

Super Hero comic book photo collection



A table of boys working together.



Isabelle Irving and her great-grandmother Lee Morris

BY JO-ANN JENNINGS
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Children at the Broken Arrow downtown library recently brainstormed, coming up with ideas for their super hero comic books. Enjoy these photos.



A LITTLE COLLABORATION IS A GOOD THING — Children from the same school share their ideas. JO-ANN JENNINGS

RIGHT PLACE. RIGHT TIME.

Growing up in Wagoner, Okla., Derek Steeley had more than a passing interest in the old saying, "whether it's cold or whether it's hot, we'll have weather, whether or not."

"I was fascinated by the weather. "Who wouldn't be?" he asks. "This is Oklahoma, after all; tornado alley; a state with four decidedly different seasons – sometimes all of them occurring in one day."

Following high school, Steeley enrolled in a school noted for its meteorology program, but his focus at the University of Oklahoma was on the "hot" area of computer science. A class in economics changed all that and led him toward a Bachelor of Business Administration degree and what is now a quarter-century career in the financial services industry. On his resume is an array of accomplishments with institutions in Texas and Oklahoma.

The secret of his success then as now, he said, is an unshakable people orientation and commitment to service.

After joining First National as Senior Vice President of Commercial Lending, Steeley "dove head first" into community involvement by becoming a member of Leadership Broken Arrow. That led to an invitation by Broken Arrow Seniors to serve on its board of directors.

"It's so impressive to see how the Rose District has taken off and all the good things happening in Broken Arrow," he said. "This is an entirely different community than when I joined the

bank. I'm blessed to be in the right place at the right time."

Steeley and his wife of 23 years, Valerie, have three children: Dylan, 19, a freshman at Tulsa Community College; Paige, 16, and Cole, 11, both students at Mingo Valley Christian School. A 14-year Rotarian, he is an active member of Grace Bible Church, a leader in Broken Arrow's Trail Life USA Troop 316 and coaches his son's basketball team.

An avid reader, he says he wouldn't be surprised to someday find himself sitting behind a word processor trying his hand at becoming an author. While a subject has yet to be determined, it's a good bet it will have something to do with people.

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