

## **“Parsons and the World Wars” is focus of this year’s Katy Day’s History Zone**

The 2017 “History Zone” at the Arvon Phillips Community Center will feature memorabilia from World War I and World War II and will tell the story of both from a local perspective.

This year’s topic was chosen to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United States entry into World War I in 1917.

The exhibit will contain artifacts from both world wars—especially items that call attention to organizations, activities, and building projects in Parsons that were war related: the Red Cross, the USO, the Kansas Ordnance Plant, public memorials, and the Winway addition.

According to History Zone organizers Dave Mattox and Mike Brotherton, the Parsons Historical Society Museum has an extraordinary collection of items that relates to the world wars, and they wanted to put the spotlight on some of these items, putting locally generated items in context of world events.

“In essence, we’re telling another facet of Parsons’ story—how the city played a part in both war efforts and how it changed because of the wars.”

All items in the exhibit are on loan from the Parsons Historical Society Museum.

Many more items related to both world wars will be on exhibit at the museum, which will have extended hours (Friday 1-4 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. -4 p.m., and Sunday 1-4 p.m.) during Katy Days weekend. The museum is located at 401 South 18<sup>th</sup> Street in Parsons.