



NEWS RELEASE

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John R. Williams to be honored for community contributions

MAYSVILLE, OK – John Robert Williams, a funeral home director and active volunteer in his Maysville community, will receive a service award Wednesday, Nov. 12 from First American Bank and the Oklahoma Bankers Association (OBA) for his exemplary spirit of volunteerism and community service.

“The Heart of the Community Award recognizes Mr. Williams’ enthusiastic spirit to make his community a better place,” said Roger Beverage, OBA president and CEO. “We’re fortunate to live in a state where a great deal of importance is placed on volunteerism and personal contribution to each other and our community.”

“John R. Williams has been instrumental for the past 40 years in promoting civic pride through his relationships with town government, service organizations and the Chamber of Commerce,” said D. Keith Clagg, insurance and real estate agent in Maysville. “He has been president of the Maysville Chamber of Commerce several times throughout the years and is currently serving in that capacity. Being a business owner, he’s keenly aware of the problems that small businesses have and shares these concerns as he tries to promote small businesses in our local community. I congratulate him for winning this award knowing that it could not be awarded to a more deserving individual.”

The Oklahoma Bankers Association started the “Heart of the Community Award” to help recognize those outstanding individuals who are willing to make the type of personal sacrifices that make our communities whole. The OBA has asked their member banks to help find these wonderful volunteers in their communities that they see meeting unmet needs all across the state.

“When I started working in our Maysville banking center, I was always asking about the community happenings; each time I got the same answer,” said LuAnn Milligan, vice president of First American Bank. “Everyone would tell me to ‘ask Johnny Bob’ because he knew everything about our town. It was truly an honor to nominate such an outstanding member of the Maysville community for this award.”

Like the dedicated work ethic of John R. Williams, the banks of Oklahoma have been an integral part of Oklahoma life long before statehood. Beverage noted that these banks and bankers have been investing in the hearts of our communities and “the measurement of time and money is not as important as the fact that banks have played a central role in making Oklahoma a wonderful place to live and work.”

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Presentation occurred at First American Bank in Maysville during the Chamber meeting. Johnny Bob was certainly surprised. Letters were read from his children that couldn't be there and his son that was there brought John's grandchildren. Several staff from various First American Bank locations were present.

