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## **Gathering Place Salutes Union School**

#### Grove Elementary Wins Reading Challenge

Congratulations to Union's Grove Elementary for winning The Reading Tree Challenge sponsored by The Gathering Place. Students were recently honored for reading the most books of any school in the participating area. Grove students read 121,307 to win a pizza party and a medal for each student.

Leanne Taylor, Channel 6 morning news anchor, Tony Moore, director of The Gathering Place, and Ariana Reagor, of Moore Elementary and the spokesperson for the Reading Challenge, helped pass out medals for special pictures.

Reagor helped lead the assembly, even reading to students. Students also enjoyed a game in which three teachers played musical chairs with a blindfold. After the assembly, all of the students received their own medal - no other school in the area received this medal - and then they went back to their class for a pizza party.

PROLIFIC READERS: Grove Elementary students celebrate their Reading Tree success at a recent assembly with Channel 6 morning news anchor Leanne Taylor, left, and Director of the Gathering Place Tony Moore.

Grove Elementary is located at 10202 E. 62nd St. in Tulsa.

The Reading Challenge is still in the midst of its campaign. More than 1,657,000 books have been read. The goal is to read 2 million books by the time the park opens.

For more information about the Reading Challenge, see www.tulsareadingtree.org.

#### **About Gathering Place**

A project of George Kaiser Family Foundation, Gathering Place will transform nearly 100 acres of Tulsa's waterfront along the Arkansas River into a dynamic and active space when the project is completed. A public-private partnership, GKFF and numerous corporate and community philanthropists gave ownership of the \$465 million park to River Parks Authority who in turn signed a long-term operational and management lease back to an entity of the foundation to ensure the highest quality operation, maintenance and programming for the life of the park.

Gathering Place for Tulsa is doing business as Tulsa's Gathering Place, LLC. To learn more about the project, visit gatheringplace.org.

#### **New Playground Opens at Ochoa Elementary**

It's playtime at the new Ellen Ochoa Elementary, 3303 S. 121st E. Ave., as the school opens its

"We opened the playground on June 20, and the kids just love it," says Principal Rita Long. The school is hosting summer school programs for its students and neighboring students from Rosa Parks Elementary.

Ellen Ochoa, Union's newest elementary, opened its doors last fall, but did not have access to most of the playground. Now, students have access to lots of play areas that will eventually serve more than 1,000 students when the school opens its second wing in fall 2020.

large hard surface area with two basketball goals, two swings sets with six swings each, one with an ADA seat; five slides, boulder walls for climbing, a shade pavilion/outdoor classroom, a dig site, seating wall steps, a "big toy" with wood fiber safe surface for kids to climb on and more.

Next to the playground is a 5,000-square-foot area that is under development for a food forest and garden space. More than 60 trees have been planted nearby and an outdoor water fountain will be installed. (Access to some of the newly-sodded area is temporarily limited to give the grass a chance to grow over the summer.) The playground features a



make a mile. It will also have space for three small soccer fields and artificial rocks for climbing.

are in place, as well as fencing and lighting. There will also be wireless access to the Internet and a handicapped-accessible ramp as



**Dodgers Provide Quality** 

Players to Drillers

playground boasts a walking path; seven laps will Lighting and security cameras

#### 6 Of a the

Kudos to Williams, one of the great energy companies worldwide, for keeping its home base through the years in Tulsa. Two brothers, Miller

and David Williams, moved their business to Tulsa in 1919. Next year will mark the compa-

ny's 100th year in the city that they helped become "The Oil Capital of the World."

For the first six decades, the company name was Williams Brothers. With the growth in scale and business, the company in the 1970s changed its name to The Williams Companies, Inc. Today, the company is called Williams.

Williams, including its assets held through Williams Partners L.P., is an energy infrastructure compa-

ny focused on connecting North America's significant

hydrocarbon resource plays to growing markets for natural gas and natural gas liquids (NGLs). Williams' interstate gas pipeline and gathering and processing op-erations span the United States, including strategic assets in the deepwater Gulf of Mexico, the Rockies, the Pacific Northwest and the Eastern Seaboard.

Williams owns and operates midstream gathering and processing assets and interstate natural gas pipelines.

During a period from the mid-1980s to the beginning of this century, Williams played a foun-dational role in today's digital world with the development of vital fiber-optic telecommunications networks that span the United States.

Thank you Williams for doing so much for so many through the years in Greater Tulsa!



HEADOUARTERS: The 52-story BOK Tower has been a catalyst in the resurgence of downtown Tulsa. It was built in 1976 and designed by Minoru Yamasaki & Associates, designers of the World Trade Center in New York City.

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## **Cox Business Center Undergoing \$55 Million Renovation**

The Cox Business Center in downtown Tulsa recently hosted a project launch to mark the beginning of the national award-winning venue's \$55 million Vision Tulsa funded renovation. The event was hosted by the venue's Assistant General Manager Kerry Painter, and included three speakers: Tulsa Mayor G.T. Bynum, Cox Communications Vice President and Market Leader Roger Ramseyer, and SMG Tulsa General Manager Jeff Nickler.

"Through the strong support in our city for the Vision Tulsa program, the investments that we will make in our Cox Business Center will keep Tulsa at a competitive advantage and serve as a vital project for our tourism industry," Mayor G.T. Bynum said. "These improvements will help enhance our tourism client base and improve the experience for Tulsans and visitors that utilize the venue."

The project team—Vision Tulsa Builders (including project partners from both Flintco and Manhattan Construction), City of Tulsa, SMG Tulsa, MATRIX, and Forest For The Trees Architects—will present project information and visuals, and touch on how the project will make Tulsa a bigger competitor for state and national events while further connecting the over 300,000 square-foot venue with its downtown neighbors.

The venue marked the close of its historic arena with the event and welcomed in a new era. The project construction begins immediately and will be completed in June 2020.



**READY TO BUILD:** All smiles at the announcement of the start of the renovation of the Cox Business Center are, from left, Cox Business Center Assistant General Manager Kerry Painter, Tulsa Mayor G.T. Bynum, SMG Tulsa General Manager Jeff Nickler and Cox Communications Vice President and Market Leader Roger Ramseyer.





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DISTRIBUTION Distributech · Udevenko Family

## **2018 Stacked Deck ACES Volunteer for Resonance**

2018 Stacked Deck The ACES have been revealed and are pictured at right. ACES are dedicated volunteers and supporters who have each committed to raising a minimum of \$10,000 in funds/in-kind items toward the Resonance Center for Women's annual fundraiser Stacked Deck: A Night at the Movies, Oct. 5 at the Bond Center. The cinema-themed event will include a premier viewing of That Time in My Life, a short fiction film produced by Kirkpatrick and Kinslow Productions.

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The event, chaired by Nicole Watts of KKT Architects, raises funds for Resonance programs aimed at helping women in the criminal justice system become clean and sober, employed and caring for their children. Resonance Executive Director Deidra Kirtley notes, "Stacked Deck is a casual, fun evening that helps raise almost 10 percent of the agency's annual revenue. The event has sold out in years past, and I suspect it will again this year too.

Eleanor Hill founded Resonance in 1977 as a volunteer-based nonprofit organization dedicated to providing a support system for women facing life's challenges. Having been suddenly widowed when her husband was overseas, Hill knew from personal experience the desperate need women have for a support system when facing the challenges of life.

She established Resonance in a house on the grounds of St. John's Episcopal Church and along with a group of volunteers, began offering services that included free listening sessions, on-going support groups and educational workshops.

Today, Resonance has evolved to meet the ever-changing needs of the Tulsa community and is a dually accredited, gender specific, outpatient drug and alcohol treatment facility. Resonance is working to change Oklahoma's distinction of having the highest per-capita female incarceration rate in the world. Through reentry services, job counseling and partnerships with agencies such as Drug Court, Resonance is doing its best to create a brighter future for its clients, community and state.





FUNDRAISING TEAM: Resonance's extraordinary 2018 ACES with the event chair are, from left, Mercedes Millberry Fowler, Blue Cross Blue Shield; Event Chair Nicole Watts, KKT Architects; Christie Little, Hogan Taylor LLP; Stephanie Cameron, AAON Inc.; and Eric Bohne, Security Bank. Not pictured are Molly Aspan, Hall Estill, and Bret Little, Hogan Taylor LLP.

Sponsors this year are George Kaiser Family Foundation, The Chapman Foundations, Coretz Family Foundation, Eric Bohne of Security Bank, Alliance Resources, Webco, Blue Cross Blue Shield and Ruth Nelson.

For tickets, sponsorships or more information, contact Debbie Gordon at 918-587-3888.



ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE Krista Gardner

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**JULY 2018** Vol. 26, No. 7 (Union Boundary); Vol. 24, No. 7 (Jenks District Gazette, Midtown Monitor); Vol. 22, No. 7 (Owasso Rambler, Broken Arrow Express); Vol. 17, No. 7 (Bixby Breeze) COPY DROP-OFF: 5401 S. Sheridan Rd. • Suite 302 • Tulsa, OK 74133





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# Resilient City Strategy Moving Tulsa Forward

Tulsans to join me in dreaming big and making Tulsa a worldclass city. As we continue to renew our high expectations, we can't overlook the glaring disparities that exist in Tulsa. It's heartbreaking to know that children born in north Tulsa are expected to live 10 years less than others in our city. We must address this. I ask you to join me in helping to change that trajectory.

Recently, DeV-Douglass, on the City's chief resilience officer joined by

From Tulsa's Mayor



Mayor of Tulsa

ient Cities, and I unveiled Tulsa's First Resilience Strategy – Resilient Tulsa. Our Resilient Tulsa is an strategy action plan for building a city every where person has an equal shot at a great life. I also established the Mayor's Office of Resilience & Equity. Now the most challenging rewarding but part begins - to build a better city

for future generations of Tulsans. Chief Resil-Officer ience DeVon Douglass coordinate will implementhe

of Tulsa. With racial equity at its core, Resilient Tulsa will address critical resilience challenges ranging from economic inequality and disaster preparedness, to localized civic services and improved health outcomes.

Local partners include the Tulsa Police Department, Tulsa 1921 Race Riot Commission, Workforce Tulsa, and the Zarrow Familv and Tulsa Community Foundations, as well as 100RC Platform Partners Hustle and SBP - they have all committed their support in realizing the strategy's 41 tangible actions.

The Resilient Tulsa strategy is an actionable set of visions, goals, and actions to address the city's most pressing stresses. It seeks to build the ability among residents and city systems alike to better withstand future shocks.

Resilient Tulsa is organized into four overarching visions that strive to produce long-term solutions to challenges ranging from extreme weather events to significant, racial, economic and health inequities. Each action outlines success metrics that the city will use to track progress. The Strategy's visions include:

1. Create an Inclusive Future that Honors All Tulsans; 2. Equip All Tulsans to Overcome Barriers and Thrive; 3. Advance Economic Opportunity for All Tulsans; and 4. Transform City and Regional Systems to Improve Outcomes for All Tulsans.

Through our Resilient Tulsa efforts, we will build off of a wealth of existing City plans dedicated to further shaping Tulsa into a world-class city. I invite you to read the Resilience Strategy at: www.cityoftulsa.org/Resilient-Tulsa

Together, we can build the kind of city we will be proud to pass on to the next generation.

#### Otis Rolley, managing director tation of this plan, which serves Tulsa County an Excellent Career portunit

#### From Tulsa County

**By RON PETERS** Tulsa County Commissioner

Every day there are folks looking for new careers or a new place to continue on their career path. One of the best employment opportunities is working for Tulsa County. Whether you are new to the workforce or looking for a change, working for Tulsa County provides opportunities to enhance your training, provides a career ladder for both professional and nonprofessional workers, and has one of the best benefit packages in the Tulsa County region.

At Tulsa County, we understand the importance of a diverse workplace. We endorse and strive to create an environment of mutual respect. Our commitment relies on the fact that all individuals have the opportunity to contribute to the overall growth of the Tulsa County workforce.

Tulsa County is a full-service public organization with over 2,300 employees. We have a workforce in parks, engineering, highway construction, information technology, administrative services, building operations, fleet management, law enforcement, and social services, just to mention a few. There are always job openings in some



#### COMMISSIONER **RON PETERS**

departments. Some require a college degree, but many do not.

Tulsa County employees are offered a comprehensive, competitively-priced health care package, a paid-time-off program including vacation pay and holidays, life and disability insurance, and outstanding retirement benefits. In addition, employees can also participate in the Educational Assistance Program.

Training and personal development is a very important part when working for Tulsa County. Whether it's to improve your job skills and performance or for personal growth and development, there is a regular schedule of classes and seminars

available to support your work and personal life.

When working for Tulsa County, we support the employee in planning for their future once they have left their job. With the retire-ment plan, Tulsa County contributes 14 percent of an employee's base pay with the employee contributing 2.5 percent of base pay each month. Vesting comes after five years of working for the county. This retirement package is one of the best in our region.

As part of the benefits offered,

the employees are provided the opportunity to participate in the post-employment health care plan. This allows the employee to have money placed into an account they can use for qualified health care expenses.

We also encourage our employees to give back to the community by participating in many of our outreach programs. Whether it's through United Way, the Day of Caring, blood drives, or other community events, we are deeply committed to the Tulsa County communities we live and work in.

If you or someone you know is looking for a new employment opportunity the best place to learn more about working for Tulsa County is on the Tulsa County website at www.tulsacounty.org. You start by going to the Government dropdown and find the Human Resources Division. There you will find a link to the current job openings, job applications, contacts for questions, and all the information about job opportunities and benefits.



HONORED FOR SERVICE: Susan Gross, center, was honored for her long-time service to the Child Abuse Network (CAN) at the organization's annual reception in June. At left is CAN Chief Executive Officer Anna America. In the background is CAN Chief Operating Officer Rose Turner, and at right is former CAN President Kala Sharp. Gross first joined CAN's board of directors in 2005 and has been a dedicated volunteer, serving in many roles. The new CAN President, Tim Neuman, and the board of directors are profiled in the Business and People Notes section in this issue on page 21.

## Get your shot back! Orthopedic Care from Head to Toe

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## Susan Neal Leads Gilcrease During Time of Growth

**By EMILY RAMSEY** *Contributing Editor* 

Editor's Note: Susan Neal, executive director of Gilcrease Museum and vice president for public affairs for the University of Tulsa, is one of Greater Tulsa Reporter's "10 to Watch in Greater Tulsa 2018," as announced in its January 2018 issue. GTR was the first news group in Greater Tulsa to introduce "10 People to Watch," which launched in January 2009.

Throughout the year, GTR is publishing a series of articles, featuring each of its "10 to Watch," with next month's issue to feature Kenny Alexopoulos, chief operating officer of the Oklahoma Aquarium in Jenks.

S usan Neal holds strong ties to both Tulsa, as a native daughter, and to Gilcrease Museum she was married there. Add to that her broad range of professional experiences, and she becomes the ideal candidate to lead Gilcrease Museum during a time of change as it grows new programming and prepares for a \$65-million renovation.

Neal was appointed executive director for Gilcrease in September 2017. She also holds the role of the University of Tulsa's vice president for public affairs, research and economic development.

Neal's professional life, largely, of political service had its small beginnings long ago, she says. Her parents' joint interest in local activism contributed to her community interest. She was active in student office in high school and served on the youth advisory board for then-Tulsa Mayor Robert LaFortune.

Neal earned her political science degree from Oklahoma State University, and she attributes her first trip to Washington, D.C., which took place during her senior year of college, as setting her on her path of politics in the nation's capital. After graduating college, she spent eight years working on Capitol Hill as chief of staff for U.S. Representative Mickey Edwards and as a House and Senate lobbyist for the National Federation of Independent Business.

Those years working with legislative issues and public policy provided her much experience that would serve her very advantageously in the years to come, she notes.

After returning to Tulsa due to her husband's job and her family's Tulsa roots, she took the role of vice president of marketing for Downtown Tulsa Unlimited, a business organization for downtown development and advocacy.

The role "allowed me to take my previous work at the federal level and bring it to the state and local level," Neal says.

Her position allowed her to immerse herself in both downtown Tulsa, an area that she loves, and all aspects of the community, including the philanthropic and non-profit worlds and city government. She played a role in the passing of legislation that allowed for TIF (tax increment financing) districts, which have largely contributed to downtown's redevelopment, she says.

Following seven years in that role, Neal moved into motherhood and began a public relations firm before running for two successful city council terms. She, later, led the JumpStart early childhood education program with the Community Service Council and worked in both the Kathy Taylor and Dewey Bartlett administrations as director of community development and education. During Neal's time in Taylor's administration, she was tasked with assessing the city's management system for Gilcrease, as Gilcrease is owned by the City of Tulsa. Her research included looking into the management of municipally-owned museums around the country, and she found that the management "usually involved bringing in a likeminded partner or the creation of a separate trust to oversee the museum," she says. As it would turn out, TU soon surfaced as a viable partner for the museum, and a partnership offi-

cially began in July 2008. "TU has done a great job of conserving Gilcrease's archives and has been a good steward of the collection," Neal says.

Just how large is Gilcrease's collection?

Gilcrease holds over 400,000 historical documents and anthropological artifacts—"the largest collection of Americana artifacts in the world that has been owned by one person," says Neal. The museum's archival collection ranges from 1494 to the present.

With the breadth of its collection, Gilcrease has many narratives to tell but needs a proper space to do it, Neal adds. Yet, Gilcrease has not seen a renovation in over 30 years.

It was in 2014, when Neal was serving as Gilcrease's interim executive director, that she began to think about proposing the possibility of including Gilcrease in the upcoming Vision Tulsa package.

James Pepper Henry was named Gilcrease's executive director in 2015, and he played a role in getting Gilcrease included in the Vision Tulsa package that was subsequently passed in 2016.

After Henry resigned from Gilcrease in 2017, Neal once again took the helm as interim executive director.



**UNIVERSITY OF TULSA EXECUTIVE:** Susan Neal, executive director of Gilcrease Museum and vice president for public affairs for the University of Tulsa, stands in an exhibit hall at Gilcrease Museum. Neal took the role in September 2017, and will oversee the \$65-million renovation.

"Her interim leadership of the museum in recent years during two transitions have made it clear to the TU community and its Board of Trustees that the person we need at the helm of the museum is none other than Susan Neal," said TU President Gerard Clancy when announcing her promotion.

"When the executive director position came available again," says Neal, "the Gilcrease advisory board was thinking about what skill sets are needed to be in place at this unique time for the museum.

"I have managed institutions, and I speak the City of Tulsa, Gilcrease and TU."

Currently, Neal and Gilcrease are focused on increasing its community engagement and public programming. Gilcrease After Hours was recently launched, taking place on the fourth Friday of the month with cocktails and cultural activities. In July, Gilcrease opened "T.C. Cannon: At the Edge of America," a traveling exhibit running through Oct. 7 that explores the works of T.C. Cannon, who is considered one of the most influential and inventive Native American artists of the 20th century.

Additionally, Gilcrease is focused on moving forward with the planned 100,000-square-foot Vision renovation. Because the project itself will be handled by the City of Tulsa, we want to hand over a plan that will show the city how our collection can be best utilized, Neal says.

That Interpretive Plan, to be created by Gallagher and Associates, will look at the museum's collection in order to create an improved visitor experience, determine the stories behind the collection and assess the best use of space for the collection, she continues.

"Gilcrease has an extraordinary reputation around the world because of its collection. We want to continue to grow that awareness," she says.













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evacuate and recharge system.)

# Relaxing Summer Shows on Tap

Summer fun. Something light. The hot months lend themselves to kick-back entertainment.

If you're a Beatles fan, you've probably rocked out to the Fab Four's "1964" homage show. Those early Beatles tunes com-

prise some the best that Lennon and McCartney ever Celebrity wrote. Attractions hosts the most enjoyable "1964 ... The Tribute" at the Tulsa PAC, July 20.

There's no dance desert during the summer months, thanks to the Summer Heat Inter-Dance national Festival, presented by Choregus Productions at the PAC. First up is Doug Varone and Dancers, July 28. Varone is a star dancer in his own right, having per-

formed with the renowned Lar Lubovitch Dance Company. He also is a sought-after choreographer and director of dance, theatre, opera, fashion and film, fronting one of the leading contemporary dance companies in America. This will be its Oklahoma debut.

Presented in Chapman Music Hall, July 29, the Beijing Dance Theater has appeared in the world's most prestigious venues. The troupe will perform its signature work "Haze," which is danced on a mattress-like material that covers the stage. "Haze" is the work of Wang Yuanyuan, formerly the choreographer of the National Ballet of China and a celebrity in her home country.

I attended the Parsons Dance performance in 2015 when Choregus brought them to Tulsa, and it was riveting. For their July 31 show, the troupe will reprise the Miles Davis tribute number "Kind of Blue," and the show-stop-ping "Caught." The latter uses strobe-lighting to catch a dancer at the height of movement so that he appears to be suspended in air. It's gasp-worthy! Four other selections will be featured. Parsons Dance also will offer a "relaxed, autism-friendly" performance on July 30.

The show "Lizzie" is about double axe murderer Lizzie Borden. That wouldn't qualify for light summertime entertainment if it weren't for the rock music, played by six-piece band, that gives levity

to the piece. At the center of this production are two singers from Oklahoma City who share the title role. Tulsa Project Theatre presents "Lizzie" at the PAC, July 13-

For something lighter still, check out comic Gabri-

**Show Buzz** 

Show Fits All" show, July 20 at the River Spirit Casino Resort, and the forever-young Oak Boys, Ridge also at River Spirit, July 26. The group is known for their four-part harmonies and upbeat songs. The Brady Theatre wel-

comes a show

devoted to the

"Killer

el Iglesias' "One

rock band Queen titled **By NANCY HERMANN** Queen," July 29.

Then, relive the best moments of American Idol's Season 16 when its top seven finalists stop in Tulsa on their 40city American tour. Winner Maddie Poppe is a deserving winner, and she'll be joined by Season 8 winner Kris Allen, Aug. 8.

The BOK Center continues to go big with some of the most popular names in entertainment. Singer Jennifer Nettles rejoins Kristian Bush for a Sugarland concert and songs from the country duo's new "Bigger" album. Canadian country music singer Lindsay Ell and Frankie Ballard open the show, July 19.

Former member of the band One Direction Niall Horan brings his Flicker World Tour to the BOK Center, July 28. The Irishman is relishing a lot of airplay with his sexy "Slow Hands" hit. He's also known to be the "other guy" Ed Sheeran alludes to in the song "Don't," concerning Sheeran's romance missteps with singer Ellie Goulding. That aside, Horan has a dynamic voice and songwriting chops. His new release "Finally Free" is featured in the animated film "Smallfoot." Texas-born Maren Morris opens the show.

The Las Vegas-based pop rock band Imagine Dragons had the breakout hit "Radioactive," followed by "Demons," "Whatever it Takes," "Believer" and "Thun-der." Their Evolve Tour come to the BOK Center Aug. 1, followed on Aug. 5 by another group that originated in Las Vegas, Panic! At



HANK WILLIAMS JR.: The country music stand-out returns to the Hard Rock Casino July 20.



**LIZZIE:** Ellie Valdez shares the title role in the musical "Lizzie, based on ax-murderer Lizzie Borden July 13-22.

the Disco. Led by the hyper-talented Brendon Urie, the group will perform their hits and songs from their new "Pray for the Wicked" album. Their charismatic tenor Uri has a four-octave range. In 2017, he played the lead on Broadway in Cindy Lauper and Harvey Fierstein's "Kinky Boots." He's theatric and fun to watch.

The Hard Rock Casino contributes to the summer scene with Hank Williams Jr., Blondie and Martina McBride. Country singer Williams has six platinum albums, 20 gold albums, 13 No. 1 albums and 10 No. 1 singles. His concert sold out the last time it played here, so get tickets soon for his July 20 show.

The eclectic band Blondie, featuring co-founder Debby Harry, released their eleventh studio album, "Pollinator" in 2017. Known for "Heart of Glass" and other global hits, Blondie continues to attract loyal fans who will be out in force on Aug. 9.

STATION/C-S

CAR WASH

LOCAL HOTELS



**BEIJING DANCE THEATER:** The globe-trotting troupe will perform its signature work, "Haze," July 29 at the Tulsa PAC.



NIALL HORAN: The One Direction alum comes to the BOK Center July 28.



PANIC! AT THE DISCO: Charismatic Brendon Urie fronts the popular rock band Aug. 5 at the BÔK Center.



IMAGINE DRAGONS: The indie rock band brings its Evolve Tour to the BOK Center Aug. 1.

Singer/songwriter Martina Mc-Bride has been nominated 14 times for a Grammy but never won! That's not deterred her interest in writing and performing. She's released her 13th studio al-bum, "Reckless." McBride has been called the "Celine Dion" of country music due to her soprano range. Check out her latest work at the Hard Rock, Aug. 10.

For more easy-going summer-

time fare, catch up with humorist and singer Kinky Friedman at the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame, Aug. 1. Never one to rest on his laurels, the 77-year-old Friedman is back in the saddle with a new album, all original work, called "Circus of Life."

And so it goes: Much music, electrifying dance, a bit of theatre and a few nights of comedy. Relax and enjoy.

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## Bill Davis was Tulsa's Master of Musical Sounds

## His 50-Year Career Was Highlighted With Blues, Rock and Soul

#### **By TERRELL LESTER** *Editor at Large*

For a half-century, Bill Davis kept the bright lights of Tulsa's night life aglow and incandescent. He was the mighty oak tree towering above and casting a shadow over Tulsa's fertile musical garden.

Every city with any level of melodic worth boasts a signature performer. A must-see. The essential entertainer.

New York had Bobby Short. New Orleans had Allen Toussaint.

Tulsa had Bill Davis.

He was Mister Tulsa Music. Tulsa's Musical Ambassador.

Rhythm and blues. Rock and roll. Soul.

He had the voice, the timing, the phrasing to capture and to hold the essence of every lyric.

He was inspired by James Brown. And it showed. In Davis' soaring vocals. In Davis' moves and motions. In Davis' stage presence.

Davis was the spirit of soul music. The original blue-eyed soul singer.

Ever the showman, always the headliner, Davis died June 15 at the age of 80.

His funeral in Bixby attracted a parade of Tulsa musical luminaries, from sidemen to front men. All had worked with or were influenced by the man who, hands down, was always the coolest cat in the room.

Davis had carved out a musical career that spanned 50 years, summoning up a voice that emanated from deep within, a voice that could roar, a voice that could soar. He might have been labeled a

cover singer, covering the songs of others.

But with his electric personality, his high-octane energy, his playto-the-audience passion, Davis could make any song his own.

"Mustang Sally." "You Are So Beautiful." "Dust My Broom." "Suzy Q."

Pulsing rhythm and blues. Emotional ballads. Dynamic rock.

He delivered each and every number with a flair, an excitement, a charge. He was true to every note.

His articulation, his command of the lyrics was surreal. He could bend a note, embrace a note, make a note jump through hoops. Davis had no off nights. He never failed to come through. He was always "on."

He played the nightclubs and the private parties, the joints and the parking lots. He played in the era of liquor-by-the-wink, in beer bars, in hotel showrooms. He played in tailored suits and cutoff jeans.

He and his brilliant three-piece band packed Tulsa landmarks such as "The Showboat," "The Stables," "Checkers," "The Sideline," "The Vapors."

For a change of pace, he and Tommy Tripplehorn on upright piano performed somewhat calmer sets on Sundays at "The Shy Clown."

Over the past three decades, Tripplehorn on guitar and David Teegarden on drums formed the core of the Bill Davis Band. Bass duties were handled in line by Gary Cundiff, Gary Gilmore and Casev Van Beek.

More than once, the story goes, musical pros insisted that Davis had a better band than Leon Russell.

In 2009, Davis was inducted into the Oklahoma Blues Hall of Fame. People went to see Davis not for one song but for a set, for an entire evening, for his voluminous flow of one-liners that would make Henny Youngman proud.

He was more than just a singer of song. More than a front man for Tulsa's best blues band. He was the consummate entertainer.

Bill Davis. Boppin' Billy the King of Silly. The purveyor of Carp on a Stick. The Mayor of the Midway.

His nicknames ran the gamut, much like his musical repertoire.

He graduated from Tulsa's Central High School in 1956, a classmate of Johnny Cale.

As Cale and 1959 Will Rogers graduate Leon Russell led a musical migration to the West Coast, circa 1960, Davis remained in Tulsa. He perfected his craft, singing in churches and dive bars.

Before the decade of the '60s had faded, Davis had put together a show band, Soul Inc. With Don White leading the band on guitar, Davis was stepping into the spotlight, bathed in soul, outfitted in James Brown-inspired jumpsuits, Davis was the brightest stor in a

Davis was the brightest star in a Tulsa constellation that lit up the nights in bars on every corner and with music from every genre.

He was a butcher by day, a cut-up by night.



**GOOD DAYS:** Bill Davis, fourth from left, with fellow band members and friends in about 1990 at the Hilton Inn in Tulsa. From left are musician David Teegarden, author Terrell Lester, musician Tommy Tripplehorn, Bill Davis, musician Gary Cundiff and Sol Bayouth, who had booked the Bill Davis Band for a one-night dance.

He enthralled with his vocals, beguiled with his charisma. He was beloved by fans, respected by musicians, favored by club owners.

Jim Smith was general manager of radio station KMOD for more than two decades during the peak of Davis' reign as Tulsa's king of the blues, sultan of soul.

During the funeral service, in which a half-dozen gospel numbers recorded by Davis were played for the congregation, Smith spoke eloquently of his friendship with the star.

"Bill will be missed," Smith said. "But he lives on in my CDs and in my heart."

Davis often wrote songs, in collaboration with pianist Walt Richmond, for Christmas releases and for friends. He recorded on cassette tapes and compact discs. He sold some, gave away more.

Over the years, offers were routinely extended for Davis to join the touring heavyweights.

Just as routinely, he declined. He opened for national acts. He joined on stage the likes of Leon Russell, Joe Cocker, Bugs Henderson.

That was enough for Davis. He had a family, a good life. He had golf courses to play, nice cars to drive. He had songs to sing, fans to hail.

Still, he did enjoy the occasional turn in the national spotlight.

He contributed handsomely to the songbook of rock icon Bob Seger.

One of Davis' compositions,

written about his daughter, Kelly, caught the ear of Seger. In 1991, Seger's album, "The Fire Inside," included the Davis-penned number "She Can't Do Anything Wrong."

The album was certified platinum, indicating one million in sales.

Bob Seger gave Davis a national platform.

Bonnie Raitt gave Davis a shout out and posed for pictures.

Leon Russell gave Davis a spot on his annual birthday bash.

Russell once signed Davis to a recording contract with Shelter Records.

Russell urged Davis to hit the road, to relocate to Los Angeles.

In a typical Davis response, looked around the bar in which he was headlining, and said: "I'd rather be somebody in Tulsa than nobody in L.A."

Indeed. Bill Davis was somebody in Tulsa.

A once-in-a-lifetime talent.

Consider a Mount Rushmore of Tulsa's musical talent of the rock and roll era.

Bill Davis belongs there with Leon Russell, Don White, and disc jockey-historian John Henry.

Davis frequently borrowed from the Little Richard playlist.

From "Baby Face," one line might best characterize Bill Davis.

"There's not another who could take your place."







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## VICENTE FOX JUMPSTARTS TULSA TOWN HALL SERIES



VICENTE FOX

#### **By NANCY HERMANN** *GTR Variety Editor*

One of the most involving, stimulating and value-for-money event series Tulsa has to offer marks its 84<sup>th</sup> year with another extraordinary roster of guest speakers.

Each season, Tulsa Town Hall culls global newsmakers and a diverse range of creative geniuses from scores of candidates to forge a compelling series. "When choosing speakers, first we look for someone with a great story to tell — someone who can captivate an audience with that story for one hour," relates Tulsa Town Hall Executive Director Kathy Collins. "Beyond that, we want speakers who are dealing with current issues, and we look for a variety of speakers."

Tulsa Town Hall leads off the 2018-19 season on Oct. 5 with Mexico's 55<sup>th</sup> president, Vicente Fox. His timely talk is titled "Immigration, the Wall, and the Future of U.S-Mexico Relations." He is Town Hall's Sandra West Memorial Speaker

"Having a former head of state come to Tulsa Town Hall is a rare and privileged occasion in itself," says Town Hall program committee member Pam Hillis. "President Fox is an exceptional person



DR. LISA GENOVA

the presidency in 2000, he broke

the dictatorial one-party rule that

strangled Mexico for 70 years.

Stay tuned for a dynamic, fiery,

Slated for Nov. 16 is a talk ti-

tled "Still Alice: Understanding

Alzheimer's" given by Dr. Lisa Genova, a PhD in neuroscience

from Harvard. She is the best-

selling author of the novel "Still

Alice." The book's poignant sto-

ry centers on a woman who dis-

sipates with the onslaught of ad-

"The type of speaker that Tulsa

Town Hall looks for has to have the 'wow' factor," notes Hillis.

"Gripping, interesting, exciting — leaving us smarter. We want a

speaker who will have us talking

about their topic long after they

have gone and hopefully mak-

ing a change in our community

and/or in us. For instance, we've

made sure to have Dr. Lisa Geno-

va available for the Alzheimer's

Association's AWARE luncheon

while she is in Tulsa. This not

only brings awareness to Alz-

heimer's but also raises money

vancing disease.

accomplished statesman!"

#### LAURA LOGAN

in his own right, being a native son of Mexico and the grandson of pioneers from the United States and Spain. He worked his way up from truck driver for Coca-Cola to the youngest CEO of Coca-Cola Mexico. When he won

utes" correspondent Lara Logan takes the PAC stage on Feb. 1, 2019 for a talk titled "On the Front Lines with Lara Logan." Her dedicated coverage of incendiary events around the world has earned her the respect of viewers and fellow correspondents. One such event was the fall of the Mubarak regime in Egypt when she was violently attacked in Cairo's Tahrir Square. Since that time, she's dealt with recovery from the attack and from breast cancer. Her tenacity and compassion have earned her a continuing spotlight in the ever-challenging world of television journalism. She is Town Hall's Atkins-Pritchard Foundation speaker.

Guest photographers who share back stories behind their famous photographs have proven to be immensely popular with Town Hall audiences. On Mar. 8, 2019, internationally acclaimed photographer Platon will present "Powerful Portraits: An Intimate Look at Humanity and Leadership." Says Collins, "Platon is not only a photographer but also a storyteller. While our subscribers may not be familiar with him, they will love hearing the insight he gained into people like Russia's Putin, Willie Nelson, many former presidents and others while photographing them. We are in for a rare treat!

Closing out the series on Apr. 12, 2019, is the Helmerich Trust

speaker, space archaeologist and Egyptologist Sarah Parcak. Using the most advanced technology, she has pinpointed thousands of previously unknown archaeological sites and developed an online platform to allow citizen-scientists to conduct their own searches for lost civilizations. "Dr. Sarah Parcak will most certainly open our minds," offers Hillis. "Being a space archaeologist, she will explain how she uses NASA satellite imaging to see things underground and under the sea. This \$1 million TED Talk winner will be a delight from start to finish!"

**PLATON** 

In addition to her Friday morning appearance, Parcak is this season's featured speaker at Tulsa Town Hall After Dark, now in its second year. Tickets to Parcak's evening talk on Apr. 11, 2019 will be sold separately, beginning in the spring.

"For the last five years, as Friday morning audiences have reached capacity at the PAC, the desire to share these compelling speakers with a broader audience became more real," explains Col-



DR. SARAH PARCAK

lins. "Tulsa Town Hall After Dark was created to provide an evening lecture with one of our speakers, sell individual tickets and market to a different audience," she adds. "The first After Dark lecture last spring with Piper Kerman ("Orange is the New Black') was a huge success and we are anticipating the same next April with Dr. Sarah Parcak. Our mission is to open minds and stir curiosities. The more people who can hear our speakers, the closer we come to fulfilling that mission."

One might expect to pay \$35 or \$40 to attend a single event, but Tulsa Town Hall sells the entire series (five speaker events) for one \$100 subscription. An optional luncheon with the speaker is \$25 "During the last 20 to 30 years, as we all are inundated with more information than we can possibly absorb, the personal connection our speakers have with our audiences has grown in importance," sums up Collins. "And, finally, Tulsa Town Hall has always been and remains the best value ever!'







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## **HEALTH & WEL Hillcrest Medical Center First in Tulsa to Achieve Baby-Friendly Designation**

Hillcrest Medical Center is the first hospital in Tulsa to receive international recognition as a Designated Baby-Friendly birth facility for its commitment to breastfeeding mothers and their babies. Baby-Friendly USA, Inc. is the U.S. authority for the im-plementation of the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative, a global program sponsored by the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

The initiative encourages and recognizes hospitals and birthing centers that offer an optimal level of care for breastfeeding mothers and their babies. Based on the Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding, this award recognizes birth facilities that offer breastfeeding mothers the information, confidence and skills needed to successfully initiate and continue breastfeeding their babies.

"To be recognized for our commitment to serving the mothers that trust us to care for them and their babies in this most precious stage of life is incredibly meaningful to our entire team," says John Tucker, service line administrator of the Peggy V. Helmerich Women's Health Center at Hillcrest Medical Center. "We strive to provide an environment of support for our mothers that breastfeed, including lactation consulting and other resources to help breastfeeding moms and their babies thrive.'

There are more than 20,000 designated Baby-Friendly hospitals and birth centers worldwide and 527 active Baby-Friendly hospitals and birth centers in the United States. The award is maintained by continuing to practice the Ten Steps as demonstrated by quality processes.

#### About the Peggy V. Helmerich Women's Health Center at Hillcrest

The Peggy V. Helmerich Women's Health Center at Hillcrest offers care for women throughout all stages of life. Hillcrest Medical Center offers a Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) and the state's only hospital-based perinatal palliative care program, the SILAS program. The Leta M. Chapman Breast Center at Hillcrest Medical Center provides 3D



WELCOMING BABIES: The Peggy V. Helmerich Women's Center at Hillcrest Medical Center is designated Baby-Friendly for its support of breastfeeding moms and their babies.

mammography and other breast health care. For more information on the Peggy V. Helmerich Women's Health Center at Hillcrest, visit helmerichwomenscenter.com.

## Dr. Peter Aran Named Chief Medical Officer at OU-Tulsa

Peter Aran, M.D. has been named the Chief Medical Officer and Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs for OU Physicians-Tulsa. He will also serve as Assistant Professor in the Department of Internal Medicine and Medical Informatics.

Aran comes to OU-Tulsa with nearly three decades of service to Tulsa. Most recently, he was the Medical Director of Population Health Management at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Oklahoma. Prior to BCBS, he served as a Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer for the Saint Francis Health System in Tulsa.



**DR. PETER ARAN** 

He is board certified in Internal Medicine and Gastroenterology and brings an enthusiasm for population health management and medical education. He serves on several national organizations, including the American Medical Association and the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education.

Aran will supervise all medical aspects of the OU Physicians-Tulsa which is a multi-specialty group practice with more than 300 physicians and specialists in the Tulsa area. They perform over 250,000 patient visits each year and provide clinical care at six OU Physicians clinics, as well as at most tion or to make an appointment, local hospitals. For more informa- visit OUPhysiciansTulsa.com.







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## **EDUCATION** TCCAnnounces Administrative Advancements

Tulsa Community College has announced two strategic administrative position advancements. Lindsay White has been named as senior strategy advisor to TCC President and CEO Leigh B. Goodson, Ph.D., and Peter "Pete" Selden has been named the new vice president of workforce development.

In her new role, White will support Goodson, in overseeing and managing initiatives related to student success through the Pathways Project and the TCC Strategic Plan. The prioritized projects involve ongoing complex work and require constant coordination. White will facilitate communication and decision-making among leadership at various levels which is critical as the college transforms itself from access-focused to access-and-completion-focused for all students. In addition, White will work closely with the TCC Board of Regents.

White previously served as director of project management in Academic Affairs at TCC where she worked closely with the Senior Vice President and Chief Academic Officer. She directly led multiple projects, helped identify and troubleshoot issues with other high priority initiatives, consulted and trained various college leaders on project and change management, and managed Academic Affairs communication. Prior to that role, she served as director of diversity outreach programs and director of student and community engagement. This included oversight of all aspects of TCC's Education Outreach Center, including classes (GED, ESL, credit), schedules, facilities, program evaluation, scholarship and grant administration, and budgets as well as administrative leadership in academic service-learning and the America Reads American Counts tutor program.

In addition to working at TCC, she has worked at OU-Tulsa, spent time as a Peace Corps volunteer in South America, taught English in Asia, as well as conducted other contract work around the globe.

White is pursuing her doctorate at the University of Oklahoma in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies with an organizational change research focus. She is a Prosci Certified Change Management Train-the-Trainer. She earned a master's in Psychology, Organizational Dynamics from OU, with a concentration in project management, and a bachelor's in business administration from Oklahoma State University. Selden has been named the new vice president of workforce development at Tulsa Community College. The TCC Board of Regents approved his appointment at the April meeting and Selden started his position on May 14.

As vice president of workforce development at TCC, Selden works across the college's 38 workforce degree programs and 37 certificate programs that prepare students to go directly into the workplace. He also assesses workforce needs in the Tulsa area and collaborates with employers and workforce agencies to establish training programs to prepare TCC students for employment. Selden provides leadership to TCC's 29 community advisory committees that help guide and review the college's workforce development programs.

Selden most recently worked at Arkansas State University Mid-South in West Memphis, Arkansas where he served as associate vice chancellor for workforce programs. He oversaw faculty and staff across all Technical Center program areas including welding, process technology, diesel technology, mechatronics, machining, hospitality management, information systems technology, medical professions, aviation



PETER "PETE" SELDEN

maintenance, career services, and business and industry services. He worked with the Greater Memphis Alliance for a Competitive Workforce (GMACW) and the Arkansas Delta Training & Education Consortium (ADTEC) on training and course development and student placement initiatives. He also helped secure and manage federal and state workforce grants.

LINDSAY WHITE

Selden is pursuing his doctorate at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. He earned an M.B.A from Arkansas State University, and two bachelor's degrees (psychology, communication) from the University of Buffalo.

## **Students Create Monarch Waystation**

A year-long research and community service project culminated with the recent dedication of a new Monarch Waystation at the TCC Southeast Campus. TCC students, faculty and community members part and planted milkweed.

The Monarch Waystation is part of TCC's Outdoor Classroom used by biology classes on the Southeast Campus. Starting fall 2017, TCC students in Mary Phillips' biology courses researched ways to germinate varieties of milkweed and collected data to determine the best conditions. Their work in the lab with milkweed seeds produced the plants for the Monarch Waystation.

The project will become an official waystation with a plaque and is part of a strategic effort to help increase the monarch population since Oklahoma is in the migratory path. As part of the community service, TCC students presented the research findings and project at the May Sustainable Tulsa meeting at the Thomas K. McKeon Center for Creativity on the TCC Metro Campus.

Taking part were TCC students, faculty, staff and community partners including Monarch Watch, Okies for Monarch, Sustainable Tulsa Monarch Initiative, Grogg's Green Barn, and Dr. Kristen Baum, associate professor at Oklahoma State University.



GTR Newspapers photo

**PLANTING MILKWEED:** Mary Phillips, left, TCC associate professor of biology, with TCC students who planted milkweed during the dedication of the new Monarch Waystation at the TCC Southeast Campus.

## **Kimberly-Clark Honors Holland Hall Student**

Kimberly-Clark Corporation recently announced the recipients of its 2018 Bright Futures Scholarships. In Jenks, where Kimberly-Clark has a tissue manufacturing facility, a college scholarships was awarded to: Andrew Draheim, a recent graduate of Holland Hall School in Tulsa and the son of Erin and Leslie Draheim. Andrew plans to attend St. John's University.

Draheim was selected based on academic achievement, leadership, work experience and involvement in extracurricular activities. Kimberly Clark is benelovent in the awarding of schoarships to various students.

"The students demonstrate a commitment to academic excellence and community service, so we are proud to recognize each of them with a 2018 Bright Futures scholarship award," says Kim Jones, interim mill manager at Kimberly-Clark's Jenks Mill. "We are delighted to support their pursuit of higher education and wish them the best for continued academic success."

Marking its 26th year, the Bright Futures program is administered by the Kimberly-Clark Foundation and awards college scholarships to children of Kimberly-Clark employees across North America. Each scholarship is worth up to \$20,000 (\$5,000 per year for up to four years) for full-time students studying at accredited colleges and universities. This year, 60 scholarships totaling \$1.2 million were awarded to students in 17 states. Since its inception, the program has awarded over \$40 million in scholarships to more than 2,000 students.

The average GPA for this year's scholarship class is 3.96, and

awardees will attend such top colleges and universities as Brown University, Duke University, the Georgia Institute of Technology, the University of Wisconsin and Yale University. Past scholarship recipients have gone on to pursue successful careers in medicine, education, the armed forces and engineering.

The Kimberly-Clark Foundation is the charitable arm of Kimberly-Clark Corporation and is dedicated to supporting and strengthening families around the world.

For more information, visit kimberly-clark.com



ANDREW DRAHEIM

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## **Part-Time Classes Offer Something for All**

and award-winning business and industry training opportunities, Tulsa Tech also offers hundreds of parttime classes that allow students to pursue their individual career goals or simply explore a variety of interests. A wide assortment of class subjects includes evervthing from sewing and quilting to machining.

Whether it's earning hours towards an HVAC journeyman prenticeship, child development associate (CDA) credential, becoming a Certified Medication Aid (CMA)

or learning to make sushi from an award winning chef, Tulsa Tech invites all individuals to explore their Part-Time Class Catalog to find the classes that fit their interests

Although most part-time classes average 30 hours in length, according to Russell Parker, director of Adult Career Development, there are classes available to meet a variety of student schedules.

"The majority of our classes are offered Monday through Thursday and usually last from 6 p.m. un-til 9 p.m.," Parker says. "But we also have classes where students receive a certification in a single session of eight hours or less.'

Part-time classes have been a staple of Tulsa Tech since 1965 and

In addition to providing exciting since that time, have not only incourses for high school students creased, but also evolved to keep pace with to-

day's workplace training needs and to reflect individual student interests related to current technologies.

"Anyone can propose a class on any subject to be offered through ACD. Once the proposal is received, it goes through a research and needs analysis process," Parker explains. "It all depends on the demand and meeting workforce needs in the Tulsa Metro Area. We have

**By DR. STEVE TIGER** Superintendent started residen-

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tial and commercial electrician classes that are designed to help students enter the workforce as a Journeyman Apprentice while also earning hours that count towards their journeyman's license. We have also added to our health care offerings to address the needs within our community."

Other courses are not just industry-driven but provide students with more flexibility in completing their individual career objectives. Tulsa Tech offers classes that train students to go into a field they are passionate about either for themselves or in the existing workforce such as floral design, taxidermy, upholstery, just to name a few of the many options available. All of Tulsa Tech's part-time

classes are taught by certified instructors who have not only worked in the industry but also have years of valuable experience.

"It doesn't matter if the class is related to maintaining your credentials, like Insurance CE, or simply an interest in a new hobby like sewing, our instructors have a professional background with ex-perience related to each subject," Parker says.

Anyone interested in how Tulsa Tech can further their interests or future goals is encouraged to explore the opportunities part-time classes can provide. From Education and Creative Arts to healthcare certification and manufacturing, subjects are available to interest just about anyone. Each of the classes are designed with students in mind.



HVAC: Earning hours towards an HVAC Journeyman Apprenticeship is one of the many options to pursue through Tulsa Tech's part-time classes.

Make this the year that you earn an industry recognized credential,

## **Oral Roberts University To Build New Housing**

Oral Roberts University is excited to announce it will break ground on the University's first new housing in 42 years. The apartment-style housing will be built where the Braxton Residence Hall used to sit, between Christ's Chapel and Howard Auditorium.

ORU President Dr. William M. Wilson joined the University's Board of Trustees including its Chair Dr. Mike Rakes, Tulsa Mayor G.T. Bynum, Tulsa City Councilor Jeannie Cue, Tulsa County Commissioner Ron Peters, and Tulsa Chamber Executive Vice President & COO Justin McLaughlin for the groundbreaking on Wednesday, April 18, immediately following chapel at 12:15 p.m., just west of the Prayer Tower.

The apartment-style housing will have separate towers, one for the men and one for the women with a lobby connecting the two. Each suite will include a kitchen and a washer and dryer, plus living and dining areas. The rooms will also include unique recessed sleeping areas that will give students their own space.

The new residence hall continues a decade of new construction at ORU. The Armand Hammer Alumni-Student Cen-ter opened in 2013, followed by the Global Learning Center in January 2017 and the ONEOK Sports Complex last October.

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## UNION NEWS OKLAHOMA FOUNDATION FOR EXCELLENCE HONORS UNION ACADEMIC ALL-STATERS



FERDINAND MUDJIALIM

Union High School teacher Marie Pfaff-Taylor congratulates Ferdinand Mudjialim, an Academic All-Stater from Broken Arrow, during the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence Academic Awards Banquet, held recently in Norman. Mudjialim, a 2018 graduate of Union High School, was among 100 outstanding seniors from Oklahoma public schools who were honored

by the foundation as Academic All-Staters. He received an Academic All-State scholarship, sponsored by Ruth Nelson of Tulsa. The Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence is a statewide nonprofit organization that recognizes and encourages academic excellence in Oklahoma's public schools. Pfaff-Taylor, who teaches engineering, was Mudjialim's honored teacher guest at the banquet. Union High School teacher Philippa Kelly (right) congratulates Josie Uerling, an Academic All-Stater from Broken Arrow, during the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence Academic Awards Banquet, held recently in Norman. Uerling, a 2018 graduate of Union High School, was among 100 outstanding seniors from Oklahoma public schools who were honored by the founda-

JOSIE UERLING

tion as Academic All-Staters. She received an Academic All-State scholarship sponsored by the Williams Foundation of Tulsa. The Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence is a statewide nonprofit organization that recognizes and encourages academic excellence in Oklahoma's public schools. Kelly, who teaches history, was Uerling's honored teacher guest at the banquet.

## **Union-Area Chick-fil-A Awards College Scholarships**

**By LEIGH-ANNE CRITES** *Contributing Writer* 

Arthur Greeno, owner/operator of Chick-fil-A stores at Eastside market and Woodland Hills Mall, is honored to be able to award \$5,000 in scholarships every year to dedicated students. The scholarship winners know first hand that hard work, dedication, and a spirit of giving pay off. This year's recipients are Chase Greeno and Daniel Terrill.

Chase Greeno of Chick-fil-A Woodland Hills Mall plans on attending the University of Oklahoma in the fall of this year to pursue a music education degree. Greeno maintained an exceptional academic record, is an accomplished Marimba player and fouryear member of the Union High School Regiment Band. He has served in many volunteer capacities with his recent time devoted to Tulsa Pop Kids. He is the son of Arthur & Noell Greeno and sibling to five brothers and sisters. "While some leaders storm in

and take charge, Chase prefers a more subtle approach. Chase models the behavior he wants then encourages others thereby creating a team of individuals who are a part of something much bigger than the sum of their parts. Chase likes to make work fun but also knows how to dig in and get work done when that's what's needed," says General Manager Christine Rand. Daniel Terrill is a nursing major working towards his doctorate in nursing at Oral Roberts University. Terrill plans to become a nurse practitioner. He carries several certifications and is a registered and licensed EMT. He is currently a nurse tech at St. John's Hospital. Terrill enjoys skeet shooting and is a certified American Skeet Shooting Instructor.

Terrill grew up in a military family and is the second of four children. He volunteers at Victory Christian Center as well as Oral Roberts University Outreach. In the five years he has worked at Chick-fil-A, four of those years have been in leadership.



**EDUCATING EMPLOYEES:** Arthur Greeno, left, owner/operator of Chick-fil-A Woodland Hills Mall, presented team members Daniel Terrill and Chase Greeno \$2,500 each in scholarships recently. Chick-fil-A Inc. will present more than 5,700 scholarships in 2018.

**July 2018** 



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**UNION BOUNDARY** 

## UNION SPORTS **Union Celebrates Winning State Soccer Crown**

By MIKE MOGUIN Union Boundary Sports Writer

It was a big moment on the pitch for Union, as the Redskins successfully completed an unbeaten season by winning the Class 6A boys state championship in May.

The Redskins (18-0) won the title game with a 4-0 shutout of rival Jenks at Memorial Stadium in Sand Springs. It marked Union's first state championship in boys' soccer since 2007, and it came on a day when the Redskins' baseball team also won state at Johnson Stadium at Oral Roberts University.

"It is a special feeling and I can't believe that we won it and not just how we won it," says senior forward Ruben Carrasco. "We played in really good fashion. We played well

"It's a great feeling," Carrasco says. "I'm glad baseball won it. A shout out to them. Now, it was our turn to bring one (title) to Union and that's what we did.

"It's incredible," says goalkeeper Logan Campbell. "It's something we've been working on for a very long time. It was a goal of ours to keep a clean sheet all through the playoffs.'

Campbell got the shutout. It was the fourth straight for Union, which started the streak of keeping opponents scoreless in the first round of the postseason. The Redskins got wins against Bartlesville (4-0), Stillwater (3-0) and Edmond North (1-0; OT) before meeting Jenks in the final. They allowed only one goal in their final six games.

Campbell made a pair of big saves in the first half. He finished the game with only three, which means his defense kept the ball away from him most of the time.

"It makes my job so much easier whenever they can just hold the ball and keep possession," he says. "Makes my life 100 percent easier."

Union got goals from Carrasco, sophomore Ruben Torres and midfielder and freshman forward Rylan Franca in the first half. Senior defender Cooper McCombs added the last one in the second half.

Carrasco scored the first goal from over 10 yards from the left angle with 16:22 left before halftime. With 4:03 remaining before the break, Torres scored on a penalty kick.

"I felt pretty confident," Torres says. "I knew it was my time to step up. My teammates had been stepping up the whole game, so I knew it was my turn. So, I felt pretty confident. I knew everyone was confident about me finishing that PK (penalty kick).

Torres' goal was considered to be the defining moment of the game by Union. He certainly agreed after the game.

"They kind of slowed down after that," Torres says. "They liked to push a lot on our shoulders and we opened up the game and it started going our way.

Franca added another goal quickly on an empty-netter with 15 seconds to go before halftime. The Trojans' goal keeper was a few feet away, out of place.

"He kind of got a touch on it and it bounced right to me, and the defender was right in front of me, and I just tapped it in. Just a great feeling today," Franca says.

It was also considered another key moment in the game.



**CHAMPIONS:** Union soccer players celebrate winning the Class 6A boys state championship while hoisting up the trophy in May.

"I think the key moment was when we scored the second one,' Carrasco says. "And we kept going and going and going, and we pushed them through and the third one came right before half, which gave us more confidence going into the second half."

"I'd say the second goal definitely helped," says coach Michael Young, who led the team to a title in his first year at the post. "I thought the third goal going in, right before the half, I think that was definitely a moment ?

With 31:29 left in the game, Mc-Combs scored the Redskins' last goal from short range.

While winning state was big, beating Jenks made it more special.

"Yes, it is," Campbell says. "They were a tough team and it was a tough game. They gave a lot of pressure in the first 30 (minutes) of the first half. But we came through.'

Having a new coach had a big impact.

"I think our coach brought in a new set of discipline, which really brought the program together to play a little bit better under a new system," Franca says. "That's one of the reasons why we were able to bring home the trophy."

"It is absolutely fantastic," Young says. "The boys trusted me when I came in and listened to the things I say, and we had a great year together.'

DEAN ATCHISON for GTR Newspapers

Teamwork was the key to winning, Young says.

"Playing as a team, every single player that plays, every single person did their job, I'm really proud of them," Young says. "I'm speechless," Franca says

"It's like an emotional moment for our whole team. Haven't won it in 11 years. Just a great, great feel-

ing." "It feels great to be a state champion," Torres says.





leave the floor, still dances from her wheelchair, and is a



#### **GREATER TULSA REPORTER NEWSPAPERS**

## **SPORTS**John Phillips Sees Basketball Career Wind Down

Former Coach a Success On and Off the Court

**By TERRELL LESTER** *Editor at Large* 

There's this thing between John Phillips and basketball.

Call it passion. Respect. Admiration.

Call it love.

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Since his days as a teenager in Tulsa, basketball has been the element that completes John Phillips.

Playing the game. Learning the game. Coaching the game. Basketball changed John Phil-

lips' life.

And, through basketball, John Phillips changed a lot of lives in return.

Today, at the age of 71, he is putting the wraps on a career in coaching that began in 1972 and stretched across parts of five decades, through seven high schools and two universities.

He has savored the fruits of victory.

He has swallowed the bitter pills of defeat.

His name is inexorably linked to a sport that develops boys into men.

His life, his career path, was not so clearly defined in the beginning.

There were those who set loftier goals for young Phillips.

His mother expected him to enter the field of law.

A nun envisioned him entering the priesthood.

Reared in a Catholic home, Phillips attended Immaculate Conception school near downtown Tulsa through his eighth grade. At the urging of a nun, he spent his freshman year of high school in a seminary located in Bethany. He celebrated his 15th birthday immersed in the ecumenical environment.

It lasted one school year.

He admits now that he might have been a little too young to make such a life commitment.

He was placing all his faith in others.

He was not fully aware of the sacrifices he must make.

He did, however, embrace his challenging academic workload.

The discipline of the seminary was not unlike the discipline he acquired at Immaculate Conception.

But the vow of celibacy, now that was something he had not expected.

"When I was told that I couldn't have a girlfriend for the rest of my life," he said, he began making

plans to return to Tulsa. "I really didn't realize the finality of being celibate," he said.

Along with the heavy schedule of chores, studies and theology, Phillips was able to carve out time in the church gymnasium. For the diversion of basketball.

"I really fell in love with the game that year," he said.

Returning home, he convinced his mother that attending McLain High School would be more advantageous for him and his future in basketball than would continuing along the Catholic line of education that included Bishop Kelley High School.

It was at McLain that Phillips came under the watchful eye of basketball coach Joe Shoulders.

Phillips made the varsity roster as a sophomore and through his graduation in 1965.

The presence of Shoulders in Phillips' life remains a defining period.

"He was a special human being," Phillips said. "I loved him. I wanted to be like him."

During his time at McLain, being around Shoulders, Phillips began to view coaching as a career choice.

"I knew that the game meant more to me than it did to my teammates," he said. "I could tell that I loved it immensely."

He went off to play basketball at Paris, Texas, Junior College, only to have the Army intervene by way of a draft notice in 1966.

Once his hitch was up, Phillips enrolled at Oklahoma State University. He did not try out for the varsity, instead concentrating on his studies and watching basketball practices. He met his wife-tobe, Leah, while a student.

In 1972, he landed his first coaching assignment, as an assistant at Broken Arrow. He added the girls head-coaching title in 1975. His future was solidified.

He was following in the formidable footsteps of his high school mentor Joe Shoulders.

Phillips had been working summer basketball camps during those years and had caught the eye of University of Tulsa coach Jim King. Beginning King's third year at TU, 1977-78, he brought aboard Phillips as a graduate assistant.

The experience propelled Phillips to his first head-coaching job in boys at Mannford (1978-80). He moved on to Bartlesville Soon-



**PLAYER APPRECIATION:** Indian Springs Country Club in Broken Arrow was packed with former players, colleagues and friends earlier this year for the John Phillips retirement party. In the photo, Phillips is surrounded by former players.

er (which closed after the 1981-82 school year) and to Edison High School in Tulsa (1982-88).

At Edison, he coached future collegiate stars Archie Marshall and Kevin Pritchard while posting a record of 130-32. Included were two state runner-up finishes.

The success landed Phillips a position on the Oklahoma State University staff in 1988 under Leonard Hamilton. A fellow assistant coach was Bill Self.

For two seasons, Phillips and Self generated a bond that would endure.

"I got my overall understanding of what the game was all about during my time at OSU," Phillips said. "I really came to believe at that point that teamwork was what it was all about. That you didn't have to have the best talent, you just had to have a team that played together. "You have to do the fundamen-

"You have to do the fundamentals, but you have to stress the importance of teamwork."

When Hamilton departed for the University of Miami (Florida), Self remained at OSU under Eddie Sutton and Phillips took the head-coaching job at Stillwater High School.

After three seasons, Phillips returned to Broken Arrow as head coach. In his fourth season, 1996-97, his Tigers team captured the Class 6A state championship.

In the spring of 1997, Self was hired by the University of Tulsa. Immediately, he brought in Phillips as a member of his new staff.

The three-year run of Self and Phillips reached unprecedented heights at TU. The 1999-2000 team surged into the Elite Eight stratosphere and the 32-5 record earned Self a promotion to the University of Illinois.

Phillips chose to remain in Tulsa. When Buzz Peterson was hired

to succeed Self, Phillips continued as a top aide.

It was not to last.

Peterson bolted after only nine months on the job.

Phillips wanted the job. But he had to convince others.

TU players preferred Phillips. He had been on staff for four seasons. A new coach would be the third in three years. Phillips would provide needed continuity.

Weeks passed after Peterson's departure. Phillips finally was approved for the job in April 2000. He was 54 and was handed the reins to his first collegiate head-coaching position. In his hometown.

"I was not foolish enough to think that I was the best candidate, but I was the best candidate for what TU needed," he said.

What TU needed was for the new coach to maintain the momentum that began on Self's watch and had continued with Peterson's NIT championship.

Phillips was ecstatic. If the TU job had not been a lifelong dream, it was nevertheless a dream job.

"I loved it," he said.

He cried when TU Director of Athletics Judy MacLeod handed him the contract to sign.

Phillips also signed another letter, one that he delivered to TU President Bob Lawless.

It was a letter of resignation.

"I told him that this will give you an out at the end of the basketball season. If it doesn't work out for you, then it's OK with me," Phillips said.

Things did work out. Quite well. Phillips guided TU to the second round of the NCAA tournament in consecutive seasons, finishing with 27-7 and 23-10 records.

He is only the second TU coach to record 50 victories in his first two seasons.



HURRICANE **MEMORIES:** Coach John Phillips in 2004, center, when he was the TU head basketball coach, with former University of Tulsa great James "Country" King, left, and Bill Kusleika during an Eastern Oklahoma Orthopedic Center Barbecue. Phillips was a student assistant for King in the 1970s when King was the head coach. King, an all-American at TU, went on to play for the Chicago Bulls and Los Angeles Lakers of the NBA before coaching the Athletes in Action and then TU. Kusleika served as a high school coach in the area after his graduation from TU.

As TU slipped to 9-20 in 2003-04, the glow was fading from the Phillips honeymoon. He was beginning to feel pressure from outside the university.

By the start of the next season, some of that pressure was turning personal.

TU was 2-5 in December 2004 and Phillips had endured enough.

"My family was real important to me," he said. "I could tell that they were hearing that their dad wasn't ...." His voice trailed off. His head slumped.

After a moment, he continued.

"It affected my family and I didn't want to put up with it. I'd rather go be a high school coach.

"You can put up with it if you want it badly, but it wasn't worth it to me. I'll go to my grave, it's not worth it," he said.

He wrote another letter of resignation. He delivered it to Judy MacLeod on Christmas Day 2004. "It was the hardest letter to

write," he said.

He accepted TU's offer to remain in the athletics department as an assistant AD. He remained for almost two years before returning to coaching at the high school level.

He took control of the McLain program for two years, left to become general manager of Indian Springs Country Club and was introduced as head coach at Summit Christian Academy in Broken Ar-*(Continued on page 16)* 



## Dale McNamara, Melissa McNamara Luellen, Kenny Monday Honored at 25th Iba Awards

This year's Iba Awards was another success as former University of Tulsa golf coach Dale McNamara, her daughter and former TU golfer Melissa McNamara Luellen, and former Oklahoma State University wrestler Kenny Monday were honored. The Keynote Speaker was Doug Gottlieb, Fox Sports Radio and former OSU basketball player. Dave Hunziker, the "Voice of the Cowboys" on the Oklahoma State Cowboy Radio Network, served as the master of ceremonies. The event was held the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino in June.

The Iba Awards were created in 1994 by the Rotary Club of Tulsa to recognize an influential male and a female premier athlete for their success in their sport, and more importantly, for being positive role models who give back to their communities – not only by donating to worthy causes but by being personally dedicated and involved in their chosen charities.

The awards are named after Henry P. Iba, former Oklahoma State University basketball coach and coach of three U.S. Olympic basketball teams. He was an unparalleled success as a coach, leader and citizen, and these awards recognize and honor athletes who best exemplify a high degree of citizenship in his image.

Dale McNamara and her daughter Melissa McNamara Luellen are the first female recipients of the Henry P. Iba Citizen Athlete Award. Dale McNamara was an overwhelmingly successful gold coach at TU, leading the team to a national championship. Her daughter Melissa was a great golfer at TU and went on to play professionally. She is now the head golf coach at Auburn.

Kenny Monday is a native Tulsan who started his successful wrestling career at age 6 at the local YMCA where wrestling became his passion. Monday won four State titles and went undefeated in high school with an amazing record of 140-0. In his collegiate career at Oklahoma State, he was a three-time NCAA finalist, who took top-prize in 1984 as the NCAA National Champion.

He was a three-time Olympian and two-time Olympic medalist, earning gold in 1988 in Seoul, South Korea, and silver in 1992 in Barcelona, Spain. He won the World championship in 1989 and finished with World silver in 1991. In 1988, he won gold at the Tbilisi Tournament, which was considered the toughest in the world at the time.



**IBA CITIZEN ATHLETE CELEBRITIES:** Honored celebrities at this years Henry P. Iba Citizen Athlete Awards event are, from left, Melissa McNamara Luellen, Kenny Monday, Dale McNamara and Doug Gottlieb.

## **Sutton Named Honorary Chair of 2018 POSSE Auction**

Former Oklahoma State head coach Eddie Sutton will be the honorary chairperson at the 2018 POSSE Auction on Saturday, Aug. 11 in Gallagher-Iba Arena.

"We are extremely honored to have our legendary coach as the honorary chair of this year's POS-SE Auction," said Larry Reece, OSU's senior associate AD/De-velopment. "Coach Sutton and the Cowboys produced so many magical moments in Gallagher-Iba Arena, and I know our fans will really enjoy being a part of another." Sutton led the Cowboys for 16

seasons and piled up a 368-151 (.709) record that included runs to the NCAA Final Four in 1995 and 2004. Under his guidance, Oklahoma State advanced to postseason play in 15 of his 16 seasons in Stillwater, including 13 NCAA Tournament appearances, and he won 20 games or more 13 times. In 37 years as a head coach, Sut-

ton posted 804 wins at Creighton, Arkansas, Kentucky, OSU and San Francisco.

The POSSE Auction is OSU's biggest and most exciting fundraiser of the year and features live and silent auction items and a firstclass dinner and entertainment experience. This year's auction items include exclusive OSU experiences, memorabilia and autographs from favorite Cowboy and Cowgirl greats.

To attend or donate an auction item, call the POSSE office at 405-744-7301 or visit okstate.com/auction.



**KISSES FOR GRANDDAD:** Eddie Sutton is all smiles as he receives kisses from his granddaughters Mary Catherine and Caroline Elizabeth during the recent Iba Awards Banquet held at Hard Rock Hotel and Casino.



**NEW VIDEO BOARD:** The fan experience at Oklahoma State football games in Boone Pickens Stadium will be significantly improved in 2018 with the addition of one of the largest video boards at a college football-only stadium. The Cowboys open the season when they host Missouri State on September 1 and have seven home games this season.







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## LA Dodgers Providing Quality Players to Tulsa Drillers

**By GLENN HIBDON** GTR Sports Writer

After 42 seasons in the Texas League, the Tulsa Drillers are finally reaching their Golden Age. They can say thank you to the Los Angeles Dodgers.

With three trips to the playoffs since becoming the Dodgers' AA farm team in 2015, Tulsa is winning consistently on and off the field, and the trend is expected to continue.

'The Dodgers are an iconic brand to associate our city with. All their pennants and World Series success attribute to us in national exposure," says Drillers General Manager Mike Melega. "The Dodgers have a large fan base and Tulsa fans can see our players on national television.

We loved the Rockies too, but they didn't have the national exposure the Dodgers get. They've won the National League West each year we've been affiliated with them and Cody Bellinger and Corey Seager were in the World Series last season."

The marriage between the Drillers and Dodgers has been a study in how the right romance can blossom into baseball bliss. After switching mascots from the Oilers to Drillers in 1977, Tulsa spent 26 seasons with the Texas Rangers and 12 more with the Colorado Rockies. Neither relationship produced the joy experienced with Los Angeles.

"One of the greatest things that ever happened to me came when the Rockies made the World Series in 2007. It added credibility to our relationship," Melega says. "The Rangers are not a perennial contender and never made the World Series in the 26 seasons we were with them. The Dodgers have been in the playoffs all three years we've been affiliated.'

So far it's true the Drillers have benefitted more from their shortterm association with LA than with the Rangers or Rockies. Tulsa has worked the ancient major-minor league structure to the hilt. The original idea was for "farm teams" to provide players to the majors. Prospects who needed work were sent down and players who excelled were called up. However, the plan worked best for the minor teams according to the quality of players signed by the big league club.

Today, the majors and minors have a system in place where every year there is a two-week post-season window allowing teams to change affiliations. The Drillers used it to their advantage four years ago.

You can sign a two-year or four-year contract. You can extend it or let it play out," says Melega. "At the end of the 2014 season, when our contract with the Rockies played out, we interviewed with the Diamondbacks, Twins and Dodgers. Sometimes teams



WILL SMITH: Will Smith is one of the Drillers' top players this season and projects to be in Los Angeles with the Dodgers in the next couple of years.

change affiliation two or three times in 10 years.

"In 2014, we had built a new stadium and the Dodgers had more talent (than the Rockies). The Dodgers had the No. 1 organization in baseball in 2015 and have been in the top three ever since."

Los Angeles bought Oklahoma City's AAA International League team in 2015, creating a comfortable geographic area for players to move up or down from Tulsa. Melega calls the Drillers' merger with the Dodgers a win-win situation.

"We're selling the fan experience and fans know they will have a good time, win or lose," Melaga says. "It's about the family and food and fireworks. We don't control the play on the field, but when we win it helps business.

"Fans are excited to see our guys move up and they love getting autographs. It's like a TV show where roster moves change the storyline and create plot twists.'

A couple of big moments in the show came when Seager was named the Major League Rookie of the Year in 2016 and Bellinger repeated last season. Caleb Ferguson, Daniel Corcino and Dennis Santana, Tulsa's top three opening day pitchers, were called up this season.

"We're doing our part," says Melega "The Dodgers have a deep farm system and we're fortunate to have stability. We're planning on staying with the Dodgers.'



life

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## *(Continued from page 14)* row in 2012.

When he announced his retirement from Summit in March, Phillips walked away from coaching with more than 400 high school vic-

tories. His record at TU was 61-42. 'The innocence of the high school level is beautiful," he said as he looked back on his career. "They are playing because they love to play.

Phillips coached because he loved to coach.

In full retirement now, Phillips is relaxed, comfortable, content with

It's 45 years (since he entered

coaching) and I can't remember having a problem," he said.

"I think I summed it up when I said, 'Man, I'm lucky.

"I'm happy that I've had the life I've had.





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## THE ECONOMY = **Tulsa Automobile Dealers Association Donation Fuels IMPACT Kids Program**

It can take more than drive to get ahead. An early start accelerates the potential of a successful career for elementary students facing significant odds against realizing their potential and full contribution to our community.

"Tulsa Automobile Dealers Association (TADA) chose the Crossover Community Impact (CCI) award-winning IMPACT Kids After School and Summer Enrichment Program at Hawthorne Elementary as our 2018 philanthropic partner because it is dedicated to students' success, beginning at the elementary school level," says Tom Bloomfield, Don Thornton Automotive Group general manager

Bloomfield was joined by other TADA members at a recent reception at Hawthorne to present the TADA \$34,000 donation to CCI IMPACT Kids.

"The proceeds from the Tul-sa Auto Show allow the TADA to make this generous contribution to the community," says Bill Knight, president of Knight Automotive Group. "We thank Tulsa Auto Show attendees who make it possible for TADA to assist in supporting important programs benefiting our community." In 2017 TADĂ made a donation to Pencil Box following the 100th anniversary Tulsa Auto Show.

'CCI is a Tulsa-based Christian organization committed to restoring the north Tulsa community through reconciliation, love and justice," says CCI Executive Director Philip Abode.



TADA MENTOR: TADA member Tom Bloomfield talks with Hawthorn Elementary students, TASA members and CCI staff.

Both a united community and an individual mentor are powerful forces to direct young students living in an area where 46.4 percent of eligible residents are not in the labor force, average household income is \$22,000, and 41 percent live below the poverty line. Addressing the educational needs of its students, IMPACT Kids matches north Tulsa high school students in CCI's StreetLeader or Youth Jobs Program with Hawthorne students. Each high school student mentors, counsels, and tutors the elementary-age students while developing both soft and hard job skills, experiencing daily coaching or professional development, and receiving ACT prep and academic support in a nurturing environment. CCI operates several additional programs directed at community medical, economic development and housing needs.

Other TADA members attending the reception included Greg Kach, Tim Hensley and Nip Karn of Jackie Cooper Auto Group, Don Thorton with Lexus of Tulsa, Jerry and Ryan Ferguson of Ferguson Superstore, Dave Croteau of Jim Norton Auto Group, and David George and Brandon Murphy of Nelson Nissan Mazda. The Tulsa Automobile Dealers Association is a non-profit organization that exists to serve and promote the franchised new motor vehicle dealers of metro Tulsa and is the owner of the Tulsa Auto Show, one of the largest consumer shows in Oklahoma. Among the 27 automaker brands participating in the show are Acura, Audi, Buick, Cadillac, Chevrolet, GMC, Chrysler, Dodge, Fiat, Ford, Honda, Infiniti, Jaguar, Jeep, Land Rover, Lexus, Lincoln, Maserati, Mazda,



SIGNIFICANT GIFT: TADA donated \$34,000 to CCI IMPACT Kids. Left to right are TADA member Tom Bloomfield, CCI Executive Director Philip Abode, IMPACT Kids program coordinator Leah Pickard, and TADA member Greg Kach.

Mercedes-Benz, Nissan, Porsche, Ram, Subaru, Toyota, Volkswagen and Volvo.

For more information on Crossover Community Impact, visit crossoverimpact.org.

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CHAMBER SUCCESS: The Tulsa Regional Chamber's 24th annual Resource Campaign concluded recently, raising over \$3 million. From left in the photo are Steve Bradshaw, president and CEO, BOK Financial Corp.; Shane Fernandez, president, Nabholz; Sharon Fletcher, president & CEO, CommunityCare; Mike Neal, president & CEO, Tulsa Regional Chamber; Justin McLaughlin, COO, Tulsa Regional Chamber; Allison Walden, senior vice president of resource development, Tulsa Regional Chamber; and Karen Humphrey, executive director of the Resource Campaign, Tulsa Regional Chamber. See page 18.



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Jennifer Jezek President, York Electronic Systems **MEMBER SINCE 1984** 



## **Jim Wilburn Receives ADDY**

Longtime Tulsa advertising and marketing executive Jim Wilburn has received the coveted Silver Addy (SA).

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Wilburn, who is the gener-al manager of Major League Fishing, received the honor at a recent dinner at Tulsa Country Club.

He is the 57th Silver Addy honoree. The award was originated by the Tulsa Advertising Federation but in recent years the selection and dinner event has been managed by past Silver Addy recipients.

The award is given "to recognize men and women who have made outstanding contributions to advertising, creative excellence, industry's standards and addressed social concerns," said Charles Halliburton, who presented the award. Halliburton was last year's honoree.

Wilburn graduated from the University of Tulsa and became



#### **JIM WILBURN**

the top sales performer for local ABC affiliate KTUL. In 1981, he left KTUL and co-found-Winner Communications, ed which led to a storied career producing nearly 50 percent of ESPN's Outdoors programming. During that span he re-ceived 13 Emmy awards and two Eclipse awards.

**Tulsa World's Susan Ellerbach To be Honored at Tulsa Press Club** The Tulsa Press Club has named

Tulsa World Executive Editor Susan Ellerbach its 2018 Tulsa Press Club Media Icon. Ellerbach will be honored at the Tulsa Press Club on Aug. 3 at the organization's annual Newsies event. A reception for Ellerbach begins at 6 p.m. and the program begins at 7 p.m. The Tulsa Media Icon award is bestowed annually to a local journalist who consistently exemplifies the highest quality and commitment to journalism and journalistic ethics. "I am extremely honored to be recognized by the Tulsa Press Club as a 'Media Icon,'" Eller-bach said. "The Press Club continues to support local journalism and journalists which is a mission that I strongly support. Now, more than ever, the importance of a strong journalistic community encompassing all aspects of our pro-fession is of utmost importance." Ellerbach has held the position of executive editor since 2014 when she became the first woman to lead the Tulsa World newsroom



#### SUSAN ELLERBACH

in its more than 100-year history. A graduate of the University of Kansas, Ellerbach worked for smaller newspapers in Kansas and Oklahoma before joining the Tulsa World in 1985 as a business reporter. In the 33 years since,

she's covered real estate, energy, politics and everything in between. Prior to being named executive editor, Ellerbach held the positions of business editor. Sunday editor and managing editor. Married to Richard Ellerbach since 1988, the couple has three daughters and two granddaughters. The Newsies recognizes Tulsa's favorite journalists across several news and information platforms. Nominees represent print, television, radio and online platforms.

The Tulsa Press Club created the Newsies awards several years ago to celebrate local journalists and support the organization's mission to promote journalism in the Tulsa area through programming, scholarships and a clubhouse. A fun, lighthearted event, the Newsies showcases the Tulsa Press Club inside the historic Atlas Life Building, 415 S. Boston Ave., while bringing journalists from many outlets and platforms together to celebrate one another. For more information, see www.tulsapressclub.com.

## **Chamber Volunteers Raise \$3.4 Million in Resource Campaign**

The Tulsa Regional Chamber's 24th annual Resource Campaign recently concluded, raising \$3,410,368.

Revenue generated during the campaign makes up nearly 25 percent of the Chamber's annual

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budget. Over the course of the 10week campaign, 100 volunteers sold sponsorships to 330 member companies for the Chamber's programs, meetings, events and publications.

"The annual resource campaign is an integral source of funding for the Chamber," said Steve Bradshaw, president and CEO of BOK Financial Corporation and 2018 Tulsa Regional Chamber chair. "We thank the campaign leadership team, the volunteers and our member companies for believing in the Chamber's mission. These funds will allow the Chamber to build on our region's current momentum and move northeast Oklahoma forward."

Revenue generated through the campaign supports the Chamber's member services and pro-gramming for small business, entrepreneurship, education, workforce attraction and legislative advocacy. It also supports the contributions the Chamber makes to its regional economic development partnership, Tulsa's Future; and the convention and visitors bureau housed at the

Chamber, VisitTulsa.

The 2018 campaign-which had a cooking theme and was titled Recipe for Success-was led by Shane Fernandez, president of Nabholz Corporation, and cochair Sharon Fletcher, president and CEO of CommunityCare.

"Most importantly, I want to thank the dedicated volunteers who have worked tirelessly on this campaign for the past 10 weeks," said Shane Fernandez. "The success of this campaign is a direct reflection of their commitment. I'm proud we are able to

support the Chamber's outstand-ing program of work through this campaign.'

The top producing teams were led by team captains Lynda Wingo, Julie Rethmeyer and Shirley Bailey. The top individual pro-ducers were Mark Poole and Gary Broom, who both had more than \$100,000 in cash sales.

The Tulsa Regional Chamber's Resource Campaign is considered a model program by chamber peers and continues to be one of the largest campaigns of its kind in the nation.



NO PAYMENT FOR

90 DAYS



FEDERAL RESERVE CHAIR VISITATION: Rose Washington was the guest speaker at a recent Rotary Club of Tulsa luncheon meeting. At left is Immediate Past President of the club Michael H. Homan of Terracon, and at the right is Rotarian of the Day James D. Dunn of Mill Creek Lumber and Supply. Washington serves as the Chair of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City and is also the executive director of the Tulsa Economic Development Corporation.



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## **Creative Hair Center Celebrates 18th Year**

Hair Restoration, Replacement Becoming More Popular

#### By ELIZ HOLLIS Contributing Writer

There has been a noticable resurgence in individuals exploring hair options. Undoubtedly, self-esteem and personal identity impact lives socially and professionally. The appearance of a person's hair plays an important role in how they choose to be recognized in the world.

Older people are not the only ones struggling emotionally with hair loss. Young adults and children are devastated, often to the point of feeling isolated and depressed. "Modern technological advancements in state-of-the-art, non-surgical hair restoration solutions and cranial prosthetics are life-changing for most people," says Michael Son, owner of Creative Hair Center.

Creative Hair Center is celebrating its 18th year, located in Tulsa's Bridgepointe Shopping Center (71st Street, west of Lewis Avenue). The setting offers easy access and free parking. The owner, Son, created a fashionable Tuscan styled design only surpassed by his gracious understanding of discreet, professional consultations and confidential styling services in private rooms.

"I'm very happy to see the increased acceptance for men wearing man-weaves, more formally referred to as cranial prosthesis, hair replacement units or hair systems," Son says. "My sincere hope is for society to continue to remove the stigma around wigs and hair replacement.'

Recently, upgraded wigs, extensions and hair pieces have grown in popularity with the younger crowd. Nonsurgical hair replacement units are designed for most hair types, including Caucasian, Latino and African-American. In most cases they are 100 percent human hair, although some are blends with synthetic hair. Transgender and gender fluid persons want to look natural. Their transitional changes need to be precise to avoid comments. Today's hair additions offer realistic appearance from all angles.

There's a key difference between wigs and hair prostheses, says Son. A wig refers to any sort of head covering made from natural or synthetic hair and can be used for cosmetic or medical purposes. A hair prosthesis is a wig that has been molded, custom made for a person who has experienced hair loss due to a medical condition.

We take everything into account when creating a custom unit. Texture, density, and color play a major part in creating the look and style to fit personal preferences. It's designed to achieve the look and feel of natural hair," Son explains. "It enables the user to participate in sporting and water activities with complete comfort and confidence. We have been the number-one choice for a number of celebrities and sportsmen.'



**CREATIVE HAIR TEAM:** Offering solutions for hair problems are, from the Creative Center staff from left, Melony Moore, manager and technical stylist; Michael Son, owner; and Kaci Listar, technical stylist

While modern technology has enabled the creation of the most realistic, undetectable hair replacement systems to date, current hair replacement techniques bond the hair replacement system to the scalp with a translucent, hypoallergenic medical adhesive, acting as a second layer of skin.

Most importantly, no one should underestimate the importance attached to the creative skill of those performing the procedures. Specific training is required for designing, cutting and blending in a hair replacement system.

Award-winning technicians Kaci Listar and Melony Moore have more than 30 years of combined experience, ongoing education/ certifications and advanced skills.

They have each won multiple national honors and served as continuing education instructors (locally and nationally).

"Staying on the cutting edge of this technology sharpens our skills, expanding our knowledge to focus seriously on the health of the scalp, existing hair and custom hair prosthetics," adds Listar.

"Some stylists are uncomfortable with the level of responsibilities necessary," says Moore. "My nursing degree is enriched as we create solutions for those losing their hair whether it be natural genetics, hormone replacement therapies, cancer treatments. head traumas, cranial surgeries or burns.'

"As non-surgical hair replacement

specialists, we are just as passionate about modern hair makeovers for children who suffer from hair loss," adds Listar. "The instantaneous smiles on young faces are reflected in the salon mirrors as they regain confidence in their new look. One child explained, 'I am disguised as myself.' I am proud to be the sidekick to their heroic status, helping them be their best self after losing their hair.'

Hair loss is usually the result of stress, medical challenges or physical accidents. The staff at Creative Hair Center is ready to help. Call 918-492-1919 to schedule an appointment for a free analysis of your hair and scalp. For more information, visit www.Creative-HairCenter.com.

## Eisenhower's Energy Message Then and Now



As Chairman of People to People International (PTPI) from 2009 to 2013, it was an honor for me to work with Mary Eisenhower, granddaughter of former U.S. President Dwight Eisenhower and CEO/President of PTPI. Mary shared her views and vision about U.S. energy in a letter addressed to the 20th Annual 2012 International Energy Policy Conference held in Oklahoma

"Energy is more than an 'American issue.' Energy is a global issue, as we are all interconnected. It is the topic at hand, whether we are discussing the future of America's energy needs, or following the United Nations Human Development Index, which many of you know relates quality of life with access to energy. As James Conca shared in Forbes, 'The world will not be rid of poverty, war, or terrorism until almost everyone on Earth is in the middle class. And that requires energy.' We are all in this together! Conca further stated, 'That energy use is one of the most accurate indicators of what is considered prosperity and happiness is a powerful concept. Even more important to national security is that energy use trends with life span, peace, and democracy.' Conca's view is that it is 'unethical and unjust, as well as not in our national security interests, not to ensure that the rest of humanity achieves prosperity and long life." As we explore the future of energy, I hope that you will remember that point: we are all interconnected. When my grandfather, U.S. President Dwight D.

1953, the top-

ic was atomic warfare. He . 'Occasaid, sional pages of history do record the faces of the 'great destroyers,' but the whole book of history reveals mankind's never-ending quest for peace and mankind's God-given capacity to It is build. with the book of history, and not with isolated pages.



MARK A. STANSBERRY

Eisenhower, gave his famous, be constructive, not destructive. 'Atoms for Peace' speech in It wants agreements, not wars, be constructive, not destructive.

> among nations. It wants itself to live in freedom and in the confidence that the peoples of every other nation enjoy equally the right of choosing their own way of life.' So whether we are facing the specter of atomic warfare in the 1950s or the future of natural gas today, it is you, the innovators and the visionaries, who will ensure a brighter future for all.

In my role as

the great pleasure of working to connect people of all countries and cultures. Granddad believed that 'peaceful relations between nations require understanding and mutual respect between in-dividuals.' It takes each of us, working together, to combat misperceptions, and it will take each of us, working together, to address the issues of energy in America and beyond. We owe it to ourselves and to each other to address these needs in terms beyond today. The future won't wait!"-MJE

Mark A. Stansberry, is chairman of The GTD Group, an award winning author and Energy Advocate. Facebook: National Energy Talk.

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#### **GREATER TULSA REPORTER NEWSPAPERS**

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#### **Tim Neuman of** Williams Companies, Inc., **Becomes CAN President**

The Child Abuse Network (CAN) announces the appointment of Tim Neuman as board president along with its slate of new fiscal year 2019 board officers. Neuman is the manager of credit services at Williams Companies, Inc. He will serve a one-year term. He has been with Williams Companies, Inc., since 1992 and was originally involved with CAN four years ago as a Williams Tulsa Are United Way "Day of Caring" volunteer.

At its June annual meeting, the CAN board also voted to approve its board officers including President-Elect Rebecca Thompson, chief accounting officer, AAON, Inc.; Past President Kala Sharp, vice president, Controller-Natural Gas, ONE-OK Partners; Treasurer Jennifer Matson, assurance principal, Hogan Taylor, LLP; and Secretary David Glasgow, CBRE.

The members of the CAN board reflect the diversity of our community and the wide-ranging aspects of child abuse in our region," said Anna America, chief executive officer of CAN. 'We are grateful to have a dedicated team of experts, business professionals, and community volunteers to come together and lend their talents and time. They see the need of the most vulnerable children in our community and have stepped up to take action.

Four new board members are also slated for the 2019 fiscal year. Those new members include Chairman and President of Ross Group Warren Ross; Blue Cross Blue Shield Sales Executive Eve Adams; Community Volunteer Paula Kuykendall; and Cherokee Nation Business-



BOARD LEADER: Tim Neuman, manager of credit services for Williams Companies, Inc., was voted Board of Directors President for the Child Abuse Network at its annual meeting in June.

es Senior Real Estate Development Manager Brian Hunt.

CAN's board of directors is comprised of 24 individuals from the legal, medical, financial, business and community volunteer sectors of the Tulsa-area community. It is the board's responsibility to provide counsel and strategic direction to meet CAN's mission of providing collaborative intervention services to child abuse victims so that they are encouraged to embrace a future driven by hope

The Child Abuse Network is a public-private partnership that facilitates a multidisciplinary team of experts in the intervention of child abuse once it is reported. It runs the Child Advocacy Center located at 2829 S. Sheridan Rd.



fessional services announces firm, that Christopher Cox, PE, has been hired as a senior project manager in its Tulsa office. who has Cox,

Dewberry,



more than 30 years of experience, is working in the transportation group and has a specific focus on municipal roadway and utility projects. Prior to joining the firm, he spent nearly 25 years working for the City of Tulsa and most recently served as the transportation rehabilitation manager. In this role, Cox was responsible for the long-term engineering and funding for the maintenance of all streets, bridges, and railroad crossings in Tulsa. Now at Dewberry, he is working on projects for the cities of Tulsa, Broken Arrow, and Owasso, and roadway improvements for an industrial park in Pryor, Oklahoma.

Cox earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Mississippi State University (1981) and is a member of the American Public Works Association and the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Truman O. Criss, president of ROI Media Services LLC, announces the merit-based promotions for three women to the corporate board.

Deanna McClure has been promoted to senior

**McCLURE** 

vice president of client services. McClure is a 33-year veteran of the advertising/marketing operations of broadcast, print, outdoor and digital media. She assumes total jurisdiction for all client-based marketing support operations and general office management. She has been with ROI since

Kim Marshall has been promoted to president of media management operations. Marshall, an almost 20-year veteran of the marketing support business. has an excellent track record in print, broadcast, outdoor and digital media utilization. She preter of the Oklahoma Society of **Certified Public** Accountants officially named its 2018-2019 officers. Serving one-year terms are

President Raylicia Spencer, CPA, with Stanfield + O'Dell in Tulsa; President Elect Deborah Vanderveen, CPA, with ALLCOM Administrative Services in Jenks, PLLC; Secretary Kristin Aylett, CPA, with AAON, Inc.; and Treasurer Erika Coates, CPA, with Brainerd Chemical, Inc. Ross McKinney, CPA, with HoganTaylor, will remain on the board as the first past president.

**SPENCER** 

JONES

The OSCPA also awarded Greg Jones, CLU, CHFC, with the chapter's distinguished CPA honor at the 100th Annual Members Meeting in Oklahoma City.

Jones currently serves as the Tulsa Chapter's first past president. He is known as a steady sponsor and contributor to the chapter's continuing education program and was instrumental in getting the non-profit board training series off the ground in 2015.

The Distinguished CPA Award recognizes chapter members who have distinguished themselves through outstanding community involvement, professionalism and activism in the profession. It was established to honor members dedicated to their communities and to inform the public of the contributions CPAs continuously make to their communities at the chapter level and their commitment to high ethical standards.

The OSCPA's Tulsa Chapter includes Creek, Osage, Wagoner, Washington and Tulsa counties.

Southeastern Freight Lines, the

leading provider of regional lessthan-truckload (LTL) transportation services, announces that Kelly Brackeen has promoted been to service center manager in Tulsa.



BRACKEEN

Brackeen will relocate with his family and looks forward to serving the Southeastern team in this

Paul Davis Restoration of Tulsa, a leading provider of fire and water damrestoration age services, recently received the prestigious **District** Franchise of the Year award in its 12-state district and recognition for the franchise company's outstanding staff who members

were

ration

**VIVIENNE &** TOM CULVER



ROSAS



DAY

franchise, along with their team on May 19 at Paul Davis' national conference. The company received the awards as network-wide leaders in top sales and service, market penetration and customer satisfaction, among other achievements.

Team members who won the individual Best of the Best awards include Lori Rosas, mitigation estimator; Aaron Horner,



Day, project manager, and Michael Sullivan, project manager.

Since 1993, Paul Davis Restoration of Tulsa has helped individuals, families, businesses, churches, and government agencies that have suffered property or content losses due to fire, water, storm, or other events. Paul Davis is a full-service company that provides initial drying and clean-up and complete repairs and reconstruction. The local franchise is located at 10344-B E. 58th Street in Tulsa. For more information, call 918-663-5848 or visit RestorationTulsa.com.

For more than 50 years, Paul Davis has restored residential and commercial properties damaged by fire, water, mold, storms and disasters. The experts at Paul Davis understand the complex process of recovering from property damage and provide complete services; there is no need for the expense and confusion of hiring multiple contractors. Paul Davis is a onestop shop for disaster damage and



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viously worked for Clear Channel (IHeart), Shamrock, High School Sports the Magazine and Communication Graphics.

Katherine M. Wade was ROI's first employee of the predecessor company to ROI. She is being promoted to vice president of financial administration. Wade brings a wealth of experience in media operations. During her 32-year tenure she has worked as a planner, negotiator and buyer as well as administrative and financial manager.

Randy Heller is region manager of client services. He has more than 25 years of marketing and broadcast experience. Throughout his career he has been responsible for broadcast sales and the marketing responsibilities of a broadcast group. Heller was also the manager of the customer service department of a broadcast organization.

new capacity.

Southeastern Freight Lines is a privately-owned regional lessthan-truckload transportation services provider founded in 1950, specializing in next-day service in the Southeast and Southwest and operates 89 service centers in 14 states, Canada and Puerto Rico. For more information, visit www. sefl.com.

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restoration. Paul Davis Restoration has more than 375 independently owned franchises in the USA and Canada. The professionals at Paul Davis are certified in emergency restoration, reconstruction and remodeling.



#### Page 22

#### **July 2018**

## 'Old Lady of Brady' Offers Interesting History in Tulsa

Some buildings are worth writing about because of their excellent architectural design. Others are notable because of the events and celebrities that

utilized the space there. The Brady Theater is one of the latter. In reality, the building is just a big barn but a big barn filled with memories of famous and not so famous performers, so many that to list them would fill a book. Of course there is one, Memoirs of the Old Lady by Jamie M Townsend.

In 1912, Tulsa, with a population of barely 30,000, was chosen as the site for the International Dry Farming Congress Conven-

tion, to be held in 1913. The Commercial Club (forerunner of the Chamber of Commerce) in tandem with the Hyeehka Club lobbied for a new convention hall. A \$100,000 bond issue was passed and a lot 200 by 140 feet at the northwest corner of Brady and Boulder avenues was purchased for \$9,000. Architects Rose & Peterson were selected and T. O'Keefe won the bid for general construction. The style of the building was said to be "Richardsonian / Western Classic Revival." But as with many public projects, work took longer than planned. Ground

was broken in the winter of 1913, and the building wasn't ready for occupancy until May 1914. Its massive pipe organ wasn't installed until 1915

building The was a showcase for Tulsa with a capaciseating ty of 3,000<sup>1</sup> and storage facilities, which could accommodate Metropolitan Opera Productions (at the time it was one of only 16 facilities like the in United States). The rake stage had a 13 inch fall from back to front. hydraulic Two jacks enabled the wooden floor to be lowered in

the back of the

By ROGER COFFEY, AIA

**On Architecture** 

auditorium and the seats removed in order for the structure to serve as both a conventional hall and a theater. A generous balcony provided additional seating and the building's structure allowed for a second, higher balcony (which was never built). Large wall fans provided the only ventilation. There was no air conditioning. Thus, the facility was seldom used during the summer months.

By 1930, Convention Hall was looking tired and ragged around its edges. A \$60,000 bond issue was passed to renovate and modernize the building. A young Bruce Goff



BRADY THEATER: Opened in 1913 as "Convention Hall," the building has hosted conventions, musicals, operas and many other events over the years.

with Endicott, Rush & Goff was commissioned to handle the design and given only 30 days to complete the work. The wooden floor was removed and a bowl-shaped concrete was poured. Opera style seats from American Seating were installed with racks underneath each seat to store a male occupant's hat.

An art deco treatment was developed including a lowered acoustical tile ceiling (painted in a checkered pattern), the balcony facing and the stage proscenium. Five 16 footlong chandeliers were hung from the center of the theater. The east, south and west walls were completely covered with red velvet drapes with 12" black borders. Finally, a custom-painted drop curtain in a distinctive art deco design was designed by muralist Olinka Hrdy.

By 1952, Convention Hall was again showing its age. A \$250,000 bond issue was passed and the name changed to Tulsa Municipal Theater. The building front was expanded to accommodate upstairs and downstairs lobbies, new dressing rooms and restrooms, new heating and lighting systems and a new roof. The infamous slanted stage was lowered and deepened. The red brick exterior was painted a light green. At this point in its history, the building was the performance home to the ballet, the symphony, and the opera as well as a location for numerous other events. In 1965 the Frisco Railroad promised to refrain from blowing whistles during performances. Despite the many changes made to the building for over 60 years, its acoustics remained excellent.

The Tulsa Municipal Theater closed in 1977 when the new Performing Arts Center opened. In 1978 Peter Mayo, third generation of a Tulsa family heavily involved in the arts, bought the building for \$37,777 with a seven-year non-compete clause. The inside had been stripped of most fixtures and the organ was sold for parts. Peter has been gradually restoring the building now called Brady Theater. Four hundred tons of air conditioning, stage, furnishing, new seating and a new color scheme have been added. The blue green paint has been removed from the red brick exterior and landscaping added. As more and more events are scheduled, the future is looking bright for the Brady Theater.

## Nola's Makes a Splash With New Orleans Cuisine

#### **Local Dining**

By BLAKE AUSTYN Contributing Writer

Nola's Creole and Cocktails, 1334 E. 15th St., opened in April along Tulsa's Cherry Street in a majorly renovated space that for many years housed bars and nightclubs. The space is barely recognizable from what it used to be

Patrons walk stairs to the front doors, with the hostess stand inside. They then take stairs down to enter the dining room-a deceptively clever mind trick to create the feeling that one is entering an underground speakeasy.

With no windows in the main dining room and bar, it is easy to feel as if one is below ground. However, bringing diners back to reality, there are windows in the built-out patio area that look out onto the restaurant's spacious outdoor patio, which is currently empty real estate. I feel that with some water misters to combat the summer heat, and shrubbery, the space could transform into a pleasant, welcoming outdoor dining destination.

My party visited on a Friday evening, and we quickly noticed that Nola's has held its popularity since opening two months ago. The dining rooms were packed with a 30-minute wait.

However, we managed to secure seats in the bar area, which is first come-first served.

With how busy the restaurant was, it took a while to order our drinks and food. The food took equally as long to arrive at our tahle

We began with the Black Bayou Jambalaya Cakes, grilled Crawfish and Andouille jambalaya cakes topped with Pontchartrain sauce—a spicy white wine sauce with shrimp and crab. The cakes were spicy but a bit too doughy for my liking. However, the middle portions were tasty because that is where most of the meat was contained.

I ordered the fhe Fat City Creole, a vegetable soup with white rice and choice of shrimp, crawfish or crab. I enjoyed this dish. However, I would have enjoyed it more had it been piping hot. By the time I received it, the dish was lukewarm. I suspect my dish sat for some time while our other dishes were being prepared. But, even lukewarm, the flavors were tasty.

My friend ordered the Royal Street Shrimp, which comes with eight jumbo shrimp and two side orders. The shrimp was flavored and blackened very well, and my friend's sides of maque choux and sautéed green beans were both delectable. The maque choux had bits of meat, and the green beans were tender and well flavored.

To share between us, we ordered the Lobster Mac and Cheese,



CHERRY STREET LOCATION: Nola's is located at 15th Street and Peoria Ave. in Tulsa.

which was creamy and delicious, with generous chunks of lobster.

Nola's' menu consists of many traditional Cajun dishes, soups, salads, sandwiches, and higher-priced meat dishes, including filet, porterhouse, red snapper and catfish.

The restaurant is open seven days a week, 11 a.m.-2 a.m.

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## **OKPOP Museum Unveils Design Rendering**

## Museum will be Located Across from Cain's Ballroom

Oklahoma Historical Society officials unveiled on July 16 the rendering of the Oklahoma Museum of Pop Culture (OKPOP). Tulsa-based Lilly Architects and Overland Partners of San Antonio, Texas designed the facility that was revealed at the historic Cain's Ballroom.

Nabholz Construction will construct OKPOP at 422 N. Main St. in Tulsa, across the street from the Cain's Ballroom, home of Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys. Tulsan David Sharp and Interak Corporation donated the quarter block of land for the OKPOP site, estimated to be valued at \$1 million.

"Grit and glitz is a term the team coined to describe the overall feel of the project," said Chris Lilly, principal of Lilly Architects. "With one cultural foot on Route 66 and the other on Main Street, OKPOP will highlight the journeyman's struggle and the thrill of making it big – the grit and the glitz inherent to the life of Oklahoma's creatives."

Locally-owned and operated, Lilly Architects has served the greater Tulsa region since 2013.

Their portfolio includes several projects in the Tulsa Arts District including 36 Degrees North, the Archer Building, the Fox Hotel Building and the Bull in the Alley among many others. They partnered with Overland Partners, a San Antonio, Texas based architecture design firm that specializes in sustainable architecture, urban design, and master planning with award-winning projects across the globe. Their museum design experience includes the Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur, the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin, Texas, the Nelson A. Rockefeller Center for Latin American Art at the San Antonio Museum of Art, and the new Aquaculture Museum and Environmental Center located in Gaochun County, China.

"The design process was guided by paradoxes and surprises," said Timothy B. Blonkvist, founder and principal of Overland. "Because pop culture itself reflects the trends of its time, the primary challenge for our team was to create a space that is both current and timeless, both popular and cultured."

The design team found inspiration in a gold Fender Stratocaster custom made for Bob Wills' guitarist Eldon Shamblin. The guitar encouraged the project's gold color palette. The structure was designed to house a living experience that includes event venues, stages and retail space.

"The architectural design of OK-POP is inspired by the idea that Oklahoma creativity has flourished in the state because of a collision of cultures that resulted in a mixing of artistic styles, creating a rich storytelling tradition," said OKPOP Executive Director Jeffrey Moore. "This creativity that sprung from barn dances and camp meetings in the country or the dance halls and movie theaters on Main Street spread to the rest of the world on the "Will Rogers Highway" otherwise known as Route 66. Lilly Architects and Overland Partners captured this idea beautifully."

OKPOP is dedicated to telling the story of the creativity of Oklahoma's people and their influence on popular culture around the world. The OKPOP staff is actively collecting artifacts, photographs, archival materials, film, video and audio recordings that represent Oklahoma's creative history.

Some of the famous Oklahomans that OKPOP will feature include Will Rogers, Bob Wills, Joan Crawford, Gene Autry, Leon Russell, Reba McEntire, S. E. Hinton, Garth Brooks, Wes Studi, Alfre Woodard, James Marsden, Carrie Underwood and Kristin Chenoweth, among countless others.

"We are honored to have been chosen to create this space to showcase the artists and audiences that shaped Oklahoma's past," said Lilly. "We feel this space will evoke a sense of discovery and state pride for all visitors."

OKPOP will break ground in fall of 2018.

#### About The Oklahoma Historical Society:

The OKPOP is a division of the Oklahoma Historical Society. The mission of the Oklahoma Historical Society is to collect, preserve, and share the history and culture of the state of Oklahoma. Founded in



**OKPOP MUSEUM:** The Oklahoma Museum of Popular Culture (OK-POP) design rendering for the museum was unveiled July 16 in downtown Tulsa across from Cain's Ballroom on North Main Street. Lilly Architects along with Overland Partners of San Antonio were selected to design the space.



**OKPOP TEAM:** An array of impressive talent is contributing to the creation of the OKPOP Museum. From left during the July 16 announcement are Mike Neal, Tulsa Regional Chamber; Jeff Moore, OK-POP; Chris Lilly, Lilly Architects; Dr. Bob Blackburn, OK Historical Society; Ray Hoyt, Visit Tulsa; Blake Ewing, Councilor, City of Tulsa; Tim Blonkvist, Overland Partners; Michael Rey, Lilly Architects; and Shane Fernandez, Nabholz Construction.

1893 by members of the Territorial Press Association, the OHS maintains museums, historic sites and affiliates across the state. Through its research archives, exhibits, educational programs and publications, the OHS chronicles the rich history of Oklahoma. For more information about the OHS, visit www.okhistory.org.



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