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TCC VISION DINNER REACHES HISTORIC GOAL See Page 10

BROKEN ARROW EXPRESS

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Oklahoma's Largest Monthly News Group

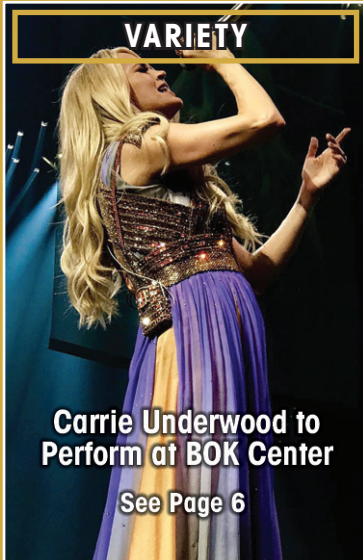
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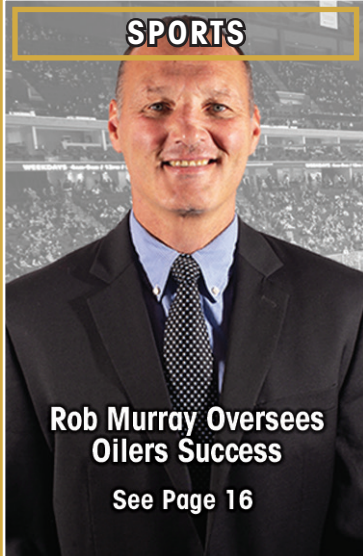
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BAHS to Honor Four Great Grads

By BOB LEWIS
Contributing Editor

A long-standing tradition at Broken Arrow High School will be extended on Oct. 25 with the annual naming of a new class of Great Graduates.

Representatives of the BAHS Alumni Association said all four of this year's honorees were selected because they have brought considerable acclaim to themselves, their school and their city. They will be recognized at the annual homecoming parade and at halftime of this year's homecoming football game with Yukon.

The newest class of Great Graduates includes the late W. David Beverly, Kenneth L. Collins, Russell Gale and Debra Lewis Wimpee.

David Beverly

Classmates from the Class of 1964 say it's fitting that Beverly is being honored during the year in which the world is applauding the 50th anniversary of man's first footsteps on the moon. That's because as a leader of NASA's flight hardware electronics reliability and testing team, he played a key role in making that historic accomplishment possible.

An avid motorcycle rider, he also founded the Johnson Space Center 'Space Riders' and led that group in conducting a myriad of services for charitable organizations around the Gulf Coast area. Later, following the devastation caused by Hurricane Camille in 1969, he was among the first to step up to help those who lost so much.

In recognition of his excellence of service, a motorcycle patch that once flew to the International Space Station now hangs in the Space Center's testing laboratory that NASA named after him. His beloved motorcycle club has also been renamed. It is now "Dave's Space Riders" and continues to carry on the traditions he established.

Ken Collins

Representing the Class of 1967 is Kenneth L. Collins.

A Navy veteran who served during the Vietnam era, Collins is probably best known locally as a patriot who helped save the Vietnam Memorial Monument and oversaw its relocation

to the Military History Center that he helped build.

As part of the nomination process, a former boss pointed out that during his time with APAC-Central, Inc., Collins totally revamped his division's ineffective safety program and in so doing was credited with saving the lives of many of his fellow employees.

Russell Gale

Representing the Class of 1974 is Assistant City Manager Russell Gale.

Colleagues note he has earned the unofficial title of "Mr. Diversity" around City Hall for the number and variety of undertakings he has overseen during his 41-years-and-counting career.

It all began following his graduation from Oklahoma State University when then City Manager Jim Whitlock picked him to fill an open administrative assistant position. Three years later Gale became the city's first Human Resources Director. Now, he serves as Assistant City Manager of Administration.

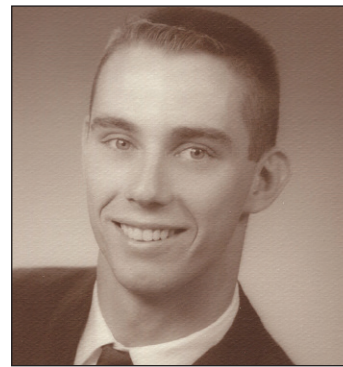
In undertakings ranging from bond issue campaigns to support of BA schools and twice serving as Acting City Manager, associates say he has demonstrated a quality and diversity in service that has enabled Broken Arrow to gain recognition as both a safe city and a great place to live and work.

Debra Wimpee

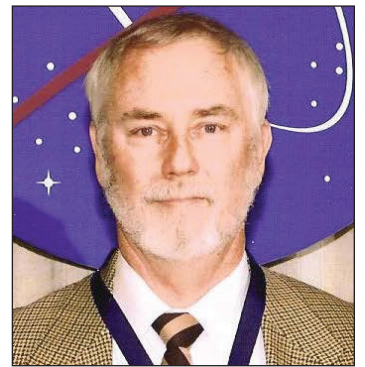
Representing the Class of 1990 is City Councilor Debra Wimpee.

One of Broken Arrow's most visible citizens through the retail store she once owned and operated on Main Street, she is being applauded for her contributions to the Chamber of Commerce and Salvation Army as well as an array of unique special events she created to boost the visibility of Broken Arrow in general and the Rose District in particular.

City Manager Michael Spurgeon calls Wimpee the city's best cheerleader. It's a position she says she intends to grow by using her seat on the City Council to build upon her BA Buzz creation which employs social media to spread the word about all the good things happening around town.



DAVID BEVERLY, 1964



KEN COLLINS, 1967



RUSSELL GALE, 1974



DEBRA WIMPEE, 1990

KUDOS of the MONTH: Tulsa Area United Way

The Tulsa Area United Way unveiled a goal of \$26,028,494 for its 2019 campaign on Friday, Sept. 6, at the Jenks - Bixby High School football game.

The goal is three percent higher than last year's goal of \$25,254,166.

"This year's goal is based on the real needs of our community as determined by 170 highly trained community investment volunteers," said Alison Anthony, President and CEO of the Tulsa Area United Way. "It's an ambitious goal - almost \$800,000 above last year - but we believe the generosity of Tulsans will help us reach it."



2019 CAMPAIGN GOAL: Jenks Trojan cheerleaders hold up the 2019 United Way goal before the Jenks-Bixby football game on Sept. 6.

The local United Way provides funding to 59 Tulsa-area non-profit organizations in the areas of education, health/safety and financial stability.

Kirk Hays, president and CEO of Arvest Bank-Tulsa, is serving as chair of this year's campaign, and will be assisted by 15 cam-

campaign fellows, 30 United Way staff members and 40 community leaders who serve on the United Way's campaign cabinet.

Last year, more than 30,000 individuals and 1,000 companies and businesses supported the United Way campaign. In addition, more than 7,600 people volunteered for

agency projects and activities, including the Day of Caring, one of the nation's largest days of community service.

Area residents are encouraged to support the campaign through their workplace or online at www.tauw.org. Businesses or companies that wish to conduct workplace campaigns on behalf of the United Way can get started by contacting the United Way at 918-583-7171 or campaign@tauw.org.

The United Way campaign will conclude and the total amount raised will be revealed on Nov. 7 at the annual Unite celebration to be held at the Tulsa Club Hotel.

Linde Oktoberfest Tulsa Presents 2019 Commemorative Poster

Linde Oktoberfest commissioned Tulsan Josh Stout to create the commemorative festival poster for 2019.

Each year, Oktoberfest selects a local artist to create a festival inspired poster. Stout received the honor of creating the poster for the 41st year of the event.

Born in Tulsa, Stout has a unique way of expressing all that he loves about the city. Painting primarily oil on canvas, he seeks inspiration from Oklahoma's past, present and future. His colorful pieces harken back to Oklahoma's history, especially that of its Native American ancestors, and he is excited to be bringing his unique outlook on the world and artwork to this year's Oktoberfest. A world-wide exhibiting artist, Stout's permanent home is in Jenks. He joins the community at Oktoberfest as the official poster artist, and will feature his works at the Official Oktoberfest Poster Tent near the Arts and Crafts Markthaus.

The commemorative poster is sponsored by the German American Society of Tulsa (GAST). GAST has partnered with Linde Oktoberfest Tulsa for many years. The nonprofit organization hosts the annual Poster Party reveal event at its facility and also sells traditional German food at the festival as a fundraiser.

Linde Oktoberfest Tulsa is celebrating its 41st year as one of northeastern Oklahoma's favorite fall festivals. The festival consistently receives not only local recognition, but has been named one of the top Oktoberfests in the U.S. by USA Today and Conde Nast Traveler magazine. It is also recognized as one of the most authentic, largest and longest running Oktoberfest celebrations in America.

Oktoberfest has long been dedicated to fostering true German authenticity at the festival, with performers traveling from Germany, imported German steins, hats and collectibles for sale, costumed hosts and hostesses, and, of course, outstanding German foods and beers.

The festival's ties to Germany were drawn even closer when Linde, a world leader in gases and engineering with headquarters in Munich, Germany and over 200 employees in Tulsa, signed on as Oktoberfest's title sponsor in 2014. Christened "Linde Oktoberfest Tulsa," the partnership has allowed the festival to expand its size and entertainment offerings and raise its visibility even further both locally and across the nation.

From humble beginnings, Oktoberfest grew and was incorporated in 1982 with the purpose of Tulsa and its River Parks system. The non-profit Tulsa Oktoberfest, Inc.

has met both goals head on and with great success.

About Linde Oktoberfest Tulsa
Linde Oktoberfest Tulsa will be held October 17-20 at River West Festival Park in Tulsa, OK. The four-day festival features traditional German foods, drinks and entertainment, as well as friendly competitions and games, carnival rides, arts and crafts, children's activities, and competitions including a 5k race, beer barrel race, Dachshund Dash and more. Linde Oktoberfest Tulsa is the signature event of Oktoberfest, Inc., a 501(c)(3) corporation based in Tulsa, and is produced by River Parks Authority. The festival's mission is to promote German culture and benefit Tulsa's River Parks. More information is available at www.tulsaoktoberfest.org.

About Linde
Title Sponsor Linde is a leading industrial gases and engineering company, serving customers in more than 100 countries worldwide. The company employs approximately 80,000 people globally. Linde delivers innovative and sustainable solutions to its customers and creates long-term value for all stakeholders. The company makes our world more productive by providing products, technologies and services that help customers improve their economic and environmental performance in a connected world. For more information about the company, please visit www.linde.com.



OKTOBERFEST ARTIST: Josh Stout with his commemorative festival poster for 2019.



POSTER UNVEILING: Josh Stout discusses his poster at its unveiling during a press conference in September.

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Dress for Success Tulsa Hosts Gala

Dress for Success Tulsa has announced its 18th Annual Fashion Show and Fundraising Event, "An Evening of Empowerment Gala." The event will be held at the Mike Fretz Event Center located at 11545 East 43rd Street in Tulsa on Thursday, October 17. Doors open at 6 p.m. for a silent auction and cocktails. Dinner and fashion show begin at 7 p.m.

Beth Rengel, former news anchor, speaker and author of the book "Anchored in Illusion," will be the evening's emcee. Empowered women representing Tulsa-area companies and businesses, including Dress for Success Tulsa clients, will model the latest fashions and accessories from Dillard's in Woodland Hills Mall. Kim Freeman and her colleagues from Ihloff Salon will be providing the models with hair styling and makeup. The event will feature a silent auction with a variety of enticing packages.

"This year's 'Evening of Empowerment Gala' features an incredible line-up that you will not want to miss," said Katherine Skorvaga, executive director of Dress for Success Tulsa. "It also allows us the



DRESSING FOR SUCCESS: Looking forward to this year's gala are, from left, Jeanette Dunn, gala committee volunteer; Katrina Shaw, board vice president; Katherine Skorvaga, executive director; Rhonda Cunningham, board member; and Amanda Viles, gala committee member.

opportunity to showcase, celebrate, and most importantly, to further the many ways that Dress for Success Tulsa is positively impacting our community."

All proceeds from the gala will benefit Dress for Success Tulsa, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to empowering women to achieve economic independence by providing a network of support, professional attire and the development tools to help women thrive in

work and in life. Since opening in 2001, Dress for Success Tulsa has helped over 15,000 women make the transition into self-sufficiency.

Current corporate sponsors for the 2019 event include Simmons Homes, ARVEST, Indian Health Care Resource Center and United Tech.

For additional information, contact Katherine Skorvaga at 918-599-8892 or email director@tulsa-dressforsuccess.org.

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Castle of Muskogee Hosts Halloween Festival in October

The Halloween Festival at the Castle of Muskogee is alive again this year and runs Fridays and Saturdays through Oct. 26. The Castle of Muskogee is located at 3400 W. Fern Mountain Rd. in Muskogee.

The Ghost Hosts of Oklahoma's 60-acre park invite visitors to join them for the event where they will find a collection of culinary creations and more than 30 shops for crafts, décor, clothing and entertainment for the entire family.

More than a haunted house, the Castle provides an array of thrills between 11 different attractions. The goal of the Castle is to create one-of-a-kind memories of fun and adventure for everyone.

Over the years, with the addition of new haunts, the Castle attracts more and more guests and it has implemented a new ticketing system, created by QLESS. Guests now sign in and then go about their evening freely. When it is the guests turn, they will receive a text for instructions. In stepping up the tech game, the aim is to optimize guests entertainment and fun at the Halloween Festival.

Families with young children are encouraged to plan a trip to Halloween Land, a carnival themed area ideal for kids eight and under. Activities include kid-friendly games, face painting, and prizes with absolutely no scares.

The Castle's Halloween village also features live entertainment on the Chessboard Stage with the comedy of the Jester Rejects and Mark Logsdon: Escapologist. New this year is David Smith the Hypnotist and Topsy Turvy Acrobats.

Looking for a bone-chilling scare? Guests can venture into



THE CASTLE AT HALLOWEEN

Courtesy photo

the depths of the Castle grounds and test for fear factor on the Trail of Blood.

As a staple of the Castle's Halloween Festival, the Castle has redefined the possibilities and added new menacing creatures to this wooded walk. Guests may gather courage before entrance or count survivors afterwards at the trail's pub, The Rack.

The hideaway's host, Elvira, may not offer sanctuary from the trail's ghouls, but she'll be there to serve up drinks and entertaining tales before guests return to Castle Village.

Guests are encouraged to use the Castle's Skull Rating as a guide when choosing haunts. For example, the Haunted Hayride provides guests with eerie excite-

ment without the residual nightmares.

Within the Castle walls, guests can stroll through Casa Morte, a labyrinth that provides horror and menacing spirits around every corner.

Parking and admission to the Halloween Village is free. Tickets must be purchased for each attraction and prices range from \$3.00 to \$15.00 with combo specials available. Advance tickets may be purchased on-line. Go to okcastle.com to check out pricing, combo packages and details on attractions.

Unaccompanied minors (Under 18) must have a photo ID to enter. Minors (under 16) must be in attendance with a responsible adult.

Iron Gate's New Facility Serves 30% More Meals

Dozens of volunteers, supporters, board members and staff were on hand to officially open Iron Gate's new facility on west Archer with a ribbon cutting ceremony recently. The new facility began serving guests at the end of August and the daily meal has seen a 30 percent increase in demand in the first 30 days.

"All of our programs are up," said Iron Gate Executive Director Carrie Vesely Henderson. "We're providing more individuals and families with groceries, offering more variety in our pantry and distributing more kid's packs. But we've seen the most growth in our community meal."

Iron Gate on Archer has served 21,838 meals in its first 30 days, averaging about 728 plates per day.

"At our previous location, Iron Gate served 561 plates on average," Henderson continued. "Now, we're averaging 728 plates in two hours. That's nearly a 30 percent increase."

In addition to serving a meal every day, Iron Gate operates a grocery pantry. In the first 30 days, Iron Gate has helped 752 households with groceries, distributing approximately 3,000 bags of groceries. The organization has also handed out 999 kid's packs, which are quart-sized bags filled with child-friendly snacks.

(Continued on page 9)



SHARON CAMERON for GTR Media Group

YOUNG FUNDRAISER: Young Jane Eller, who has been raising money for Iron Gate for two years, with her aunt and Iron Gate Board Chair Mindy Morrison Taylor. Jane won a Spirit of Philanthropy Award for Youth in Philanthropy for her work with Iron Gate.

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THE GREATER TULSA REPORTER NEWSPAPERS

The Greater Tulsa Reporter Newspapers consist of the Union Boundary, the Jenks District Gazette, the Midtown Monitor, the Owasso Rambler, the Broken Arrow Express and the Bixby Breeze. The papers target news coverage to school district areas. The papers also have common pages of information of interest to all readers in the Greater Tulsa area.

The Union Boundary, the Jenks District Gazette, the Owasso Rambler, the Broken Arrow Express and the Bixby Breeze are distributed monthly to nearly every home in the Union, Jenks, Owasso, Broken Arrow and Bixby school districts. The Midtown Monitor is distributed to selected neighborhoods in the Tulsa school district. All six papers are distributed to news stands and other outlets in more than 700 locations throughout the Greater Tulsa area.

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Making Tulsa Transit the Method of Choice

In Tulsa, we want to foster a generation of residents who utilize the greatest network of public transportation this city has ever seen. By having world-class transportation options, all Tulsans will have improved access to health care, education and job opportunities. Doing this ensures a better quality of life for all residents and breaks down the silos that have historically divided this city and created barriers to opportunity.

Though our bus routes now run seven days a week, a lot of Tulsans still don't utilize them as their transportation method of choice. That's why we decided to make our transit system faster, more easily accessible, more sustainable and more inclu-

sive to all residents. Last year, Tulsa Transit conducted its first comprehensive study in 15 years to review and improve its local route network. In September, it launched more efficient routes while implementing a policy where riders will no longer be able to flag down a bus anywhere on the street. Improvements include 24 percent shorter travel times, grid like route structures, the creation of sub hubs where two more buses meet within 15 minutes, improved Saturday schedules and simplified night-

line and Sunday services. In July, Tulsa Transit was awarded a \$2.9 million Low or No-Emissions grant to purchase new electric buses and charging

stations, creating a more renewable future for our public transit system.

Tulsa will also be one of the first 12 cities to get Aero Bus Rapid Transit, a fast and modern bus route that will connect downtown to north Tulsa, midtown and south Tulsa through Peoria Avenue. Peoria was chosen after careful traffic studies were conducted to look at where the jobs and people were most concentrated in Tulsa. The study found one-fifth of Tulsa's jobs were within a 10-minute walk of Peoria and one-in-seven residents lived within a 10-minute walk of the corridor. The decision to put Bus Rapid transit on Peoria will connect more residents to life-changing opportunities and services.

Bus Rapid Transit won't be your typical bus route. It will be faster than traditional bus routes, with 15-minute peak waiting times and real-time bus information at every station. Accessibility will be prominent, with bus stops that have platforms level with boarding entrances. Stations will have covered platforms and buses will have on board Wi-Fi. Newly improved station lighting and pe-



Courtesy photo

TRANSPORTATION TEAM: From left, Tulsa Transit General Manager Ted Rieck, Tulsa Transit Board Member Emeka Nnake and Tulsa Mayor G.T. Bynum stand in front of a Tulsa Transit stop following the rollout of the new route system in September.

From Tulsa's Mayor



By G.T. BYNUM
Mayor of Tulsa

Tulsa County Family Justice Center is Under Budget

It has been 69 years since the Tulsa County Juvenile Court first occupied its current facility. In 1968 a center was built to house the courts and the programs for the juvenile justice system. For all those years, the mission has been to improve the lives and futures of the youth and families it serves through prevention, diversion, intervention and empowerment.

Even as the population of Tulsa County has grown and the demands upon the juvenile justice system have increased, the facilities remained virtually the same for almost five decades. Meeting this challenge began in 2014 when the Board of County Commissioners and Juvenile Court Presiding Judge Doris Fransein presented to the voters of Tulsa County a visionary plan for a new facility.

Thankfully, the voters of Tulsa County responded by overwhelmingly approving the funding of a new Family Justice Center (FJC).

The new facility, opening later this year, is coming in under budget at approximately \$42 million dollars. The new FJC will increase the total square footage from the current 38,000 to 151,000. This expansion will provide space for more courtrooms, jury rooms, restrooms, parking, training facilities, and state of the art security. Besides the increase in the size of the facility, it's important to recognize that over the years the types of services which juveniles and families need from the juvenile justice system has changed dramatically. Because of that, the new facility has been designed to provide for the latest

state of the art intervention services. The new facility will have additional space for the Department of Human Services, offices for mediation services, separate victim advocacy office areas, forensic observation rooms, more programming space for juveniles in detention, and extra classrooms and library space.

In addition to the court related services, the juvenile court is also responsible for a juvenile detention center when it is necessary to provide shelter services to juveniles. The new detention facility is a 24-hour-a-day secure custody operation for temporarily holding youth pending court hearings or other placements. Youth are required to attend school classes offered by Tulsa Public Schools while in detention. The detention center has a full time Registered Nurse and a part time physician to attend to the capacity of 55 youth.

There is a very important reason why the new facility is named the Family Justice Center and not the Juvenile Court Center. Inside the walls of the new FJC aren't just children who may have caused trouble but who may be the victims. Children, who through no fault of their own, are in a dysfunctional and sometimes dangerous family that can cause abuse



Courtesy photo

OPENING SOON: The Tulsa County Family Justice Center is scheduled to open later this year. It was designed by Selser Schaeffer Architects and built by Crossland Construction Co.

From Tulsa County



By COMMISSIONER
RON PETERS

from the juvenile justice system has changed dramatically. Because of that, the new facility has been designed to provide for the latest

and neglect. Children who need protection and families that need support, help, and the intervention of the professional staff at the FJC.

At the end of 2018 there were approximately 1,050 active deprived cases involving more than 1,800 children. Ninety-four percent were removed from the home due to abuse or neglect. The average age is six years old. At the new FJC there will be a Family Treatment Court (FTC) which is a partnership with the Dept. of Mental

Health, Centers for Therapeutic Interventions, and DHS. FTC is a non-adversarial, parallel specialty court that combines judiciary aspects with treatment, social services and education.

The opening of the new Family Justice Center is just another example of the citizens of Tulsa showing their support for the youngest and most vulnerable of our citizens when they need us. So, thank you Tulsa County voters for making this possible.

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GREATER TULSA PERSONALITIES

Spencer Tillman, Susan Savage, James D. Miller Named to First Edison Preparatory Hall of Fame

One of Tulsa's oldest and most prestigious high schools has launched a new program to recognize the many successful alumni. Edison Preparatory High School's foundation launched a "Hall of Fame" and hosted its First Annual Edison Prep Distinguished Alumni Awards in September in the Edison High School auditorium.

The Foundation honored three Edison High School graduates with its highest honor.

Spencer Tillman: Former OU and NFL football star and current football TV analyst

Susan Savage: Former Tulsa mayor, former Secretary of State and current CEO of Morton Comprehensive Health Services

James D. Miller: retired managing partner with Arthur Anderson, civic and community leader and Distinguished Graduate of the University of Tulsa.

"Edison High School has so many wonderful alumni who are successful both locally and statewide as well as nationally. We have wanted to do this for many years now and are happy we are able to officially begin recognizing our distinguished alumni," said Brian Pingleton, chair of the Edison Alumni Association.

The Edison Foundation provides educational opportunities for the Edison Preparatory community by supporting innovative and inspiring ideas and people. In the past, it has offered financial assistance and resources to dozens of students and teachers to allow them to participate in various learning

activities and events that otherwise would not have been possible.

This support has led to many successful outcomes for Edison Prep, from arts and sports to academia. Many individuals and groups have attended conferences, competitions, and received other valuable resources to excel in their chosen field.

With Edison Preparatory continuing to produce excellent student graduates, the Edison Foundation is excited to launch the Distinguished Alumni award program to begin recognizing those individuals with outstanding achievements of a local, statewide, national or international basis," Pingleton said.

"Edison Distinguished Alumni are a great credit to Tulsa and the Edison community. We believe that all alumni share in the celebration of their collective achievements," added Raymon Simpson, President of the Edison Foundation.

About Thomas Edison Preparatory Middle and High School

Since 1954, Edison Prep has been an important part of the Tulsa educational community. Designated as a college preparatory school, Edison is committed to preparing students for the greatest success in college, careers, and life through comprehensive a liberal arts program and pre- and Advanced Placement curricula. Edison covers 6th through 12th grade and offers all students a wide range of courses, activities, athletics, and performing and visual arts programs.



GTR Media Group photo

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATES: Representing the first Edison Preparatory School's first Hall of Fames Class are, from left, Brian Pingleton, chair of the Edison Preparatory School Hall of Fame ; Spencer Tillman, former OU and NFL football star and current football TV analyst; Susan Savage, former Tulsa mayor; former Secretary of State and current CEO of Morton Comprehensive Health Services; and James D. Miller, retired managing partner with Arthur Anderson, civic and community leader and Distinguished Graduate of TU.

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Signature Hotel: DoubleTree by Hilton Tulsa Downtown

VARIETY

Fall Entertainment Rivals Football in Oklahoma

Fall is my favorite time of year in Oklahoma. It's like spring, but without the tornadoes. The air is fresh, and you can open your windows for a brief few weeks. It's also the time when arts groups launch their new seasons and when entertainment venues hope they don't have to compete with a showdown between OU and an arch enemy.

While football is a draw for many fans, superb music and theatre abound not only on weekends, but most nights of the week. Celebrity Attractions keeps the hits rolling with Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Cats," presented in conjunction with the Tulsa Performing Arts Center Trust. This show features new sound design, direction and choreography. Andy Blankenbuehler, who crafted the inventive choreography for "Hamilton," and who was here recently as a guest of Tulsa Ballet, choreographed this "Cats" production. The first-ever live-action film adaptation of "Cats" will open in theaters in December 2019. Before that, catch this stage version at the Tulsa PAC, Oct. 9-13.

Theatre Tulsa presents the comedy/musical "The Drowsy Chaperone," Oct. 11-20. Broadly, this is a parody of 1920s musicals, complete with mistaken identities, dream sequences, comic gangsters, an English butler, a Follies number and more. The show debuted in 2006 and won five Tony Awards and seven Drama Desk Awards.

Chamber Music Tulsa continues its "66 Years on Route 66" season with the Lysander Piano Trio. The "Washington Post" recently applauded the trio for its "uncommon degree of heart-on-the-sleeve emotional frankness." Hear the Lysander perform Debussy, Liszt and more at ahha Tulsa on Oct. 11. The performance is part of CMT's Gallery series. Wine and hors d'oeuvres are included in the ticket price. You also can enjoy Lysander at the PAC on the afternoon of Oct. 13 playing music by Beethoven, Higdon, Ciupinski and Brahms.

American Theatre Company presents the British sex farce

"What the Butler Saw," Oct. 18-26 at the Tulsa PAC. The play was written by Joe Orton and debuted

in 1969. Another piece that has seduction at its core is the opera "Carmen," Georges Bizet's masterwork. The title character is a delectable, passionate and independent woman whose allure causes a Spanish soldier to leave his post and childhood sweetheart. Nothing good is going to come out of this, of course, and the soldier, Don Jose, can't compete with the next guy Carmen desires, the handsome

bullfighter Escamillo. Filled with opera's most recognized and beloved arias, sung in French with supertitles, "Carmen" plays at the Tulsa PAC Oct. 25 and Oct. 27.

A fun Halloween outing would be the musical "Little Shop of Horrors," Oct. 25 - Nov. 3 at the PAC. The crack writing team of Alan Menken and Howard Ashman created the music for this tale of a nerdy florist shop worker, Seymour, his colleague and would-be girlfriend, Audrey, and a blood thirsty plant with an insatiable appetite. This dark comedy is presented by Tulsa Project Theatre.

Two rock bands, Godsmack and Halestorm, end their month-long tour at the BOK Center on Oct. 18. Both are supporting albums they released last year. Then, welcome back Oklahoma's own Carrie Underwood. The winner of seven Grammy awards, Underwood is arguably the most successful America Idol ever. Her "Cry Pretty" tour stops in Tulsa Oct. 24. Maddie & Tae and Runaway June open her show. The band Tool performs at the BOK Center Oct. 29 with special guest Killing Joke.

The Brady Theatre presents a strong lineup with the band tribute show "Killer Queen," Oct. 19, the comic rock duo Tenacious D, Oct. 21, Goo Goo Dolls, Oct. 29, Trisha Yearwood on Nov. 2, and Kris Kristofferson and the Strangers, Nov. 5.

There's more Queen to be had with "We Will Rock You, The Musical Tour," at River Spirit's Paradise Cove Theater. This is the

Show Buzz



By NANCY HERMANN



Courtesy photo

CARRIE UNDERWOOD: Oklahoma's favorite American Idol stops at the BOK Center with her "Cry Pretty" tour, Oct. 24.



Photo by Scott Suchman

CARMEN: Arkansas native Sarah Mesko performs the title role in Tulsa Opera's "Carmen, Oct. 25 and 27 at the Tulsa PAC.

piece written by Queen and Ben Elton that follows two characters, Galileo and Scaramouche (named in the song "Bohemian Rhapsody") on a quest to resurrect rock music in a post-apocalyptic world. There is one show only, Oct. 18.

Comic Dane Cook performs standup on Oct. 24 at the River Spirit with Rascal Flatts waiting in the wings on Nov. 7, followed by the ZZ Top Anniversary Tour, Nov. 8.

If comedy is your bag, check out the Hard Rock Casino's Midnight Joker Comedy Club. The Hard Rock will showcase five comics ahead of their featured comedian. Pauly Shore headlines Oct. 11-12. The Casino's Country Gold concert series has been a big hit. Next up is Mark Chesnutt and Lorrie Morgan, Nov. 3.

Look for Air Supply at the Hard



Photo by Matthew Murphy

CATS: Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical returns to the Tulsa PAC, Oct. 9-13, with a thrilling new production.



Photo by Jonathan Ratzliff

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS: Tulsa Project Theatre celebrates the Halloween season with Alan Menken's "Little Shop of Horrors," featuring, from left, Ben Rodriguez, Kayleen Spear and Chad Oliverson



Photo by Jiyang Chen

LYSANDER PIANO TRIO: Itamar Zorman, Liza Stepanova and Michael Katz, the Lysander Piano Trio, are hosted by Chamber Music Tulsa, Oct. 11 and 13.

Rock on Oct. 11. Graham Russell and Russell Hitchcock, who first met in 1975, bring their "Lost in Love Experience" tour to the Hard Rock, filled with hits such as their "All Out of Love" and "Every Woman in the World."

Singer Charlie Daniels and his band perform at The Joint on Oct. 17. Daniels' signature song is "The Devil Went Down to Georgia," and he's known for his southern-rock anthems, and Christian and children's albums.

"Experience Hendrix" will blow out The Joint, Oct. 19, followed by the Roy Orbison and Buddy Holly Dream Tour, Oct. 20, and country music artist Jamey Johnson, Oct. 31.

Try out a relatively new venue, the Skyline Event Center at the Osage Casino. It hosts Sawyer Brown, Oct. 12.

Enjoy the weather, football, and the colorful and varied mosaic of live entertainment headed for Green Country this fall.

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Tulsa Institution Hosts Chili Cook-Off Fundrasier

Author's note: Much of the information for this article was obtained from the Country Music Hall of Fame (countrymusichalloffame.org)

"I left my heart in Tulsa on the corner of Easton and Main On the Cain's Ballroom floor, soakin' up a bourbon stain" - Turnpike Troubadors, Easton & Main

A reader of this column recently took issue with a claim I made in the September installment of Searching for the Sound in which I called the Church Studio ground zero for the Tulsa Sound.

"I respectfully disagree," is how I'll paraphrase the reader's objection. "How can Cain's Ballroom not be ground zero for the Tulsa Sound?"

This led to a spirited discussion about Western Swing versus Tulsa Sound and how both institutions, Cain's and the Church, were instrumental in adding something truly unique to the American musical landscape and in the end, I was just happy that someone reads my column.

The discussion also prompted me to revisit Tulsa's timeless honky-tonk on Easton & Main, both for

its historical significance, and simply for the sake of nostalgia.

If you're a music fan who has lived in Tulsa for more than a year or two, you have no doubt spent some time on the famous spring-loaded maple wood dance floor under the neon star and disco ball.

The 95-year-old ballroom has welcomed myriad genres since Madison W. "Daddy" Cain purchased Tate Brady's garage in 1930 and converted it to "Cain's Dance Academy," but it was a brand new genre that put Cain's on the map in the 1930s.

During that decade, Bob Wills and his Texas Playboys were packing dance floors throughout Texas and Oklahoma with a style of country music that combined the improvisation of Jazz with string instruments, led by Wills' fiddle. The new genre was called Western Swing, and in 1934, Bob Wills was establishing himself as the King of Western Swing as Tulsa's new, 50,000-watt KVOO radio station began broadcasting Wills' and the Playboys' daily shows from the stage of Cain's Ballroom.

The highly popular 12:30 p.m. radio show ran daily until 1942,



HISTORIC VENUE: Horton Records' 6th Annual Rock N' Folk N' Chili Cookoff takes place Nov. 9 at 5:30 p.m. at the legendary Home of Bob Wills.

when military service during World War II temporarily broke up the Playboys.

The seven-year run at Cain's was a golden era for Wills and Western Swing, and established Cain's Ballroom as the "Home of Bob Wills."

Wills, whose catalog includes upward of 470 songs including the T-town crowd pleaser, "Take Me Back to Tulsa," was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 1978, and into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in 1999. Cain's Ballroom was added to the National Registry of Historic Places in 2003.

Western Swing is not the Tulsa Sound, but the two genres are cut from the same cloth. Both emerged from the primordial soup of American music, combining elements of blues, jazz, country and gospel to create something original.

Western Swing is still alive, and occasionally fills the old dance hall with Bob Wills inspired tunes from bands like Asleep at the

Wheel and Hot Club of Cowtown. The Tulsa Sound is also alive and well, and will be on display at Cain's Ballroom on Nov. 9.

Rock N' Folk N' Chili Cook-Off

This is a great event every year, and this might be the best year yet. Horton Records' 6th annual fundraiser features a solid lineup that includes Ken Pomeroy, Dan Martin, Erik Oftedahl, the Golden Ones, Freak Juice and Pilgrim, but it's the Tribute to Tulsa Music set that has me fired up.

The Tribute to Tulsa Music has become a recurring and popular act at the chili cook-off. This year, an all-star ensemble featuring Chris Combs, Paul Benjamin, Jesse Ayock, John Fullbright and more join forces to pay tribute to our city's rich musical history.

Tickets are \$15 in advance, or \$20 a the door. Admission includes all-you-can-eat chili from some of Tulsa's finest restaurants and musi-

cians (including vegetarian and gluten-free options). Funds raised will help with operating costs for Horton Records, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that provides support to local musicians. Horton Records is a volunteer-based organization and has no paid staff positions.

This is a family-friendly event, with children under 12 admitted free of charge. As every year, Horton Records will be collecting donations of non-perishable food, winter coats and children's books at the door.

The show starts at 5:30 p.m., so get the family together, grab a coat and/or a few cans of food, come to the historic landmark on North Main Street and fill that legendary dance floor like generations of Tulsans before us have.

As long as that Tulsa institution sits at Easton and Main Streets, it will be at the top of my list of places to frequent as I continue my quest to keep searching, keep listening.

Searching for The Sound



By BRYAN CANTRELL

ern Swing, and in 1934, Bob Wills was establishing himself as the King of Western Swing as Tulsa's new, 50,000-watt KVOO radio station began broadcasting Wills' and the Playboys' daily shows from the stage of Cain's Ballroom.



LEON IN SOUND: The Church Studio Foundation of Tulsa hosted a book signing for "Leon Russell in His Own Words" by authors Steve Todoroff and John Wooley at the Harweldon Mansion Sept. 17. At the event was the beautiful piano music of Spencer Sutton, who played Russell's songs. Enjoying the music are Leon fans Will and Karen Streetman.

LEON IN PRINT: Author John Wooley, who co-authored the book "Leon Russell in His Own Words," as he autographs a copy for Leon Russell fans Carolyn and John R. Woodard III at the restored Harweldon Mansion, a National Landmark.



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HEALTH & WELLNESS

Jill Donovan to be Honored by National MS Society

Courtesy Brandi Davidson Moore

On Friday, Nov. 8, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society will host the 18th annual Uncorking the Cure for MS at the Hyatt Regency Downtown Tulsa Hotel. This annual dinner and auction raises funds to fuel progress in MS research and supports much needed programs and services that help each person living with MS live their best life.

Tulsa's Jill Donovan, founder and CEO of Rustic Cuff and author of the Kindness Effect, will be presented with the 2019 MS Hope Award. Event Chairs are Cheryl and Craig Beers. Honorary Chairs are Patricia and Newton Box, who are also presenters of the event with WPX Energy.

The MS Hope Award is the highest award presented by the Society for community and humanitarian efforts. It is given to those who strive to improve the quality of life

today and create a better world tomorrow for people living with MS. The National Multiple Sclerosis Society is honored to recognize Jill for her many years of outstanding public and community service. The MS Hope Award is given to those who have had a distinguished career, who are involved and committed to community affairs, who are leaders among their peers and whose personal lives are exemplary. Honorees are selected because of their leadership and community service and for their continued support of programs and improving the quality of life for people living with MS.

Uncorking the Cure for MS attendees will enjoy a delicious dinner along with a fabulous live auction and live entertainment by the MidLife Crisis Band. Cocktail attire is requested. Event information and ticket purchase are available at www.uncorkingthecureforMSok.org or by con-

tacting Brent Patterson at brent.patterson@nmss.org or (405) 463-4861.

Multiple Sclerosis, an unpredictable, often disabling disease of the central nervous system, interrupts the flow of information within the brain, and between the brain and body. Symptoms range from numbness and tingling to blindness and paralysis. The progress, severity and specific symptoms of MS in any one person cannot yet be predicted, but advances in research and treatment are moving us closer to a world free of MS. Most people with MS are diagnosed between the ages of 20 and 50, with at least two to three times more women than men being diagnosed with the disease. MS affects more than 2.3 million people worldwide.

The Society mobilizes people and resources so that everyone affected by MS can live their best lives as we stop MS in its tracks, restore what has been lost and end MS forever. Last year alone, through the comprehensive na-



Courtesy photo

HONORARY CHAIRS WITH THE HONORED: Looking forward to this year's National MS Society event are, from left, Newton Box, Jill Donovan and Patricia Box. Patricia and Newton Box are Honorary Chairs and co-presenters of the event.

tionwide network of services, the Society devoted more than \$100 million to connect approximately one million people affected by MS to the connections, information and resources they need. The MS Society is united in collective power to do something about MS

now and end this disease forever.

Early and ongoing treatment with an FDA-approved therapy can make a difference for people with MS. Learn about options by talking to your health care professional and contacting the National MS Society today.

Aspen Health and Rehab Holds Ribbon Cutting for Facility in B.A.

Aspen Health and Rehab, a nursing home in Broken Arrow, recently held a ribbon cutting for its new facility located at 1251 W. Houston St. According to Director Debbie Inks, the facility offers a unique alternative to Rehab. She says, "We have listened to what the community wants and that is what we are offering. It is a very upscale rehab experience with privacy and healing in mind."

Inks says that resident privacy was a major factor in the design and layout of the facility. Aspen Health and Rehab offers 110 private rooms with high-end furnishings and modern amenities, including high ceilings, flat-screen TV's, private bathrooms, free Wi-Fi and multiple common areas for family visits and parties.

The rehab gym is large and open with state-of-the-art equipment to focus on the resident's rehabilitation to develop a program of therapy, including physical, occupational and speech therapy – to focus on assisting residents to their prior level of function.

The Aspen Health and Rehab ribbon cutting was held Sept. 24 with the Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce and leaders from the community. Tours of the new facility followed.



GTR Media Group photo

OPENING DAY: Holding the scissors during the ribbon cutting are Director Debbie Inks and developer Michael Morton. They were joined by members of the Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce in addition to members of the Aspen Health and Rehab staff.



GTR Media Group photo

IMPRESSIVE FACILITY: The recently constructed Aspen Health and Rehab facility is a state-of-the-art health and rehab project.



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Tulsa Pop Culture Expo Coming Nov. 2-3

This year's Tulsa Pop Culture Expo will be loaded with famous celebrities and will be held on Nov. 2 and 3 at the vacated Sears location at Woodland Hills Mall. The hours of operation will be Saturday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. As part of its ongoing mission, on Friday, Nov. 1, celebrity guests who are scheduled to appear at Tulsa Pop Culture Expo will make appearances at local schools, The Children's Hospital and other organization within the community.

Tulsa Pop Kids and OKPop are excited to announce Lindsay Wagner will be among the celebrities at Tulsa Pop Culture Expo (TPCE) 2019. Wagner is best known for her role as The Bionic Woman. In addition to her talent as an actor, she has long been acknowledged as one of the top leading spokespersons in the United States, a role she took very seriously with regard to the impact it would have on the public, which in turn reinforced her position as a respected voice in the community. She was given a Genii Award as "Performer of the Year" in 1985. Wagner has co-authored a bestselling vegetarian cookbook, "The High Road to Health" (1990) and "Lindsay Wagner's New Beauty: The Acupressure Facelift" (1986). She has recently released a meditation CD, "Open to Oneness."

Off-screen, Wagner is passionate about the study and sharing of holistic healing modalities, integrating mind, body and spirit. For 25 years, she has been the Honorary Chair of ICAN (Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect). She has also been heavily involved in human rights, domestic violence, animal welfare and the environment. From 2003-2006, in collaboration with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department,

Wagner co-facilitated a counseling group for convicted batterers and their families. Her work utilized a range of psychological and spiritual techniques.

For the public, Wagner facilitates experiential "Quiet the Mind and Open the Heart" workshops and retreats. These programs are designed to help overcome our own personal challenges, while accessing the peace and joy that is naturally within us. Lindsay offers these programs to the public as well as special interest groups as a way of sharing, that which has greatly impacted her life.

Tulsa Pop Culture Expo is an outreach event/comic con for Tulsa Pop Kids, a nonprofit whose primary focus is to advance literacy, inspiration, and aspiration to the children of the community through pop culture and entertainment. This platform is an amazing way to capture a child's focus and

touch those who otherwise would not be exposed to a positive literacy environment. Tickets are available now at www.tulsapopcultureexpo.com.

Wagner will be joining additional guests Asher Angel, best known for his roles as Billy Batson in Shazam and Jonah Beck on the Disney Channel, Andi Mack, Summer Glau best known for her role in Firefly, Kevin Suss-

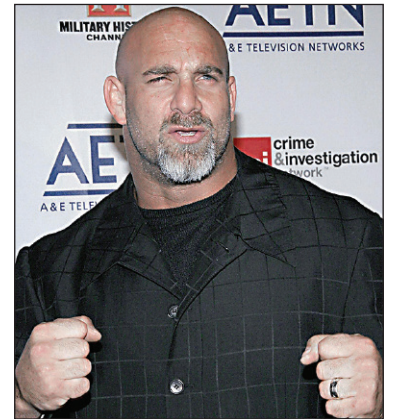
man of Big Bang Theory, Bill Goldberg, WWE wrestler, actor, and Tulsa native, Dean Cain best known for Superman in Lois and Clark, Jennifer Marshall of Stranger Things, YODA and his creator, Nick Maley, along with Cesar Garcia from Fast & Furious and Breaking Bad.

Tulsa Pop Kids also announced the newest prop build will be ready for TPCE, a working batmobile. Organizers are excited to add this to the growing inventory of excellent props such as Lego Men (12 different five-foot Lego Men built to represent various characters and historic Oklahoman pop culture), Hulkbuster, Toothless (lifesize and puppet), Sponge Bob Squarepants, Stay Puff Marshmallow Man, Tulsa Tiny Tardis, Spiderman and Flash.

Microsoft is excited to host a Minecraft community event where kids of all ages can experience Minecraft together with friends and family on Xbox and PC; and also



LINDSAY WAGNER



BILL GOLDBERG

participate in Hour of Code learning with Minecraft!

Tulsa Pop Kids Inc. was created to advance literacy and education through pop culture and entertainment. Tulsa Pop Kids Inc. uses a variety of resources to further the mission from donations of comic books to volunteers who dress up in cosplay to visit children in hospitals and elementary schools as well as local events that partner with other organizations in the community.

Iron Gate to Open New Facility

(Continued from page 3)

Iron Gate is Tulsa's largest stand-alone soup kitchen and grocery pantry. The organization broke ground on its new 17,000 square foot facility in August of 2018, after a three-year search to secure a new home. The organization signed a lease with Tulsa County for the property, which was a vacant lot. The \$6 million project doubled the organization's capacity. Iron Gate was previously located in the basement of Trinity Episcopal Church. The new dining room expanded the number of seats from 88 to 217, with an additional 48 seats on the covered patio. The new building also dramatically increased the organization's cool and dry storage. Iron Gate on Archer also features a dedicated grocery pantry. Previously, Iron Gate's dining room doubled as a grocery pantry three times a week.

Iron Gate contracted with GH2 architects, Wallace Engineering, and Flintco for the design and construction of the new building.

About Iron Gate:

Iron Gate is Tulsa's largest stand-alone soup kitchen and grocery pantry. It serves a hot community meal every day from 8:30 am until 10:30 am (weekends and holidays included). Iron Gate also offers a grocery pantry three times a week and provides kid's packs, which are quart-sized bags filled with nutritious snacks, to every child who visits the organization. In 2018, it served 204,922 meals, provided emergency groceries to 11,102 Tulsa households, and distributed 11,102 kid's packs. Iron Gate was founded in 1978 and became an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit in 1984.

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EDUCATION

TCC 2019 Vision Dinner Reaches Historic Goal

The 2019 Vision in Education Leadership Award Dinner hit a historic goal, raising \$405,325 for the Tulsa Community College Foundation at its annual event on Thursday, Sept. 19. Visionary sponsors, the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation, Cox Communications, ONEOK, TCCU Federal Credit Union and an anonymous donor, helped to make this the single largest Vision Dinner in its 19-year history.

Tulsa County Commissioner Karen Keith was presented with the 2019 Vision in Education Leadership Award for her work as a public servant to move our community forward and commitment to improve the lives of Oklahomans. Roger Ramseyer served as the 2019 Foundation Vision Dinner chair. John and Lesa Smaligo served as the honorary co-chairs.

"Karen Keith is able to build consensus to create real and meaningful change," said TCC President and CEO Leigh B. Goodson. "She is passionate and sincere whether advocating for levee funding, championing the creation of a new Family Center for Juvenile Justice which opens next month, or serving on the Future of Higher Education state-

wide task force."

As a Tulsa County Commissioner, she has served the people of District 2 since November 2008. She served on the board and was the 100th president of the Rotary Club of Tulsa, where she is a Paul Harris Fellow. Keith also serves on the Oklahoma Historical Society board of directors. She is a member of Leadership Oklahoma Class XX, the Oklahoma Academy, and the chambers of commerce in Tulsa, Jenks, Sand Springs and Southwest Tulsa.

Funds raised from the annual Vision Dinner support students by providing funds for scholarships, leadership development and mentoring opportunities, technology and equipment necessary to prepare today's work force.

"The TCC Foundation was founded in 1970, the same time as the College, and has a long tradition of providing financial resources to support the College's mission of building success through education," said Kari Shults, interim vice president of advancement and TCC Foundation president. "We are able to do this work because of the strong support we receive from the community and individual donors who help us create a better community one per-

son and degree at a time."

The 2019 TCC Vision in Education Leadership Award Dinner committee members are Scott Asbjornson, Jeff Brooks, Kevin Gross, Jennifer Jezek, Jackie Price Johannsen, and Sean Kouplén.

Past honorees include Alison Anthony; Dr. Keith Ballard; David Boren; Montie Box; Congressman Tom Cole; Early Childhood Education Advocates: Pete Churchwell, Bill Doenges, Leonard Eaton, Martin Fate, Ted Fisher, George Kaiser, Robert LaFortune, Nancy McDonald, Ron Peters; John Gaberino, Jr.; Dr. Jim and Ann Halligan; Susan Harris; former Governor Brad Henry; Jake Henry Jr.; Michael Johnson; Ron King; Ken Lackey; Dr. Paula Marshall; David Page; Lynn and Stacy Schusterman; Don Walker; and John-Kelly Warren.



Courtesy TCC

LEADERSHIP AWARD: TCC President and CEO Leigh B. Goodson presents Karen Keith with the 2019 Vision in Education Leadership Award. Pictured in the photo are, from left, Roger Ramseyer, 2019 Foundation Vision Dinner chair; Phil Lakin, Jr., TCC Foundation chair; Leigh B. Goodson, TCC president; Karen Keith, 2019 Vision honoree; Lesa and John Smaligo, 2019 Vision Dinner honorary co-chairs; and Kari Shults, interim vice president of advancement and TCC Foundation president.



GTR Media Group photo

NORDAM PROGRAM AT TULSA TECH: Tulsa Tech unveiled a new NORDAM Aerospace structures program at its Riverside campus in September. Created in partnership with the Tulsa-based aerospace manufacturing and repair company, the program will train and later match qualified Tulsa Tech graduates for advanced placement in NORDAM careers. With Tulsa Tech students during the announcement are, from left, NORDAM Vice President, Culture, Comm., & Corp. Responsibility Bailey J. Siegfried; Tulsa Mayor G.T. Bynum; Tulsa Tech Superintendent and CEO Dr. Steve Tiger; and Tulsa Tech Aerospace-Structures Instructor Brent Duval.

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Tulsa Tech Students Showcase Online Safety

Cyber Security Spook House Reveals Potential Internet Danger

It is one of the scariest headlines you can see in the news, "Data Breach", and over the past few years, it's become a constant fear for Americans. An article in Forbes earlier this summer showed 2019 was the worst year on record, with more than four billion records stolen, and this is just the large breaches. Not included in that number are the little ways you can be victimized without even realizing it.

October is Cyber Security Awareness Month and for nearly a decade, our Cyber Security/Forensics students have hosted a scary Cyber Security Spook House at the Riverside Campus to showcase the dangers that lurk on the internet.

"In the past we have looked at your car key fobs," Don Pipkin, Instructor of Cyber Security/Forensics said. "We were able to show with certain software you can capture the signal and then use a hacking system to unlock your car. No doubt this is more frightening than any other spook house."

Each year, students develop the topics and displays that interest them, and present how patrons of

the Spook House can keep themselves safe online. This year's display focuses on everything from trusting the cloud to data loss prevention.

"This year we will have eight different booths open to the public," Pipkin said. "The Spook House is open the last week of the month from 8 to 10:30 am, noon to 2:30 pm, as well as 5 - 7 pm on Thursday inside Building A. We are excited to have people stop by and see what our students have put together."

For Aaron Knight and Nathan Frazer, the opportunity to help educate people while having fun was a unique challenge. They took part in last year's Spook House. Knight showed people how to stay safe on their mobile devices, while Frazer focused on wireless security, especially the free Wi-Fi available at coffee shops and other establishments.

"Everywhere we go there are wireless access points," said Frazer, a second-year Cyber Security/Forensics student. "I learned on open networks it is really easy to intercept traffic, and anyone with malicious intent can

News From Tulsa Tech



By DR. STEVE TIGER
Superintendent



Photo by Vanessa Aziere/ Tulsa Tech

FORENSICS TEAM: Cyber Security/Forensics Instructors Don Pipkin and Shalon Simmons with second-year Cyber Security/Forensics students Kailey Chinsethagid, Nathan Frazer and Aaron Knight ahead of Tulsa Techs Cyber Security Spook House.

take advantage of innocent bystanders."

The cyber security industry is growing rapidly across the United States. According to a recent survey by the U.S. Department of Labor, the number of jobs is expected to grow by 20 percent over the next 10 years in Oklahoma, and more than 30 percent nationwide. With such a bright future, many people are turning to computer-based careers. The Spook House is also about helping students share ideas with people who may not understand internet jargon.

"Students have to do presentations to people and be able to explain and solve a complex problem," Pipkin said. "This teaches them to shorten topics to things that they can explain in five minutes."

Helping students get the skills they need to enter the workforce is at the heart of Tulsa Tech's vision for the last 54 years. Offering five industry-recognized certificates upon graduation, the Cyber Security/Forensics program is open to both high school and adult students.

"My one piece of advice to anyone thinking about getting into the I.T. industry would be don't get intimidated," Frazier said. "Feed your curiosity, dive into things and don't get overwhelmed. Those are the keys to dealing with technology."

If you're currently looking for exciting classes to expand your computer knowledge, or want to learn a new skill, Tulsa Tech invites you to visit today. For more

information, call 918-828-5000 or visit us online at tulsatech.edu.

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OSU DEGREES IN TULSA

Students transfer to Oklahoma State University-Tulsa for many reasons. Some want the opportunities and increased earning power that come from earning an OSU degree. Others want to make connections and create a better quality of life for themselves and their community. OSU-Tulsa offers:

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OSU TULSA

Museum B.A. to Hold Annual Fundraiser

The Museum Broken Arrow will host its annual fundraiser, "A Night For The Museum, The Grand Event" on Friday, Nov. 1 from 6 to 11 p.m. at Stoney Creek Hotel and Conference Center, 200 W. Albany St. in Broken Arrow. Last year over 300 guests attended the sold out event.

The special evening will feature samplings of signature dishes from favorite restaurants around town, as well as a cash bar, live music by Dave Alexander & The

Prom Dates, dancing, and opportunities to participate in fundraising raffles and auctions.

"The Museum Broken Arrow would like you to be part of our 10th anniversary," said Julie Brown, executive director of the Museum Broken Arrow. "Our board of directors, volunteers,



supporters, and museum staff have spent the last decade sharing, preserving and encouraging a love for Broken Arrow's rich history, not only with Broken Arrow citizens, but its visitors as well."

Brown continued, "We are pleased to announce that Dr. Clarence G. Oliver, Jr. will be honored as

this year's Broken Arrow Historical Impact Award winner at our grand event. We would love to have everyone celebrate the museum and Dr. Oliver with us."

This year, space is limited to 450 attendees. Individuals interested in joining us can check out the event website at one.bidpal.net/night-for-the-museum. This website allows visitors the option to pay for sponsorship, upload company logos, and to fill out table roster and bid on auction items all in one place.

The Museum Broken Arrow/Broken Arrow Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization located in historic downtown Broken Arrow. In addition to showcasing local history, the Museum also offers events, educational opportunities and facility rental. The Museum is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call 918-258-2616 or visit BrokenArrowMuseum.org

PSO Employee-Volunteers Take Part in the Company's First Tulsa-Area Fresh Paint Days

Recently, more than a dozen PSO employee-volunteers took part in the first of the company's Tulsa area Fresh Paint Days projects. This one was at the Museum Broken Arrow and involved painting the south exterior wall of the building in preparation for an outdoor wall mural. It also involved painting the second floor balcony railing and supports on the front (east) side of the building. The museum is located at 400 S. Main.



NICE ARTWORK: LaChelle Tottress, a customer operations associate in PSO's Tulsa Call Center, was one of more than a dozen employees who volunteered to spend the day working on the B.A. Museum Fresh Paint Days project.



PAINTING THE RAILING: This four-person team of PSO volunteers was tasked with painting the railing on the second-floor balcony of the museum.



PREPPING FOR THE MURAL: This wide shot shows the south exterior wall of the museum where PSO employee-volunteers are prepping the wall for a mural that will be painted later.



CARING TOGETHER: Taking a day away from their engineering jobs to volunteer for the Museum Broken Arrow Fresh Paint Day project were Kenneth Cooper (with blue masking tape) and Franklin Tackett, Jr.

Reader's Digest Recognizes Broken Arrow Neighborhood

Reader's Digest has made official what a number of Broken Arrows have known for quite some time – the city's Country Aire Estates is the nicest place in Oklahoma to live.

Every year, the magazine surveys the country looking for the Nicest Place to Live in each state based

on a number of quality-of-life factors. As the best in Oklahoma, Country Aire Estates is automatically one of 50 finalists vying for recognition as America's Best Place to Live.

In determining this year's finalists, Reader's Digest editors and an outside panel of judges collected more than 1,000 stories of places across America where kindness and friendliness take center stage.

A major contributor, local residents say, is the addition's homeowners association and the annual events it hosts, including community garage sales and July 4th festivities.

This year's national winner will be the subject of a cover story in the magazine's November issue. Nine other neighborhoods will be recognized at the same time.

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BROKEN ARROW SPORTS

Senior Four-Star Offensive Lineman Prospect Looks Forward to Playing for Sooners Next Year

B.A.'s Andrew Raym is Ready to Make an Impact in Norman

By **MIKE MOGUIN**
GTR Sports Writer

Football fans by now are familiar with Broken Arrow's Andrew Raym, an offensive lineman who has been heavily recruited since his freshman year. They also know that the senior four-star recruit has made a verbal commitment to the University of Oklahoma.

The 6'5", 305-pound Raym committed to OU once before, but backed off to look at other options, including offers from Michigan and Georgia.

"Obviously, everything they have from their schooling to the football is prestigious," Raym said of OU. "They're a Top 4, Top 5 team every year and it was my dream to play there. I took my other officials (visits) to just double check everything, making sure I wasn't missing out on something. But, nothing really trumped OU in my mind."

With dozens of college football programs reaching out for high school athletes to play football and other sports, one has to wonder if there is a downfall despite how much of a privilege it can be. Not so for Raym.

"I think I was pretty fortunate and got to stay away from it through most of my career," he said. "I never really got into it that

much, so there was no disadvantages for me. But, yeah, it sure was a long road, but definitely a fun one though."

Watching the Sooners play on Saturdays now brings a whole new perspective for Raym.

"It's honestly just super-exciting. I'm just excited to get down there in January (Raym graduates from BAHS in December) and make my impact in the program," the B.A. right tackle said.

While it appears obvious to those watching him on the field, Raym recognizes he has gotten better since last year.

"I feel like I got way more balance and I got quicker feet this year. Overall, I think I just improved everywhere," he said.

After going 13-0 and winning the Class 6A state championship in 2018, Broken Arrow started off 2019 winning its first two games. It was dominating in a 42-13 romp over Mansfield (Texas) in week one. A 14-0 shutout of rival Union followed the next week at Tuttle Stadium, where the Tigers had not won in over three decades.

"It was definitely big," Raym said. "Especially, in knowing that it was the first time in quite awhile for our program."

It also marked two straight years of victories for Broken Arrow against the Redskins.

However, a setback occurred on Sept. 13 when the Tigers fell 42-19 to Owasso in their home opener.

Broken Arrow had the ball first in that game. Led by key blocks from Raym, the Tigers drove and scored first for a 7-0 lead. But their next two drives ended with fumbles lost and the Rams took over momentum.

"Those really hurt us. It was the first fumble, we were driving to go up 14-0, and then the second fumble gave them the ball at the two-yard line. It really could have been 21-0, but we find ourselves down and when (defensive back) Myles (Slusher, an Oregon commit) goes out (to injury) it opens up our secondary. I feel like once we get Myles back and once we're focused. We'll be fine."

Although the Tigers lost starters from last year's state title team to graduation, Raym is confident the new talent is stepping up.

"People like Noah (Cortes, 2018 running back) are hard to replace for sure, but I think we got just as much talent if not more talent this year," Raym said. "We just have to figure out how to piece it all together and make it work perfectly as last year's team did. Last year's team just clicked and everything just worked perfectly. We just have to get that balance this year and we'll be fine."



Photo by David Stacy

TOP RECRUIT: Andrew Raym, the top recruit in the state, is headed to the University of Oklahoma.

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SPORTS

Quarterback Asher Link Leads Metro Christian

By **MIKE MOGUIN**
GTR Sports Writer

Metro Christian quarterback Asher Link is considered one of the top players in the area at his position. He is a pass-first guy, but he has proven he can run the ball as well and the numbers back it up. Last season, he threw for 33 touchdowns and 3,477 yards on 236-of-364 attempts and ran for 12 TDs and 605 yards on 107 carries. In the season opener back on Aug. 30, Link passed for 346 yards and

four TDs in a 35-9 win over Broken Bow at home.

But, the senior standout with a 6-1, 197-pound frame who has been offered by Air Force, gives credit to those who do their part as well.

"I think that the maturity from the linemen that I've had and the experience I have up front, definitely helps me passing, but I also think that my receivers do a really great job of going up and making plays for me and making me look good," Link said. "I owe a lot to

my line up front. They do a really great job of executing the game plan that we've been practicing all week and going in on Friday night focused and ready to go."

Link has been in the MCA school system since seventh grade. His experience as a Patriot has been fun, he said.

"We're a very competitive team every season and football has always been my favorite sport," he said. "When I transferred over, I wanted to come here and enjoy it, have a great time playing high school football. I really wanted to come here and participate in the tradition that they have here. Obviously, they have really high expectations, especially on the quarterback. But, I feel like as a team, we've done that pretty well the past few years. I'm looking forward to the rest of this year and hopefully making it to the state championship game."

What Link likes about playing behind center is that it is a position where you are leading your team.

"Obviously that can be a pretty big weight to carry sometimes," Link said. "But, I really enjoy leading my offense out on the field. I feel like there are a lot of guys that look up to me in what I do and so I want to lead the team the best way I can."

When it comes to favorite role model quarterbacks, Link likes former OU stars Kyler Murray and Baker Mayfield, as well Super Bowl winning quarterbacks Drew Brees and Russell Wilson, "because I'm not super tall and I really enjoy watching them compete at a high level even though they were told they were too small," he said.



MIKE MOGUIN for GTR Media Group

AIMING FOR STATE: Metro QB Asher Link and his teammates are aiming for a bid at the state championship.

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DATE	VISITOR	HOME
Aug. 22	Hale 0	Edison 7
Aug. 23	Victory Christian 26	Unity Christian 18
Aug. 29	Arkansas Baptist 13	NEO 69
	Jenks 38	Mansfield Legacy 0
	Central 41	Grant 0
Aug. 30	Tulsa 7	Michigan State 28
	OSU 52	Oregon State 36
	Inola 19	Lincoln Christian 51
	McLain 32	Victory Christian 20
	Broken Bow 9	Metro Christian 35
	Owasso 47	Bentonville West 34
	Tulsa NOAH 54	Capitol Hill 0
	Webster 0	Hale 47
	Gravette 6	Cascia Hall 38
	Union 44	Lake Ridge 47
	Bixby 77	Mansfield 47
	Hulbert 6	Hominy 42
Aug. 31	Portland State 13	Arkansas 20
	Broken Arrow 42	Mansfield 13
	BTW 0	North Little Rock 19
Sept. 1	Houston 31	OU 49
Sept. 5	NSU 0	Emporia State 26
Sept. 6	Broken Arrow 14	Union 0
	Fayetteville 19	Owasso 51
	Bixby 57	Jenks 7
	Sapulpa 21	Edison 13
	BTW 33	Bishop Kelley 14
	Hale 36	East Central 35
	Memorial 0	Central 58
	Victory Christian 34	Rogers 7
	Cascia Hall 7	Holland Hall 28
	Lincoln Christian 49	Jones 14
	Tulsa NOAH 73	Chouteau-Mazie 21
Sept. 7	South Dakota 14	OU 70
	McNeese 14	OSU 56
	Arkansas 17	Ole Miss 31
	Tulsa 34	San Jose State 16
	NEO 0	Georgia Military 26
Sept. 12	Okmulgee 12	Rogers 8
	McLain 0	Central 14
	Central Missouri 70	NSU 7
Sept. 13	Jenks 20	Union 35
	Owasso 42	Broken Arrow 19
	Beggs 56	Webster 8
	East Central 7	Stilwell 0
	Rejoice Christian 54	Kiefer 12
	Bentonville 17	BTW 6
	Memorial 0	Edison 68
	Bishop Kelley 14	Bishop McGuinness 41
	Metro Christian 54	Oklahoma Christian 14
	Vian 18	Lincoln Christian 25
	Verdigris 72	Victory Christian 13
	Casady 3	Holland Hall 33
	Tonkawa 20	Tulsa NOAH 8
Sept. 14	OSU 40	Tulsa 21
	Colorado State 34	Arkansas 55
	OU 48	UCLA 14
	NEO 8	Trinity Valley 27
Sept. 19	Vian 31	Owasso JV 14
Sept. 20	Bixby 72	Putnam City 0
	Sapulpa 48	East Central 17
	Bishop Kelley 62	Memorial 8
	Haskell 6	Rejoice Christian 61
	Hale 12	Skiatook 45

DATE	VISITOR	HOME
Sept. 20	Millwood 30	Cascia Hall 22
	Webster 12	Tulsa NOAH 61
	Edison 27	Claremore 6
	Holland Hall 13	Metro Christian 35
	Rogers 6	McLain 18
Sept. 21	Summit Christian 8	Depew 40
	San Jose State 31	Arkansas State 24
	OSU 30	Texas 36
	Wyoming 21	Tulsa 24
	NSU 3	Pittsburg State 58
Sept. 27	Kilgore College 28	NEO 21
	Union 10	Owasso 34
	Broken Arrow 17	Jenks 15
	Sapulpa 10	Bixby 54
	Edison 50	Glenpool 0
	Bristow 38	McLain 0
	Central 49	Hilldale 23
	Webster 6	Checota 63
	Metro Christian 41	Adair 20
	Summit Christian 14	Prue 38
	Hale 0	Bishop Kelley 42
	BTW 28	Bartlesville 0
	Memorial 14	East Central 60
	Rogers 0	Tahlequah 57
	Lincoln Christian 49	Stigler 21
	Cascia Hall 35	Vertigris 28
	Victory Christian 12	Dewey 26
	Tulsa NOAH 18	OCPHS 0
Sept. 28	Okl. Union 0	Rejoice Christian 42
	Texas A&M 31	Arkansas 27
	Kansas State 13	OSU 26
	Texas Tech 16	OU 55
Oct. 3	NEO 35	Navarro College 3
	Owasso	Barnsdall
	Pryor	Rogers
	Bishop Kelley	Edison
Oct. 4	Muldrow	Central
	Collinsville	Memorial
	East Central	Claremore
	Glenpool	Hale
	Mustang	Union
	Chouteau-Mazie	Metro Christian
	Owasso	Edmond North
	Tulsa NOAH	Oklahoma Bible
	Keys	Holland Hall
	Morris	Victory Christian
	McLain	Cleveland
	Norman	Broken Arrow
	Webster	Idabel
	Jenks	Enid
	Seminole	Lincoln Christian
	Jay	Cascia Hall
	Bixby	BTW
	South Coffeyville	Summit Christian
Oct. 5	Tulsa	SMU
	OU	Kansas
	OSU	Texas Tech
	NSU	Nebraska-Kearney
	Blinn College	NEO
Oct. 10	Broken Arrow	Westmoore
Oct. 11	Durant	Bishop Kelley
	Oologah	McLain
	Victory Christian	Haskell
	Pryor	East Central

DATE	VISITOR	HOME
Oct. 11	Claremore	Rogers
	Ponca City	Bixby
	Memorial	Skiatook
	Hale	McAlester
	Metro Christian	Wyandotte
	Holland Hall	Westville
	Central	Poteau
	Cascia Hall	Vinita
	Rejoice Christian	Ketchum
	Union	Putnam City North
	Lincoln Christian	Webster
	Norman North	Owasso
	BTW	Shawnee
	Yukon	Jenks
Oct. 12	Arkansas	Kentucky
	OU	Texas
	Washburn	NSU
	NEO	Tyler Junior College
Oct. 17	Edmond Santa Fe	Broken Arrow
	Roland	Lincoln Christian
	Beggs	Victory Christian
	Collinsville	East Central
	Sapulpa	BTW
	Hale	Edison
	Jenks	Edmond Memorial
	Berryhill	Cascia Hall
	Rogers	Skiatook
	Sequoia	Holland Hall
	Metro Christian	Cascade
	Broken Bow	Central
Oct. 18	Bishop Kelley	Glenpool
	Okmulgee	Webster
	Claremore	Memorial
	Moore	Union
	Bixby	Bartlesville
	Classen SAS	Tulsa NOAH
Oct. 19	Tulsa	Cincinnati
	Auburn	Arkansas
	Baylor	OSU
	West Virginia	OU
	NSU	Lincoln
Oct. 25	New Mexico Military	NEO
	Jenks	Norman
	Owasso	Mustang
	Norman North	Union
	Yukon	Broken Arrow
	East Central	Tahlequah
	Central	Putnam City North
	Lincoln Christian	Okmulgee
	Coweta	Hale
	Metro Christian	Nowata
	Webster	Roland
	Holland Hall	Vian
	Edison	McAlester
	Rejoice Christian	Commerce
	BTW	Muskogee
	Catoosa	McLain
	Page	Bixby
	Memorial	Rogers
	Victory Christian	Sperry
	Cascia Hall	Locust Grove
	Ada	Bishop Kelley
	Tulsa NOAH	Lighthouse Christian
Oct. 26	Memphis	Tulsa
	Arkansas	Alabama

DATE	VISITOR	HOME
Oct. 26	OSU	Iowa State
	OU	Kansas State
	Missouri Southern	NSU
	Cisco College	NEO
Oct. 31	East Central	Rogers
	Fort Gibson	Central
Nov. 1	Ponca City	BTW
	Kansas	Metro Christian
	Afton	Rejoice Christian
	McLain	Wagoner
	Durant	Edison
	Bishop Kelley	Coweta
	Ada	Hale
	Edmond Memorial	Broken Arrow
	Moore	Owasso
	Tahlequah	Memorial
	Sequoia	Cascia Hall
	Victory Christian	Kiefer
	Idabel	Lincoln Christian
	Spiro	Holland Hall
	Central	Empire
	Bixby	Shawnee
	Webster	Stigler
	Edmond Santa Fe	Jenks
	Christ Prep Academy	Tulsa NOAH
Nov. 2	Tulsa	Tulane
	Mississippi State	Arkansas
	NSU	Northwest Missouri
Nov. 7	Cascia Hall	Inola
	Memorial	Pryor
Nov. 8	UCF	Tulsa
	McAlester	Bishop Kelley
	Skiatook	East Central
	Grant	Tulsa NOAH
	Hale	Durant
	Edison	Ada
	Central	Sallisaw
	Rogers	Collinsville
	Grove	McLain
	Union	Edmond North
	Spiro	Holland Hall
	Caney Valley	Victory Christian
	Broken Arrow	Enid
	BTW	Page
	Lincoln Christian	Checota
	Muskogee	Bixby
	McAlester	Bishop Kelley
	Putnam City North	Owasso
	Metro Christian	Salina
	Rejoice Christian	Colcord
	Westmoore	Jenks
Nov. 9	Iowa State	OU
	Western Kentucky	Arkansas
	NSU	Central Oklahoma
Nov. 16	OU	Baylor
	Kansas	OSU
	Fort Hays State	NSU
Nov. 23	Houston	Tulsa
	Arkansas	LSU
	TCU	OU
	OSU	West Virginia
Nov. 29	Missouri	Arkansas
Nov. 30	Tulsa	East Carolina
	OU	OSU

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Oilers Hope for Continued Success Under Rob Murray

SPORTS

By **GLENN HIBDON**
GTR Sports Writer

Coming off its greatest season since the rebirth of hockey in Tulsa 27 years ago, the Oilers will have a familiar look during the 2019-20 ECHL season. Heading into training camp, Head Coach and Director of Hockey Operations Rob Murray had signed 12 players from last season's team that won the franchise's first Mountain Division and Western Conference championships.

"On paper, I've got us equal to last year," said Murray, winner of the ECHL's General Manager of the Year award. "But that could change quickly depending on who we get from our affiliates. You never know how it will shape up, but from top to bottom, I think we're equal."

Murray agreed that the farm system can be volatile, especially around playoff time. Two years ago, call-ups decimated the Oilers' roster heading into postseason. Last season, a plethora of talent arrived due to parent club injuries and other factors. After winning a team record 42 regular season games, Tulsa made a serious push in reaching the semifinal round last season before losing to Toledo in seven games.

Murray said team character was a major difference between his first and second seasons in Tulsa. With much of the same personnel returning, he expects quality behavior again.

"There were no cliques in the locker room. We were a team with a dedication to being professional," Murray said. "Every guy wants to get to the next level and we showed that last year. We had no problems that I had to take care of and that spoke volumes. My first season there was some pouting going on, but our guys now won't stand for anybody who won't toe the line."

Murray praised his players for knowing and accepting their roles in his system. He



ROB MURRAY



OVERSEEING ACTION: Tulsa Oilers Head Coach and Director of Hockey Operation Rob Murray led his team to its best record ever in last year's action.

said there are no prima donnas, no glory hounds.

"Tanner Kaspick came down last year and knew his role was as a third-line center," said the coach. "His bread and butter at our level was working hard. Last year we were better from top to bottom. There were no weak links. We had three strong lines and the guys understood their roles."

Perhaps no one grasped his situation better than team captain and ECHL first-teamer Adam Pleskach. The veteran finished second in league scoring with 75 points, first in goals with 38, first in power play goals with 14 and first in shots attempted. Left winger Jared Thomas added 65 points and was first among rookies with 44 assists.

Despite the return of many mainstays, others have moved on. Chris Forney signed elsewhere, Dylan Bredo and Scott Heneger retired, Stephen Perfetto was unsure of his

hockey future and Alex Dostie was looking at the AHL. However, Murray is still confident in his roster heading into the season.

"From the first year to the second year, we had a pretty brand new team," he said. "I'm obviously more familiar with our guys this season and they are more familiar with me and my systems and expectations. We'll have a straight jump into training camp and there shouldn't be any question marks going into game one."

Two years ago, Murray got a late start after taking the Tulsa job in June and the Oilers finished just two games above .500. Some fans were concerned after he came to town from Alaska with a glowing resume. The 2018-19 campaign more than lived up to Murray's billing.

"I didn't feel like I had anything to prove to anybody," he said. "I wanted to put together a good team for the fan base and provide an entertainment level they can really enjoy. Going as deep into the playoffs as we did goes a long way for the players because if you've never done it, you don't know how to do it."

"We had a fantastic season winning the regular season championship. We were neck and neck with Idaho and Utah and we gutted it out. We got the wins we needed and ended up winning the division (90 points to 88 for Idaho). At times we had a team, looking at the roster, that should have won the championship. We over-achieved at times and that's what you want your team to do."

If there is one word to describe Tulsa's season, Murray said it's "consistency." The Oilers led the ECHL in average shots per game at 36.04 and also in shots allowed at 26.08. Returning goalie Devin Williams ranked No. 1 in the league, giving up just 2.12 goals a game while recording a .916 save percentage.

"Our goaltending was strong and on defense, Bredo and (Eric) Drapluk didn't start strong, but they got better and better every game," said Murray. "Dostie and Perfetto made a huge difference late in the season. They were as good as it gets at this level."

It was the luck of the draw. We were lucky to get those guys from our affiliates. They made a difference in our season."

Perhaps the major improvement Murray seeks this season is more overall muscle. He's counting on several newcomers to help.

"We might have been a little small and in the playoffs it was hard for our smaller guys to compete. We need to be more physical," Murray said. "Cam Knight (6-1, 195) is a bigger guy and John Teets (6-3, 205) is back and we're not sacrificing skill or speed in getting bigger overall."

Also adding beef for Tulsa is enforcer Mike McGee (6-5, 235), Connor Moynihan (6-4, 209), Arizona State rookie Jake Clifford (6-1, 198) and Steven Kaunisto (6-0, 200). Murray said he has "high expectations" for forward Danny Moynihan whom he tutored in Alaska and he mentioned the hoped for offensive contributions of rookies Craig Puff (Vermont), Canon Pieper (Maine) and Darius McDonald (American International).

Now all Murray has to do is mesh all his talent into a winning unit, just like he did last year.

"We had consistency with a great work ethic all year long. There weren't too many games where we were not in it," said Murray. "Every game last season, win or lose, we battled hard and had a chance to win. Regardless of the guys we've got coming back, we've got to continue getting better and better. One of the things I've heard from other coaches is that we play the same way every night. They (players) know that regardless of what game it is, it all goes back to our work ethic."

"Our goal last year was making the playoffs and we'll start with that goal again. With our team, nothing is guaranteed. Idaho and Utah will be good again, Allen will be better, Rapid City has an affiliate this season and Wichita has a new coach. We've just got to go out and play and go from there."

For Murray and the Oilers, consistency remains the name of the game.

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Former Downtown Tulsa YMCA Leaves Memories

1951 Building Being Repurposed for Urban Apartment Complex

For those of us who have lived in the same city for many years, it is not unusual to have more than one connection with the same building. So it is for my life in Tulsa and the downtown YMCA.

In the pre World War I years when oil strikes like Glenpool were happening, there were hundreds of oil field workers, migrant roustabouts who needed a place to live. Tulsa, with a population that was less than 30,000, under the leadership of YMCA secretary C. E. Buchner, raised \$100,000 to build the first permanent YMCA building at Fourth Street and Cincinnati Avenue. It was a solid masonry structure, which included a cafeteria, meeting rooms, a health facility and a dormitory for a membership of 500 men. The original YMCA board of directors was composed of early Tulsa business leaders including my grandfather, C. C. Cole.

By 1951, the original building had reached its life expectancy and with 6,500 members had outgrown its space capacity. John E. Mabee headed a new building fund drive for the site at the north-

east corner of Sixth Street and Denver Avenue. Well-known architect Leon Senter was selected to do the project. Senter was probably best known for his Philcade Building, which he had designed in the 1930's for Waite Phillips and his work on St. John's Hospital. This was to be one of Senter's last projects and the only one he designed in the new "mid century modern" style. The building opened with strong community fanfare in 1953.

From its entrances on Denver Avenue and Sixth Street to the main lobby, extensive athletic facilities were accessed. These included a regulation indoor pool, a large basketball gym, locker rooms and hand ball/racquetball courts. The large lobby also served as a lounge with a reception desk and at one end, elevators that accessed six floors of resident rooms above. Each floor had eight to 10 single person rooms on either side of a center corridor with one shared bathroom facility per floor.

The exterior street level was sheathed in a maroon/rust glazed ceramic material with entrances from Denver Avenue and Sixth Street. The low tower at six floors was faced in a blond brick with a fenestration pattern of four horizontal louvered aluminum windows per room with a one-half round projecting ceramic rust colored frame. With ten rooms at the west elevation, there are ten of these.

In 1953 as a young boy, I developed a fear of swimming in water over my head. My parents immediately enrolled me in a YMCA youth swimming class. Thanks to the Y, I lost my fear of deep water and in my teenage years even



GTR Media Group photo

TRANSFORMATIONAL LANDMARK: The former downtown Tulsa YMCA is being transformed into an apartment complex. In the background to the right is the ONEOK Plaza building.

On Architecture



By ROGER COFFEY, AIA

worked one summer as a life-guard. The Y building was used heavily for many years and by the 1990s was looking shabby. A shared lobby for access to transient and low-income housing combined with athletic facilities which tried to be upscale for downtown office workers was a continuous problem. With the aid of various grants, my architectural firm upgraded the lobby reception desk and some of the upper floors. But eventually, the building closed and has been replaced downtown by a smaller facility at 415 S. Main St.

and elsewhere such as the Tandy Family YMCA, located on East 51st Street across from LaFortune Park. The Tandy Family YMCA, which opened in 2017, houses more than 110,000 square feet. It was built on the grounds of the 50-year old Thornton Family YMCA.

Fortunately, the John Snyder family has come to the rescue of the former downtown YMCA and repurposed the building for small urban apartments soon after securing its listing on the National Register in 2016. Another piece of Tulsa's history has been saved for future generations.



GTR Media Group photo

ROYCE MYERS ART SHOW: Eighteen artists were included in the 2019 Royce Myers Gallery Art Show held Sept. 19. Among the attendees are, from left, Paula Wood, a Tulsa artist in front of her paintings for the show, local artist Ginni Jacobs, and long-time Showcase Designer Jane Butts. The Royce Myers Gallery is located at 1706 S. Boston Ave. in Tulsa.



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THE ECONOMY

Tulsa American Marketing Association Chapter Fosters P.R., Research, Advertising and More

By KRISTY WHITE
Propeller Communications

Marketing is all about relationships. Building, creating, and maintaining them is the key to success. Marketing tends to be an umbrella for public relations, marketing research, advertising and many more. Lucky for Tulsans, there is a local American Marketing Association (AMA).

AMA of Tulsa is gaining momentum with its group of marketing professionals as it revamps its brand, mission, and programming. With more than 50 members, AMA members are meeting and greeting other marketing professionals in the metro area.

AMA is a place where professionals can “geek” out over marketing together. The group encourages members to share experiences, knowledge, tips and motivation. The Tulsa chapter organizes monthly luncheons with incredible keynote speakers and happy hour socials.

“Our industries are constantly changing and meeting with local colleagues and peers is a great way to stay up-to-date with what is happening,” said Van Webb, AMA president. “With so many talented professionals in all realms of marketing and business in one group, it’s amazing to see the ideas that are shared and created.”

To increase awareness of the group and do something fun for current members, members recently hosted an AMA Summer Soiree at ONEOK Field, home of the Tulsa Drillers and Tulsa Roughnecks. They invited colleagues, clients, media friends and new guests to enjoy food, drinks and networking. Not to mention some great door prizes.

AMA hosts monthly luncheons with keynote speakers on a variety of topics. Caron Davis, vice president of programming, has put together a rock star lineup of speakers for upcoming meetings.

“We’re bringing the change of technology and social media into our programming,” said Davis. “From start to finish we promote speakers through social media, email campaigns, do survey marketing afterward, create podcasts to then share after the luncheons and much more. It’s fun to take all these new tactics for businesses and incorporate them into our group.”

The events are held at Tulsa Country Club. Upcoming speakers include:

- Friday, Oct. 25 with Charlie Noel with SEO ghostwriters talking about the “Art and Science of SEO”
- Thursday, Feb. 20 with Jen Kerchkoff, “Influencer Marketing”
- Thursday, March 26 with Tamatha Goad,

- Sweet Adeline’s “Global Marketing”
- Thursday, April 16 with Joy Toburn, McNellie’s Group “Loyalty Marketing”
- Thursday, May 21 with Justin Gorski, The Tulsa Drillers “Sports Marketing”

The board continues to grow and identify new members to add to the mix. That group is a combination of branding, video, community development, media relations, public relations, CPAs, strategic marketers, business owners that take control of their marketing, and many more professionals.

The Tulsa AMA board includes Van Webb, CEO Webb Branding, (President); Stephen Tackett, Founder, creative director of The Audio Planet (President-Elect); Nathan Groves, producer of Retrospec Films (VP of Sponsorship); Whitney Emerick, director, corporate communications of Public Service Company of Oklahoma (VP of Membership); Caron Davis, director of regional development for Cancer Treatment Centers of America in Tulsa (VP of Programming); Justin Gorski, vice president of marketing for Tulsa Drillers Baseball (VP of Communications); Kristy White, Propeller Communications (VP of Community Relations); Cynthia Hügli, marketing strategist for Byers Creative (Secretary); Toni



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MARKETING PROFESSIONALS: The Tulsa Chapter of the American Marketing Association recently held a social function at ONEOK Field during a Tulsa Roughnecks game. Among the attendees, from left, were Stephen Tackett, The Audio Planet; Jourdan Srouji, National Brand Marketer new to Tulsa; Whitney Emerick, AEP/PSO; Kristy White, Propeller Communications; and Michelle Singer, STIR.

Griffey, Owner, Blue Sky CPAs, PLLC (Treasurer); and Michelle Singer, VP for marketing strategy, STIR, LLC (Board Member at Large).

For more information about AMA visit amatulsa.org/ or facebook.com/amatulsa.

PSO Lowering Fuel Costs

Lower costs for the fuel used to generate electricity means customers of Public Service Company of Oklahoma (PSO) will soon see lower electric bills.

Beginning with the October billing cycle, PSO is lowering the fuel cost adjustment on customer bills, which will result in decreases between 2.9 percent and 19.2 percent, depending on customer class and usage. A residential customer who uses 1,100 kilo-

watt-hours a month will see a reduction of \$3.68 due to this change.

For larger commercial and industrial customers, for whom fuel costs make up a significantly larger portion of their bill, the new prices will add up to thousands of dollars in savings.

For energy saving tips and information about PSO’s energy efficiency programs, visit www.PSOklahoma.com.

OU to Host Entrepreneurs

The OU Entrepreneurship Expo will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 21, at the Tom Love Innovation Hub, 201 David L. Boren Blvd., on OU’s Research Campus in Norman.

The event is a trade show for OU students, Sooner Innovation Fund winners, local business owners and entrepreneurs to exhibit their goods, services and concepts in an open forum, with opportunities to meet

with potential investors, generate leads and sales and build new business relationships.

“Bringing together the entrepreneurial community by hosting the Entrepreneurship Expo last year sparked innovation, relationships, pivots, sales, and investment conversations,” said Denise Parris, assistant professor of entrepreneurship.

For more information, visit price.ou.edu/ouexpo.

Edward Jones

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Cox Business Center Announces Two Significant Multi-Year, Multi-Million Dollar Event Contracts

Cox Business Center held a press conference recently announcing two multi-year contracts contributing millions of dollars in economic impact for Tulsa over the next three years. Both SeneGence International and Usborne Books & More have signed three-year agreements with the downtown Tulsa venue contributing \$11,792,000 in economic impact for the city.

The events will also bring 12,000 attendees to Tulsa and contribute to the venue's goal of hosting more national conferences as it nears completion on its \$55 mil-

lion Vision Tulsa renovation. "By expanding partnerships with existing clients, Cox Business Center continues to contribute to the success and economic growth in Tulsa's downtown development," said Assistant General Manager Angie Teel, CMP. "We have had great experiences with both companies and look forward to further cultivating these relationships and show attendees how Tulsa does it better."

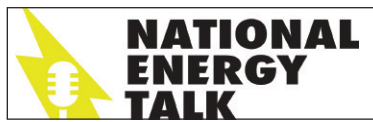
Mark Lawson, Director of Public Affairs, SeneGence International, and Randall White, CEO and Founder, Usborne Books & More,

spoke on choosing to host national events in Tulsa moving forward, while Ray Hoyt, president of Tulsa Regional Tourism, spoke on the venue's importance in the economic growth and development of downtown. Angie Teel, CMP, assistant general manager, and Jennifer Thornton, director of sales, represented Cox Business Center and spoke on how proud the convention center is to participate in the city's growth and grateful for international companies like SeneGence International and Usborne Books & More for supporting the city.



HAPPY DAY: Smiling about the good news after the press conference at Cox Business Center are, from left, Cox Business Center Assistant General Manager Angie Teel, CMP SeneGence International Vice President of Global Events Melanie Bradshaw and SeneGence International Director of Public Affairs Mark Lawson.

T. Boone Pickens' Impact and Vision Remembered



Twenty-five years ago, Boone Pickens sent me a letter describing his passion for natural gas and America's energy future. I share with you a portion of the letter, dated October 7, 1994:

"There is a lot of focus these days, as there should be, on the tremendous costs facing business and local governments as a result of the 1990 Clean Air Act.

Many of the proposed solutions are so ridiculous or technologically far-fetched that they deservedly short shrift in the environmental debate.

It seems a great public service can be done by advocating realistic pollution alternatives and when it comes to transportation, that solution is natural gas and natural gas vehicles.

Natural gas is the cleanest fossil fuel in the world, burning 80-90 percent cleaner than gasoline at two-thirds the cost. Natural gas is a superior fuel, with an octane rating of 130 compared to 90 or so for gasoline. It's also an abundant, domestic fuel that can cut federal trade deficit in half and help re-

claim many of the half-million U.S. oil and gas industry jobs lost in the past 10 years. If 20 percent of America's 200 million vehicles operated on natural gas rather than foreign oil/gasoline, we could cut foreign crude oil imports by 50 percent.

There are other environmental benefits of natural gas besides dramatic reduction in tailpipe emissions...Seems to me the case for natural gas is pretty clear."

The first time my wife Nancy and I met Boone was in Western Oklahoma at a reception. Boone's energy vision was shared then and was infectious. Throughout the years, I would follow his many initiatives including natural gas vehicles, higher education support, fitness initiatives, his energy plan and the list goes on.



By MARK A. STANSBERRY

In my 2012 book, America Needs America's Energy, I quoted Boone: "We are now spending half a trillion dollars on foreign oil, importing 62 percent of the oil we use, and we haven't had the leadership in DC to do anything about it. We've got to move to other sources of energy. But we've gotten way behind, and will continue to pay the fiddler. It's not a good future." In the last seven years, Boone was able to see a great deal of his vision of energy independence come to fruition.

I not only followed Boone and his many initiatives, but I took on several of his challenges including support of natural gas, his energy vision and higher education support. Boone was instrumental in supporting a documentary film, released in 2012, of which I was



T. Boone Pickens
May 22, 1928 - September 11, 2019

Courtesy T. Boone Pickens Foundation

T. BOONE PICKENS

one of the producers. He not only helped financially support, but was interviewed in the film. He shared his views on natural gas and his strong belief in America.

As I stated in my book, "Future generations are depending on us to keep the American dream alive." Boone's challenges are still at the forefront: having passion for an effective energy policy/plan, supporting higher education, looking

into the future with great courage and with great vision. He could see a better future for generations ahead. It is up to all of us to make the difference!

Mark A. Stansberry is Chairman of the GTD Group, an award-winning author and energy advocate.

MITO Material Solutions Awarded \$1.1 Million

Oklahoma startup company, MITO Material Solutions, has been awarded \$1.1 million from federal and state agencies to perform research and product development and grow Oklahoma's technology economy. MITO Material Solutions manufactures hybrid nanoadditives that enable composite manufacturers to create lighter, tougher, and more durable products.

Kevin and Haley Marie Keith started MITO as students at Oklahoma State University, where the

technology was originally developed by Dr. Ranji Vaidyanathan at the Helmerich Research Lab in Tulsa. Since 2016, the Keith's have raised huge sums for their various projects. Vice President of R&D, Dr. Bishma Sedai, was MITO's first employee. The infusion of capital into small companies from federal and state organizations has big effects on the state economy.

To learn more about MITO Material Solutions, visit www.mitomaterials.com.



THE MITO TEAM

Courtesy photo

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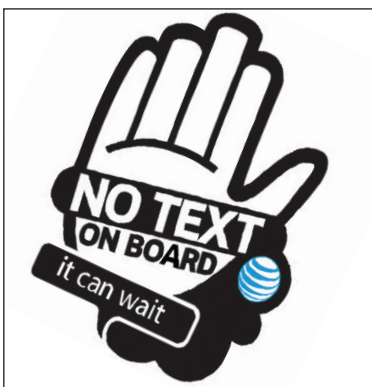
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Tulsans Honored for Outstanding Service To Legal Profession

Law firm Hall Estill, with offices in Tulsa, Oklahoma City, Denver and Northwest Arkansas, announces that the Tulsa County Bar Association (TCBA) presented awards to two Tulsa attorneys for outstanding contributions to the legal profession: shareholders Mark Blongewicz and James Milton. In addition, D.K. "Ken"



NEIL E. BOGAN AWARD: *Outgoing TCBA President, Ann Keele, awarded Mark Blongewicz the TCBA Neil E. Bogan Award for Professionalism.*

Williams Jr., was recognized by the Tulsa County Bar Foundation (TCBF). The awards luncheon took place Aug. 22.

Outgoing TCBA President, Ann Keele, awarded Mark Blongewicz the TCBA Neil E. Bogan Award for Professionalism. The award honors a Tulsa County lawyer who is known for his or her conduct, honesty, integrity and courtesy and who faithfully adheres to the highest standards within the legal profession. Blongewicz focuses his practice in the litigation arena with an emphasis on tort and insurance defense and other insurance issues. He was previously selected as a Best Lawyer in America in both Commercial Litigation and Insurance Law and named the 2020 Best Lawyers' Lawyer of the Year - Insurance Law for Tulsa. He received his J.D. from Duke University School of Law.

Jim Milton was a recipient of the TCBA Presidents' Award for the second consecutive year, in recognition of his dedication to and the volunteer work he provides on behalf of the TCBA. Milton also accepted the gavel to become the next TCBA President, effective immediately. An experienced trial and appellate attorney, Milton practices in the areas of commercial litigation, water law, and trust and estate litigation. He has been recognized as an Oklahoma Super Lawyer in Estate and Trust Litigation, as well as a Band 1 attorney by Chambers USA in General Commercial Litiga-



PRESIDENTS' AWARD: *Jim Milton was a recipient of the TCBA Presidents' Award for the second consecutive year, in recognition of his dedication to and the volunteer work he provides on behalf of the TCBA.*

tion. He received his J.D. from University of Texas School of Law.

Ken Williams was a recipient of the TCBF Presidents' Award for his work related to finding an effective and economic method of removing graffiti from the Tulsa Bar Center. Williams is a 40-year business defense attorney with expertise in environmental, municipal law, natural resources, real estate and renewable energy law. He was previously named 2017's Best Lawyers Litigation-Environmental, a Local Litigation Star by Benchmark Litigation, and an Oklahoma Super Lawyer in Energy & Natural Resources. He received his J.D. from University of Tulsa College of Law.

BUSINESS & PEOPLE NOTES

Gateway First Bank announces the appointment of **Melissa Bogle** as director of corporate communications. In her new role, Bogle will be responsible for defining and executing the corporate communications strategy, including internal and external communications across traditional, digital, and social media platforms. Working closely with senior management and other company leaders, she will be responsible for the execution of the company's public relations function to position the team as strategic partners. She will represent the company to a variety of audiences, including the company's board of directors, news media, legislators, internal personnel, the business community and community organizations.



BOGLE

"Melissa will play a major role on the executive team leading our corporate communications and public relations efforts in telling the story of Gateway First's development and growth," Stephen Curry, CEO of Gateway said.

Bogle has been a community leader serving in executive roles, primarily in the healthcare and legal sectors. She is an experienced leader specializing in business development, strategic planning, marketing, public relations, media relations and special project leadership.

"I am thrilled for the opportunity to work with a national team who are strengthening families across the country through homeownership and financial services," Bogle said. "There is such positive momentum with the recent merger and acquisition that created Gateway First Bank. I can't wait to be part of the company's transformation and witness all of the future successes at Gateway."

Bogle brings a diverse array of strengths and successes to the Gateway First Bank team. She has generated several million dollars in free publicity during her career by working with local, national and international media outlets. She has also spearheaded corporate strategic planning efforts for the past 15 years. Active in the community, Bogle is the current chair of Women United, a 2,000-member affinity group of the Tulsa Area United Way, and a graduate of Leadership Tulsa Class 18. She received her Bachelor of Science in mass communications with a marketing minor from Phillips University in Enid, Oklahoma.

Darla Liggins has been appointed the senior director of strategy and operations at **ImpactTulsa**. She brings more than a decade of experience and a proven track record of success launching innovative education programs and developing leaders in communities across the country.



LIGGINS

Most recently, Liggins served as an executive director with Enriched Schools, an education startup company and community talent hub in ten cities nationwide. Prior to joining Enriched Schools, she led a national strategy to build an alumni program to support students in college and career at college-access organization Peer Forward. In this capacity, she supported 11 regions across 10 states with engaging over 50,000 alumni programming through the development of regional advisory boards, a national alumni council and online communities. Her career started off as a Teach For America teacher in New Orleans and Washington, D.C. where she taught third-, fourth- and fifth-grade English and social studies.

Liggins received The EnVest Foundation's 40under40 Award, Millennial Week's Award for Social Good and numerous other accolades for her public service contributions.

Curcio Smith is the collaborative action network coordinator at **ImpactTulsa**. He has an extensive background in human services, including residential, public housing, vocational, and workforce development.



SMITH

While serving as the outreach and admission counselor at Tulsa Job Corps, Smith had the opportunity to establish relationships with the community, schools, and various social organizations to promote educational and vocational training.

Most recently, he has worked as business service liaison for Workforce Tulsa, where he was able to train, mentor, and establish partnerships with local businesses in Tulsa and surrounding areas to connect job-ready talent with in-demand occupations.

Curcio received his BA in Human Services at Ottawa University, with an emphasis in Children and Family Services. He continues to dedicate most of his time serving at-risk youth and adults residing in lower socioeconomic communities.

Allison Walden, Tulsa Regional Chamber's senior vice president of resource development, was recently named to the **Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE) 40 Under 40 list**. This annual recognition showcases 40 of the industry's best emerging leaders who have demonstrated success in their careers and made significant contributions in the communities they serve. The list includes CEOs and staff professionals from a wide variety of roles and chamber sizes.



WALDEN

ACCE serves more than 7,500 chamber of commerce professionals, 1,300 chambers of commerce, and hundreds of other businesses and organizations. The Tulsa Regional Chamber has been named "Chamber of the Year" by ACCE three times in the last 15 years.

Walden joined the Chamber staff in 2010 and leads the organization's fundraising and membership engagement efforts.

The Tulsa County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) announces that **Alex Mills**, formerly the director of engineering and construction with the City of Broken Arrow, has been named the incoming Tulsa County Engineer. Mills replaces retiring County Engineer Tom Rains.



MILLS

With more than 25 years of engineering and construction experience, Mills brings an extensive technical background that has been centered in and around Tulsa throughout his career. In his most recent role with the City of Broken Arrow, Mills was responsible for all public engineering and construction projects within the city, including transportation, water and sewer, parks, public safety, and other special projects.

"Mr. Mills will be a fantastic addition to the Tulsa County Engineering Department," said District 2 County Commissioner and BOCC Chair Karen Keith. "We are thrilled to have him on board and look forward to what he will implement."

Mills is a professional engineer and certified floodplain manager, obtaining both his bachelor's and master's degrees in Civil Engineering from Oklahoma State University.

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Groomer is Doggone Good at Pampering Pets and People at Broken Arrow Landmark

Accident Opens Door to Growth For Doggie D'Tails by Karen

By **BOB LEWIS**
Contributing Editor

Doggie D'Tails by Karen is a Broken Arrow landmark because of the skill of its employees and the commitment to outstanding customer service of its owners, David and Karen Green.

To meet customer demand, the operation has grown from one small pet grooming and boarding shop into an 11,600-square foot complex at 407 N. Aspen that has 5,000 square feet of dog and cat boarding space and 2,500 square feet of indoor and outdoor play yards devoted to its Doggie Day-

care along with a 1,000-square-foot salon where five professional groomers expand upon the level of excellence that continues to earn them rave reviews and professional dog show awards.

David Green manages the boarding and daycare aspects of the business. Karen is responsible for the front desk and all grooming activities.

To call this a true family-owned operation would be an understatement. Over the years, the Greens' five children and 18 grandchildren have all held various positions in the business. Carrying on this tradition, son, Chris, operates two grooming shops in Roanoke, Virginia. A son-in-law has his own construction company and has been responsible for the building and extensive remodeling required to make Doggie D'Tails what it is today.

In many ways, this is a classic American success story. But the event that made it all possible is a story in itself.

A longtime resident of Broken Arrow, Karen learned to groom animals while working in her mother's business. Going out on her own, she opened her first shop at 1417 E. Kenosha in September of 2007. The North Aspen location began accepting customers in November 2013. Less than a year after that opening, a client accidentally drove through the Kenosha store, damaging its retail and bathing ar-



GTR Media Group photo

SHOW TIME: Doggie D'Tails owners Karen and David Green, left, and General Manager Rachel Livingston show off three of their regular clients – Patches, Shilo and Slate. The Broken Arrow-based business is a local landmark that continues to grow its reputation for excellence in grooming, boarding and day care services.

NOVEMBER 1, 2019
5:00-11:00 PM

LOCATION: This year the event will be held from Living Arts of Tulsa (307 E. Reconciliation Way), to Guthrie Green (111 E. Reconciliation Way).

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reas. That incident coupled with the desire of a neighboring restaurant to expand convinced the Greens the time had come to consolidate their operations a few miles to the west.

In addition to first-class people and facilities, the owners say one of the biggest reasons for their success is the attention paid to all of their two-legged and four-legged clients.

"We focus on what is best for the safety and comfort of pets as well as what their owners are looking for in an ultimate pet care experience," Karen says. The fact the shop has very little groomer turnover adds a level of consistency that is rare in this industry.

Over the years, Doggie D'Tails personnel have clipped and

quaffed just about every size, shape, color and breed of canine imaginable. Holding the record for the shop's largest client to date is a dog rescued by an employee of the Tulsa Zoo. Despite its "terrible physical condition when it first came in," it weighed in at close to 200 pounds. The smallest was a Miniature Yorkie that tipped the scales at not quite three pounds.

As to the future, Karen says she and David have a dream of someday adding a professional veterinary clinic to their environment.

"It is a step toward the one-stop shopping advantage we would like to be able to offer our customers. God has blessed us in so many ways beyond our wildest dreams," she said. "If it is meant to be, He will let it happen."

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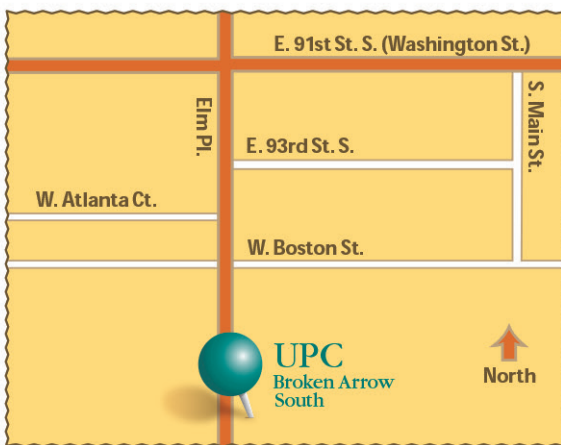
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New B.A. Trash Pickup Proposal Being Considered

If Adopted, it Will Mean Use of Recycling Carts, Phasing Out Trash Bags And Weekly Trash Pickup

By **BOB LEWIS**
Contributing Editor

Some big changes may be coming to Broken Arrow’s trash collection system.

On Sept. 17, a 12-member Citizens Recycle Committee chaired by Russell Peterson presented a three-part proposal to the Broken Arrow Municipal Authority (BAMA) that calls for:

- The introduction of city-provided recycling carts,
- Phasing out city-provided trash bags over a three-year period, and
- Initiation of once weekly pickup service.

BAMA, which is comprised of the five city councilors and oversees the city’s sanitation service, took the committee’s proposal under consideration. A final decision is expected later this fall.

Peterson said the committee met over the past two years to study all aspects of recycling. The plan it presented was based on public input, evaluation of data gleaned

from two curbside recycling pilot projects and input from a consulting firm.

“On behalf of the committee, I can proudly say this entire process has been a very thoughtful and strategic effort, involving the whole community from the beginning. We believe our recommendation to implement city-provided recycling carts and phase out trash bags in three years is one that Broken Arrow citizens can live with.”

If BAMA adopts a cart-based curbside recycling program, it will likely take a year or more to fully implement because of the time required to purchase and distribute carts, determine new pickup routes, train personnel and purchase or retrofit trucks to accept carts.

The Sanitation Division currently provides refuse pickup services twice weekly to more than 33,000 residential customers. City statistics show sanitation crews collect 3,100 tons or more of refuse monthly depending on the amount of yard clippings left at curbside. The average Broken Arrow household generates about 203 pounds of solid waste per month.

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