



## Help for Women THE COTTAGE

Page 9

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# Bartlesville

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## Bartlesville

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Volume II Issue III

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ENGEL Bartlesville Living is Published by PUBLISHING

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About the cover: The Cottage: Offering Hope, Love & Life. Photo by Karl Romack. Design by Copper Cup Images.





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## ROLL INTO DISCOUNT TIRE

#### **BY DEANNA EVANS**

A family-owned business that opened its doors in 1960, Discount Tire is a name people have come to know and trust. Discount Tire is now the nation's largest independent tire and wheel retailer, operating more than 1,000 stores in 35 states.

The tire center in Bartlesville opened on November 1, 2019, and the business sets itself apart from others with its focus on offering the lowest prices and outstanding customer service.

"We guarantee not only the lowest prices, but we will beat anybody's price, not just price match," said Rick Vann, store manager of Bartlesville's Discount Tire. "Our customers never pay service fees for flat repairs, balancing, or rotations. Something we offer that sets us apart from others is that our warranty is free of charge."

The company focuses on honesty, service, and a willingness to pay it forward — attributes that keep its customers coming back time and time again. "Every day, we go to work hoping to accomplish six things; treat customers and fellow employees with respect and fairness, care for those in need, do what is right, work hard, be responsible, and have fun," according to Discount Tire's website, www.discounttire.com.

Everyone who comes into Discount Tire can receive free flat repairs, rotations, tire inspections, and air checks, not just those who are previous customers. Anyone can benefit from their excellent customer service. For more information or to set up an appointment to speak with a representative, stop by Discount Tire in Bartlesville at 2401 SE Adams Blvd., or call 918-886-6750.

## **Platinum Cigar Company**

## Wine Tasting to Feature Wines, Bourbons & Scotches

#### by Deanna Evans

Platinum Cigar Company is hosting a wine tasting event from 7-9 p.m. Thursday, March 26.

The business opened on July 4, 2019 and owners Dr. Thomas Britt and Andy Allen are enjoying providing unique flavors to their customers. Platinum Cigar Company provides a lounge atmosphere to the ever-growing downtown Bartlesville.

"We have a well-stocked humidor and bar, with a casual atmosphere to relax and enjoy your day or night," according to the company's Facebook page.

Platinum Cigar Company General Manager Matthew Shafer is excited about the upcoming wine tasting event.

"This is the second time we have held a wine tasting. The first one was so wellreceived that we decided to do it again," said Shafer. "We had around 50 people attend our last wine tasting. So much information was shared and everyone seemed to have a great time."

Attendees will be able to sample five different wines, two bourbons and two scotches. Suzanna Boomer of Provisions of Tulsa, a business that sells wines and gifts, will be on hand to discuss the different wines.

"We like to feature smaller retail wines, bourbons, and scotches, not the big-box types," said Shafer, "We want people to experience unique flavors and blends."

Jack Archer and his daughter, Kelsey, of A's Liquor, will also be at the event to lend their expertise. In addition, Garnish & Graze, a local business owned by Erin Spence, will be providing charcuterie boards. Spence is a dental hygienist who found a passion in the cheese business.

"I started Garnish and Graze last year in hopes to bring something new and fun to

Bartlesville, while also doing something I love," said Spence. "I offer everything from grazing tables for larger parties or events to personal snack boxes for individuals. Each box or table is personally hand crafted for each individual or party."

Shafer is impressed with Garnish and Graze's boards, and had this to say about them: "Erin's charcuterie boards are so beautiful and artistic that you almost don't want to disturb them ... ALMOST."

Spence added, "Grazing is fun for all events, big or small. What I love most about my product is that it is not just catering, it's an art!"

Platinum Cigar Company's wine tasting costs \$30 per person to attend and the event will be limited to 75 people. To reserve a spot, please call 918-214-8252, stop by in person, message them through Facebook.





New coffee blend by Outpost Coffee coming soon

### **Daily Breakfast Specials**



**Monday** Eggs, Sausage, Hash browns, Toast, and Coffee \$6.99

**Tuesday** Eggs, Sausage, Belgian Waffle, and Coffee \$ 6.99 **Wednesday** 

Eggs, Ham, Hash Brown, Toast, and Coffee \$7.29

**Thursday** Eggs, Sausage, 2 pancakes, and Coffee \$6.99

**Friday** Eggs, Sausage, Biscuit & Gravy, and Coffee \$6.29 Carry out, catering, & reservations available

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Buy one Hamburger get one FREE! \$7.99 Hamburger Fries & Coke \$6.99

Tuesday

Chicken Fried Steak \$7.99 - Includes Green Beans or Corn, choice of FF or Mash Potatoes and Gravy, Texas Toast

Wednesday

Hot hamburger \$6.00 Ham & Beans \$6.99 - Includes Corn Bread & Fried Potatoes **Thursday** 

Chicken Noodles \$7.99 - Includes Mash Potatoes, Green Beans or Corn, Hot Roll

Friday

All you can eat Catfish & French fries \$10.99 Catfish 1-piece Meal \$8.29 - Includes 2 sides: Red Beans Rice, Coleslaw, French Fries, or Tator Tots Breaded Shrimp Basket & Fries \$8.99

Specials available for a limited time only

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A downtown Bartlesville favorite is undergoing renovations and preparing to unveil a beautiful new face, expanded menu items, and opening its doors for the evening dinner crowds.

Owner Dee Smith is excited about the changes.

"New windows, paint, air conditioning, and a new sign are just the start of some of the many updates Weeze's is experiencing," said Smith. "We are adding menu items and also extending our hours of operation."

Weeze's Café is well-known for their yummy breakfast and lunch menus. Smith wants to bring that success to the dinner crowd, as well.

"Our 3-egg omelets are favorites for many of our customers," said Smith, "Our burgers are excellent, made with fresh ground beef every day, never frozen. I get a lot of compliments on our hamburgers. That's one of our big sellers."

The restaurant serves specials every day, including meatloaf, roast beef, Indian tacos, chicken fried steak, and chicken and noodles with homemade hot rolls.

"We also have a popular hot-hamburger, a recipe I got from my mother, Ruth Smith," said Smith. "She also gave me a really great family recipe for garlic dressing."

With the addition of dinner hours, Smith is excited to expand menu items. Coming soon, Weeze's will have their own coffee grind and blend — an added perk for the breakfast crowd. "We are well-known for our great breakfasts, and I want our dinner items to shine in the spotlight as much as our breakfast does," he added. Starting March 15, Weeze's menu will also include pork rinds, chips and salsa, build-your-own hamburgers and sandwiches, hot dogs, along with homemade award-winning chili.

Weeze's Café hours are changing and the restaurant will start opening in the evenings on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays for the dinner crowd, as well as lunch on the weekends.

Construction is scheduled to be completed in April, and while Weeze's is undergoing renovations, the restaurant is continuing to stay open for business.

Weeze's Café also offers catering.

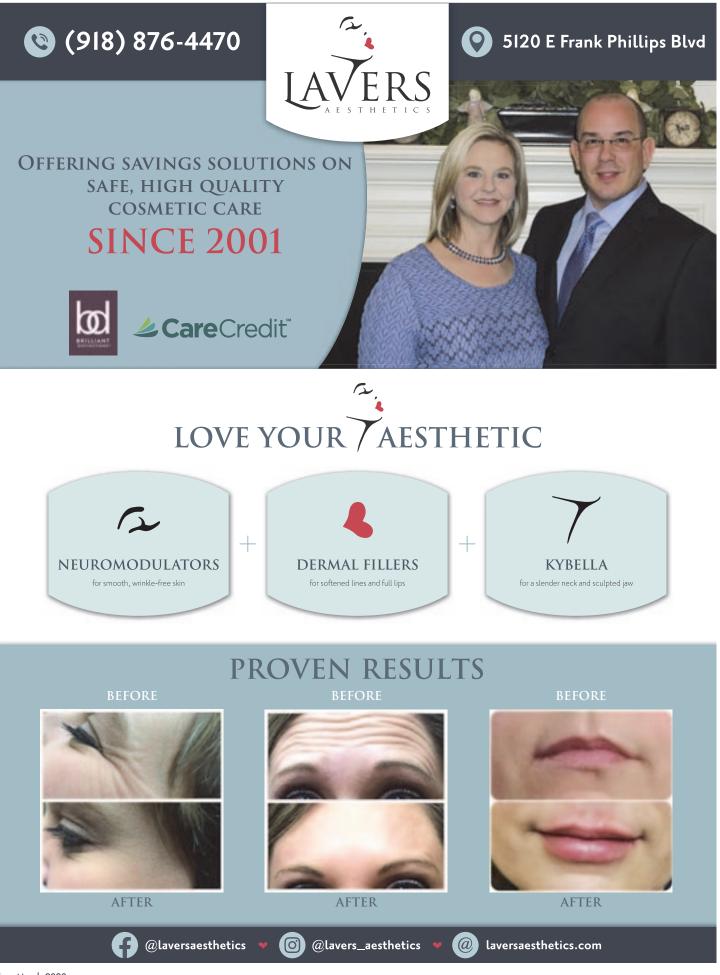
"We cater to all different types of events, from large corporate holiday banquets and award banquets, to small business retirement parties and seminars," said Smith. "Regardless of what type of event you're having, Weeze's Café has the ability to create an event that your colleagues and guests will remember forever."

In October of this year, Weeze's Café will celebrate its 25th Anniversary, and is a staple in the community.

"It's a place where friends become family," said Smith.

The restaurant, located in the historic downtown district, opened in 1995. The address is 328 Dewey Ave., Bartlesville, OK 74003. Free Wi-Fi is available at every table.

Delivery and to-go orders may be placed by calling 918-337-0881, emailing Weezescafe@gmail.com, or by stopping by the convenient location. Online orders are also accepted, and can be filled out on the restaurant's website, www.WeezesCafe.com.



## **City Beat**

## 2020 Capital Improvement, Bond Election Set for April 7

#### by Kelli Williams

Bartlesville voters are set to decide the outcome of two city elections on April 7 that will determine funding for capital projects for the next several years.

The city will hold a General Obligation Bond Election and seek an extension of the existing half-cent Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) sales tax on Election Day. Approval of the measures will result in funding for the city's capital projects over the next several years — without increasing taxes for Bartlesville residents.

"Capital project funding is limited for municipalities to General Obligation Bond funds and sales tax that is specifically allocated by voters for that purpose," said City Manager Mike Bailey. "On April 7, voters will decide funding for nearly \$30 million in projects between these two elections, the outcome of which will determine how we proceed in the future and which projects we're able to fund."

It's important to note, Bailey said, that approval of both measures will not result in tax increases for residents.

"The City's mil levy will remain at 15 as existing bonds expire so there is no tax increase associated with the G.O. Bond proposal, and approval of the half-cent CIP sales tax would simply extend the existing tax for another five years," he said, noting that without approval the half-cent CIP sales tax will expire June 30, 2021.

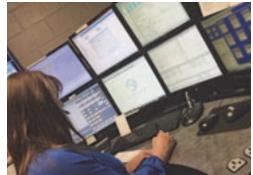
Projects proposed for both the G.O. Bond Issue and the CIP extension primarily include improvements and maintenance to existing facilities and infrastructure.

"There really aren't any new projects included in either proposal," Bailey said. "The City Council ultimately selected projects that build on the services and amenities we already have, including much needed equipment for public safety, improvements to the roads and parking lots in our City parks, multiple street projects, bridge repairs and general equipment upgrades. We believe these are projects that will help move our community forward and allow us to continue building a better Bartlesville. We encourage everyone to vote on April 7."

#### Proposed G.O. Bond Projects\*:

#### Emergency communications infrastructure/radio system — \$2,040,000

This would fund a new radio system that will replace the older VHF radio system and improve coverage locally and statewide for police officers. This is a standard radio system the State of Oklahoma has built out into





many areas of the state. Bartlesville is just outside the range of the statewide system. A local digital trunking radio system will provide more radio channels for local public safety to use in Bartlesville on a repeater system.

#### 95-foot tower/ladder truck and equipment — \$1,211,300

The tower/ladder truck will replace the Fire Department's 1975 Snorkel truck, which is nearly 50 years old and does not meet current National Fire Protection Agency standards. The new truck will ensure that the department's fire safety measures are up to date and that operating capabilities meet the requirements and recommendations of the National Fire Protection Association.

#### Central Fire Station roof replacement (old portion) — \$157,500

This funding will be used to replace the patched portions of the old roof that was not updated with the expansion of Central Fire Station, located at 601 S. Johnstone Ave., during the construction of the voter-approved Public Safety Complex.

#### Replace roof at fire stations No. 3 and No. 4 — \$94,400

This project consists of replacing the roofs at fire stations No. 3, located at 100 E. Madison Blvd., and No. 4, located at 3501 Price Road. The existing roofs will be replaced with standing seam metal roofs.

#### GPS/camera parking enforcement system — \$76,500

This system will allow the Police Department to implement a more efficient system for parking enforcement in the downtown area as it eliminates the need for marking tires with chalk and electronically manages the location and time duration of vehicles parked on public streets.

#### City Hall window replacement — \$306,000

The single-paned windows/seals at City Hall are more than 50 years old and need to be replaced. Replacement would make it easier to heat and cool the building and save in utility costs.

#### Library skylight replacement — \$128,000

The Bartlesville Public Library's original skylight, which is made of acrylic, is more than 30 years old

and is in need of replacement.

#### Library roof repair — \$102,000

The existing standing-seam roof is in need of repair.

#### Paint striper — \$224,500

This equipment is used by the Street Department to stripe the city's streets. It would replace the equipment that is currently

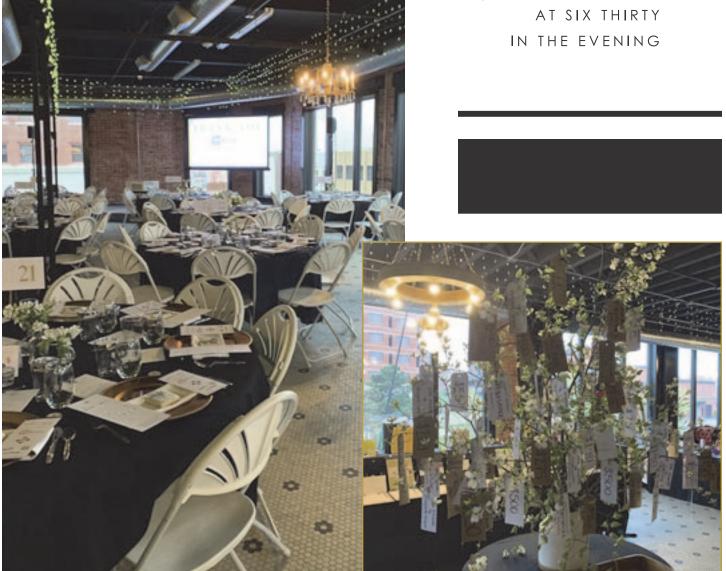
—— Continued on page 12



PLEASE SAVE THE DATE FOR AN EVENING OF CELEBRATION & CASINO ROYALE ENTERTAINMENT

## SATURDAY

May 30, 2020



# The Cottage

## Delivering Hope, Love & Life for Pregnant Women

#### by Deanna Evans

Two women's dream of helping mothers and babies and establishing a residential maternity home has become a reality ... and now has helped nearly 600 women in Bartlesville.

Founders Juli Merciez, RN, BSN, and Becky Le, RN, Ph.D., started working and developing their vision for The Cottage back in 2002. They knew from a very early age they would be nurses one day, and each worked extensively in labor and delivery.

"Moms and babies have always been our lives," said Merciez.

In the summer of 2015 — after 13 years of various work and life experiences — Juli and Becky reunited to see that vision and those dreams become a reality when they were called to provide a mobile unit, residential maternity home, and resource coordination to fill a gap in Bartlesville and the surrounding areas.

The Cottage has now been in operation since February of 2016. It has three areas of focus: 1. Mobile units to provide free pregnancy tests and ultrasounds; 2. Residential home; and 3. Training/teaching center assisting women in securing resources for pregnancy, parenting or adoption, post-abortion support, education completion, and life skills development.

Today, a team of amazing people assist women in decisions about their pregnancy and provide resources to have healthy pregnancies and healthy babies. In addition to co-founder Merciez, who serves as consultant and board chairwoman, the team consists of Sarah Johnson, interim executive director; Melissa Moseley, co-director; Jeanette Miller, operations director; Addy Hlad, client services director; Savana Creason, sonographer; Lisa Grayson, house mom at the residential facility; and a handful of amazing volunteers.

The Cottage helps women pursue their education, develop parenting and life skills, and engage in their community.

The non-profit 501(c)3 organization serves pregnant women at their point of need. The mobile unit offers free pregnancy testing and ultrasounds to encourage women to embrace their baby growing inside.

"The maternity home runs full with five to seven residents, and we have so many awesome stories coming out of the home," said Johnson.

The Cottage helps provide guidance and support to help the mothers and pregnant women in their care achieve their educational goals.

"Our clients are entering school, finishing their GED, completing technical training and now a couple are in college," said Johnson. "It is a story of lives changed. Amazing!"

"Our mission is to bring a life-affirming voice to pregnant women by establishing relationships and providing care at their



point of need," said Merciez. "We are guided by the love of Jesus and give hope to all those we serve."

"We have served at least 592 women, as of last month," said Johnson. Of those helped, 76 percent were single, 15 percent were homeless, and 11 percent were actively using drugs.

"89 percent of our clients who were initially determined to terminate their pregnancy decided to parent or adopt," said Johnson. "44 percent of clients who admitted substance abuse took our referral to rehab or outpatient counseling."

Those in the residential program achieved success, as well. All the residents were actively working 20 hours a week in either a job, community service, or obtaining an education.

"100 percent of those who have completed our program have transitioned into a secure living environment," said Johnson.

The Cottage exists on grants and private donations.

"The Cottage relies heavily on the generosity of people," said Johnson. "Every contribution goes towards making our clients feel like they are at home and part of our family. We take new or like-new baby items, maternity clothes or household essentials. We are currently in need of size 3-6 diapers, cleaning supplies and toilet paper. We will put them all to good use."

The Cottage's annual fundraiser, Black II White Party, is scheduled for Saturday, May 30, 2020 and promises to be a celebration and Casino Royale entertainment. This event provides a large portion of operational funds for the organization.

"We rely on volunteers, private donations, group projects, foundation contributions, and grant awards," said Johnson. "Generous people make a difference in the way our community succeeds. Donations to The Cottage are tax-deductible and change lives."

For more information on The Cottage or to volunteer or donate, visit www.cottageforlife.com, email Info.cottagelife@gmail.com, call 918-214-8854 or stop by 307 South Seneca Avenue, Bartlesville, OK 74003.

## BARTLESVILLE CIVIC BALLET PRESENTS

inderella.

Saturday April 18th 7:30pm Sunday April 19th 2pm Bartlesville Community Center



Worship matters. When we come together to worship as the Body of Christ, it positions us to receive the blessings that rekindle the Spirit within each of us. It encourages us to keep our lamps lit so that we can move forward in the race of faith (Hebrews 12:1).

True worship is a matter of the heart. There are great blessings when we gather with other believers to celebrate who God is and what He has done.

#### **3** Blessings from Worshipping Together

## 1. Encouragement to move forward in faith...

There is something to be said about the encouragement that God releases when the Body of Christ meets together. It can be found in a reading of scripture or a prayer being prayed.

Without encouragement we aren't as likely to move forward. This is why Paul writes...

"And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching." — Hebrews 10:24-26 (NKJV) The next time you sit down to read your Bible or turn on worship music in your car, we encourage you to take a moment and ask God to give you wisdom about how to worship in a way that reflects His heart.

## 2. Hope of being transformed in the image of Christ...

The process of sanctification isn't isolated to your alone time with the Lord, although that is vital. Being transformed from the inside out takes place as we sit together under Gospel teaching, praising God together under a single roof.

God longs to see His bride, the Church, "with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord."

— 2 Corinthians 3:18 (NKJV)

#### 3. Increased joy...

We all know what it is like to celebrate with others. Joy fills the room and seems to multiply as hands clap and hands are

House of David 22500 South Hwy. 125 Fairland, Oklahoma 74343 lifted. The same goes for worshipping together. It has been said that shared joy is double joy.

When the Spirit-led joy fills our hearts, we tend to forget about ourselves and delight in Jesus, the giver of our joy. Our souls are satisfied, and Jesus is glorified.

"Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy."

– Psalm 47:1 (NIV)

Let's worship the Father in spirit and truth ... together!

"But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

—John 4:23-24(NKJV)

We invite you to check us out at www.houseofdavid.com.

Curt Landry, founder of House of David and Curt Landry Ministries, and his wife, Christie, travel extensively, preaching and teaching about the Jewish roots of the Christian faith. Together, their passion is to empower families to live and leave Kingdom legacies and understand their own personal heritage.



used, which is outdated and no longer capable of producing quality work.

#### Bridge rehabilitation for Tuxedo Boulevard over Caney River (No. 5 and No. 6) — \$1,234,500

This project involves the twin bridges on Tuxedo Boulevard over the Caney River. The bridge for westbound traffic is in need of a deck rehabilitation/reconstruction and replacement of beam bearings. Preventative maintenance work, including patching the beams, piers and pier caps, would also be done to the eastbound traffic bridge while the project is underway.

#### Bridge rehabilitation for Sunset Boulevard over Butler Creek (No. 16) — \$1,020,000

Temporary patching has been done to the existing bridge on Sunset Boulevard over Butler Creek until more extensive repairs can be made. This project would provide a full rehabilitation and deck reconstruction in addition to maintenance work on the piers and pier caps.

#### Yale asphalt rebuild (Adams to Frank Phillips) — \$867,000

Yale Avenue in this area is a concrete street in need of complete concrete panel replacement. Due to the extensive damage and cost of panel replacement, a more cost effective asphalt reconstruction is planned. Some curb and gutter will be replaced as well.

#### Crestland concrete panel rehab including Baylor Place (Baylor Place to Adams Boulevard) — \$775,500

Located near Madison Middle School, this area is heavily used by school buses and other traffic and is in need of repair.

## Delaware asphalt mill and overlay (Fifth Street to Hillcrest Drive) — \$536,000

Delaware Avenue, which carries bus traffic serving Central Middle School, is in need of repair.

## Bridge rehabilitation for Tuxedo over Caney River overflow (No. 9) — \$331,500

This overflow bridge is located just east of the twin bridges on Tuxedo Boulevard over the Caney River, which are also targeted for repairs. The bridge has steel piers that are damaged due to corrosion issues. This will be a preventative maintenance project to avoid future deterioration.

## Highland concrete panel with mill and overlay (Sunset to Aledo) — \$586,500

This is a two-part project consisting of both asphalt and concrete. Highland is one of the primary access points for the north end of Oak Park off Sunset Boulevard.

## Dewey asphalt mill and overlay (Adams to 16th Street) — \$382,500

Dewey Avenue, one of the primary routes from downtown to the neighborhoods south of Adams Boulevard, is in need of repair.

## Madison asphalt overlay (Tuxedo Boulevard to water tower) — \$229,500

Madison Boulevard is an aged asphalt street in need of maintenance. This project will include approximately a half-mile asphalt overlay on Madison.

#### Indoor tennis/pickleball courts — \$459,000

This would fund the modification of two tennis courts at Johnstone Park (next to the Richard Kane YMCA) to allow indoor tennis and pickleball play. The courts will be enclosed with a steel structure designed for future expansion of the indoor space.

#### Lighting for Robinwood Park Soccer Fields — \$357,000

Light poles from the Price Fields Complex will be repurposed and used to install lighting at the Robinwood Park Soccer Fields. This funding is needed to complete the project on the south three fields.



#### Sooner Park parking lots (including Sooner Pool) — \$255,000

This project includes paving existing gravel and deteriorated asphalt parking lots at Sooner Park.

#### Basketball court with gaga ball pit — \$102,000

This project consists of construction of a basketball court with a gaga ball pit at Sooner Park.

#### Jo Allyn Lowe parking lots — \$87,000

The parking lot on the east side of Jo Allyn Lowe Park, which is located on Price Road, would be upgraded to a paved parking lot rather than gravel and these funds would also be used to rehabilitate the parking lot on the west side of the park.

#### Douglass Park shelter — \$81,500

This project will consist of construction of an open sided steel shelter at Douglass Park similar to those that have recently been constructed at Civitan Park and Sooner Park.

## Johnstone Park ring road, roundabout, access drives and angled parking — \$280,500

This project includes the construction of a roundabout near the entrance of the Johnstone Park playground (east of Kiddie Park) at the existing T intersection and improvements to the ring road circling the playground, as well as the park's access drives. Existing gravel parking inside the park will be upgraded as well.

#### Sooner Park ring road and access drives — \$204,000

This will address the existing ring road circling Sooner Pool and the area north of it, possibly including two-way traffic and extending the Pathfinder trail from the east into the park area.

#### Sooner Park restroom remodel — \$81,500

Both restrooms inside the park would be remodeled with this funding.

#### Bicycle signage — \$40,500

This funding will provide signage along existing bicycle routes located in several areas of the city. The project is one of several outlined in the City's recently updated Bicycle Safety Action Plan. The project will also incorporate shared bike lane striping as funds allow.

#### Lyon Park access drive/parking — \$12,500

The parking lot and access drive at Lyon Park, located at 100 N.E. Choctaw, would be improved with this funding.

#### Greens rebuild — \$714,000

This project includes rebuilding nine holes at Adams Golf Course. The greens at Adams have exceeded their design life and need to be rehabilitated.

#### Civitan Park berm/fence — \$51,000

This funding would be used to construct a berm and install fencing at Civitan Park, located at 1430 S.E. Silver Lake Road, to serve as a physical and visual barrier between the park and adjacent traffic.

#### **Proposed CIP Projects\*:**



### **Police emergency vehicle replacement (8)** — **\$1,450,000** This allows for the purchase of eight new police vehicles per year so that older models requiring costly repairs can be rotated out of service.



#### Police emergency vehicle equipment/labor — \$580,000

This will fund equipment and labor required to ready police vehicles for use. The process includes the installation of sirens, lighting, technology and other equipment used by police officers.

#### Body-worn cameras — \$100,000

This is part of an ongoing program to equip police officers with body-worn cameras. This funding would be used to purchase 10 cameras per year for the duration of the five-year CIP period.

#### Taser lease/purchase — \$85,300

This will fund the lease/purchase of 55 new tasers per year to replace older/non-functioning equipment. Tasers are available as an option to police officers when non-lethal force is required.

#### General Fund vehicle replacement — \$1,425,000

This program was established to allow for the replacement of General Fund fleet vehicles, or vehicles for which a separate fund does not exist, over the course of the CIP period in an effort to minimize costly repairs for aging vehicles and to reduce safety concerns associated with vehicles in disrepair. This program applied to all City departments except police and fire.

## Street repair/reconstruction/preventative maintenance — \$4,500,000

This funding is used to complete repairs and reconstruction as well as preventative maintenance projects for the city's streets. Street projects slated for this funding are selected each year as part of the CIP Budget process based on recommendations from the citizen-driven Street and Traffic Committee, citizen complaints and requests and staff assessment.

#### Update Pavement Condition Model/Street Sign Assessment — \$100,000

Long-term street repair and preventative maintenance planning is based on the Pavement Management Analysis Report, an in-depth report on the condition of the city's streets and how to best manage repairs and rehabilitation based on an analysis performed by IMS (Infrastructure Management Services) of Tempe, Ariz.

A premise of the report is that streets that have not yet begun showing extreme signs of disrepair be upgraded as part of a preventative maintenance program, which has proven to be more cost effective for taxpayers. The report is typically updated once every six years; however, the current report was last updated in

\_ Continued on page 15

## **Evans Nursery Grows into Blooming Business**

#### by Deanna Evans

What started out as a means to keep teenage boys out of trouble has grown into a thriving business today. Evans Nursery was started by Royal and Allene Evans in 1954, because the couple wanted to give their sons chores to teach them responsibility. The boys would come home from school and plant, trim plants, and pull weeds. The business grew from there.

"Evans Nursery started out with cuttings from hollies, junipers, things that were easy for them to propagate," said current owner, Vicki Evans. "Greenleaf Nursery started buying them."

Allene had experience working at a small greenhouse, so the couple built a greenhouse and opened a garden center.

"Three generations later, here we are now," said Vicki, whose three children also work at the nursery.

With a long-established history of success, Evans Nursery promises their skilled team of experienced and talented professionals will turn any ordinary backyard into a beautiful landscape. "Our goal is to provide you with landscapes that are beautiful and functional," said Vicki.

Spring planting is fast approaching, and Evans Nursery has everything a person might need. Their experts are on-hand to answer questions and help select the perfect plants and necessities for their customers' goals. "Our garden center is sure to have just the thing you need to make your property truly special," said Vicki. "From plants to outdoor furniture, we have it all and much more. Come pay us a visit and stop in to see our extensive collection yourself."

Evans Nursery has a variety of items to create interest and beauty in an outdoor space, including decorative pots, birdhouses, bird baths, bird feeders, decorative steppingstones, gazing globes of various sizes, wind chimes and wind spinners. "We have a large selection of Henri items, like concrete fountains, statues and planters," said Vicki. "Some things are whimsical, and some are more sophisticated," she added. Evans Nursery has the experience and resources to exceed their customers' landscaping expectations. "Whether you'd like to completely remodel your backyard to include that serene outdoor room that you've always dreamed of, or you simply need assistance with planning and designing, we can help make your vision a reality," said Vicki.

For spring planting needs, Evans also carries garden vegetables, seeds for micro-greens (like lettuces), sprouting seeds and sprouters. They offer various hand tools, shovels, pruners, everything a gardener might need. They also carry a variety of organic fertilizers. "Give us a call today to discuss your particular gardening needs and requirements," said Vicki. "For every person, regardless of experience with flowers, gardens, plants, or landscapes, you will be treated like family."

Customer Appreciation Weekend will be held on April 10-12, which means a 20percent discount on all merchandise. Hotdogs and hamburgers will be served. "Come join us for a fun weekend," said Vicki.



#### Security lighting in parks — \$75,000

2012. A Street Sign Assessment is planned at the same time so that street signs can be repaired or replaced in a similar fashion.

#### Community Center security system replacement — \$78,000

The existing security system and cameras at the Bartlesville Community Center are outdated and inadequate. These funds would be used to bring that system up to date.

#### Community Center speaker replacement — \$75,000

The existing sound system components at the Bartlesville Community Center are generally outdated. These funds will be used to bring the system up to date.

#### Downtown landscape improvements - \$800,000

This funding would complete areas identified for beautification in the downtown area several years ago, including Johnstone Avenue, Fourth Street and remaining work on Frank Phillips Boulevard and Dewey Avenue. The goal of the downtown landscaping plan is to reduce maintenance cost of the downtown landscaping by simplifying the number and type of plantings and beds while also improving the aesthetics.

#### Pathfinder Parkway - maintenance/repair — \$257,000

Pathfinder Parkway consists of 12 miles of asphalt pathway located throughout Bartlesville. This priority funding ensures money is available for repairs and/or expansion of the existing path.

#### Oak Park basketball court — \$100,000

The current basketball court at Oak Park is a re-purposed tennis court that is in disrepair. These funds would be used to completely reconstruct a full-size basketball court with additional goals located on the perimeter for half-court functionality.

#### Douglass Park parking lot — \$50,000

These funds would be used to resurface the Douglass Park parking lot, located at 509 S.W. Bucy Avenue.

### Sunset Pathfinder extension and pedestrian bridge — \$400,000

This multi-phased project consists of eventually widening Sunset Boulevard, which borders the western boundaries of Bartlesville, and constructing a bicycle/jogging trail from Hensley Boulevard to Oak Park Road and a pedestrian bridge over Butler Creek. This funding would kick the project off with construction of the pedestrian bridge, tying the existing trail to the bridge and extending it north to Oak Park Road.



#### Lifecycle replacement of playground

#### wood mulch — \$250,000

Wood mulch is used at the City's parks to act as a cushand meet ion safetv requirements for fall heights on playground equipment. The mulch deteriorates and erodes over time and needs to be supplemented. These funds would be used at a rate of \$50,000 each year over the CIP period to keep up with loss and degradation of the playground mulch.

One of the primary complaints the City receives about the parks is lack of adequate lighting for safety. These funds would be used to begin installing lighting in parks to increase safety.

#### Replacement of shade structures at Sooner and Frontier Pools — \$60,000

The shade structures at Sooner Pool and Frontier Pool consist of a durable fabric stretched over and between decorative steel frames. The material has a life expectancy as it is subjected to the elements for months at a time. These funds will be used to replace existing shade structure material.

#### JoAllyn Lowe turf reestablishment — \$50,000

Turf reestablishment is needed at the park, located at 2600 S.E. Price Road, due to erosion issues. The cost also includes the removal of at least two damaged trees, which will allow for more sunlight needed for the grass to grow between the pond and the west parking lot.

#### Replace roof on north end of Pro Shop at Adams Golf Course — \$30,000

These funds would be used to replace the roof over the Pro Shop at Adams Golf Course, which is the only portion of the Pro Shop roof that has not been renovated. The roof is in need of replacement.



#### Choctaw Drainage — \$250,000

The Choctaw Drainage system is an open channel system located in the area of 13th Street and Choctaw. This funding would replace a culvert underneath Choctaw that is in disrepair and address erosion issues on the open channel located along 13th Street and Choctaw Avenue.

Also included in the proposed CIP projects are numerous vehicles, mowers and other equipment to be used by the City's Parks, Water and Street departments and at Adams Golf Course, as well as several computers and IT equipment.

\*For a complete list of projects proposed in the April 7, 2020 Capital Elections, see www.cityofbartlesville.org.

To view a PowerPoint presentation of these elections, see Capital Elections 2020 PP Presentation.



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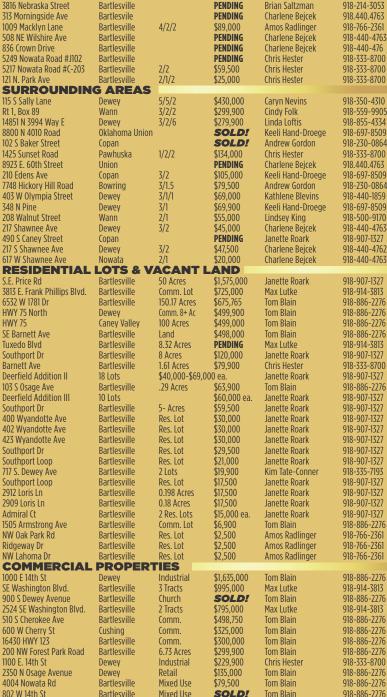
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# **Open for Business**

## **Freeman Inspection Services Seeks to Become Fixture**

#### by Deanna Evans

For the past decade, Bryan Freeman was working at ConocoPhillips and Phillips 66 in the accounting and HR fields, but in February of this year, he decided to flex his "inspection" muscles and transition to entrepreneurship.

Freeman Inspection Services began, and the company intends to be a fixture in the Bartlesville community for decades to come.

"I have had family members in various trades, and I grew up around construction," said Freeman, who spent some time in general construction work himself before entering the corporate environment. "When thinking about running my own business, something involving real estate was a natural fit."

Freeman's resume includes time working with a local abstract company, which gives him a unique perspective on reading and writing property inspection reports. He also has some time in the insurance field, which provides the home insurance background.

Freeman Inspection Services focuses on safety, particularly on the safety of homes.

"Bryan is a fantastic inspector and has exceeded my expectations in providing quality inspection services for the Bartlesville community. He arrives early to inspections, does a very thorough job, and encourages clients to ask questions after the verbal report is given. He spends as much time as necessary explaining things in an understanding way," said Allie Atkinson, a satisfied customer of Freeman Inspection Services. "I truly believe that buyers are well taken care of when using Freeman Inspection Services for their inspection needs."

Most of his business comes from buyers and sellers of real estate. "60-70 percent of my customers are people who are buying homes," said Freeman. "However, my services are also used by prospective sellers interested in a pre-listing inspection. This is a great fit for property owners who want an idea of the shape of their home before they put it on the market."

Regardless of when an inspection is done, Freeman's report will point out safety issues and list any potential defects that should be addressed to keep a property in the best condition.

"I look over the entire home to ensure it is in good working condition," said Freeman. "I get on the roof, crawl under the house, check any defects that may be cause for concern..."



SARA & BRYAN FREEMAN

He said it's like a check-up for your home. If he finds something unsafe or in need of repair, then he recommends further evaluation by a qualified tradesperson.

Freeman Inspection Services offers competitive pricing. A home that is less than 2,999 square feet will cost \$375 to have inspected from top to bottom.

When asked what sets his business apart from the competition, Freeman said he is willing to do what the job takes. He is young enough to have no physical limitations and can crawl under a house or climb on a roof to see what needs to be seen.

"Ask anyone who knows me, and they will say I'm naturally inquisitive. I like to get in the mix, research issues, and find solutions," Freeman said. "In the home inspection business, I am provided with a great opportunity to do what I love and help my clients feel good about the investment they are making in a new property."

Like many new businesses, Freeman Inspection Services is looking to

make a lasting good impression for his customers, so he expects to impress people by being thorough, timely, and transparent.

"I want to make sure if there is a problem, the customer can reach out to me and I will provide clarification and knowledge on something that has been reported," said Freeman.

His goal is to become a fixture in the community and be able to operate this business for many, many years to come.

"It provides an opportunity to help people be more aware and familiar with the home they are purchasing. It is the biggest financial investment they will make in their lives," he said.

Freeman and his wife, Sara, have lived in the community for many years and have two daughters and a son. They are committed to serving in the community and are active in many local organizations.

For more information or to schedule an inspection, please call 918-914-0369 or email him at bryan.freeman822@gmail.com.

