



# MILESTONES

**Celebrating the Anniversaries of Oklahoma  
Companies & Organizations**

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115  
years



Left: Oklahoma Farmers Union headquarters in Oklahoma City, circa 1975 and circa 1945 (right).

Middle: AFR Insurance is known statewide for its customer service, including adjusters local to their coverage areas.



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## AMERICAN FARMERS & RANCHERS/ OKLAHOMA FARMERS UNION

### 115 YEARS OF PROTECTING RURAL OKLAHOMA

The late nineteenth century was a time of unrest for America. While cities boomed and populations shifted, rural America was left to fend for itself. Banks, railroads and other entities took advantage of rural citizens. Farmers, tenants and agribusinesses tried to fight against monopolistic practices; but they had little hope without collective clout.

They finally found that collective clout when 10 men of different political affiliations founded the Farmers Union. The organization would emphasize economic cooperation, remain clear of political entanglements, and fight for farmers' interests at every turn. The Farmers Union message spread like wildfire and, in 1905, the twin territories had enough members to form their own organization. The Oklahoma Farmers Union was born.

OFU's history is intertwined with the building of a new state. When the constitutional convention assembled in Guthrie in 1906, more than half the delegates were Farmers Union members. OFU members were key leaders during the debate for statehood and the writing of the Oklahoma State Constitution. After 1907, they were integral to the creation of Oklahoma's Department of Agriculture and served the young state in many vital leadership roles, including governor.

Throughout this early influence, Oklahoma Farmers Union never forgot the plight of farmers, ranchers and agribusiness owners. Beyond legislative and business representation, Farmers Union began to serve its members in a new way—insurance.

The first OFU insurance policies were issued in 1919 and numbers grew steadily for the rest of the century. Now known as American Farmers & Ranchers (AFR) Mutual Insurance, the company offers auto, home, farm and life coverage to rural and urban consumers. With agencies in large and small communities statewide, AFR Insurance is the second-largest domestic insurance carrier in Oklahoma.

OFU shaped Oklahoma's agriculture industry through decades of change and the AFR/OFU Cooperative remains an advocate for rural citizens, providing cooperative development, legislative representation and education programs that bolster the state's farming communities. Today, AFR/OFU is one of 50 companies still operating that was in existence at statehood. Many agents, officers and customers are multi-generational, creating a culture of loyalty and trust. AFR/OFU is dedicated to its members and has remained true to its mission for 115 years — protecting, representing and insuring Oklahomans.

100  
years



Left: The five original Lippert brothers in 1923 (left to right) – Louis T. Lippert, Reuben C. Lippert, Erick W. Lippert, Leo J. Lippert and Walter H. Lippert.

Middle: Oklahoma City National Memorial, completed by Lippert Bros., Inc. in April 2000.

Right: Third generation of Lippert brothers (left to right) – Tom Lippert, Joel Lippert, D.E. “Rick” Lippert Jr., and John Lippert



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## LIPPERT BROS., INC.

### EXPERIENCE PAYS, SINCE 1920

Strong structural foundations and buildings parallel a strong family foundation and growth at Lippert Bros., Inc. Since 1920 when two brothers, Erick W. and Walter H. Lippert, founded Lippert Brothers in Boone, Iowa, it has been a driving force in the construction business. With customer satisfaction and investment in people as points of significant focus, the company has been able to successfully complete a century of building across the Southwest region.

Trained by their father as brick masons, Erick and Walter's first jobs encompassed building fireplaces, sidewalks, driveways and residential foundations. The range of construction projects gradually increased, so three other Lippert brothers joined the company - Louis, Reuben, and Leo. Four of the brothers were trained masons and one was a carpenter.

The remodeling of storefronts, buildings, and an addition to the Boone High School, took the company into larger-scale construction and diversification into sewage and water-treatment plants. At the outbreak of World War II, Lippert Brothers built the Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, sewage-treatment plant. This expertise and recognized excellence led to a successful bid on the sewage and water treatment system at the new Tinker Air Force Base near Oklahoma City, in addition to construction of numerous other military training command projects in the region.

### An Oklahoma Company

The Tinker and Camp Gruber projects guided the brothers to open an Oklahoma City office. Upon the return of Donald E. and Robert L. from their service in the Navy after WW II and completion of their college education, they joined their father Erick in a permanent move to Oklahoma. Lippert Bros., Inc., has since grown to include the third generation of builders, Tom Lippert, Joel Lippert, Rick Lippert (ret.), and John Lippert (Globe Construction Co.) who have each made their mark on the Oklahoma landscape and the Oklahoma City community.

Oklahoma landmarks built by the LBI team include: National Cowboy Hall of Fame, Myriad Gardens Crystal Bridge, Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum, Citizens Bank Tower, Hobby Lobby Headquarters and Distribution Center and Love's Corporate Offices.

As members of the fourth generation join our current team of experienced professionals, Lippert Bros., Inc., is positioned to continue as an industry leader dedicated to providing construction services responsive to the needs of commercial and industrial markets, utilizing quality materials and craftsmanship. This emphasis along with the firm's team of quality people helps LBI stay competitive and reveals the evolution of a company that started with just skill and desire.



50  
years



**Left: Aviation Maintenance is among CV Tech's first programs.**

**Middle: Graphic Design prepares students for careers in a rapidly evolving and technologically advanced field.**

**Right: Biomedical Sciences is one of two college-prep academies at CV Tech. Photos by Insight Creative Group**



**CV//TECH**

Canadian Valley Technology Center

Campuses in: Chickasha | El Reno | Yukon

[www.cvtech.edu](http://www.cvtech.edu)

## CANADIAN VALLEY TECHNOLOGY CENTER

### TRAINING OKLAHOMA'S WORKFORCE FOR FIVE DECADES

From Calumet to Rush Springs, air conditioners are on the fritz. In cities like Alex and Minco, people require medical attention.

Across Bethany, Union City and Mustang, toddlers need a nurturing and safe environment while their parents or caretakers work.

For five decades, Canadian Valley Technology Center's unwavering mission has been to prepare people to succeed through workforce education and to fill jobs in cities across central Oklahoma.

CV Tech is interwoven into the fabric and livelihood of its service area with campuses in the communities of Chickasha, El Reno and Yukon.

High school students and adults benefit from the education provided through nearly two dozen full-time programs and through dozens of evening short-term courses.

Businesses have benefitted for 50 years from a wide array of customized training available through the school's Business and Industry Services division. When a company in Piedmont buys a new piece of equipment and needs to train its workers, CV Tech's Workforce Development team can locate a trainer at an affordable cost. If a workplace violation were to occur, CV Tech can mobilize staff to get back in compliance and avoid hefty fines.

And yes, we still teach people in Amber and in Pocasset how to fix cars, build houses and do bookkeeping.

CV Tech also prepares high school students for success in college engineering with its Pre-Engineering program. Biomedical Sciences is a similar college-prep program designed to ensure success in anatomy, cell biology, genetics and disease research to gain a head start on advanced medical studies.

In the near future, the Cowan Campus in Yukon will provide additional educational opportunities for adults who want to work in the healthcare industry. CV Tech is adding Ophthalmology Tech, Surgical Technology and expanding Health Careers to add a Monitor Tech program. Phlebotomy and Dental Assisting also will be added.

Tuition is free for anyone under age 24, who lives within the district under the Next Step Scholarship. Adult students must also have a high school diploma or equivalent to qualify. Books and materials fees often still apply.

CV Tech is expanding educational opportunities while celebrating 50 years serving customers. For more information, visit [cvtech.edu](http://cvtech.edu).

30  
years



Left: Exterior of a home in Town Square neighborhood.  
Middle: Handing out hams at Christmas Trade Appreciation Lunch.  
Right: Street of Dreams home show with Miracle child, Dekharai.



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## MCCALEB HOMES

### BUILDING COMMUNITY FOR 30 YEARS

In 1921, Burt McCaleb, a young civil engineer, arrived in Oklahoma where he built bridges and highways. His son Neal, a 1957 graduate of Oklahoma State University, followed in his father's footsteps as a civil engineer. In 1961, he began Arrowhead Homes Inc., and he began building in Edmond in 1965. His prestigious neighborhoods include Cheyenne Ridge, Rock Hollow, and Steeplechase, among others.

When Neal's son Caleb graduated from Baylor University in 1984, he immediately focused on custom homebuilding. He joined his father in 1990 to form McCaleb Homes. McCaleb Homes was started 30 years ago when they saw a need in the building industry for innovative designs, quality construction, and superior customer service and satisfaction. McCaleb Homes provides cutting-edge homes, with exceptional craftsmanship, in premier neighborhoods while creating life-long relationships. This family-owned company is run by Caleb and Terri McCaleb who work alongside their kids within the company: Kylie, Braden and Carter.

Caleb McCaleb serves on the National Association of Homebuilders Board of Directors, has been recognized as the OKC Builder of the year, and is a four-time winner of the Green Builder of the Year. He actively supports Children's Hospital Foundation, Make a Wish Foundation, The Hope Center, and Hearts and Hands International through Dream Home Tours and

Street of Dreams events. McCaleb Homes has been recognized as a Winner of Reader Ranking's Best Home Builder (Journal Record, 2019), Top 5 Readers' Choice the past five years (The Oklahoman), Top Ten Builders in the OKC Market (Local Leaders, 2016), Best of Houzz for Client Satisfaction and Design (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019), Guildmaster Award for Customer Satisfaction (Guild Quality, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020), Best New Home Builder (Edmond Sun, 2016), and has been received awards every year during Parade of Homes for curb appeal, interior design, and floorplan by the Central Oklahoma Home Builders' Association.

Caleb's passion is developing timeless neighborhoods that promote community such as Bradbury Corner, EdgeWater, Lake Highlands, Kingsbury Ridge, The Bluffs at Pine Creek, The Preserve at Pine Creek, Arbor Creek, The Porches at Arbor Creek, Town Square, The Plaza at Town Square, The Falls and The Preserve at Oakdale Ridge. The homes built by McCaleb Homes are historically inspired by turn-of-the-century neighborhoods with superior craftsmanship and details. Yet the homes stay in-step with the changing home-buying market to provide the features that will withstand the test of time. McCaleb Homes focuses on the details to provide open concepts, natural lighting, and flexibility that will serve your family as you grow and change over time inside your McCaleb home.





## IS YOUR COMPANY CELEBRATING A MILESTONE ANNIVERSARY IN 2021?

Be a part of the 2021 Milestones magazine. This unique marketing opportunity allows you to showcase your business achievements. Plan now to be a part of this celebration of companies with staying power in our state.

**MARKET YOUR CORPORATE OR BRAND ANNIVERSARY BECAUSE YOUR PAST IS HOW PEOPLE WILL JUDGE YOUR FUTURE PERFORMANCE.**

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- Differentiate yourself from competitors
- Roll out new marketing initiatives
- Introduce new products and services
- Develop brand advocates with motivated and inspired employees
- Unite internal audiences, including marketing and sales
- Create excitement with every group the company touches

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**THE JOURNAL RECORD**

**Contact your Journal Record Advertising Account Executive or call Sarah Barrow at 405-278-2830 for more information.**

The background is a vibrant blue with a fine grid of small white squares. A dynamic splash of water is captured in the upper half, with droplets and bubbles frozen in time. Overlaid on this are several thin, white, intersecting circles and arcs. On the right side, a vertical column of larger, semi-transparent blue circles is visible, some containing smaller white dots. The overall aesthetic is clean, modern, and scientific.

# THE JOURNAL RECORD