

What's Happening in LG

'What's Happening' is a Free Newsletter Provided by the Locust Grove Arts Alliance

LG MEETINGS

Oct. 8: LG Town Council, Town Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Oct. 8: LG School Board, Admin. Bldg., 6:30 p.m.

Oct. 10: LGAA, 114 E. Main, 5:30 p.m. Oct. 18: LG Chamber, 114 E. Main, Noon

Chamber speaker to address managing water resources

meeting features OK Water Survey speaker Jeri Fleming

Jeri Fleming, the Assistant Director and Outreach & Education Coordinator for the Oklahoma Water Survey, an OU program, will be the guest speaker at the Locust Grove Chamber of Commerce meeting Oct. 18 at noon at the Chamber office.

Fleming's talk, Challenges of Urban Stream Manage-

The LG Chamber Oct. ment, will help us understand how to deal with flood issues in the town. The topic will cover how streams running through communities pose unique management challenges, such as who is responsible for maintenance, how should they be maintained and how does vegetation improve or impact the stream.

> Fleming, a LGHS graduate, routinely works

with communities, tribes, and government agencies to develop workshops and trainings specific to their

Fleming has a bachelor's degree in Mass Communications from Northeastern State University and a Juris Doctor from the University of Tulsa College of Law.

Prior to joining the Survey, she worked for the Oklahoma (Continues on Page 2)

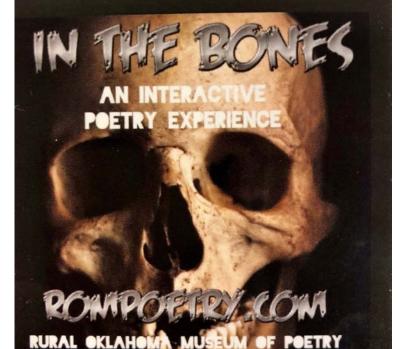
Scenic 412 Cruise & Crawl Saturday, Oct. 13

Saturday will be a busy day in Locust Grove with the Outlaw Cruisers Club cars on display at Ingram's Rod Shop on Main Street, and city-wide sales.

Yard sales will begin as early as 8 a.m.. Those who registered their sales are at the Fletcher home at 406 Peach Street, and at MidAmerica Car Sales at 113 W. Main Street.

The library's book sale will begin at 9 a.m. and run until 3 p.m., and the Free Will Baptist Church's annual fall festival will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lunch is also available at the church.

From 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., high school students will have art from auto parts at the LGAA sidewalk at 114 East Main street. (Continues on Page 3)



Rural Okla. Poetry Museum opens new exhibit Oct. 27

"I had a lover's quarrel with the world," is etched in the gravestone of American poet Robert Frost. Epitaph poetry has been around for thousands of years. It is the departed's last chance to write about his/her life. Epitaph poetry was made popular by Edgar Lee Masters's Spoon River Anthology, a work of epitaph poetry written in first person by the characters of Spoon River.

bones" of Frost. Life's, stories and poetry are "in the bones" of all of us. The Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry's next exhibit is all about who we are and how we feel in our bones.

The exhibit opens Oct. 27. Poems of Frost, Masters, and other noted poets are displayed. Poetry contest winners' pieces will also be part of the exhibit.

Kelly Palmer and her sis-Poems lived "in the ter Roxann Yates are building the exhibit that includes interactive poetry exercises.

For example, visitors can write selfie poems and display them.

Shakespeare's famous epitaph is part of the exhibit. Visitors are invited to write I Am epitaphs, couplets, etc. A toilet and hamper are part of the display. Put your "dirty laundry" words in the hamper and "wasteful" words in the toilet.

(Continues on Page 2)

Page 2 What's Happening in LG October 2018

-Water-

(Continued from Page 1) Conservation Commission as an Environmental Programs Manager.

Her work at the Commission included working with volunteers in the Blue Thumb Education Program, overseeing stream restoration and green infrastructure projects and handling communications for Blue Thumb and the agency.

Fleming also worked for Oklahoma State University in the Biosystems and Ag Engineering Department where she coordinated construction of 11 stream restoration sites in Tahlequah, OK.

She also worked for the Oklahoma Water Resources Research Institute at OSU where she managed the public input and policy recommendation development process for the 2012 update of Oklahoma's comprehensive water plan.

Additionally, Fleming has taught Environmental Law for Oklahoma State University and the University of Tulsa College of Law, and Water Law for OSU.

She is a past chair of the Environmental Law Section of the Oklahoma Bar Association and a prior board member of Lake McMurtry Friends.

Everyone is invited to the Chamber meeting at 114 E. Main. In case of a large turnout, the meeting may be moved and the new location posted.

-ROMP-

(Continued from Page 1)

Yates's heritage poems composed from her genealogy research are on display, including a table with the image of her great-grandfather's family in front of their 1910 grocery.

Participants can write a line or two or more about what they "store" inside, in their bones.

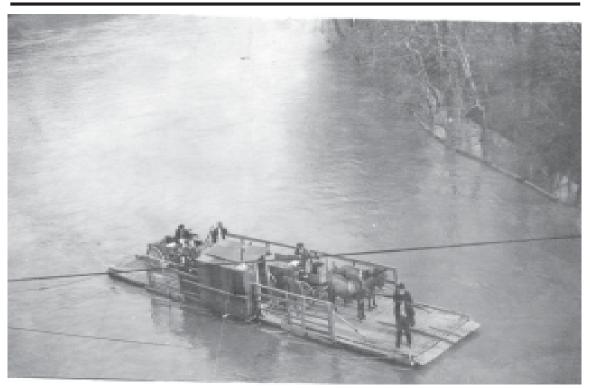
A secret corner box is set up for those words visitors love or hate, and for lines of poetry to deposit. A table is centrally located to compose lines for the various activities. Other activities fill the museum.

Outdoors, visitors can go through the pet cemetery and add serious or humorous lines to the gravestones of real and imagined pets.

Visitors are invited ti immerse themselves in the world of poetry and draw forth the words "in your bones" as they visit this entertaining and creative rural museum of poetry.

For more information, visit ROMPoetry.com

ONCE UPON A TIME



ONE OF THE FERRIES that navigated the Grand River before there was a bridge between Locust Grove and Pryor and points north. The first bridge was built by the Works Progress Authority during the Depression in the 1930s. The ferry was run by Carter Markham who also owned and operated a country mercantile store near the location of the ferry which was just west of the current bridge. The ferry was used to transport freight from the Katy Railroad to his mercantile store. He served as postmaster of the Markham Post Office of the Cherokee Nation ,located in his store from 1895 to 1897, and he was also postmaster at Mark, OK.

New deadline set for publication

A new deadline for getting stories and advertising into "What's Happening in LG" is the third of each month.

A new printer for the newsletter has shifted the deadline to a more firm date each month.

Most of you have probably noticed a new look in the publication as it shifted to newsprint paper when the move was made to the Muskogee Phoenix.

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.

Friends of Library plan book sale

Friends of the Locust cents; and a whole bag of case shelves. Grove Public Library will host a book sale Oct. 11-13 at the library.

Hardback books will be \$1: softcover books, 50 cents; paperback books, 25

books can be purchased for \$5.

Donations are still being taken. Bring a bag of books and buy a bag of books to replace those on your book-

The library is located at 715 E. Main Street.

The sale will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Oct. 11-12, and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Oct. 13.



-Saturday's Event List —

(Continued from Page 1)

Inside the Locust Grove Arts Alliance Gallery, the work of high school student Makenzie Newton will be on display in an exhibit named "Coffee-Stained Creations."

A car-parts identification game, sponsored by Quantie Auto Supply, will

take place in front of the Bank of Locust Grove from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

A drone and live video display will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at In-N-Out Center.

Live music will be provided by Nick V. from 11 a.m. until noon in the In-and-Out Center area.

A fan belt toss competi-

tion, sponsored by Hometown Shirt Shack, will be held at 11:30 a.m., and "My First Car" will take place at Wonder City Coffee at 2

Vendors on Main Street will be Hannah Handcrafts. Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry, and Ray Grass, artist.

First Free Will Baptist Church to host 16th annual craft fair

The Locust Grove Free Will Baptist Church will host its 16th Annual Holiday Craft Festival on Oct. 12-13.

The festival will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 12, and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 13.

A soup and sandwich lunch will be available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Crafts included will be furniture, paintings, candles, wood carvings, signs, wood art, jewelry, baked goods, and local honey. Breads will include jalapeno cheese bread and pumpkin rolls and cookies.







LGHS student to display art in October at LGAA Gallery

Locust Grove High School senior Makenzie Newton will have her artwork on display in the LG Arts Alliance Gallery with a grand opening on Oct. 10.

Makenzie's exhibit, "Coffee-Stained Creations," will run until Nov. 3.

The daughter of Jamie and Robert Harrell, Makenzie says she is considering going to an art school or to a traditional college and take art classes.

"I hope to work in character design and illustration,



and also do some free-lance

mix of digital paintings and traditional sketches, and be-

work," she said. She describes her art as a

More murals proposed at LGAA meeting in Sept.

The topic of creating more murals in the town proper was discussed when members of the Locust Grove Arts Alliance met Sept. 12, at the office on Main Street.

The loss of the History of Locust Grove mural on Aug. 27, when fire destroyed three downtown structures, may have been on their minds.

Ray Grass, who refurbished the historical mural, would lead the painting project, which would also include the art students from Shaney O'Dell's high school class, pending permission from the school and parents for students to take part. Several sites were discussed as

possible places for the mu-

A mural which pertains to the town's history with the railroad is on the city hall/ police station building currently, but is in need of a touch up.

The LGAA is currently working on building a pocket park behind the office which it shares with the local chamber. That area could also be a site for another mural.

The group also discussed the benefit which was held Sept. 16 for Marcia Weaver Payne in the loss of her business in the Aug. 27 fire. Update: That benefit provided

(Continues on Page 5)

lieves her style varies from cartoons to semi-realism.

"I get most of my art inspiration from the media and pop-culture I love, such as cartoons, video games and comics," Makenzie said. "I also get a lot of inspiration from the other artists I talk to online. We have a great community together."

Makenzie says that art has provided her a way to meet new people and express feelings about her art.

"I've made many great friends because of it," she said

Makenzie said that she can't imagine doing anything but art in her future.

"Seeing someone get excited about your art (or even finding a new artist whose art you really like) is such a wonderful experience.

"I can't imagine doing anything else," she said.



NEWART WORK... Locust Grove Arts Alliance member Alysha Little holds a commissioned piece she did for Betty Perkins who plans to hang it in her writer's little house, Chickadee Cottage. "I absolutely love it," said Perkins. "It is exactly what I wanted to give the cottage a painting which says what it is." Done in acrylics on a group of five rough boards, the painting features three chickadees with black, orange and white markings.



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Cash prizes for each poetry division

Poetry museum sponsors 2 poem contests

The Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry (ROMP) is sponsoring two contests in October with the deadline for the first coming on Oct. 13.

That contest is an "Epitaph Poem Contest," which is a short poem that describes a person, real or imaginary, and clarifies the kind of life that person lived.

An epitaph is commonly found on tombstones. It describes the way a person wants to be remembered.



There is a long tradition of epitaph poetry, where poets have described people, real

and imaginary, gone but not forgotten. The most famous example is probably "Spoon River Anthology" by Edgar Lee Masters, which provides the epitaphs for everyone in the town, with many of them showing an inner connection.

Cash prizes will be awarded in each of three categories: 6th-8th grade, 9th-12th grade, and adult. First will receive \$100, second \$50, and third \$25.

Guidelines: The poem must be an original work. It can be rhymed or unrhymed. The poem should be between 10 and 24 lines. The evaluation criteria includes clarity, creativity, theme and imagery. All entries must include a signed entry form which can be found on the ROMP website.

The second contest is the "Halloween Limerick" contest which will also have cash

When writing your epitaph, keep in mind that (1) Epitaphs are short and concise. (2) They convey a strong feeling. (3) Often someone is speaking in the first person. (4) The writer should think about who is being addressed.

prizes for the winners of \$50, \$25, and \$15. Deadline for entry is Oct. 23. Winners for the contests will be announced on the "Dark and Scary Poem Night" at Wonder City Coffee, 118 E. Main, Locust Grove, Oct. 26 from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Guides for writing the limerick include the traditional five-line poem which rhymes AABBA, with lines 1,2, and 5 having the same rhyme, and lines 3 and 4 having the same rhyme.

The poem must be original to the contestant.

To find the entry form, go to the ROMP website. Email to rompoetry@gmail.com; mail to Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry, 6603 S. 4382, Locust Grove, OK 74352. Submit in person at Wonder City Coffee.

-LGAA Sept. meeting-

(Continued from Page 4)

more than \$25,000 to help Crawl Oct. 13. make a start on rebuilding.

Shaun Perkins explained the ground rules for the "My First Car" contest which is being sponsored by the Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry in conjunction with the Scenic 412 Cruise &

The group also decided to pay the entry fee for students in Shaney O'Dell's high school art classes in the Northeast Oklahoma Area Artist Show, sponsored by the Pryor Arts and Humanities Council.

Clean Up Day in LG Oct. 20

Clean Up Day in Locust Grove will be from 8 a.m. until noon, Saturday, Oct. 20 at the old high school parking lot.

Car batteries will be accepted, but not paint or chemicals. This clean up is provided for Locust Grove citizens only. Proof must be shown with ID or utility statement.

The LG Public Works Authority will accept used car, truck, motorcycle and ag tires at the same time and location. The collection is not for tire dealers, but for citizens wanting to recycle tires. No tires will be accepted on rims, nor ATV or offroad tires, bicycle tires, mower tires, wheelbarrow tires, nor non-agricultural heavy equipment tires.

For more information, call 918-479-5354.



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New business gets 'kick' start in downtown LG

Master Norvin Johnson has brought a new business to town—Locust Grove Kickboxing and Martial Arts. Opening day will be Oct. 13 during the Cruise and Crawl town event.

The location is 112 N. Main, where the old In-N-Out store was. Visitors can talk with him about classes he will soon schedule.

"I will be teaching morning and evening kickboxing and martial arts classes," he said. "The main style of karate/kung fu will be 'Wu Ying Tao' and mixed martial arts.

"Training will include techniques from boxing, kickboxing and grappling," he said.

The classes are will increase endurance and strength training through cardio instruction.

"I am the creator, founder and program developer of 'Fierce Fitness Kickboxing' located in Portland, Oregon. This fitness business was established 20 years ago and is



MASTER NORVIN Johnson is shown at the age of 18. still going strong," he said.

Johnson's classes will be open to those of various ages

and stages of fitness.

"Any teens or adults can participate in the workouts. I always tell people to work at their own pace and just do what they can.

"The program helps with weight loss, total body conditioning, and core strength. It also increases bone density and muscle tone and flexibility," he said.

Master Johnson will also teach self-defense techniques.

"The techniques are used to teach law enforcement, military personnel, and security personnel," he said.

He developed an interest in the martial arts because Master Johnson was bullied in school.

"At one point, I met a teacher who taught me not only some self defense techniques but also how to stand up for myself.

"The next time a kid at school went to punch me, I gave him a bloody nose and that was the moment everything changed in my life," he said.

He began training in the martial arts at the age of 14.

"At the age of 18, I had become a black belt instructor at Grand Master Bruce Terrill's Professional Martial Arts in Portland, and I was Oregon's State Champion in 1983 of the Professional Kickboxing Association," he said.

Training has had positive effects for Master Johnson, both physically and mentally.

"Over the last 40 years of learning and teaching Martial Arts I have developed a personal philosophy of 'each person matters.' I have seen and experienced an increase in confidence, self esteem, discipline," he said.

Though he enjoys the competitive aspects of the martial arts and competed when he was younger, his approach is that of a "peaceful warrior."

He is fond of Locust Grove and hopes the business will attract students.

"My family is from the Oklahoma area. In my early childhood I was raised in

(Continues on Page 7)









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–Kickboxing to be taught–

(Continued from Page 6)

Adair and spent a lot of time in Locust Grove, Pryor, and Rose, where my relatives lived," he said.

Because of a neurological illness, Johnson retired from teaching for several years.

"I was told that I would never be able to stand, walk or have a normal life again. Seemingly overnight, my entire life changed. I never gave up. I used what I learned from martial arts to find a way to stand and walk again," he said.

Eventually he found a neurologist that helped him.

"After five years of working with him, using my martial arts focus and training to push myself through the rigorous, mentally and physically challenging rehabilitation, I gained greater control over the disorder and have a fairly normal life," he said.

He says he hopes his wife and daughter can move here soon to join him in the teaching process.

"I am here without my wife, trying to make a life for us here. She continues to teach the kickboxing program with our daughter, Brittany, in Portland," he said.

Many family members studied with the late Grandmaster David Fishinghawk and urged Johnson to open a martial arts center.

"I told them it would have to be the right opportunity and place for it to happen," he said.

He feels it is the right time to open his business.

"My goal is to create a place where people will be comfortable, have fun and be able to be a part of a community of folks in martial arts and kickboxing fitness," he said.



MASTER NORVIN JOHNSON sparring with his daughter, Brittany. Johnson has opened a new business in downtown and hopes to have his wife and daughter join him in the future. He is currently taking applications for classes he will begin to teach in the near future.



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Ancestry: Deliverance Dane survives witch hunt

Her name is Deliverance. In her 40th year, she was in dire need of it.

In 1637, brothers Robert and John Hazeltine, sailed to the New World, settling in Essex County in Rowley, Mass. on the Merrimack River. They were the first settlers, and Robert and Anne Wood's marriage was the first in this new settlement.

The Puritan brothers were farmers from Yorkshire, England. They pioneered the movement west of Rowley by clearing land and creating dwellings along the Merrimack.

Deliverance, born in 1653, was the seventh child of Robert and Anne. She married Nathaniel Dane whose father, Francis Dane, was a minister.

In 1692-93 in colonial Mass. the "Devil's magic" in the form of witchcraft spread like a disease. More than 200 people were accused of being witches. This story has fascinated people for centuries.

A thoughtco.com article by Jone Johnson Lewis in 2017,



WITCH HUNT... Thomas Satterwhite Noble's painting The Salem Martyr, 1896.

states that Deliverance married "into a power family...and Deliverance's father-in-law opposed witchcraft trials."

Though know mostly about the Salem Witch Trials, the hunts began in Europe in 1300. The..."last known execution for witchcraft took place in Switzerland in 1782." according Jeff Wallenfeldt's article for Britannica.com.

More than 100,000 were tried and 40 to 60,000 were executed worldwide.

In Mass. there were two Salems—Salem Town and Salem Village. Salem Town was a port community, and the poorer, smaller inland town was Salem Village. This is where the trouble began in the New World. There were struggles between families for power, and land disputes were common in Salem Village.

Though Deliverance lived in nearby Andover, this is the world she grew up in. Men, women and even dogs were accused of witchcraft. Under pressure by two accused that implicated her, she pronounced that her father-in-law was afflicted. However, he did not suffer from the accusation.

Those accused had to defend themselves without the benefit of counsel. Spectral evidence (based on dreams and visions) was very often used and could not be proven or corroborated.

"Many of the records of Deliverance's examination have been lost, but on page 280 of Marilynne K. Roach's book 'Witch trials: A Day-byDay Chronicle of a Community Under Siege,' she quotes Deliverance as saying that she and some other witches had brought her father-in-law's specter along with them to torment the afflicted."

This first cousin twelve times removed on Mom's branch, spent 13 weeks in jail before her husband was able plead for her release and to gather enough money for her freedom.

It was 1957 before families received formal apologies for this travesty from the state of Mass., according to

(Continues on Page 9)

BLACK DRUG

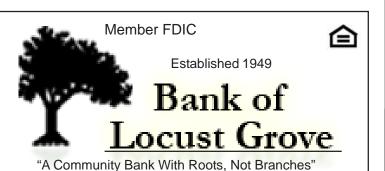
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-Witch Hunt-

(Continue from Page 8) Wallenfeldt's article.

These unfair trials contributed to changes in court procedures. People, thereafter, have been guaranteed the right to legal counsel, and the right to cross-examine accusers.

In 1953 playwright Arthur Miller published "The Crucible" about the historical hysteria as an allegorical piece to represent the "witch hunts" in the 1950s by Joseph McCarthy in his anticommunist hearings, states

Wallenfeldt.

Katherine Howe published a bestselling historical novel in 2010, "The Physick of Deliverance Dane." Though the story is fictional, many details about the Salem Witch Trials are covered.

Deliverance's crucible was surviving the witch scare and living until 1735.

After she was released, she, soon after, gave birth to a girl, a deliverance of another kind with a deeper meaning. She named her after herself.

KETCHU

BOG AND CONDIMENTS . . . Harley, Maycee and Melanee Sarten attended the first Mummy & Me dance last year as ketchup, hot dog and mustard. --Photo by Marea Breedlove

Big Read books still available

As the result of a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, Locust Grove was selected to host a community reading program in 2019. The book selected for everyone to read is *How We Became Human* by Joy Harjo. A limited number of free copies is still available. See Shaun Perkins at Wonder City Coffee to pick up your free copy, and join in the activities scheduled in April of 2019, leading up to the visit from the author April 26-27, 2019.

Mummy & Me Dance planned

Mummies, ghouls and goblins will fill the Locust Grove Upper Elementary cafeteria, Thursday, Oct. 25, from 6-7:30 p.m., for the sec-

ond annual Mummy & Me dance.

A fundraiser for the UE, the dance is somewhat of a spinoff of the very successful Daddy Daughter Dance held in February.

Mummy and Me is a chance for moms to bring their sons and daughters for a night of dressing up and dancing.

Cost for the event is \$10 per family. Dressing up is not required but is welcomed. Families will also have the opportunity to have their photos taken by Marea Breedlove.

The dance brought in over \$800 for the UE last year.

"It's a great fundraiser and a great time," said UE Counselor, Joy Tatum.



Sculpture is the art of the intelligence.

Pablo Picasso

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Three generations of Glass family take art to Santa Fe Indian Market

Three generations of Glass men were represented at the Santa Fe Indian Market August 15-18 in Santa Fe, NM.

Local artist Bill Glass and his son Demos Glass are well known for their artwork and have been to the event in the past.

This was the first time Demos' son Jyce was able to experience the market as an artist.

"You have to submit pictures of your art, "said Pam Glass, Jvce's mom. The artists submitted their artwork in January and found out in April of 2018 that they were selected for the market.

The market sponsored by the Southwestern Association for Indian Arts is a yearly event that highlights Native American Art.

The artwork includes traditional and contemporary forms such as jewelry, pottery, sculpture, textiles, paintings, wooden carvings, beadwork, baskets and many

410 E. Main

Phone: 918-479-5273



Jvce Glass

more.

The Glass family made the trip to New Mexico for the show but also enjoyed their time together as a family vacation.

Jyce, a sixth grader, took four ceramic pieces to show and sell at the event. Three of the pieces were traditional Native American masks and one was a turtle shell. The inspiration for his masks came from a picture.

"I saw a picture in my grandpa's shop and just kind of ... got my idea from that," Jyce said. "I didn't do it all at once," said the sixth grader. Jyce explained it took him about four days working on the mask off and on.

Bill started teaching Jyce how to make the ceramic pieces last year. A quick study, Jyce was able to enter one of his masks in the Cherokee Nation Homecoming Show where he placed second in the 12 and under division.

In Santa Fe, Jyce was able to sell all four of his ceramic pieces before noon on the first day. Pam said his pieces sold on average for about \$100 each.

A successful first show for the Locust Grove Middle Schooler.

Jyce may be an up and coming artist, but art is not his first love. An athlete at heart, Jyce said he would like to make art "probably just for fun. I want to play baseball." His mom thinks both baseball and art are nice goals but she has a slightly different path for Jyce to take.

"I want him to go to college," Pam said with a laugh.



FAMILY AFFAIR . . . Demos, Jyce and Bill Glass are shown in the booth which featured their art during the Santa Fe Indian Market last August. Jyce, a newcomer to the market, made the mask, below, and the two smaller ones on the bottom right in the photo above. One of Jyce's masks placed second in a division for those 12 and younger. -- Photos by Pam Glass





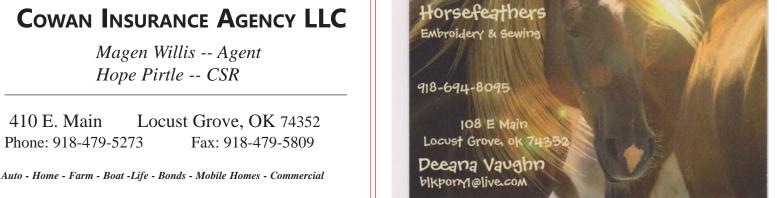
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New teachers welcomed at LG Upper Elementary

Many new faces have joined the Locust Grove Upper Elementary this school year. Six new teachers and two speech teachers are now part of the team.

Joining the second grade is 32-year veteran teacher Mrylene Whalen.

"I live in neighboring Salina and I have always heard good things about LG education system. Locust Grove always has well-kept facilities. Their building appearances are always neat. Well-groomed grounds and buildings leave a great first impression," Whalen said.

Her goal for the new school year is to "educate my

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Many new faces have students to the best of my ined the Locust Grove Up- ability and experience."

Tammy Cunningham and Karin Laird are new to LGUE in the third grade. Cunningham has taught at both Mazie and Chouteau elementary schools.

"This is my fifth year to teach. I'm a late bloomer," Cunningham said. "I was born and raised here in Locust Grove. I raised my kids before going back to college and decided it was time for me. So I am a late bloomer when it comes to my age and the years I've been teaching."

A proud Pirate, Cunningham is glad to be back on her home soil.

"I have lived in LG my entire life and it was time for me to come back home to teach. What is there not to love about LG? A small town where big things happen," Cunningham said.

Laird is another fellow Pirate. Laird has spent many years working at the Bank of Locust Grove. She has subbed at the school in the

"I chose to apply at Locust Grove because it has a great reputation as a supportive community of involved families and parents."

-- Joan Ricks, new

past but decided it was time to get back in the classroom.

Nicole Oldham is new to Locust Grove but is fitting in well among the third grade teachers. Students in her class call her "Ms. O."

Two new teachers are joining the fifth grade flock. Joan Ricks and Anna Adams are also veteran teachers with a lot of experience in the classroom.

Ricks has been teaching off and on since 1988. She has taught and coached at Jenks, Claremore, Justus-Tiawah, Verdigris and Oologah-Talala.

"I chose to apply to Locust Grove because it has a great reputation as a supportive community of involved families and parents," Ricks said. "I love that Locust Grove is a Leader In Me school and focuses on developing the whole child in education."

Adams agrees with Ricks about coming to the Locust Grove school district.

"I love both the districts and the community. Everyone I have met has been friendly and I have had good responsiveness from the parents that I have spoken to so far."

Adams also has ties to the LG community.

"My stepfather, Kenny Littlefield Jr., graduated from here. Both he and my grandfather thought it was great that I got hired here," said Adams who brought four new students with her to the district. "I brought my children with me and they are really enjoying their classes, like their teachers and appear to be doing well."

Two new speech teachers, Janet Hall and Brianna

Begley are now serving the UE students. Hall, who is no relation to the UE Principal Shannon Hall, comes to LGUE from Salina. She has been a Speech teacher for 30 years at both Pryor and Salina Schools. She said she chose to apply at Locust Grove because it was close to home and she wanted to try the four-day school week.

"I like the nice facilities and motivation I see among the faculty and administration," Hall said.

When she is not working, Hall enjoys spending time with her family and friends, antique shopping, watching sporting events and traveling.

Begley is in her fourth year as a Speech-Language Pathologist. She comes to the UE from Pryor. She also was excited about the four-day school week but likes what she sees among the faculty and staff.

"Everyone really cares about their students. There's also a lot of school spirit which is a lot of fun," Begley said.

By Melissa McClendon



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



October entertainment at Wonder City Coffee

owner and artist/crafter extraordinaire Adele Collette will be leading two free painting workshops, sponsored by the Locust Grove Arts Alliance at Wonder City Coffee in October.

The workshop, which will be painting a fall pumpkin scene, will be offered on Oct. 15, from noon to 1:30 p.m. and again on Oct. 19, from 5:30-7:00 p.m.

All materials are provided by the LGAA, and sign-up is required. Call the coffee shop at 479-2885 to sign up in advance. Workshop limit is 40

Former Junk Justified Halloween, the Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry, will be hosting an event at the coffee shop: Dark and Scary. The event is the culmination of epitaph poem and Halloween Limerick contest, where the winners will be announced.

Limerick-writers will get the chance to read their poems to the audience. Those who have the best interpretation, which includes all aspects of presentation: costume, reading voice, gestures, etc.—will win additional cash prizes. See details at ROMPoetry.com. Dark and Scary will be from 5:30 On Oct. 26, just in time for to 6:30 that Friday night.



AUTUMN ART . . . Those who participate in the Oct. 15 & 19 workshops at Wonder City Coffee will be able to paint their own version of this painting by workshop leader Adele Collette.

Little. Alysha will be showing participants how to make a type of watercolor painting using instant coffee. Space is limited to 40 for this free workshop, so sign up in advance.

The workshop will be Nov. 2, and will run from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. And mark your calendars for Nov. 16, as Wonder City Tellabation returns to the coffee shop, with Cherokee-Kituwah storyteller Choogie Kingfisher, for an hour of great oral storytelling, from 6-7 p.m. For more information, see the Wonder City Coffee Facebook page.

The Journey.

In England in the late 1800s, two twelve-year-old girls Elizabeth and Mary were playing on the dock. Several ships were anchored, and they decided to board one and look around. Not long after that the ship set sail.

When the girls were discovered, the captain refused to turn around and take them back, and two ladies on the ship took care of the girls, who never saw any family members again.

When they arrived in America, they said goodbye to each other and never met again. Mary stayed with the lady who took her in and Elizabeth ended up in Searcy County, Arkansas with the Price family.

Not long after that a cowboy rode up looking for work, and Mr. Price gave him a job. Soon Elizabeth and Charlie Moore fell in love.

They had four children, one of whom was my grandma Susie.

My mom and Grandma told me this story many times. Recently, I had my DNA test done, and it showed I am 58 percent English, so I believe the story to be true.

By Wanda Key

Also during Dark and Scary, the winners of the Epitaph Poem Contest will be announced, and a special preview of In the Bones, the next exhibit at the poetry museum, will be explained by exhibit artist Roxann Yates.

The first Friday in November, don't miss a special painting class from Alysha



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