

# LINKS

FREE

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

HOMETOWN OKLAHOMA  
SPECIAL EDITION SERIES

January 10, 2004

## Community Links

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In the early morning hours of Saturday April 15, 2000 a fire gutted the Adair Middle School gymnasium. Just hours before the fire, the finishing touches had been put on decorations for the school prom. The prom was to be held at the gym later that same night. Thanks to some resourceful and hard working folks, who dug out some decorations from past proms and located another sound system, the prom was held as scheduled, in the school cafeteria. Superintendent Tom Linihan said, "It takes a tragedy like this sometimes to show you how a community can come together."

Steve Hall, a member of the fire department and the first man to respond to the scene between 4 a.m. and 5 a.m., said the fire probably started in a section of bleachers on the north side. There was an electrical outlet in that section. Steve secured the scene by closing off the doors connecting the gym to the school building, thus containing fire damage to the gymnasium. There was some smoke damage to the school halls.

If the Adair FFA chapter hadn't been headed to a function that morning, the entire school might have burned to the ground. They were loading up, when someone noticed smoke coming out of the vents.

This is just one example of what makes the people of Adair so special. We hope you enjoy the articles and features about this nice little town.

The Adair, Indian Territory Post Office was established in March of 1883, and was located in the depot. At that time a railroad boxcar was a makeshift depot. The first Postmaster is thought to be a Miss Georgia C. Fay. It was the third postmaster, Eugene Hall who moved the post office a block west of the depot. The first rural route was started in 1909 and went west and north of Adair. The carrier was J.L. Garretson, who did so until about 1920.

M.L King opened the first lumberyard in 1890. Another source says the lumberyard did not open till 1903, and was owned by William Wilson. It was said Mr. Wilson sold the business to King-Lawrence Lumber Company of Wichita Kansas. They in turn sold it to Jim Powell, who operated under the name of Independent Lumber Company.

Local businessmen and stockmen organized the Bank of Adair in 1901. The first Bank President was David S. Cumming. Robert L. Brock was Vice President, and T.T. Parks was acting cashier. The bank stayed in business till the depression of the thirties, at which time it closed and liquidated assets.

The Security State Bank of Adair, Indian Territory, was organized shortly after the Bank of Adair. Two banks proved to be too many for the small town, so the latter closed its doors and liquidated assets.

The Dunham Building was built in 1903 from sandstone quarried from the Ruben DeLozier hill 3 miles west of Adair. Most of the stone buildings in Adair were built out rock from that same location. Adair was blessed with many stonemasons. Adair native, James Jones, probably built most of the stone buildings in town.

In 1908 Morton F. Garretson, an Adair native, put in the towns telephone system. He prevailed upon to extend the line to the rural areas. It was agreed that the potential customers or neighbors would supply the telephone poles.

Mr. John F. Warren donated the site for the Adair Christian Church. The church was built and dedicated in 1908. It is the only church in Adair, still being used in its original state. The Adair, Allison, Brock, DeLozier, Dunham, Hogan, Langley, and Dr. White families were organizers in building the church.

In 1910 the community of Adair contributed funds to drill an artesian well. A location for the well was secured on one corner of the Katy right of way. As the drill stem approached 600 feet, a roaring was heard and water came gushing forth. There was a great excitement, as if oil had been struck! After a casing was installed, a cement tank for watering stock was built near the well and 2 public drinking fountains were installed. The well soon proved to be a worthwhile investment, as 1911 was one of the driest on record. Some thought the water possessed medicinal qualities. Passengers from the trains would drink from the well, some even filling jugs to take with them. Eventually the steel casing rusted away and the well was filled in.

1910 was also the year the newspaper The Adair American started publication. It was published weekly. A one-year subscription was \$1.00.

Robert L. Brock built and operated the first grain elevator in Adair. It was located south of the depot and burned in the early 1920's. Adair's first cotton gin was built in 1912. It was located north of the grain elevator. It operated until selling cotton became unprofitable. The stockholders sold the gin and it was moved to Cherokee County. In 1921 a Muskogee cotton broker erected a modern electric powered cotton gin in Adair. It was destroyed by fire four or five years later.

The Katy stockyards, located on the east side of the tracks just north of the depot, was a busy place in the spring and summer months. Cattle were shipped in for fattening before being shipped to market in the summer and fall. In 1914, because of Texas tick fever, a dipping vat was made and a well drilled to furnish water for the vat. The first cattle were dipped on September 15, 1914. The tick fever was eradicated in a year's time.

In 1923 the citizens of Adair voted favorably on a 25-year franchise to the Public Service Company of Oklahoma to furnish the town's electric. The Trustees of the W.A. Graham Estate of Pryor allocated \$100,000 for the town of Adair. City officials used the money to install a modern water works system.

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# Adair Now

According to the 2000 census records 703 people call Adair home. Many of the families who still live in Adair are descendants of pioneer families who settled the area. While gathering information for the articles and features in this issue, we learned the people of Adair take great pride in their town and their heritage.

Adair's location has a number of advantages. US Highway 69 carries the heaviest truck traffic in the State of Oklahoma. State Highway 28 is the gateway to the Grand River Dam, Grand Lake, and Lake Hudson. Another advantage is the close proximity to the Mid-America Industrial District, southeast of Pryor. Many people from Adair work there. Many people from Adair not only hold down full time jobs, but they also continue to farm and ranch on land owned by their families for generations.

Adair's Public School System is one of the best in this part of Oklahoma. The school system maintains a high standard of excellence in academic achievement, extra curricular activities, and sports programs.

Many of the current city officials serve the community in several different ways. The current Mayor, Steve Hall has also been on the Adair Fire Department for 28 years. Steve has been the mayor since April of 2003.

Adair's Chief of Police, Billy Couch is as likely to be seen operating heavy equipment, or mowing city property, as he is in a patrol car. Billy has been the police chief since 1986. He went to school to get his sewer license, to help the town's utility department.

Adair's other police officer, Albert McKee also went to school to get a plumbers license for the same reason. Albert has been with the police department for approximately 12 years.

On October 31, 1997 there was an attempted escape at the Mayes County Jail. One jailer was injured and 2 inmates were shot and wounded. Albert was one of the first police officers on the scene. He took charge of the situation, calling in key personnel for assistance, and rendered first aid to the injured jailer.

Other city officials are: Melissa Crawford is City Treasurer and Court Clerk. Holly Fletcher is City Clerk. There are four other Council Members: Devin DeLozier, Donna Boharsic, Dink Palmour, and Franky Littlefield.

Tim Littleford is Fire Chief and has been with the fire department for 31 years. There are 19 fire fighters.

Adair's Chamber of Commerce officers are: Jack Vickers is President; Dan Kelly is Vice President, Diane Kennedy is Treasurer, and Jodi Avery is Secretary. They are currently working to secure grants to revitalize the Main Street district of Adair.



The Christian Church, built in 1908.  
Looks the same today, as it did then.



Adair's oldest building, built in 1903.  
Originally known as the Dunham building.



Mural on the Adair Community Center



Adair Town Hall

## Adair Police Chief, Billy Couch



A native of Chelsea, Billy became Adair's Chief of Police in 1986, at the urging of former chief, Ronnie Riley, also of Chelsea. Billy says, "I really wasn't interested in the job, but Ronnie wanted me to try. After riding with him a few times I changed my mind." He said he figured he would give it a try, while looking for something else. Over the years, Billy learned to like being "the law" in the small town of Adair. He has always tried to do his part to make Adair a better place to live. Besides his duty as Police Chief, he also mows city property, and went to school to get his sewer license, to help the town's utility department make ends meet.

Billy has the distinction of being a Chief of Police longer than any other lawman in Mayes County history. He is known for his fair and impartial distribution of the law. He is a very straightforward speaking man, who has no problem letting you know what he thinks. Billy says he still doesn't like taking people to jail. He says, "I know it's part of the job, but usually you are dealing with good people who do stupid things. Jail is a lonely place that I wouldn't wish on anybody."

Billy has helped many people over the years. Whether it is a motorist with car trouble, just passing through town, or a member of the community a little down on their luck, which he helps out by paying a bill or two. He says he doesn't lend a hand to be repaid; the "Thank you" is enough. He also believes, "What goes around, comes around." Despite his efforts, Billy is smart enough to know he isn't on everybody's Christmas list. He says, "I've had lots of people over the years call me all sorts of things, trying to say I've wronged them in one way or another. I know you can't please everyone all of the time, but it's not easy when people don't like you, and they tell you so!"

Billy says the hardest part of his job is being the first on the scene of a fatality accident and it's

someone he knows; then he has to go tell the family. He says, "There is no easy way of telling a family something like that." He says he has been greeted with everything from anger, to disbelief, with some even thinking it is some kind of sick joke!

Billy gives much of the credit for his successful career to his wife of 17 years, Elisa. He says she has been very understanding and supportive over the years. "She understands the commitment a job like this takes, and knows someone has to do it."

Billy says he has been fortunate while serving as Adair Police Chief, to have the support of the City Council. Mayor Steve Hall said, "Billy is the police chief, and does his job well. We don't have to tell him how to run the Police Department."

Elisa is an Adair schoolteacher. Billy met her at the Chelsea Rodeo. Their 6-year-old daughter is named Chelsea. Billy's 23-year-old son is named Justin, and he has a 20-year-old daughter, Anesa.



Billy is the third of four kids born to Earl and Wanda Couch. He is a 1976 graduate of Chelsea High School. He says he was an "average" student who like kids everywhere did some pretty ornery things while growing up. He says his parents kept a pretty tight rein on them, and didn't let them get away with much. That is how he has tried to raise his own kids.

When Billy isn't "on duty" he stays busy with his family, the ranch, and PRCA steer roping.

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## They Cared Enough To Make A Difference

Many people from Adair loved the community enough to do everything possible to make the town a better place, whether it was donating time, services, or money.

The school system honored Bernita Hughes for 30 years of service to the system, by naming the elementary school in her Honor. Mrs. Hughes had been a teacher for 37 years.

Bernita came to Adair in 1928, joining the faculty that same year. She spent the last 10 years of her career as the Principal of Adair High School. She retired in 1966, because of health problems, but returned for a short while in 1967 to serve as high school counselor.

Mrs. Hughes died October 12, 1967. They named the school in her honor the following year. Bernita was the mother of General Harley Hughes.

The Lee family operated the General Store for many years. Fred and Cathryn continued operating the store after his parent's death.

Fred was elected to the Oklahoma House of Representatives at the age of 24.

Cathryn operated the store four years after Fred's death in 1969. She then sold it to Wayne Schultz in 1973.

The Lee's were staunch supports of the Adair community. They donated the building that houses the town hall in 1959.

Cathryn said she was blessed with a wonderful life and enjoyed helping others to do the same.

Cathryn was a staunch supporter of the school system, the Boy Scouts, the FFA, the fire department, and her church. She showed continued support by donating a lot of money to these worthy causes.

Cathryn enjoyed serving as pianist, organist, and soloist for her church. She also served as church secretary for over 25 years.

Countless numbers of Adair students received help from Cathryn with their college education.

When Cathryn died in 2001, her sizable estate went to the town of Adair.

## Sports Figures Who Called Adair Home

### Jim Bluejacket

Jim was born in Adair on July 8, 1887. His birth name was Jim Smith. Jim began his Major League baseball career in 1914 with the Brooklyn Tip-Tops; he was with them 2 years. He ended his career in 1916 with the Cincinnati Reds. Jim died in Perkin Illinois on March 26, 1947.

### Ben Tincup

Ben's birth name was Austin Ben Tincup. He was born in Adair on December 14, 1890. He began his Major League baseball career on May 22, 1914. He played for the Philadelphia Phillies in 1914, 1915, and 1918. He ended his big league in 1928 with the Chicago Cubs. Ben died in Claremore on July 5, 1980.

### John Cason

Fresh out of the Coast Guard in 1946, John had dreams of becoming the welterweight boxing champion. In 1943 John won All Service Championship. At one time he was ranked in the top 10 pros in the welterweight division.

John had torn a ligament in his right knee while in the service. During his last pro boxing match in Detroit in 1946 his knee went out. This was his first and only loss in his boxing career. He knew his dream of becoming a champ had come to an end and his boxing career was over.

John went into real estate. He still lives in Adair.



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## Sam's Town

Sam's Town is home to Bunks and Borders, George's Real Good BBQ Company, and Sam's Town Barber Shop. Ron's Hamburgers owned by Shirley Horton had been there for a year and a half and closed in late December.

Terry Lacy runs the barbershop. He has been there a year. Terry proudly displays a picture of his grand daughter, Kimberly Lacy of Prue, who is 2003 Miss Oklahoma Teen America.

George and Judy Jolly, and Bo and Shelly Sampson own Sam's Town.

George and Judy own and operate George's BBQ and Bunks and Borders. It is a family operated business. Judy's sister and brother in law, Pat and Garry Hanson work with them.

Two of the Jolly's daughters, Shelly Sampson and Tanya Neilson have a business called Game Time Grills. They are small football shaped charcoal grills with OU and OSU logos on them, for the game time tailgate parties.

On Saturday evenings the place hosts a jam session. They have a variety of country, bluegrass, and gospel music. They have had a world class fiddle player, and some up and coming local talents.

One wall holds an impressive collection of pictures of sports figures and entertainers such as Garth Brooks. There is also a framed picture of a beautiful young lady on the front of a Drysdale's catalog. It is George and Judy's grand daughter Miranda, who models for Drysdale's.

The Jolly's came here 7 years ago from east Texas. They both said they really like Adair. They are praying the economy rebounds soon from the nosedive it took after 9-11.



The following pictures are from days gone by. Unfortunately we were unable to find dates they were made.



Owl Drug Store



Another part of the Dunham Building



Lee's Store (Dunham Building)



The Lumber Yard



The Grain Elevator



Inside the Dunham Building

We want to thank Steve and Marcia Hall for providing these pictures for us to use.



## Business in Adair

Today's business district in Adair is a far cry from days gone by. At one time the entire business district evolved around the Katy Railroad.

Today many family owned and operated businesses still contribute the economy of the small town.

The Eby family has three businesses on the east side of the Highway 69 and 28 intersection. The Corner Surplus Store, the Main Store, and Memories, Antiques, and More are all owned and operated by members of the family.

Larry and Patsy Eby opened the Main Store on Memorial Day of 1980. It had been in the planning phase for 10 years. It surpassed their expectations from the very beginning.

Patsy worked a regular shift at the store and took care of the paperwork, while working a full time job as a registered nurse at Grand Valley Hospital. Larry worked for and retired from GRDA. Their son Kenny manages the store.

Patsy has operated Memories, Antiques, and more for about 14 years.

Jeff and Rhonda Eby opened the Corner Surplus Store two and a half years ago. Jeff is Larry and Patsy's son. He says it is the first time he has really enjoyed his work. They sell a little bit of everything, from soup to nuts and bolts! There is a vast array of items in the store and the stock is constantly changing.

Adair's Tag Office is a family run enterprise also. Mildred Whitlock was the tag agent from 1983 to 1995. Mildred was also the Mayor of Adair for 16 years.

Mildred is a retired teacher. She taught high school math and coached girls' basketball. She was Principal at Ketchum for 20 years.

Mildred served as a board member of the Mayes County Ambulance Service for 15 years. She is also a board member of the Adair Chamber of Commerce.

Mildred's daughter Karen Mitchell has been a tag agent for 10 years. Karen was a drug and alcohol counselor and member of the State Board of Health prior to becoming a tag agent.

Although she is officially retired, Mildred still helps out in the Tag Office. She celebrated her 78<sup>th</sup> birthday in December of 2003.

## Bessie Shultz

While doing research about Adair History, everyone told us we needed to talk to Bessie. It was said if anyone would know about Adair, it was Bessie.

When we went to talk with her, we soon learned everyone was right. She was a big help and made our job much easier. Much of the information in the stories and articles in this issue came from her.

Bessie and her husband, Wayne owned and operated the General Store for years. They bought the business from Cathryn Lee in 1973.

Bessie was also the Town Treasurer and Court Clerk for 30 years. She retired in 2003 and said it was the biggest mistake she ever made!

It is apparent that Bessie is a highly respected and well thought of person in the community.

### Thank you!

We would like to say a special thank you to Tom Linihan, Steve and Marcia Hall, Bessie Shultz, and all the other City Officials and business owners who helped us with the articles and features in this issue.

Adair is a wonderful little town and it is the fine people of the community who make it what it is!

### The Main Store

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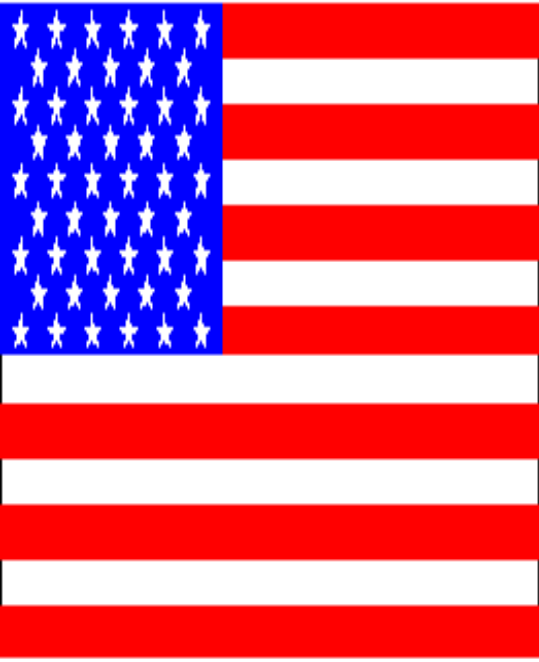
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# H o m e t o w n

## H e r o e s



Many who called Adair home paid the ultimate price, while serving our country. It is with great pride we honor some of Adair's fallen heroes. Our hearts go out to the families of these "HOMETOWN HEROES". To those of you more fortunate, to have served and returned home, we extend a heartfelt "Thank You!"



*James McKenney*  
*September 11, 1918*



*John Edward DeLozier*  
*1918*



*Gene Neville*  
*September 26, 1942*



*Burley Gay Jr.*  
*December 27, 1942*



*J.L. Deen*  
*July 15, 1944*



*Raymond L. Large*  
*August 6, 1944*



*Terrell Thompson*  
*September 15, 1944*



*Eugene Fausset*  
*January 12, 1945*





*J. Noble Alexander*

*March 13, 1945*



*Claude A. Large*

*June 21, 1945*



*George Stinson*

*December 17, 1966*



*Jimmy Smith*

*September 10, 1967*



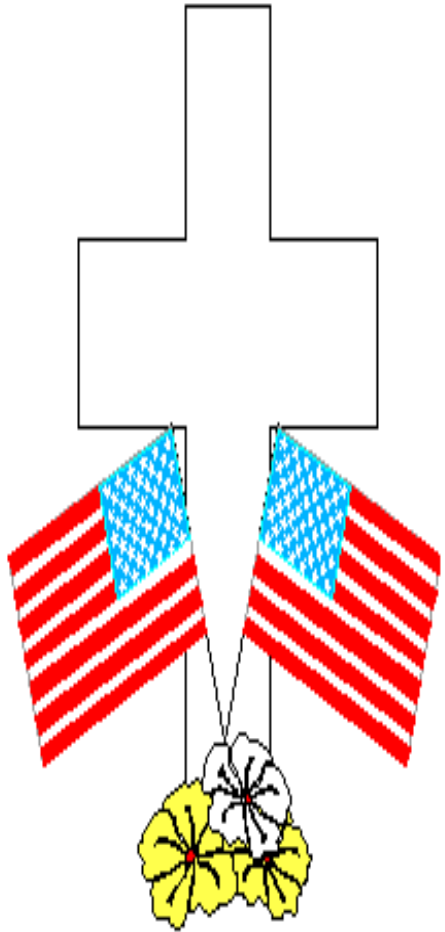
*Hamp Zornes*

*September 30, 1968*



*George Swartzendruber*

*February 27, 1991*




Pictured are monuments in Adair's cemetery  
dedicated to these men



**Adair High School  
Basketball Schedule 2003-2004**

Tuesday	Jan. 6	Foyil	THERE
Friday	Jan. 9	Westville	THERE
Tuesday	Jan. 13	Colcord	HERE
Friday	Jan. 16	Chelsea	THERE
Mon.-Sat.	Jan. 19-24	Pryor Tourn.	PRYOR
Tuesday	Jan 27	Ketchum	HERE
Friday	Jan. 30	Hulbert	HERE
Tuesday	Feb. 3	Kansas	THERE
Friday	Feb. 6	Foyil	HERE
Tuesday	Feb. 10	Westville	HERE
Friday	Feb. 13	Colcord	THERE
Tuesday	Feb. 17	Salina	HERE
Fr-Sat	Feb. 20-21	District	
Th-Sat	Feb. 26-28	Regional	
Th-Sat	Mar. 4-6	Area	
Th-Sat	Mar. 11-13	State	

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<p><b>1 mile East of stoplight on Hwy. 28</b></p>	
<p><b>In Sam's Town</b></p>	

## The Early Years of Education

A school for Cherokee children was built in 1880, in Adair, Indian Territory. It was a large one room frame building. The students traveled several miles by walking, horseback, or buggy, to get to the school. White students were not allowed to attend the school until Oklahoma was granted statehood. The Cherokee school was located a few blocks north of the present intersection of highways 28 and 69.

The first school for white children was originally located about two blocks north of the present school.

The first permanent school building was completed in 1911, and served as the training ground for the children of Adair and the surrounding areas until it was partially destroyed by fire.

School was in session when the fire was discovered by one of the students, Charles Curts, who immediately notified the school officials. The students were quickly evacuated and no injuries were incurred.

The east portion of the old school was saved, and this section served as the high school for a period of time, until a new school could be built. Wooden frame buildings were purchased and moved onto the school grounds to serve as classrooms for the elementary grades. The high school was rebuilt within a short time in the same location, and other buildings were moved in to accommodate the homemaking, music, and vocational agriculture departments.



Adair's School - 1908



Adair's School - 1911



Adair's first basketball team (1908-1909)

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## Education in Adair

With 100 employees, Adair Public School system is the town's largest employer. There are approximately 900 students enrolled in the three schools, Bernita Hughes Elementary School, Adair Middle School, and Adair High School.

The Adair School District is a progressive high achieving district, which boasts one of the top ten high schools in the state, according to the Academic Performance Index. They are committed to their mission statement, "Believing that all students can learn, our mission is to equip students to be successful in a changing world".

The Adair Board of Education, administration, faculty, and staff are committed to planning, developing, and implementing the most effective educational experiences for all Adair students. Their goal is to challenge students to set high goals and to have high expectations, and then to achieve those goals and to meet or exceed those expectations.

The Adair School system is extremely proud of its faculty and students and the statewide achievements they have accomplished. Success in any program is a cooperative effort between the student, teacher, and parent or guardian. All one has to do is to look at the test scores, the success of the graduates academically at the next level, or the achievements of the extra-curricular activities and you will see success throughout the total school program.

Tom Linihan is Adair's Public School System Superintendent. He has held that position for 8 years. Mr. Linihan has been in education 26 years, 19 of which have been in Adair. He is a 1974 graduate of Adair High School. Mr. Linihan says, "We really believe that "Education is the Key to the Doors of Tomorrow" and at Adair School we are proud to have great students, a great staff, great parents, and to be located in a great community." (continued on next page)



Mrs. Briggs



Mr. Flanary



Mr. Collins

	<p>"You Bring It We Sell It"</p> <h1>Sisters</h1> <p>"The Selling Store" Old, New or Used Bright, Shiny or Tint</p> <p>Downtown Adair, OK (918) 785-4253</p>	<p>Sandi Whiteis 918-785-4253</p>  <p>No Order too small! School Spirit Wear</p> <h2>Heartland Embroidery</h2> <p>16 West Main Adair, OK 918-785-4253 e-mail: heartlandemb@tds.net</p> <p>We do Custom Designs Business Logos Bring your own art work or use ours</p>
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Cynthia Briggs is principle of Bernita Hughes Elementary. Mrs. Briggs encourages parents to participate in the learning experience, through cooperation, and involvement in the local P.T.A. and other volunteer programs.

Bernita Hughes Elementary is a "Great Expectations School." Great Expectations is dedicated to providing professional growth opportunities for pre-service and practicing educators designed to build the knowledge and skills needed to motivate, inspire, and challenge students to achieve excellence in learning and living.

Great Expectations is a professional development program that provides teachers and administrators with the skills needed to create harmony and excitement within the school atmosphere, elements that are basic for inspiring students to pursue academic excellence. With a focus on the human quality of teaching and learning, Great Expectations provides renewal and inspiration for teachers who may have lost their way and forgotten why they became teachers in the beginning.

Adair Middle School principle is Richard Flanary. The program at the school is designed to serve the needs of students as they leave the elementary grades and before they enter high school. Special emphasis on strong academic courses and an effort is made to equip the students with a foundation in communication and math courses; along with science classes taught by the inquiry method. It is felt that a strong background in the basics is necessary at this level if the students are to be successful in their high school years.

Clifton Collins is the High School principal. Mr. Collins says he and the faculty try to instill in the students the importance of the high school years as preparation for life. Learning is a lifelong process, and getting a good foundation is essential, whether it is in the classroom or in an extracurricular activity.

They take great pride in students past accomplishments like the National Merit Scholars, Academic All Staters, their State Champions and All Staters as well as the State Farmer Degree Recipients. Mr. Collins says, "We are not content to rest on our accolades. We still strive to advance our educational standards to better equip our young adults for a changing world."

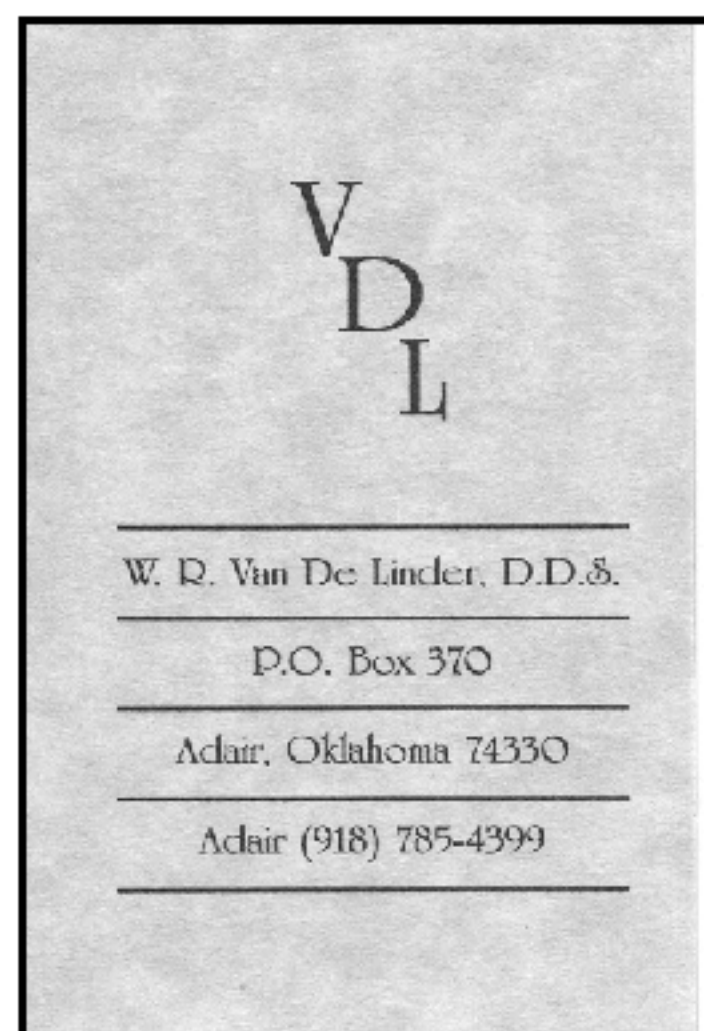
Construction of a multipurpose facility and four classrooms this year will greatly enhance the educational opportunities for Adair students. Giving each student a variety of experiences will strengthen his or her ability to make positive life changing choices. Mr. Collins also says, "The tradition in which our school is richly ingrained only comes about through the dedication and hard work of students, parents, teachers, administrators, and with the support of the community. With these entities headed in the same direction, greater success is only a matter of time."



Adair High School has an award winning school newspaper, Tepee Talk.

Adair Public Schools has an excellent website. Much of the information in this story came from the site. You can visit the site at <http://www.adairschools.org>

We want to say a special "Thank you" to Mr. Linihan and Marcia Hall for all their help with this article.





# Adair Jr. High

## Basketball Schedule 2003-2004

Jan. 5	Chelsea	7-8	Away
Jan. 5-8	Adair Tourn.	9	Adair
Jan. 8	Salina	7-8	Away
Jan. 12	Chouteau	7-8-9	Home
Jan. 15	Ketchum	8-9	Home
Jan. 26-31	Adair Tourn.	7-8	Adair
Feb. 2	Foyil	7-8-9	Home
Feb. 5	Salina	7-8-9	Home
Feb. 9	Chelsea	7-8-9	Home
Feb. 12	Vinita	7-8-9	Away

## 6th Grade Basketball

Jan. 7	Chouteau	Away
Jan. 9	Jay	Here
Jan. 13	Ketchum	Away
Jan. 20	Okla. Union	Here
Jan. 22	Chouteau	Here



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# Adair's Most Famous Alumni

Adair's most famous graduate is Lieutenant General Harley Hughes. He was born in Adair on October 5, 1935. He graduated from Adair High School in 1953. In 1957 he received a Bachelor of Science degree from Oklahoma A&M College in Stillwater. That same year he went into the Air Force with the rank of second lieutenant, through the Air Force R.O.T.C. program.

In 1957 he began T-37 training at Bainbridge Air Base in Georgia. He received his wings at Webb Air Force Base in Texas in 1959. After completing pilot training he attended the F-86L Interceptor School at Moody Air Force Base in Georgia. From 1963 until February 1966, General Hughes flew B-52G's at Blytheville Air Force Base in Arkansas.

After completing graduate degree requirements in June of 1967, he received F-4 replacement training at George Air Force Base in California. He was then assigned to the 558th Tactical Fighter Squadron at Cam Ranh Bay Air Base in Vietnam, from March of 1968 to April of 1969. While there he flew 225 combat missions. Upon his return to the United States, he was assigned as a planning and programming officer in the Strategic Forces Division, Directorate of Plans at Air Force headquarters. In 1971 he became an air operations staff officer and later chief of Strategic Offensive Forces.

In 1973 he attended the National War College and following graduation in 1974 he assumed command of the 716th bombardment Squadron at Kincheloe Air Force Base in Michigan. In December of 1974 he became deputy commander of the 449th Combat Support Group at Kincheloe. In March of 1975 he became the 449th Bombardment Wing Deputy Commander for operations.

After completing graduate degree requirements in June of 1967, he received F-4 replacement training at George Air Force Base in California. He was then assigned to the 558th Tactical Fighter Squadron at Cam Ranh Bay Air Base in Vietnam, from March of 1968 to April of 1969. While there he flew 225 combat missions. Upon his return to the United States, he was assigned as a planning and programming officer in the Strategic Forces Division, Directorate of Plans at Air Force headquarters. In 1971 he became an air operations staff officer and later chief of Strategic Offensive Forces.

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He moved to Carswell Air Force Base, Texas, in October 1981 as commander of the 19th Air Division. In August 1982 he became deputy chief of staff for operations plans, Headquarters Strategic Air Command, and deputy director for the Single Integrated Operational Plan of the Joint Strategic Target Planning Staff, Offutt Air Force Base, Neb. In July 1984 he was assigned as the assistant deputy chief of staff for plans and operations at Air Force headquarters.

His military decorations and awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star, Defense Superior Service Medal, Distinguished Flying Cross with three oak leaf clusters, Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Air Medal with 11 oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Presidential Unit Citation, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with "V" device and oak leaf cluster, Combat Readiness Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with five oak leaf clusters, Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with five oak leaf clusters, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Metal.


He was promoted to Lieutenant General on September 12, 1985. He retired from the Air Force in March of 1988.






The early days of football in Adair. Coach Shaw was the first coach and started the first team around 1926.




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## Dalton Gang Robs Train In Adair, I.T.

On Thursday, July 14, 1892, eight members of the Dalton gang held up the Missouri, Kansas, and Texas train at Adair, I.T. It was said to be their most daring deed to date, making away with \$27,000.

The gang consisted of Bob, Grat, and Emmett Dalton, Bill Powers, Dick Broadwell, Charlie Pierce, Bitter Creek Newcomb, and Bill Doolin.

As the train approached, four men approached the night operator at the station and ordered him to flag down the train. As the train pulled to a standstill, two members of the gang boarded the engine while others covered the conductor and the trainmen.

The station operator was taken to the express car, where he ordered the messenger inside to open up. When the messenger refused, the train's fireman was ordered to break open the door with his pick. Once inside, the bandits were quick in rifling the safe of its contents.

Unknown to the gang, there was a special detachment of railroad guards on board the train. A tip had led lawmen to believe the robbery was to take place in Pryor Creek. Upon seeing the robbery was taking place in Adair, the guards departed the train on the east side, and a gun battle ensued.

With their work on the train finished, the bandits proceeded to make their get-away. With bullets whistling about, the gang made their way through town. Doctors W.L. Goff and Youngblood had been sitting on the porch of the drug store, near the depot. Both men were hit by stray shots. Dr. Goff's injuries proved fatal.

Captain J.J. Kinny, chief of railroad detectives, and Captain J.H. LaFore, chief of the Cherokee Indian police, were injured also. Their injuries were not serious and both recovered.

After the Adair robbery, the gang split up. With the law on their trail, the Dalton boys planned to make one last robbery, hoping to get enough money to leave the country. A plan was devised to rob two banks, in the same town, at the same time. They were sure this plan would result in enough money to leave the country, and they would also go down in history, by accomplishing something no other outlaw gang had ever attempted. They decided the perfect town was Coffeyville, Kansas, the Dalton's old hometown.

Early on the morning of October 5, 1892, the three Dalton boys, Bill Power, and Dick Broadwell rode into Coffeyville. They tied their horses in the alley across from the banks, walked across the street, divided into two groups, and entered the Condon National Bank and First National Bank. Unfortunately for the gang, citizens of the town recognized them, and the alarm was given.

Townsmen quickly armed themselves with weapons from local hardware stores, and took up positions to defend the town. As the bandits tried to make good their escape, a fierce gun battle took place. Four townsmen, and four members of the gang were killed. The sole survivor of the gang, Emmett Dalton was seriously wounded. He recovered from his wounds and stood trial for the crime. He was sentenced to life in prison, but was later pardoned by the governor. He spent the rest of his days in California.

Emmett Dalton after his release from prison.

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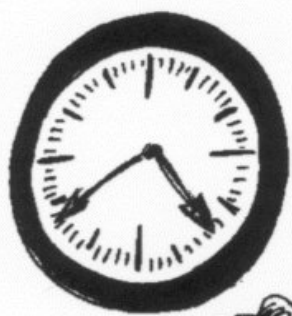
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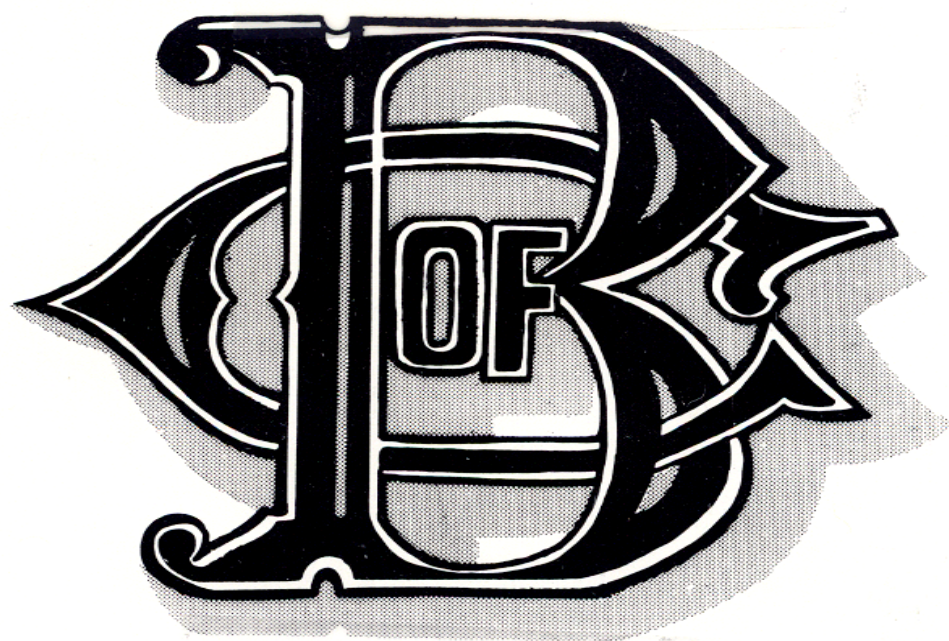
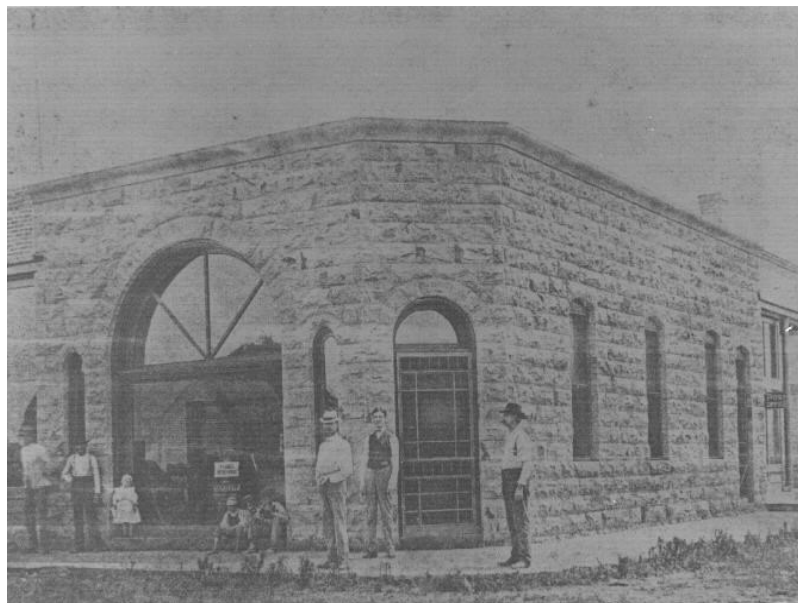
## Do You Remember?

While doing research for this issue, we took a walk down “Memory Lane” with several of the nice folks in Adair. We uncovered many interesting and fun facts along the way. So we are inviting you to take the “walk” too, and we want to know,

DO YOU REMEMBER?.....

- The Goose Grab was an annual event held the Saturday before Thanksgiving. It was started in 1926. People from several counties would gather in Adair for the event. The geese were released from one of the building tops. The event hosted a parade. The Goose Grab ended in 1985.
- Movies were shown from a screen hanging from the south wall of the Dunham Building. The beams that held the screen are still there. The Saturday night open air showing of the movies started around 1938 and stopped in the early to mid 50's.

- Harley Hughes returned to Adair for a visit in 1987. He flew into town aboard a National Guard helicopter. The General spoke to the Adair student body. Later in the day he was guest of honor at a luncheon at the Frying Pan Restaurant. That evening he spoke at the Chamber of Commerce meeting.
- When the bank looked like this.....



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## Thank you!

We want to thank each and every one of you who met with, and assisted us, while we were working on the articles and features in this edition of Hometown Oklahoma. Without your help, this issue would not have been possible.

One thing was clear while doing research for this issue. It is the people of Adair who make this little town so outstanding. Everyone was so friendly, hospitable, and helpful.

We also want to thank our readers. We hope everyone enjoys this, and future issues of Hometown Oklahoma.

## About Us

Community Links is dedicated to linking communities, increasing knowledge, expanding horizons, and offering opportunities. Links "The Little Green Paper" and Links "Special Edition Series" are published by persons with disabilities.

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