

#ruralok

Twitter comments from

Making Place Matter in Northwest Oklahoma Rural Community Economic Development Summit

Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Alva, OK

June 3, 2010

Compiled by [@beckymccray](#)

Hints for deciphering Tweets:

RT = Retweet, quoting another user

@ - used to denote a user name

- used to denote a search keyword

“view tweet” - links to a copy of the tweet stored online

Presented in reverse chronological order, as they occurred. Because of the immediate nature of Twitter, typos and abbreviations are to be expected.

Twitter users retweeting and participating in the discussion came from:

- Spain
- Portugal
- Alberta, Canada
- Toronto, Canada
- British Columbia, Canada
- Oklahoma
- Texas
- Kansas
- Montana
- Missouri
- California
- Iowa
- West Virginia
- Georgia
- Ohio
- Colorado
- Tennessee
- New York
- Indiana
- Washington
- Hawaii



[Bastien_B](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): "Your business front windows are free advertising. Use them wisely!" [@lindabarnett55](#), tweeted by [@LauraGirty](#)

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[MarkRiffey](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): "Your business front windows are free advertising. Use them wisely!" [@lindabarnett55](#), tweeted by [@LauraGirty](#)

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[BeckyMcCray](#): "Your business front windows are free advertising. Use them wisely!" [@lindabarnett55](#), tweeted by [@LauraGirty](#)

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Ad valorem (property taxes) in Oklahoma go mostly to education. None to cities, very little to counties, none to roads. Frech. #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Reality: last week of session, all sorts of unintended consequences sneak through. Frech. #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): The legislative process of the state of Oklahoma is designed to not allow a bill to pass. In theory, only great bills pass. Frech. #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Local/County elected officials are expected to instantly become experts on every single local gov issue. Frech. #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): The average Oklahoma county has about \$4-6 million revenue. Frech. #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Next up: Dale Frech, Association of County Commissioners of Oklahoma, Safety Director. #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Carolyn Stager is now explaining how the Oklahoma Legislature works. Comparatively better than other states. #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Oklahoma Academy is going to do a second town hall on municipal issues, emphasis on finance, this fall. Stager. #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Oklahoma state legislature did form a task force on municipal funding. Stager. #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): [@cartermerkle](#) Just don't expect it to go away. Cities/states will continue to pursue this.

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[BeckyMcCray](#): [@Zimana_](#) Local share would be based on location of purchaser, if it follows the existing patterns. But it's contentious issue.

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[cartermerkle](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) The problem with Internet sales tax is authority to collect. Tax is on buyer, but retailer has to collect.

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[Zimana_](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) and thank you.

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[Zimana_](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) if it were by locale, then the more populated towns get the lions share of the sales. Sorry for the follow up, just curious

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[Zimana_](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) ok, I follow -- have the state collect then distribute, but how do they decide who get x amt?...

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[BeckyMcCray](#): [@Zimana_](#) If the state of Okla. collects regular sales tax on online purchases, they could distribute to cities through regular process.

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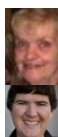
[BeckyMcCray](#): [@Zimana_](#) The speaker's point was that many states are looking to find ways to collect regular sales tax on internet purchases.

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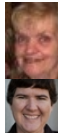
[Zimana_](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) ok, my Q: Is he saying having an internet sales tax will bring revenue to small towns? I don't understand the connection. Thx

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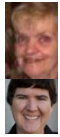
[djsartin](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) ..or full retail tax to state buyer purchased from...but not both. What do you think? Accountants are screaming it's 'Nexus'.

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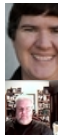
[djsartin](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) ..the state the buyer lives in does not get tax on sale made in OK. Any taxes on internet sales should b same - due where sold

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[djsartin](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) The internet sales tax issue I see like if a NYer visiting OK buys from a retail shop there..only OK gets sales tax.,,cont...

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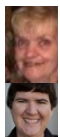
[BeckyMcCray](#): [@djsartin](#) States and cities won't quit looking at this.

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[BeckyMcCray](#): [@Zimana_](#) No link, but I can answer or refer questions about it.

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[djsartin](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) Internet buying seems to short states on taxes, however Becky, all solutions so far result in double taxation per product sold.

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[Zimana_](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) Interesting connection on sales tax and small town rev -- is there a link containing the context of the quote?

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[MarkRiffey](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) We dont have a sales tax, other than a few (very) select towns with a local option resort sales tax.

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Large legislative fights over sales tax collections, audits, and data reporting in Oklahoma. Stager. #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): The whole funding structure for all levels of government needs an overhaul in Oklahoma. Stager. #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Collecting sales tax on internet sales is a huge issue. Small towns losing important revenues. Stager #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): 42% of miles driven are on city-maintained roads, but only 2.3% of transportation funding goes to OK cities. Stager. #ruralok

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[DarrinatMSO](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): New rural entrepreneurship initiatives announced by USDA today: <http://bit.ly/b1pB1Q> #ruralok#entrepreneurship
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[BeckyMcCray](#): In Oklahoma, the state, counties and all cities/towns are required to live under balanced budgets. Stager. #ruralok
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[edgegirl](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): Consolidation of marketing is killing farmers. 3 firms control 84% of all US beef processing. Hurts the free market. Humiston #ruralok
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[BeckyMcCray](#): Currently, 38% of Oklahoma cities/towns water/sewer are under some kind of notice of violation or consent order. Stager. #ruralok
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[BeckyMcCray](#): Grocery sales tax exemption would hurt. Average OK city, grocery sales tax is 40% of all sales tax revenue. Stager. #ruralok
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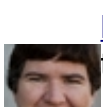
[BeckyMcCray](#): Oklahoma cities and towns rely strongly on sales tax. Every year, the legislature considers more sales tax exemptions. Stager. #ruralok
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[BeckyMcCray](#): Oklahoma is the only state where cities and towns do not receive ad valorem (property taxes) for general operations. Stager. #ruralok
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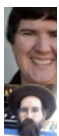
[BeckyMcCray](#): Out of 500+ municipalities in Oklahoma, 438 are incorporated as towns (usually under 1000 population) Stager #ruralok
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[BeckyMcCray](#): New rural entrepreneurship initiatives announced by USDA today: <http://bit.ly/b1pB1Q> Thanks to [@mikeg1](#) for finding the link #ruralok
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[BeckyMcCray](#): Next up: Carolyn Stager from the Oklahoma Municipal League: "Champions for Effective Local Government." #ruralok
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[BeckyMcCray](#): [@MikeG1](#) You are awesome! Thank you for that link.
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[MikeG1](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#): Release No. 0300.10 <http://bit.ly/b1pB1Q>
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[asyouwish](#): [@pagetx](#) [@BeckyMcCray](#) Def of Board: group of 12 doing the job of 1. Slow pace & Roberts Rules of Order stifle young/quick minds. #ruralok
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[MicheBel](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): Farm Bill politics defy any other type of politics. Cross partisan lines. Urban v rural. Free trade getting involved. Humiston #ruralok
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[MicheBel](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): A lot of the "modern" farm bill comes from the Depression and Dust Bowl. We still use the same framework. Humiston #ruralok
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[BeckyMcCray](#): New Rural Entrepreneurship initiatives might have been announced by Sec. Vilsak an hour ago. Humiston (I MUST FIND OUT!) #ruralok
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[BeckyMcCray](#): Incentive-izing entrepreneurs rather than recruiting outside business. #ruralok
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[BeckyMcCray](#): Next Farm Bill in 2012 will be crazy contentious. Humiston. #ruralok
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[BeckyMcCray](#): Dr. Humiston has an excellent understanding of politics. #ruralok
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[BeckyMcCray](#): Farm Bill politics defy any other type of politics. Cross partisan lines. Urban v rural. Free trade getting involved. Humiston #ruralok
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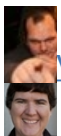
[LauraGirty](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) Dr H is wise enough to recognize greatness when she sees it #ruralok
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[BeckyMcCray](#): A lot of the "modern" farm bill comes from the Depression and Dust Bowl. We still use the same framework. Humiston #ruralok
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[BeckyMcCray](#): [@geekgiant](#) Yay! I used them as an example, too, on Shop Local.
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[geekgiant](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) w00t for Bellingham! Went to college there :)
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[BeckyMcCray](#): Bellingham, WA, is the granddaddy of all shop local programs. Also like BALLE <http://www.livingeconomies.org/> Humiston #ruralok

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[Miss_Dazey](#): I am following along with [@BeckyMcCray](#) on Twitter instead of watching CNN. Just proves how interesting Becky makes everything.

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[Miss_Dazey](#): Smiling 2 RT [@BeckyMcCray](#) Dr. Humiston just put up my rural small business trends article. She has no idea I'm here. :) <http://su.pr/2ZE9ia>

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Dr. Humiston just put up my rural small business trends article. She has no idea I'm here. :) <http://su.pr/2ZE9ia> #ruralok

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[MarkRiffey](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): California rural development idea document:<http://su.pr/1gwrYa> #ruralok [@idealfool](#) (Where is MEDA?)

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[fredericolucas](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): If we don't have profitable businesses in our buildings, we will lose them. Linda Barnett, OK Main Street at #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): California rural development idea document: <http://su.pr/1gwrYa> #ruralok

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[OKAgritourism](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): Huminston's own family farm makes more from one agritourism event (motorcycle rally) than from cattle annually. #ruralok

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[casasdelvalle](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): Definition of rural is a big mess for the whole nation. Humiston #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Definition of rural is a big mess for the whole nation. Humiston#ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): "Jobs, Economic Development and Sustainable Communities" USDA publication designed for implementation, partnerships. Humiston #ruralok

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[NathanKam](#): Agree! Happening in Hawaii. RT [@BeckyMcCray](#) Rather than just the farmer, need to focus on sustainable communities, regional collaborations.

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[LauraGirty](#): Dr Humiston we have been focusing on sustaining ag etc but need to focus on sustaining communities #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Rather than just the farmer, we need to focus on sustainable communities, regional collaborations, etc. Humiston #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Huminston's own family farm makes more from one agritourism event (motorcycle rally) than from cattle annually. #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): "Current system isn't working well for anyone. Except a few people on Wall Street." Humiston #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Off farm income makes up a huge portion of farm family income. Without those outside jobs, family farms fail. Humiston #ruralok

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[mjsdls](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): Dr. Glenda Humiston is telling about USDA Rural Development programs. <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/> #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): "Big farms are not evil. We've got to scale up to feed the world's people." Humiston #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Consolidation of marketing is killing farmers. 3 firms control 84% of all US beef processing. Hurts the free market. Humiston #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Dr. Glenda Humiston is telling about USDA Rural Development programs. <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/> #ruralok

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[RangeDiva](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): Local stores are worth much more than big boxes to your community. 3 times as much! <http://su.pr/ARhuTG> #ruralok

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[RangeDiva](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): "Tradition makes it HARD for younger people to participate. Be willing to CHANGE." #ruralok

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[pagetx](#): Gold RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): How to get young people to participate in traditional boards? (YOU WON'T - go NON-traditional. - my opinion.) #ruralok

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[ColoradoRiverTr](#): Gold RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): How to get young people to participate in traditional boards? (YOU WON'T - go NON-traditional. - my opinion.) #ruralok
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[pagetx](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): "Young people are BUSY. We don't have a lot of free time to participate in traditional service opportunities." #ruralok
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[wildheart4vr](#): would like to thank #ruralok chat folks for letting me RT their gems glad I am following [@BeckyMcCray](#)
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[wildheart4vr](#): RT:[@BeckyMcCray](#) "Tradition makes it HARD for younger people to participate. Be willing to CHANGE." #ruralok [#1G4Topeka](#)
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[wildheart4vr](#): RT:We have not been *listening* to young people in our communities. [@wendeelaplant](#) #ruralok [#1G4Topeka](#)
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[BeckyMcCray](#): This session ROCKED. Highly interactive and engaged audience. Applause to [@lindabarnett55](#) [@marcipenner](#) and [@wendeelaplant](#) !!! #ruralok
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[wildheart4vr](#): RT:"Young people are BUSY. We don't have a lot of free time to participate in traditional service opportunities." #ruralok [#1G4Topeka](#)
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[wildheart4vr](#): RT: How to engage young people? Get them together in the community and LISTEN TO THEM. [@marcipenner](#) #ruralok [#1G4Topeka](#)
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[BeckyMcCray](#): "Tradition makes it HARD for younger people to participate. Be willing to CHANGE." #ruralok
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[ethnicomm](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): "Young people are BUSY. We don't have a lot of free time to participate in traditional service opportunities." #ruralok
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[wildheart4vr](#): RT:[@BeckyMcCray](#) How 2 get young people 2 participate in traditional boards? (YOU WON'T-go NON-traditional.-my opinion.) #ruralok [#1G4Topeka](#)
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[BeckyMcCray](#): We have not been *listening* to young people in our communities. [@wendeelaplant](#) #ruralok
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[BeckyMcCray](#): "Young people are BUSY. We don't have a lot of free time to participate in traditional service opportunities." #ruralok

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[djsartin](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): The WeKAN bank brought 100 people to help Rosa refurb the Whiting Cafe - <http://su.pr/1fCspC> [@marcipenner](#) #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): How to engage young people? Get them together in the community and LISTEN TO THEM. [@marcipenner](#) #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): How to get young people to participate in traditional boards? (YOU WON'T - go NON-traditional. - my opinion.) #ruralok

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[dheuman](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): Local stores are worth much more than big boxes to your community. 3 times as much! <http://su.pr/ARhuTG> #ruralok

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[wildheart4vr](#): BeckyMcCray RT:Main Street communities have access to a business consultant to work with local businesses. #ruralok [#1G4Topeka](#)

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[sheilas](#): Of COURSE the danged Rural Grocery Store Summit has a Facebook Page. Duh. :) <http://is.gd/cBdcx> #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Oklahoma Main Street does not refuse services to any city, but gives priority to the member cities. [@lindabarnett55](#) #ruralok

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[sheilas](#): Why niche rocks on the Web ---> Rural Grocery Store Summit in Kansas, w/global audience: <http://is.gd/cBd35> #ruralok via [@BeckyMcCray](#)

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[wildheart4vr](#): RT: BeckyMcCray I am SO excited to hear the talk turn to supporting local entrepreneurs as a development tool. #ruralok me2 [#1G4Topeka](#)

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Main Street communities have access to a business consultant to work with local businesses. #ruralok

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[TowneLaker](#): 3X More!? - Local stores are worth much more than big boxes to your community. 3 times as much! <http://su.pr/ARhuTG> via [@BeckyMcCray](#)



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[cjdub](#): Local stores are worth 3 times more than big boxes to your community. (via [@BeckyMcCray](#)) <http://tinyurl.com/8eeybw> #ruralok
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[wildheart4vr](#): RT:Community owned retail not as common in Oklahoma as KS. New stores in Arnett, Helena, OK. #ruralok [#1G4Topeka](#)
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[BeckyMcCray](#): I am SO excited to hear the talk turn to supporting local entrepreneurs as a development tool. #ruralok
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[wildheart4vr](#): RT:Local stores are worth much more than big boxes to your community. 3 times as much! <http://su.pr/ARhuTG> #ruralok [#1G4Topeka](#)
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[BeckyMcCray](#): The Bradts (our young people here today) working on a performing arts project in Alva, restoring a theatre. YAY! #ruralok
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[BeckyMcCray](#): Community owned retail not as common in Oklahoma as KS. New stores in Arnett, Helena, OK. #ruralok
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[wildheart4vr](#): Why can't we do more to incentiveize local businesses, not just to attract big boxes? Look to local entrepreneurs. [@lindabarnett55](#) #ruralok
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[TourismCurrents](#): [@HerMedia](#) Thanks for the shout-out for "quirky!" :) We like it, too. #ruralok
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[BeckyMcCray](#): Local stores are worth much more than big boxes to your community. 3 times as much! <http://su.pr/ARhuTG> #ruralok
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[wildheart4vr](#): RT:Seeing more communities go back to Shop Local projects and 3/50 projects [@lindabarnett55](#) #ruralok [#1G4Topeka](#)
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[BeckyMcCray](#): Why can't we do more to incentiveize local businesses, not just to attract big boxes? Look to local entrepreneurs. [@lindabarnett55](#) #ruralok
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[the_networks](#): RT Becky McCray: Seeing more communities go back to Shop Local projects and 3/50 projects [@lindabarnett55](#) #ruralok: <http://bit.ly/anfkiy>
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[BeckyMcCray](#): Seeing more communities go back to Shop Local projects and 3/50 projects [@lindabarnett55](#) #ruralok

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[wildheart4vr](#): RT: YAY! [@marcipenner](#) understands the importance of SOCIAL NETWORKING, as well as paper. #ruralok you are an asset to [#1G4Topeka](#)

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[BeckyMcCray](#): YAY! [@marcipenner](#) understands the importance of SOCIAL NETWORKING, as well as paper. #ruralok

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[wildheart4vr](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): Rural Grocery Store Summit, in Kansas, with a global audience: <http://www.ruralgrocery.org/> #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Rural Grocery Store Summit, in Kansas, with a global audience: <http://www.ruralgrocery.org/> #ruralok

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[wildheart4vr](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): Here is your tourism target market: RT [@HerMedia](#) "[@BeckyMcCray](#) I like quirky" #ruralok

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[wildheart4vr](#): RT [@sheilas](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): Health of local grocery store is barometer for community's ability to get along and do things. via [@marcipenner](#)

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[wildheart4vr](#): RT [@sheilas](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): From [@KansasSampler](#): Power Up Kansas, getting 21-39 year olds who r rural *by choice* to help shape the new rural#ruralok

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[sheilas](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): From [@KansasSampler](#): Power Up Kansas, getting 21-39 year olds who r rural *by choice* to help shape the new rural #ruralok

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[sheilas](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): Health of local grocery store is barometer for community's ability to get along and do things. via [@marcipenner](#) #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Here is your tourism target market: RT [@HerMedia](#) "[@BeckyMcCray](#) like quirky" #ruralok

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HerMedia: [@BeckyMcCray](#) I like quirky

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PowerHungryFilm: [@BeckyMcCray](#) - Go, [#Kansas](#)! my home state!! ;-))

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wildheart4vr: RT: Give the reasons to the world why we do things that are quirky. Then it's part of our charm. [@marcipenner](#) [#ruralok](#) [#1G4Topeka](#)

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BeckyMcCray: Give the reasons to the world why we do things that are quirky. Then it's part of our charm. [@marcipenner](#) [#ruralok](#)

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wildheart4vr: RT:Are teaching small town people how to GET social networking, so other people can GET rural Kansas. YAY! [@marcipenner](#) [#ruralok](#) [#1G4Topeka](#)

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wildheart4vr: RT:The WeKAN bank brought 100 people to help Rosa refurb the Whiting Cafe - <http://su.pr/1fCspC> [@marcipenner](#) [#ruralok](#) [#1G4Topeka](#)

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TourismCurrents: Look for Explorer types in tourism says [@marcipenner](#): they love 2 get out/explore small towns. [@MarkRiffey](#) then suggests geocaching [#ruralok](#)

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BeckyMcCray: Are teaching small town people how to GET social networking, so other people can GET rural Kansas. YAY! [@marcipenner](#) [#ruralok](#)

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BeckyMcCray: Why can't we do these service trips in our own country, too? [@marcipenner](#) [#ruralok](#)

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BeckyMcCray: The WeKAN bank brought 100 people to help Rosa refurb the Whiting Cafe - <http://su.pr/1fCspC> [@marcipenner](#) [#ruralok](#)

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wildheart4vr: RT:The WeKAN bank lets small biz put needs in the bank, and Explorers come and help them out. Do makeovers, etc. [@marcipenner](#) [#ruralok](#)

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BeckyMcCray: The WeKAN bank lets small biz put needs in the bank, and Explorers come and help them out. Do makeovers, etc. [@marcipenner](#) [#ruralok](#)

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[wildheart4vr](#): RT:Applause to [@marcipenner](#) for blogging about her small town adventures. Her posts have spurred biz to improve! #ruralok

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[wildheart4vr](#): the founder of Baileyville had a son named Willis who later became Governor of Kansas #ruralok

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[pagetx](#): True RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): More than 1 small town been surprised to find out something they take 4 granted is of interest. [@marcipenner](#) #ruralok

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[ColoradoRiverTr](#): True RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): More than 1 small town been surprised to find out something they take 4 granted is of interest. [@marcipenner](#) #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Applause to [@marcipenner](#) for blogging about her small town adventures. Her posts have spurred biz to improve! #ruralok

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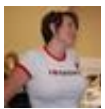
[BeckyMcCray](#): My new fave little Kansas town, Piqua, birthplace of Buster Keaton:<http://su.pr/2yDSty> #ruralok

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[wildheart4vr](#): The cemetery out west of Baileyville is where the founder Monroe Bailey lies [@marcipenner](#) #ruralok

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[iatraveler](#): Looking forward 2 reading! RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): The [@kansassampler](#) 8 elements of rural tourism: <http://kansassampler.org/rce/> #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Check out the amazing stuff they are doing with small towns at<http://getruralkansas.org/> [@kansassampler](#) #ruralok

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[wildheart4vr](#): RT: Example: amazing Davis Memorial in Hiawatha, KS -<http://su.pr/4h1kzB> #ruralok don't forget Baileyville Ks either

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[wildheart4vr](#): RT:Look for the Explorer types in tourism: they love to get out and explore small towns. [@marcipenner](#) #ruralok love 2 explore [#1G4Topeka](#)

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Example: amazing Davis Memorial in Hiawatha, KS -<http://su.pr/4h1kzB> #ruralok

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[wildheart4vr](#): RT:More than one small town has been surprised to find out that something they take for granted is of interest. [@marcipenner](#) #ruralok #TBT
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[wildheart4vr](#): RT: The 8 Wonders of Kansas project has drawn enormous interest, and highlights some gems in Kansas. [@kansassampler](#) #ruralok #1G4Topeka
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[ColoradoRiverTr](#): We love Explorers! RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): Look for Explorer types in tourism: they love to get out & explore small towns. [@marcipenner](#) #ruralok
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[BeckyMcCray](#): More than one small town has been surprised to find out that something they take for granted is of interest. [@marcipenner](#) #ruralok
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[wildheart4vr](#): RT:Look for the Explorer types in tourism: they love to get out and explore small towns. [@marcipenner](#) #ruralok #1G4Topeka
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[wildheart4vr](#): RT:The [@kansassampler](#) 8 elements of rural tourism - memorize them: <http://kansassampler.org/rce/> #ruralok #1G4Topeka
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[BeckyMcCray](#): The 8 Wonders of Kansas project has drawn enormous interest, and highlights some gems in Kansas. [@kansassampler](#) #ruralok
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[BeckyMcCray](#): [@MarkRiffey](#) Absolutely! Geocaching is also growing, fast!
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[MarkRiffey](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): The [@kansassampler](#) 8 elements of rural tourism - memorize them: <http://is.gd/cBavR> #ruralok [@idealfool](#)
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[MarkRiffey](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) Geocaching is a great way to get those folks attracted.#ruralok
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[wildheart4vr](#): #1G4Topeka follow #ruralok thread [@marcipenner](#) from[@kansassampler](#) is being mentioned some gems as well
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[BeckyMcCray](#): Look for the Explorer types in tourism: they love to get out and explore small towns. [@marcipenner](#) #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): The [@kansassampler](#) 8 elements of rural tourism - memorize them:<http://kansassampler.org/rce/> #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Big shout out to the two 21-39 year olds in the room, the Bradts. :)#ruralok

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[commishette](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): Help your community be the best it can be at being itself. That's [@kansassampler](#) 's goal. [@marcipenner](#) at #ruralok

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[wildheart4vr](#): grab a bite to eat and then go meet Shawn Clausing at Fencemaster he is a great guy #ruralok

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[wildheart4vr](#): The Sandwich Shop in Cherokee is reopened and is right down from Fencemaster #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): [@kansassampler](#) project: Power Up Kansas, getting the 21-39 year olds who are rural *by choice* to help shape the new rural. #ruralok

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[mjsdls](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): More than money, what we need is creative thought, social invention. [@marcipenner](#) #ruralok

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[SMDuPont](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): More than money, what we need is creative thought, social invention. [@marcipenner](#) #ruralok

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[wildheart4vr](#): RT: More than money, what we need is creative thought, social invention. [@marcipenner](#) #ruralok...[#1G4Topeka](#) is trying to do that

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[BeckyMcCray](#): I'd like to see our legislature value our volunteer led towns more in their decision making. [@marcipenner](#) #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): [@CatsEyeWriter](#) Oh, yeah, that ferry is a big barrier for your stores.

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[CatsEyeWriter](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) I hear U on plight of small town grocery stores. Massive orders needed. Throw in a ferry & you have a complex, costly situation.

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[LauraGirty](#): Marci Penner Kansas Sampler 1 question at town grocery tells attitude of town: Do locals shop & support you? #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): More than money, what we need is creative thought, social invention. [@marcipenner](#) #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Takes \$10,000 grocery delivery each week to get the truck to stop. Maybe 5 cents more for a loaf of bread is worth it. [@marcipenner](#) #ruralok

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[OkieJ](#): if grocery store has local support, it is a good indicator that local leadership can accomplish and achieve some goals. #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Health of the local grocery store is a barometer for the community's ability to get along and do things. [@marcipenner](#) #ruralok

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[wildheart4vr](#): RT: What we do as a foundation is fill voids. What Commerce, Main Street, etc., don't do. [@marcipenner](#) [@kansassampler](#) #ruralok [#1G4Topeka](#)

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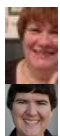
[BeckyMcCray](#): Loss of grocery stores is a common issue for small towns. [@marcipenner](#) #ruralok

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[OkieJ](#): small towns are losing grocery stores, something in common everywhere. #ruralok

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[commishette](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) Marci is the best thing that has happened to Kansas Tourism Don't think some appreciate all she does They're Loss [@marcipenner](#)

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[wildheart4vr](#): RT: [@BeckyMcCray](#) Help your community be the best it can be at being itself. That's [@kansassampler](#) 's goal go [#1G4Topeka](#) business!!!

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[BeckyMcCray](#): What we do as a foundation is fill voids. What Commerce, Main Street, etc., don't do. [@marcipenner](#) [@kansassampler](#) #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Help your community be the best it can be at being itself. That's [@kansassampler](#) 's goal. [@marcipenner](#) at #ruralok

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[OkieJ](#): help your community be the best it can be at being itself. #ruralok

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[OkieJ](#): focus on communities of 1500 or less population #ruralok

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[wildheart4vr](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): Next up: [@marcipenner](#) and [@wendeelaplant](#) from [@kansassampler](#)! Love these gals!! #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Next up: [@marcipenner](#) and [@wendeelaplant](#) from [@kansassampler](#)! Love these gals!! #ruralok

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[OkieJ](#): Kansas Sampler Marci Penner and Wendi LaPlant to discuss how it is done in Kansas #ruralok

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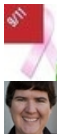
[BeckyMcCray](#): [@commishette](#) awesome! Hope it's super successful!

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[BeckyMcCray](#): [@wildheart4vr](#) Dunno, but I think so.

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[wildheart4vr](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) does Oklahoma Main Street have a FB page #ruralok

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[LawtonConst](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): Oklahoma Main Street requires local staff to attend national and state trainings. (Helps them get local funding) [@lindabarnett55](#)

#ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Oklahoma Main Street requires local staff to attend national and state trainings. (Helps them get local funding) [@lindabarnett55](#) #ruralok

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[wildheart4vr](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) Fencemaster in Cherokee is open 8 to 5 M - F and 8 to 1 on Sat #ruralok

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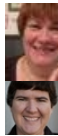
[BeckyMcCray](#): Putting a National Park Service office in upstairs space downtown provided a workforce to shop and eat downtown. [@lindabarnett55](#) #ruralok

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[commishette](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) We are raising the funds so no tax money is used, fund raising for a community goal last project raised over \$30,000

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[commishette](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) that's what our beautification committee did, we're starting a big project New Down Town Street Lights will make a huge impact

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[BeckyMcCray](#): [@wildheart4vr](#) Yep. Cherokee Main Street director here today, I believe.



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[JPlovesCOTTON](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) I have a painting by a NW OK artist in my dining room -- it's of wheat fields with Union Equity on the horizon. So Enid!

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[BeckyMcCray](#): [@JPlovesCOTTON](#) :)

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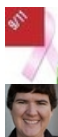
[sheilas](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) I think Linda Barnett is [@lindabarnett55](#) - maybe today will get her to tweet and get an avatar! :)

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[JPlovesCOTTON](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) I lived in NW OK & there were great folks there. Caring, generous, etc those things lead to healthier lives too

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[wildheart4vr](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) Cherokee is one of those towns the old Smoke Shack on main is like that #ruralok

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[LauraGirty](#): Linda Barnett OK Main Street if biz is only open 9-5 catering to unemployed #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Limited and erratic business hours are a huge problem in small towns. Linda Barnett, OK Main Street at #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): If we don't have profitable businesses in our buildings, we will lose them. Linda Barnett, OK Main Street at #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Oklahoma downtowns have lots of cool transom windows, hidden under siding or tin. Love to see them restored! #ruralok

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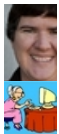
[LauraGirty](#): Linda Barnett OK Main Street front windows r free advertising space - use wisely #ruralok

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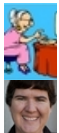
[BeckyMcCray](#): Oklahoma Main Street provides extensive design services: architecture, interior design. Linda Barnett at #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): [@Miss_Dazey](#) National Main Street has a great web site. Their 4 point approach is worth studying. (and too big to tweet)

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[Miss_Dazey](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) Looking forward to learning more about The Main Street approach, Glad NW OK have 55+ wisdom.

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Correction: Linda Barnett is with the Oklahoma Main Street group.#ruralok

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[LauraGirty](#): #ruralok I say BE the sparkplug

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[LauraGirty](#): #ruralok Linda Barnett OK Main Street says every community needs a sparkplug to get things done n motivate

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[BeckyMcCray](#): The Main Street approach teaches communities to put together a team and get things done. Linda Barnett, Cherokee Main Street at #ruralok

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[sheilas](#): RT [@TourismCurrents](#): Great tweets coming from attendees at today's NW Oklahoma rural development conference in Alva. Follow #ruralok

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[OKcommerce](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): NW Oklahoma people are healthier and retire later, compared to rest of the state. [@deidredmyers](#) at #ruralok
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[OKBoomerang](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): NW Oklahoma people are healthier and retire later, compared to rest of the state. [@deidredmyers](#) at #ruralok
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[TourismCurrents](#): Great tweets coming from attendees at today's NW Oklahoma rural development conference in Alva. Follow #ruralok
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[mjsdls](#): RT [@BeckyMcCray](#): NW Oklahoma people are healthier and retire later, compared to rest of the state. [@deidredmyers](#) at #ruralok
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[BeckyMcCray](#): [@theRQ](#) Because more of us work outdoors, active lifestyles. Or that's the supposition.
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[theRQ](#): [@BeckyMcCray](#) Why zat? :-?
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[LauraGirty](#): #ruralok also why so many E's n inventions have come from NW OK
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[BeckyMcCray](#): NW Oklahoma people are healthier and retire later, compared to rest of the state. [@deidredmyers](#) at #ruralok about 8 hours ago from web [View Tweet](#)



[BeckyMcCray](#): NW Oklahoma people are healthier and retire later, compared to rest of the state. [@deidredmyers](#) at #ruralok
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[OkieJ](#): Deena Fisher, Woodward Campus asked about income differences compared to other states #ruralok
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[LauraGirty](#): #ruralok. i w add true entrepreneurs DON'T!! They stay where their hearts n families r n make their own way by their creativity n tenacity
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[OkieJ](#): assets are people, need to use retiring generation to educate and mentor to help keep the youth in the area. [@deidradmyers](#) #ruralok
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[BeckyMcCray](#): Two huge assets in NW OK: huge potential in under 5 group, and huge knowledge in the over 55 group. [#deidredmyers](#) at [#ruralok](#)

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[LauraGirty](#): [#ruralok](#). [@DeidreDMyers](#) states populations move where jobs are

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[BeckyMcCray](#): NW economy has a head start on recovery compared to the rest of Oklahoma. [@deidredmyers](#) at [#ruralok](#)

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Oklahoma economy may be a beneficiary if gulf drilling is shut down. [@deidredmyers](#) at [#ruralok](#)

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[OkieJ](#): oil spill in gulf will have long term effect on OK. oil drilling is a small percent of drilling here. most is natural gas. [#ruralok](#)

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[BeckyMcCray](#): How Oklahoma got in a state budget hole: projected oil and gas revenue to stay up. [@deidredmyers](#) at [#ruralok](#)

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[OkieJ](#): small communities exist on sales tax. decline is harder for them to overcome. [@deidradmyers](#) [#ruralok](#)

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[BeckyMcCray](#): A third live tweeter joining us: [@lauragirty](#) Yay! (Not surprisingly, we are all at the same table.) [#ruralok](#)

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Small towns in Oklahoma rely on revenue from sales taxes, and revenue is down. [@deidredmyers](#) at [#ruralok](#)

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[LauraGirty](#): [#ruralok](#). [@BeckyMcCray](#) [@DeidreDMyers](#) trends are showing we can change the indicators by our actions

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[BeckyMcCray](#): You can't wait until someone graduates high school to start on their workforce training: influence them in jr high [@deidredmyers](#) @ [#ruralok](#)

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[LauraGirty](#): [#ruralok](#) Past is prologue - [@deidremyers](#) quoting Abe Lincoln.

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[OkieJ](#): a manager is a manager with a skill set that can cross industries
[@deidradmyers](#) #ruralok

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[OkieJ](#): current projections show food manufacturing to be the top growth industry for the future. #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): If we don't like what we see in the projections, we can take action to change them. [@deidredmyers](#) at #ruralok

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[OkieJ](#): nationally the midwest holds lower unemployment rates than the rest of the national rates. [@DeidraDMyers](#) #ruralok

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[OkieJ](#): OK has not been above national unemployment rate since 1999
[@DeidraDMyers](#) #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Oklahoma went into the recession a year after the US, and we seem to be coming out sooner. [@DeidreDMyers](#) at #ruralok

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[OkieJ](#): coming out of recession historically shows a continued problem with employment for a period of time [@DeidraDMyers](#) #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Just as a note: we have two live-Tweeters: me and [@okiej](#) at#ruralok

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[OkieJ](#): good news is that current recession has not been as difficult on OK as the nation. [@DeidraDMyers](#) #ruralok

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[OkieJ](#): level of education and training evaluated at age 25 and up. move those with HS ed forward to higher ed. [@DeidraDMyers](#) #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): NW has lower educational attainment: lower percentage of folks with bachelor's degrees. [@DeidreDMyers](#) at #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): NW OK is 80% white. Growing number of white Hispanic. Significant % of American Indian. [@DeidreDMyers](#) at #ruralok

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[OkieJ](#): learning the difference between white Hispanic and non white Hispanic!
[@DeidraDMyers](#) #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Bad news: Lots of young people, lots of old people, not as many working age people in Northwest Oklahoma [@DeidreDMyers](#) at #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Largest cohort is under 5. That is Northwest Oklahoma's biggest asset. [@DeidreDMyers](#) at #ruralok

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[OkieJ](#): age groups in 13 counties show we are lower than state average in working age group. [@DeidraDMyers](#) #ruralok

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[OkieJ](#): Woodward county shows growth, something not the norm for NW OK [@DeidreDMyers](#) #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Most Northwest Oklahoma counties have lost 50% or more of their population since statehood. [@DeidreDMyers](#) at #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Population declines hurt in workforce supply and consumer demand. [@DeidreDMyers](#) at #ruralok

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[OkieJ](#): industry and occupation tables available! and they are even current. population is key in our area. #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Regional economies are based on shared assets [@DeidreDMyers](#) #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Memories of competition between communities keeps us from coming together as a region: [@DeidreDMyers](#) at #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Next up: [@DeidreDMyers](#) from Department of Commerce with Oklahoma's Population Changes #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Dr. Steve Lohmann saw the regional approach working for Texas Panhandle: presenting a united front at the wind energy conference. #ruralok

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[BeckyMcCray](#): Dr. Steve Lohmann: urban sprawl development north of Dallas (now many empty buildings) is what we want to avoid. #ruralok

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[OkieJ](#): also at #ruralok in Alva, Making Places Matter on rural economic development

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[BeckyMcCray](#): #ruralok = Making Place Matter in Northwest Oklahoma, Rural Community Economic Development Summit, Alva, OK

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2010 Rural Small Business Trends

<http://smallbiztrends.com/2010/01/2010-rural-small-business-trends.html>

73 Clicks, 1 retweet, <http://su.pr/2ZE9ia>

California Jobs, Economic Development and Sustainable Communities Report

www.rurdev.usda.gov/ca/pdf%20files%20and%20documents/CA%20Jobs%20and%20Econ_Development%20Feb_2010.pdf

86 Clicks, 1 retweet, <http://su.pr/1gwrYa>

Local Stores Worth Three Times More Than Chains

<http://www.smallbizsurvival.com/2008/05/local-stores-worth-3-times-more-than.html>

102 Clicks, 3 retweets, <http://su.pr/ARhuTG>

Cafe Rosa reports on Kansas Sampler Blog

<http://kansassampler.blogspot.com/search?q=cafe+rosa>

80 Clicks, 2 retweets, <http://su.pr/1fCspC>

Piqua, Kansas, page at Get Rural Kansas

<http://getruralkansas.org/Piqua/157index.shtml>

50 Clicks, <http://su.pr/2yDSty>

Davis Memorial, Hiawatha, Kansas in the 8 Wonders of Kansas

<http://www.kansassampler.org/8wonders/8wondersofkansas-view.php?id=25>

66 Clicks, 1 retweet, <http://su.pr/4h1kzB>

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<http://wildheartsweb20.com/what-can-topeka-learn-from-rural-communities>