February, 2026

City Bytes

THE CITY OF PERRY MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Feb 2nd City Council meeting, 6:15pm

Feb 16th All City of Perry offices closed for President's Day, Garbage collection will run as normal

Feb 17th City Council meeting, 6:15pm

Feb 19th Perry Chamber of Commerce Rooted & Rising Annual Member Banquet, www.perryokchamber.com

Feb 19th Perry Carnegie Library, Spring Wreath Program (Adult Program, Adults can bring 14 & up) @4pm. Cost is $12. RSVP by Feb 12th. More info on page 4.

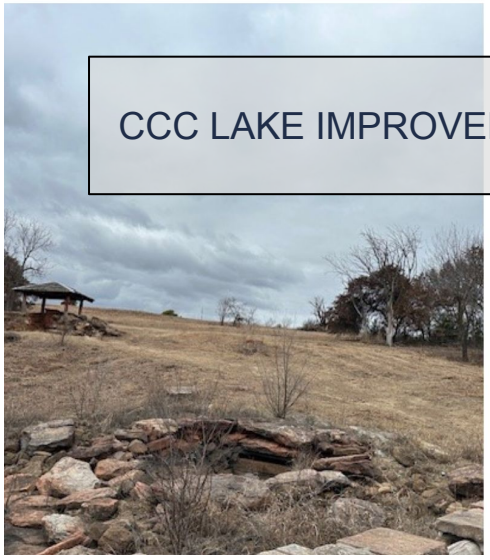
Feb 23rd Music Night 6:00-8:30pm (all ages welcome on music nights)

Feb 26th Planning Commission Meeting

Mar 2nd City Council meeting, 6:15pm











A CCC LAKE MISSION

If you haven't taken a drive around CCC Lake lately, you might be pleasantly surprised by the progress! Thanks to the efforts of Dr. Blake Baird and his wife Ronna Baird, the lake grounds are looking much cleaner following the removal of numerous cedar trees.

This project, initiated and personally funded by Dr. Baird, includes the hiring of Terry Kindshi for cedar tree removal. Terry has also generously donated some of his own time to support the effort—an act that truly demonstrates community spirit. The goal is to open up overgrown areas, maintain them through annual bailing each July, and promote a healthier and more attractive landscape around the lake.

According to Dr. Baird, keeping the areas bailed will not only enhance the appearance but also reduce brush growth and lower the risk of wildfires. The newly opened spaces will provide better access for fire trucks and emergency responders in the event of a wildfire.

Dr. Baird shared that the recent Stillwater wildfires served as motivation to finally move forward with this long-considered project. While a controlled burn was conducted at CCC Lake several years ago, he explained that physically removing the cedar trees is a more effective long-term solution that helps preserve the surrounding healthy trees.

Dr. Baird emphasized that he's funding this effort because "Perry has been good to me" and it's something that needs to be done. This is a large, ongoing project that will continue over the next several years, with hopes that it can be maintained well into the future.

The City of Perry is sincerely grateful for the dedication and generosity of Dr. Baird and Ronna. Their efforts not only beautify CCC Lake but also enhance safety and improve the quality of life for everyone who lives in and enjoys the area.

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DO YOU ENJOY LOCAL HISTORY?

Step back in time and explore Perry's rich heritage at the Cherokee Strip Museum & Rose Hill School! Located just west of town , the museum offers a fascinating look into life during the early days of Oklahoma settlement. Visitors can enjoy exhibits featuring pioneer tools, household artifacts, military memorabilia, and stories that capture the spirit of those who helped shape the region. Don't miss the live blacksmith demonstrations, where skilled volunteers keep traditional craftsmanship alive.

On the property sits the Rose Hill School, a restored one-room schoolhouse that transports guests to the 1890s. The schoolhouse provides a hands-on educational experience, showing how children once learned, played, and grew in a much simpler time.

The museum regularly hosts special events, traveling exhibits, and educational programs for all ages. It's a perfect local outing for families, history buffs, or anyone curious about the roots of our community.

The Cherokee Strip Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, admission prices, and hours, visit www.cherokee-strip-museum.org or call (580) 336-2405. Experience Perry's past—you might just discover something new about where we call home!









RV'S AND TRAILERS IN CITY LIMITS:

The City's Code Enforcement team is reminding residents about the proper storing and parking of RVs and travel trailers within city limits. We know many families enjoy having campers, RVs, and trailers for vacations, weekend getaways, and family trips—and we fully support that! These vehicles add to the enjoyment of outdoor recreation, but when they're not in use, they must be stored and parked properly.

City ordinances allow no more than one camping or recreation vehicle or hauling trailer per household. RVs and trailers also can't be used as permanent living spaces while parked within city limits, except in authorized trailer parks. Thank you for helping keep Perry a clean, safe, and welcoming place to live!

City Municipal Code: Section 12-222 B. Except as otherwise provided by Section 12-264, no more than one camping or recreation vehicle or hauling trailer per family living on the premises shall be permitted. A camping or recreation vehicle shall not be occupied permanently while it is parked or stored in any area within the incorporated limits, except in a mobile home or trailer park authorized under the ordinances of the city, except as provided for in Section 12-223.

Call Code Enforcement at 580-336-4241 for more information about qualifying RV parks.

SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER

Age 50 and up

309 North 7th, Perry Ok

Facebook: Perry Senior Citizen Center

Hours of Operation: Monday through Friday 7am - 3pm

(When bad weather occurs, the Center will be closed when Perry Public Schools are closed)

Music nights are the 4th Monday of the month. Anyone of any age is welcome to come to music night. If you play an instrument or sing, you are more than welcome to sit in with the band!!

OTHER PROGRAMS AND REBATES

The City of Perry partners with the Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority (OMPA) to offer free energy audits and rebates designed to help residential and commercial utility customers improve energy efficiency. The City of Perry also offers other programs that may benefit the customer. These are available to all qualifying utility customers within the City of Perry service area. For more detailed information about the program listed below, please call 580-336-4037 or visit www.cityofperryok.com.

Energy Audits:

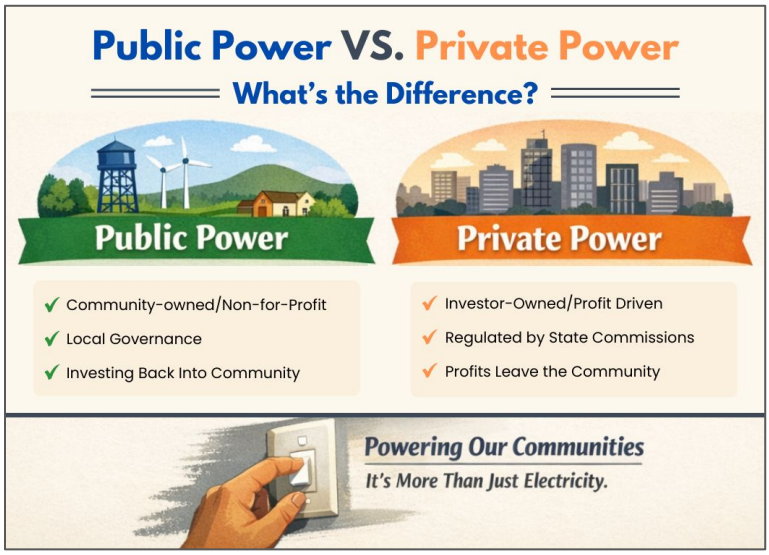
Free in-home residential energy audits will provide homeowners with a complete analysis and report to improve your home's energy usage.
Customers may also take a free virtual energy audit, go to www.cityofperryok.com then go to Energy Resource Center.

Rebates offered:

Heat Pump Rebate Program
Ceiling Insulation Rebate Program
WISE Hot Water Heater Rebate
Smart Thermostat Rebate Summary
DEEP - Demand and Energy Efficiency Program
More information on these and other programs are located at City Hall, 622 Cedar Street, visit OMPA's website.
https://www.ompa.com/services/rebate-programs/

The **Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority (OMPA)** is a joint-action agency created for the purpose of providing an adequate, reliable, and affordable supply of electrical power and energy to Oklahoma's municipally owned electric systems. The Authority presently serves 42 municipally owned electric systems in Oklahoma, one of which is the **City of Perry.** As a consumer-owned public power entity, OMPA is owned by the member cities it serves.





PUBLIC POWER VS. PRIVATE POWER

When you flip a light switch, power flows instantly — but where that electricity *comes from* (and who controls it) makes a big difference in how your community is served.

Public Power

Public power utilities are *community-owned and not-for-profit.* That means the utility is owned by the people it serves — you, the residents. Decisions are made locally by elected officials or community-appointed boards. Any revenue earned goes right back into improving local service, upgrading infrastructure, and supporting community projects.

Private Power

Private (or investor-owned) utilities, on the other hand, are *owned by shareholders or investors.* Their primary goal is to generate profits for those investors. Rates and major decisions are typically approved by state-level commissions, not local representatives. While private utilities can also deliver reliable service, their profits often leave the community instead of being reinvested locally.

Why Public Power Matters

With public power, communities have more control over their energy future — including decisions about rates, renewable energy investments, and customer programs. It's local people working for local benefit.
So the next time you turn on a light, remember: public power isn't just about electricity — it's about community choice, accountability, and keeping the benefits of energy right here at home.

Our Local Power™
POWER THAT GIVES BACK

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PERRY CARNEGIE LIBRARY

Monday - Thursday 10am-6pm
Friday 10am - 5pm
302 North 7th, Perry Ok
perrypl.okpls.org

Closed February 16th for President's Day

Libby and Hoopla are available for e-book and audio book checkouts. If you need help with your device, make an appointment and staff will assist. Both Libby and Hoopla require a 10 digits phone number as the password. Both apps are available on app stores. If your library card is current and you don't have overdue items or fines, you should be good to go. Library cards do expire every two years. Call or stop by if you are stuck!

Theatre Thursday (ages 18+) @ 10AM on Feb. 12th & 26th



Spring Wreath Program (Adult Program, Adults can bring 14 & up) @4pm on Feb 19th. Cost is $12. Select a purple hummingbird theme or a pink butterfly theme when you RSVP by Feb 12th. The library will supply the supplies including wire frame, yarn and ribbon. Sign up with a friend or come and make new friends.



Storytime (ages 0-5) @ 10:30AM
February 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th, and Mar. 4th

Afterschool (ages 6-11) @ 3:30PM
February 2nd – Valentine Boxes with Fruit & Dip
February 9th – Friendship Painted Rocks & Bracelets with Chocolate Covered Pretzels
February 23rd – Letter Painting & Fruit Kabobs (This event will require registration so we have the correct initials for each child.)
March 2nd – Build It! & Vegetable Tortilla Roll Ups



Valentine Party (Tween Program 9-11 years old): Feb. 6th @ 3:30PM (No signup required)

Finger Knit Scarf (Teen Program 12-18 years old): Feb. 13th @ 3:30PM *(Sign up required by Feb. 11th)*

DIY Canvas Bag Art (Tween Program 9-11 years old): Mar. 6th @ 3:30PM *(Signup required by Mar. 4th)*

New Books! Look at our catalog for the entire list.
https://perrypl.okpls.org/

- Box, C.J.—Crossroads
- Burke, James Lee—Haldacol Boogie
- Coulter, Catherine—Heir of Whitestone
- Kellerman, Jonathan—Jigsaw
- Kubica, Mary—It's Not Her
- Quindlen, Anna—More than Enough
- Quinn, Kate—Astral Library
- Robb, J. D.—Stolen in Death
- Thor, Brad—Cole Zero





DID YOU KNOW?

You can use the customer portal to view your hourly usage, check for leaks, and set usage alarms?

Email portal@cityofperryok.com with your name, account number, and service address to set up your customer portal. Once your customer portal is set up, the portal is easily accessible by going to www.cityofperryok.com, click on "view utility usage" and sign in.

