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Project brings benches, tables to Lee Lake; work day set for April 23

A partnership between the PlayForBurk Foundation Inc. and the City of Bartlesville will result in benches, tables and other needed items being installed at Lee Lake during a work day set for April 23.

Lee Lake is a City of Bartlesville-owned lake and park located on the north side of Adams Boulevard just east of Silver Lake Road. The fishing lake has been years in the making and recently opened for watercraft.

“Beautify Bartlesville,” a public service project, will bring the labor needed to install nine permanent benches, two grills, six picnic tables, three trash receptacles and many trees and shrubs in the area surrounding the lake.

The public is encouraged to attend and help the effort.

“This will be a great opportunity for the public to give back to the Bartlesville community,” said Clint Hansen, president of the PlayForBurk Foundation. “Lee Lake is a beautiful area, and it will be even better when there are more facilities available for the public to use when they come visit the area.”

The Foundation has partnered with local youth to help carry out the service project for their Eagle Scout Awards. The Foundation has also partnered with the City of Bartlesville in planning the event.

The event will be held in conjunction with the City of Bartlesville’s annual Arbor Day Celebration, also planned for April 23 at the lake.

“We have been working with the City of Bartlesville from the beginning on this project. They helped us identify Lee Lake as an area that could use some enhancements, and we want to provide the resources and manpower to make those enhancements a reality,” said Hansen.

The Foundation is asking volunteers to bring their strong muscles and sunscreen at 8 a.m. on April 23. All necessary equipment will be provided by the Foundation. Volunteers are encouraged to sign up in advance on the Foundation website www.playforburk.org.

The Lee Lake property, which was donated to the City of Bartlesville several years ago, includes the 16-acre lake, complete with a boat ramp, dock and three “finger islands,” as well as asphalt trails connecting to the city’s Pathfinder Parkway trail system, soccer fields, restrooms and Cooper Dog Park. The lake has been stocked with a variety of fish by the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife and is open to the public for visiting.

“I think the public is going to love the improvements we have planned,” said Hansen.

The PlayForBurk Foundation is a local nonprofit organization created to carry on the legacy of Hansen’s son Burk after he passed away in 2015 at age 13. The Foundation partners with local youth to promote service, faith, personal development, and recreational opportunities for the betterment of themselves and their community.