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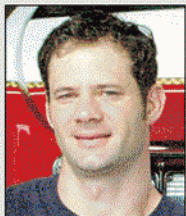
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HAYLIE SMART / OWASSOREPORTER

Barbara Barnes held a retirement party at the Owasso Public Library last Friday to celebrate her leaving. Pictured is Barnes, right, and her sister-in-law Carole Barnes Finnell.

Marching on

By Josh Burton
Managing Editor
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Chris Harris has been named the director of the Pride of Owasso.

The announcement was made at a special Board of Education meeting this week.

"We're really confident in recommending Mr. Harris," said Owasso Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Clark Ogilvie. "I'm really thrilled to bring this name to you."

Harris has been in Owasso since 2004. He has conducted the High School Symphonic Band, High School Concert Band 1, 8th Grade Concert Band, Basketball Pep Band, 8th Grade Percussion Ensemble and he assisted the Wind Ensemble.

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Shooting victim to face robbery, assault charges

The Final Chapter



- Ammunition
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- Handguns
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- Buy, Sell, Trade

Barbara Barnes says goodbye after 23 years

By Haylie Smart
Staff Writer
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A resident of Owasso since 1982, and marrying into one of the original Owasso families, Barbara Barnes is a well known face in the community.

Barnes got her start with the Collinsville Public Library,

working there six years, before moving into the Owasso library.

"I hated to leave Collinsville, the people were wonderful, but my dream has always been to be the librarian here," Barnes said.

Many people dream of the day they are able to retire and Barnes has plans of how to spend her post-retirement

days.
"The first thing I'm not going to do after retirement is set my alarm. I'm going to sleep until I wake up," Barnes joked.

Along with that, she plans to join the YMCA and do water aerobics, attend women's bible study, volunteer

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By **JOHN BURTON**
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Tulsa County prosecutors have charged a man who was shot during an incident at the Greens Apartments in May.

Michael Scott Gould, 19, of Owasso, faces a charge of robbery with a firearm and a charge of assault with a dangerous weapon, court records show.

A second man, Spencer Christian Roberts, 19, of Owasso,

See **CHARGES, 3**

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Cool stuff



RICK HEATON/OWASSO REPORTER

Crews are working throughout the summer to prepare Owasso schools for the new school year. This crew is working on dropping in a new air conditioner from a crane on the roof of the Owasso Eighth Grade Center.

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at the Sunshine desk at First United Methodist Church, play with her four great grandchildren and learn to crochet.

Having three book discussion groups, Barnes will now be able to spend more time reading, which is something she loves to do.

"I started Books with Barbara about 15 years ago and it has meant the most to me. Many have come and gone, but some of them have been friends since it started," she said.

Barnes' retirement is bittersweet for everyone, especially two librarians who have worked close to her for several years.

"I will miss watching her interactions with the patrons that come in. She knows many of them by name and has served with many of them on committees, book discussions, church groups or she knows other members of their family. She always has time to chat with them and catch up with how they're doing,"

said Teen Librarian Steven Hulford.

Having worked alongside Barnes for five years, Hulford has enjoyed learning Owasso's unique history through her.

"The staff at the Owasso library care deeply about the Owasso community, and that is in part due to Barbara," he said.

Youth Librarian Jennifer McQuade, who has worked alongside Barnes for six years, values what she has learned from the Branch Manager.

"Barbara is my mentor. She has taught me so many things about working in libraries, how to have good customer service and what the most important things are. I think helping people is the backbone of what we do here," McQuade said.

Barnes being a second mom to McQuade, the youth librarian says she will miss seeing her every day.

As with any job, working for a library has its ups and downs.

"My greatest challenge

has been the need to understand technology to help customers on the computers and their e-reader devices," Barnes said.

This down definitely overshadows her greatest reward from working with the library.

"When I first came down here there was a man who didn't speak English very well, but he wanted to. He came all the time and checked out all the books and tapes we had. He worked really hard and then started bringing his daughter. It was so rewarding to see him learn to speak English and bring his daughter to the library so she could have the same experience he did," she said.

Barnes is proud to say this man still comes to the library.

Though Barnes' last day is June 30, a retirement party was held in her honor Friday, June 20. Many friends, family and employees of the library came out to eat cake, reminisce and wish the longtime librarian a happy farewell.

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