



BROKEN ARROW

Where opportunity lives

SECTION 1 - STAFF REPORTS



NOTES TO COUNCIL

To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilors
From: Kenny Schwab, Acting City Manager
Date: April 9, 2021
Re: Notes to Council

1. STAFF REPORTS / ITEMS REQUIRING IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

- Streets and Stormwater Department Monthly Report – March 2021

2. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE / NOTIFICATION

- Press Release – 2021 Broken Arrow City Council election results
- Press Release – Lane closures on Elm Place & Aspen Ave. over Creek Turnpike bridges starting April 7
- Press Release – Broken Arrow to break ground on Senior Center annex building
- Press Release – Create unforgettable memories in BA's Wedding District
- Press Release – Broken Arrow Communications Manager heads to Muskogee
- Museum Broken Arrow Newsletter – April 2021
- Recent Media Coverage

3. SPECIAL EVENTS / ACTIVITIES

- N/A

Respectfully submitted

Kenny Schwab

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Attachments

Street & Roadside Maintenance
Monthly Report 03/2021

Job	Monthly Total
Street Service Calls (Not covered by other categories)	0
Pothole Patches	1219
ADA ramp marked	1
Streets Paved (SY)	23,670
Street Lines Painted (FT)	8820
Storm drains cleaned	158
sod laid (SF)	1000
tack oil laid (FT)	14265
Rock Laid (SY)	3463

Stormwater Maintenance
Fiscal Year 03/2021 Report

Job	Total
Street Sweeping (miles)	83
Curb Poured (LF)	2776
Curb Formed (LF)	2280
Install expansion Joint (FT)	300
Sod laid (SF)	12460
Jet culverts	3
Flow Fill (YDS)	2
Pour Driveway (LF)	204
Form sidewalk (LF)	140
Pour Sidewalk (LF)	140
Form Street (LF)	780
Pour Street (LF)	780
Stamped concrete laid (LF)	750
Stamped Concrete Formed (LF)	435
Install inlet	4
Install 48 inch pipe (FT)	48
Install 24 inch pipe (FT)	117
Manhole Set	4
Install 36 inch pipe (FT)	120
Install 18 inch pipe (FT)	435

Traffic Division Maintenance
Monthly Report 03/2021

Job	Monthly Total
Maintenance (Hours)	97
Stanby calls (Hours)	8
Installed LED Lights (Hours)	51
Signs Repaired, Replaced, Cleaned, Straightened	259
Put out message board (Hours)	16
Upgrade intersection	21
New Signs Installed	41
Signs Fabricated	126
Preemitive programming	6
Civil Defense Siren	30.5
Pulling Wires	28
School Zone maintenance	7
Training	2
Changing Field Lights	4
Install pedestrian brackets	6.5
Signs pulled	8
Traffic Counts	3
Install Island Markers	16
Install raised pavement markers	100
Tree Trimming	5



BROKEN ARROW

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SECTION 2 - GENERAL

For Immediate Release

Date: April 16, 2021

Contact: Jennifer Swezey, City of Broken Arrow

918-607-8921 | jswezey@brokenarrowok.gov

CBA Release 21-19

2021 Broken Arrow City Council election results

Broken Arrow, Okla. (4/7/21) – On Tuesday, April 6, Broken Arrow residents voted to re-elect Debra Wimpee to the Broken Arrow City Council for Ward 1. Voters also elected Lisa Ford to fill the Ward 2 City Council seat. Ford will replace long-time City Councilor Craig Thurmond, who has served on Council since 2001, with nine of those years in the position of Mayor.

With Ford joining the Council, this will be the first time in Broken Arrow history that three women (Ford, Wimpee, and Ward 3 Council Member Christi Gillespie) will serve on the City Council at the same time, according to City records.

Wimpee and Ford will begin their new terms at noon on Monday, April 19, with a public swearing-in ceremony planned for Tuesday, April 20, at 6:30 p.m., during the City Council Meeting held at City Hall, 220 S. First Street. After the swearing-in ceremony that evening, the five council members will nominate and vote for the positions of Mayor and Vice Mayor amongst themselves. Election results are unofficial until legally certified by the county election boards, and there is no run-off election required for Ward 1.

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Located in northeast Oklahoma, Broken Arrow is the fourth largest city in the State of Oklahoma, with an estimated population of over 113,000 people spread out over 61 square miles. The City of Broken Arrow operates under a Council-Manager form of government. The City is divided into four wards, and the City Council consists of one member from each of those wards and an at-large member. City Council members are unpaid elected officials. While council members from the four wards must live in that ward, all registered voters in the city are eligible to vote on each. Each member is eligible to serve four years, with elections held every two years. Elections are held on a staggered schedule (Wards 1 & 2, then



PRESS RELEASE

two years later Wards 3, 4 & at large). The Council elects a mayor and vice mayor from among its own members. Read more at www.brokenarrowok.gov/council.



For Immediate Release

Date: 04.05.2021

Contact: Lesa L. Jones, City of Broken Arrow

918-259.2400 Ext. 5436 | Email: lljones@brokenarrowok.gov

CBA Release No. 21-18

Lane closures on Elm Place and Aspen Avenue over Creek Turnpike bridges starting April 7th

The City of Broken Arrow will close the outside southbound lanes of Elm Place and Aspen Avenue over the Creek Turnpike beginning Wednesday, April 7th, for bridge approach repairs.

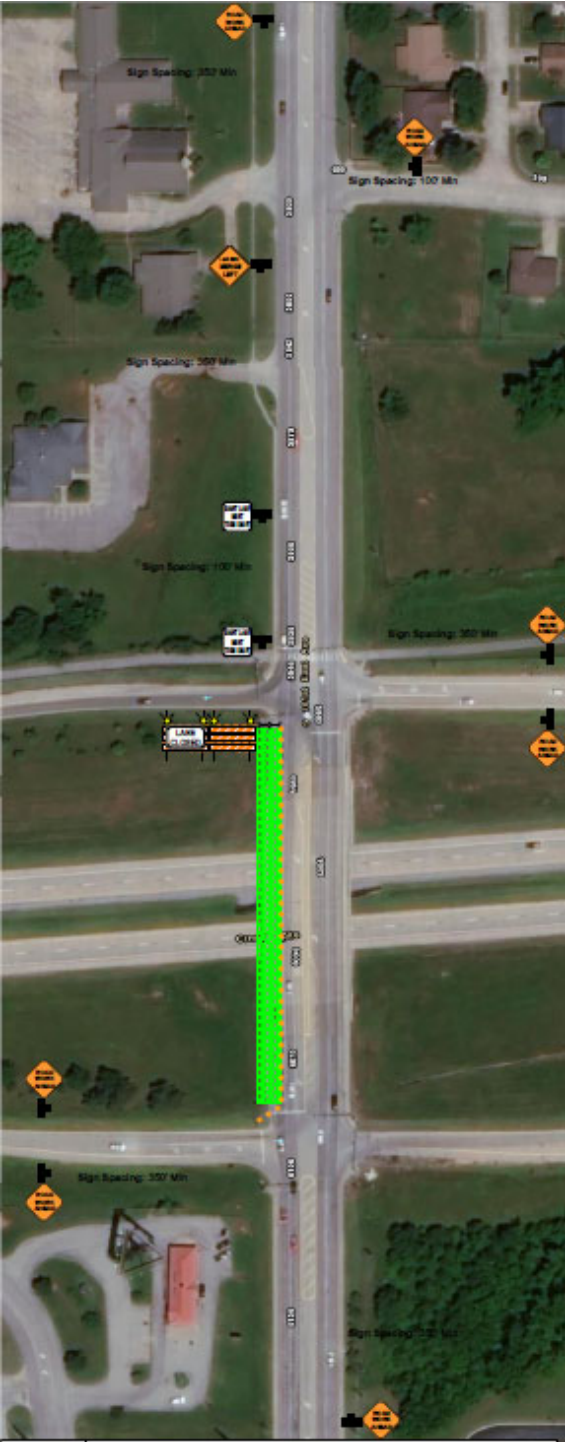
The lane closures are expected to last approximately 30 days, but they could last longer depending upon the extent of the repairs required. For further updates on this project and all other City traffic notices, go to www.brokenarrowok.gov/traffic.

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Aspen Avenue Southbound



Elm Avenue



For Immediate Release

Date: April 8, 2021

Contact: Jennifer Swezey, City of Broken Arrow

918-607-8921 | jswezey@brokenarrowok.gov

CBA Release 21-20

Broken Arrow to break ground on Senior Center annex building

Project funded by 2018 “Build our future” general obligation bonds

Broken Arrow, Oklahoma – Officials from the City of Broken Arrow together with Broken Arrow Seniors, Inc. will break ground Tuesday, April 13, at 10:00am on the new Senior Center Annex, located at 1811 S. Main Street, across the street from the original senior center facility which opened in 1988.

“Broken Arrow has long been a community that supports senior citizens and diverse recreation programs,” said City Manager Michael Spurgeon. “This new facility will provide much needed room for expansion in both programming and office space as the membership continues to grow.”

The two-part municipal project consists of a new one-story building, as well as parking and stormwater improvements. The 12,400 square-foot building will include two large multipurpose activity rooms, a theatre room, an exercise room, a catering kitchen, and other smaller activity rooms. The 201-space parking lot will provide a dual-purpose amenity by tying in to the trail at Arrowhead Park Softball Complex to the east and serving as overflow parking for the park as needed on evenings and weekends. The project will also include storm sewer improvements around Arrowhead Park.

The Senior Center’s mission is to be “the model in the region for promoting healthy, social, emotional, and physical engagements for adults 55 and older through programmed activities and social opportunities,” said Johnnie Parks, City Councilor and Chairman of the Board for Broken Arrow Seniors. He added, “We as a board continue to get feedback for programs that will continue to nurture growth and enjoyment for our membership from Broken Arrow and the surrounding areas.”

The City is working with Broken Arrow Seniors, Inc., the non-profit that occupies the current facility, on a revised use agreement and proposed programming at the new annex.

Bravo Builders LLC will construct the new facility and improvements at a cost of approximately \$3.6 million, paid for by voter-approved 2018 General Obligation Bonds. The facility is expected to open by summer of 2022.

Date: Tuesday, April 13, 2021

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: 1811 S. Main Street, Broken Arrow, OK 74012

Livestream: [City's Facebook Account](#)

Parking: Across the street at Harvest Church or the Senior Center main building, 1800 S. Main

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Broken Arrow Seniors is a non-profit organization and currently serves over 2,500 members aged 55 and over in the Broken Arrow area. This activity center offers more than 75 activities as well as educational opportunities, health screenings and a nutrition program. Visit www.baseniors.org for more information.

Located in northeast Oklahoma, Broken Arrow is the fourth largest city in the State of Oklahoma, with an estimated population of over 113,000 people spread out over 61 square miles. The City of Broken Arrow operates under a Council-Manager form of government with over 800 employees. Broken Arrow is home to the third largest manufacturing hub in the state, with many employees working in the energy sector. Residents in Broken Arrow enjoy a high quality of life, characterized by low crime, high performing schools, affordable housing and easy access to many parks and recreational facilities. The City of Broken Arrow sets the standard by providing the best municipal programs and services.

For Immediate Release

Date: April 9, 2021

Contact: Lori Hill | Tourism Director

918-259-6512 | lhill@brokenarrowok.gov

CBA Release No. 21-21

Create unforgettable memories in BA's Wedding District

Available services include everything from planning to licenses

The City of Broken Arrow has taken an innovative new approach to marketing Broken Arrow's award winning Rose District. With the downturn associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, the City's Tourism and Economic Development division needed a new way to attract people to the downtown area. Staff soon realized that the Rose District already had a built-in niche.

"We were trying to come up with innovative new ideas while also understanding we are still in the middle of a pandemic," said Lori Hill, tourism director for the City. "When people are ready to travel again and have events such as weddings, the Rose District will be ready."

The Rose District is home to numerous wedding-related event professionals, including

- Pastors,
- Bridal registries,
- Venues,
- Florists,
- Lodging,
- Hair and nail salons,
- Catering and bakeries,
- Jewelers,
- Dress shops and
- Photographers.

To tie the one-stop wedding experience together, the City collaborated with the Tulsa County Court Clerk's office, which opened a satellite office in downtown Broken Arrow earlier this year.

Couples planning a wedding can visit RoseDistrictWeddings.com to see all Broken Arrow's Rose District has to offer!

The timing for the City was perfect, as the Tourism and Economic Development office moved to a new, larger office space right on Main Street (123 N. Main St.) in late 2020. The new building included a separate space large enough for the Court Clerk's satellite office.

PRESS RELEASE

“When the City presented the idea to have same-day marriage licenses available in Broken Arrow, Tulsa County Court Clerk Don Newberry welcomed the idea and suggested a satellite office in the Rose District. Having this partnership between the City and the Tulsa County Court Clerk’s office will just add to the daytime density of the district,” Hill said. “Offerings provided in this satellite location will include marriage licenses, certified marriage license copies, and eventually passports.”

The certified marriage license copies are needed when applying for an Oklahoma Real ID. Passport processing is expected to begin in late April. The Tulsa County Court Clerk’s satellite office in Broken Arrow is open 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays). The office is closed for lunch from noon-1 p.m. and no applications are processed after 4:30 pm.

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For Immediate Release
Date: April 9, 2021
Contact: T.J. Gerlach, City of Broken Arrow
918-259-2400, ext. 5348 | tgerlach@brokenarrowok.gov
CBA Release 21-22

Broken Arrow Communications Manager heads to Muskogee *Swezey chosen for Assistant City Manager position*

Broken Arrow, Okla. - Broken Arrow City Manager Michael Spurgeon announced at the April 6, 2021 City Council meeting the resignation of Jennifer Swezey, Communications and Media Relations Manager, who has been selected as the next Assistant City Manager of Muskogee, Oklahoma.

“I have mixed emotions about making this announcement. We’re both proud, but sad to see one of our talented leaders leave the organization. However, Jennifer has been working towards a career in city management and it is very exciting that we can support her decision and congratulate her on this endeavor” said Spurgeon, who has been in the city administration field for over 30 years and been City Manager in BA since 2015. “In Broken Arrow, we strive to provide excellent training opportunities for our employees so that we continue developing professional local government leaders. This announcement is a prime example of our commitment to leadership development.”

Swezey has been working for the City of Broken Arrow for almost seven years. Prior to the communications position, she served as the City’s Community Relations Liaison and Executive Assistant to the City Manager. Swezey’s last day with Broken Arrow is May 4. She will start with the City of Muskogee the following week, managing several departments and divisions.

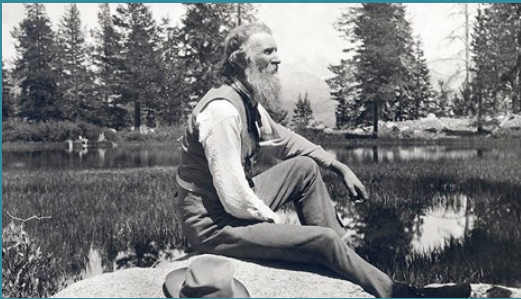
The recruitment for the Broken Arrow Communications Manager vacancy will begin immediately. For media inquiries during the transition period, please continue calling the communications office at 918-259-2400, ext. 5447 or 918-607-8921. Email inquiries can go to info@brokenarrowok.gov.

###



April 2021

Spring is here, and so is the beautiful weather! Have you taken a moment to enjoy some of our beautiful city parks? If not, may we suggest a visit to [Ray Harral Nature Park](#)? This park has beautiful scenery, provides a wide variety of programming, and holds a bit of BA history. Starting around 1909, water from a spring in this very park was used as Broken Arrow's main water source! Check them out!



While we are on the subject of Parks & Recreation, Happy birthday to John Muir! Born: April 21, 1838.

After an industrial accident blinded him for six weeks, John Muir left his job behind and began a pilgrimage to explore the United States on foot. He set off in September of 1867 on a 1000-mile walk from Kentucky to Florida, studying plants along the

way. Muir traveled light, and relied on the kindness of strangers for his sustenance. The diary of his two-month journey was published as *A Thousand-Mile Walk to the Gulf*. Muir continued his wandering, falling more and more in love with the natural world. He founded the Sierra Club in 1892, and lobbied to have the Yosemite area preserved as a national park. That was after he and President Teddy Roosevelt spent three days camping in the wilderness in 1903. Muir is credited with inspiring the president to form an entire system of national parks—earning him the nickname, the "Father of the National Parks." - mentalfloss.com [Learn more about John Muir](#)

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Lake Valley

Stills from Rachel Rose, Lake Valley, 2016, Single-channel HD video with unique installation, 8:25, Art Bridges.

End of Show Event

Thursday, April 22, 2021, 6-8 pm

Evento de fin de espectáculo

Jueves, 22 de abril de 2021 6-8pm

400 S. Main Street Broken Arrow, OK



RACHEL ROSE CREATES VIDEO WORKS THAT INVENTIVELY COMBINE COLLAGE, FOUND FOOTAGE, AND REPURPOSED MATERIALS. WITH LAKE VALLEY, THE ARTIST USES IMAGERY ASSEMBLED FROM THE NINETEENTH AND TWENTIETH-CENTURY CHILDREN'S BOOKS TO CREATE CEL ANIMATION.

RACHEL ROSE CREA TRABAJOS DE VIDEO QUE COMBINAN DE MANERA INVENTIVA EL COLLAGE, EL METRAJE ENCONTRADO Y LOS MATERIALES REUTILIZADOS. CON LAKE VALLEY, EL ARTISTA UTILIZA IMÁGENES RECOPIADAS DE LOS LIBROS PARA NIÑOS DE LOS SIGLOS XIX Y XX PARA CREAR ANIMACIÓN CELULAR.



Museum Calendar of Events

April

Special Exhibit Courtesy of Art Bridges, On display January 7 -April 22, 2021, Rachel Rose, Lake Valley

April 8, 6-7:30 p.m. FREE Children's Collage Class with Talitha Jacobs (ages 6-11)

April 8, 6:30—8:30 p.m. LTAIO Book Club, Andrew Vassar Ph.D., Jump and Other Stories by Nadine Gordimer

April 10, 1-4 p.m. FREE Cel Animation Class (ages 10-14)

April 13, 5:00—6:30 p.m. Board of Directors meeting

April 22, 6-8 p.m. End of Show Event for Lake Valley Exhibit

****POSTPONED****"Night For The Museum, The Grand Event!" Annual Fundraiser

May

Special Exhibit: Katie Wheat Pernu Stain Glass Mosaics 5/8-6/26

1st week of May, Carlos Barboza begins work on The Museum Broken Arrow Historic Mural

May 11, 5:00—6:30 p.m. Board of Directors meeting

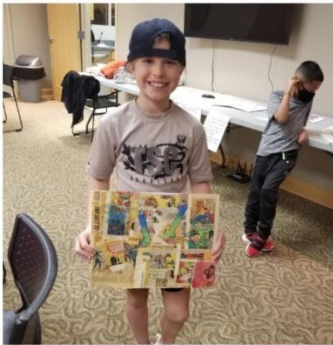
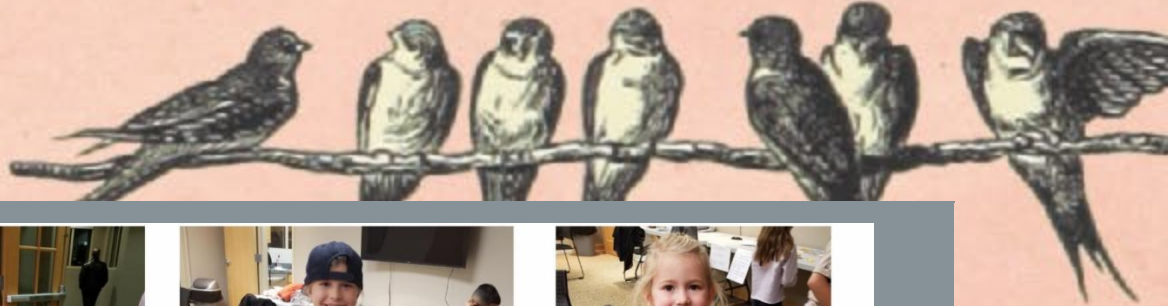
May 13, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Katie Wheat Pernu Opening Reception, Food & Beverages Sponsored by: BlockHouse

May 13, 6:30—8:30 p.m. LTAIO Book Club, Kurt Lively Ph.D, The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead

Our kid's collage classes led by [Talitha Jacobs](#) have been a hit! There are still spots open in our, April 8th collage class with Talitha & in our Digital Collage Class taught by Jennifer Deal on April 10th . Thank you to our partner, Art Bridges for this programming!

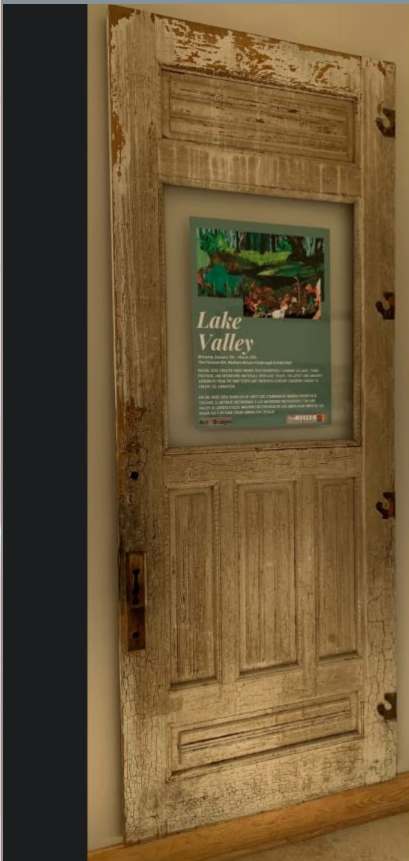
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Collage Class Sign Up

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Artifact Spotlight: A Main Street Doorway

Thank you Christine Joseph for donating this piece of BA history!

You are walking down Main St., avoiding puddles and wagons on the dirt road, looking for a new storefront. It is 1906. This building is special because it is two stories high and is completely made of brick. There it is on the east side, south of Commercial St. - 207 S. Main St., the new Kemp building. Today, though the lower face looks different, you can still see "1906" carved in stone at the top. Albert A. Kemp was the owner and proprietor of Kemp's Hardware and Implements, from 1906-1927. If you could open the huge 10 foot high solid wood door with glass window pane (see photo above), you would find every brand and design of farm implement. Mowers, rakes, balers, binders and wagons, along with a general stock of hardware to supply the needs of an agricultural Broken Arrow.

In the 1920s (to 1970), A.C. Keys moved in to 207 S. Main St. with his hardware store, which also boasted a shoe and leather shop in the back of the store. Despite the occurrence of automobiles, horses were still being used for farm work and oil wells. In addition to Keys Hardware and Shoe Shop making exotic leather boots and repairing shoes, Keys had a thriving saddle shop.

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Enter Charlie. Charlie was a statue of a horse. 17 hands high, aluminum, and painted black, he was a fixture at the back of Keys store and was used to fit saddles and harnesses, display tack, and give children "rides". Charlie has been moved several times since the store closing, including a post at the Arkansas Valley State Bank. The Broken Arrow Historical Society was able to recapture Charlie, and he can be appreciated in the permanent Keys Hardware exhibit in the Museum.

All this activity is brought to mind when you behold the Kemp Building wood door (or history portal) on display in the Museum lobby. If you would like to admire the original building today, follow your nose past Nouveau Chocolates, to Stogies Cigar and Cocktails, and James Farris CPA. The facade and people may be different, but just look up and you will see the dated brickwork of the Kemp Building.

Written by: Nancy Brian, Collections Manager

Coming up...



theMUSEUM
BROKEN ARROW

Presents:

Peace

BY

Piece

*Glass Mosaics by
Katie Wheat Pennu*

5/8 - 6/26

Opening Reception
May 13, 2021 6-8 PM

Sponsored by:
BlockHouse Grill & Pub



A NIGHT FOR THE MUSEUM...
**THE GRAND!
EVENT!**
Postponed



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North American Reciprocal
Museum (NARM) Association®

Quarterly
Spring 2021



Give the Gift of Membership, Click Here!



Who's Who of BA's Past: Bessie Wilson Smith (1904-2003)

Many early Broken Arrow pioneer families came from East Tennessee. Among them were the Wilsons, Laws, Neas, Couch, who were related, some by marriage. These families had strong women in their heritage as well. On March 2, 1904, a baby was born to the Wilson family in Tennessee. A deserving lady to be honored during Women's History Month is Bessie Wilson Smith. Throughout her life, Bessie made an indelible influence on this community, especially among First Baptist Church's congregation.

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It is almost incomprehensible that one's life could span almost three centuries. Bessie recalled as a nine-year-old the 1913 journey adventure, a fantastic first train ride across Tennessee to Oklahoma. Life after arrival at the Broken Arrow Depot was eye-opening as she became aware of gas lights hanging from ceilings and cookstoves fueled by gas. She found that water was piped right into the house, so she didn't have to bail and haul water anymore. The first Wilson home was across the street from the ice plant next to the Katy Railroad Tracks on West Dallas Street. Bessie was 11 years old when she took her first ride in an automobile. Bessie's first day in 4th grade was at the North Main School, now known as Central on Main. She graduated with fifteen classmates in 1922. During her junior year, Bessie began dating a football player by the name of Truman ("Pruny") Smith. Pruny was a mail carrier, having started this work when he was only seventeen. He delivered mail in the morning and attended school in the afternoon. Bessie graduated from Northeastern State College in Tahlequah. She taught 25 students, grades 1-8, in a one-room school for two years at Thomas School, located six miles east of Broken Arrow. Bessie married Pruny, the love of her life, and they had two children. Max and Patricia Smith, along with their grandchildren, all graduated from Broken Arrow High School. Bessie joined Pruny in a career at the U.S. Post Office, starting as a substitute clerk at the window, becoming a rural route carrier, and recognized as "Oklahoma's First Woman Mail Carrier." The Broken Arrow Ledger described her route as "miry, muddy roads and when it was dry, they were dusty and rutted out." She experienced flat tires, snowdrifts, and accidents with wildlife. But she prioritized getting to know her rural route clients and shared their lives through personal stories and experiences. She kept this work that she loved for 35 years. It was a hard adjustment when Pruny passed away in 1965, but Bessie knew "by leaning on the Lord, her children and many loving and caring friends, she could make it through." She was honored by First Baptist Church with a special event to commemorate her achievements. Another of her most memorable times was the 1990 Rooster Days celebration when she was proclaimed Honorary Mayor of Broken Arrow by the City Council. She rode down the same Main Street that she remembered going down when she first arrived in 1913, but oh, how much it had changed since then. We are proud that Bessie Wilson Smith is one of our Broken Arrow Women in History- a Legacy Maker and woman of distinction. Courtesy of Jan Collins, Meet the Broken Arrow Centennials

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BROKEN ARROW



ZOOM Book Club Spring 2021

LORI LEWIS PRESENTING, WHEN BREATH BECOMES AIR BY PAUL KALANITHI JANUARY 14, 2021

RUSSELL LAWSON PH.D. SLAUGHTERHOUSE-FIVE BY KURT VONNEGUT FEBRUARY 11, 2021

JOHN COWARD PH.D. GILEAD BY MARILYNN ROBINSON MARCH 11, 2021

ANDREW VASSAR PH.D, JUMP AND OTHER STORIES BY NADINE GORDIMER APRIL 8, 2021

KURT LIVELY PH.D, THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD BY COLSON WHITEHEAD MAY 13, 2021



OKLAHOMA
HUMANITIES

All Book Club Meetings this season will be held via ZOOM from 6:30--8:00 P.M.

Please email jbrown@brokeharrowmuseum.org to be added to the ZOOM list.



LET'S TALK
ABOUT IT
OKLAHOMA

Generous funding provided by Kirkpatrick Family Fund, Inasmuch Foundation & Oklahoma City University

Gift Shop Highlight: Custom Broken Arrow Slate
Coasters!

Come visit our newly remodeled gift shop!

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Thank you to our generous newsletter sponsors!



Pamela K. Fly



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INTEROFFICE MEMO

To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilors
From: Jennifer Swezey, Communications & Media Relations Manager
Date: April 9, 2021
Re: Recent Media Coverage

Below are some links to news coverage in Broken Arrow this week.

<https://www.fox23.com/news/local/fire-disrupts-broken-arrow-recycling-service/T2IXQ6DMGFH5PLKHGBXVVOHMOV4/>

<https://www.newson6.com/story/606b8e8b62f9707302c637f6/fire-disrupts-tulsa-recycling-city-temporarily-combining-trash-recyclables>

<https://www.news9.com/story/606c91e32308b50bdee3bc19/2-broken-arrow-bridges-closing-for-repairs>

<https://www.fox23.com/news/local/mayor-city-councilors-pushing-professional-esports-arena-broken-arrow/GUVU3TFD6VEE7BUV3OJABSSXEI/>

<https://www.newson6.com/story/60687a9e0ddb50bed8f0671/farmers-markets-return-to-tulsa-broken-arrows-rose-district>

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Swezey



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SECTION 3 - SPECIAL EVENTS