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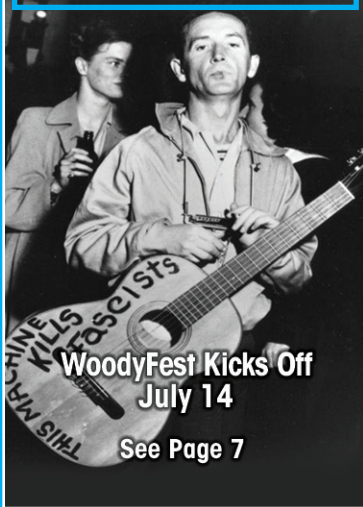
Volume 17

July 2020

www.gtrnews.com

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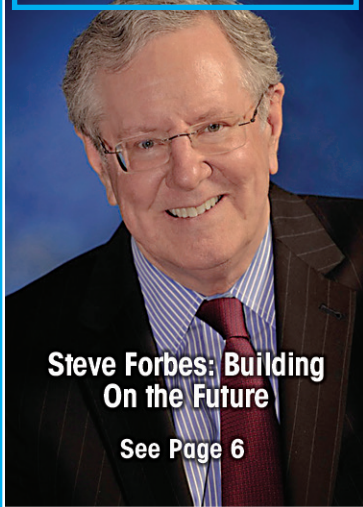
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## NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT SHINES ON TULSA



**PRESIDENT TRUMP UNDERWAY:** President Donald Trump rallies his crowd at the BOK Center during the inaugural event of his presidential campaign June 20. According to the Tulsa Fire Marshall, approximately 6,200 supporters attended the event.



**PRO-TRUMP RALLY:** Many streets of downtown Tulsa were full of pro- and anti-Trump supporters before, during and after President Trump's appearance in Tulsa. Above is a pro-Trump gathering.



**PROUD OF THE FLAG:** These patriotic supporters marched in downtown Tulsa proudly displaying "Old Glory."



**JUNETEENTH ON GREENWOOD:** Juneteenth was celebrated June 19, the day before President Trump arrived in Tulsa. The event was celebrated in Tulsa's Greenwood District, the site of the 1921 Race Massacre. The day celebrates what were the last freed slaves in Texas 155 years ago, three years after President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation. The Rev. Al Sharpton spoke at the event.



**ANTI-TRUMP RALLY:** This group of protesters marched in support of the Black Lives Matter movement while President Trump was speaking at the BOK Center.



**REVOLUTIONARY MARCH:** Supporters of the Revcom.us movement were among the marchers during the President Trump event June 20.

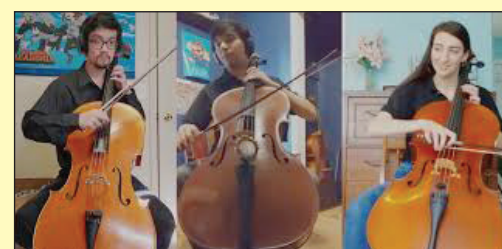
## KUDOS of the MONTH: Tulsa Youth Symphony

While the COVID-19 pandemic has come full force upon our country and around the world, the student musicians of the Tulsa Youth Symphony have stayed positive with the sound of the future being full of hope. The student musicians of the Tulsa Youth Symphony have exchanged season finale concerts and competitions for the posting of daily videos from their homes to share with the community. These student videos are played with hope, encouragement, and love for the residents of our great city.

Visitors can join the Tulsa Youth Symphony students, alumni and staff online daily to enjoy #TYSMusicOfHope and can find, like,

share, and follow on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube.

The Tulsa Youth Symphony is a prestigious community of over 200 student musicians, from the third (3rd) to twelfth (12th) grade, selected through audition, to participate in three (3) different levels of orchestra. Founded in 1963, the Tulsa Youth Symphony has served over 2,000 elementary, middle, and high school aged students from the greater Tulsa area. Current conductors include Ron Wheeler, executive director and Symphony Orchestra conductor and Pete Peterson, Concert Orchestra Conductor and Amelia Ivory, Preparatory Orchestra Conductor.



"Music touches us in ways that no other art form can," said Executive Director Wheeler. "It engages our emotions and intellect and has the potential to transport us to a different place and a different state of mind."

Music brings us together as a local, national and a global community which is what our world needs during this difficult time.

# INCOG and River Parks Authority Launch 918 Trails Network Connecting the Region

As the state adjusts to life in the post-COVID world, social distancing continues to be the gold standard for prevention. Tulsans are finding plenty of space for recreation along the trails, and INCOG announced the launch of the 918 Trails Network and logo.

“Ironically, the process of naming this massive trail system pre-dated the COVID-19 outbreak, but it has become even more timely as Tulsans look for ways to stay healthy while practicing social distancing,” said Jane Ziegler, Bicycle/Pedestrian Coordinator for INCOG. “I think a lot of people will be surprised to learn we have more than 100 miles of paved trails across our metropolitan area.”

The 918 Trails Network is made up of 12 trail systems in the Tulsa Region, totaling more than 100 paved miles. 918 Trails includes 11 cities in the Tulsa Metropolitan area ranging from Bixby to Skiatook to Tulsa.

“The beautiful part about the 918 Trails System is that it connects our region and encourages people to explore, whether it be for recreation or for transportation

uses. Trails can connect people from their homes to their place of work or school,” said Jane Ziegler. “There’s a true feeling of pride in having a place where people can reflect on the day or recharge for what lies ahead.”

INCOG worked with 31 partners to develop the 918 Trails Network with two public meetings and multiple stakeholder meetings, totaling comments from over 30 organizations and 50 people. The resulting brand promotes a trail network that makes traveling across the Tulsa region safer, by providing connections away from motorized vehicles for commuters and recreationalists.

For a comprehensive map of 918 Trails, visit [www.incog.org/Transportation/transportation\\_trail-guide.html](http://www.incog.org/Transportation/transportation_trail-guide.html).

“From the Arkansas River to the Prairie, This trail is YOUR trail,” Ziegler said.

### About INCOG

The Indian Nations Council of Governments (INCOG) is a voluntary association of local and tribal governments in the Tulsa metropolitan area in northeast



Courtesy photo

**ENJOYABLE SPACE:** This jogger finds open space along Riverside Drive near 13th Street in Tulsa. The 918 Trails Network is made up of 12 trail systems in the Tulsa Region, totaling more than 100 paved miles.

Oklahoma. Established in 1967, INCOG is one of 11 Councils of Governments in the State of Oklahoma, and one of several hundred regional planning organizations

across the country. INCOG provides planning and coordination services to assist in creating solutions to local and regional challenges such as comprehensive

planning, transportation, community and economic development, environmental quality and energy programs, public safety, and services for older adults.

# Mother Road Market is Open for Patio Dining

Mother Road Market is open for patio dining with a new online reservation system and contactless ordering and payment, designed to keep guests and staff safe and healthy.

As a leader in the food service industry and non-profit community, Mother Road Market strives to be a model for innovation and

supporting local entrepreneurs, while balancing the importance of public health during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Mother Road Market, a nonprofit development of the Lobeck Taylor Family Foundation, is housed on historic Route 66 in the 1939 Scrivner-Stevens Grocery building.

It is a vibrant community space,

allowing Tulsans and tourists alike to eat, sip, shop and enjoy more than 20 different business concepts, all under one roof. Customers are also able to browse specialty gift items in the retail store options.

The WEL Bar offers a full bar, plus coffee offerings throughout the day. Kitchen 66, Tulsa’s kickstart kitchen

and program of Lobeck Taylor Family Foundation, is housed at Mother Road Market and also operates the Kitchen 66 Takeover Cafe and Kitchen 66 General Store.

Mother Road Market features a demonstration kitchen for cooking classes, indoor and outdoor seating areas with views of downtown Tulsa, nine holes of Mother Road Mini

Golf, rentable event spaces and children’s play areas.

Entrepreneurs have the opportunity to use the 320-square-foot small shop model to pilot test their latest concepts without the burdensome financial investment of opening a full-scale restaurant or retail space.

For more information, visit [motherroadmarket.com](http://motherroadmarket.com).



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# Salvation Army Celebrates National Donut Day at Tulsa's Coffee Bunker

## S.A. Receives Major Gift From Cox Foundation

The Salvation Army celebrated National Donut Day June 5 with drive-through coffee and donuts for veterans and first responders at the Coffee Bunker at 6365 E. 41st St. The donuts were courtesy of Merritt's Bakery and this is the 10th year for the partnership.

The Salvation Army has a long history with donuts that dates back to World War I when volunteers, called donut lassies, served soldiers on the front lines. The Salvation Army partners with Coffee Bunker to recognize veterans, service members and reservists as well as first responders.

In additional news, The Salvation Army recently received a generous donation from a local community partner to go toward its COVID-19 efforts. Trustees of the James M. Cox Foundation have authorized a grant of \$25,000 to aid the non-profit in continuing to serve those in Green Country who are impacted by the pandemic. The foundation is the charitable arm of Cox Enterprises and the parent company of Cox Communications and Cox Automotive.

"The Salvation Army is so grateful for the generosity of our friends at Cox Communications," said Major Mark Harwell, Area Commander, The Salvation Army Tulsa Metro Area Command. "We have remained fully operational amid the shutdowns throughout the area as our programs are considered essential and crucial for vulnerable populations. This \$25,000 grant will allow us to continue to help those who have been impacted by COVID-19."

Some of the adjustments to programming over the past three months include opening a temporary emergency shelter at the former juvenile justice center, having a daycare for essential workers at the Mabee Red Shield Boys & Girls Club and offering utility assistance to families whose livelihood was impacted by the Coronavirus.

"We are proud to support the Salvation Army," said Roger Ramseyer, Cox Market vice president in Tulsa. "It provides over 850 meals a day to children and families who face hunger and homelessness in our region. As school and workplace closures



**ALL SMILES:** Welcoming guests on National Donut Day at the Coffee Bunker, from left, Coffee Bunker Executive Director Michael Horton, and from the Salvation Army Sara Kleinecke, Alyssa Knapp and Claire Woodard.



**HAPPY MAJOR:** Salvation Army Major Mark Howell enjoys National Donut Day and is extremely appreciative of local support such as the \$25,000 donation from the James M. Cox Foundation.

have made access to nutritious food even more challenging, these children and working families need our help now, more than ever."

For more information about local Salvation Army programs and how you can support the COVID-19 response, please visit [www.salarmytulsa.org](http://www.salarmytulsa.org).



<b>EDITOR &amp; PUBLISHER</b> D. Forrest Cameron, Ph. D.	<b>CO-PUBLISHER</b> Sharon Cameron
<b>CONTRIBUTING EDITORS</b> Margaret Butler-Disney Bob Lewis • Joanne Whitney	<b>ART DIRECTOR</b> Bryan Cantrell
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<b>CONTRIBUTING WRITERS</b> Blake Austyn • Nancy Hermann Glenn Hibdon • Mike Moguin Roger Coffey • D.J. Morrow-Ingram Doug Eaton	<b>DISTRIBUTION</b> Distributech • Udovenko Family
	<b>GREATER TULSA REPORTER</b> P.O. Box 470645 • Tulsa, OK 74147-0645 918-254-1515 • 918-254-1550 (fax) info@gtnews.com advertising@gtnews.com

**JULY 2020**

Vol. 28, No. 6 (Union Boundary);  
Vol. 24, No. 6 (Jenks District Gazette, Midtown Monitor);  
Vol. 22, No. 6 (Owasso Rambler, Broken Arrow Express);  
Vol. 17, No. 6 (Bixby Breeze)

**COPY DROP-OFF:** 5401 S. Sheridan Rd. • Suite 302 • Tulsa, OK 74133



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The Union Boundary, the Jenks District Gazette, the Owasso Rambler, the Broken Arrow Express and the Bixby Breeze are distributed monthly to select homes 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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CIVICS

# Tulsa Celebrates Greenwood, Juneteenth

The United States actually has two Independence Days. The first is so important today, we must face the realities of our checkered history so we don't repeat the same injustices. Hotels, flourishing black-owned businesses, churches, grocery stores and movie theatres – many of these were destroyed by a mob of angry white citizens when they descended on Greenwood in 1921. Greenwood boasted one of the richest black communities in the United States. Back then, Shop Local was more evident than ever. Many of the dollars spent in Greenwood stayed in Greenwood and contributed to the prosperity of its residents and the flourishing of its businesses.

## From Tulsa's Mayor



By G.T. BYNUM  
Mayor of Tulsa

But the second Independence Day is just as important. It's June 19, or Juneteenth, when we celebrate the abolition of slavery in the United States.

As Tulsa passed the 99th anniversary of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre on June 1, I can't help but think about the conversation that is happening nationally on race, policing and equality. To fully understand why this conversation

wood stayed in Greenwood and contributed to the prosperity of its residents and the flourishing of its businesses.



Courtesy photo

REMEMBERING: Black Wall Street is remembered in the historical Greenwood District of Tulsa.

Sadly, racism, greed and jealousy overtook much of the white population at that time and contributed to what is now known as one of the largest incidents of racial violence in American history. Today, the Greenwood District is one of Tulsa's most historical places. Announced in June, the Greenwood District was named one of Tulsa's Destination Districts, now sitting alongside Kendall-Whittier Main Street, Route 66 Main Street and East Tulsa Main Street. It now has a platform to lay bare its history and

culture to show the nation what Tulsa was, how far we've come and how far we still need to go when it comes to equality for all in Tulsa. To many, the Greenwood story was never told. It wasn't until recently that teaching it in Oklahoma schools was required. As it stands today, my administration has opened an investigation into possible mass graves from the massacre. Once the dangers of COVID-19 subside, we'll pick up where we left off and resume the excavations that were

planned for Oaklawn Cemetery. To learn more about our search for what happened there, I encourage you to visit [cityoftulsa.org/1921graves](http://cityoftulsa.org/1921graves). To build a more equitable Tulsa, we must have tough conversations. The more we talk to one another, the more we learn from one another. I encourage everyone to take part in a conversation, talk about Greenwood, talk about the injustices that we still see today, and work to create the type of city where we all want to live.

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# Coronavirus Relief Fund (CARES) Received by Tulsa County Addresses the Deadly Disease

## RESET Program to Help Small Businesses

Over the past 90 days, the coronavirus has brought what was a very strong local economy to its knees. Just three months ago, unemployment was in the low single digits and sales were the strongest they had been in years. Now unemployment and a sagging economy has taken a tremendous toll on the small business community.

As we start to re-emerge from what we all hope is the worst of COVID 19, small and medium businesses need help getting back on their feet. The Coronavirus Relief Fund (CARES) funding received by Tulsa County can and will be used to address the adverse circumstances caused by the coronavirus.

Small businesses, already struggling to reopen due to lost revenues, face even more adversity. Those who have face-to-face contact with their customers are now required to meet new health and safety standards. Personal

protection equipment (PPE) must be worn when serving customers. Preparing for this “new normal”

comes with heavy costs, which many small businesses cannot afford after weeks of little to no business income.

Using \$550,000 of the Tulsa County CARES funds, over 2,300 PPE kits will be purchased and distributed to small business employers in Tulsa County. Each kit contains a one-month supply of PPE items, which includes an ample supply of sanitizer, disinfectant, cloth masks, disposable masks, and thermometers.

While this is a good first step, many small businesses also need funding to help them get back on their feet and to address financial obligations that went unmet when there was little to no commercial transactions occurring. Working in partnership with the Tulsa Economic Development Corporation (TEDC) Tulsa

### From Tulsa County



By COMMISSIONER RON PETERS



GTR Media Group Photo

**ADDRESSING PERSONAL SAFETY:** In an effort to help Tulsa-Area small businesses and non-profits to reopen safely in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, a program to distribute personal protective equipment was launched June 11 at Expo Square. From left are Justin McLaughlin, executive vice president and chief operating officer for the Tulsa Regional Chamber; Allison Dickens, owner of Ludger's Bavarian Bakery; Ron Peters, Tulsa County Board of County Commissioners Chair and Joseph Kralicek, executive director, Tulsa Area Emergency Management Agency.

County created the Tulsa County RESET program.

Designed to address employers with 50 or less employees, the RESET program will provide forgivable loans, ranging from \$5,000 to \$100,000, depending on the number of employees. These funds can be used to pay costs such as rent and/or lease payments, past utility bills, past due amounts owed to vendors, bank loans, etc. Other business costs will also be considered.

TEDC will provide a “one stop” venue where the business will complete and submit a qualifying application online, which will require documentation of the business expense. Comparable to a bank loan transaction, the business owner will agree to document the expenditures, sign a security agreement and a promissory note in the event the loan is defaulted on and must be repaid.

Tulsa County will be providing \$25,000,000 to fund the Tulsa

County RESET program. Use of the CARES funds should provide approximately 1,000 loans to small businesses throughout Tulsa County.

The Board of County Commissioners believes this two-prong approach of making the workplace safe for both employees and customers and providing financial support to speed up the recovery time will help restart and reset our economy and job market throughout Tulsa County.

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**TRIBUTE IN SOLIDARITY:** Together with staff from OU Physicians-Tulsa and the OU-TU School of Community Medicine, OU-Tulsa faculty, staff and students participated in a “White Coats for Black Lives” event on the front lawn of the Schusterman Campus June 4. The event honored and remembered George Floyd. This photo shows a small segment of the overall attendance at the event.

GTR Media group photo

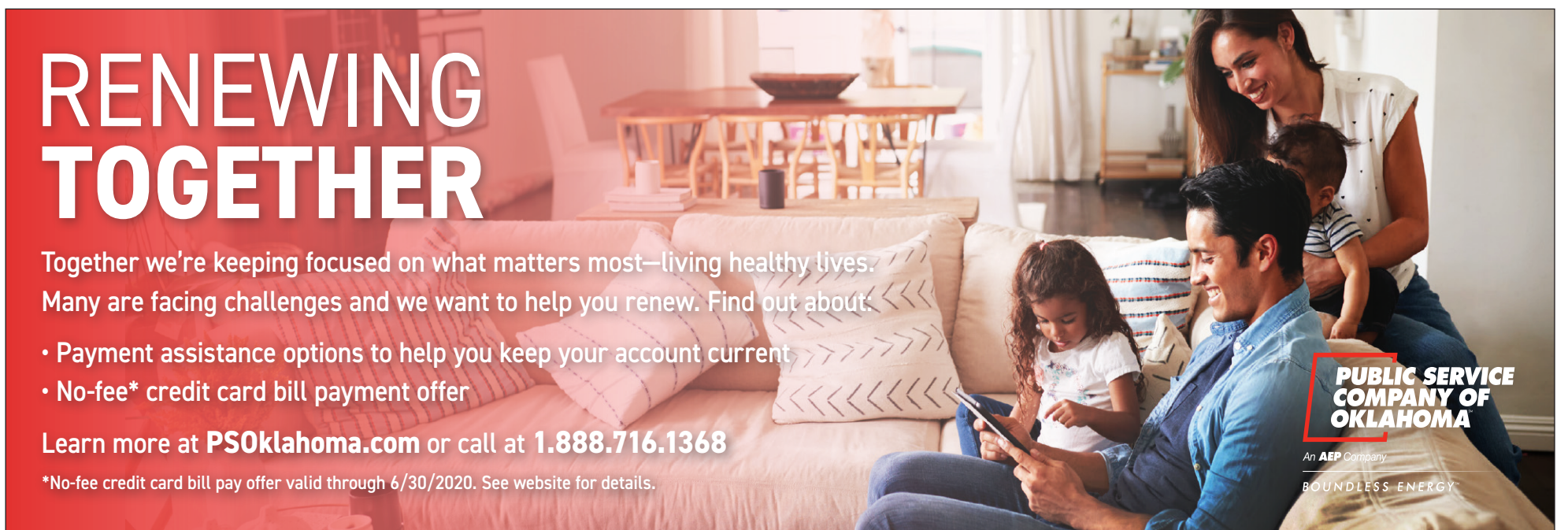
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VARIETY

# Steve Forbes is Bullish on the Future

"Pursue your purpose." "Provide value." "Have faith in the future," advises Steve Forbes. The current leader of the Forbes' empire was slated to appear at the Tulsa Performing Center last spring as featured guest of Tulsa Town Hall. The event had to be cancelled due to the COVID crisis, but Town Hall hosted a virtual presentation with Forbes speaking with author and film producer Jim Stovall on June 26. A link to the presentation is available at [tulsatownhall.com](http://tulsatownhall.com) through July 22.

I spoke with Forbes to hear his take on a number of issues, including entrepreneurship, education, and what he values most during this era of COVID and financial uncertainty.

The third generation of Forbes to helm the family's expansive business, he is a 1970

history graduate from Princeton University and was the founding editor of the college's magazine "Business Today." In 1985, President Ronald Reagan appointed him to head the Board for International Broadcasting, overseeing Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe. President George H.W. Bush reappointed him in 1993.

Forbes made bids for the Republican presidential candidacy in 1996 and 2000, with a platform promoting a flat tax. Calling the current U.S. tax code an "idiotic monstrosity," he explained, "It's a source of corruption. Nobody understands it. It brings out the worst in us." He currently hosts the podcast "What's Ahead?," and is the bestselling author of several books. His recent PBS documentary, "In Money We Trust?," is based loosely on a book he wrote with Elizabeth Ames.

Forbes and his wife of nearly 50 years, Sabina Beekman, are parents to five daughters.

**Nancy Hermann:** Central to this election year is 'what should be government's main function in our economy.' What is your view?

**Steve Forbes:** The main function, in addition to defending the realm, as they used to say — providing safety, internally and externally — is creating an environ-

ment for economic opportunity, for growth, for people to enjoy a higher standard of living. As more resources are created, that enables us to create more safety nets and have a better economy, better opportunity and a better environment. Wealth makes that possible. The government should see as its task removing obstacles from people doing new things, expanding existing businesses, creating new businesses and ensuring people are taken care of who need the help.

**NH:** More broadly, what is America's role in the world?

**SF:** America's role in the world, given that we are the largest economy in the world, still the most powerful military, is to ensure that the bad guys — the bad actors in the world — don't gain the

upper-hand. This happened in the 1930s. We contained the Soviet Union during the Cold War and, today, we have to make sure terrorism is contained and that potentially aggressive countries like Russia and China don't feel they have free reign to trample their neighbors. So, it's making sure it's a peaceful world.

**NH:** You ran for president twice and now prefer the role of "agitator" instead of candidate. What did you take away from your years on the campaign trail?

**SF:** Other than the fact that it's more fun to win than to lose, the bigger lesson was how strong the United States is. Despite many of the stupid things you see out there, it is still fundamentally a very strong country and also a very diverse country, not in the politically correct sense, but in the sense that numerous people have numerous and various interests. Various focuses. You see it all the time going from community to community. And because most people share a basic view of the United States, this diversity of interests, backgrounds, is not a threat to the country, but a source of pride.

**NH:** From your study of history, is there a lesson that has brought

you clarity or inspiration?

**SF:** What is inspiring and certainly clarifying is that it seems every 40 or 50 years, this country has an election where we debate where this country is going to go. What should the soul of the country be? You saw it in the 1850s before the Civil War. You saw it in 1890s, when there were huge debates about the rise of big cities, massive immigration, huge companies. They called them 'trusts' in those days. They seemed to be corrupting and undermining American democracy. We came through it. People were worried about the closing of the frontier. Well, it turns out that the real frontier is the human mind — not land out West. You saw it in the '30s and the Depression. You saw a little of it in the '70s. That is why this is probably one of the most pivotal elections since 1980, when Ronald Reagan won.

**NH:** Speaking of frontiers of the West, and the mind, I know that Walt Disney is someone you admire. What qualities were key to his success?

**SF:** What is remarkable about Disney and other creators and innovators like him is the very fact that they had an imagination for seeing things that others did not see. Whether it was cartoons with sound, or animated films of feature length, which Disney did with Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs in the late '30s. The movie was a huge hit and saved the company, but he bet everything on it. He had a vision of what a park should be and again nearly severely jeopardized the company's finances, but pulled it off. That kind of courage and vision is something that ultimately benefits all of us. There's a new book out called "Disney's Land" by Richard Snow that describes the creation of Disneyland. Almost every ride was created from scratch. An amazing achievement.

**NH:** In which fields might entrepreneurs find success now and in the foreseeable future?

**SF:** The amazing thing is, even in traditional fields you can find opportunities in terms of doing things differently. There are going to be enormous changes in aerospace with high-tech and, of course, enormous areas of opportunity in healthcare. It is 18 to 20 percent of the U.S. economy. You are going to see changes where the patient actually becomes more in control, where patients make choices, not third parties, insurers



Courtesy photo

**TOWN HALL GUEST:** Steve Forbes was scheduled to appear at Tulsa Town Hall recently but had to cancel due to COVID. In its place, Tulsa Town Hall hosted a virtual presentation with Jim Stovall which can be seen at [tulsatownhall.com](http://tulsatownhall.com) through July 22.

and the like. You are going to see better safety nets, just as we do with food. So, for people with an entrepreneurial bent, the creation of new devices, new cures and new ways of delivering healthcare are enormous. That's a multi-trillion-dollar area and it's just going to be wide open for positive disruption.

**NH:** Some colleges are jettisoning humanities studies in favor of those more career focused. Is that wise or necessary?

**SF:** The sticker price of Higher Ed is just outrageous. Instead of being an opportunity for young people to have upward mobility, they end up with a lot of debt — a mini-mortgage they have to spend years trying to get out from under. That is unnecessary and wrong. I think what you are going to see is that universities and educators are going to have to make the case for college on the basis that, yes, we can be more career-oriented, but also that humanities help enrich your life. One who understood that was Steve Jobs. He made the case that science and humanities were not polar opposites. He saw them as two sides of the same coin.

**NH:** America stumbles some-

times. Fails even. In spite of that, we seem to overcome setbacks and upheaval. What is our secret?

**SF:** As you point out, we're humans. We will make mistakes, but being a free country, we also have the capacity and flexibility to overcome setbacks. There is not the kind of rigidity that you find in other countries which have legacies of feudalism, or hierarchies. We are much more flexible. If something looks like it will work, we will try it. In the '30s we floundered and came roaring back. In the '70s we were floundering, malaise and all that, and came roaring back. So, create the right environment and we will do it again.

**NH:** Your father collected Harley-Davidson motorcycles and Fabergé eggs, among other acquisitions. Are you a collector?

**SF:** I do like collecting. I'm still too young for motorcycles, but I like things like items of Winston Churchill and John Galsworthy, a British novelist — you know The Forsyte Saga. I still like putting stuff together in those areas.

**NH:** At this point in your life, what do you treasure most?

**SF:** Good health and a healthy family. Healthy friends, too.

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# WoodyFest Goes Virtual; Protest Music Gets Real

## Online Festival Kicks Off July 14

*"Gonna rise up till  
We all stand free"*  
— Chuck Dunlap

a lot of pain right now. I believe that's because we're growing. We will continue to grow, continue to demand change and stand up for what's right, and that is why Woody Guthrie will always be relevant. He transcends generations; timeless and universal, like a great song.

### Searching for The Sound



By BRYAN CANTRELL

Red Dirt pioneer Chuck Dunlap, now living in Washington state, is not the first Okie to implore the people to rise up.

As Woody Guthrie's 108th birthday draws near, we are once again seeing the power music has in getting one's voice heard. From songs articulating the need for solidarity and cooperation amidst a pandemic, to protest music serving as the soundtrack for the Black Lives Matter movement, we are all being reminded

of the lesson Woody Guthrie taught us 70 years ago: This Machine kills fascists.

Each generation since then has learned that This Machine (Guthrie's guitar, in case you're unfamiliar) is quite versatile. Baby Boomers used it to end a war, advocate for civil rights and prevent the construction of nuclear reactors. Later generations have used it to voice environmental concerns, demand equality and fight injustice.

For the record, my generation is Gen-X, best known for apathy and sarcasm. So, whatever, that's exciting. But it means that my earliest memories as a child include Stop Black Fox protest events, like the 1978 Sunbelt Alliance Benefit at Mohawk Park. The concert featured Bonnie Raitt and Jackson Brown as well as local musicians, all gathered together with the common, and ultimately successful goal of preventing the construction of a nuclear power plant on the banks of the Vertigris River.

I learned the power of protest music at a young age. Today, as 2020 seems to go from bad to worse, I take some comfort in knowing that other young people are discovering the same power. I see people of all ages taking to the streets, mostly peacefully, demanding change and using music to give a voice to the injustice they seek to right.

I'm reminded of the words of the late Wilma Mankiller, "Growth is a painful process." Our nation is in

another silver lining is the lineup for the four-day online festival, which includes some big names nationally like Graham Nash, Arlo Guthrie, Mary Gauthier and Jason Mraz, along with local favorites like John Fullbright, Branjae, Jacob Tovar, Red Dirt Rangers and many more. Music will stream live on Tuesday, July 14 from 7 – 9 p.m. to celebrate Guthrie's birthday. The music will pick back up on Saturday, July 18 from 7 – 11 p.m. and again on Sunday from 2 – 4 p.m. There will also be panels and workshops available on Friday and Saturday.

Streaming will be available through YouTube, AppleTV, Roku, Amazon Fire TV, Facebook Live, and more. Visit [woodyfest.com/watch](http://woodyfest.com/watch) for streaming options, schedule and other information. Donations will be accepted through a virtual tip jar with a portion donated to the Red Dirt Relief Fund and Huntington's Disease Society of America.

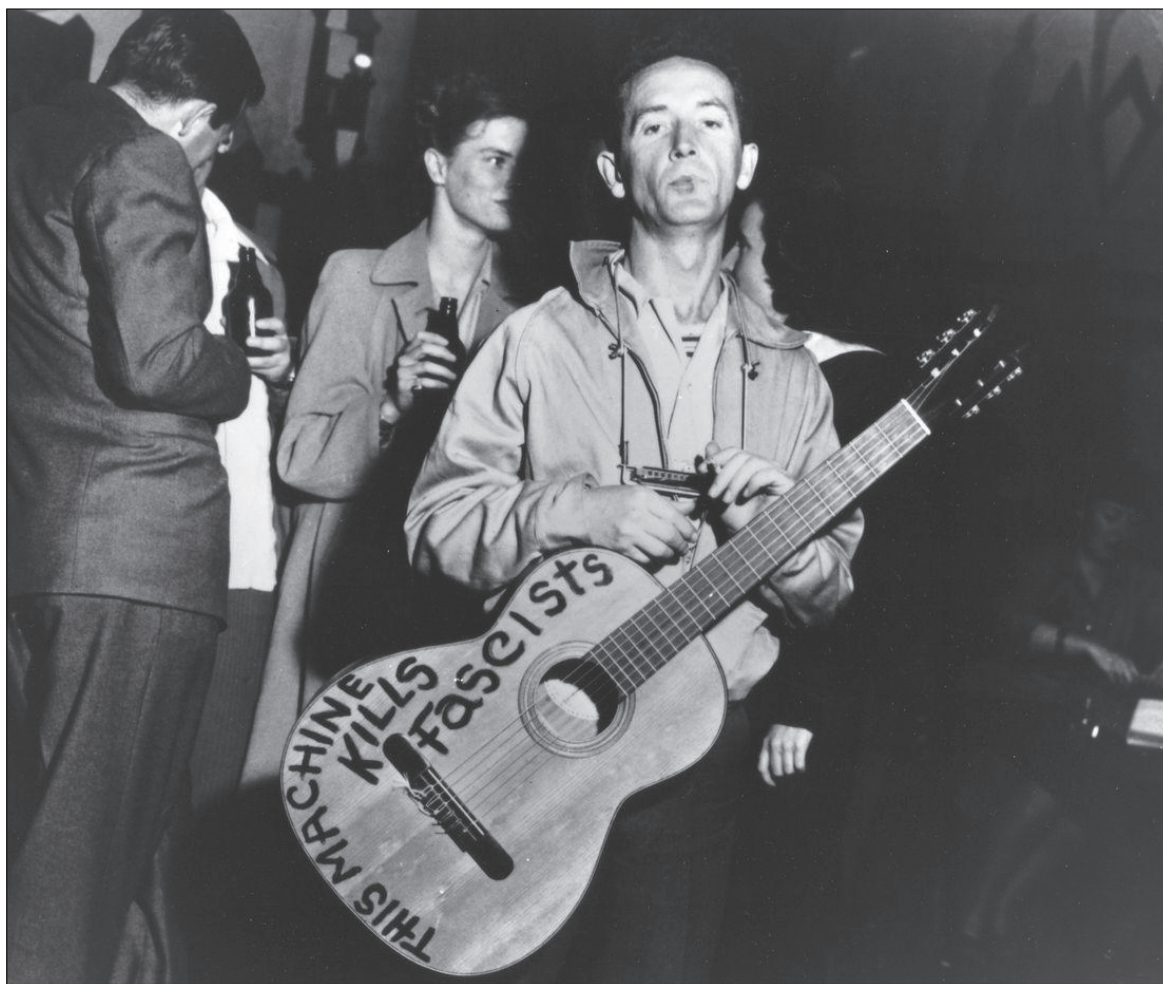
**Risin' Up**  
I began this column with a quote, which provides a great example of how protest music transcends generations. Risin' Up is a new song from Oklahoma songwriter Chuck Dunlap (I know he lives in Washington, but he's still ours!) which his granddaughter Bailey Dunlap edited with recent footage of the protests in the wake of George Floyd's killing. It's a powerful video, and Dunlap, who told me in a 2018 interview that he was done,

hanging it up as a songwriter after the release of his outstanding album Full Circle, clearly isn't done writing great songs. Go to YouTube and search Risin' Up – Chuck Dunlap.

**What we've lost**  
Giving a voice to people's struggles is not unique to protest music. Sometimes it's just to voice pain and the need to help each other, as was done so eloquently by Oklahoma-born songwriter M. Lockwood Porter with his song, What We've Lost. Porter, a native of Skiatook who now resides in Chico, California, released the song April 30, and donated all sales proceeds from the first two weeks to Feeding America.

"In order to stop the spread of the virus and address the cases that exist, we need to cooperate and think about how to protect and care for people we may not even know," Porter writes. "The song is somewhat dark, but there's also a sense of hope that we can get our act together. And I also get a similar sense of hope from seeing so many people's desire to help in whatever way they can right now."

What We've Lost is available on [bandcamp.com](http://bandcamp.com). Visit [mlockwood-porter.com/music](http://mlockwood-porter.com/music) and check out some of his other songs as well. Randy Crouch and Flying Horse July 4 at Diamondhead along the Illinois River in Tahlequah. And for the safest option, there's virtual WoodyFest in the comfort of your own home. Plenty of options for all of us to keep searching, keep listening.



**THIS MACHINE:** Woody Guthrie, pictured here in 1941, will be honored at the annual WoodyFest celebration, which will be presented online this year. Visit [woodyfest.com/watch](http://woodyfest.com/watch) for the full lineup, schedule, streaming options and more information.



**FIREWORKS AND FLYING HORSES:** Randy Crouch and Flying Horse will be celebrating Independence Day at Diamondhead Resort along the Illinois River in Tahlequah. This photo of Crouch was taken last Fourth of July at the same venue. Fireworks, live music and a lunar eclipse have me excited about this outdoor concert.

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HEALTH & WELLNESS

# Oklahoma Blood Institute Announces Free COVID-19 Antibody Tests for Blood Donors

The Oklahoma Blood Institute recently announced it will provide free COVID-19 antibody tests for all blood donors 18 and older. Oklahoma Blood Institute is the first blood center in the state to offer COVID-19 antibody screening service to its donors.

This testing initiative, provided at all donor centers and mobile blood drives, comes in the wake of an immediate need for blood donations due to an unprecedented number of blood drive cancellations. Healthy donors are urged to give blood, and appointments are encouraged to allow for recommended social distancing.

The antibody testing was announced at a media conference held in June at OSU Health Sciences Center in Tulsa. Speakers included John Armitage, M.D., president and CEO of Oklahoma Blood Institute; Kayse Shrum, D.O., president of OSU Center for Health Sciences and Oklahoma's Secretary of Science & Innovation; George Monks, M.D., president of the Oklahoma State Medical Association; and Bruce Dart, Ph.D., executive director of

Tulsa Health Department. Also in attendance was Col. Lance Frye, Oklahoma's new interim Commissioner of Health.

"Oklahoma is now in Phase 3 of re-opening, and many of us are going back to work and resuming activities," said Dr. Shrum. "This testing innovation is key to empowering Oklahomans with the health information they need as we continue to navigate the COVID-19 crisis and evaluate effective methods to keep Oklahomans safe. The medical community commends Oklahoma Blood Institute for providing this valuable testing free of charge."

The testing kits are provided by IMMY located in Norman, and Oklahoma Blood Institute's medical laboratory technicians test each blood sample individually. A tube will be drawn at the time of donation, and antibody test results will be mailed post-donation. Donors may opt out of the antibody test.

"Our generous donors are answering the call to donate – coming out in force when the need for blood is great and ensuring that no patient goes without crucial transfusion care," said Dr. Ar-

mitage. "The antibody tests are a natural step in our commitment to the health of our lifesaving donors, and we are also very eager to help our state reopen medically and economically."

Oklahoma Blood Institute's donor centers and mobile blood drives have instituted additional cleaning methods, decontaminating work and common areas and equipment frequently. In addition, donor centers and mobile blood drives have been adapted to allow for social distancing. All phlebotomy staff will wear masks. Staff members and donors will also have their temperatures taken before starting work or entering the facility.

Oklahoma Blood Institute is following recommendations and guidelines set forth by the FDA, the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) and AABB (formerly American Association of Blood Banks). Oklahoma Blood Institute is committed to maintaining the safest standards for blood collection, testing and transfusion.

Oklahoma Blood Institute supports the inventory for patients in more than 160 hospitals, med-



GTR Media Group photo

**OBI ANNOUNCEMENT:** John Armitage, M.D., president and CEO of Oklahoma Blood Institute, announces the free COVID-19 antibody tests for blood donors at the OSU Center for Health Sciences in Tulsa. At left is George Monks, M.D., president of the Oklahoma State Medical Association, and at right is Kayse Shrum, D.O., president of OSU Center for Health Sciences and Oklahoma's Secretary of Science & Innovation.

ical facilities and air ambulances statewide. Appointments can be made by calling 1-877-340-8777

or visiting [obi.org](http://obi.org). More information on Oklahoma Blood Institute can be found at [obi.org](http://obi.org).

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# BCBSOK Extends Continuity of Care Treatments During COVID-19 Pandemic

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma (BCBSOK) has announced it will authorize any member who was receiving treatment outside of Oklahoma prior to March 15 to continue receiving care closer to home if they prefer not to travel during the COVID-19 pandemic through July 31. This date is an extension from the original end date of June 30. Members can transition to an in-network provider in Oklahoma or BCBSOK will cover the costs to see an out-of-network provider in Oklahoma at the in-network rate.

"It is important to be flexible and work with our members and health care providers to help those who need specialized care," said Joseph R. Cunningham, M.D., president of BCBSOK. "Extending this period to July 31 will continue to remove barriers for members so they can stay on

track with their treatments closer to home."

The coverage exception applies to BCBSOK fully insured PPO members, but the option will be shared with customers who provide their own group plans as well as other Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans, so they have the opportunity to participate and offer similar solutions to their members.

At the time of the original announcement in early May, Oklahoma State Senators, including Sen. Kim David, District 18, and Sen. Dave Rader, District 39, applauded the special exemption from BCBSOK.

"We are hearing from Oklahomans who desperately need to continue life-saving treatments for cancer and other conditions who no longer feel comfortable traveling out of our state to see their specialists," said Oklahoma State Senator Kim David. "I especially appreciate BCBSOK's leadership for providing this solution."

As the July 31 date approaches, BCBSOK may extend the timeframe depending upon the status of the COVID-19 situation and ability for people to safely travel



GTR Media Group photo

**PRESIDENTIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:** Joseph R. Cunningham, M.D., president of BCBSOK, announces the extension of continuity of care treatments during a press conference June 15.

and resume care with their out-of-state providers.

Out-of-network treatment providers must meet BCBSOK's re-

quirements for reimbursement. If members have questions, they can call the number on their membership card for assistance.

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# HELPING IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ALZHEIMER'S



Courtesy photo

**ALZHEIMER CAREGIVERS:** *The Alzheimer's Association provides caregivers with the services and support they need so they can care for their loved ones.*

By **K. J. WEBB**  
Contributing Writer

Every 65 seconds someone in the United States develops Alzheimer's disease, a form of dementia. Dementia is a general term for a decline in mental ability severe enough to interfere with daily life. There are many forms of dementia, but Alzheimer's is the most common. Sadly, today there is still no cure or treatment for the disease; it is a fatal degenerative brain disease that slowly takes away personality, memory, and ability to live.

Every year, more people die from Alzheimer's than breast cancer and prostate cancer combined. There are many risk factors for Alzheimer's disease, but the greatest one is simply age. As the population ages, the number of people who are affected will increase dramatically.

The Alzheimer's Association Oklahoma Chapter is an invaluable FREE resource for those who are coping with Alzheimer's and other dementia, whether as a family member, a caregiver or someone living

with Alzheimer's. All services begin with a call to its 24/7 Helpline (800-272-3900) and may include information on and referrals to other services in the community, care consultations to help the family build a care plan for the future, constituent education to increase understanding of the disease progression, and support groups to provide social interaction with people in like situations.

"These services are free because of the support and energy we get from Tulsa and the rest of the state," said Diane Powell, manager for the local Walk to End Alzheimer's. "We are the first responders to families who need help and hope, often giving them information that they don't get anywhere else – and we need your help."

The Walk to End Alzheimer's is a fun way to raise awareness and money for the mission of the Alzheimer's Association. Funds raised support local services, international research, and advocacy for the aging. To get involved in the Tulsa Walk to End Alzheimer's, register today at [tulsawalk.org](http://tulsawalk.org) or contact Powell at [dpowell@alz.org](mailto:dpowell@alz.org).



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# EDUCATION

## TCC Enters Phase One of Campus Return for Fall

Tulsa Community College's first phase of its Return to Campus plan provides students limited access to computers for the summer semester at two campuses, but how they access the buildings and the computers is very different.

This is the first phase of restarting on-campus operations as TCC looks to resume in-person classes, one of four choices for courses including online, online live and blended, for the fall.

Beginning in June, students were able to use computers at the Southeast Campus Library and will continue to have access to computers at the Northeast Campus Facet Center in the Enterprise Building. Students have specific entrances into the buildings, the south entrance for the Enterprise Building at

Northeast Campus and the Library entrance facing the campus bookstore at Southeast Campus.

Thermal scanners are set up at the entrances and an additional temperature check with a forehead thermometer may be required. Students need their TCC student ID to enter. In addition, TCC requires the use of face coverings on campus and expects students to maintain physical distancing.

Students need to reserve computers in advance. Reservations, in one-hour blocks for up to two hours a day, are done with an online scheduler or by calling the Northeast Campus Facet Center at 918-595-7592 or the Southeast Campus Library at 918-595-7701. The computer labs are open with limited hours from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Monday - Friday. Students can also use the printers.



Courtesy Tulsa Community College

**COMPUTER ACCESS:** Anahi Palafox is one of the students taking advantage of computer access on campus. Computers are available by appointment at the Northeast Campus Facet Center in the Enterprise Building and at the Southeast Campus Library.

## Area OU Graduates Awarded Fulbright Grants To Learn Abroad in Upcoming Academic Year

Two area University of Oklahoma alumni have been awarded Fulbright grants to learn and teach abroad in the 2020-21 academic year. The Tulsa-area OU Fulbright recipients are Lily Lohrey of Tulsa and Davis Mitchell of Broken Arrow.

Lohrey graduated in May 2020 with a master's degree in international studies. She also earned her bachelor's degree at OU in international studies and Russian. She will spend her Fulbright year as an English teaching assistant in Moldova.

Mitchell graduated in December 2019 with a bachelor's degree in international business and finance with minors in Spanish and international studies. He will spend his Fulbright year completing an internship in Mexico City and taking graduate courses at the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México.

They are among more than 1,900 U.S. students, artists and early career professionals who were offered Fulbright Program grants to study, teach English and conduct research in over 140 countries

throughout the world. Fulbright grant recipients are selected on the basis of academic excellence and achievement, as well as their leadership potential in their respective fields.

"We are incredibly proud of our Fulbright award recipients, who have worked hard throughout their academic careers to earn this prestigious honor," said OU President Joseph Harroz Jr. "Their selection is a testament to our culture of nurturing academic excellence and student success. We know these high achievers will represent the

very best of OU during their time abroad."

Since its inception in 1946, the Fulbright Program has provided more than 380,000 participants, chosen for their academic merit and leadership potential, with the opportunity to exchange ideas and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns. The primary source of funding for the Fulbright Program is an annual appropriation by the U.S. Congress to the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

Participating governments and host institutions, corporations and foundations in foreign countries and in the United States also provide direct and indirect support. In the United States, the Institute of International Education supports the implementation of the Fulbright U.S. Student Program on behalf of the U.S. Department of State, including conducting an annual competition for the scholarships.

For more information about the Fulbright Program, visit [eca.state.gov/fulbright](http://eca.state.gov/fulbright).

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# Tulsa Tech Partnership with OK2Grow Aims to Help Close Student Skills Gap

The headlines are everywhere, noting the growing skills gap in jobs like manufacturing, HVAC repair and Information Technology.

It is a worldwide problem, however, the impact of the skills gap here in the U.S. can seem a bit frightening.

A survey by the employment website CareerBuilder found that 60 percent of U.S. employers have job openings that stay vacant for 12 weeks or longer. A recent Forbes article showed that the manufacturing sector may need to fill more the 2 million jobs over the next decade.

That is the sobering reality for the U.S. workforce over the next decade. It is all because the nation is losing a generation of skilled workers. Tulsa Tech is working to tackle that problem through a partnership with the non-profit group OK2Grow.

"We are working with five different high schools and we are training students," Rana McVay, Tulsa Tech Business and Industry Services Coordinator said. "We are starting with an entry-level manufacturing program."

The program called Skills2Grow teaches students safety skills that they need to land a manufacturing

job, including CPR, OSHA 10 certification, along with quality control standards in different industries. But beyond the "hard skills," the program is focusing on developing the entire student.

"Our industry partners said 'soft skills' were huge," McVay noted. "Students need to know how to develop relationships across generations."

Soft skills are a combination of skills such as leadership, communication, flexibility, teamwork and listening. These are often referred to as personal skills or abilities.

OK2Grow began nearly a decade ago with three business owners who saw a shortage of qualified applicants. Now, Tulsa Tech is helping students find their best path.

"To see Tulsa Tech partnering with OK2Grow and seeing how important options are for students, it takes education to a whole new level for me," McVay said with a smile. "Seeing students get more opportunities excites me because every child is different."

Students in the program spend their first semester learning the



Courtesy Tulsa Tech/Vanessa Aziere

**SKILLS2GROW TEAM:** Rana McVay (right) shown with colleagues Johnathon Ford and Joey Johnson leads the Skills2Grow initiative at Tulsa Tech.

hands-on skills they need. Then in the second semester, they are partnered with businesses, through OK2Grow, to complete internships that could lead to quality job opportunities.

"These students are learning that there is door waiting for them that they can walk through, starting a whole new direction in their life," McVay said. "The student who thought no one cared can now be part of economic development in Oklahoma."

Current data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics shows job growth in manufacturing is similar to other industries, averaging about four percent increase each year. The average manufactur-

ing salary nationwide is close to \$35,000.

The Skills2Grow program is just getting started, this is the first class to go through the curriculum. But there are plans to expand into more high schools, and McVay is hopeful this group of students will see the success of their work.

"This is a springboard to helping close that skills gap," McVay said. "I hope to see out of the 60 students in the program, two-thirds get into a career or learn something they had no idea about and use that to open doors to other opportunities."

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"What is awesome about the programs that Tulsa Tech offers is that they are giving students the opportunity to go to work," McVay noted. "If they want to go to college, the sky is the limit. If college is not in their path, right now, let's give them the skills to succeed."

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By **DR. STEVE TIGER**  
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# BIXBY EDUCATION

## Bixby High School Holds 2020 Commencement

After careful consideration of multiple scenarios for conducting the Bixby High School Class of 2020 commencement, the district moved forward with a modified traditional event at Spartan Stadium on Saturday, June 13. The original graduation, which had been rescheduled for June 27 at ORU's Mabee Center, was canceled.

To allow for family participation in this once-in-a-lifetime event, the commencement contained three consecutive events, each including one-third of the BHS graduating class. By hosting the event outside and staggering the graduation ceremonies, the school had adequate space to provide a safe distance between students and guests while complying with all OKSDE (Oklahoma State Department of Education) and CDC guidelines related to the COVID-19 pandemic. These considerations enhanced the safety of all participants by limiting direct exposure between guests outside of immediate families.

The three ceremonies were conducted at 1 pm, 4 pm, and 7 pm. Each senior was allowed to invite up to 10 guests to attend their ceremony. The ceremonies were also broadcast live to enable viewing by friends and family members who were unable to attend the event and/or belong to a vulnerable population.

For the event, students and BHS staff members were seated on the field, with guests seated on either side of the stadium. The majority of each ceremony was live, yet some portions were pre-recorded and played via video screen on the field.



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Bixby High School administrators met with teachers and student leaders before the event to coordinate details and finalize logistics. Other senior class activities such as prom and Gradfest are still being evaluated, yet may have to be postponed or canceled due to safety considerations.

While this final plan was not

ideal, it allowed BHS seniors to have a traditional ceremony and walk across a stage to receive their diploma. Moving the event up by two weeks also permitted participation by more BHS students, as a late June or July graduation would have excluded some graduates who are entering the Armed Forces or otherwise

unable to participate. Finally, it also had the benefit of bringing students together to celebrate this important milestone at their home stadium - a place of pride for many Spartan students.

The leadership of Bixby High School would like to thank the students and families for their patience and understanding during

this difficult time. The Class of 2020 is an exemplary group of students who have achieved much success during their time at BHS. The administration is immensely proud of these students and appreciated giving them a meaningful and memorable graduation ceremony they so richly deserved.



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# BIXBY SPORTS

## Bixby's 2014 Football Team Started Championship Run

By MIKE MOGUIN  
GTR Sports Writer

Since Class 6A was split into two divisions, Bixby has taken five of the last six state championships in 6AII.

Its first state championship team came in the first year -- 2014 -- of 6A Division II.

Prior to that year, Bixby had reached the state championship game seven times but never came away with a victory.

Loren Montgomery, who had been an assistant under Allan Trimble who had built a powerhouse at Jenks, was in his fifth year as head coach.

The Spartans were led by sophomore quarterback Tanner Griffin and junior running back Nic Roller that year. The latter came from a

family that has a history of athletic accomplishments at Bixby High School. Senior Kale Mulkey was a key target in the receiving corps.

Austin Grotts, Adrian Mica and Casey Saied were forces for a senior-led defense that season.

Bixby opened with a 66-20 loss to Jenks. But it would rebound in week two and would not lose again.

A 13-game win streak through the rest of the campaign began with a 51-21 rout of East Central, followed by a 44-20 romp over Springdale (Ark.).

Then came district play, where it cruised in victories against Claremore (47-6), Bartlesville (41-28), Ponca City (43-10) and Sapulpa (60-0).

A big win against Booker T. Washington (27-10) followed, then

came a rout of Muskogee (57-28).

Next was a close 34-31 win against Sand Springs in the regular season finale.

In the playoffs, the Spartans cruised past Stillwater, 61-28, and in a rematch with Sand Springs two weeks after their regular season win, the Spartans rolled to a 41-14 win over the Sandites in the second round.

And then the big one -- the state title game against Lawton in Moore.

Roller ran for 229 yards on 42 carries that night. He said in a post-game interview that the team had been working towards winning a title since he was in the third grade.

The Spartans took a 14-0 advantage in the second quarter, but the Wolverines would come back to tie the score.

Big defensive plays by Grotts and Mica set up a 15-yard touchdown by Roller. Mica then ran an interception back 35 yards and Bixby had a 28-14 lead. Roller added a five-yard TD to make it 35-14.

Lawton got a late TD but the Spartans had the game sealed for a 35-21 win and their first-ever state title. They would win the championship again the next two years. After losing in the championship game in 2017, the program has added two more and is now a dynasty and perennial powerhouse in Class 6AII.

The players spend quality time in the weight room in their offseason time and it shows.



Courtesy photo

**ROLLER ROLLING TO VICTORY:** Nic Roller leads Bixby's rushing attack in the 2014 Class 6AII state championship game against Lawton. It was the Spartans' first-ever title and the start of what is now five titles in a six-year period.



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SPORTS

# Tulsa Redshirt Junior Cannon Montgomery Continues Role as Hurricane Kicking Holder

*Coach's Son 'Sees Different Side of the Game'*

By **MIKE MOGUIN**  
GTR Sports Writer

No one may notice, but Cannon Montgomery has an important role for Tulsa.

The redshirt junior is the holder when the Hurricane kicks extra points and field goals. He is a member of the receiving unit.

He is also the son of head coach of Philip Montgomery, which has its advantages.

"It's interesting," the younger Montgomery said. "You definitely see a different side of the game. You see much more in depth. It makes you see both sides of the fence because you see it from a players' perspective, but you also grow up seeing it from a coach's view. I know some of the frustrations that they have. For me, it was all about how I can help alleviate stress and just try to be as helpful as I possibly could to everybody."

With the elder Montgomery having served as an assistant at Houston and Baylor before coming to Tulsa, the family has moved around a lot.

"You grow up kind of used to it," Cannon Montgomery said. "It's a lot like having a family in the military. You're more than likely going to pick up and move every couple of years. Growing up, my parents have been mar-

ried 25 years in December and have lived in eight different houses. It's just something that you don't think about almost because you're used to it. You have great friends everywhere you go, but it's the four people in your family that are permanent and those are the ones who are always going to be there."

Montgomery's sister, Maci, is also a cheerleader at the school. They are close, he said, because of the moving around. Both attended Cascia Hall when they arrived in Tulsa.

To an outsider, the idea of taking the snap of the ball to place on the tee quickly in time for the place-kicker to boot the ball through the uprights can look daunting. But Montgomery will tell you it's like another skill.

"It takes a lot of reps, a lot of work," he said. "Our long snapper (Adam Higuera) came to TU in the same class (2017) as me. He played our true freshman year and I redshirted and at the end, I was just looking for a way to get on the field. I didn't enjoy standing on the sidelines. Nobody does. So I talked to him and said, 'Teach me what to do. You'll have me for three years and won't have to teach anybody else. So we snapped 50 to 100 balls every day.'"

Montgomery said that it took six to eight months for him and

Higuera to perfect their skill.

"And we got real coaching in practice. I started figuring it out and it's been a good thing for me. My first snap was against Central Arkansas my freshman year (2018 season opener). I had to stand out for it and put it down and await the PAT and everything looked good."

Montgomery said when he came back to the sideline, he got props from Kyle Grooms, who was the director of football operations at the time.

TU began spring practice for a few days back in March, but the sessions were cut short by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"It does raise a lot of flags for us," Montgomery said. "We desperately counted on those practices during the spring, keep developing guys and evaluate where you're at, heading into the next year. We got three or four practices in, thankfully. Working out by yourself is challenging. It was tough having that self-discipline of going up and running and lifting when you don't have your strength coaches on you and you don't have your friends around. Working out by yourself is very challenging and is something that I've never done because I've always been working out in tense settings. It takes some getting used to."



Photo courtesy of University of Tulsa Sports Information Department.

**VERSATILE PLAYER:** Redshirt junior Cannon Montgomery, son of head coach Philip Montgomery, has been the holder for TU kicking the past two seasons and is expected to remain in the role this season.

As of submission of this article, TU athletes were still not allowed to be working out together. But Montgomery and his teammates are confident the 2020 season will go on as scheduled.

Tulsa has only nine wins the past three seasons. Most losses

were close and were a play or two away from a different result. Montgomery and his teammates believe that the tide can turn this year.

The Golden Hurricane are scheduled to open the season Sept. 5 at home against Toledo.

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# American Athletic Conference Appoints Tulsa's Chris Paul to the Athletic Advisory Committee

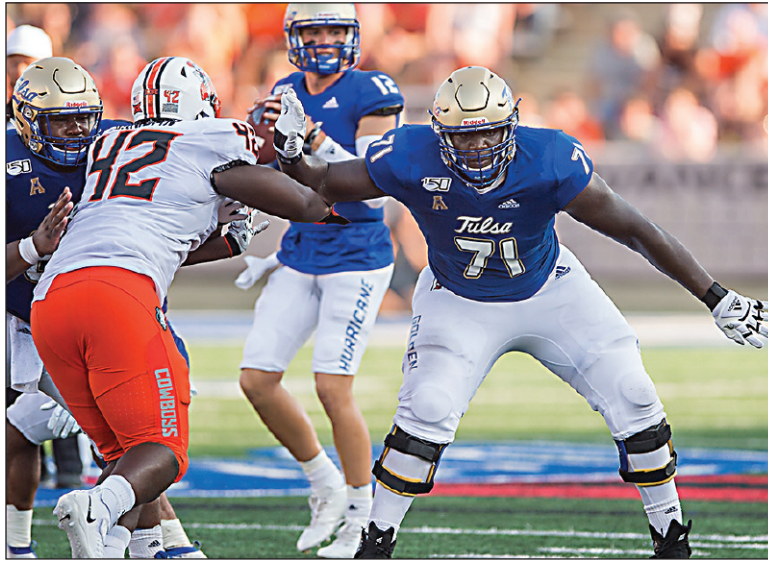
University of Tulsa offensive lineman Chris Paul has been appointed American Athletic Conference representative to the NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and will serve as chair of the conference's SAAC executive board for the 2020-21 and 2021-22 academic years.

Paul is one of 32 student-athletes on the NCAA Division I SAAC, which reports directly to the NCAA Division I Council. He is the first football player from the American Athletic Conference to be named to the national SAAC and is the first student-athlete from Tulsa to be The American's national representative.

A redshirt junior, Paul started all 12 games at offensive guard in 2019 and is a veteran of 24 career games with 20 career starts.

Paul, who is pursuing an undergraduate degree in computer information systems, had previously served as coordinator of community engagement for the American Athletic Conference SAAC. He is a member of the University Ambassadors, the Student Association, the Black Men's Initiative, the Future Alumni Council and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes at Tulsa.

"I am more than honored with



CHRIS PAUL IN ACTION



CHRIS PAUL: AAC Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Chair

this appointment by the American Athletic Conference. During the 2019-20 academic year, I had the privilege of serving as the SAAC Coordinator of Community Engagement for our league. It was a tremendous year of growth, and I look forward to this new opportunity and the mission to boldly represent every student-athlete in our conference at the national level. Our experiences as student-athletes are very unique and to have

a platform where our voices are heard and bolstered is important," said Paul.

Paul has personified the meaning of student-athlete, excelling academically and athletically while serving the community. He was named to Tulsa's Ultimate Team in 2019-20, an award that recognizes the school's top student-athletes based on academic success, athletic achievement, campus involvement, character

and community outreach. A top-10 freshman in 2018-19, he has volunteered at the Children's Hospital at Saint Francis, Read Across America, Lift Up America and at the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma.

In January, Paul and fellow teammates made a presentation at the Black Student Athlete Summit in Austin, Texas, on how the Black Men's Initiative (BMI) is addressing mental issues at TU.

Paul is a native of Houston, Texas, where he attended Jersey Village High School and was president of his class.

Paul is the first football player to be appointed to the NCAA Student-Athletics Committee, which began in 2013.

Past representatives have represented Cincinnati, Temple and UConn, and the sports of swimming and diving, volleyball and Lacrosse.

## TU Incoming Freshmen Named Gatorade Players of the Year

Incoming soccer freshmen Madison Tokarchik and Will Edwards were named the Gatorade Oklahoma High School Players of the Year, as announced by Top Drawer Soccer. A 5-6 defender, Tokarchik was a three-year letterwinner at

Bishop Kelley High School. She led BKHS to 38 wins, while scoring 38 goals and 42 assists for 118 points. Tokarchik was also tabbed as a 2019 United Soccer Coaches All-American and all-region selection, and a Tulsa World Player of the

Year finalist. She was also named to both the all-district and Tulsa World all-metro teams three times. Tokarchik played club soccer for the TSC Hurricane ECNL.

Edwards, a 5-7 forward, was a three-year letterwinner at Jenks

High School. He helped JHS capture 36 wins, including an Oklahoma Class 6A State Championship as a junior and a state runner-up performance as a sophomore, and recorded 36 goals and 23 assists for 95 points. Edwards is a

two-time Gatorade Player of the Year as he also earned the honor as a junior, while also picking up All-America and all-state honors once and all-Tulsa World accolades twice. Edwards played club soccer for the Tulsa Soccer Club.

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# Engine Room Boxing Gym Moves to Gunboat Park

*State-of-the-Art, 15,000+ sq.ft. Facility Offers Fitness and Competition Training For all Ages at New Downtown Location*

## SPORTS

Tulsa's Engine Room Boxing Gym announces its new facility in a completely renovated, historic building in Gunboat Park (316 E. 11 St.). Celebrations begin with an open house on Monday July 6, followed by classes starting Wednesday July 8. The move will more

than triple the gym's size, making it one of the biggest boxing gyms in the region.

"We've had seven great years in Tulsa's Pearl District, but we've simply outgrown that space," said owner and head coach Aaron Sloan. "This move enables us to accommodate more members, offer more classes, and expand our programming to include yoga, resistance training and stretching

classes, too. We'll be able to train more fighters and provide more options for our general membership, including concurrent classes for adults and kids."

The 75-year-old building on the southeast edge of downtown originally housed a cab company. Sloan and his fiancée Tamara Wagman, who is a partner at Frederic Dewart, Lawyers PLLC and the developer (RHBH, LLC) behind the project, worked with Studio 45 Architects and Emeritus Construction to retain and restore many of the building's original features, such as the exposed brick walls, large storefront windows and steel fire door, while updating the space with modern amenities. The result is an aesthetically pleasing blend of functional industrial design with the latest in sports technology: an old school boxing gym feel with all of the bells and whistles.

Three unique spaces within the gym allow for a separate yoga room and a new area for the Engine Room's Ready to Fight Parkinson's-Specific Boxing Program (RTF). Designed by Sloan, who is also a registered cardiac nurse, RTF is the official therapy-boxing



GTR Media Group photo

**GETTING FIT:** Construction for the Engine Room Boxing Gym is underway and the historic facility is scheduled to be ready for the July 6 open house at the 316 E. 11th Street location in Gunboat Park. Celebrations begin with an open house on Monday July 6, followed by classes starting Wednesday July 8. The move will more than triple the gym's size, making it one of the biggest boxing gyms in the region.

## OSU Plans Safe Return

A task force consisting of medical experts plus leaders from campus and the athletic department has been working to ensure a safe return for all Oklahoma State student-athletes, starting with football.

The leader of the task force is Dr. Kayse Shrum, OSU Center for Health Sciences president since 2013. Shrum has been integral in developing testing capabilities statewide during the pandemic. Other medical professionals from the OSU Center for Health Sciences included in

the task force are Dr. Johnny Stephens and Dr. Dennis Blankenship.

Dr. Val Gene Iven has served as the OSU athletic department's head team physician and director of sports medicine since 2007 and is joined on the task force by OSU sports medicine professionals John Stemm and Scott Parker.

Other members of the task force include OSU director of university housing Dr. Leon McClinton and leaders of the OSU athletic department.

program of USA Boxing, the national governing body for Olympic-style amateur boxing.

Wagman worked with Bank of Oklahoma to secure financing for the project. Gunboat Park is in a designated Qualified Opportunity Zone, which enabled Wagman to utilize a federal tax incentive to invest in this up-and-coming mixed-use area.

"Aaron and I are grateful for this opportunity to invest in downtown Tulsa," said Wagman. "We've seen so many positive changes in this neighborhood since we began this project, and we're happy to be a part of its revitalization."

The Engine Room has planned an open house with tours for Monday, July 6 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

## Tulsan Tennis Star Honored at LaTourneau

LeTourneau University men's tennis team announced its team awards during a virtual ceremony from the school's campus, located in Longview, Texas. Among the honorees is Tulsa Union graduate Nathan Schmidt. The sophomore was honored with the Sportsmanship and Spirit & Leadership Awards. The Sportsmanship Award honors the player who best exhibits sportsmanship in practice and matches with opponents, officials, teammates and coaches on a daily basis. The Spirit & Lead-

ership Award is given to the player who best represents the team with work ethic and Christ-like attitude on and off the court, while working to inspire teammates to be their best at all times. Schmidt went a team-best 10-2 in singles and 7-5 in doubles.

As a sophomore, Schmidt was American Southwest Conference Academic All-Conference and as a freshman he was named ASC East-Division Freshman of the Year.

Prior to LeTourneau, Schmidt was a four-year letter winner at Union High School, recording a 108-55 overall record and appeared in three state championships. He was also three-time Academic All-Conference member and a Maxima Cum Laude for outstanding performance in the National Latin 1 examination, plus a three-time recipient of the Certificate of Mathematics Achievement.

He is the son of Tulsans Andrew and Ashley Schmidt and is majoring in mechanical engineering.



Courtesy LeTourneau University

NATHAN SCHMIDT

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**PLAY BALL!** This protester during the President Trump visit to Tulsa was demanding the return of baseball to the national scene.



# Petroleum Building: Another Early Mayo Project

In 1921, four years after the Mayo brothers finished expanding their Mayo Building at 420 S. Main St., they began a new project at 420 S. Boulder Ave. which was named the Petroleum Building because most of its early tenants were associated with the petroleum industry. The brothers moved their furniture store to the ground floor where it remained until it closed in the 1970s. Cass Mayo opened a suite of offices in the Petroleum Building which he maintained until his death years later.

## On Architecture



By ROGER COFFEY, AIA

dows at 5th Street set off by brick piers. Cartouches below a stylized Maltese cross above the eighth floor and simpler similar details at the second floor soften the building's straight lines. A heavy stone band occurs directly above the mezzanine setting off the main floor. A massive stone cornice tops the building above a framework of projecting beams architects call modillions. The cornice includes a band of dentils and rectangular intaglio circles and medallions.

In this pre-art deco construction boom period, the building was a modest, classical beaux arts design. The main street facades at Boulder Avenue and 5th Street were faced in buff brick while alley exposures featured less expensive painted red brick. Structurally the building's 10-story frame was reinforced concrete. The building's base begins with a gray granite wainscot and accent trim across its elevations is also gray. The original double hung steel windows have frames painted a pale yellow/beige color.

Horizontal stone banding occurs at the second and eighth floors. These balance the verticality of a grid of paired win-

At street level there are two canopied entrances at 5th Street and Boulder Avenue. One serves the elevator lobby while the other was the entrance to Mayo Furnishings. There are 12 store fronts glazed with contemporary bronze glass with narrow bronze patterned spandrels identifying a mezzanine. The south façade with nine bays horizontally contains nine window pairs. At the east façade, the horizontal window spacing has a pattern of a pair, a triple, a triple, and a pair.

In 1982, the building received National Register designation. Its occupancy is a combination of residential and office use. The exterior appears to be in pristine condition, well maintained.



GTR Media Group photo

CLASSICAL BEAUX ARTS DESIGN: The Petroleum Building was of pre-art deco boom period design.



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**INSTITUTE OF  
TECHNOLOGY**

THE ECONOMY

# 36 Degrees North Releases Inaugural Economic Impact Report on Region

## \$238.7 Million in Economic Impact On Regional Economy in Three Years

36 Degrees North (36°N) has released its inaugural Economic Impact Report, showcasing the effect of the organization and its programs on the Tulsa regional economy. The report reveals that over the last three years, 36°N has had a combined economic impact of \$238.7 million on the Tulsa region. "With every \$1 invested in 36°N generating \$90 of direct economic impact, this report confirms that our programs - and the entrepreneurs we serve - are a significant piece of the economic development strategy for the Tulsa region" says Devon Laney, CEO of 36 Degrees North.

36 Degrees North is Tulsa's basecamp for entrepreneurs, offering the high-quality workspace, helpful resources and diverse community needed to build growing companies and drive economic impact. In 2019 alone, 36°N served 285 member companies that created or retained 1,066 jobs and generated sales of \$66.5 million. Additionally, the companies at 36°N secured over

\$13 million in external funding, with the majority (77%) coming from venture capital investment. "In making FC Tulsa a club that stands #ForTulsa, we knew we needed a home base to operate our business as a start up," says President of FC Tulsa, James Cameron. "36 Degrees North has been a fantastic partner and resource for our club in the last year. We are excited that it continues to show its commitment to Tulsa through its partnerships in the business community."

As the hub of the Tulsa region's entrepreneurial ecosystem, 36 Degrees North works to connect the opportunity and accessibility of entrepreneurship with everyone in the community. In 2019, it hosted over 13,000 visitors and 418 training and connecting events. With 500 members representing over 40 different industries, 36°N reflects the diversity of the Tulsa region and lives up to its mission. "36 Degrees North is an import-

ant piece of our region's long-term economic development strategy," says Kathy Taylor, director of Lobeck Taylor Family Foundation. "The programs and resources provided to entrepreneurs are essential to building the next generation of successful businesses in Tulsa. As one of the founding partners of 36 Degrees North, we are proud to support and empower our community's entrepreneurs."

36 Degrees North is supported by a coalition of public and private partners. The organization's Summit Partners include the George Kaiser Family Foundation, the Lobeck Taylor Family Foundation, the Tulsa Regional Chamber, Tulsa Tech and the OSU Riata Center for Entrepreneurship. 36°N provides expertise, resources and programming to member entrepreneurs through the generosity of many other partners in the Tulsa area.

To view the full Economic Impact Report, visit the 36°N website at 36degreesnorth.com.



Courtesy photo

**UTILIZING RESOURCES:** 36 Degrees North is a vibrant and inclusive community of over 500 entrepreneurs representing over 40 different industries. Members are equipped with the resources, connections and training they need to help their businesses succeed.

### About 36 Degrees North:

36 Degrees North (36°N) is Tulsa's basecamp for entrepreneurs, providing the high-quality workspace, helpful resources and diverse community needed to build growing companies that drive economic impact. With a combined 20,000 square feet of office, collaboration, and event space in the heart of the Tulsa Arts Dis-

trict, 36°N is the central gathering point for Tulsa's entrepreneurial community. The goal is to make it very easy for new and experienced startup founders, small business owners, remote workers and innovative community leaders to find the right people, best practices and capital resources they need to move forward in their startup journeys.

# City of Tulsa, IC Bus Announce New 20-Year Agreement on Manufacturing Facility at TIA

The City of Tulsa, Mayor G.T. Bynum and IC Bus announced that a new 20-year agreement has been reached to keep the school bus manufacturing facility at Tulsa International Airport. The new agreement builds on the city's efforts to grow and expand its economic base of manufacturing operations.

"This agreement establishes a win-win partnership between the City of Tulsa and IC Bus for decades to come," Bynum said.

The nearly mile-long, 1-million-square-foot plant is the world's leading producer of school buses. Bus production is currently at its peak, and approximately 75 vehicles are typically produced daily.

"We'd like to thank Mayor Bynum for his personal involvement in resolving these negotiations," said Phil Christ-

man, president of operations for Navistar International Corporation (NYSE: NAV), the parent company of IC Bus. "Thanks to his leadership, we have a decades-long framework to stay, invest and grow the IC Bus plant and our supply chain in Tulsa and the state of Oklahoma. Tulsa is a great community with a talented workforce. We're very pleased to be remaining in Tulsa, and look forward to keeping it what it is today - the school bus capital of the world."

Bynum's agreement with IC Bus retains the following economic benefits in Tulsa for years to come: More than 1,600 men and women have careers manufacturing and assembling the safest, most technologically advanced school buses ever made; Manufacturing jobs provide eco-

economic opportunity and stable careers for Tulsa families, and the IC Bus plant provides annual direct income of more than \$60 million annually. The average team member has worked at the plant for 6.5 years; The IC Bus plant spends \$750 million each year on vendors and suppliers, including more than 100 Oklahoma-based businesses; An IC Bus supplier, IMMI, is building a 45,000-square-foot greenfield manufacturing plant, specializing in the manufacturing of seating systems, in Tulsa to support the assembly of school buses at the IC Bus Plant; The new lease prioritizes current and long-term investments in plant maintenance and improvements and creates an automatic process for establishing a multi-year investment program every five years of the lease.

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# PSO's Carole Huff Hicks Recognized for Work with Partners in Education Program

Public Service Company of Oklahoma's Carole Huff Hicks has been named the Partners in Education Distinguished Service Partner of the Year by the Foundation for Tulsa Schools. The honor is in recognition of Hicks' and PSO's many years of distinguished service to the Foundation's Partners in Education program.

Hicks, PSO's External Affairs Manager for Tulsa, initiated and has led and managed the Company's Partner in Education efforts since its inception.

"It is an honor for me, together with Public Service Company, to be recognized as the Partner in Education 2020 Distinguished Service Partner of the Year recip-

ient," said Hicks. "PSO believes in providing our leadership and resources to the students of our Tulsa Public School District partner schools, from preschool through high school, to assist in their preparedness for college and career. Increasing student access to the arts, experiential learning, reading literacy, STEM curriculum, and college campus and civic engagement, helps students envision their future and reach their full potential. Thank you to the Foundation for Tulsa Schools for its leadership and growth of the Partner in Education program to support all students in Tulsa."

PSO has been a partner with Central Junior-Senior High School

for 36 years; with Wayman Tisdale Fine Arts Academy for four years; and with John Hope Franklin Elementary School for 16 years (beginning with Bunche ECDC, and continuing after its merger with the former Gilcrease Elementary in 2018 to become John Hope Franklin Elementary).

"We are extremely grateful for your support and partnership," wrote Foundation for Tulsa Schools Manager of Community Engagement and Grants, Hallie Green. "The partnerships you've built with Central, Tisdale and John Hope Franklin serve as a best practice model. We are so grateful for your leadership and shining example."



**PARTNER OF THE YEAR:** Carole Huff Hicks of PSO, right, accepts the honor of being named the Partners in Education Distinguished Service Partner of the Year by the Foundation for Tulsa Schools.

# AFP of Eastern Oklahoma Honored as Ten-Star Chapter

The Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) of Eastern Oklahoma has been named a 2020 Ten Star Chapter.

Every year, AFP, the largest association of professional fundraisers in the world, honors chapters for achieving goals that align with key objectives in its long-range strategic plan. Chapters receive the Ten Star Award for performing specific activities designed to increase

professionalism within fundraising and public awareness of the importance of philanthropy. Just one-third of all AFP chapters are named Ten Star Chapters, so the AFP of Eastern Oklahoma is one of a select group of chapters to earn this honor.

"We are so proud of our chapter members and board for working so hard to help make this happen for our community of fundraisers,"

said Chris Miller, CFRE, president of the AFP Eastern Oklahoma Chapter.

Ten Star Chapters are recognized at the AFP International Conference on Fundraising (ICON). Chapters also earn the privilege of displaying the Ten Star logo on their website, newsletters and stationery.

Criteria for the award are determined by AFP Global Headquarters. A list of several goals is

published annually, and chapters must accomplish 10 of these goals during the year and submit a nomination form for verification to be honored.

For more information on the Ten Star Award process, visit [www.afp-global.org](http://www.afp-global.org).

Since 1960, AFP has inspired global change and supported efforts that generated over \$1 trillion. AFP's more than 31,000 individual

and organizational members raise over \$115 billion annually, equivalent to one-third of all charitable giving in North America and millions more around the world. For more information or to join the world's largest association of fundraising professionals, visit [www.afp-global.org](http://www.afp-global.org).

# Tulsa Regional Chamber's Mike Neal Comments On Tulsa Port of Catoosa INFRA Improvements

Concerning improvements to the Tulsa Port of Catoosa, Tulsa Regional Chamber President and CEO Mike Neal says, "The Tulsa Regional Chamber applauds U.S. Sen. Jim Inhofe and U.S.

Rep. Markwayne Mullin for their work to ensure needed transportation improvements at one of the largest economic drivers in northeast Oklahoma. Their leadership was critical to securing this \$6.1

million grant for the Tulsa Port of Catoosa through the Infrastructure For Rebuilding America (INFRA) program. The funding will allow construction and improvements to rail and utilities

that directly support significant capital investment in our region, including Sofidel's \$360 million investment at its two million square-foot Inola manufacturing facility."

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# Governor Stitt Appoints Tulsans Melinda Adwon And Stephania Grober to Oklahoma Arts Council

Tulsans Melinda Adwon and Stephania Grober have been appointed to the governing board of the Oklahoma Arts Council by Gov. Kevin Stitt. Their three-year appointments begin July 1.

Adwon is co-owner of a Tulsa real estate investment, brokerage and management company. She is a longtime community volunteer with interest in arts education and literacy. Among her efforts, Adwon has volunteered for the Philbrook Museum of Art as a member of the board of trustees and as chair for the museum's Festival of Trees. Her arts-related service includes volunteering for the Tulsa Ballet Gala. She served as Holland Hall School artworks chair and as the school's 75th anniversary auction chair. Adwon's commitments to literacy-related endeavors include committee work for the Peggy Helmerich Distinguished Author Award Dinner, visiting committee member for the McFarlin Fellows of the University of Tulsa library, and chairman of the Tulsa Library Trust Anne V. Zarrow Award for Young Readers' Literature.

Grober is vice president of Plan Operations for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Oklahoma. She is currently on the boards of the Oklahoma Caring Foundation, Family & Children Services, and the Tulsa's Future committee of the Tulsa Regional Chamber. She is also the 2020 chair of Tulsa Area United Way's Women United. Among previous community-based efforts, Grober volunteers for Reading Partners, chaired the Parent Child Center 2020 Toyland Ball, and Hearts for Hearing's Stories of Hope luncheon. She has also served on the Tulsa Area United Way campaign cabinet and community investment committees. Grober is a graduate of Leadership Tulsa and Leadership Oklahoma.

"Having strong representation from a large metropolitan area that is highly regarded as a cultural center is essential to our ability to serve all Oklahomans," said Oklahoma Arts Council Executive Director Amber Sharples. "Not only will Melinda and



MELINDA ADWON



STEPHANIA GROBER

Stephania bring proven leadership qualities and a number of beneficial skillsets to our governing board, they will bring vast experience from their many community-focused endeavors. Both have demonstrated genuine passion for helping Oklahomans, and this fits our goals of using the arts to provide hope to our communities."

In addition to Adwon and Grober, the governor nominated for a second three-year term current Oklahoma Arts Council board members Becky Frank, partner, chair and CEO of Schnake Turnbo Frank in Tulsa, and Charles Moore, senior pastor of First Baptist Church Summit in Muskogee. Frank and Moore are members of the board's executive committee, and Moore is a board officer. The governor's appointments of Adwon and Grober and reappointments of Frank and Moore were all confirmed by the state Senate on May 13.

## BUSINESS & PEOPLE NOTES

Conner & Winters LLP, a premier full-service law firm in the region, has announced Rich Marshall joined the firm as a partner in the banking and finance and real estate areas. Marshall relocated his family to Tulsa, after spending 20 years representing financial institutions, developers and investors in Dallas.

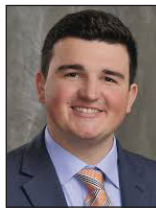


MARSHALL

"We are thrilled to bring on Rich as he will add incredible value and expertise to our already talented team. Rich will continue to serve his Texas clients and assist Conner & Winters with growing our Dallas office while deepening our real estate bench strength in Tulsa," said Scott Hathaway, president of Conner & Winters. "While it may seem unconventional to bring on a new partner during these uncertain times, we are committed to the future."

Prior to joining Conner & Winters, Marshall had a solo practice. He has represented institutions in asset based commercial loan transactions across the United States and principal real estate constituents in the Dallas metro. Marshall also holds commercial real estate licenses in Oklahoma and Texas. Marshall earned a J.D. from the Columbia University School of Law and graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a B.A. in English.

Edward Jones Financial Advisor David Fleske announced that a second financial advisor, Matthew Fleske, has joined his office in Owasso.



FLESKE

"I am really looking forward to working with my father, David Fleske," said Matthew. "I'll have all the advantages of working with an experienced investment professional while getting to know local investors. This will be a tremendous opportunity to increase my investment knowledge and hone my customer service skills."

Matthew will work alongside his father, David Fleske, for two years then will continue serving investors throughout the area from his branch office.

Fleske said, "Edward Jones prides itself on providing the best service possible to those investors who choose to do business with us. Matthew will help provide the high level of service investors in Owasso have come to expect from us as well as extend our services to new investors."

The branch office is located at 12338 East 86th Street North. The telephone number is 918-272-7301.

Edward Jones, a Fortune 500 company headquartered in St. Louis, Missouri, provides financial services in the U.S. and, through its affiliate, in Canada.

Every aspect of the firm's business, from the investments its financial advisors offer to the location of its branch offices, caters to individual investors.

The firm's 18,000-plus financial advisors serve more than 7 million clients and care for \$1.3 trillion in assets under management.

Visit the website at edwardjones.com, and the recruiting website at careers.edwardjones.com for more information. Member SIPC.

Sparks Reed Architecture and Interiors has hired architect Jennifer Bradshaw.



BRADSHAW

"We are so excited to welcome Jennifer to our team," said David Reed, principal of Sparks Reed. "She brings a passion for education and church projects with a strong background in detailing and organization."

Bradshaw received her architectural license in 2018, three years after graduating from Oklahoma State University.

"I enjoy doing religious and educational work," said Bradshaw, noting one reason why she chose Sparks Reed. "I enjoy working with educators and congregations to fulfill their visions in ways that also enrich our communities. I feel like the type of work Sparks Reed does really tugs at my heartstrings"

Since its 2011 start, Sparks Reed has enjoyed great success with education projects at both the K-12 and collegiate levels. The firm also has a solid record in religious architecture, one enhanced last year through a strategic partnership with Tulsa-based Master's Plan, a turnkey church design and construction firm.

"Jennifer's core values align with our team's core values," said Reed. "It's a great fit."

In her spare time, Bradshaw participates in Oklahoma's AIA chapters, the Urban Land Institute, and the Fleet Feet Tulsa Running Club, which led her to join in several Tulsa and Oklahoma City marathons.

Her hobbies also include gardening, restoration/beautification projects, and taking her three rescue pups on several walks throughout her Jenks neighborhood.

"I enjoy taking something that may appear beat down or broken and giving it a new life - making it beautiful again," said Bradshaw.

Sparks Reed Architecture and Interiors was founded in 2011 by principals David Reed, Gary Sparks and Jill Selman. The three have worked together on private and public architectural and interior projects valued at more than \$500 million.

In March, the firm purchased a 5,000-square-foot downtown Sapulpa building for its new home. Reed is overseeing the renovation of that site, with plans to move the firm in later this month. Sparks retired from the firm in April.

To learn more about Sparks Reed and its past projects, check out sparksreed.com or call 918-884-6007.

Oklahoma Law Firm Hall Estill, with offices in Tulsa, Oklahoma City, Denver and Northwest Arkansas, has announced that Hall Estill attorney John F. Heil, III has been confirmed by the U.S. Senate to serve as the U.S. District Judge for the Northern, Eastern and Western Districts of Oklahoma.



HEIL

Heil is a shareholder and director at Hall Estill where his practice focuses on complex commercial litigation.

"The 20 years I have spent at Hall Estill have been invaluable and have provided me the platform to become the attorney I am today," said Heil. "While I will miss private practice, I am honored for this opportunity to serve our nation and my home state."

"This is a tremendous honor for John and another great honor for Hall Estill," said Mike Cooke, managing partner for Hall Estill. "John becomes the fifth member of the Federal judiciary to come from Hall Estill. We are proud of that history and understand how clearly this reflects the legacy of Judge Fred Nelson who was the first head of our litigation department."

Before joining Hall Estill, Heil served the State of Oklahoma as Assistant District Attorney in the Tulsa County District Attorney's Office. Heil earned his B.S. from Oklahoma State University and his J.D., with honors, from the University of Tulsa College of Law, where he served as an Editor for the Tulsa Law Journal.

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# Castle of Muskogee Offers Year-Round Fun

The Castle of Muskogee, located at 3400 W. Fern Mountain Rd. in Muskogee, continues to be a year-round fun-filled place for the entire family. Visitors can check out exciting upcoming events: the Summer Pirate's Feaste, Castle Zombie Run 5k, the Halloween Festival, Boare's Head Feaste, and Castle Christmas. It is said that The Castle of Muskogee is Oklahoma's Gateway to Another World and is committed to families and summer tradition.

A great tradition at The Castle of Muskogee is the 37,000 square foot Fireworks Retail Showroom, which continues to improve visitors' enjoyment on the Fourth. Visitors can imagine a castle filled to the rafters with an array of pyrotechnic choices.

The Castle is air conditioned, with accessible restrooms, paved parking, and knowledgeable

salespeople to assist. The annual fireworks sale lasts through July 6, with special discount pricing throughout the showroom.

The Castle strives to provide an apex shopping experience to guests. If guests prefer the comfort of home, the Castle invites them to visit [www.okcastle.com](http://www.okcastle.com), where a variety of options are listed, from novelties to heavy weights as well as many hand-selected assortments. When the shopping cart is complete, visitors can check out and head to the Castle. Deliveries can be made curbside. No minimum order is required.

The Castle of Muskogee has integrated a number of precautions to ensure additional safety and cleanliness to guests. Among the products available are novelty items for children, more than 700 items for the entire family,

including over 150 Multi-Action Heavyweights (500 grams each). Select from many versions of specialty Family Packs and assortments, which are assembled on site.

The Castle takes out the filler and middleman to get guests the most bang for the buck. While shopping inside, guests will notice a QR Code on each firework. This allows a preview of the item's performance from any device (free wi-fi). With each purchase of \$75 or more, a complimentary Halloween Festival ticket (valid Opening Weekend) will be included. Perhaps one of the best reasons to shop with the Castle, is the worry-free guarantee. If a firework fails to light, customers may return/exchange on the 5th.

The Castle will be open through July 6 from 10 a.m. until 9 p.m.



Courtesy photo

**THE CASTLE FIREWORKS RETAIL SHOWROOM:** The 37,000 square foot Fireworks Retail Showroom, which continues to improve visitors' enjoyment on the Fourth. It is located at 3400 W. Fern Mountain Rd. in Muskogee.

# Tulsa Pop Kids Holds First Event at New Home

## Persimmon Hollow Offers Drive Through Experience

Tulsa Pop Kids pulled out all the stops with their opening at Persimmon Hollow May 20 with props, Superheroes, Princesses, Star Wars, Jurassic World, Avengers, Fairyland, Batmobile, Legomen, Hulk-buster, Toothless and more! Cars entered and were taken on a journey with the Tulsa Pop Kids cosplayers. Each child at the event received a comic to fulfill the organization's mission of advancing literacy and education through pop culture.

The event was free admission with

donations going Tulsa Pop Kids. KHits was an official partner at the event.

Tulsa Pop Kids is a nonprofit whose primary focus is to advance literacy, inspiration, and aspiration to the children of the greater Tulsa community through pop culture and entertainment. Tulsa pop Kids finds this platform as an amazing way to capture a child's focus and touch those who otherwise would not be exposed to a positive literacy environment.

As part of the Tulsa Pop Kids mission, the Superhero and Princess cosplayers visit The Children's Hospital at Saint Francis every month. It inspires hope and motivation for each child while encouraging literacy. As well as providing comic books for area community schools, events, and organizations, Tulsa Pop Kids partners with other children organizations such as Big Brothers Big Sisters, Tulsa Housing Authority, Little Light House, Reading Partners, The Dream Center and more to inspire children. Tulsa Pop Kids also uses larger-than-life props, authentic cosplayers, and passionate volunteers to engage kids and make an emotional connection.

For more information, see [tulsapopkids.org](http://tulsapopkids.org).



GTR Media Group photo

**DRIVING THROUGH THE ENCHANTED FOREST:** This photo shows the section of the Persimmon Hollow Drive Thru Experience known as The Enchanted Forest, with Tulsa Pop Kids volunteer Princesses including Snow White and Elsa.

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**A-LIST** **A-LIST**

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Some Events May Be Canceled or Postponed. Please Check With the Venue for Event Status.

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

21 June FATHER'S DAY 1M 5K RACE... MUSICAL MONDAYS... JUST BETWEEN FRIENDS JENKS SPRING/SUMMER SALE 2020

22 MUSICAL MONDAYS... Free Small Business Checking Central Bank of Oklahoma

23 ANXIETY MANAGEMENT SUPPORT GROUP... STORIES AND PLAINS INDIAN SIGN LANGUAGE WITH MIKE PAHSETOPAH

24 VIRTUAL SPRING & SUMMER TOURS AT SHEPHERD'S CROSS... PARENTS SUPPORTING PARENTS SUPPORT GROUP

25 GETTING STARTED WITH ESSENTIAL OILS... B2B CASE FOR SUSTAINABILITY

26 STEVE FORBES... CARIBBEAN VIBES - A REGGAE CARNIVAL

27 VIRTUAL: SOCIAL DISTANCING 6K - WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER... ALL CITY PROM

28 MATILDA THE MUSICAL... CITIZEN SCIENCE WEEKLY PROJECT: SILENT EARTH

29 TAKE-HOME KIT: SIMPLE PAPER DRAGON FOR KIDS... WHAT ARE YOU READING? PRESENTED BY CHARLES PAGE LIBRARY

30 LEGO CLUB @ HOME... YOGA FOR EVERY BODY

1 July WEDNESDAY FARMERS MARKET... TELL YOUR TALE: AN INTERACTIVE ADVENTURE WITH BUDDY BOOKWORM

2 BIXBY FREEDOM CELEBRATION... MATILDA THE MUSICAL

3 SATURDAY FARMERS MARKET... MATILDA THE MUSICAL

4 4TH OF JULY... MATILDA THE MUSICAL

5 MATILDA THE MUSICAL... CITIZEN SCIENCE WEEKLY PROJECT: EBUTTERFLY

6 ART CONTEST FOR TEENS/TWEENS... MUSIC SANDWICHED IN: SUSAN HERNDON

7 VIRTUAL COVER TO COVER BOOK CLUB - BROKEN ARROW LIBRARY... FAIRY-TALE KITS FOR KIDS: CREATE, COLOR, ENJOY!

8 WEDNESDAY FARMERS MARKET... TENNESSEE JET & BAND W/ OSAGE COUNTY (ACOUSTIC)

9 FANTASY/SCIENCE FICTION BOOK CLUB... BRAUM'S AN AFFAIR OF THE HEART

10 MATILDA THE MUSICAL... SATURDAY FARMERS MARKET

11 MATILDA THE MUSICAL... SATURDAY FARMERS MARKET

12 MATILDA THE MUSICAL... BRAUM'S AN AFFAIR OF THE HEART

13 MUSIC SANDWICHED IN: JOHN HAMILL... TEEN WRITERS STORY-TELLING WORKSHOP

14 WOODY GUTHRIE FESTIVAL... VIRTUAL RENAISSANCE FAIRE

15 WEDNESDAY FARMERS MARKET... TO-GO ACTIVITY: MAGICAL MAGNIFYING GLASS GAME

16 JEOPARDY: FAIRY-TALES EDITION... THE EARTH AS WE KNOW IT

17 GODSPELL JR... THE HUMANS

18 GODSPELL JR... THE HUMANS

19 HOME & GARDEN EXPO OF OKLAHOMA... GODSPELL JR... THE HUMANS

20 CALLING ALL ADVENTURERS: EPIC VIRTUAL QUEST... We Offer Health Savings Accounts Central Bank of Oklahoma

21 TUNEFUL TUESDAY PRESENTED BY THE BIXBY LIBRARY... HOT TOAST MUSIC COMPANY: BEDTIME STORY WITH A SONG

22 WEDNESDAY FARMERS MARKET... IMAGINE YOUR STORY: BE THE EXPLORER WITH MAP CRAFTS

23 THE HUMANS... ALLY VENABLE BAND W/ DUSTIN PITTSLEY BAND

24 LA FIESTA DE TULSA... THE HUMANS

25 SATURDAY FARMERS MARKET... THE HUMANS

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# Jamie Jared's Passion Fuels Her Design at Double J Creative Solutions at The Market

By ELIZABETH KING  
Contributing Writer

Dream it. Build it. Sell it. That is the business philosophy that launched the creation of Jamie Jared's interior design company, Double J Creative Solutions, located in The Market at Walnut Creek, 8281 S. Harvard Ave. in Tulsa.

Jared's passion for design and styling homes grew for years before launching her business in 2019. "I'd been a customer of The Market for years and dreamed of opening my own showroom, but I finally took a leap of faith and asked for merchant space of my own," Jared said.

Double J Creative Solutions combines traditional style with a modern flare. Her design space is filled with a mix of current pieces from the Dallas market, antiques and estate sale finds, and some items she has refurbished herself.

"It's so rewarding to find art, furniture and decor that inspires clients to add elements of design their own homes," Jared said.

"I like to pick up interesting pieces that you might not see everywhere," Jared continued. For example, her signature pieces are resin balloon dog statues in a wide variety of colors. "They are fun and whimsical and designed to make you smile."

The Market stands out among Tulsa shopping destinations because it is home to more than 100



**FLORAL ARRANGEMENT:** This beautiful floral arrangement is a Forever Green Art piece that contains real flowers and is an example of the gifts provided at Double J Creative Solutions.

locally-owned showrooms and boutiques featuring home décor, furnishings, gifts, and accessories unique to the area.

"Now, more than ever, it is important to support local small businesses," Jared said. "That's what The Market is all about," Jared continued. "Building small businesses and developing strong, personal relationships with our customers to make our community flourish."

There is a strong camaraderie among the business owners at The Market. "We are working together to brainstorm how to rebuild our businesses after COVID-19 and engage our customers by providing new opportunities and



GTR Media Group photo

**WELCOMING VISITORS:** Jamie Jared, owner of Double J Creative Solutions, displays one of her many interesting gifts on display at The Market at Walnut Creek.

events at The Market," Jared said.

One of those events was a Father's Day celebration with Grady Nichols on June 18. The Market also will be hosting a Farmers Market and Sidewalk Sale on July 11 which offers an outdoor experience for customers to shop and

support The Market vendors.

Located at 81st Street and Harvard Avenue, The Market at Walnut Creek has been a favorite shopping and dining destination of Tulsans for more than 16 years. The Market is open seven days a week, and is home to Bluestone

by Day, a four-star, full-service restaurant offering daily lunch specials and Saturday brunch.

Visit The Market to find furnishings and unique treasures that will transform any home, or grab a gift unlike anywhere else, complete with complimentary gift wrap.

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Bixby Breeze photo

**BIXBY CHURCH GROCERY GIVEAWAY:** Members of the Bixby Free Will Baptist Church began distributing 500 units of fresh dairy, vegetables, and fruits on May 30 to late June to anyone who came by. Christian Danforth of the church was helpful in raising awareness of this event. The Bixby Free Will Baptist Church is located at 15801 S. Memorial Dr. in Bixby.

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