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SAINT JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH WELCOMES NEW RECTOR See Page 22

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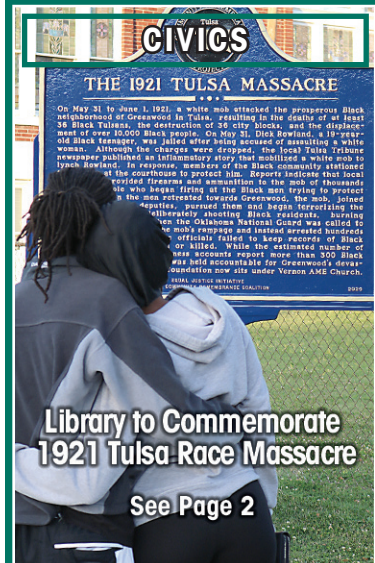
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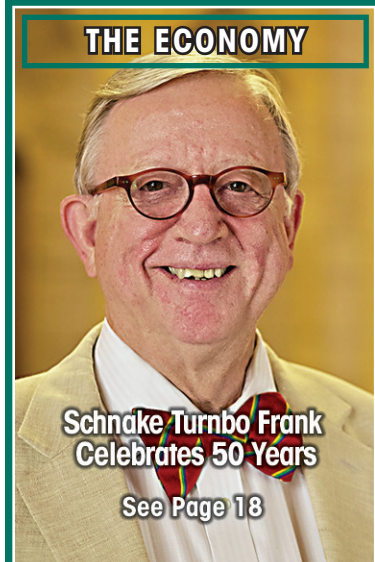
February 2021

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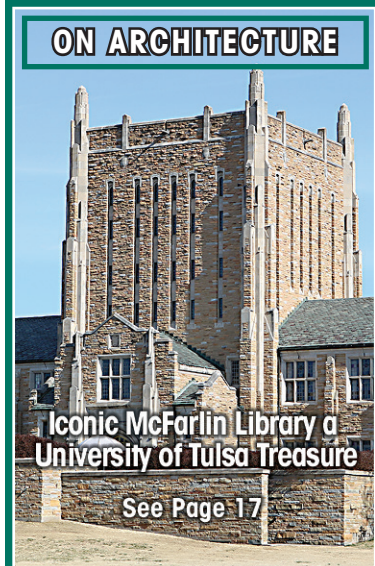
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Iconic McFarlin Library a University of Tulsa Treasure See Page 17

Tulsa Port of Catoosa, the Nation's Most Inland Port, Celebrates 50 Years

Tulsa Ports officially kicked off 50th anniversary celebrations for the Tulsa Port of Catoosa in January. Commemorative events will be held each month leading up to a formal ceremony in June. The \$1.2 billion navigation system was dedicated by President Richard Nixon on June 5, 1971. Since its opening, the Tulsa Port of Catoosa has shipped over 87 million tons and currently contributes \$300 million in economic impact in Oklahoma.

During the 50-year celebration event a ceremony was held with 50 items that went into a time capsule (both historical items and Port of Catoosa memorabilia), and remarks were held from new Port Authority Board Chair, Dewey Bartlett.

The waterway was named for U.S. Sen. John L. McClellan of Arkansas and U.S. Sen. Robert S. Kerr of Oklahoma. Both had worked to realize the dream of a navigable waterway. As a former Oklahoma governor and as chair of the U.S. Senate Rivers and Harbors Subcommittee of the Public Works Committee, Kerr had used his political power to secure the project's funding.

The first barge entered the Tulsa Port of Catoosa carrying 650 tons of newsprint on January 21, 1971.

"The City of Tulsa-Rogers County Port Authority has a proven history and reputation of providing strong, progressive, and business-friendly leadership to this organization now known as Tulsa Ports. It is an exciting time to be a part of Tulsa Ports and we are looking forward to the challenges ahead with the leadership from the board and our new slate of officers," said David Yarbrough, port director. "We will continue to anticipate and meet the needs of manufacturing and transportation-based industries. We also want to recognize and thank Steve Dowty who has served as our chair these past two years, leading us through several challenges as



OPENING REMARKS: Newly appointed Port Authority Board Chair Dewey Bartlett opens events for the Tulsa Port of Catoosa 50-year anniversary. At left is Port Director David Yarbrough.

well as the evolution of our new brand."

Tulsa Ports is one of the largest multimodal shipping complexes and industrial parks in the central U.S., with locations in both Catoosa and Inola. The combined locations total approximately 5,000 acres and result in an annual economic impact of over \$300 million to the State of Oklahoma.

The Catoosa location is one of the largest, most inland river-port/industrial parks in the United States, hosting 70 companies on-site that manufacture and ship diverse products, including steel, fertilizer, industrial gas, wheat and consumer goods. In 2019, Tulsa Ports added a second location in Inola that features a 2,000-acre rail-served industrial property with land available in contiguous sections up to 1,500 acres. Tulsa Ports is managed



PRESIDENTIAL WELCOME: President Richard Nixon dedicates the Tulsa Port of Catoosa on June 5, 1971. Since its opening, the Tulsa Port of Catoosa has shipped over 87 million tons and currently contributes \$300 million in economic impact in Oklahoma.

and operated by the City of Tulsa-Rogers County Port Authority and provides development services through Tulsa's Port of Catoosa Facilities Authority that

include build/leaseback arrangements.

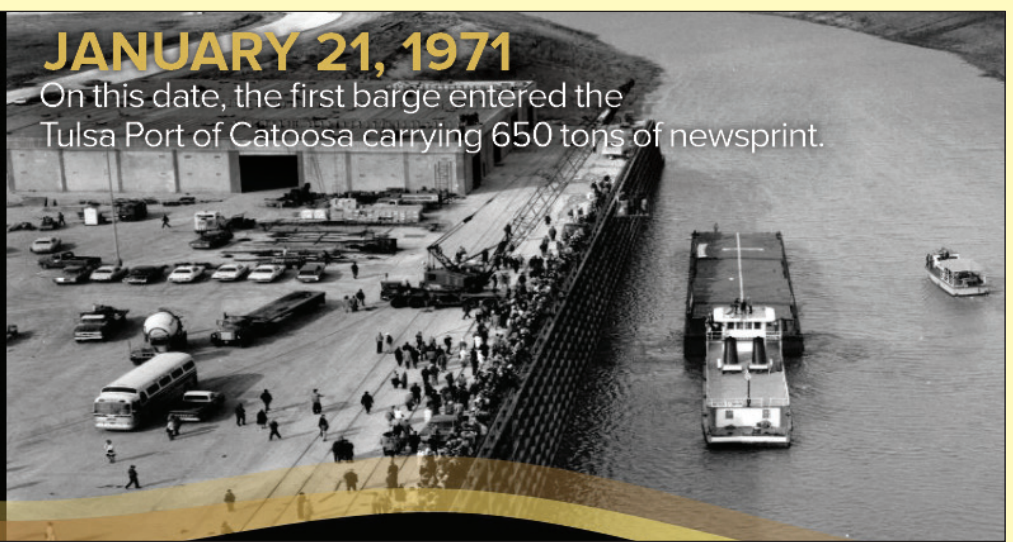
The GTR Media Group will follow Tulsa Port of Catoosa events throughout the year.

KUDOS of the MONTH: Tulsa Port of Catoosa



JANUARY 21, 1971

On this date, the first barge entered the Tulsa Port of Catoosa carrying 650 tons of newsprint.



Tulsa City-County Library to Commemorate the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial with Events

Courtesy Tulsa City-County Library

To commemorate the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre, Tulsa City-County Library (TCCL) is hosting author events, panel discussions, a curated exhibit titled "TCCL Remembers – Commemorating Tulsa's Race Massacre with Education, Empathy and Healing," and more leading up to the Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial in May. Beginning in February, a variety of virtual programs are scheduled to educate and promote healing and empathy by increasing historical and political awareness of Tulsa's history. Local and national community members will be invited to participate in these virtual programs.

The purpose of these events is to foster education about the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre by making materials and resources accessible to children and adults in Tulsa County and beyond, to build empathy by compelling audiences to reflect on the human cost of institutionalized racism, and to promote healing through sharing the stories of Tulsa Race Massacre survivors with a mainstream audience. The TCCL Remembers exhibit, which is set to open in April and will be housed at the Rudisill Regional Library, 1520 N. Hartford, will offer a unique, immersive way for participants to learn about this tragic historical event as well as the racial and political conditions leading up to and following the Tulsa Race Massacre itself.

TCCL's African-American Resource Center has specialized collections of materials about the Race Massacre, from first-hand accounts to primary newspaper clippings and original photographs, that will be used in many programs as well as the exhibit. Other TCCL-owned resources, including databases and collection items, will help make these events accessible to a broad and diverse audience.

Community Read Event: "Black Wall Street 100: Live Interview With Author Hannibal B. Johnson" Tuesday, Feb. 16, at 6 p.m. on Zoom. An expert and scholar on the history of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre, author Hannibal B. Johnson will speak about his newest book, "Black Wall Street 100: An American City Grapples With Its Historical Racial Trauma," followed by a Q&A. Nearly 100 years later, Johnson addresses the psychological and historical trauma left by the devastation of the massacre and the resilience of the

extraordinary entrepreneurs of the '20s and those who carry on the legacy today. "Black Wall Street 100" is endorsed by the Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial Commission and the 400 Years of African American History Commission. Register online at www.tulsalibrary.org/events or email register@tulsalibrary.org to receive a Zoom invite for this event.

"African American Heritage Bowl" Monday, Feb. 25, 6-7 p.m. This year's bowl is virtual and will take place via Zoom and Kahoot! It is open to all junior high and high school students and community groups interested in learning about the horrific events of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre. Each team can have four members. Each high school and junior high school may register only one team per school. To participate in the bowl, register online at www.tulsalibrary.org/aarc. A maximum of six copies of the quiz book will be available for pickup at any TCCL regional library for registered school and community team groups. To watch the bowl, register online at www.tulsalibrary.org/events to receive a Zoom invite for this event.

Community Read Event: "An Evening with Mira Jacob" Thursday, March 18, 6 p.m. on Zoom. Join author Mira Jacob as she discusses her book "Good Talk," which has been described as "a bold, wry and intimate graphic memoir about American identity, interracial families and the realities that divide us." "Good Talk" examines the conversations we have about race, sexuality and love with insight, humor and heart. A Q&A will follow her presentation. Register online at www.tulsalibrary.org/events or email register@tulsalibrary.org to receive a Zoom invite for this event.

"Unite Tulsa: Empathy, Education and Healing" Thursday, April 8, 7 p.m. on Zoom. We will commemorate the Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial by sparking a conversation about race relations in Oklahoma, with particular emphasis on the themes of empathy, education and healing. Join Unite Tulsa for this forum for residents of Tulsa County to share the ways they're working to make our community a better, more inclusive place to live. Selected speakers will have five minutes to talk about their chosen topic using 20 slides set to auto advance every 15 seconds. Register online at www.tulsalibrary.org/events or email register@tulsalibrary.org to receive a Zoom invite for this event.

Community Read Event: "Fire-side Chat With Author Robin DiAngelo" Thursday, April 22, 6 p.m. on Zoom. New York Times best-selling author Robin DiAngelo joins us to discuss her book "White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism." Described by author Michael Eric Dyson as a "vital, necessary and beautiful book," "White Fragility" has played a key role in the growing antiracism movement. DiAngelo examines the way white fragility reinforces racist structures and strives to equip readers with strategies for engaging in constructive cross-racial dialogue. A Q&A will follow. Register online at www.tulsalibrary.org/events or email register@tulsalibrary.org to receive a Zoom invite for this event.

"Meet Author Jason Reynolds: Winner of Tulsa Library Trust's 2021 Anne V. Zarrow Award for Young Readers' Literature" Thursday, May 6 at 7 p.m. Jason Reynolds is the New York Times best-selling author of "All American Boys" and other works for young adult and middle-grade audiences. "As a black man and a white man, both writers and educators, we came together to co-write a book about how systemic racism and police brutality affect the lives of young people in America, in order to create an important, unique and honest work that would give young people and the people who educate them a tool for having these difficult but absolutely vital conversations," said Reynolds about his book "All American Boys," which he co-wrote with Brendan Kiely. Reynolds will receive the Zarrow award and speak about his life and works. The Zarrow award is given annually by the Tulsa Library Trust. Its purpose is to give formal recognition, on behalf of the Tulsa County community, to nationally acclaimed authors who have made a significant contribution to the field of literature for children and young adults. Visit www.tulsalibrary.org/zarrowaward for more details.

Community Read Event: "Friendship Mattered Then! Friendship Matters Now! Presented by Clifton L. Taubert" Tuesday, May 11 at 6 p.m. on Zoom. For 36 hours in 1921, friendship lost its way. Great harm was done to people and property. Black Wall Street disappeared in billowing clouds of smoke. Dreams were shattered and some forever. According to Clifton L. Taubert, the embrace of genuine friendship cannot restore the lost



GTR Media Group photo

HISTORIC REMEMBRANCE: This couple toured Tulsa's Greenwood District recently and learned the area's history from this historical landmark located next to the Vernon AME Church at 311 N. Greenwood Ave.

past, but it can ensure a different future ... one where 1921 will not be repeated and where all are respected, affirmed and included. "Over the past few months of this year, the history of Tulsa 1921 has been revisited as scores of people ... writers, young people, dancers, lawyers, movies, books, students and librarians all lending their voices as history to be taught and lessons to be learned. We are all in search for that more perfect union – a way of living together that requires friendship. We must not allow friendship to lose its way," said Taubert, author of "Eight Habits of the Heart: Embracing the Values That Build Strong

Communities." Join Taubert for this enlightening presentation to commemorate the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial. Register online at www.tulsalibrary.org/events or email register@tulsalibrary.org to receive a Zoom invite for this event.

TCCL is a proud recipient of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial Commission Grant Program. All grants have been made possible from the generosity of WPX Energy.

For more information about these programs, call the AskUs Hotline, 918-549-7323, or visit the library's website, www.tulsalibrary.org.



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Tulsa Boat, Sport & Travel Show Reports Record Sales

65th Annual Show Sees Increasing Demand for Outdoor Recreation Products

The Tulsa Boat, Sport & Travel Show saw sales records shattered at the 65th annual show at Expo Square as continued demand for outdoor recreation products grows.

Hundreds of RVs and boats were purchased during the week with one dealer topping over \$10 million dollars in sales volume. Multiple exhibitors sold all units brought to the show noting it was a tremendously successful event for them.

The show safely hosted attendees and exhibitors with Expo Square officials complimenting the compliance of COVID protocols and CDC guideline adherence followed by the event.

Thousands of Oklahomans were positively impacted by the chance to work in various roles supporting the show. Many added this was their first opportunity for employment in months.

Plans are already underway for the 2022 show.



GTR Media Group photo
GOLDEN DRILLER WELCOME: The Golden Driller at Expo Square welcomes guests to this year's Tulsa Boat Sport and Travel Show.



GTR Media Group photo
BEST IN BOATS, SPORTS AND TRAVEL: Visitors enjoyed their visit to this year's Tulsa Boat Sports and Travel Show.

WINTER IN GREATER TULSA



GTR Media Group photo

WINTERTIME: Greater Tulsa stood in the middle of the record cold wave that penetrated most of the nation in February. Freezing temperatures and with ice and snow were the rule, impacting schools, businesses, travel and more. In the photo, volunteers help a driver get into a neighborhood street off of Sheridan Road in south Tulsa.



GTR Media Group photo

WELCOME: Joy welcomes visitors to Tulsa Woodward Park during a snowy winter day.

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

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

All advertising published in any or all of the GTR Media Group is subject to the applicable rate card, copies of which are available at the GTR Media Group office or from the accountable representative listed in the above newspaper credits.



CIVICS

Healthcare Professionals, Tulsa Thanks You

In the last year, a global pandemic has presented Tulsans with a series of unprecedented challenges. Through it all, one group of Tulsans has worked to save lives.

When we think about heroes in normal times, we think about family members or first responders or even famous athletes. But in this pandemic, the heroes are those who go to work every day fighting to save the lives of our neighbors: Tulsa's health care professionals.

Since the pandemic began, we've lost more than 600 Tulsans — a terrible loss. So many families in our community have lost loved ones to a virus most of us had never even heard of 18 months ago.

Yet Tulsa doctors, nurses and

hospital staff continue to go to work despite a very real threat of a deadly disease that could take their life or the life of one of their loved ones. We owe them a giant debt of gratitude.

Over the course of this pandemic, we've responded as a city government in almost every way we know how. We've asked people to stay at home, wear masks and make sacrifices we never thought we would have to ask Tulsans to make.

I thought we did a great job of thanking our health care workers as a community in the early going of the pandemic.

The signs and lights people put up one evening when people across

the city clanged pots and pans outside showed true community support for those working to save the lives of our neighbors.

But Tulsa's health care heroes are under far greater strain today than they were back in March and April.

For that reason, our team at the city decided to create a way for

our health care workers to know how much they really are valued in this community. In January, we asked Tulsans for 15-second video submissions for our "Tulsa Thanks You" video project. We received nearly 80 videos from various Tulsans and organizations thanking our health care heroes for their service. It was an incredibly humbling experience getting to see everyone's debt of gratitude toward those who are saving lives in Tulsa.

When I ask local health care leaders how we can show support

for their work, I get a very common answer: "Wear a mask!" So to those who maybe didn't get a chance to show their appreciation for our heroes with a video submission, wearing a mask and doing your part to help mitigate the spread of this disease is a great way to thank our health care workers by helping keep our hospitalization numbers down.

I invite you to watch our Tulsa Thanks You video and learn more about our efforts to thank our health care workers at: www.cityoftulsa.org/TulsaThanksYou.

From Tulsa's Mayor



By G.T. BYNUM
Mayor of Tulsa



Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial Commission Launches Walking App

People soon will be able to take a realistic journey through the historic streets of Tulsa's Greenwood District, thanks to an immersive augmented reality (AR) mobile app.

The Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial Commission will launch the cinematic mobile AR experience to allow visitors to experience the vanished places, people and stories that built the thriving prosperous African American community known as "Black Wall Street."

The virtual walking tour will reveal the obscured landscape and hidden evidence of the worst act of racial violence and domestic terrorism in American history — the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre. Users will combine a physical walking tour with a mobile app so they can experience the history while moving through the very places of historic Greenwood.

Users of the app will learn more about the hidden stories of the African American pioneers, educators and visionary entrepreneurs who built Black Wall Street. Featured individuals will include O.W. Gurley, Simon Berry, E.W. Wood, "BC" Franklin and Dr. A.C. Jackson, among others.

The virtual tour will feature key landmark locations including the intersection of Greenwood and Archer (the gateway to Black Wall Street), historic Greenwood Chamber Buildings in "Deep Greenwood," Dreamland Theater, Vernon AME Church, Booker T. Washington High School, the Pathway to Hope and others.

The mobile walking tour app will be released by the Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial Commission. The app is being developed by Kujanga (KJ) Jackson and is sponsored by Cox Communications.



GTR Media Group photo

ON BOARD: Members of the Tulsa-based Resolute Public Relations team were on board for the Tulsa Port of Catoosa 50-Year anniversary held January 21. From left are Kellie Kittinger, Lacey Taylor, Julia Wood, Nicole Morgan and Avery Olmstead.

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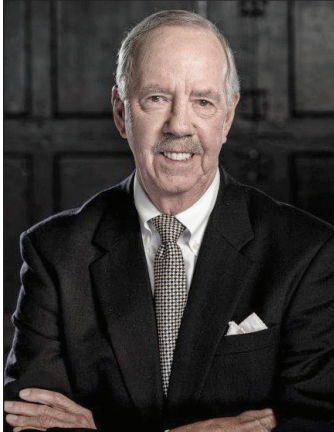
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The Constitution's Intent: County Officials Are Elected to Run Counties, State Officials the State

This year during the 2021 Legislature, lawmakers could be asked to consider a bill from Tulsa County, which could be one of the most progressive for county government in Oklahoma history.

Ever since statehood, counties have had to rely upon the Legislature to pass laws to allow counties to govern. Unlike cities which have the power and authority to pass local ordinances to manage city affairs, counties do not have this authority. For this reason, every legislative session there are dozens and dozens of bills filed on behalf of counties which

From Tulsa County



By COMMISSIONER RON PETERS

have nothing to do with state government yet counties need these to provide more effective and efficient services to taxpayers. This is particularly true in each of the five urban counties with populations over 100,000 where county officials are required to provide government services beyond taking care of county roads and bridges.

The drafters of the Oklahoma Constitution understood early on that local governments should be allowed to govern themselves. Being fearful of a state government with too much power

over local affairs, the drafters include Article V - Limitations On Legislative Powers - in the Consti-

tuition. Article V specifically states: "The Legislature shall not pass any local or special laws regulating the affairs of counties, cities, towns, wards, or school districts or prescribing the powers or duties of officers in counties, cities, towns, election or school districts"

With this prohibition on the legislature to keep out of county affairs, then why have counties continued to ask the legislature to do what they are not permitted to do? The answer is that there has never been a bill passed that would allow, but not require, counties to have ordinance making authority so they are not dependent upon the legislature. The constitution is clear what the legislature cannot do but the law is silent on how would the counties manage their own affairs. The clear and obvious answer is by granting counties the same authorities which cities have: the opportunity to pass county ordinances.

Over the years Tulsa County has been successful in getting dozens of county bills passed by the legislature on subjects which could

have been approved by the Board of County Commissioners if they had ordinance making authority. Subjects such as allowing recognition of employees for their performance, allowing records to be stored in the cloud and not on microfiche, changing the size of the margins on documents filed with the county clerk, allowing employees to participate in a savings plan program, allowing employees to earn tuition free advanced education, allowing elected officials to hire attorneys, allowing counties to create energy efficiency programs, and on and on. The legislative process to approve these measures has taken a tremendous amount of Legislators time with no benefits to the state.

Some of the important areas of service and operations where county ordinance making authority would be utilized are: county code enforcement, law enforcement, personnel management, purchasing, information technology, social services, parks and recreation, economic development, and capital improvements. Each

of these responsibilities of county government fall under the administrative authority and responsibilities of county officials, not state legislators or the governor.

Even with ordinance making authority counties, like cities, would still be required to follow state laws and rules and regulations issued by state agencies, which govern specific areas within a county.

Ordinance making authority doesn't change the form of county government but it can greatly improve the functions of county government, with both internal operations and external services. And citizen engagement with their county officials can be greatly improved because county officials would have the tools to respond to issues of importance to them.

County officials are elected to run the county. State officials are elected to run the state. It's time the constitution's intent in that regard was followed and this division of power and responsibilities was clearly separated with county officials being allowed to do what they were elected to do.

Tulsa County Offices Move Into New Building

All departments under the Tulsa County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), as well as the District Attorney's Civil Division, have begun to move in to the new county building, 218 W. 6th St., across Denver Avenue from the Tulsa County Courthouse. Beginning Feb. 1, all BOCC meetings are held in the new building.

The move is part of a multi-year effort to renovate the former CommunityCare building to provide a central location for all County-related public services. Once the move is complete, slated for the third week of February, only

court-related services and operations will remain in the courthouse. The courthouse will then begin additional renovations to accommodate Alternative Courts, the Public Defender's Office and other services currently located outside the courthouse, which will save taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars every year in leasing fees.

"This move is the beginning of a new era for Tulsa County," said BOCC Commissioner and Chairman Stan Sallee. "We're taking services that have been housed in separate locations for decades and centralizing them in a one-

stop-shop for our citizens. The taxpayers of Tulsa County will be able to record land records, obtain permits, pay property taxes, reserve a park shelter and take advantage of so many of our other services all in one easy-to-access location."

Public Access and Parking

The building will be open to the public Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. However, the BOCC continues to ask the public to conduct their business remotely or by mail as much as possible in accordance with previous guidance regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

Masks will be required to enter the building and must remain on in all public areas. Social distancing will be enforced in the building and on the elevators.

As with the Courthouse, security checks will be required to enter the building before being permitted entrance and access to County offices.

The public may park in the surface lot visitor parking on the south side of the building at 7th Street and Denver Avenue and then walk to the entrance on 6th Street or may also choose from available street parking in front of the entrance.



GTR Media group photo
EXPANDED SPACE: Tulsa County will have expanded space for its operations with the move into the former CommunityCare building at 218 W. 6th St.




HONORING MLK JR: Staff members and students from the Tulsa Honor Academy honored Martin Luther King on MLK Day during the parade.



MKL DAY PARADE: Students from the Jenks High School Black Student Union were among the participants in this year's Martin Luther King Day parade in Tulsa's Greenwood District.

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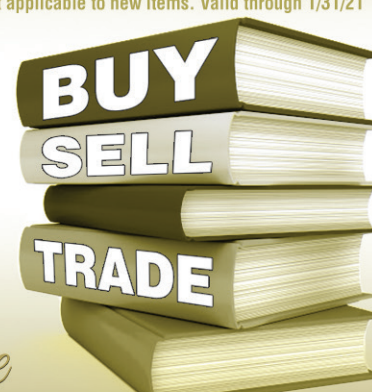
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VARIETY

Shann Goshorn's Timeless Art at Gilcrease

Time has slowed during this past year. When one day resembles the next, life, it seems, stands still. For over a decade now, I've filled this "Show Buzz" column with the who, where and why info needed to pack one's calendar. To do it all, you'd need to flit from one thing to the next with hardly time to catch a breath. Sometimes I don't miss that pace, but most often I do. Next year, with any luck, we will have returned to the whirlwind of concerts, theatre outings and full-stadium activities. In the meantime, we have the opportunity to take life a bit more slowly.

Over the last few months, I've come to know Tulsa more broadly. What was there to do, I had wondered, that didn't include being part of an audience? Among my discoveries are museums that are uncrowded and can be visited comfortably, along with artistic endeavors that, to be fully appreciated, require deeper focus and full attention. In my languid, contemplative moments, I find I have these to give.

To that end, I have spent time at Gilcrease Museum with the work of Tulsan Shann Goshorn. Shann passed away from cancer in December 2018, not knowing that a major exhibition of her work would occupy Gilcrease's galleries for a full six months. "Weaving History Into Art, the Enduring Legacy of Shan Goshorn," opened at Gilcrease last fall. A second rotation of her work went on display beginning Jan. 15 and can be viewed through Mar. 28.

Acclaimed internationally for her art in various media and her advocacy for Native issues, Shann dedicated her last years to

weaving baskets. An Eastern Band Cherokee transplanted from North Carolina to Oklahoma, Shann didn't have local mentors to instruct her in basket weaving. She taught herself to double-weave a basket, a very intricate process, by studying a finished basket for over a year. She created her first in 2010.

In the beautiful catalog that accompanies the Goshorn exhibition, Shann wrote, "It was a thrilling accident to discover that the vessel shapes of baskets are a non-threatening vehicle to educate audiences. But even more exciting, I am observing viewers literally leaning into my work, eager to learn more about the history of this country's First People, which can lead to the next wonderful step of engaging in honest dialogue about the issues that still plague Indian people today."

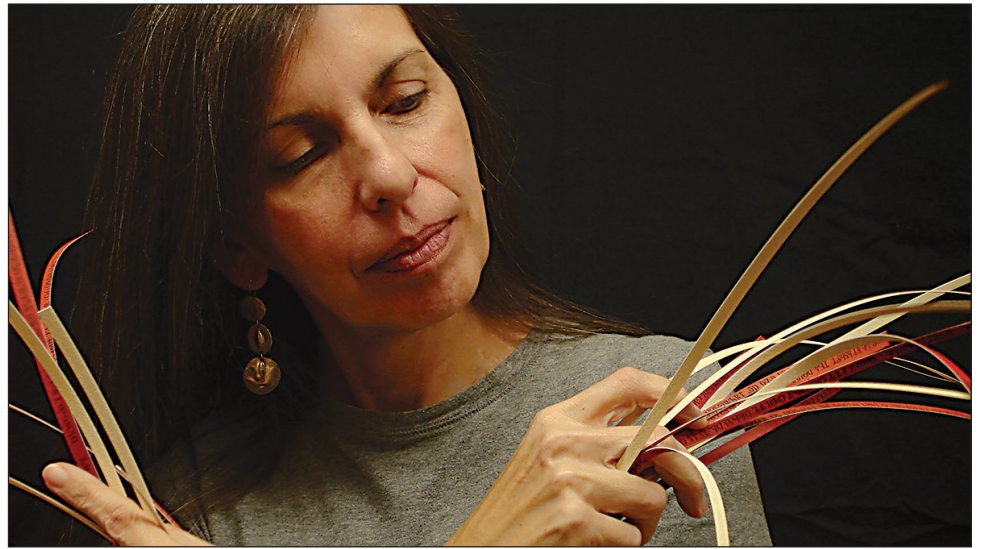
Shann's technique involved the transfer of historical documents, personal statements and archival photos to delicate (and very light-sensitive) paper splints, which were woven into vessels. Her baskets also incorporate her painting and photography skills. The work is visually exquisite, while addressing such topics as violence directed against women, the cultural genocide engendered by Indian boarding schools, the continuity of culture, and Native sovereignty.

Gilcrease Museum's Mark Dolph is chief curator of the exhibition. He was tasked with gathering Shann's work from museums and collectors across the country. The exhibition includes a total of 65 baskets along with the art of four other female Native artists. Unexpectedly, Gilcrease owns only one

Show Buzz



By NANCY HERMANN



SELF PORTRAIT: Native artist and Tulsan Shann Goshorn.

Goshorn basket, "Sealed Fate" — which was Shann's first.

Dolph maintains that Shann's earliest work is every bit as powerful in advocacy as her last basket, and that the use of the word "art" in the exhibition title is very intentional. "So often these kinds of objects are considered craft and not art, and I fully disagree with that. They are art in the hands of someone like Shann, or some of the other women in the show."

Integrated thoughtfully into the exhibition in a manner that complements the show as a whole is the art of Carol Emarthle-Douglas, Anita Fields, Lisa Rutherford and Holly Wilson. Shann and Fields were contemporaries and traded each other's work. You can see those traded pieces in the exhibition. The other three accomplished artists thought of Shann as a mentor.

The second part of the exhibition, now on display, has 23 baskets that were not in the first show. "It is a different exhibition with some carry-over between the two," says Dolph. "I really think the second rotation has more of Shann's later monumental works than the first."

When asked to talk about his favorites, Dolph chose "Unexpected Gift." "It deals with [Native American] boarding schools, which is a very dark subject, like a lot of her subjects. They are heavy. They are dark, but 'Unexpected Gift' is like this positive that she finds through the trauma of the boarding school experience. Many of these students found life-long friendships as a result of that experience."

In the piece, Shann incorporated a class photograph from an early Indian boarding school into the basket along with a traditional Cherokee basket-weaving pattern called "unbroken friendship." The result is stunning and resonant. "I think the pattern says everything about the meaning within that basket," notes Dolph. It includes Shann's grandmother's recollections of her boarding school experience written by Shann on the blue splints, and Shann's own mother's handwritten memories of her time at a Cherokee boarding school on the white splints.



Photo by PETER PHILBIN

FRIENDSHIP BASKET: Shann Goshorn's "Unexpected Gift," exhibiting a Cherokee basket-weaving pattern called "unbroken friendship."

Dolph's favorite work in the exhibition is "Believe!" It was one of the last works Shann completed. "For me, it shows her very positive outlook on life in general. She created this after learning that she had cancer." Dolph adds, "I think the other reason that particular work has become a favorite of mine is the wonderful essay written by Robin Tilly."

A local artist and writer, Robin Green Tilly honored her longtime, precious friendship with Shann in the catalog's closing essay, titled "Believe." "She left us love to warp-and-weave through the grief of missing her beyond measure into the brighter version of who we always were in her eyes. She believed in us and a future that could gather the strands and form a better tomorrow. Between my tears of sorrow are woven silken threads of gratitude."

Like Robin, I'm greatly comforted when art supersedes death and looks forward to another time.

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Looking for New Local Music? Go Fish

Add this column to the ever-growing list of routines derailed by the pandemic. This is a column about local live music as a celebration; a gathering of the masses around the beating of the drum, as our ancestors would say. Such gatherings have now been on pause for nearly a year.

Being a glass-is-one-eighth-full type of person, I refuse to focus on what we don't have. The silver lining of the live music semi-hiatus is that I've been able to explore the recorded music of local talent more aggressively. Last month, I shared my excitement about Freak Juice's "They Call Us Juice," this month I've got another good one. So consider this column, like the bulk of our daily routines, officially derailed. Instead of Searching for the Sound, this month, we're fishing for the sound.

Searching for The Sound



By BRYAN CANTRELL

Saugeye

Saugeye is a fish. More specifically, it is a unique species of the perch family, a cross between the walleye and the sauger, not native to the sooner state but introduced in hatcheries, eventually filling newly-created niches in

Oklahoma reservoirs. But that's not important for this column. It hasn't gone that far off the rails. Saugeye, as it concerns us, is a roots music collaboration from Tulsa musicians Jared Tyler, Seth Lee Jones, Jake Lynn and Casey Van Beek. The band's debut, self-titled album, available at hortonrecords.com, dropped on Jan. 29.

Not-so-fun-fact: Jared Tyler at The Colony last March was the last time I enjoyed indoor live music. His shows never disappoint, and as soon as I get that shot in my arm, I'll be looking for his next gig. The accomplished singer songwriter with three solo albums to his credit is the band's frontman, playing acoustic guitar, dobro and handling the lion's share of the vocals.

Another regular that I'm anxious to see in an indoor venue again soon is Seth Lee Jones, who plays every Thursday from 9 – 12 p.m. at The Colony. Jones, who plays electric and slide guitar on the album, is truly a guitar aficionado. A master luthier and a master slide guitar player, he is known for his unique hand-made guitars, and his one-of-a-kind gritty sound.

Saugeye's rhythm section gives the band a strong foundation, with drummer Jake Lynn taking advantage of more down time than usual due to a limited 2020 tour with his other band, Jason Boland and the Stragglers, to join the collaboration.

Rounding out the rhythm section on bass is Tulsa Sound veteran Casey Van Beek, whose storied career in the music industry brought him from the Los Angeles area to Tulsa in 1975 to work with Leon Russell's Shelter Records. Van Beek, who played in Linda Ronstadt's band with Glenn Fry and Don Henley pre-Eagles, fell in love with the Tulsa music scene and never left, joining Steve Ripley and Jamie Oldaker to form the Tractors, whose debut album went double platinum in 1994.

My over explanation of the namesake fish wasn't completely irrelevant. The hybrid saugeye represents the meshing of roots music genres: folk, blues, country and rock that Saugeye blends into spirited, heartfelt songs. These are not party songs about solo



PHIL CLARKIN Photography

SAUGEYE: From left, Seth Lee Jones, Jared Tyler, Jake Lynn and Casey Van Beek make up the Tulsa-based roots music collaboration. The band's self-titled debut album dropped on Jan. 29 and is available at hortonrecords.com

cups and pickup trucks (not that there's anything wrong with that), but meaningful and relatable songs about something as simple as putting on a pair of britches one leg at a time, or a tear jerking ode to a loving dog.

Visit hortonrecords.com to listen to a few sample tracks and I think you'll agree that Saugeye's debut album is a must have for Tulsa music connoisseurs.

Free Facts

Branjae is taking aim at willful ignorance and challenging the notion that ignorance is bliss. "Holding to the notion our beliefs might save us. Swearing by the ignorance just won't change us," sings Tulsa's queen of Soul, Funk and R&B in her recent single, Free Facts.

Speaking, or singing out on issues that matter is nothing new for Branjae, whose collaboration with Gangstagrass on the hip-hop/bluegrass fusion cover of Woody Guthrie's "This Land Is Your Land" was mentioned in last August's issue of Rolling Stone for its socially conscious message. The iconic magazine called it, "a most welcome renovation of the folkie national anthem."

The 2020 Black Wall Street Award winner for Best Female Artist, Branjae's showcase of talent can only be fully appreciated in a live setting, as her stage



Photo by JOSH NEW

BRANJAE: Tulsa's queen of Soul, Funk and R&B just released a single titled, Free Facts, available on all streaming platforms.

presence puts her in a league of her own, her energy unrivaled. But there's also a poignancy to her songwriting and a storytelling quality to her music that is easier to appreciate when we slow down and focus on the words and message of her songs.

Free Facts, a collaboration with producer and fellow Count Tutu band member Nathan Wright, is available on all streaming platforms.

We are in the darkness before the dawn as it's too cold to be outside together, and too unsafe to be inside together. Fortunately, many local musicians are using their down time to record new music to get us by until we can all get back out there safely to keep searching, keep listening.

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HEALTH & WELLNESS

OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine Opens \$40 Million Facility in the Cherokee Nation

The historic partnership between Oklahoma State University and the Cherokee Nation celebrated another milestone with the official ribbon cutting ceremony at the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine at the Cherokee Nation Jan. 15. The 84,000-square-foot facility opened its doors to students, faculty and staff just after the new year.

"The opening of the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine at Cherokee Nation is a historic achievement for all of Indian Country as we produce more Native and rural doctors for our people," said Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Chuck Hoskin Jr. "We know that Native Americans make up only 0.2% of medical students nationwide and through this partnership we can now actively increase the shortage of diverse physicians and recruit them to work upon graduating. Through these efforts and our partnership with Oklahoma State University, we will continue to make advances in our tribal health system."

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the ceremony was only attended by a small group of dignitaries and leaders from the Cherokee Nation and OSU Center for Health Sciences. In addition to Chief Hoskin, Cherokee Nation Health Services Executive Director Dr. Stephen Jones, OSU Center for Health Sciences President

and OSU-COM Dean Dr. Kayse Shrum, OSUCOM at the Cherokee Nation Dean Dr. William J. Pettit, and Associate Dean of Rural and Tribal Health Dr. Doug Nolan took part in the ribbon cutting.

Also attending was Cherokee Tribal Councilors Mary Baker Shaw and Mike Dobbins as well as former Principal Chief and current Executive Chairman of Cherokee Nation Businesses Bill John Baker.

The OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine at the Cherokee Nation is the first tribally affiliated medical school in the country with a focus on educating primary care physicians who have an interest in serving rural and underserved populations in Oklahoma.

"This ribbon cutting brings us to the end of an almost decade-long journey to transform a shared vision into reality. We are here because the Cherokee Nation and Oklahoma State University endeavored to find a common solution to their individual challenges through a shared vision," said Dr. Shrum. "This partnership is an example of the tremendous good that can occur when trust is the foundation of a relationship. My hope is that future physicians who train at the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine at the Cherokee Nation will strive to emulate the special relationship that we are blessed to

share with our good friends at the Cherokee Nation."

The new \$40 million medical school site constructed by the Cherokee Nation for OSU is an additional location of the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine in Tulsa. It is located on the W.W. Hastings Hospital campus in Tahlequah, the capital of the Cherokee Nation.

OSUCOM at the Cherokee Nation welcomed its inaugural class of 54 students during a White Coat Ceremony held on July 31. During their first semester, classes were held in a section of the new Cherokee Nation Outpatient Health Center, which is located next door to W.W. Hastings Hospital. It opened in fall 2019.

About Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences

Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences is a nationally recognized academic health center focused on teaching, research and patient care through its OSU Medicine clinics located throughout the Tulsa metro area. OSU Center for Health Sciences offers graduate and professional degrees through the College of Osteopathic Medicine, the School of Allied Health, the School of Health Care Administration, the School of Biomedical Sciences, and the School of Forensic Sciences. OSU Medicine operates a network of



Courtesy photo

RIBBON CUTTING TEAM: Ready to cut the ribbon are, from left, Former Principal Chief and current Executive Chairman of Cherokee Nation Businesses Bill John Baker, Principal Chief Chuck Hoskin Jr., OSU Center for Health Sciences President and OSU-COM Dean Dr. Kayse Shrum and OSU-COM at the Cherokee Nation Dean Dr. William J. Pettit.

clinics offering a multitude of specialty services including addiction medicine, cardiology, family medicine, internal medicine, pain management, pediatrics, psychiatry and women's health. Learn more at health.okstate.edu.

About Cherokee Nation

The Cherokee Nation is the federally recognized government of the Cherokee people and has inherent sovereign status recognized

by treaty and law. The seat of tribal government is the W.W. Keeler Complex near Tahlequah, Oklahoma, the capital of the Cherokee Nation. With more than 380,000 citizens, 11,000 employees and a variety of tribal enterprises ranging from aerospace and defense contracts to entertainment venues, Cherokee Nation is one of the largest employers in northeastern Oklahoma and the largest tribal nation in the United States.

OU-TULSA STUDENTS TAKE OUT FRUSTRATIONS ON COVID-19



GTR Media Group photos

PINATA BASH: A group of students at OU Tulsa took out their frustrations on the coronavirus recently.

The physical and occupational therapy students hit a few COVID-19 pinatas as part of a ceremony that replaced a canceled one this past summer. They were encouraged to express their frus-

trations about pandemic-related cancellations over the past year.

"I think everyone had a moment to get their anger and frustrations out and get ready for the new year and new semester. It was such a fun way to start," second-year student Courtney Plummer said.

"Usually we're fairly cerebral in what we do here, and I think they

enjoyed the surprise and enjoyed the thoughtfulness that our faculty put behind putting it together," Carrie Ciro, Department of Rehabilitation Science Chair said.

The pinatas were of course, filled with candy. At right, second-year student student Reagan Collins displays her candy after she walloped a pinata during the event.

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B.A.'s Silver Arrow Estates Residents and Associates Among First in the Nation for COVID-19 Vaccinations

Silver Arrow Estates, a Holiday Retirement Community located in Broken Arrow, was among the first communities in the country to receive the COVID-19 vaccine for its residents and associates.

Those who volunteered to participate in the onsite clinic received the vaccine at no cost to them. All seven of Holiday's assisted living communities nationwide have already been approved to receive the vaccine in the first round of the Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care (LTC) Program.

Holiday's independent living communities will be included in a future round when independent residential communities are prioritized, or as their local county or state prioritizes them. In this case, Tulsa County has authorized distribution for the community.

"Hope is no longer just on the horizon; it's here – not only in spirit, but in the form of the long-anticipated COVID-19 vaccine that will be offered to residents and associates at Holiday's senior living communities across the country, including Silver Arrow Estates," said Holiday Retirement CEO Lilly Donohue. "For the past nine months, I've been truly awestruck by the resilience, dedication, and adaptability of our residents and associates, and we're so grateful that they will be among the first group being vaccinated in this historic milestone and what hopefully will help end the pandemic."



VACCINE ANNOUNCEMENT: Residents of Silver Arrow Estates in Broken Arrow had the fortune to receive their vaccines from Cupid.



HEALFUL INFORMATION: This Passport Health professional meets with a Silver Arrow Estate resident before administering the COVID-19 vaccination.

ment CEO Lilly Donohue. "For the past nine months, I've been truly awestruck by the resilience, dedication, and adaptability of our residents and associates, and we're so grateful that they will be among the first group being vaccinated in this historic milestone and what hopefully will help end the pandemic."

The COVID-19 vaccine was ad-

ministered by Passport Health to participating Silver Arrow Estates' residents and associates in two doses, taken a few weeks apart. The onsite clinic began vaccinations on Feb. 2.

About Silver Arrow Estates

Surrounded by a green belt and the nearby Rose District, Silver Arrow Estates retirement com-

munity offers a country feel with urban conveniences. Seventeen acres of lush, green lawns with winding paved pathways and shady trees add to the warm, welcoming feel of this senior living campus. Outside is perfect for strolls for pets or picnics with the family. Silver Arrow Estates is located at 2601 S. Elm Pl. in Broken Arrow.

About Holiday Retirement

Holiday Retirement is in the business of helping older people live better. Pioneering the concept of independent senior living in 1971, Holiday Retirement has grown to help more than 30,000 residents in 43 states live better.

For more information about Holiday Retirement visit www.holidayretirement.com.

Tulsa Health Department Teams with Caring Van to Increase COVID-19 Vaccine Accessibility to Minorities

The Tulsa Health Department (THD) is working in partnership with the Oklahoma Caring Foundation to better reach at-risk communities and provide equitable access to the COVID-19 vaccines for Tulsa County residents who are currently eligible, which includes health care workers, first responders, and adults age 65 and older.

Mobile Caring Vans will be offering the vaccine at several local churches and community centers serving predominantly minority residents. THD will provide the vaccines to be used at the mobile clinics, which will serve 80-120 individuals at each location.

"The Oklahoma Caring Foundation has been a tremendous community partner for THD for more than 20 years, and we routinely work together to ensure equitable access to immunizations in Tulsa County," said THD Executive Director Dr. Bruce Dart. "We are pleased to partner with them to distribute the COVID-19 vaccine to eligible residents in low access areas in Tulsa County, especially in places where English may not be their native language.

Ensuring equitable access to the

COVID-19 vaccine is a top priority for THD. Recent research shows disparities in both the number of COVID-19 cases and willingness to get a COVID-19 vaccine among minority communities," Dart said.

"While there are many reasons for vaccine hesitancy, we strive to remove barriers related to transportation and vaccine access by establishing vaccine events in collaboration with community organizations, faith communities, and similar partners.

"It is our mission to provide access to preventive health services, including vaccines. Our Foundation partners have made the commitment and investment in the community to build trust in our program. When our vans are present outside of a church or school, residents are familiar with who we are and what we do," said Oklahoma Caring Foundation Manager Amy Pulliam.

Appointments for these clinics are handled through the church or community center, and filled within hours of opening. The Caring Vans visit the locations and return on the appropriate date to administer second doses to com-

plete the series for full protection at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Metropolitan Baptist Church, Antioch Baptist Church, New Jerusalem Baptist Church, Friendship Baptist Church and Tulsa Community Service Center. "We are planning to expand to additional locations as the supply of vaccine allows. Interested church or community organizations can contact the Oklahoma Caring Foundation through our website," said Oklahoma Caring Foundation Manager Amy Pulliam.

Health equity is a cornerstone for the Tulsa Health Department, as many of the programs offered by the agency specifically work to improve health outcomes among underserved residents to close life expectancy gaps and create opportunities for equitable outcomes.

We are committed to ensuring COVID-19 vaccine access to all communities, including minority communities in Tulsa County.

"The greatest way to achieve improvements in health is to provide targeted support to those who experience the greatest health disparities in our own community," said Dart. "This may not be the answer to the problem, but

it's a start in the right direction to provide equity in obtaining COVID-19 vaccines."

More information regarding vaccine availability in Tulsa County can be found at tulsa-health.org/COVIDvaccine information along with all other content on its website is accessible in 8 languages by using the built-in Google translate tool that can be used in any browser or device. For information regarding the Oklahoma COVID-19 Vaccine Plan, including the priority population framework for Oklahoma, please visit oklahoma.gov/covid19/vaccine-information.

About Tulsa Health Department

Since its establishment in 1950, the Tulsa Health Department serves as the primary public health agency to more than 600,000 Tulsa County residents, including 13 municipalities and four unincorporated areas. The agency is one of two autonomous local health departments in Oklahoma, with statutory public health jurisdiction throughout Tulsa County and the City of Tulsa. THD's mission is to improve the health and well-being of all Tulsa County

residents, in order to make Tulsa County the healthiest county in the country. THD was among the first health departments in the U.S. to receive national accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board. For more information, please visit www.tulsa-health.org.

About OklahomaCaringVan

The Oklahoma Caring Van Program delivers immunizations to protect children and adolescents from dangerous illnesses at no cost to their families. The Oklahoma Caring Van Program is uniquely designed to eliminate barriers that commonly prevent children from receiving on-time, age-appropriate immunizations in traditional health care settings. Since the program began in October 1999, thousands of children have received immunizations from registered immunization nurses aboard the Caring Vans. Immunization information is entered in the Oklahoma State Immunization Information System (OSIIS) so children's vaccine history is readily available. The Caring Vans travel to licensed child care centers, schools and community locations statewide.

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EDUCATION

TCC Names V.P. of Student Success and Equity

Tulsa Community College has named Eunice Tarver as Vice President of Student Success and Equity. With the pandemic and an effort to trim costs, this position went unfilled with President Leigh Goodson, Ph.D. stepping in to serve in that role for seven months.

The announcement is a promotion for Tarver who most recently served as TCC Northeast Campus Provost and Assistant Vice President of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. TCC also changed the position's title, formerly the Vice President of Student Affairs and Equity, to reflect the scope of work to improve student success outcomes from every sector of the College.

"Moving forward, I have every confidence that Tarver will carry on the good work already established in Student Affairs, while also reimagining the way we serve our students," said Goodson. "She has an excellent reputation as a leader, both at TCC and in the community, and in this role, those relationships will serve her well."

Tarver will oversee an expanded collaboration between Student Affairs and Academic Affairs with Dr. Angela Sivadon, TCC Senior Vice President and Chief Academic Officer. This will be intentional work to design a student experience that is both responsive to the shifts from the coronavirus pandemic and



EUNICE TARVER

at the same time supportive for an inclusive and equitable learning experience.

"With over a decade of experience in roles across TCC, Tarver has provided a strong vision and dedication to our students," said Goodson.

Joining the college in 2010, Tarver served as an academic counselor and two years later was promoted to director of student development for the Metro Campus. She was also an adjunct faculty member in the Developmental Psychology and Human Relations Department. In 2015, Tarver was named Assistant Vice President for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion and promoted to Provost in 2017.

Prior to joining TCC, Tarver

served as site director of the YWCA's north Tulsa location.

Tarver earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Oklahoma State University and completed her master's degree in Human Relations at the University of Oklahoma. She is currently working to complete her dissertation to earn her Doctor of Philosophy in Social Foundations of Education from Oklahoma State University.

She currently serves as an executive council member for the Tulsa Innovation Labs advisory board, a board member on the Zarrow Foundation Commemoration Fund advisory board, and the board of directors for the Met Cares Foundation.

TCC, NSU-BA, OSU-Tulsa Selected for the National Equity Transfer Initiative Program

Tulsa Community College has been selected to participate in the national Equity Transfer Initiative with partners Northeastern State University-Broken Arrow and Oklahoma State University-Tulsa. In its first year, the national initiative selected 16 partnerships from across the country to focus on increasing transfer rates for African American, Hispanic, adult, and first-generation learners.

National research shows African American and Hispanic students fall below their white and Asian peers in the categories of earning an associate degree, transferring to a four-year

and completing a bachelor's degree. Adults without a college degree who enter higher education at age 25 or older also complete a bachelor's degree at lower rates than students entering between the age of 18 and 24. Preliminary data indicates the pandemic is widening these existing equity gaps.

"We are committed to seeing every student achieve academic success. Through TCC's two-year Equity Scorecard work with the Center for Urban Education at University of Southern California, we have been working on equitable outcomes for our students," said Dr. Leigh Goodson, TCC president and

CEO. "Now this equity work will expand to the transfer process as we work with our university partners to increase the number of bachelor's degrees."

The Equity Transfer Initiative is a two-year project and will award up to \$27,500 to partnerships between community and four-year colleges. TCC will focus on equity in six transfer pathways - three to NSU-Broken Arrow and three to OSU-Tulsa. More than 70% of students who transfer within three years of graduating from TCC transfer to OSU or NSU to continue their education.

The pathways selected are high-demand or high-

pay occupations in our region that require a bachelor's degree and align with Oklahoma's Critical Occupations and regional workforce priorities. With NSU, the focus will be Biology, Business Administration/Supply Chain Management, and Elementary Education.

"NSU has a longstanding history and partnership with TCC that supports education in the Tulsa area," said Dr. Steve Turner, NSU president. "In order to meet Oklahoma's workforce demands, we must ensure that education is accessible. We are excited to work with TCC to further develop pathways that enhance transfer students' success

and bachelor's degree completion at NSU."

The TCC to OSU transfer pathways will focus on Business Administration/Accounting, Industrial Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering.

"As an urban-serving metropolitan research university, OSU-Tulsa has prioritized building pathways to high-quality bachelor's degrees that demonstrate a commitment to diversity, equality and inclusion," said Dr. Pamela Fry, OSU-Tulsa president. "The Equality Transfer Initiative builds on OSU-Tulsa's strong partnership with TCC and will increase economic prosperity and improve lives in our community."

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Tech Graduate Tackles Cool New Career

Oklahoma summers can be brutal, 100-degree heat, scorching sun and if your air conditioner is not working, you are miserable. Graduates of the HVAC/R program at Tulsa Tech, like Shawn Schubert, work hard every-day to help their customers stay cool in summer and warm during winter months.

The nine-month adult program covers everything from safety to how to deal with the electrical systems that run your heating and A/C unit.

“Before coming to Tulsa Tech, I worked as a line cook at a restaurant,” Schubert said. “Tulsa Tech prepared me for the workforce by teaching me all the skills, but most importantly, customer service.”

Those professional skills or “soft skills” like communication, prob-

lem-solving and teamwork are essential to being successful according to our industry partners. In the HVAC/R world, Schubert uses those skills every day, greeting customers at their home to offer a tune up or helping fix an issue.

“As a service tech for AirCo Service, I meet a lot of customers when something is not working,” Schubert said with a smile. “It’s my job to troubleshoot the situation and get them back up and running.”

The need for service technicians is multiplying, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Their data shows the need

for trained service technicians will grow by nearly 15 percent over the next decade.

Schubert says this new field suits his personality because he is al-

ways able to learn new things. That is something he has in common with a former instructor.

“There are no boring days,” Terry Hodges, Tulsa Tech HVAC/R Instructor said with a smile. “Every day brings a new challenge and a new way to practice and perfect a skill.”

After 25 years in the field, Hodges says that becoming an instructor was just a way to keep his feet in the field and give back to the next generation. A generation that now includes former students like Schubert setting their sights on moving up.

“My goal is to become a journeyman someday and then maybe a service manager,” Schubert said.

A dream that was all made possible because he took a leap of faith to change careers and make his own path.

“I am so glad I decided to go to Tulsa Tech,” Schubert said with a smile. “It has changed my life in so many ways. I would not be the person I am today without Tulsa Tech.”

A life that includes helping Oklahomans beat the summertime heat and has Schubert is living out his dream and learning new things each day.

“If you want training to learn a



Courtesy Tulsa Tech

WORLD OF HEAT AND AIR: Tulsa Tech graduate Shawn Schubert tackles a cool new career in the world of heating and air. It is one of more than 80 areas of study offered by the school.

new skill, I strongly advise you to go to Tulsa Tech,” Schubert said. “It will help you change your life.”

You too can follow your dreams

to a new career. Visit us at tulsatech.edu to check out the more than 80 career options and see how we can help you Make Your Own Path to a bright future.

Tulsa Tech Honors Elected School Board Members

School Board Recognition Month was held in January and was an opportunity for local schools and communities to honor Oklahoma’s more than 2,700 elected school board members for their dedication to education, children and the communities that they serve. The commitment of the Tulsa Tech Board of Education is evident, and showcased within the world-class training

facilities where our students learn and train each day.

“Providing our community with exceptional career and technical education opportunities is one of the most important investments we can make,” said Dr. Steve Tiger, CEO and Superintendent of Tulsa Tech. “We’re very proud of our district’s accomplishments, and School Board Recognition Month is a time to say thank you to our

elected board members for their passion, commitment and support of our mission, educating people for success in the workplace.”

At Tulsa Tech, school board members develop policies and make tough decisions on complex educational and social issues impacting the district, leading business partners, community leaders and other constituents. They bear responsibility for nearly 6,000 full-

time students, over 12,000 part-time evening and weekend adult students, more than 1,100 corporate training clients, and over 600 employees across six campuses.

The men and women serving Tulsa Tech as elected school board members are Rick Kibbe, Mark Griffin, David Charney, Danny Hancock, Sharon Whelpley, Dr. Jim Baker and Rev. Ray Owens, Ph.D.

About Tulsa Technology Center
Tulsa Tech, the oldest and largest in Oklahoma’s CareerTech System, is a career and technology center school district dedicated to educating people for success in the workplace. Tulsa Tech helps high school and adult students from across the Tulsa region explore new careers, upgrade their training and skills, and pursue their dreams. For more information, visit tulsatech.edu.



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UNION EDUCATION

A.J. Green and Emma Plunkett Named Union Seniors of the Month for Accomplishments

A.J. Green and Emma Plunkett have been named Seniors of the Month for December for Union High School. Green is the son of Alexis Green, Sr. and Shenonda Jackson of Broken Arrow and Plunkett is the daughter of Emily Lim and Mike Plunkett of Tulsa.

Green has been involved in football and track and has been named Gatorade Track Athlete of the Year, Offensive MVP in football, and has been invited to Adidas' All-American Game and the Hawaii Tiki Bowl. He hopes to attend the University of Arkansas.

"I'm very passionate about pushing people to their greatest potential and to be able to inspire people," Green said. He calls himself both a team player and a leader "because I am a team captain but I'm all for the team and you have to put the team first as a leader to get the most out of everyone you are with, which could be any sport."

At school, Green said chemistry has made the most impact on him "because it's easy to let one thing go in the ear and come out the other, but you have to pay attention to

everything being given to you."

Plunkett is active in marching band as lead drum major, Leadership, Student Council, Riot Squad as assistant captain, Geology Club which she help found, and WRAP (Writer Readers Audiences and Performers). She is also active in National Honor Society, Girl Scouts, Global Gardens/botany photography and web page development, Family, Career, Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), Tulsa Regional STEM Alliance Teen Advisory Board and even builds props for band. Honors include being a Junior Miss Union nominee in 2020, Most Improved in Band and a Service and Dedication Award in band, first and fourth places prizes in the Union Art Show; best in show and second places in Mayfest's art competitions. She was also a member of the band when Union won 10th and 11th places in the Grand National competition. She was Student Body president in 2017 and was lead chairman for RUSH Week last fall.

She wanted to thank her English teacher Michael Lindsay. "I have

benefited greatly from having him as an English teacher. He taught me many life skills surrounding perseverance and mental fortitude," she said.

"Throughout high school, I have been the most dedicated to marching band. Being in the Renegade Regiment has shaped me to be the leader I am today," Plunkett said, thanking all of her instructors since eighth grade. "Through hours of hard work, practice, commitment, focus, and teamwork we create something beautiful. The comradery and passion that comes from creating art with others is so powerful that it has brought me back all four years. I have gotten to know so many different types of people through band over the years who all share the same passion as I do."

Plunkett hopes to attend college but is undecided where. She is interested in geology, planetary sciences, astronomy and art. She said, "I want to do something that combines my love for learning, traveling, space, earth, rocks, art, and caves. I want to work hard and be great at whatever I end up doing."



EMMA PLUNKETT



A.J. GREEN

Chris McNeil Appointed New Union Board Member

The Union Public Schools Board of Education appointed Christopher L. McNeil, a former Union teacher and coach, to the board, to represent Zone 2. McNeil replaces Lisa Ford, who resigned December 3. McNeil will serve for the remainder of her unexpired term, which comes up for election in spring 2022.

According to Board President Heather McAdams, seven candidates were considered for the position, leaving the board with a difficult choice. "Ultimately, we made our decision based on who would best round out our own experi-

ence, who would bring something we don't already have."

McNeil and his wife, Jessica, have two children, one of whom is enrolled at a Union early childhood site.

He is working on obtaining his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.) from Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences, with plans to graduate in May. McNeil has a master's degree in entrepreneurship and a bachelor's degree in biological science from OSU, as well as a minor in microbiology and psychology. He received an Albert Schweitzer Fel-



CHRIS MCNEIL

lowship in 2017, creating a 200-hour community service project to help connect more than 61 North Tulsa high school students with jobs/permits and boost their income potential and to address economic and healthcare disparities.

While at OSU, McNeil has also volunteered with Food On The Move, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, and has been active in Business and Leadership in Medicine Club, Student National Medical Association and the National Osteopathic Medical Association. He has also served as a teaching assistant for the OSU College of Osteopathic

Medicine, instructor for the OSU Master of Athletic Training Program, as well as interned with OSU Center for Health Systems Innovation and as a fitness trainer for the YMCA. He served as a director of operations and mentor for East Central High School's CIE Scholar Mentoring Program from 2012-2013.

He was named an Oklahoma Student Leadership Forum nominee in March 2020; won the Osteopathic Founder's Foundation Leadership Award in December 2019; and was nominated as Student Doctor of the Year in March 2019.

Union to Host In-Person Graduation on May 27; Virtual Graduation Option Scheduled for May 22

Union High School will host in-person graduation for the Class of 2021 on Thursday, May 27, at the Union Multipurpose Activity Center (UMAC). Graduation will take place at three different times - 10 a.m., 2 p.m., and 6 p.m. - in response to safety protocols due to COVID-19. Students will be

assigned to a specific ceremony time based on their last name. Information on ticketing will be made available at a later date, in compliance with COVID protocols.

In addition, the district will also offer a Virtual Graduation option on Saturday, May 22 (time TBD),

for those who would prefer to watch comfortably from home or want to share with their extended friends and family.

"We want to ensure that Union's Class of 2021 has every opportunity to celebrate with friends and family in the way they feel most comfortable," said

Superintendent Dr. Kirt Hartzler. "Having three commencement ceremonies will allow us to safely spread out and invite family members, while keeping the celebration at home in the UMAC. We will continue to offer the Virtual Graduation for those who prefer that option."

Organizers have not yet determined the status of the Graduation Celebration, an all-night safe, drug and alcohol-free after-party that has become a Union tradition.

For updates on graduation, seniors and parents may visit www.unionps.org/commencement.

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UNION SPORTS

Union Swimmers Receive College Scholarships

By MIKE MOGUIN
GTR Sports Writer

Seniors Danny Sibley and Courtney Posey are key leaders in Union's swim program, helping it surge as a power in the pool in recent years.

Both student-athletes are now reaping the rewards with scholarships to swim in college.

Sibley is committed to Washington University in St. Louis while Posey has decided on attending New York University. Both signed their respective letters of intent on national signing day in February.

"I'm excited to go there," Sibley said about Washington. "I really enjoyed my visit."

Sibley was the state champion last year in the Class 6A boys 500-meter freestyle event with a time of 4:40.27, which was a school record. What drew him to the St. Louis institution was the engineering school (in which he plans to major) and the team usually being in the nation's top 10 in Division-III competition. He chose Washington over Georgia Tech and Wabash College.

He is ready for the cultural adjustment as well.

"I have several good friends that go there already, so I think I'll be okay," Sibley said.

Once there, Sibley plans to go up the Gateway Arch, the famous landmark of the city. He also said he may see the Cardinals (MLB team) or Blues (NHL team) play every once in a while.

What he likes about the sport of swimming is he feels like he is at home in the water.

"It's just very soothing to me and



COURTNEY POSEY: The gold medal winner will attend New York University.



DANNY SIBLEY: The freestyle specialist will attend Washington University in St. Louis.

being able to drown out all the other sounds, with the sound of water running around my head, it's very nice and it cools me off a lot while I swim," Sibley said. "I really like swimming also because it's a full body workout. I never have to go focus on a specific part to make it stronger, because swimming keeps everything pretty balanced."

Like Sibley, Posey is excited about going to her college, New York University. An online chat was all it took to convince her to go.

"I had been looking at a lot of other colleges and actually, I never looked at NYU as a top option," she said. "The coaches reached out to me and invited me to some

Zooms (Zoom online conversations) and I just fell in love with their atmosphere and their positivity. I also love the city of New York, so I guess it was meant to be."

NYU is in the heart of Manhattan, which will allow Posey the opportunity to visit the Big Apple often.

"I think the city of New York forces you to learn some things earlier than other cities," she added.

Posey, who won a gold medal a year ago in the girls' 200-meter freestyle with a time of 1:54.48, selected NYU over Dartmouth, Colorado State and Louisville.

What Posey likes about swim-

ming is the individuality of the sport.

"I think it's a good mix between a team and individual sport," she said. "I love that it can be a difficult challenge. Practice makes perfect."

Both swimmers are hoping for a repeat. As a team, they would like to give a strong challenge to Jenks, who swept both the boys and girls team titles in Class 6A last season and is expected to do it again at the 2021 state meet.

"I think one of the main challenges is definitely our numbers on the team," Sibley said. "We don't have as many members as the Jenks Trojans or Bartlesville Bruins do, so we'll have to make up for that in the quality of swimmers."

"Unfortunately, this year, there are a lot of challenges," Posey said. "We've been quarantined many times (due to the COVID-19 pandemic) and we have some girls that when they return, it's hard to get back into the speed of things and so, I think getting over that is really difficult, but I think we can push through and we're all doing pretty well now."

"I think we are definitely a good competitor for (Jenks)," Posey said. "We have little numbers, but we have very strong swimmers and we've gained some more since last year either, so I think that we have a good chance of getting very close to winning."

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SPORTS

COVID-19 Impacting Oilers Hockey Season

By GLENN HIBDON
GTR Sports Writer

These are the times that try men's souls. Even hockey coaches. Tulsa Oilers skipper Rob Murray would tell you so. His ECHL team must not only face wicked slap shots and body checks on the ice, but the invisible invasion of coronavirus. If the Oilers beat a skating foe, the other is always lurking, ready to strike.

Murray recently experienced just how fickle COVID-19 can be. Twelve of his players were quarantined over a two-week period, forcing the Oilers' boss to scramble in bringing in five new skaters overnight. When both Murray and assistant Zac Desjardins were also sidelined, the two hunkered down to coach games by video connection.

It's all part of the weird, wacky world that hockey, and sports in general, have become thanks to the pandemic. Perhaps the thing for fans, coaches and players to do is cope the best they can and enjoy the limited access available. It could always have been worse.

"No, this hasn't ruined our season. Quite honestly, our expectations were this was going to happen," Murray said of the unpleasantness. "Surprisingly, I didn't know it was going to hit us this hard. We didn't know we wouldn't have enough guys to play. Before this happened we had a good lineup and had gone on a five-game winning streak."

It all seemed to fall apart after a trip to Rapid City for a three-game set Jan. 15-17. The Oilers front office thinks the team encountered the virus there, leading to a nine-game winless streak. Even leading

scorer Dan Moynihan was out of the lineup during the skid. Then, the coaches were forced to do their jobs while watching a television screen.

Oilers equipment manager Tony Deynzer and athletic trainer Steve Lintern replaced Murray and Desjardins behind the bench. Neither had coaching experience.

"We were in uncharted territory and we had to come up with a scenario where we could keep going," Murray said. "Tony had to deal with bringing in players and getting contracts ready and signed. There were a lot of things I do on game days that I take on myself and it hurt for me not to be there."

"I had (captain) Adam Pleskach handling the forwards on the bench and I was in touch with him quite a bit. Justin Hamonic is a veteran defenseman and he handled the defense. Before games I did some video chatting with the team about scouting opponents."

Isolated from his family, Murray said he spent most of his time in Desjardins' apartment watching television and sleeping.

"Neither one of us got sick and a lot of the guys had mild or moderate symptoms, but we went a week without a full team practice and that's tough," said Murray. "They shut down the facility and the guys missed out on conditioning. They came back tired."

"Mentally, I missed my life as a hockey coach. I missed going to the office everyday and when I couldn't go to work, I felt I lost my job."

For a 10-day period, Murray joined a plethora of ECHL coaches uprooted from their normal place of employment. Of 26 teams, only 14 are actively playing. Many



Courtesy photo

TRYING TO STAY WELL: Oilers Coach Rob Murray hopes he and his team can stay healthy through the season as Covid-19 presents numerous challenges to Tulsa's ECHL team.

clubs in the east were shelved for the season due to stricter regulations on COVID-19 and owners shuttered their arenas. The BOK Center was limited to 25% capacity and the Oilers were averaging 2,664 fans in early February, fourth best in the league.

The ECHL instituted other rules, including playing a 72-game regular-season schedule until early June, playing in two conferences and allowing four teams from each conference to qualify for postseason play. All series will be best-of-five.

Meanwhile, the Oilers have tried to put their players in a "bubble," meaning they are no longer to have contact with fans or front office personnel. After games, media must telephone the locker room to talk to Murray or his players. Players receive coronavirus tests at least twice a week.

Fans must wear masks and social distancing is mandatory. With all the new rules in place, indeed, this is definitely not your grandfather's hockey league.

However, there could still be a

ray of sunshine remaining in an otherwise frustrating season for the Oilers.

Thanks to the recent influx of new faces, Murray discovered the talents of Nick Minerva and J.C. Brassard.

"They are both playing really good hockey for us," said Murray. "We were down on firepower and they have made an input. We have our lineup back now."

Maybe, just maybe, Tulsa's COVID-19 nightmare will become only a bitter memory.

Holland Hall Girls Basketball Having A Solid Year

By MIKE MOGUIN
GTR Sports Editor

Holland Hall is having a solid year on the hardwood. But it is facing a challenge as the regular season winds down and the playoffs are drawing near.

At the end of January, the Dutch were 15-1 and ranked sixth in the Girls' Class 4A poll. The key to their success has been putting a big emphasis on their defense this year, coach Crystal Lawson said.

"I really feel like we're playing well defensively," she said. "We're a young group that loves to be in the gym and loves to learn. They have really taken to coaching and try to do everything we ask of them and are eager to come in each day to learn and perform. So, it's been a fun season so far with the young group we have."

The lone loss came against Sapulpa (63-56), ranked No. 1 in Class 5A, in the championship game of the Shawnee Tournament.

Holland Hall had the misfortune of losing its leading player, Joci Lake (5-8, senior, guard) to a season-ending injury in the semifinals of the same tourney.

"Joci was a four-year starter for us. She really understood our defense and what we wanted the team to be doing," Lawson said. "She was a great leader on the floor, great communicator, and unfortunately, we lost her in the semifinals with about four-and-a-half minutes left in the game with an ACL tear."

The Holland Hall girls rebounded with a dominating 72-26 win

against Cascia Hall.

"I was proud of the way the team bounced back (Jan. 26) against Cascia," Lawson said. "Obviously, we were without (Lake) against Sapulpa. Since then we have regrouped and talked about how no single person is going to replace Joci, so everybody has to pick up in different ways. Our leading scorers were averaging 12 points per game and she was averaging 12 points per game as well."

Lake has still been a valuable leader from the bench.

Mia Fugate (5-4, sophomore, guard) has moved into Lake's place. Other starters are Ava Greer (5-10, junior, guard), Elise Hill (5-7, sophomore, guard), Sophia Regalado (5-9, sophomore, post) and Kalayia Johnson (5-10, sophomore, guard/forward).

"Ava is a tremendous shooter," Lawson said. "She's shooting 43 percent from the 3-point line. She is one of our returning starters and has put a lot of time in on her shot over the summer. She has put in a lot of time attacking off the dribble when (opposing teams) close out at the 3-point line."

"Elsie is kind of an extension of the coaching staff out on the floor, playing the point guard position," Lawson said. "She is great at attacking off the dribble. She has really worked on her 3-point shot. She is shooting over 30 percent."

"Sophia is strong inside," Lawson said. "Also has some great moves to set for getting to the basket. She is a solid player for us."

"Kalayia is just a tremendous



Photo courtesy of Holland Hall athletics

IMPRESSIVE TEAM: The Dutch hope to continue their winning ways throughout the season.

rebounder," Lawson added. "She is the one person on the team that can play five positions. She can play the point guard for us. She can play any position we ask her to, especially with Joci's injury, Kalayia is kind of the one we have to move around a little bit. She can play a strong rebounder, she leads the team in rebounding."

Johnson has 121 rebounds on the season, as of the end of January.

Like everyone else, the Dutch has had to deal with the

COVID-19 pandemic.

They've only had to quarantine once as an entire team, Lawson said.

"We've had a few people who have been contact-traced by sitting next to somebody in class, or something along those lines," she added. "It has been a different year. We talk about being as cautious as you can and being careful about where you go and who you hang out with."

Lawson said the student-athletes

have done well with COVID protocols such as wearing a mask, maintaining distance, etc.

Continuing to improve everyday will be key for the team to keep going with its success, Lawson said.

"The future looks good," she added. "The girls are doing a great job in continuing to work and play together. They're such an unselfish group. They truly see the team first and want to win. So they are a fun group to coach."

Golfing Spotlight Again Shines on Southern Hills

Tulsa-Based Country Club Ready to Host 2021 Senior PGA And 2022 PGA Championship

Courtesy PGA

The PGA of America announced that it will host two different major championships at Southern Hills Country Club.

Southern Hills will host the 2021 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship—the most historic and prestigious major championship in senior golf—and also will be the venue for the 2022 PGA Championship.

This will be a record fifth time that Southern Hills has staged the PGA Championship, one of golf's major championships. In 2021, the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship, the most historic event in senior golf, will make its second visit to Oklahoma as it debuts at Southern Hills.

Founded in 1936, Southern Hills has hosted seven previous major championships, beginning with the 1958 U.S. Open won by Tommy Bolt through Tiger Woods' PGA Championship triumph in 2007, when he captured the Wanamaker Trophy for a fourth time.

Southern Hills also hosted the 1970 PGA Championship (won by Dave Stockton), 1977 U.S. Open (Hubert Green), 1982 PGA Championship (Raymond Floyd), 1994 PGA Championship (Nick Price) and 2001 U.S. Open (Retief Goosen).

"Few American golf venues match the legacy and record of excellence of Southern Hills Coun-

try Club," said PGA of America President Paul Levy. "Some of our sport's greatest names have walked these fairways and etched their name in major championship history. The PGA of America is proud to once again connect with Southern Hills, its membership and the great sports fans of Oklahoma. We are confident Southern Hills will continue to attract respective world-class fields for both the PGA Championship and the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship."

With the announcement, Southern Hills' history of hosting major golf championships will encompass more than 80 years. Southern Hills will also become the 13th venue to host both a PGA Championship and a KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship.

"We're thrilled to again partner with the PGA of America and host a pair of championships of this caliber," said Southern Hills President Craig Bothwell. "Major championship golf is a part of Southern Hills' heritage, but we could not make this happen without the unending support of our dedicated membership, the sporting passion of the greater Tulsa community and the welcoming spirit of our proven volunteer network."

The PGA Championship is the only all-professional major in men's golf. It began in 1916, just months after the birth of the PGA of America and today features one



GTR Media Group photo

CHAMPIONSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT: Hosting the announcement for the 2022 PGA Championship tournament at Southern Hills Country Club are, from left, Bryan Karns, Championship Director, PGA of America; Nick Sidorakis, General Manager and Chief Operating Officer for Southern Hills; and Ray Hoyt, President, Tulsa Regional Tourism.

of the deepest international fields in golf. Since 1994, it has perennially featured the most top-100 players in the Official World Golf Rankings of all golf championships.

The KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship, which will celebrate its 82nd edition in 2021 at Southern Hills, was born in 1937 at Augusta National Golf Club, three years after the first Masters Tournament. The tournament is the top-rated event in the game for

PGA Members age 50-and-older.

Attendees of the Kitchen Aide Senior PGA Championship will receive first priority for the option to purchase tickets, reserve corporate hospitality packages or volunteer for the 2022 PGA Championship.

About Southern Hills Country Club

Founded in 1936, Southern Hills Country Club is a private, mem-

ber-owned country club located in Tulsa.

Designed by Perry Maxwell, who believed in adorning nature, not disturbing it, Southern Hills has been recognized for more than a half-century among the top 100 courses in the world.

Since 1946, Southern Hills has hosted seven men's major championships and eight other significant national or premier championships.

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University of Tulsa Recognizes Becky Dixon During National Girls & Women in Sports Day

SPORTS

The University of Tulsa's 2021 National Girls and Women in Sports Day (NGWSD) was held Feb. 3 during the Tulsa-Houston women's basketball game at the Donald W. Reynolds Center.

Becky Dixon, a pioneer in TV sports for women, is this year's NGWSD award winner. Dixon was one of the country's first female sports anchors.

NGWSD is a national observance that celebrates the extraordinary achievements of women and girls in sports.

Dixon, a 1973 TU graduate, began her groundbreaking career in broadcasting at KTUL-TV in Tulsa, where she served as one of the country's first female sports anchors. In just six years, she was hired by ABC Sports and became the first woman to host



Courtesy photos

BROADCASTING PARTNERS: Becky Dixon with Frank Gifford, who served as co-hosts of ABC's *Wide World of Sports* in the 1980s. Gifford, an NFL Hall of Famer, was a play-by-play announcer and commentator for 27 years on ABC's *Monday Night Football*.

a network sports show when she joined Frank Gifford as co-host of ABC's *Wide World of Sports*. Dixon also served as a broadcaster for the Super Bowl, Winter Olympics, World Gymnastics Championships, college football, and the Triple Crown of Horse Racing. She also co-hosted the Dallas Cowboys' Jerry Jones Show.

She later returned to Tulsa and founded Dixon Productions, launching the television special "Oklahomans." The show was the first statewide broadcast of its kind and for more than two decades was instrumental in promoting and celebrating the achievements of Oklahomans.

In 1994, Dixon joined forces



WINTER OLYMPICS FOR ABC: Becky Dixon served nationally as a reporter for ABC during the 1988 Winter Olympics, officially known as the XV Olympic Winter Games and commonly known as Calgary '88, in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. The Games were the first Winter Olympics to be held over a whole two-week period.

with communications pioneer Ed Taylor to form AyerPlay. The company broke new ground on the Internet with one of the nation's first live webcasts, as Dixon co-hosted a World Aids Day Symposium, in conjunction with Harvard University. Today, Dixon is owner and president of AyerPlay, as the company focuses on providing integrated marketing and communications services to 7,000 clients nationwide.

Throughout her career, Dixon has received a number of honors and awards for her work. In 2016, she

was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, receiving her state's highest honor. She also received the Saidie Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association of Women in Communications and the Katie Award from the Press Club of Dallas, Texas. She is also a member of the University of Tulsa Communications Hall of Fame.

Over the years, Dixon has been very involved in her local community of Tulsa, as well as the state of Oklahoma. She is currently serving as Arts Alliance Tulsa campaign chair, was recently chairman of

EDGE, one of Philbrook Museum's major fundraising events, and was named honorary chairman for the YWCA Women of the Year Pinacle Awards. Dixon also has served on a number of boards of directors, including the Oklahoma Hall of Fame, Sutton Avian Research Center and the Pencil Box. She was also the former communications chair for the Tulsa Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women.

Dixon lives in Tulsa with her husband, Patrick Keegan and has two grown children, Jennifer and Dan.

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TU CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONS: The University of Tulsa cross-country teams won the men's and women's American Athletic Conference Championships for the second straight year in February. Tulsa men have won all 7 American titles; Tulsa women capture 4th AAC crown in last 7 years. Patrick Dever and Scott Beattie finished one-two in the men's race, while Caitlin Klopfer was the second-place finisher for the women. Overall, the AAC crown was the men's 11th straight league title after winning the final four as a Conference USA member.

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Iconic McFarlin Library a University of Tulsa Treasure

Built in 1929, the Structure was Funded by Robert and Ida McFarlin

We Tulsans are very proud of our city, its quality of life and its higher education institutions. One of the best of these is the University of Tulsa. I have a number of special ties with TU which have influenced my writing of this column.

My grandfather, C.C. Cole was a member of TU's board of Trustees during the 1920s. For over 30 years, he proudly had 50 yard-line season tickets to the Golden Hurricane football games. One of my aunts and my mother were both graduates of the university. Finally, my wife was the first woman to receive an MBA from this institution.

In 1969, in the early weeks of my courtship (an old fashioned but appropriate term) with my wife, we had study dates at the University of Tulsa library. She was preparing and studying to make her oral thesis presentation for her MBA degree. I was study-

ing to take the state exam to become a licensed architect. It was the first time I had ever been in that very special library. I remember a lot of oak floors, tables, and cabinetry.

McFarlin Library is an iconic TU landmark which sits at the apex of the university's central U and faces west towards downtown Tulsa. The original building was a \$4 million (in today's dollars) gift of Robert and Ida McFarlin from income received from the Glenpool oil strike of 1905.

Although the McFarlin's funded several other TU buildings, namely Tyrrell Hall and Phillips Hall, the library, built in 1929 and opened in 1930, was the first permanent building on the campus.

McFarlin Library gives the appearance of a medieval fortress which is surely the intent of its architect, Henry C. Hibbs, who was known for his English Gothic styled buildings on many col-

On Architecture



By ROGER COFFEY, AIA



GTR Media Group photo

CAMPUS LANDMARK: McFarlin Library is situated in the center of The University of Tulsa campus facing west on the "U," which houses many of the campus buildings.

lege campuses. The west front is symmetrical with two story plus wings either side of the central seven-story tower. The lower walls are almost two feet thick. Each of the wings are articulated with two rows of four tall leaded glass divided light windows. The tower has an electric elevator (innovative for 1929) and a spiral chute for book delivery.

The exterior building materials became a theme for other campus

buildings over the years as the university grew. Tennessee crab orchard sandstone with touches of blue limestone enclosed the structure. Window frames and door surrounds are Indiana Bedford limestone. Roofing was Vermont Slate. Exterior and interior doors and interior trim were red oak.

By the 1970s, the library had outgrown its space. A large addition was needed. The land available for the addition was

directly west of the main front which was special to generations of alumni and long-time staff. The solution, built in 1977 was a 65,000-square-foot, three-story addition below ground with a sunken plaza providing natural light for the new space. Large enough to accommodate 850,000 books, the new addition with its large garden lightwell was made further inconspicuous with raised planters at its perimeter.

Selser Schaefer Architects' Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Scholarship Program Taking Applications

Selser Schaefer Architects is now accepting applications for its inaugural Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Scholarship Program. The program offers a one-time \$2,500 award to each scholarship recipient and a paid summer internship with the Tulsa architectural and interior design firm.

Selser Schaefer Architects is known for clients and projects including H-E-B Grocery Company, Philbrook Museum, George Kaiser Family Foundation, Greenwood Rising, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater Public Schools, Osage Nation, The Boxyard shipping container retail center, Mother Road Market food hall, Tulsa Zoo, and The Village Flats residential community, to name a few. "Architecture and interior design

has lagged as a field to encourage and mentor a diverse group of professionals. Potential students and professionals don't see themselves represented in the field and we know it's time for that to change," said Whitney Stauffer, partner, Selser Schaefer Architects.

"Research shows that a more diverse workforce not only benefits the individuals, but it also benefits the architecture and interior design community through increased creativity, problem-solving and an enhanced community experience for all. The DEI scholarship program helps to create avenues to improve that."

The National Architectural Accrediting Board has reported that 44 percent of all architectural students in U.S. accredited colleges

and universities are white. Other ethnicities are reported as 19 percent Latino students, 9 percent as Asian, and Black students comprise 5 percent. The remainder is made up of international students and ethnic categories in the single digits or so small they round to zero.

Trend data has shown that the architectural field has trailed other fields in recruiting a pipeline of skilled professionals. The percentage of African American architects in the U.S. has remained flat for more than 30 years, at just approximately 2 percent (2,325 of 116,242), according to the 2020 National Council of Architectural Registration Boards and the Directory of African American Architects. In both the

medical and legal professions, this percentage is approximately 5 percent.

Candidates who are of historically underrepresented communities, including Black/African American, Hispanic, Alaskan Native or American Indian, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and LGBTQ+ students, are eligible to apply. The deadline for application for the 2021-2022 academic year is March 1, 2021.

Selser Schaefer Architects has provided internships for many years but this is the first scholarship offering provided. Full information and eligibility requirements can be viewed at <https://www.selserschaefer.com/diversity-equity-and-inclusion-scholarship-program/>.

About Selser Schaefer Architects

The following is from Selser Schaefer Architects literature: "When you're passionate about your work, it's because you know the "why" behind it. As architects and interior designers, it would be easy to assume our "why" is great design. But great design is nothing without people to experience it, interact with it — and connect with each other because of it. People are our why. And we're proud that this singular focus has been shaping our work for 27 years. We call it people-first design. It's our promise to our clients, our community and each other."

For additional information, visit www.selserschaefer.com.



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THE ECONOMY

Tulsa's Schnake Turnbo Frank Celebrates 50 Years

Editor's Note: Schnake Turnbo Frank, a Tulsa-based public relations firm, was founded in 1970 by the late Chuck Schnake. This article is contributed by Steve Turnbo, who joined the firm in 1982.

By **STEVE TURNBO**
Schnake Turnbo Frank

Anniversaries are an integral part of our society, whether it be a marriage, high school or college reunion, or a date marking the longevity of a company.

I felt privileged when asked to write about Schnake Turnbo Frank (STF) on the occasion of its 50 years in business.

The memories are truly golden. My memories focus primarily on people and deeds. Chuck Schnake, who founded the agency in 1970, often remarked, "If you want good things said about you, do good deeds."

Chuck lived by that creed, from his youthful days in Centralia, Illinois, his college days at Missouri, to his illustrious PR career in Tulsa.

Doing good deeds and serving clients with the utmost attention to integrity and quality remain a focal point of the STF mission.

The commitment to "giving back to the community" is instilled in the Firm's ethos.

No organization thrives without a noble mission and a leadership team dedicated to good work and good deeds.

When Schnake began his career in Tulsa, he immediately embraced the community. His PR career was stellar, spending many years at Sunray DX before opening his PR firm.



STEVE TURNBO: Steve Turnbo joined Schnake Turnbo Frank in 1982. A public relations expert, he is a member of the Public Relations Society of America College of Fellows and has received the University of Tulsa Distinguished Alumni Award among other awards.

He approached me in 1982 about merging our two firms, and I immediately said yes. It remains one of the best decisions I have ever made; however, the timing was awkward as the recession hit our state, creating new and challenging opportunities.

When Chuck retired, his son Pat Schnake and Lauren Brookey became business partners and remained so for many years before moving on to other career adventures.

STF continued to prosper and opened an office in Oklahoma City. We have representation in

the Dallas market and continue to serve clients throughout the country.

While we do not do political candidate elections, we have managed numerous city sales tax and school bond campaigns over the years.

When asked about the firm's success, my answer is constant: good people, solid work ethic, and pride in the PR profession.

The members of our firm are our greatest asset and we have the privilege of representing wonderful clientele.

Our Firm's first clients, Tulsa Ju-



CHUCK SCHNAKE: The late Chuck Schnake founded Schnake Turnbo Frank in 1970 after a career at Sunray DX Oil Co.



Schnake Turnbo Frank | PR

nior College (now Tulsa Community College) and Explorer Pipeline remain hallmark clients.

Our chair and CEO is Becky Frank, whose leadership skills are unmatched. She is a caring and compassionate CEO; I am honored to call her a friend.

Another outstanding leader and friend is Russ Florence, who serves as president and manages our growing Oklahoma City of-

Our partners also include Aaron Fulkerson and David Wagner who have made tremendous contributions to the firm over the years.

As I like to say, there is only one way to coast, and that is downhill.

I could not be prouder of all the associates at STF and am convinced that the future for our firm remains golden.

Edward Jones

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Rose Washington Inaugurated as 2021 Tulsa Regional Chamber Board Chair

At its annual meeting in January, the Tulsa Regional Chamber inaugurated Rose Washington, CEO of TEDC Creative Capital, as the 2021 chair of its board of directors. During the virtual event, Washington outlined her focus for the organization in 2021, which is to prioritize inclusive, equitable and collaborative growth for people, small businesses and the wider community.

Specific strategies include developing more equitable opportunities in workforce and leadership development; providing more access, assistance and guidance for

area small businesses; and providing more chances to connect and build village-making skills in our community.

"From every individual, to every company, to our entire community, DE&I should not just be something we aspire to do well," Washington said during her inaugural speech. "Diverse, equitable and inclusive should be who we are."

Washington succeeds outgoing Chair Roger Ramseyer, who reflected on the chamber's efforts in 2020 and emphasized there is much to be optimistic about as



ROSE WASHINGTON

northeast Oklahoma embraces for recovery.

"2020 was a year unlike any other in our lifetimes, but we're also seeing innovations, entrepreneurial initiative, and new ways of working as a result of the pandemic, many of which bode well for the Tulsa economy," said Ramseyer.

Also at the meeting, awards were presented to the chamber's most outstanding partners in 2020: Economic Development Partner of the Year: Carlin Conner; Regional Tourism Partner of the Year: Mike Mears, Magellan

Midstream Partners; Government Affairs Partner of the Year: Kevin Gross, Hillcrest Health System; Community Development Partner of the Year: Mercedes Millberry Fowler, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Oklahoma; Regional Partner of the Year: Tulsa County; Resource Development Partners of the Year: Ginger Kollmann, JPMorgan Chase and John Lindsay, Helmerich & Payne; Community Champion Partner of the Year: Dr. Bruce Dart, Tulsa Health Department; Lifetime Achievement Award: Dr. Keith Ballard.

Energy Transition: The Future of a Hydrogen Economy



In a 2012 film documentary on which I served as a producer entitled, The Grand Energy Transition (GET), the transition which included oil and gas renewables, led to the future of a hydrogen economy. Since then, hydrogen has become even more of a 21st century energy option.

Hydrogen has three basic benefits. The use of hydrogen greatly reduces pollution. When hydrogen is combined with oxygen in a fuel cell, energy in the form of electricity is produced. This electricity can be used to power vehicles, or as a heat source, or applied to other uses. Hydrogen can be produced locally from numerous sources. Hydrogen can be produced either centrally and then distributed or onsite where it will be used. Hydrogen gas can be produced from methane (natural gas), gasoline, biomass, coal, or water. If hydrogen is produced from water, we have a sustainable

production system. Electrolysis is the method of separating water into hydrogen and oxygen. Renewable energy can be used to power electrolyzers to produce the hydrogen from water. Some of the renewable sources used to power electrolyzers are wind, hydro, solar, and tidal energy.

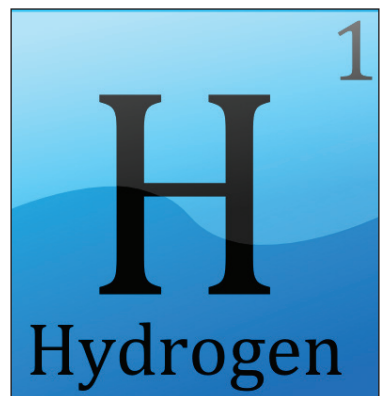
An article in Spectra, I believe, best describes the "colors" of hydrogen. "Gray hydrogen is made using fossil fuels like oil and coal, which emit CO2 into the air as they combust. The blue variety is made in the same way, but carbon capture technologies prevent CO2 being released, enabling the captured

carbon to be safely stored deep underground or utilized in industrial processes. As its name suggests, green hydrogen is the cleanest variety, producing zero carbon emissions. It is produced using electrolysis powered by renewable energy, like offshore wind, to produce a clean and sustainable fuel."



By MARK A. STANSBERRY

Hydrogen pros include: it burns quickly, can be quickly refueled, is the most abundant element on the planet, and it is twice as efficient as gasoline. The cons of hydrogen include: a large quantity of energy is required to produce hydrogen for energy, there is a limited hydrogen infrastructure, and



few refueling stations for hydrogen-powered cars currently exist.

The June 2019 report by the International Energy Agency (IEA), written at the request of the government of Japan under its G20 presidency, stated that hydrogen would be a significant form of energy in the 21st century. It has "grown threefold since 1975."

An article entitled, "At the Dawn of the Hydrogen Economy," states, "Interest in hydrogen is growing, with demand increasing rapidly. It is clear that the next significant transformation in the

energy transition will be based on the hydrogen economy."

In my book, America Needs America's Energy: Creating Together the People's Energy Plan, I described many forms of energy, which all included pros and cons, including that of hydrogen. As we work together for our energy future, hydrogen will continue to be an important factor.

America needs America's energy! Future generations are depending on us to keep the American dream alive.

Mark A. Stansberry is chairman of the GTD Group, an Award-Winning author and energy advocate. Facebook: National Energy Talk.

Public Service Company of Oklahoma Earns Highest-Ever Score in Residential Electric Study

Public Service Company of Oklahoma (PSO) continues to rank high among the top of all U.S. providers after receiving its best-ever score in the 2020 J.D. Power Electric Utility Residential Customer Satisfaction Study.

The study is based on responses from more than 100,000 online interviews with residential customers of the nation's 143 largest electric utility brands, which

represent more than 100 million U.S. households. The study ranks electric utilities based on six factors: Power Quality & Reliability, Corporate Citizenship, Billing & Payment, Communications, Price, and Customer Care.

PSO's score tied for sixth among the 20 electric utilities in the South Midsize category. Of the 143 brands included in the survey, PSO ranked no. 34 in overall satisfac-

tion. PSO's 2020 score of 771 is 18 points higher than its 2019 score, and 19 points higher than the average for electric utilities in its category.

"Our customers count on us to provide affordable, reliable power they need to run their homes and businesses. They also expect us to be good community partners and offer convenient and innovation solutions to meet their energy needs," said

Scott Ritz, PSO director of customer services and marketing. "We're pleased to see this score, which reflects our focus on meeting those needs and providing superior customer service, particularly during the unique challenges we worked through together in 2020.

For more information about the J.D. Power Electric Utility Residential Customer Satisfaction Study, visit www.jdpower.com.

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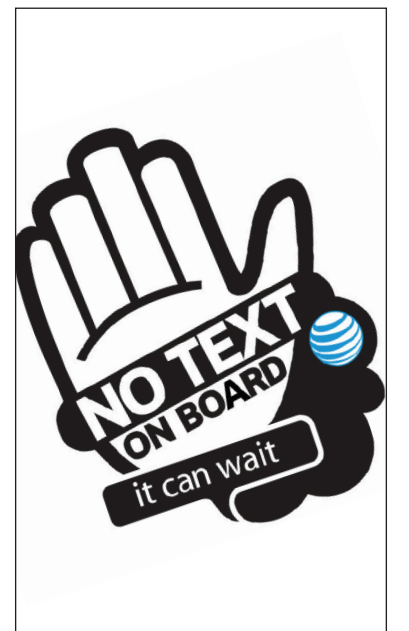
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TULSA REGIONAL CHAMBER'S ALLISON WALDEN NAMED NATIONAL CHAMBER STAFF PERSON OF THE YEAR



ALLISON WALDEN

Allison Walden, senior vice president of resource development at the Tulsa Regional Chamber, has been named the recipient of the Gerald W. Hathaway Staff Person of the Year Award by the Western Association of Chamber Executives (W.A.C.E.). The Hathaway Award is given annually to an outstanding chamber of commerce staff member for contributions to attaining specific chamber goals, creating innovative new programs, and securing funding and resources.

"We at the Chamber are absolutely thrilled by this national recognition of Allison's exceptional talent," says Mike Neal, president and CEO of the Tulsa Regional Chamber. "Allison's work was critical to the Chamber achieving its fourth Chamber of the Year recognition in 2020. I am privileged to work with some of the finest chamber of commerce professionals in the industry, and Allison truly embodies the best of our profession."

Walden joined the Chamber staff in 2010 and was named senior vice president of resource development in 2016. During her tenure with the organization, Walden has led the fundraising of more than \$60 million to support Chamber operations. She was instrumental in growing the impact of Tulsa's Future, the Chamber-led regional economic development partnership supported by public and private investors, and she pioneered a first-of-its-kind private fundraising campaign to support VisitTulsa, the convention and visitors bureau housed at the Chamber.

"I share this honor with the more than 40 Tulsa Regional Chamber employees who equally deserve recognition, as well as the thousands of staffers at W.A.C.E. member chambers who did great things in support of their communities last year," says Walden. "While 2020 was

certainly one of the most challenging years of my career, I'm exceedingly grateful to work with such a dedicated team of Chamber staff and volunteers who are passionate about improving the quality of community life in our region. We could not accomplish so much as an organization without the gracious support of our member companies and their commitment to regional economic prosperity."

Walden is a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE®) and a past president of the Eastern Oklahoma Association of Fundraising Professionals, as well as a Certified Chamber Executive through the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE). She is an advisory board member for ACCE's membership development division and a member of the Southeast Board of Regents for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Institute for Organization Management, from which she graduated in 2016. She also sits on the boards of YWCA Tulsa and the Oklahoma Quality Foundation.

"In such a year as 2020, Allison's leadership has been bold and focused," says Neal. "When lesser fundraisers would have paled, Allison refocused and rallied her team to secure critical funds, adapt our member engagement process and realign our sales strategy to elevate member satisfaction levels and ensure financial success and sustainability."

W.A.C.E. is an association that promotes and enhances the development of chamber of commerce executives and staff professionals. With approximately 800 members in 19 western states and Canada, W.A.C.E. is the largest state or regional association of chamber executives in the United States.

For more information about the Tulsa Regional Chamber, visit tulsachamber.com.

BUSINESS & PEOPLE NOTES

Montereau retirement community in Tulsa announces **Saunya Moore** as its new chief financial officer.

Moore brings more than two decades of extensive financial and operational knowledge to Montereau. With her background and experience in healthcare, she has developed a holistic approach to decision-making that considers not just the bottom-line, but also the operational aspects of how decisions will impact the overall health of an organization.

Moore sums up her holistic philosophy by saying, "In order to positively impact an organization, it is important to look beyond the numbers and take client and employee satisfaction into account. Ultimately, the result is a stronger organization, better able to support those the organization serves."

Moore comes to Montereau from Morton Comprehensive Health Services, one of the largest not-for-profit community health centers in the state, where she served as CFO and Vice President of Administration and Finance. In that role, she was charged with overseeing the organization's financial planning, budgeting, accounting and business operations. During her tenure, she identified key financial and operational strategies that resulted in substantial cost savings, increased revenue generation and operational refinements for the organization. She also implemented programs to enhance employee satisfaction that positively impacted employee retention and recruitment efforts.

Moore is a Certified Public Accountant who holds a Master of Business Administration (Health Care Emphasis) and a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Oklahoma State University.

She feels a deep commitment to the Tulsa community and volunteers her time accordingly. Currently, she serves as a Board Member for Youth Services of Tulsa, as well as a member of several other committees, including MyHealth and the Tulsa Chamber of Commerce OneVoice Task Force in Healthcare and Human Resources.

Founded in 2003 by The William K. Warren Foundation, Montereau was designed for Tulsa seniors to continue to live an active lifestyle that represents their values, spirit and style. The community has earned a reputation for raising the bar for Life Plan communities, formerly Continuing Care Retirement Communities.



MOORE

Tulsa Mayor **G.T. Bynum** has named **Jack Neely** as his chief of capital investment.

Neely will work on the advancement of the city's capital improvements program and community development initiatives.

Most of the largest City of Tulsa projects are funded through the capital improvement program, with voter-approved sales taxes and general obligation bonds providing hundreds of millions of dollars for transportation improvements including streets, bridges and transit; maintenance and improvements to parks and other City facilities, and purchases of equipment for the police and fire departments and other needs.

"I first came to know Jack through his years of service on the Utility Authority and have long been grateful that a brilliant businessman with such keen financial acumen is willing to give of his time and talent to the City," Mayor G.T. Bynum said. "We have so many opportunities to make smart investments today that will benefit Tulsans for generations to come, and I am excited to have Jack's help in making sure we make the most of them."

Neely will continue to advance the voter approved Vision Tulsa economic development capital improvements package from 2016.

Projects currently in progress include the BMX National Headquarters in the Historic Greenwood District, Zink Dam modifications in the Arkansas River, the Route 66 Village Train Depot and Gilcrease Museum. A second Improve Our Tulsa package was approved by Tulsa voters in 2019, with work currently beginning through bond funding, with sales taxes to support more projects beginning in July 2021.

"I'm honored to join Mayor Bynum's team as we work together to make Tulsa an even better community," Neely said. "Tulsans have approved extensive capital improvements in recent years and I look forward to working with the talented City team to deliver these projects efficiently and responsibly."

For the past 30 years, Neely has worked at Ballard Management managing investments, small businesses and the accounting, tax and legal relationships for business offices. For the past 18 years, Neely has also served on the City's Tulsa Metropolitan Utility Authority (TMUA), which is the public trust organization that helps manage, construct, and maintain Tulsa's water works and sanitary sewer systems. Neely will continue his service with TMUA.

Neely has been heavily involved in the Tulsa community for years and has served on various boards such as Leadership Tulsa, Philbrook Museum of Art, Tulsa Metropolitan Planning Commission, the Parent-Child Center of Tulsa and most recently served as a Trustee for the University of Tulsa. Neely has also been engaged with his alma mater, Duke University and served on the Nasher Museum Board of Advisors and Trinity Board of Advisors.

Neely holds a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Duke University and is currently on the board of directors for Arvest Bank.



NEELY

Nadia Yakshin, former Assistant Branch Manager, was promoted to Branch Manager and Assistant Vice President of the Downtown Broken Arrow/Rose District Branch at **AVB Bank**, located at 322 South Main Street. As Branch Manager, Yakshin plays an integral role in the day-to-day operations of the branch. Her responsibilities include supervision of branch retail staff and oversight of branch operations.

Ben Dejene, senior vice president and retail banking director, said of Yakshin's promotion, "I have been incredibly impressed with Nadia's professional development since joining AVB in 2012. She has served as a teller, lead teller, personal banker, assistant branch manager and now assumes the branch manager position." Dejene continued, "She plays a key role in AVB's culture of serving, connecting and succeeding with our customers and community. We are thrilled to promote her to the position of assistant vice president and branch manager."

Yakshin grew up in Russia and Ukraine and is trilingual in Russian, Ukrainian and English. She and her husband, Yuri, have been married for eight years and have six children.

Yakshin noted about her promotion, "I am excited for the opportunity to continue to grow and develop at AVB Bank." Yakshin continued, "AVB is a family bank in every aspect, and I am proud to be a part of the AVB Bank family."

Emily Chambers, an interior designer with **Reed Architecture and Interiors**, has received her National Council for Interior Design Qualification Certification.

Chambers joined the Reed Architecture staff in May 2017. She completed her NCIDQ testing in the fall of 2020.

"My time and experience here at Reed proved invaluable on my certification journey," said Chambers. "I was fortunate enough to have the support of a great team."

Chambers is one of two NCIDQ interior designers on Reed Architecture's staff. Nicolette West, who also received her certification last year, joined the firm this month.

"Interiors is a vital part of our design process," said Reed Architecture principal and founder David Reed, "and Emily is very talented and a key part of our team. I am so proud of her accomplishments and so happy to have her on our team."

Reed Architecture is a full-service architecture and interior design firm with extensive experience in athletic, education, civic, commercial, and religious designs. To learn more about this Sapulpa, OK, firm, visit reed-architects.com.



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FAITH

Saint John's Episcopal Church Celebrates Seventieth Year and Seventh Rector's Arrival

Reverend David Bumsted Leads the Midtown Parish

By MARY WALLER
Saint John's Episcopal Church

In spite of a year of challenges, the Saint John's Episcopal Church community is feeling very positive and looking forward with anticipation. In February, the church welcomed the arrival of a new rector (the Episcopal term for a head priest of a congregation) and entered the seventh decade of worshiping in the first church constructed at 4200 S. Atlanta Pl.

The Reverend David Bumsted accepted the call to lead the parish and moved to Tulsa recently with his wife, Beka, from Orlando, Florida. Bumsted brings an abundance of energy and experience working with youth and families to this midtown church. This position brings him back to the state of his birth after many years away.

The Saint John's family is more than 700 individuals residing throughout Tulsa and the surrounding area and a growing number of friends online across the country. The latter is due to the recent installation of a permanent audio-visual system to deliver worship, choral music and Bible studies online.

The Episcopal Church is a liturgical tradition, which means it is rooted in an ancient rhythm of prayer. Saint John's offers services seven days a week, though some activities are temporarily modified due to the pandemic. Service details can be found at the website – sjtulsa.org – and on the Facebook page – Saint John's Episcopal Church. This congregation believes it is important that persons of faith with different backgrounds and viewpoints unite to serve Christ in a spirit of mutual love and respect.

Though Saint John's first church services were held in 1951, its roots go even deeper. They begin in the 1940s with an ambitious Episcopal vision of growing four new churches to serve a growing city. In December of 1948, Trin-

ity Episcopal Church downtown helped purchase five acres of a cotton farm situated in "far south Tulsa." The land was part of an original allotment conveyed in 1902 to Sarah McIntosh, a Creek Indian.

The first building on the property was a vicarage (home of a vicar) at the northeastern corner of the property. It was occupied in February of 1950 and was soon the nexus for prayer and a great deal of planning. Construction of Saint John's first church building began within months and was modest in scope, overseen by the church's first vicar (then rector), the Reverend Calvin Clyde Hoggard. The first church, now called Powell Hall, was completed the following year and the first Sunday Holy Eucharist services were held on Nov. 18, 1951.

With a burgeoning parish membership, ground was broken in 1956 for a larger church building farther south. The church was oriented east to west, with the sanctuary to the east catching the morning sun over the altar and the entry doors looking west from the hilltop. Like many large churches, Saint John's worship space is comprised of four "parts." In Episcopal parlance they are, from entry doors to altar: the narthex, nave, chancel and sanctuary. The space where the parishioners sit is known as the nave and the area with the altar is the sanctuary. The year was a whirlwind of construction on this large, modern gothic church with massive beams, vaulted ceiling and massive slate roof, a baptistry and balcony, thick limestone rock walls and many magnificent stained glass windows. It was completed in 1958.

Father John Vruwink became the second rector of Saint John's Church in 1960. It was during his time leading the parish that a central, three-story addition (basement, plus two floors) was constructed to connect the first chapel to the new church. Its third and fourth rectors were Father Wil-



NEW RECTOR: Reverend David Bumsted, the new rector at St. John's, welcomes visitors.

liam Weldon and Father William Maxwell. And, paying forward the blessings shown to them, in 1964 Saint John's Church family helped raise funds to buy the land to establish Saint Dunstan's Episcopal Church, the first area parochial mission.

The Reverend David Fox was the fifth rector at Saint John's, leading from 1979 until 2004. Father Irving Cutter joined the parish in 2006 and served until 2018. It was during this time that an exceptional Schoenstein Company organ was commissioned and installed. Through the years, several other minor and major restorations of Saint John's Church buildings and grounds took place.

Lest you are left with the thought that "church" is just a building, this parish family says it is the people – gathering in person and online – who are the church and do the work of ministry in the world. Saint John's is the volunteers, the lay leaders, the employees in all professions, the assisting clergy, the neighbors, the rector, and all the non-profit community partners.

Saint John's "Church" is now delighted to welcome its seventh rector.



TODAY'S CHURCH: St John's Episcopal Church facing Atlanta Avenue just south of 41st Street in Tulsa.



EARLY CHURCH SERVICE: This vintage photo shows a service taking place early in the life of the new/large church building, looking from balcony toward the east.



FIRST CHURCH BUILDING: This vintage photo is of the first church building, looking northwest from Atlanta Place

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<p>28</p> <p>INTRODUCE A GIRL TO ENGINEERING DAY EVENT Tulsa Children's Museum Discovery Lab 3 – 5 p.m. Visit exposquare.com for more information.</p> <p>TULSA OILERS vs. Kansas City BOK Center • 4:05 p.m. Visit tulsaoilers.com for more information.</p>	<p>1 March</p> <p>TO-GO ACTIVITY: KIDS READ – BUGS ARE BEAUTIFUL – HONEYCOMB PAINTING Tulsa Library (Virtual) All Day Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</p> <p>VIRTUAL EVENT – JOANNA RUTH MEYER Magic City Books (Virtual) 7 – 8 p.m. Visit magiccitybooks.com for more information.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>VIRTUAL EVENT – JENARA NERENBERG Magic City Books (Virtual) 7 – 8 p.m. Visit magiccitybooks.com for more information.</p> <p>Ask About Fraud ID Protection Central Bank of Oklahoma Strong roots. Endless possibilities.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>OKLAHOMA REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION RIDE & SLIDE Expo Square March 3 – 7 Visit exposquare.com for more information.</p> <p>PAWS FOR READING: READ TO A DOG OVER ZOOM (NATHAN HALE) Tulsa Library (Virtual) 4 – 6 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>VIRTUAL EVENT – STEVE BELLIN-OKA Magic City Books (Virtual) 7 – 8 p.m. Visit magiccitybooks.com for more information.</p> <p>SETH LEE JONES The Colony 8 p.m. Visit colonytulsa.com for more information.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>STONEY LARUE Cain's Ballroom 6:30 & 9:30 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</p> <p>BLOODY VALENTINE; HAD ENOUGH, ZEUS REBEL WATERS AND MORE Blackbird on Pearl 9 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>BIG 12 WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIP BOK Center 11 a.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</p> <p>DAN MARTIN & THE GREAT AMERICAN WOLF The Colony 8 p.m. Visit colonytulsa.com for more information.</p>
<p>7</p> <p>BIG 12 WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIP BOK Center 11 a.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</p> <p>OZZY OSBORNE: A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE'S WORKS IDL Ballroom 5 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>NATIVE CULTURE ARTS: CHEROKEE POTTERY Tulsa Library (Virtual) 8 – 8:30 a.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</p> <p>VIRTUAL EVENT – LESLEY BLUME Magic City Books (Virtual) 7 – 8 p.m. Visit magiccitybooks.com for more information.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>TULSA MASTER GARDENERS LUNCH AND LEARN: GARDEN PREP Tulsa Library (Virtual) 4 – 6 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</p> <p>CHRIS COMBS TRIO The Colony 8 p.m. Visit colonytulsa.com for more information.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>FINANCIAL LITERACY – COLLEGE: GETTING THERE FROM HERE – LUNCH & LEARN SERIES Tulsa Library (Virtual) 12 – 12:45 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</p> <p>DANE & THE SOUP The Colony 8 p.m. Visit colonytulsa.com for more information.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>VIRTUAL GAMING: AMONG US Tulsa Library (Virtual) 5 – 6 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</p> <p>GREATER TULSA HOME & GARDEN SHOW Expo Square March 11 – 13 Visit exposquare.com for more information.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>RC AND THE AMBERS Tulsa Shrine 9 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</p> <p>THE DAMN QUAILS Cain's Ballroom 9:30 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</p> <p>Free Small Business Checking Central Bank of Oklahoma Strong roots. Endless possibilities.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>CASEY DONAHEW Cain's Ballroom 6:30 & 9:30 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</p> <p>FIRST JASON, SEVERMIND, FULL METAL Z Tulsa Shrine 9 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</p> <p>MIKE HOSTY Blackbird on Pearl 9 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</p>
<p>14</p> <p>ONLINE ONLY: SUNDAY FAMILY NATURE WALK The Gathering Place All Day Visit gatheringplace.org for more information.</p> <p>TULSA OILERS vs. Wichita BOK Center • 4:05 p.m. Visit tulsaoilers.com for more information.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>BOOKS SANDWICHED IN: "THE ADDRESS BOOK" Tulsa Library (Virtual) 12:10 – 12:50 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</p> <p>PILGRIM The Colony 8 p.m. Visit colonytulsa.com for more information.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>TULSA MASTER GARDENERS LUNCH AND LEARN: CONTAINER GARDENING Tulsa Library (Virtual) 4 – 6 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</p> <p>VIRTUAL EVENT – HARLAN COBEN Magic City Books (Virtual) 7 – 8 p.m. Visit magiccitybooks.com for more information.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>ROUTE 66 MORGAN CLASSIC HORSE SHOW Expo Square March 17 – 20 Visit exposquare.com for more information.</p> <p>WHAT TO READ NEXT Tulsa Library (Virtual) 2 – 3 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for info.</p> <p>We Offer Health Savings Accounts Central Bank of Oklahoma Strong roots. Endless possibilities.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>VIRTUAL EVENT – MARK KURLANSKY Magic City Books (Virtual) 7 – 8 p.m. Visit magiccitybooks.com for more information.</p> <p>BB PALMER FREE SHOW WITH PAUL BENJAMAN Mercury Lounge 8 p.m. Visit mercuryloungetulsa.com for more information.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>FANDOM FRIDAY TRIVIA: DOCTOR WHO Tulsa Library (Virtual) 6:30 – 8 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</p> <p>JOE STAMM BAND Mercury Lounge 9 p.m. Visit mercuryloungetulsa.com for more information.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>TULSA GO MARKET Expo Square 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Visit exposquare.com for more information.</p> <p>RANCH & RHINESTONES IN TULSA Expo Square 12 p.m. Visit exposquare.com for more information.</p> <p>TULSA OILERS vs. Allen BOK Center • 4:05 p.m. Visit tulsaoilers.com for more information.</p>

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AROUND GREATER TULSA



LOADING COOKIES: Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma picked up their cookies at the Armstrong Relocation Warehouse in Broken Arrow in January. A total of 15,204 cases of cookies were distributed to area troops who will sell them to raise funds.



DISTRUBUTING HUNGER KITS: The Coffee Bunker is collaborating with Stone-Soup Community Venture, Horsechief Native Foods, and the Nicholas Kristoff Foundation to launch a new program called Opportunity Tulsa, a culinary training program for underrepresented 16-19 year olds. The internships include packaging and distributing COVID-19 hunger relief kits.



STREET WIDENING UPCOMING: An arterial street widening is coming soon for heavily traveled 81st Street from Memorial Drive to Sheridan Road in Tulsa.



CARING FOR CHILDREN: Crowe & Dunlevy's Tulsa office recently provided 60 baskets of grocery staples for foster families caring for displaced children through Tulsa's Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). The firm's staff also provided 20 stockings full of goodies for teens in CASA care. Debra Pascoe leads the firm's annual effort.

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