

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN LG

No. 54: March 2019

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

A new event for this year's Founder's Day Parade will be a cardboard car show as well as the opportunity to "drive" the car in the parade. See Page 9.



Big Read activities slated

Book discussions, art activities, more planned in April

The LGAA and Locust Grove Public Schools are recipients of a grant of \$14,475 to host the NEA Big Read in Locust Grove. A national initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest, the NEA Big Read broadens our understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book.

The LGAA is working in partnership with the LG Public Schools, the LG Public Library and the LG Chamber of Commerce to expand the



project's reach in April 2019.

Activities will include book discussions at schools and in the community, art and literature activities inspired by the book, and much more.

Celebrate Joy Harjo's poetry from *How We Became Human* with the LGAA by making a work of art inspired by Harjo's poetry. This BIG READ activity is open to any Locust Grove resident or LG student.

Art Project Details

The LGAA donated canvases for the students to showcase their work for the art contest to be displayed in the LGAA gallery. Students and adults are encouraged to create visual and word art projects inspired by a Joy Harjo poem.

Roxann Yates spoke with Shaney O'Dell's art classes about ways to create art for

the contest. Poems were read and discussed along with ideas for creating an art project.

April 5, 2019 is the deadline to enter the contest. Art can be dropped off at Wonder City Coffee or the LGAA office with the entry form found at lgartsalliance.com. Cash prizes will be awarded in three categories: K-5th grade, 6th-12th grade, and adult. First place winners will receive \$75 in each category. Second place winners will receive \$50, and third place awards will be \$25.

Artists can use any visual medium or variety of media: painting, drawing, sculpture, mixed media, etc.

The theme and subject matter are up to you, but they should in some way be inspired by Harjo's poetry. If possible, make the art suitable for hanging; although, tables will be used to display some of the art.

The contest evaluation criteria include: evidence of inspiration from Harjo's poetry, creativity, mastery/skill in particular art medium used, and difficulty.

A professional artist will
(Continues on Page 3)



ART COMMISSIONED . . . Ray Grass points out one of his paintings which he recently sold to the Cherokee Nation which will place them in various Cherokee facilities. "What's Happening" editor Betty Perkins examines Grass's painting of a Cherokee elder.

LGAA's Ray Grass wins commission for painting for Cherokee Nation

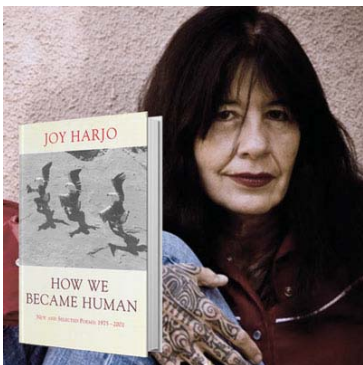
The Locust Grove Arts Alliance is proud to announce that longtime LGAA member, and current board member, Ray Grass has won the commission to paint a scene from a traditional Cherokee folk tale for the Cherokee Nation's new health clinic.

The Cherokee Nation also bought five of his paintings, four for the health clinic and one for the casino.

Artists were asked to inter-

pret the tale of a game of stickball between the birds and animals. Grass sketched his interpretation and was chosen to create the two-foot by eight-foot painting that will be in the pediatric dental area of the Cherokee Nation Health Clinic.

Paintings purchased by Cherokee Nation include a Cherokee elder in traditional dress, a woman making lye soap in front of her cabin, a
(Continues on Page 2)



AUTHOR JOY HARJO holds her book which will be the source for art and literary contests. Cash prizes will be awarded.



CHEROKEE HUNTER is one of the painting by Ray Grass which will be displayed in various Cherokee facilities.

—Ray Grass—

(Continued from Page 1)
child playing in the yard, a hunter in the woods with his rifle, and the Murrell Home.

“The painting for the casino, under construction, is a stickball player in traditional dress,” said Grass.

Grass has sold paintings to Cherokee Nation in the past.

“This is the first time I’ve been commissioned to do a painting. These paintings are

a part of my ancestry and something I love to do,” Grass said. “I just hope to keep painting what the Cherokee Nation will display.”

We will have a special honor for him, including other special announcements and event information at the next LGAA meeting, March 13 at 4 p.m. Come celebrate with us.

Main Street book read

As part of the Big Read program, on April 27, at 2 p.m., 85 LG residents will line both sides of Main Street and simultaneously read the 84 poems in Joy Harjo’s book.

Each person will have one poem to read continuously for 45 minutes. Others are encouraged to mingle up and down the street listening and sharing the experience.

Joy Harjo will be on hand to speak at the beginning of the event, and she will also walk amongst the participants as they are reading. Some of the poems have been claimed at press time, but if you are interested in being a reader, please contact Shaun Perkins, 918-864-9152 or rompoetry@gmail.com.



**NEW: Main
Street Poetry
Read**

**SAT 27
APR**

The Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry presents



**PASTRY CONTEST
OK POEM WINNERS
POEM FORTUNES
COFFEE BAG ART
CHALLENGE
SPECIAL GUESTS**



**WONDER CITY
Wordfest**

A Celebration of Poetry & Community

118 E MAIN * LOCUST GROVE ** 918-864-9152

For schedule and details: ROMPoetry.com

Book discussions set

Informal Big Read book discussions of Joy Harjo's *How We Became Human* will take place every Monday in April from 2 to 3 p.m. at Wonder City Coffee and every Tuesday at the Locust Grove Public Library from 6 to 7 p.m. Everyone is invited to participate, and the book can be picked up at Wonder City Coffee.

Suggested questions for discussion, are at www.arts.gov, or copies of the resource are available at Wonder City Coffee. Bring the book; join the discussion.

The National Endowment for the Arts celebrates Joy Harjo in the reader resources guide as follows:

Writer and musician Joy Harjo was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma and is a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Her many awards include a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Native Writers' Circle of the Americas; the William Carlos Williams Award from the Poetry

BIG READ plans

(Continued from Page 1)
judge the artwork and select prizes in each category. Entries should be anonymous and names only provided on the entry form.

Winners will be announced April 10, at the opening of the Big Read Art Exhibit at 114 E. Main, at 5:30 p.m.

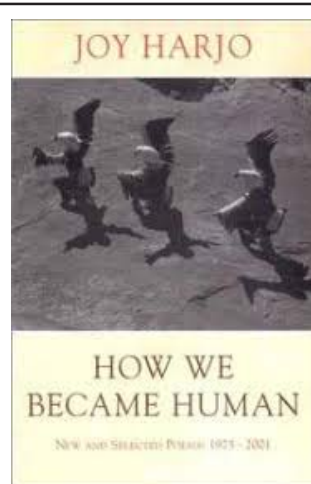


Society of America; the Wallace Stevens Award from the Academy of American Poets; the American Indian Distinguished Achievement in the Arts Award; and two National Endowment for the Arts creative writing fellowships. *How We Became Human* offers an introduction to her poetry over the first 26 years of her career, including poems from her groundbreaking book *She Had Some Horses* (1983).

"To read the poetry of Joy Harjo is to hear the voice of the earth, to see the landscape of time and timelessness, and, most important, to get a glimpse of people who struggle to understand, to know themselves, and to survive" (Poetry Foundation). Says author Sandra Cisneros, "Her hero's journey is a gift for all those struggling to make their way. Joy Harjo is a giant-hearted, gorgeous, and glorious gift to the world," says author Pam Houston. "Her belief in art, in spirit, is so powerful, it can't help but spill over to us—lucky readers."



READING GROUPS . . .
Tristin Brunner reads Joy Harjo's book, How We Became Human, in preparation for one of the book discussions to be held each Monday at Wonder City Coffee.



This Land is a Poem

This land is a poem of ochre and burnt sand I could never write,/ unless paper were the sacrament of/ sky, and ink the broken line of wild horses staggering the horizon several miles away. Even then,/ does anything written ever matter to the earth, wind, and sky?

—Joy Harjo

Original poem based on Harjo book could bring cash awards

"A blue horse turns into a streak of lighting."

This first line from Joy Harjo's poem "Promise of Blue Horses" sets the scene for much of the imagery in her book "How We Became Human." With this book as the focus book for the Big Read in LG, the Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry invites you to be inspired by Harjo's poetry to write your own.

To enter, write an original poem that is a companion piece to one of Harjo's poems in her book. The poem can be a response to the poem, a second part to the poem, a poem in the same style, etc. The poem must be clearly inspired in some way by a specific poem in her book.

Cash prizes totaling \$900 in four categories from kindergarten to adult will be awarded. The entry deadline is April 15, and winners will be awarded on April 27 at Wonder City Wordfest at Wonder City Coffee.

Entry guidelines and forms are available at the coffee shop, ROMP Rummage Store or online at ROMPoetry.com under CONTESTS. Only LG-area residents and students are eligible to enter.

Books are available by contacting ROMP director Shaun Perkins at ROMPoetry@gmail.com.



ORIGINAL ARTWORK done by Roxann Yates when she presented a lesson on how to adapt a poem to an expression of art to Shaney O'Dell's high school art class.. See poem at left..

Thursday mornings are story time at LG Library

Every Thursday morning at 10:30 story time happens at the library. Generally, a weeks worth of planning goes into each story time hour. Children's librarian, Courtney Ritter, searches the collection for books that she thinks the kids will enjoy and then finds an art project or simple craft to go along with it.

This past week she carried out a Super Hero story time for 15 kids and their parents. It was standing room only. The kids decorated masks and super hero wrist bands made from toilet paper rolls that she had painted with silver paint and cut to resemble something you would see on Wonder Woman. It's always a joy to see the kids use their imaginations and create something unique to their personality. Afterwards, we took their photo in their capes and masks as they flew over



the city like Super Man.

There are many benefits to bringing your children to programs like story time every week. It's a great opportunity to make new friends and introduce them to the joy of reading. They become better listeners their vocabulary expands and their imagination broadens. We have a loyal group of families that come to the library for story time. We look forward to seeing them every week and we are thrilled to see new faces.

Follow the Locust Grove Public Library on Facebook for the latest story time events and upcoming library programs.

--Marea Breedlove, librarian



SUPERHERO Daeman Mororehead flies above the city in this Locust Grove Public Library storytime activity on a Thursday morning. Below Maya adds stickers to her superhero mask.



Tooth Embedded In Tongue for 30 Years Is Removed

LOCUST GROVE, Okla., March 4.—(AP)—Thirty years ago J. P. Andrews of Locust Grove was kicked by a horse, with the result that his teeth were knocked out and his tongue lacerated. Recently, after he thought his wounds had been healed for 30 years, Andrews' tongue became inflamed. Examination revealed a tooth embedded in his tongue.

Today he was free of the molar, a doctor having removed it.

OLD ARTICLES. . . Two stories related to life in Locust Grove were recently found by researcher Roxann Perkins Yates. The J.P. Andrews mentioned in the tooth story above was the father of Harold Andrews, both of whom operated a grocery store here.

Locust Grove is now just one year old and counts a population of 973, happy homes, property assessed at \$375,000 and a new \$15,000 school house under construction. To them we might add the Times, a bright, well edited newspaper that would do credit to a town of 5,000 people.

Story dated 1913.

YUMM coming to downtown Locust Grove

Jerry and Roxann Yates will be opening an old-time general store and museum in the near future—Yates Unique Market and Museum, The YUMM.. For some time they had hoped to fill an empty building downtown. The location of this future enterprise is at 113 N. Main and is between Tracie's Beauty Shop and The Home-town Shirt Shack.

"We want people to have a nostalgic, feel-good, tactile experience when they enter our business," Roxann said.

The couple has begun to purchase vintage shelving and items to help fulfill that experience for customers. Having a local museum of the town and its folks, has been an idea swirling around in their minds.

"We want to fill the space with museum items, including stories and photos, too. I have several old stories about the town and people and hope to get the history of other local businesses," Roxann said. "We want the locals and out-of-towners to enjoy reading about our little town and seeing its history in photos."

Since it will house the history of the town along with general store items, the Yateses hope to gain non-profit status.

The Yateses plan to stock unique inventory. They don't wish to compete with other businesses, so they will be offering vintage glass-bottled sodas, cooled in an old chest-type Pepsi machine. Old-fashioned and vintage candies and food items will be for sale.

"To take people back to the corner store atmosphere, we will have circus peanuts, cinnamon sticks, and other candies that we grew up purchasing," Jerry said.

Jerry's parents owned a corner store in Locust Grove in the 1980s.

"The pop would freeze at the top when someone took one out of the chest. We would like to duplicate that enterprise," Jerry said.

Roxann's great-great grandparents, George and Margaret McMullen, owned a store in Locust Grove in 1912.

"I've got a photo of the store and family that will be on display in the YUMM,"

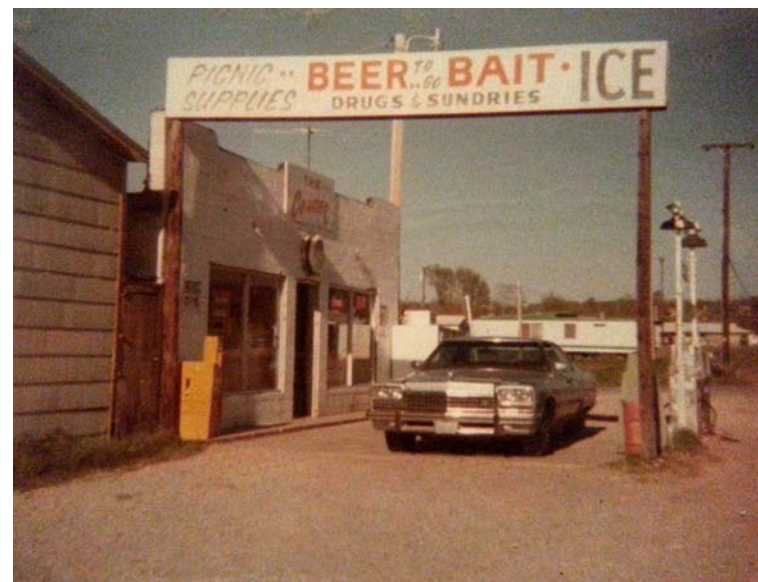
she said.

The outdoor space behind the business may be used to grow a few herbs and vegetables.

"On occasion, we would like to have outdoor entertainment in the space. We'd also like to have a small farmer's market or sell some local gardeners' fruits and vegetables," Roxann said.

The couple do not know yet when the shop will be opened.

"We're in the planning, purchasing, and creating stages. But we are excited to contribute to the community in this way," Roxann said.



YATES CORNER STORE. . . This is the store which Jerry Yates' parents owned and operated during the 1980s at the corner of Main and Delaware streets. Yates Unique Market & Museum (YUMM) will be opened in the coming year by Jerry and Roxann Yates in the downtown area at 113 E. Main.

—Things to do at LG Library—

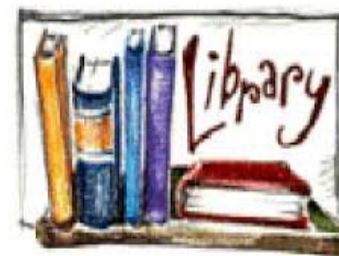
•Anyone who is interested in cooking, should plan to attend the next Instant Pot cooking class.

In January, the library presented an Instant Pot cooking class. We had great attendance.

The participants of the class enjoyed it and suggested we do another. Since we did a main dish for the first class, we thought it would be fun to do a dessert class.

Check our Facebook page, *Locust Grove Public Library*, for a date and time.

If you have a suggestion for a class, give us a call or



send us a message on our page. We would love to hear from you.

•Last fall the library was awarded a grant from the Oklahoma Dept. of Libraries to purchase a scanner. We purchased one but it didn't work as we had hoped.

Luckily, we were able to return it and get one that we think will be an even better fit for our library.

The new machine is a flat bed scanner that will scan up to 600 dpi.

Patrons have the option of scanning to a PDF, a searchable PDF, MP3, JPEG or PNG format.

Scans can be saved to a flash drive, emailed, printed or faxed. Please stop by and let us show you how easy it is to use.

The library is open Tuesday noon-7 p.m. and Wednesday through Friday 9-5 p.m. Call the library at 918-479-6585.

Reach us online at www.locustgrovelibrary.okpls.org.

--Marea Breedlove, librarian

"The pop would freeze at the top when someone took one out of the chest. We would like to duplicate that enterprise."

--Jerry Yates

Poetry fundraiser to benefit Emma Bailey, MS research

On April 4, from 4-5 p.m., there will be an open mic poetry hour at Wonder City Coffee to benefit the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and help Emma Leigh Bailey raise money for a cure.

Emma Leigh, an LGMS student, was diagnosed with MS when she was 11-years-old.

According to her father Jason Bailey, "It's very rare to be diagnosed so young and there aren't a lot of treatment options currently. However, we are very blessed to be connected to the best doctors and nurses in the field.

"Em is confident that they will find a cure soon and she wants to be a part in raising money to help."

Emma Leigh has entered and won awards in a few of the poetry contests that the Rural Oklahoma Museum of Poetry has held, so ROMP director Shaun Perkins wanted to combine poetry



with fundraising for Emma Leigh and MS.

The poetry museum and the coffee shop will donate cash for every poem someone reads or recites during the hour up to \$250. Also, anytime from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., visitors to the coffee shop can request a recited poem from Shaun, which she will do in return for a donation. A donor can request a specific poem or allow Shaun to choose a poem to recite, especially if she doesn't know the poem requested!

During the open mic,

Emma Leigh and her family will be on hand for you to get more information or to sign up for their team and walk with them on April 6 in the "Walk MS: Together we are stronger" event in Tulsa.

"I burn my candle at both ends/ it will not last the night/ but, ah, my friends and ,oh, my foes, it gives a wondrous light."

—Edna Saint Vincent Mallay



DO THE DANCE . . . The Yates sisters, Anabelle, Eleanor and Adeline enjoy the music provided by Nicholas Van Horn at a concert held at Wonder City Coffee recently. The coffee shop has been the scene of several concerts, including Ragand which has now played Cains Ballroom in Tulsa. Other music has included karaoke with the Johnson brothers providing music for lipsynching.

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Heritage art showcased at LGAA Gallery May 11

In honor of Locust Grove family members on Founder's Day, for this year's art show, the gallery will exhibit items from town family histories.

"Passed Down: An Heirloom Exhibit," will run May 11-June 8.

The Locust Grove Arts Alliance (LGAA) is currently soliciting items for this

exhibit. See details and entry form at lgartsalliance.com.

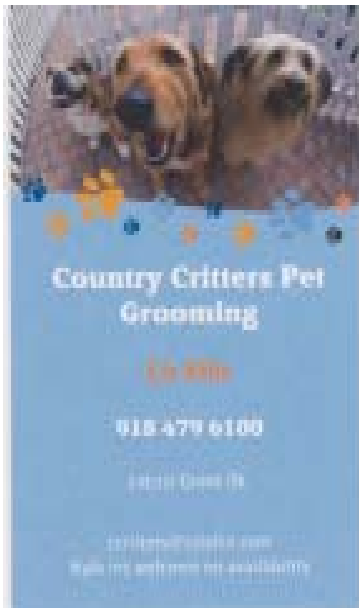
Most of the items need to be hung on the gallery hooks. However we will also have some tables for displays.

Consider displaying books, photos, badges, certificates, news articles, recipes.

The list is endless. Shadow boxes of family items are suitable for the show, as well.

All entries must be brought to the LGAA office or Wonder City Coffee by May 3 for the show on May 11, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Anyone with questions or comments should contact show coordinators Roxann Perkins Yates at roxannperkins@gmail.com, phone: 918-530-5321, or Alysha Little at alysha.little227@gmail.com.



HERITAGE ART EXHIBIT . . . This photo of a photo is just one example of an item that can be a part of the LGAA's Heritage Art Exhibit which will run in the LGAA Gallery from May 11 to June 8. This picture is one of Paralee and John Wilkinson, Roxann Yates' great-grandparents, who came to the Locust Grove area in 1905. Their two children, Hersal and Elsie, are also pictured. Roxann took the picture in her front yard which is just west of where John and Paralee built their home on the original 90 acres purchased by John in about 1905.

—Photo by Roxann Perkins Yates

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EST. 2016

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Locust Grove OK 74352

liquidjoy@wondercitycoffee.com

Monday-Thursday: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Sunday: Closed

Founder's Day activities include car show, contests, street dance

Kid game sponsors needed

With the difficulty in getting a carnival to come to town for Founder's Day, the Locust Grove Area Chamber of Commerce is seeking businesses and individuals to provide games for kids this year on May 11.

Chamber President Adele Collette said that businesses have provided a dog show, ring toss and turtle races in the past, but the chamber would like to see more carnival-like games for kids, as well as adult games.

Those interested should contact Marsha Evans (snaveys@gmail.com). Games could be set up in front of a business, or individuals would be provided with a spot in the downtown area. "Help us to help Locust Grove have a fun event," Collette said.

Coffee Bag Art Challenge

Entries due April 25.

Pick up a bag at the coffee shop today!

As part of the day's festivities at Wonder City Wordfest, April 27, we will announce the winners of the Coffee Bag Art Challenge. Turn one of our 5 lb. bags into a work of art!



Artwork above by Catelyn Cook

WONDER CITY WORDFEST

PosterMyWall.com

Cash Prizes in 5 categories:
Most Practical
Most Creative
Best Combination of Practical & Creative
Best Use of the Words on the Bag
Best Children's

FOUNDER'S DAY LOCUST GROVE



CARDBOARD CAR SHOW & CONTEST

Carnival Games, Turtle Races, Music, Raffle, Dog Show



11
MAY

Street Dance @ 6:30 p.m.

**Martial Arts Demo * DJ's Diner Burgers
Foosball Tourney * LG Heirloom Art Show**

Vendors & Parade Entries needed

STARTS AT 8 AM - PARADE AT 3 PM

PosterMyWall.com LOCUSTGROVEOKLAHOMA.COM - 918-530-8132

Cardboard cars to be featured in parade

One new aspect of the Founder's Day Parade May 11 will be a competition for the best looking cardboard car show and parade entry.

The cars can take many different forms, as these pictures demonstrate, but the car body must be made mostly of cardboard.

Outside help (parents, aunts, uncles, grandparents, friends, etc.) can be provided, but the entry in the parade must be "driven" by

the person who is named in the entry form.

Many pictures found on the Internet also feature step-by-step directions to build the car, or just use one's imagination.

Cash prizes will be awarded in the children's and adult division. Contest details are at LocustGroveOklahoma.com



LGHS Art Show

Locust Grove High School will host a "Night of the Arts" March 28, starting at 6 p.m.

The celebration will include an art show and performances by the drama, band and choir students.



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Crushed Limestone - Sand

Tulsa Dispatch: (918) 438-1060
Joplin Quarry: (417) 623-1011



What's Happening in Locust Grove

Deadline for each month's newsletter is the third day of the month.

E-mail news and pictures to blperkins@sstelco.com, or call 918-479-5617. If no answer, leave a message.

The newsletter is produced by the Locust Grove Arts Alliance, a nonprofit organization, so we rely on the sale of advertisement to produce the free to the public paper.

Your support is greatly appreciated.

Archery teams sweep state tournament

A lot of coaches and their team members often set what many would describe as unreachable at the beginning of each season. For example, have three teams win state championships, high school, middle school and elementary. Impossible, right? Well, talk to archery coach Brad Cowan.

"Our goal at the first of the year was to bring home all three state championship team trophies," Cowan said. "Overall, it was a great day for all three teams."

Not only did three teams win the state contest, but 17 earned the right to compete at the national level.

"That's a crazy number! It is a great time to be in archery in Locust Grove," Cowan said.

In its first year to have an

archery program, the Locust Grove Elementary Archery Team has brought home a state championship. Led by Coach Mitchell Keith, the team also won every tournament they went to this season.

At the state tournament, the team scored 3,096, the highest of the year for them. Two individual medalists were Reagan River with second, and Easton Wall with third.

The team also had five archers to qualify for the national tournament: Easton Wall, Reagan Rivers, Sydnie Bird, Natalie Van Horn and Lizzie Hubbard.

To qualify for the nationals, the team had to finish in top 10 in the entire state, including the western division.

For the third straight year,



ELEMENTARY ARCHERS . . . In front: Blaine Jinks, Bella Moore, Hannah Coffelt, Ruthie Reed, Kelsey Penderson, Bethany Willis, Sydnie Bird, Lizzie Hubbard and Saphira Gann. In back: Pete Ellis, Dax Dry, Natalie Van Horn, Reagan Rivers, Alex Bridges, Trey Smith, Eli Swarer, Chrisolm Crisp, Easton Wall, Connor Hansen, and Coach Mitchell Keith..

Locust Grove Middle School found its way to the top at the state level under the leadership of Coach Brad Cowan.

"They have been shooting

nearly every day since October to prepare for the state tournament," Cowan said.

The team had a total score of 3374, one of the highest in the nation this year. Four members of the team won medals: Lani Phillips, first

and overall top junior high student in the state; Jeralyn Ingram, second; Jaden Rose, second; Maddox Parks, third.

The middle school had six national qualifiers: Lani Phillips, Jeralyn Ingram,

(Continues on Page 11)



LOCUST GROVE Archery

MIDDLE SCHOOL ARCHERS . . . In front: Anne-Marie Reed, Kayce Temple, Jaden Rose, Lani Phillips, Wyatt Avery, Jeralyn Ingram, Kyndrah Vernon and Kendall Moore. In back: Coach Brad Cowan, Kaden Parker, Logan Packard, Hannah Gibson, Gracein Moore, Bailey Wiggins, Jenna Stokes, Maddox Parks, Trenton Trowbridge, Chandler Smallwood, Mya Phillips and Chaney Knott.

High school archers win fourth straight title

(Continued from Page 10)

Jenna Stokes, Jaden Rose, Maddox Parks and Wyatt Avery.

For the fourth year in a row, Locust Grove High School has brought home a state championship. Coach Ladney Keener's archers shot one of their highest scores, 3424, which is a new Oklahoma state record, and one of the best scores in the nation.

The team had five individual medalists: Amelia Ingram, first and overall top girl in the state; Katie Quantie, second; Felicia Thompson, third; Justen Kirby, first and overall top boy in

the state; Matthew Monroe, second in his final state tournament.

National qualifiers are Justen Kirby, Matthew Monroe, Amelia Ingram, Katie Quantie, Felicia Thompson and Madison Spoonemore.

"We want to thank the members of our community and all the businesses that have supported us over the years," Cowan said. "The sport of archery has become a pretty big deal for our little town, and it is because of the tremendous support we receive from each you," Cowan said. "From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for your support."



HIGH SCHOOL ARCHERS . . . In front: Madison Spoonemore, Felicia Thompson, Stacie Henderson, Chrokee Hibbs, Katie Quantie, Amelia Ingram and Payton Garrison. In back: Brody Brown, Taylor Looney, Josh Willis, Matthew Monroe, Tyler Durnal, Jakobe Bible, Justin Kirk, Larry LeForce, Brody Dugger and Coach Ladney Keener. Bergen Fogleman is not pictured.



REMOVAL BIKE RIDE. . . A Locust Grove resident will ride in the 2019 Remember the Removal Bike Ride. Sydnie Pierce, fourth from right, will join 10 other cyclists to make the nearly 1,000 mile trip this summer, retracing the Trail of Tears on its 180th anniversary. This year also makes the 35th anniversary of the inaugural 1984 Remember the Removal Bike Ride. Standing with Chief Bill John Baker are cyclists Kevin Stretch, Shadow Hardbarger, Josh Chavez, Steven Shade, Kayli Gonzales, Ashley Hunnicutt, Elizabeth Hummingbird, Sydnie Pierce, Brooke Bailey, Destiny Matthews and mentor rider Marie Eubanks.

Wonder City Coffee wins Governor's Arts Award

Locust Grove's Wonder City Coffee will be recognized by the Oklahoma Arts Council for its contribution to the arts in Oklahoma during the 43rd Governor's Arts Award on Tuesday, April 16.

"Wonder City Coffee with its motto "Community by the Cup" uses the arts to bring people together," according to a press release from the Oklahoma Arts Council.

"Owners Kelly and Mark Palmer's goal has been to use their venue to impact their rural downtown, hosting free art workshops, Cherokee storytelling presentations, and more."

The shop has been opened for meetings of the Locust Grove Arts Alliance and the LG Area Chamber. They have sponsored the Tulsa Youth Ballet at the LG Middle School, and they are one of the driving forces behind a National Endowment for the Arts Big Read community reading program.

"Mark and I are honored to receive the 2019 Business

in the Arts Award," Kelly said. "We firmly believe in the importance of supporting the arts in our community and are privileged to be able to use Wonder City Coffee as a gathering place to do so.

"We appreciate the invaluable support of our family, our staff, and our town who continue to fulfill our vision of serving community by the cup," she added.

The awards will be presented by Governor Kevin Stitt during a special ceremony beginning at 4 p.m. in the fourth floor rotunda at the Oklahoma State Capitol.

A reception will follow in the first floor rotunda outside the Betty Price Gallery. The event is free and open to the public.

Oklahoma Arts Council Executive Director Amber Sharples said Governor's Arts Awards honorees reflect the qualities that define Oklahomans.

"Hard working, selfless, and devoted to causes greater than themselves, honorees

deserve our thanks for the efforts in making the arts one of Oklahoma's most robust assets," Sharples said.

"Those selected for awards have shown exemplary commitment to impacting lives through the arts in

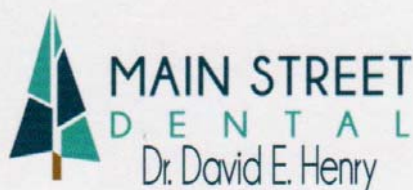
communities and schools across our state. We look forward to meaningfully acknowledging their contributions with Governor Stitt," Sharples added.

"I am pleased to congratulate the 2019 Governor's Arts

Award honorees who come from all across our state," said Governor Stitt. "I look forward to celebrating to... recognizing their role in fostering a robust and impactful arts industry in our state."



MURDER AT THE MANOR
Buck Shott (Danny Breedlove) presented his lines in a Scottish brough, as Ginger Schnapps (Marea Breedlove) breaks up in laughter during the presentation of the play *Murder at the Manor*. Below, Blanche Batters (Angela Holman) gives an amused look.



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