
Construction of New Museum Begins

Work has begun to construct the Paul and Ann Milburn Center for the Pottawatomie County Historical Society. After a May 17 ground breaking ceremony preparations began to clear the site for construction. The basement of the former freight building was unearthed and a large amount of debris located in it was removed from the site before additional dirt could be brought in to elevate the foundation.

John Patterson, local architect, has prepared the plans. Construction is being managed by Monte Garner, Garner Construction. Ken Landry, the museum's volunteer director, is representing the Historical Society to coordinate the work.

A display of the groundbreaking ceremony is now located in the Main Street windows of the former J. C. Penney building on Main at Union. Three enlarged photographs of the participants plus drawings of the building plans are included. Another display at the corner shows the history of the former Penney's building site. See page 2 for copies of the ground breaking photographs.

Player Piano Donated to Museum

The Pottawatomie County Museum has received a player piano along with 176 rolls to provide music at the museum for special occasions. During the Trail Days event on June 18 museum visitors were treated to renditions of "O What a Beautiful Morning" from the musical, "Oklahoma!" There are many examples of seasonal melodies, particularly for the Christmas season, in the collection. City of Shawnee Commissioner James Harrod and his wife, Kaye, are the donors.

Historic Painting of Dale, OK Donated to Museum

A painting of Dale, Oklahoma based on a photograph of the Pottawatomie County community taken in 1902 and commissioned by Dale native, Leonard Sullivan has been presented to the Pottawatomie County Museum and Historical Society. Wayne Cooper, noted Oklahoma artist, painted the picture which is on display at the museum. Robert (Bob) Seikel, first vice president of the board of directors and Dale native worked with Sullivan in making the donation. Sullivan has been Oklahoma County Assessor since 2004. Seikel, retired Social Security administrator, has written about Dale veterans as well as nine other books of local history and genealogy.



Crowd gathered on May 17 to celebrate ground breaking for new museum



Left to Right: John Patterson, Monte Garner, JoAnn Dudley, Ann Milburn, Paul Milburn, April Stobbe, Edie Akin, Gary Akin, Larry Briggs, C.L. Craig, Justin Erickson, and Bill Ford



Left to right: Ken Landry, Linda Agee, County Commissioners Melissa Dennis and Randy Thomas, Dr. Thomas Henry, Mark Schneiter, Bob Seikel, Joi Grissom, Sara Epley, Dawson Engle, Sam Vasquez, Bob Currie and Ann McDonald.



Left to right: Dr. Carol Humphrey, David Taylor, Jim Lynn, Ken Epley, Dell Kerbs, Connie Johnson, Nancy Antosh, Jim Antosh, Sherri Dykes, Harry Currie, Tom Terry



Tecumseh artist, Stan Pace, has carved two of four feathers planned for the cottonwood tree located south of the entrance to the new museum. The feathers represent the four Native American tribes in Pottawatomie County. Other symbols will be carved on remaining branches.

Museum Attendance Increases during 2016, Almost Double Previous 12 months

12 month	2015						2016						Total
	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	
Foreign	12	0	3	43	1	2	0	0	7	0	4	0	72
Out of State	105	42	79	44	36	21	3	22	116	47	52	120	687
Oklahoma	101	90	123	83	57	28	47	57	107	81	93	190	1057
Pott County	114	74	299	60	39	90	125	151	139	135	130	459	1815
Totals:	332	206	504	230	133	141	175	230	369	263	279	769	3631

Mark October 1 on Your Calendar for “Planes, Trains, and Automobiles”

A community wide festival is being planned that will coordinate the annual airplane event at the airport followed by automobile displays in the vicinity of the Santa Fe Depot by various automobile clubs and the annual Santa Fe Homecoming festivities at the museum. Watch for more details closer to the date.

Museum Wish List:

Special thanks to Mrs. Ruth Horn for providing funding for a projector and large projection screen for the museum. This period’s wish list: Security cameras \$600; cartridges for laser printer \$200; office supplies \$200.