



Celebrating Over 20 Years!

# AD-VANTAGE POINT

Published by Advantage Controls  
Muskogee, OK 74403

May 2018

## Happy Birthday!

### April

- 4 Kamryn Pilkerton
- 11 Donna Guthrie
- 12 James Sallis
- 19 Joe Shepherd
- 20 Maxwell Turner

### May

- 1 Ernest Clemens
- 17 Tony Steele
- 25 Travis Duke

### June

- 2 Kyle Martin
- 2 Steven Kohrman
- 6 Jeremy Garrett
- 14 Roy McCaslin
- 14 Dason Morgan
- 16 Jordan Galvin
- 16 Justin Lobb
- 27 Kimberly O'Keefe



## One Million Strong

Advantage team members investing time to be mentors for men in the Making program.

Several team members from Advantage Controls are donating their time volunteering with the One Million Men in the Making Club. These volunteers include our own Clint Ruckman, Kevin Farrow, Aaron Kassaw, Steven Clemens, Tyjuan Walker, and Travis Duke.

The program focuses mainly on mentoring boys and providing them a support network. As with many rural communities, there are always male teens in need of strong, positive role models. These Advantage team members meet on a weekly basis with Okay Middle School boys to give them a space where they can find a sense of belonging while also learning important life skills ranging from cooking, tying a tie, changing oil, and how to handle oneself if pulled over by police.

Gathering these boys in a weekly club is also offering a safe place for them to pick up positive character traits. "My personal goal with these young men is accountability," says Aaron Kassaw, Advantage team member and 1MM mentor. "They need to know that you're going to fail, fall short, and not be enough at some point in your life. Celebrate that you've recognized something you aren't good at, and narrow your field at what you are good at."

The Men in the Making program was founded by Jonathan Catherman, best-selling author and speaker. Catherman has been involved in public and private education for 23 years and strives to deliver leadership models and instructional materials for the youth in our nation. The program has shown a number of traceable data points such as increased attendance at school, higher percentage of youth holding leadership positions, and increased college enrollment.

To learn more about Men In The Making clubs, visit [www.1mclubs.com](http://www.1mclubs.com).

Progress with Terrafab's new investment (see next page)



### Also In this issue of Advantage Point...

- 1MM Mentors
- Birthdays
- Citywide cleanup
- Terrafab on the move



## Muskogee Citywide Cleanup in time for Azalea Festival

Every year, Muskogee officials leads everyone in a citywide cleanup to prepare for the thousands of guests expected in town for April's Azalea Festival events.

"The multi-pronged effort included a crackdown on illegal dumping, mobilizing a corps of volunteers for litter pickup along streets, and the removal of signage on utility poles and along city streets," said C.B. Abel, one of Muskogee's four code enforcement officers.

"We want everybody to take pride in the city and their neighbors," Abel said. This year, Advantage compiled a large team that included plenty of youngsters to pick up trash along nearly 5 miles of main roads and help keep Muskogee beautiful.



TO MOVE FORWARD,  
YOU HAVE TO GIVE  
BACK.

OPRAH WINFREY

**"Part of what we do and have done is encourage our people to get involved in the community."**

Dan Morris  
(Business Matters 2018)

## Doing Good Inside and Outside of the Workplace

Our sister company, Advantage Terrafab, is midway through one of the biggest transitions since it's establishment in 2011.

Along with adding about 10,000 square feet under it's roof, LED lighting and rooftop solar panels are also being installed. Terrafab will be investing about \$600,000 in the solar panel system. The return on investment for the solar panels is currently about six years, when the investment will be paid off. The panels will generate about two-thirds of the power needs of the operation.



Incredible drone photos courtesy of Roger Lobb.

Top: TerraFab team members deconstructing and removing old playground equipment at the Gospel Rescue Mission in Muskogee.

Bottom: One of four new park benches for the town of Oktaha, courtesy of Terrafab.



ATTENTION:

Do you have an idea for an article? We're in need of contributing journalists and photographers!

Send stories or photos to [Danielle.Dezso@advantagecontrols.com](mailto:Danielle.Dezso@advantagecontrols.com). See all our newsletters at [www.advantagecontrols.com/newsletters.php](http://www.advantagecontrols.com/newsletters.php).