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Wait list priority

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SHOOTER**

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FOR TWO SHOOTERS
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\$20

**FOR
HEROES**
(ID required)

Bartlesville

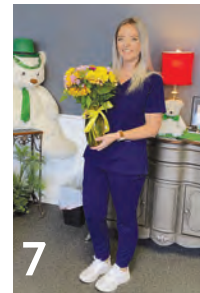
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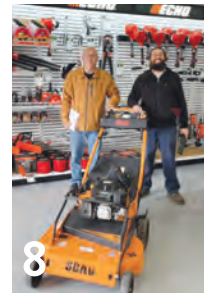
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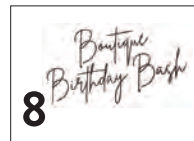
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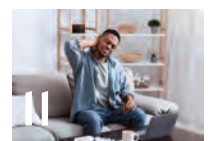
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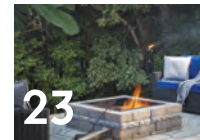
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GraceFest on the Green
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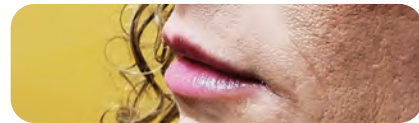
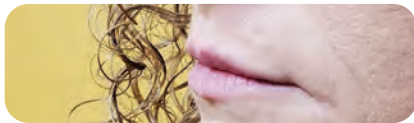
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Fellowship and Training...

Guns of Glory Offers Both for Women

by Deanna Evans

Guns of Glory Owner Daniel Dawson is passionate about helping people learn about self-defense and firearms — especially women.

"Women tend to be viewed as a 'weaker' target," Daniel said. "Here at Guns of Glory, we have decided to get a step ahead of the target and offer a females-only group."

Led by Guns of Glory's very own Heather Kelley, Steel Grace members will gather twice a month and offer support, fellowship, and firearms training to women who sign up. Heather has seven years of shooting experience with two years of one-on-one training with some of the best in the field. "I am looking forward to sharing my knowledge and experience with Steel Grace members," she said.

The two most important things to Heather are serving God and being a good mother. In addition to being a busy mother and working at Guns of Glory, Heather sings on her church's worship team, helps with the single moms group, and is on her church's security team.

"My vision for Steel Grace is to bring quality firearms training and information geared to the mindset of women," she said. "I hope the knowledge I share with the group will empower women to keep themselves and their families safe."

Members do not have to own a firearm to join, because Guns of Glory offers rentals. Pistol rentals are \$10 and rifles are \$15.

"We will be glad to help you become more familiar with the firearms available

and help you find one that is perfect for you," said Daniel. "We do our best to bring a variety of manufacturers for you to choose from."

Due to the limited amount of space and for safety reasons, reservations are required to attend the monthly shoots. A bi-weekly email is sent with a variety of information on the upcoming events. To RSVP, you can visit info@gogok2a.com to reserve your space.

Steel Grace meets on the first and third Thursdays of every month. Members can choose to meet from 10 a.m. to noon or from 6-8 p.m. at Guns of Glory, located at 427 S. Osage Ave., in Dewey.

There are two membership levels offered in Steel Grace. SG1 is a six-month membership that costs \$75 with a discounted range fee of \$15. SG2 is a 12-month membership for \$150, a discounted range fee of \$15, and an additional 10-percent discount at the pro shop. This discount excludes firearms and any additional training and rentals. Members of your family will receive discounts on Steel Grace memberships, as well.

A prerequisite for joining Steel Grace is a safety class that is offered at no additional cost. Those classes are held on the second and fourth Thursday of every month at your choice of 10 a.m. to noon or 5-7 p.m.

Daniel opened Guns of Glory with the goal of having a place where people who didn't know anything about firearms could be trained and build confidence in handling firearms safely and shooting them proficiently, so their fears about firearms would subside.

"I wanted to offer training for people who wanted to be able to defend themselves and others from criminals who do not follow laws," said Daniel.

He is hopeful that as people learn more about firearms safety and handling, they can find the fun and joy in shooting a tiny hole accurately through a target all the way down range.

"There is a reason it's a sport," he shared. "It takes skill. When you learn a new skill, you are able to take pride in your new abilities and feel more confident in yourself. This is what brings joy to people when they shoot. I wanted to spread the joy I have into the hearts of everyone who visits Guns of Glory."

For more information about Steel Grace or any of the other groups, classes, and special offers available, call 918-534-8758 or visit their website at www.gogok2a.com.



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Ask the Doc...

About the Benefits of Chiropractic Care

by Deanna Evans

In this series of articles, Dr. Tracy Russell, D.C., the hand & foot Chiropractor in Bartlesville who has decades of experience, answers common questions relating to chiropractic care. This month's question is:

Can Chiropractic Care Help Restore & Heal Injuries?

Chiropractic Assistant Nikki, of Russell Chiropractic Hand & Foot Clinic, is now a firm believer in the benefits of chiropractic care. "I wish someone would have told me about chiropractic care a long time ago!" she said.

She has been with Russell Chiropractic Hand & Foot Clinic for more than three years and shares her inspiring story with anyone who will listen.

"Before I started working with Dr. Russell, I was in a bad auto wreck and had severe injuries to my spine and a broken femur that now has a 12-inch rod for stabilization," she said. "The EMT said at the scene they didn't even know I was in the car, because I was so far underneath the dashboard on the passenger side."

For five years after the accident, Nikki took strong, addictive medications daily for severe headaches and constant neck & back pain.

"I suffered until I started working at Russell Chiropractic and receiving chiropractic spinal and extremity adjustments from Dr. Russell," Nikki said.

Dr. Tracy Russell has decades of successful experience in preventative healthcare and is trained in the diagnosis and treatment of many different spinal injuries, as well as shoulder, hand, and foot problems.

What can happen as the result of an auto accident is that the musculoskeletal system is knocked out of proper alignment because of the force of the accident. Back and neck pain, as well as pain in the hands and feet, can occur as a result.

"Oftentimes, when people are involved in a car wreck, they will grip the steering wheel or press the brake pedal," said Dr. Russell. "The hands and feet can be injured in an accident just as easily as the neck and spine. Chiropractic care addresses the underlying cause of the injuries."

Traditional medicine relies on pain medications, possibly even surgery, to repair or to cover up pain symptoms, but chiropractic treatment addresses the underlying injury. Chiropractic adjustments can relieve pressure on the muscles and nerves and restore alignment back to the bones.

Dr. Russell has 28 years of successful experience in gentle, preventative healthcare and is an expert in the diagnosis and treatment of many different problems.

"My focus is to help people regain normal movement in their extremities and to relieve any pain and discomfort they may be experiencing," he said. "We work closely with physical therapists, medical physicians and massage therapists to help our patients reach their



health and wellness potential."

Dr. Russell is a seasoned professional who stays on the cutting edge of new and innovative procedures and offers a full spectrum of chiropractic care for all ages. He is listed in the book of Who's Who Academically as well as Who's Who in Professional Business.

"Our mission at Russell Chiropractic Hand & Foot Clinic is to improve the overall health of our patients by focusing on preventing, diagnosing, and treating conditions associated with back, neck, hand, and foot pain without surgery or excessive pain medications. Give us a call and set up a free consultation. We want to help you," said Dr. Russell.

For more information, call 918-333-3363 to make an appointment at Russell Chiropractic Hand & Foot Clinic, located at 2523 SE Washington Blvd. You can schedule online using the scheduling app, available by scanning the QR code. The ID for the clinic is ADWXLX. Register using the cell phone number on file with the clinic. Hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 3-5 p.m. Monday - Wednesday and 9-11 a.m. on Thursday. The office is closed on Friday, Saturday, & Sunday.



One Year Old!

by Deanna Evans

Former 2019-2020 National American Miss Oklahoma has turned her dream into a reality.

"I work hard to express that what I wear is not simply just clothes, but it is a way to express who I am," Ashlynn said. "Whether I am glamming up for an event, going to church, or just heading out on the town, I love to experiment with the contents of my closet to create something beautiful and unique."

This is where Ashlynn Nicole's became a dream turned to reality. She opened e-commerce boutique in May 2021 and has enjoyed a year of success. To celebrate, Ashlynn Nicole's Boutique will be having a special one-day pop-up at Washington Park Mall, located in the space across from Claire's and Bath & Body Works.

"Yes, it is my name on the logo but the name that is getting all the praise is Jesus," Ashlynn said. "My boutique is a ministry for me to promote a positive and uplifting atmosphere."

"By selling products that are modest yet still trendy, I can reach a large variety of people from all over the world," she added.

"You are Clothed in Glory" is the slogan God inspired her to connect with her business.

"Glory is the presence of God, so with each product you buy, you are clothing yourself with His presence," she said. "Every single order is not only packaged with grace and beauty, but it is soaked in prayers straight from my heart to your doorstep."

Ashlynn Nicole's
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Birthday Bash*



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with us at a one day
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CLAIRE'S AND BATH & BODY WORKS

Visit Our Website at www.AshlynnNicolesBoutique.com 

Washington County Equipment Business Offering Lawn Mower Service Packages

by Deanna Evans

Washington County Equipment, at 816 NE Washington Blvd, in Bartlesville, is currently offering a spring special for lawn mower service packages.

Owners Morgan and Amanda Mitchell, of Dewey, expanded their retail sales business to now include service and repair. Package 1 covers an oil and filter change, new spark plugs, air filters and fuel filters for the economical price of \$129. Package 2 includes all the benefits of package 1 and adds new blades (up to \$60). If new batteries are needed, WCE will replace it for only the cost of the battery. Batteries are \$48.99 and one year free replacement.

WCE services and repairs a wide variety of small engines, lawn mowers and tractors.

"We recently hired Adam Ditto as a service technician," said Morgan. "He's a super good guy and an excellent mechanic."

WCE sells premium used tractors and equipment. They specialize in late model tractor sales, most with several years of warranty left.

They are also excited to bring back Scag outdoor power equipment to Bartlesville.

"We love the brand and are so excited to get them back out in the community," said Amanda.

They have many Scag Zero-Turn lawnmowers in stock.

"We are also excited to sell and service Echo brand power equipment," said Morgan.

WCE will also purchase your used tractors and takes trade-ins.

"Good used tractors are hard to come by in this town, and I felt this business is what Bartlesville needed," said Morgan, who has more than 15 years of experience with selling equipment.

In addition, the business hosts online auctions with equipment up for grabs to the highest bidder. Morgan is a certified auctioneer with more than six years of experience. To view the current list of items that are available on the auction block, you can visit their website at www.washingtoncountyequipment.com.

Other items for sale at their business include Net wrap, a large selection of Case knives, and farm toys for the kiddos.

So, stop by and check out their store!

Stop by their store at 816 NE Washington Blvd., in Bartlesville. Hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, or by appointment.

For more information, please call 918-876-1827, visit their website at www.washingtoncountyequipment.com, or find them on Facebook.

Governor Visits Bartlesville's Bloomin' Tails

Former Inmates hope to lend a helping paw to others

by Deanna Evans

Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt recently visited a new Bartlesville business to congratulate its owners on a job well done.

While Stitt was traveling around Green Country on March 31 for some campaign events, he stopped by Bloomin' Tails Pet Day Spa, which is owned by two former prison inmates who turned their lives around and want to help others do the same.

Owners Michele "Micki" McNutt and Sandra Conway met while they were incarcerated in the Mabel Bassett Correctional Center in McLoud, Okla. The women went to prison for trafficking methamphetamine and met in The Guardian Angel's Program while there.

"We want the world to see how we've turned our lives around," said Micki. "We're still in contact with women in prison, and so we like to mentor them and tell them what it's like out here.

"There are still people who need a second chance," she added. "I tell them it's not what they've done. It's what they do from here forward that makes a difference."

Conway was released in 2017 under judicial review and Micki was released in January 2020. Both women went on to receive further training in a Tulsa-based non-profit through Muddy Paws - Pets Helping People. Muddy Paws provides training for women with criminal backgrounds and prepares them for careers in the pet care industry. Conway graduated from Muddy Paws in November 2018 and Micki in July 2020.

The Muddy Paws program provides "a path for re-entry into



society for anyone desiring to work hard and to be self-sustaining," according to the website, www.muddy-paws.org. "The growing dog grooming industry offers a solid career path for individuals with felonies and criminal backgrounds."

Sandra said the Muddy Paws program teaches women a skill and helps reduce recidivism.

Sandra and Micki worked hard and were also blessed with grants through the department of rehabilitation to help open Bloomin' Tails Pet Day Spa in October 2021.

"We want to give a huge thank you to everyone who is helping us achieve our dreams," said Sandra. "We are very proud of how far we have come in such a short amount of time."

In January of last year, Kacy Jones joined the team of professionals at Bloomin' Tails. Kacy has a different background; she has never been incarcerated. She received her training at the hands of her mother, Tracy Jones, who has been a dog groomer for 35 years and owns a dog salon in Indiana.

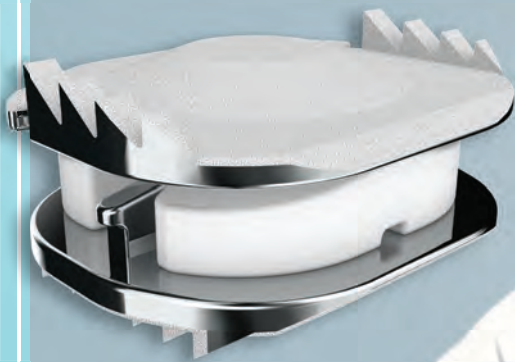
Kacy has more than 10 years of experience as a dog groomer. In addition, she attended a dog training school in Ohio last year and is now a certified dog trainer in multiple disciplines.

Conway and McNutt said they hope to expand their business, possibly open another location and hire other former prisoners.

Bloomin' Tails Pet Day Spa is located at 320 Delaware Ave., in Bartlesville. To make an appointment, please call 918-213-4094, email grooming@bloomintails.net, or find them on Facebook and click on the "Book now" button to schedule an appointment.



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SPINE &
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Are You Living with Neck Pain?

Local Doctor Specializes in Treatment to Help

by Deanna Evans

Dr. Kris Parchuri and his team of medical professionals are passionate and committed to helping people live pain free. In addition to his Tulsa office, Spine and Orthopedic Specialists, Dr. Parchuri expanded his practice last year by opening an office in Bartlesville.

Neck pain can be from an underlying medical cause that needs to be addressed. A neck injury can cause pain in the shoulder, head, arm, and/or hand. It can also cause pain into the legs and other areas.

Dr. Parchuri's true passion is helping to reduce or eliminate his patients' pain using the latest treatments available. He specializes in bringing the best possible procedure and treatment to every patient by connecting with them on a personal and professional level.

If you are suffering from pain or a spinal injury, Dr. Parchuri provides a variety of treatments and procedures. All non-surgical treatment options will be exhausted prior to consideration of more invasive procedures. Physical therapy, patient education and spinal injections are just a few of these options.

One surgical option, which is superior to fusion for two-level disc replacement, is the Zimmer Mobi-C cervical disc. The artificial disc is designed to maintain neck motion. The bone-sparing technology protects against bone chiseling with no invasive screws required. It is designed to allow motions similar to natural cervical spine motion.

According to Zimmer Biomet, Mobi-C is the first cervical disc approved by the FDA for both one and two-level disc replacements. The FDA has determined that the Mobi-C disc replacement is better than fusion after seven years, for the two-level cervical disc replacement. Mobi-C had fewer subsequent surgeries after 84 months.



The center of rotation at each level of the cervical spine is variable and constantly changing. Mobi-C was designed to adapt to the instantaneous axis of rotation through its self-adjusting mobile core. It is designed to aid in motion similar to natural cervical spine motion. It moves with the spine.

Mobi-C's core is designed to create low stress at the implant-to-bone interface. There are no invasive screws, no bone removal for preparation and no additional operative steps. It is a one-step insertion with no drilling or chiseling needed.

If you are suffering from chronic or acute pain, you need the leading medical professional in Tulsa spinal surgery. Dr. Parchuri specializes in orthopedic spine surgery and pain management. With more than 13 years of experience he can help you reclaim your life.

While Dr. Parchuri specializes in treating spine-related diseases and disorders, his practice area also includes general orthopedics. He treats all types of fractures, as well as conditions related to the shoulder, elbow, hand, hip, knee, foot and ankle.

Dr. Parchuri is a proud graduate of Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences College of Osteopathic Medicine. He completed his orthopedic residency in Tulsa at Oklahoma State University Medical Center, followed by a spine fellowship at Texas Back Institute in Plano, Texas.

"We focus on more than just the problem," he said. "We focus on each patient as a whole and as an individual, giving you the attention you need and deserve to start moving forward in your life."

Take back what is yours — contact the office of Dr. Kris Parchuri. To schedule a consultation, call 918-286-3124 or contact them online at <https://sostulsa.com/dr-kris-parchuri/>.

Free Yard Debris Pick-Up Set



Collection Set For May 9-13

City Beat
Your city, your news

by Kelli Williams

The City of Bartlesville will hold its next free residential yard debris collection May 9-13.

The event is typically held twice each year, in the spring and fall, to help Bartlesville solid waste utility customers dispose of dead leaves and other yard debris for no extra cost.

The collection is for the following items only:

- Leaves
- Grass
- Lawn clippings
- Limbs and branches if cut in lengths no longer than four feet and bundled (may not exceed 50 pounds)

During this week only, yard debris bags will not require yard waste stickers, and clear or colored bags are allowed. The collection is for private residences only; no commercial collections will be made.

There is no limit on the number of bags a resident can put out for the collection. Extra bags or items of household refuse outside the cart must have the red refuse sticker attached.

For more information, contact the Solid Waste Department at 918.338.4130.



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Bartlesville
LIVING

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PLATINUM
CIGAR COMPANY

April 29 Aaron Vaughn (9:00pm)

Tues - Thu 3 - 11pm | Fri 3pm - 1am | Sat 1pm - 1am
314 S. Johnstone Avenue, Bartlesville, OK 74003
918-214-8252

Bingo!

Fundraiser to Benefit Cornerstone Classical Academy

Join Cornerstone Classical Academy on APRIL 29th from 6-9pm for their annual BINGO fundraiser to benefit their school. The fundraiser will be held at KLIFE Ministries, 305 E 18th St, Bartlesville. Each ticket includes 10 BINGO games with prizes. There will also be several \$1 split the pot mini-games and a silent auction. No need to cook that night as food and drinks will be available for purchase. Plan now to have a FUN night out!

Cornerstone Classical Academy has been in Bartlesville for seven years providing classical Christian education to PreK3 - 8th grade (and some select HS classes). CCA is a blended model/university-style school that meets at Adams Blvd Church of Christ on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Instruction is given on those days each week and out-of-class work is done on the other days of the week.

For more information on CCA, you can visit the school's website at cornerstoneclassicalacademyok.com or find them on Facebook.

cornerstoneclassicalacademyok.com, find us on FB, or email: cornerstoneclassicalacademy@gmail.com'."/>

FUNDRAISER

Friday, April 29th, 6:00-9:00pm
KLIFE Ministries
305 E 18th St, Bartlesville

\$20 Suggested Donation per ticket

Each ticket includes **TEN BINGO GAMES**
\$1 Mini Games (split the pot)
Prizes & Silent Auction
Food & Drinks Available for Purchase
Lots of fun... and so much more!!

Visit cornerstoneclassicalacademyok.com,
find us on FB, or email:
cornerstoneclassicalacademy@gmail.com

Sizzlin' Summer

Unity Square Hosts 3rd Sizzlin' Summer Season

This season of Unity Square's Sizzlin' Summer Series provides fun events all summer long with events in June, July, and August.

"We are excited to announce the third season of Sizzlin' Summer Series at Unity Square," said Val Callaghan, managing director of the Bartlesville Community Center, now known as The Center and Unity Square.

This year's lineup features Oklahoma bands and our community's own Bartlesville Symphony Orchestra.

"The great news is the entertainment is not just for one weekend, but with one concert a month, the fun will last from June until August!" Callaghan added.

These three family-friendly outdoor concerts are free to attend.

Friday, June 17, the public is invited to celebrate "The Center's 40th Birthday Bash," featuring the Bartlesville Symphony Orchestra. Attendees can listen to the sounds of their hometown symphony while visiting Copper Bar and local food trucks.

"There will be plenty of activities to keep the kids entertained and the 2022 Sizzlin' Summer Series T-shirts will be unveiled that evening," said Callaghan.

Friday, July 8, will take us to "The Wild, Wild West." An Oklahoma-based band will play as you ride a mechanical bull, enjoy

classic lawn games, and participate in a cornhole competition. The littles can beat the July heat with a firetruck for water play and other fun kid's activities. Dine on classic Oklahoma barbecue and quench your thirst with beverages from the Copper Bar.

"It's a party you don't want to miss!" Callaghan added.

Make your transition back to the school year with Sizzlin's final summer concert, "Back to School Bash," on Friday, August 19. Leave the textbooks behind and dance the night away with a party band. Enjoy classic American fare with burgers, hotdogs, and brats from Copper Bar. Local vendors will be on-site with Bruins and Oklahoma Wesleyan merchandise to help you start the semester off with the perfect swag. Be sure to bring extra school supplies for a chance to win a "BHS Football Pass." A Bruins-themed scavenger hunt, crafts hosted by NHS, lawn games, volleyball, and more will provide fun for the entire family.

All events are free to the public and family friendly. The events will be from 6 to 9 p.m. on June 17, July 8, and August 19.

"Bring your lawn chairs or picnic blanket and come party with Unity Square all summer long," said Callaghan.

For more information, visit unitysquareville.com or call 918-337-2787.

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The Lamb

Jesus' Connection to Passover & Easter



by Curt Landry

"The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, 'Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!'" — John 1:29

Scripture confirms that Jesus is the Lamb of God, but did you know that being that Lamb is directly connected with biblical Passover or the Feast of Unleavened Bread, in addition to Easter?

Passover and Easter, How are They Connected?

While many things connect Passover and Easter historically and biblically, Jesus is at the heart of the connection. However, to understand this, we need to take a look at Passover; as this is what Jesus and His disciples were celebrating at 'The Last Supper.'

Do you remember Joseph, son of Jacob/Israel? Through God he saved Egypt and became second only to Pharaoh. Yet, when new pharaohs came to power who did not remember this, things changed. The pharaohs enslaved the numerous and prosperous Israelites out of fear, and for hundreds of years the decedents of Israel suffered, crying out to God.

God heard their cries and sent Moses before the ruling pharaoh, telling Pharaoh to 'let His people go,' but Pharaoh would not listen. Thus, God sent nine plagues, giving Pharaoh an opportunity to let His people go after each; but Pharaoh still would not act. At last, God had Moses and the children of Israel take an unblemished lamb and spread its blood upon the doorposts of their homes, so that the tenth plague — the death of the firstborn — would 'pass over' them.

The blood of the unblemished lamb set apart those who were walking as God's children, from those who were not. It was a sign to all; redeeming those who applied it.

During the days of Jesus, Passover still involved the sacrifice of unblemished lambs; though, instead of the blood being spread

upon doorposts, it went upon the altar of God. Annually this occurred, with the lamb's bones not being broken and its blood poured out before God for the sake of His children.

'The Last Supper' was a part of Passover. Jesus knew what was to come, that He — innocent and unblemished — would become our Passover Lamb. That, as with the lambs He had seen sacrificed, His Blood would be poured out upon the altar and upon the doorposts of our hearts so we might be redeemed and set apart.

"Get rid of the old yeast, so that you may be a new unleavened batch—as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed." — 1 Corinthians 5:7 (NIV)

Today, Easter is meant to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Of the Lamb, overcoming death and the grave; sealing us as those set apart and redeemed!

Passover and Easter connect Jesus' choice to become the Lamb and His sealing the work through Life and the Blood.

Jesus is risen! However, His sacrifice as our Passover Lamb is what gives the resurrection power and purpose! It is what takes it from one of Jesus' miracles to an incredible supernatural shift; it is the combination of the sacrifice and resurrection that truly redeems!



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Spring Lawn Care Tasks

(BPT) — Now that it is spring, many homeowners are looking forward to spending time in their yards — but not before doing some spring cleanup. In a recent survey by TruGreen, at least one-quarter of 2,000 survey respondents plan to start spring cleanup in March; April is the second-most popular month. In addition, a number of outdoor tasks are at the top of homeowners' to-do lists this year, including: mowing the lawn (46%); raking leaves (43%); pruning bushes (40%); gardening and planting trees/shrubs (39%); pest control (39%); and weeding (37%).

Although spring cleanup can seem daunting - with 68% of respondents agreeing that their spring cleanup always feels overwhelming - TruGreen, the nation's leading lawn care provider, breaks down the list of top tasks to help you take it one step at a time. You may even be surprised by how quickly your lawn springs to life.

Clean up debris

Use a rake to remove dead leaves, sticks, twigs and matted grass. If left on the ground, this layer of plant detritus can smother your lawn, leaving dead patches in your yard. Clearing this debris also makes way for lawn treatments, if necessary, to further improve your outdoor space.

Pro Tip: To protect your lawn from damage, rake when the ground is not soft, wet or muddy.

Beat the weeds

Weeds can be a huge nuisance for homeowners, and it's important to fight these off early.

"Although keeping weeds at bay can be an ongoing chore, partnering with a lawn care specialist, such as TruGreen, can help alleviate this burden," says Brian Feldman, director of technical operations at TruGreen. "Get an expert assessment of your weed problem and develop a tailored treatment plan early to help you achieve a weed-free yard."

Pro Tip: Get a jump on weeds early to prevent them from becoming stubborn problems in the future.

Cut the grass

After a long, dormant winter, your lawn deserves a new spring cut, so tune up that mower and get ready to manicure your blades of glory. Wait until grass is about three inches long and the ground isn't soft. Most grass should be kept at least two inches tall - as longer, thicker turf helps combat weeds and conserve water in the soil. Plus, grass that is cut too short lets in more sunlight, which can give room for weeds to seize the day and germinate.

Pro Tip: Avoid cutting the lawn too short in dry weather. The grass tends to develop shallow roots, making the lawn susceptible to drought stress.

"Our survey found that 62% of homeowners will hire a professional to complete their outdoor spring cleanup," said Feldman. "Not only will this help complete all your tasks, but it can ensure a healthy lawn this spring - and beyond - by implementing optimal treatments from the start."

Hydrate your lawn

No matter where you are in the country, lawns need water. Nearly 48% of survey respondents say they plan to update their landscaping, so it's important to water early and consistently. Natural watering will come from rainfall. During hotter, drier months, however, you'll likely need to supplement nature's bounty with your garden hose. Water before 10 a.m. when it's still cool. Winds also tend to be calmer earlier in the day, so water soaks into the soil for grass roots to absorb before it evaporates. Aim for about an inch of water per week.

Pro Tip: Measure an inch of water by spreading a few empty tuna cans across your lawn as you water. When they're full, you've watered an inch.

Survey responses show that 72% of homeowners agreed their spring cleanup plays a role in improving their overall well-being. Your investment of time and energy will be well worth the output.



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Visit AboutElderCare.org/BBQ or call
918.336.8500 to purchase tickets online



Food & Fun for a Great Cause

Amidst lush green hills and a big Oklahoma sky above, Elder Care will celebrate its 24th Anniversary of The Good, The Bad & The BBQ, beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 7, 2022.

The BBQ was canceled in 2020 and 2021 out of an abundance of caution to protect guests attending in-person gatherings. Now the eagerly-anticipated event returns in 2022 to its new venue — The Hughes Ranch, just minutes from downtown Bartlesville on Highway 123.

The outdoor fundraiser includes dinner catered by Dink's Pit Bar-B-Que, music by Brandon the DJ, a cash bar, and live and silent auctions. Auction items feature travel packages, unique jewelry pieces, private parties, tickets to sporting events, one-of-a-kind artwork, and much more.

Angie Thompson, Elder Care's Development Director, said funds raised during this annual event provide essential financial support for Elder Care's important year-round programs that impact seniors and caregivers in Washington, Nowata, and Osage counties. "We are looking forward to celebrating with all our friends under the big tent. It has been too long since we have seen everyone face-to-face and provided an experience that hundreds have grown to love over the past two decades. May 7 will be a time of celebration for our guests and for us."



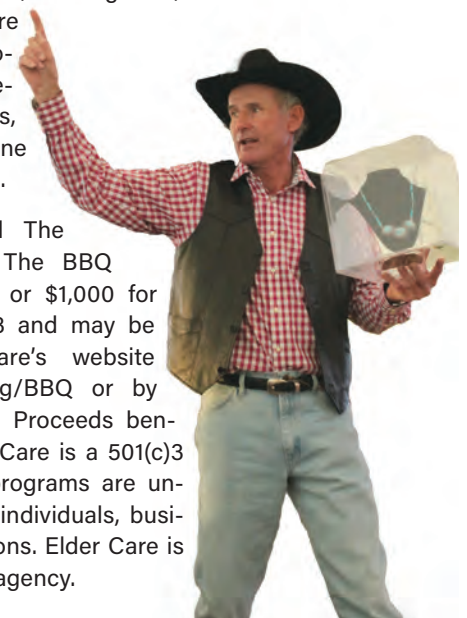
The BBQ is not the only thing to love. Elder Care is the only comprehensive resource center in northeast Oklahoma specializing in all things aging in place. In Washing-

ton County, 19 percent of residents are over the age of 65, and this age group is the fastest growing in Oklahoma. The charitable organization's primary service area has a combined population base of over 100,000 people.

"We also provide services to clients in Craig, Delaware, Kay, Mays, Rogers, Ottawa, Pawnee, Noble, Grant, and Garfield counties. We are specialists who provide quality care through outpatient therapy treating adults of any ages, in-home companion care, adult day health, an internist and nurse practitioner offering geriatric care, and so much more."

In 2020, Elder Care's 75 employees served 1,500 seniors and their support systems, offering 189,000 one-to-one service hours. To learn more about the many programs available to seniors and their families, you can visit them online at AboutElderCare.org.

Tickets to attend The Good, The Bad, & The BBQ are \$100 per person or \$1,000 for a reserved table of 8 and may be purchased Elder Care's website at AboutElderCare.org/BBQ or by calling 918-336-8500. Proceeds benefit Elder Care. Elder Care is a 501(c)3 organization whose programs are underwritten in part by individuals, businesses, and foundations. Elder Care is a United Way partner agency.



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Trending DIY Spring Projects



A Look at 4 easy tasks to tackle around the house

(BPT) — As homeowners continue to spend more time living, entertaining and working at home, many are finally finding the time and means to get moving on long-awaited updates around the house. In fact, more than half (56%) of homeowners plan to renovate their home this year, according to a recent study by Houzz. Spring is the perfect time for a home refresh - but rest assured a major renovation is not required to give your home a renewed look and feel. Rather, completing just a few small projects can have a major impact on a home's overall aesthetic.

Here are four trending, and easy to complete, DIY projects to tackle around the house this spring:

Bring a touch of nature in with a fresh coat of paint

Giving your space a new look with a fresh coat of paint is an easy and affordable way to transform any room in your home. Nature-inspired colors such as lush greens, clarifying blues and earthy neutrals like taupes, beiges and warm whites are continuing to rise in popularity for the serene and centered feeling they bring to a space. When tackling a paint project, be sure to choose a high-performance sealant like Alex® Ultra, which is paint-ready in just 15 minutes and designed to shrink less than any latex sealant on the market for a more durable, long-lasting seal that won't crack or lose adhesion after painting. This sealant is ideal for providing professional results, regardless of who's applying it.

Replace hardware on cabinets, drawers and more

If you have builder-grade hardware throughout your home, you'd be surprised by the impact simply switching in new pieces can have on the overall look of a room. Cabinet knobs and drawer pulls come in dozens of styles and colors, so no matter what style or function you're looking for, you'll definitely find something that will bring an inexpensive but fresh look to your space. Plus, the only tool you need for this job is a screwdriver. New hardware on kitchen cabinets isn't the only place where a swap can go a long

way to update the look of your home. Consider updating throughout bathrooms, old doorknobs and even electrical faceplates.

Install long & linear backsplash tiles

Subway tiles have been popular for ages, but homeowners are now putting a modern twist on the classic look by using larger 4-by-12-inch tiles. While these long, linear tiles are a current trend, they create a timeless look and feel, making it the perfect home upgrade to keep your kitchen on-trend for years to come. No matter what backsplash tile you choose, it's important to pair it with a great sealant to make a complete and finished look. DAP's AMP Kitchen, Bath & Plumbing Sealant is an innovative hybrid technology, providing maximum product performance for kitchen and bath projects. It provides a 100% waterproof seal, is specifically formulated to prevent mold and mildew growth with a lifetime guarantee and is available in white and crystal clear.

Swap outdated light fixtures

Replacing outdated overhead lights, wall sconces and lamps with on-trend styles is a fast and effortless way to elevate your kitchen or entryway. New and bright lighting — especially if you're switching out from builder-grade lights — can make a huge difference, not just from a design perspective but from a lighting perspective as well. Many homeowners and designers are choosing lantern-style framed pendant lights because they make a statement without obstructing views and sightlines. Plus, lantern-style light fixtures are a rare trend that works for nearly every home design style. From modern farmhouse to boho chic, lantern pendant lights feature a classic silhouette that blends seamlessly in any space. Natural and organic textures such as rattan, linen and wood are other extremely popular styles for light fixtures this year.

For more tips to help tackle your home improvement projects, visit DAP.com.



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Refresh Your Outdoor Space



(BPT) — Over the last few years, you've likely spent more time at home than ever before. As a result, you're more conscious of how you use your space and how design can impact your comfort and ease. To give you a bit more variety beyond your home's walls, consider redesigning your outdoor spaces to create a haven for recreation and relaxation. Best of all, outdoor spaces add value to your home if you plan to sell.

If you need ideas on how to revamp your outdoor spaces, consider these top five outdoor design trends. Get inspired and create your own outdoor oasis.

1. Functionality

Homeowners are prioritizing day-to-day use of their outdoor spaces instead of entertaining, driving a need for functionality. Practical elements like lighting and audio technology can elevate the outdoor space. Other features like shade structures, privacy walls and screens, built-in barbecue grills and Wi-Fi allow you to use the space for working, relaxing, cooking and more.

2. Defined rooms

Whether it's an outdoor kitchen, office or living room, homeowners are leaning toward more efficient, defined outdoor spaces. Homeowners want to use outdoor living on a day-to-day basis to unwind, connect with nature and take advantage of the health and well-being benefits the outdoors provide. Having an outdoor office can increase your productivity while decreasing stress as you enjoy the greenery and fresh air. Adding an outdoor kitchen may inspire you to make dishes using herbs and veggies you've grown in your garden, and an outdoor living room can help you bring the family together at the end of the school and workday.

3. Monochromatic colors with accents

While lighter, tone-on-tone color palettes remain popular, accent colors and accessories are on the rise. Using cool, monochromatic tones with choice accent colors can create a brighter or contrasting outdoor living space. Jetset, Belgard's 2022 Color of the Year, is a true blue that is the perfect pop of color to enhance any color palette. "Jetset is a much-needed dose of liveliness and joy," said Joe Raboine, director of residential hardscapes at Belgard. "It represents the excitement of a new year and the readiness to do more, be more and live more."

4. Modular design and geometric patterns

Another popular trend is modular, geometric standard patterns composed of clean lines and simple formats. Simple patterns create a modern, uncluttered aesthetic that emphasizes furniture or other focal points in the space. Large format patterns and pavers also lend themselves to this style, allowing for more efficient installation.

5. Entangled design

As people blend their outdoor spaces to serve as extensions of their homes, many are focusing on entangled design, which combines the surrounding landscape with the hardscape design. Fractured edges with no defined break, natural stone transitions and irregular edges blended with boulders, grass and aggregate create a more natural, organic look that enhances design continuity. To increase the depth of greens, grays and other neutral tones associated with entangled, biophilic design, consider using Jetset as the accent color for your outdoor spaces.

Feeling inspired but don't know where to start? For more inspiration and a templated approach to design outdoor spaces that fit your needs and style, visit [Belgard.com/Rooms](https://www.belgard.com/Rooms).

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Utility Rate Increases on Tap



Increases Start in July

City Beat
Your city, your news

by Kelli Williams

The City Council earlier this month approved a utility rate increase proposed by consultant NewGen Strategies that will take effect July 1 for all city water, wastewater, and solid waste customers.



“The rate increases for all City services – water, wastewater, and solid waste – for the average customer, who uses about 6,000 gallons of water per month, is an approximately 7.5 percent, for Fiscal Year 2023,” said CFO/City Clerk Jason Muninger. “It drops slightly each year after that, with 5.5 percent in 2024, 5.2 percent in 2025, and 4 percent in 2026.”

The five-year rate plan will recover the cost of operations and capital needs through 2026, which includes the purchase of a new Automated Meter Infrastructure System, upgrades to the City’s sanitation collection equipment, and ongoing wastewater infrastructure needs.

Automated Meter Infrastructure System

According to Water Utilities Director Terry Lauritsen, a new AMI system is needed due to high failure rates with the current system.

“In 2013, the City installed an automated meter infrastructure system for water meters that replaced existing, manually-read meters with meters that automatically read and reported data at predetermined intervals to the City,” Lauritsen said. “The cost of that system was \$3.8 million. Unfortunately, it has not worked as promised, and we have experienced a 98 percent failure rate with the meter transmitters. This has resulted in the replacement of the transmitters on 16,086 of the City’s total 16,403 meters.”

Lauritsen reported to the council in March that Mueller Water Products, the company contracted for the existing system, has experienced high failure rates not only in Bartlesville but other municipalities as well, and that the product has fallen far short of what was promised by the company upon implementation.

“City staff has replaced 18,925 nodes, a small part that sits on top of the meter and serves as the meter transmitter,” Lauritsen said. “This means we’ve replaced this part on the entire system plus some. Additionally, there are large delays in receiving warranty parts, and the City is now entering into the pro-rated portion of the warranty.”

He said that between 2023-2028, it is anticipated the current system would cost an additional \$300,000 per year to continue replacing the meter transmitters. He said the City could opt to stay with Mueller and pay \$350,000 for a necessary upgrade along with the additional \$300,000 per year for component replacements, or install a different AMI system. A new system with Mueller would cost approximately \$1.5 million; however, while the company has verbally agreed to guarantee the system’s performance, it declined to do so in writing, Lauritsen said.

The rate increases include the cost to install a new system under a different provider for an estimated \$7.5 million. This option

UTILITY RATE INCREASE					
	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
WATER					
Average monthly residential water usage (g)	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Volumetric rate/1,000 g	4.52	4.37	4.37	4.37	4.37
Capital investment fee/1,000 g	0.95	1.35	1.60	1.85	2.10
Monthly volumetric charge	18.08	17.48	17.48	17.48	17.48
Monthly capital investment fee charge	3.80	5.40	6.40	7.40	8.40
Monthly base rate	16.19	16.19	16.19	16.19	16.19
Total monthly water charge	38.07	39.07	40.07	41.07	42.07
WASTEWATER					
Average monthly residential wastewater usage (g)	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500
Volumetric rate/1,000 g	3.49	3.69	3.89	4.09	4.29
Capital investment fee/1,000 g	2.53	3.23	3.48	3.73	3.98
Monthly volumetric charge	15.71	16.61	17.51	18.41	19.31
Monthly capital investment fee charge	11.39	14.54	15.66	16.79	17.91
Monthly base rate	11.93	12.93	14.43	15.93	17.43
Total monthly wastewater charge	39.02	44.07	47.60	51.12	54.65
SANITATION					
96 Gal Cart Fee	17.00	18.00	19.00	20.00	20.00
TOTAL UTILITY MONTHLY CHARGE	94.09	101.14	106.67	112.19	116.72
% INCREASE		7.5%	5.5%	5.2%	4.0%

is required to interface with the City’s software system to allow online bill payment, which is another of the many functions promised with the existing system that failed to deliver as promised, Lauritsen said. A final option would be to go back to manual reads for an estimated \$250,000 plus to the cost of associated software.

Water

The water rate increases approved by the council Monday allows for the anticipated purchase of a new AMI system and continues implementation of inclining block rate structure and capital improvement fees.

Water rate increases and Water Capital Investment Fees approved by the council Monday will cost the average residential customer a total of approximately seven percent more beginning July 2022, with similar increases occurring in 2024, 2025, and 2026.

Wastewater

Similar increases were approved for wastewater and Wastewater Capital Investment Fees. Capital needs that include the impending expansion of the existing Chickasaw Wastewater Treatment Plant and improvements to the City’s four pump stations and pipelines necessitate the increases in wastewater rates. In all, upgrades to wastewater infrastructure is expected to cost upwards of \$60 million.

Solid Waste

Solid Waste services rates will increase \$1 per month for the next three years to cover equipment costs, bringing the total cost for residential use with one cart from \$17 per month currently to \$20 in 2025, with no increase planned for 2026.

For details about the increases, the NewGen report, or anticipated revenues generated by the utility rate increases, you can visit www.cityofbartlesville.org.