

The Washington Countian

BARTLESVILLE AREA HISTORY MUSEUM
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Bartlesville Area History Museum Presents “Our Culinary Past”



BAHM PRESENTS
OUR CULINARY
Past!

ON DISPLAY FROM
APRIL 7TH TO JULY 7TH

Bartlesville Area History Museum
401 S. Johnstone Ave. 5th Floor
Monday-Friday | 8:30-4:00
www.bartlesvillehistory.com
918.338.4290

This spring, BAHM is proud to present: “Our Culinary Past” on display from April 7th through July 7th. The exhibit takes visitors on a delectable trek down memory lane of Washington County’s most popular restaurants and how the past shaped the flavors of our community today!

Food has served as an essential part of human history and has not only provided sustenance but has also played a key role in the development of modern culture. Learn how the flavors of early indigenous people, combined with European, Spanish, and African flavors resulted in the rich, southern inspired piquancy of our foods today! Guests will discover how the need for nourishment while traveling, catalyzed the development of the first restaurants, helping to shape the social importance of dining together!

The Museum is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (closed on weekends and holidays) at 401 S. Johnstone Avenue, 5th Floor. Museum admission is free, but donations are always welcome. No reservation is necessary. If you have questions, you may reach Bartlesville Area History Museum staff at (918) 338-4290 or history@cityofbartlesville.org.

COLLECTIONS CORNER

Casey Sullivan, Collections Manager



*Uncle Frank and
Aunt Jane Phillips*



Official flower of

the Jane Phillips Society,

There are stories to be told in or about any person, place, or subject. Admittedly, I sometimes write stories for the newsletter out of desperation. At other times however, I become genuinely interested in a certain person, place, or subject aforementioned, in the collection. We recently received a donation of Jane Phillips Sorority memorabilia. The sorority, was founded on April 7th, 1937, by women working for Oil Co. Phillips 66. These ladies sought it reasonable to name their organization after a woman who devoted a large portion of her life to making the company feel like one large family; Jane Gibson Phillips or affectionately known as "Aunt Jane". Spurred on by the social, business, and civic status rival oil company, Cities Service, who already had a club for its women employees (Doherty Girls Club), Jane Phillips Sorority (JPS) organized to encourage companionship, social enjoyment, and high standards. At a meeting on April 21st, the name was officially selected and out of 282 women on Phillips payroll, 255 pledged membership.

The organization changed its name from Jane Phillips Sorority to Jane Phillips Society in 1988 to encourage the enrollment of males as well. This was with the exception of one man, Charles O. "Pop" Shirley, who was voted in as a member in 1937 and noted for his pants, patched with numbers "66" at special events and functions. Shirley was a colorful, Phillips company man, who joined the firm in 1919. He started as a communications specialist, which in simple terms, meant he wasn't afraid of climbing telephone poles to hang wire if required. As the years went on, "Pop" settled for less-hassle roles in the company but was nonetheless still involved. He served as manager for Woolaroc Ranch in the late 1920s and then building superintendent in the mid-30s. Despite having a youthful and sometimes mischievous personality, one duty that "Pop" took very seriously was caring for the sect of the organization he loved so much: The Jane Phillips Sorority. Former members of JPS recall "Pop" escorting about 20 "Janes" to their first burlesque party and "guarding them like a rooster in a hen house." He was always busy helping the Janes set up for parties, meetings, and conferences, all the way up until his retirement in 1945 and his death in 1979. He is buried in Memorial Park in Bartlesville with his wife Hazel.



Organizations so often forget that they float because of people. People like Charles Shirley, Jane Phillips, and so many others who put in all amounts of work, so that the company works as well. That is why these stories are so important to tell. The Jane Phillips Society was and is a powerhouse of influence, respectability, and responsibility that although is nationally recognized, has humble beginnings here in Bartlesville.

"In building character, it pays to use only the best materials."- Jane Phillips Society motto

Fried Cheese on a Stick, Poncho Villa, and Gravy Over, All Oh My!

By Shayla Cummins, Museum Coordinator



The most difficult dish I have made was this Uovo in Raviolo, homemade ravioli with egg yolk filling tossed in a crispy sage brown butter sauce.



Ratatouille from scratch, I made!



Homemade Pappardelle noodles!



Street view with Alfredo's Mexican Restaurant

Nothing will make me feel more accomplished than serving my family a meal that they love! Cooking has always been an outlet for me, so our newest exhibit feels like home! "Our Culinary Past," explains the relationship humans have always had with food and how that relationship shaped our social lives, including the development of dining out for pleasure and not just out of necessity!



Corn Dog 7 in the Mall

There is a lot of nostalgia, for most of us, when we think of the restaurants or foods we consumed during adolescents! From eating at Alfredo's Mexican Restaurant with my grandparents after church, hanging out at the mall to eat Corn Dog 7's fried cheese on stick, or visiting friends at their first job, food has always held main stage in my life!

In 1907, Bartlesville's first official City Directory was published and our formal record keeping of local restaurants began! That year Bray's Restaurant at 110 west 2nd, Crystal Café at 211 west 3rd, Eagle Café, Elite Café, English Kitchen, Newport Café, OK Restaurant at 119 west 2nd, Virginia Restaurant at 204 west 3rd, Charley's Bakery at 11 east 2nd, and Modern Bakery at 115 east 2nd were listed. The listings more than double the following year, adding 16 more! Many have come and gone, but few have reached legendary status!

One of those legends is Murphy's! Murphy's Steak House, 1625 S.W. Frank Phillips Blvd., is a place of legends. Patterned after the typical roadhouse diner of the 1930s and 1940s. Melvel and Lorene Murphy started the restaurant in September 1946 and developed a lasting following. Murphy's house specialty is the "hot hamburger," toasted bread topped with a hamburger patty, french fries, ladles of rich brown gravy, and if you are like me, EXTRA grilled onions! Murphy's has reached national acclaim as a top restaurant featured in such magazines as Southern Living, Home and Away, and USA Weekend!

If you are a local, transplant or repeating visitor, you have heard the phrase, "Gravy Over All!"



In the Know With Nowlin

Denise Nowlin, Education Coordinator

The winter weather caused some unexpected changes in our schedule around the museum, but we are finally getting back on track. We are looking forward to school groups and adult tour groups visiting us again throughout the spring. I would like to give a big thank you to our volunteers, Betty Keim and Kay Little, who come in and portray the schoolmarm in our one-room schoolhouse reenactments. If you would like to schedule a time for a group to experience one of these journeys back in time, please contact me at drnowlin@cityofbartlesville.org and I would be glad to get you on the schedule.

Since it was originally postponed due to the weather, I will be giving my presentation on “Bartlesville Weddings Throughout the Years” at our April Lunch & Learn event on April 17th. I am looking forward to sharing the pictures I have found. In conducting my research, I have discovered that there are thousands of wedding pictures in our database that show pictures of wedding ceremonies, brides and grooms, and even a mischievous flower girl or generously donated to the museum by Frank Griggs and Bob Heil, and they capture Bartlesville’s past. We are still registrar and grants facilitator work

An enjoyable group of kids “Bird’s Eve View of Spring” Camp 19th. I enjoy watching the bird spring, and identifying the different feeder. It was so fun to see that there generation that have a similar interest many of the native birds of Oklahoma backyards. We created bird feeders butter, and talked about different ways our backyard ecosystems. I would like coming up to the museum and helping big help, and I appreciate them giving during Spring Break.



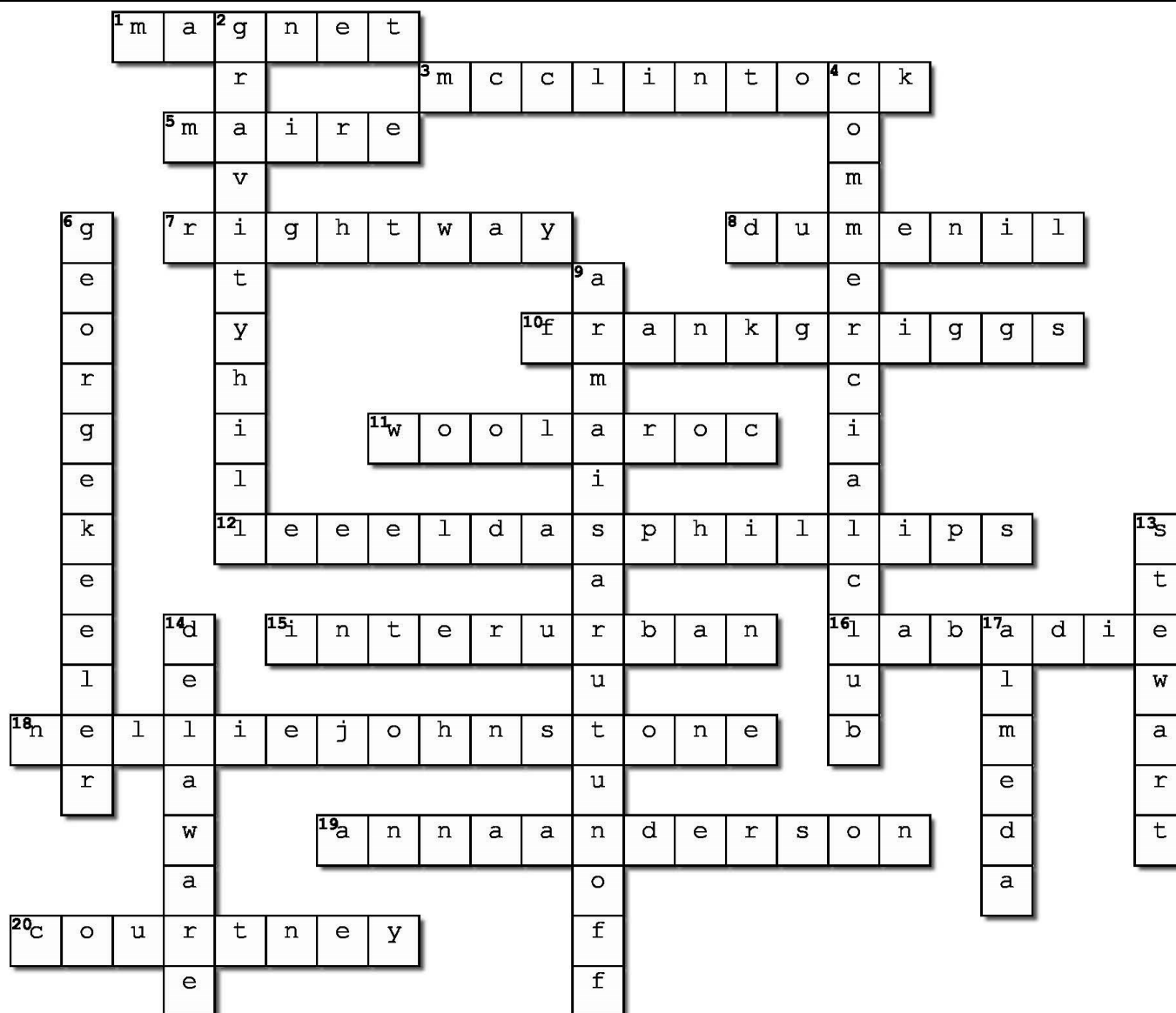
came to participate in our during Spring Break, March 18th- migration patterns during the bird species that come to my bird are kids from a different in birdwatching. We talked about that can be seen right in our own out of apples and sunflower that we can help birds thrive in to thank my husband and kids for me with Bird Camp. They were a me some of their valuable time

One of the most exciting parts about working at the museum is watching people return to the museum again and again. It really is enjoyable when the friends of the museum bring in their family members and out-of-town guests to learn more about the history of Bartlesville and Washington County. These individuals become tour guides in their own right, and it is so enjoyable to see history come alive through their eyes. It is especially fun to see the young kids give tours. Several of the kids who came to camp attended a field trip at the museum a few days before camp. It was fun to watch them be miniature tour guides to the other campers who had never been to the museum before.

I am looking forward to the summer months as we prepare to have more day camps here at the museum. We are planning three different camps this summer. During our first camp, May 27th-29th, and our second camp, June 24th-26th, we are planning to have cooking-themed activities that correspond with our culinary display that will be opening in April.

Our third camp will be July 29th-31st, and we are looking forward to having an architecture-themed camp that week. More information about our July camp will appear in our next newsletter, so stay tuned for all of the exciting activities we have in store for kids in our community.

ANSWERS TO THE PERVIOUS CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

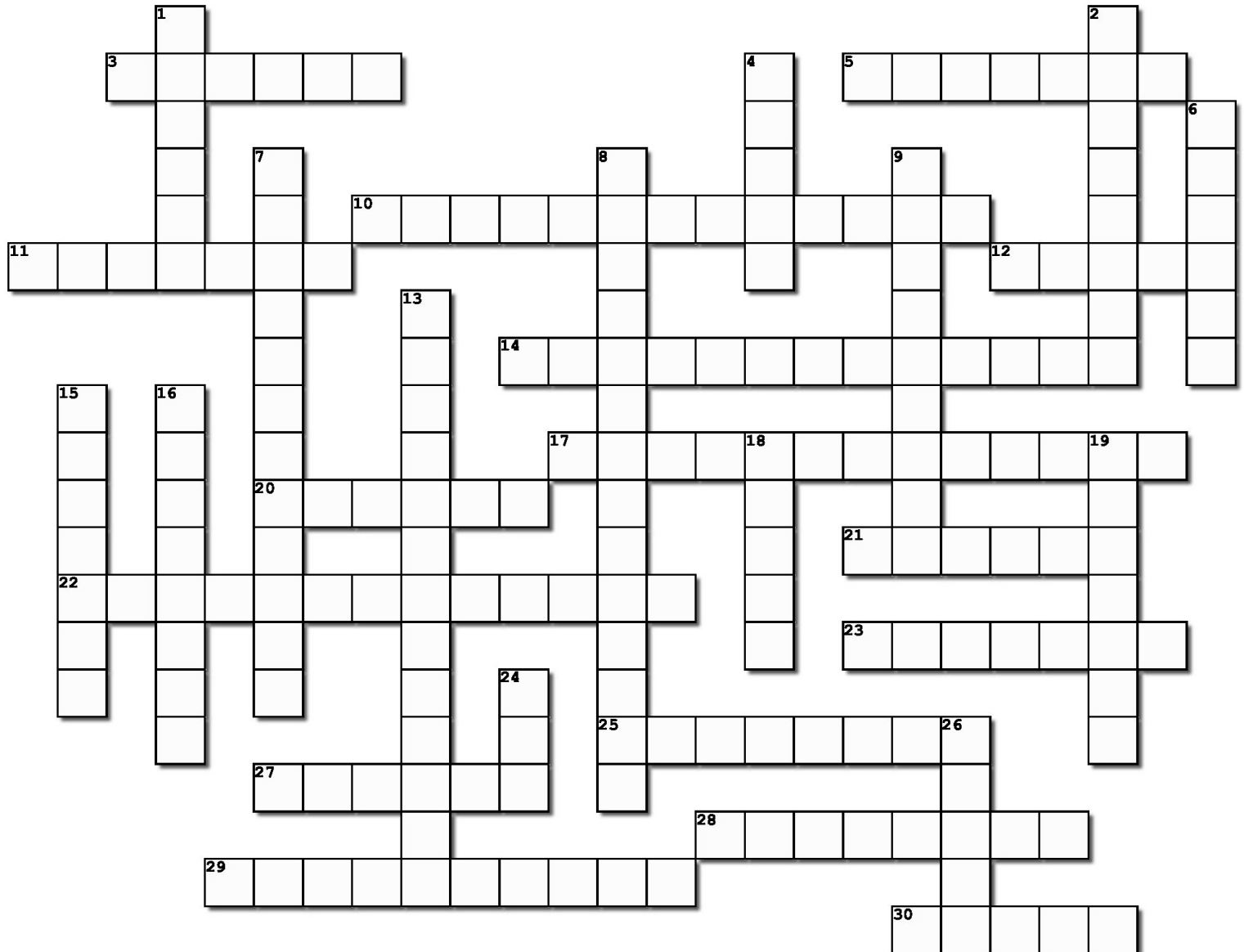
Across

1. Bartlesville's First Newspaper (**magnet**)
3. Who Opened the Crystal Ice Plant (**mcclintock**)
5. Hotel at SW 4th Street and Johnstone Avenue (**maire**)
7. Hotel at NW 3rd Street and Johnstone Avenue (**rightway**)
8. First Mayor of Dewey (**dumenil**)
10. Popular Bartlesville photographer (**frankgriggs**)
11. Phillips and Goebel Airplane (**wolaroc**)
12. Co-Founder of Phillips Petroleum Company (**leeeldasphillips**)
15. Bartlesville Railway System (**interurban**)
16. Osage County Gingerbread Mansion (**labadie**)
18. First Commercial Oil Well (**nelliejohnstone**)
19. Oil Well that led to Phillips Petroleum Co (**annaanderson**)
20. First Mayor of Copan (**courtney**)

Down

2. Legendary location where cars roll uphill (**gravityhill**)
4. Original Chamber of Commerce (**commercialclub**)
6. First Chamber of Commerce President (**georgekeeler**)
9. Founder of REDA Pump (**armasarutunoff**)
13. First Mayor of Bartlesville (**stewart**)
14. Indian tribe headquartered in Bartlesville (**delaware**)
17. Hotel at NE 2nd Street and Johnstone Avenue (**almeda**)

NEW CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

3. Town of BonTon
5. Creamery now home of the Teen Rock
10. Cherokee Medical Care
11. Original owner of Price Tower
12. Original Name of Frank Phillips Blvd.
14. U.S. Department of Interior Petroleum Research Center
17. Architect for Maire Hotel
20. Oklahoma Humorist
21. Dewey Portland
22. Bartlesville Olympic Basketball Team
23. Built the Dewey Hotel
25. Elementary School at Cherokee Avenue and 7th Street
27. Bank at 5th Street and Johnstone Ave.
28. Frank Phillips' Ranch
29. State Park Civilian Conservation Corps Project
30. Dewey Library

Down

1. Barnstormer and aviator for PPCO
2. Barbershop Quartet
4. Bartlesville movie theater
6. 1926 Baconrind and Walters Friendship
7. Who hosted Civil War Veteran Reunion
8. Seventh Street bridge over Caney River
9. First cable television in Bartlesville
13. Was originally ITIO
15. First name of the Kiddie Park
16. Name of Oklahoma Wesleyan University
18. Street referred to as Auto Alley
19. Architectural Style of Bartlesville High School
24. Mandansky brothers Americanized name
26. 'Queen of the Oil Fields' Vaudeville

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Opening of the BAHM new exhibit from April 7 through July 7, 2025 “Our Culinary Past”

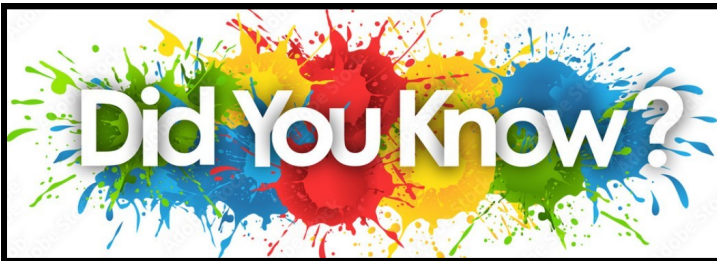
The exhibit explores our relationship with food and Bartlesville’s most popular restaurants

April 12, 2025- Breakfast Charcuterie with the Easter Bunny Families can enjoy selfies with our favorite rabbit, an Easter-themed craft, or win a prize during a hopping sack race! Charcuterie boxes are optional and may be purchased for \$10.00

April 17, 2025—Bartlesville Weddings 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Take a journey back in time as Education Coordinator, Denise Nowlin, explores famous weddings of Bartlesville.

May 15, 2025– Red Dirt Rubs 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Join us in welcoming Tyler Glenn, a rising star for our local culinary world as he discusses his Company Red Dirt Rubs.

For more update on special events of our Lunch and Learns please follow us on social media platforms or visit our website at <https://www.bartlesvillehistory.com/events/>



The first commercial Frigidaire cooling system west of the Mississippi, was installed in the coffee shop in the Hotel Maire when it was remodeled to become Burlingame Hotel and Coffee Shop!

DAY IN THE REGISTRAR’S LIFE

Ocie Baldwin started working at Don Freiday Drug Store in 1926. He continued to work his way up, becoming manager in 1945. He then purchased an interest in the store making him co-owner for four years. He would eventually buy the store from Don and make it his own.

Opening in January 1950, Baldwin Rexall Drug Store was located at 3rd and Keeler in downtown Bartlesville. Ocie and his son Jack would continue to grow the family business with another location opening in Eastland Center in 1965, with Jack as the manager.

In 1977 the Eastland location closed with one remaining on Johnstone Avenue. For many years the Baldwin family would continue to provide services to the city of Bartlesville with the last location closing in 1997.



WHAT’S IN YOUR ATTIC?

Want to donate a family heirloom, antique find, photos or other materials?

MUSEUM STAFF

Director, Kiley Roberson
Assistant Director, Cindy Yell
Collections Manager, Casey Sullivan
Museum Coordinator, Shayla Cummins
Registrar, Kasey Werts
Education Coordinator, Denise Nowlin
Museum Clerk/Temp, Tamra Rogers

VISITATION STATS

Visitors for 2025 to date: 277

States: AR, AZ, CA, CT, IA, ID, IL, KS, MO, NH, OK, OR, RI, SC, TN, TX,

Countries: USA, United Kingdom.



The BAHM newsletter is virtual! Join our mailing list to stay up to date on what's happening at the Museum. Scan the QR code with your cell phone camera to be taken to a form to sign up for the E-Newsletter. You'll get reminders about special events, guest speakers, and much

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Web: www.bartlesvillehistory.com

Email: history@cityofbartlesville.org



@bartlesville_area_history



BartlesvilleAreaHistoryMuseum

MUSEUM HOURS

Monday - Friday: 8:00-4:00



AASLH

American Association
for State and Local History

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