coming to Locust Grove on September 20. Two shows will be performed under an old-fashioned Big Top located at the middle school playing field.

The shows will take place at 5 and 7:30 p.m. Also, a tent-raising will take place that morning at 10 a.m., and people are invited to come out and participate and watch that happen.

The Culpepper & Merriweather Circus, head-



quartered in Hugo, Oklahoma, travels the whole U.S. putting on a tented, one-ring circus with no seat farther than 40 feet away from the ring.

After the tent is set up, the midway is open, and if

weather permits, there are pony rides, a 22 ft. inflatable slide and a colorful carousel moonbounce.

A concession stand will offer all favorite circus treats including popcorn, cotton candy, peanuts, Coke products, nachos, hotdogs and snow cones.

The 90-minute circus has lots of classic and unique circus acts, including trapeze, unicycles, big cats, contortion, tight wire, clowns, performing animals, and much

(Continues on Page 2)

### Benefit set for DJ's Diner

On Monday, Aug. 27, a fire that began in the old Phillips Lounge building started, spread to the next abandoned building and then destroyed DJ's Diner. This business that Marcia Weaver Payne had owned for 23 years disappeared in a matter of hours.

A benefit to support Marcia and her staff so they can assess their next move will be held Sunday, Sept. 16, from 11:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the LG Upper Elementary



FRIEND SUPPORT... Jerry Holman offers a hand to Marcia Payne the day of the fire. -- Photo by Sara VanHorn

School.

Activities will include lunch from 11:30-2:30, a silent auction, live auction at 3:00, and dinner from 5:00-

6:30 p.m. There will be live music on a stage outside, so people are encouraged to bring lawn chairs to listen to the music.

Donations can be dropped off at the LG Funeral Home or Cowboys.

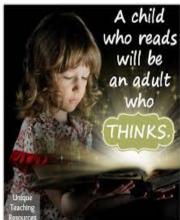
Contact Shawn Bates at the LG Funeral Home at 918-479-8161 or Vickie Herr at Cowboys, 918-598-3141, for more information. For information about the live music, contact Chris Taylor at 918-864-1186. REIGNING DESTRUCTION... This photo would be beautiful if it wasn't so tragic. DJ's Diner (green building) was one of the most iconic in the town of Locust Grove, and it brought hungry visitors from all over to experience its tasty burgers, fries and onion rings. Owner Marcia Weaver Payne has vowed that DJ's will come back. She said in a post on facebook, "... know that your support, kindness, and efforts mean more than you know. Thank you to the townspeople for the hugs and to the 8 different fire departments who worked so hard to save our diner. This town is the most wonderful place in the world, and its people are the most sincere, helpful, supportive bunch of kind folks anywhere," and then she added "We'll be back!"

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#### ONCE UPON A TIME



IN 1912... The Locust Grove Train Depot, shown in the background, signaled the birth of the town. Locust Grove sprang up with the arrival of the train to the area. Mark, which was 2 miles west of town, closed its doors and moved to the railroad too. The dray wagon (above) is loading just arrived produce.



# Rowland's Quick Shop

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#### -Circus Sept. 20-

(Continued from Page 1)

more.

Advance tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7 for children 2-12 years-old and adults 65+. Tickets can also be purchased by calling 1-866-BIGTOP-6 during regular business hours.

On circus day, the tickets can be purchased at the gate for \$13 for adults and \$8 for children and seniors. There is no charge for children under the age of 2. The circus box office opens one hour before the show.

A portion of the advance sales tickets will benefit the LG Chamber, and tickets are on sale in town at the Bank of Locust Grove, Builder's Wholesale, Cowboys, LG Tag Office, Wonder City Coffee and by calling Sandy Burford at 373-4247.

Kids 11 and under can color a clown for a contest to win prizes. The coloring pages can be downloaded from the Chamber website at LocustGroveOklahoma.com or they can be picked up at Builder's Wholesale.



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#### **About** What's Happening in LG

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

If you have news on LG events, places, or people, or want to place an ad in the newsletter, please contact Betty Perkins at blperkins@sstelco.com or 918-479-5617 (leave a message if no answer). The newsletter can also be viewed at lgartsalliance.com. As LGAA is a nonprofit organization and the newsletter is provided free to everyone, advertising must support the publication of this newsletter. Your support is greatly appreciated.

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#### Preserving the past. . .

#### Librarian attends OKC workshop

I recently attended an identifying and dating old photos workshop at the Oklahoma History Center sponsored by the Oklahoma Department of Libraries. The class was taught by Chester Cowen, the history center's Photographic Archivist Emeritus.

Mr. Cowen revealed several clues to identifying and dating old photos. A few of those clues are the type of photograph and technology process that was used, the photo's size, the fashion, clothing and accessories of the time and much more. Fortunately, the hard work has been done for us and there are many resources available to help solve our photo mysteries.

One excellent resource are the Kwik Guide series of books written by Gary W. Clark. These books are a great place to start with the



identification and dating process. 4 of his books have recently been added to the library genealogy collection.

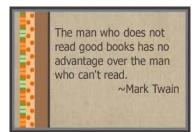
- · Cased Images & Tintypes Kwik Guide: A Guide to Identifying and Dating Daguerreotypes, Ambrotypes, and Tintypes
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- · Real Photo Postcards Kwik Guide: A Guide to Identying and Dating Real Photo Postcards of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century
- · 20th Century Photographs Kwik Guide: A Stepby-Step Guide to Identigying

and Dating Vintage Photos from 1900 to 1950

As a photographer and librarian, I'm intrigued by the history of photography. It's important to archive old photographs as well as share them. One of the best ways to do that is through identification and digitization. Once they are digitized, they can be shared with everyone either electronically or a new photo can be printed. In most cases better than the original.

If you're lucky enough to have old photos in your family and need help dating them, bring them to the library. I would love to help you get started preserving your past.

--Librarian Marea Breedlove





MISS PRYOR Sydney Grass, standing, visits with her grandfather, Ray Grass, right, at a book signing for Shaun Perkins' latest publication, The Book With the Broken Locket. Ray created illustrations which are located throughout the book.









# Turner's Laundry



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## LGHS students to display art in Sept./Oct. at LGAA Gallery

high school art teacher Shaney O'Dell's class will be featured in the Locust Grove Arts Alliance Gallery on months.

Mackenzie Newton, a Jamie and Robert Harrell. Her artwork is shown below.

"I'm still trying to fig-

Two local students in ure out exactly what I want to do after graduation, but I know I hope to work on some freelance art and maybe do character concept art for Main Street in the next video games and cartoons," Mackenzie said.

Brianna Loffer, also a senior, is the daughter of senior, is the daughter of Mindy Witt and William Loffer.

> O'Dell said

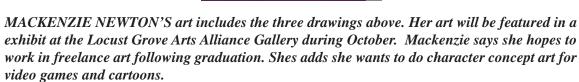
Brianna had been doing come commission art work and selling it this summer.

Brianna's artwork includes the mermaid and the owl.

"My artwork is mostly watercolors, acrylics, colored pencils and oil pastels," Brianna said. "I create a little bit of everything from porthat traits to animals."







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BRIANNA LOFFER'S art includes the owl above and the mermaid at left. Her art will be featured during the month of September at the Lo-Grove Alliance's Gallery on Main Street. More of her art will be featured in the exhibit, including work in different media -- watercolors, acrylics, colored pencils and oil pastels.



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# Pryor arts council show Oct. 1-12

The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Northeast Oklahoma Area Artist Show sponsored by the Pryor Area Arts and Humanities Council will run from Oct. 1 to Oct. 12 at the Graham Banquet Hall in Pryor.

Gary Moeller, a retired professor of Art, Communications, and Fine Arts at Rogers State University will be the 2018 guest judge.

Categories include: painting, graphics, sculpture, ceramics, and photography in professional, adult, student (grades 7-12) and junior (grades pre-k-6) divisions.

Fees for entries of as many as three works include: professional \$40, adult \$30, student \$15, and junior \$5.

The Best of Show award is \$1,000. First, second, third place winners in each division will win cash prizes.

More Lumber Supplies!

The Bill and Traci Rabbit Award, Doc Wilson Memorial Award, and People's Choice Award will be given to selected artists for their works.

Delivery of artwork is set for Sept. 28 from 3 to 7 p.m. and Sept. 29 from 8 to 11 a.m. More details and entry forms can be found at www.pryorarts.com.



\$50 TEACHER PRIZE.. One of the \$50 grants provided to teachers by the Locust Grove Chamber of Commervee went to Dianna Stokes who sent a picture of the items she bought for her computer classes, along with a letter of thanks.

#### Cruise & Crawl set

The Locust Grove Chamber of Commerce is planning the return of the Scenic 412 Cruise & Crawl on Oct. 13, a Saturday.

Plans are being formulated at press time, but there



will be yard sales, vendors, entertainment and cars.

Mark your calendars, and "like" Locust Grove Chamber on Facebook to get the details as they become available.

More information and forms will be available at the Chamber's website at LocustGroveOklahoma.com.

•Roofing

#### Chamber receives letter of thanks

Dear Ms. Collette and Chamber of Commerce Members: Thank you again for the prizes you made possible for the teachers at the beginning of the school year. I was one of the fortunate ones who received one of the \$50 prizes.

I think that I heard or read that I was supposed to send you a picture of the items that I bought with my winnings. Attached is a picture of the things I purchased. I teach the computer classes and do a lot of multimedia things, so my purchases may seem strange for a classroom These are things that I use a lot and am always having to purchase. So, thanks for the help with the expense this time. It is much appreciated.

Signed by Dianna Stokes, Technology Instructor

#### Coday begins classes

By John Coday

After moving in with my aunt and uncle in Kansas City, I spent the first week checking out different places in the city;

then, I started I could get out of keep myself

A c t i v i t y to 100 when orithe Kansas City started on Aug. moved into the even though I ing off campus.

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Sunday: Closed

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going places just so the apartment and busy.

picked up from zero entation started at Art Institute. It 16 when students dorms. I helped was going to be liv-

Orientation continued on Friday through Sunday, as students met people and got familiar with the campus. I've met several people and have made a small group of friends already, as well as getting to know my professors.

I'm looking forward to a great year.

Editor's Note: John is the son of Mark and Sarah Coday and is just beginning college classes. He was the 2017 recipient of the LG Arts Alliance Student Scholarship.

WONDER CITY COFFEE



THE MURAL WALL STANDS ALONE, and then the destruction begins. After the fire on Aug. 27, people had hoped the mural wall would be saved, but the unsupported wall was brought down for safety reasons, and today remains a part of the rubble with the rest of the buildings lost. At far right, O.W. Killam, for whom the town is named as its founder, holds the youngest Locust Grove citizen during his visit to town in 1953. Susan Rena Coffey was one week old. That photo was provided by Mary Bell, and the mural wall photos are by Roxann Yates.



FLAG POLE at the VFW Post got a face lift last week when five members and one volunteer put a bright silver shine on it. Helping were Grant Mennecke and Steve Cole, shown above, and Josh Butler, Gerald Lacey, Chuck Allen, and volunteer, Shawn Williams.





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WHERE IT ALL STARTED. . . The Aug. 27 fire in down-town Locust Grove apparently statted in the deserted and dilapidated Phillips Lounge. From there, it spread to a deserted building in front of it on Main Street, and then into DJs Diner. All three buildings are complete losses and are now just a pile of rubble.

-- Photo by Roxann Perkins Yates



DJ'S GANG...Standing in front of Junk Justified, Marcia Weaver Payne, second from left, and her employees gather to regroup after the fire. From left are Kathryn "Fred" Laird, Payne, Stephanie Romero, Kellie Woods, Laura Clark and Karlee Weaver. Not pictured are Joanne Payne and Rita Weaver. -- Photo by Jenny Close

Williams Agency Brenda Williams



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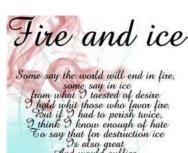
#### **Locust Grove Animal Clinic**

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David Fleming, DVM lganimalclinic@gmail.com

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 am- 5:30 pm Sat. 8-Noon





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#### ROMP Rummage Store closes after fire; will return

**ROMP** Rummage Store, which lost its entire inventory in the recent fire downtown, is a nonprofit 501c3 charity thrift store that benefits the work, upkeep and programs of the Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry.

ROMP provides cash prizes for several poetry contests each year, conducts free poetry programs and workshops, maintains and updates the museum exhibits, runs a poet's retreat, and manages the rummage store.

"The museum's mission is to provide everyone with an experience of poetry," said Shaun Perkins, who manages the store and is curator of the museum. "The rummage store's mission is to help pay for the museum's work and also provide the community with inexpensive and useful used items, she added.

Because of the generous time that LG volunteers put into helping director Shaun Perkins, the store's smoke and water-damaged inventory was quickly cleared out in one day.

LG folks helping out included Sandy Burford, Barbara and Kenny Smith, Mark Palmer, Virginia and Mike Bayless and Dovie, Tara Cook, Marcia Weaver Payne and Joanne Payne, Stephanie Romero, Jennifer and Jayce Henson, Connie Arnold, Bill Guthrie and Rob Rose, Todd Perkins, Blake Wallace and Jerry Ingram.

Anchor-Stone, a Tulsa company that provides crushed limestone and sandstone products, which Perkins used to work for as a truck dispatcher, donated some funds that will also pay bills and help with the loss of income over the next few months.

The building owner Jerry Ingram will be making ceiling tile, electrical and other repairs to the smoke and water-damaged building, while the store is vacant.

"ROMP Rummage will re-open, probably sometime this fall, benefitted by generous donations from Marcia Weaver Payne," Perkins said.

Payne, whose diner was destroyed, plans to restock the ROMP Rummage Store with inventory she had acquired over the last year.

"After the loss of her entire business, for Marcia to be thinking of my store at this time is just amazing," Perkins said. "There are no

words for how awesome this gesture is and how much it is appreciated."

Anyone who would like to donate to the store, please keep the donations until the

building has been repaired. Contact Shaun at rompoetry@gmail.com or 918-864-9152, or for more information about the museum, visit ROMPoetry.com.

#### September Wonder City Coffee events listed

### Nick Van Horn to play Sept. 7

rebuild. Fundraisers and events are in play. All Sept. 10, at 10:30 a.m. Get all your pre-

kinds of people are raising money for this to help make it happen.

On Sept. 7, talented young musician Nick Van Horn will be playing at Wonder City Coffee, from 4:30-5:30 p.m. and will donate all of his tips to DJ's. Come out and be entertained and see what this young man is up to and help a great cause.

Juice Box Jams will be back, probably with Shaun Perkins still filling in for Sarah

The Wonder City wants DJ's Diner to Spurrier (who had her twins—yeah!!) on

schoolers down to the coffee shop for Poky Little Puppy and some other fun nonsense.

The coffee shop will be closed Sept. 15-22 for the Perkins family annual vacation.

On Sept. 28, Lizzie DiPriest, who calls her musical act the Midnight Essentials, will be performing on the cof-

fee shop stage. Lizzie is from Tahlequah and will be making her debut performance on this Friday night from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

