



OSU-TULSA AND TCC PARTNER TO OFFER BACHELOR'S DEGREE

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BENCH BY THE ROAD DEDICATED IN TULSA'S GREENWOOD DISTRICT

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MIDTOWN MONITOR

One of Six Greater Tulsa Reporter Newspapers

Oklahoma's Largest Monthly News Group

Volume 24

Mid-May to Mid-June 2021

www.gtrnews.com

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Cox Business Center Shines with Dedication of Public Art 'Highlight'

Tulsa Mayor G.T. Bynum and District 4 City Councilor Kara Joy McKee hosted a dedication May 7 for the new public art "Highlight" on the plaza at the Cox Business Convention Center, 100 Civic Center. Other speakers at the event were Holbrook Lawson of the Tulsa Arts Commission and the artist, Andrew Ramiro Tirado.

"Tulsans love public art, and this piece is a really unique addition to the new entrance of the Cox Business Convention Center," Mayor G.T. Bynum said. "'Highlight' is unlike any other piece of public art you're going to see around town, and I'm excited for Tulsans to see it for themselves."

Installation of this artwork completes the Vision Tulsa renovation of the Cox Business Convention Center. A ribbon-cutting and tours were held last summer to show off the new entrance, Grand Hall ballroom, and major upgrades to the kitchen and catering facilities.

The sculpture "Highlight" consists of three elements – a plug, an electrical cord and a light bulb – representing Tulsa's past, present and future. The artist Tirado explains his intent for the meaning of the piece:

The two-prong plug represents Tulsa's periods of rapid transformation. Its blue dome symbolizes both Tulsa's Blue Dome Station as well as the city's early stake in the exploration of the vast, blue dome of sky and space.

The electrical cord symbolizes the present as the link from past to future – a strand of historical interconnectedness and social interdependency.

Finally, as the universal icon for invention, resolute problem solving, energy, enlightenment, and understanding, the light bulb is the ideal symbol for the future – both Tulsa's and for all who share the city's high aspirations and vision.

"The light bulb is the piece's focal point, intentionally so," Tirado said. "It speaks of a bright and shin-



Courtesy photo

ENJOYING CITY ART: Enjoying the opening of "Highlight" at the Cox Business Center are, from left, "Highlight" artist Andrew Ramiro Tirado, Chair of the Tulsa Arts Commission Holbrook Lawson, Tulsa Mayor G.T. Bynum, and Tulsa City Councilors Kara Joy McKee, Vanessa Hall Harper and Lori Dector Wright.

ing future for Tulsa. Of an inventive, innovative one."

Tirado created the light bulb and plug in his studio in Colorado Springs, Colo. The electrical cord has been fabricated in Tulsa at American Pipe Bending. The budget for this artwork was \$430,000 from the Vision Tulsa sales tax.

The \$54.5 million renovation completed in summer 2020 improved the Cox Business Convention Center east entrance with a three-story glass entryway and replaced the plaza bridge with an accessible, landscaped public plaza gathering area. Replacing the former arena, the 42,000 square-foot Grand Hall makes Tulsa the home of the two largest ballrooms in Oklahoma, both in the Cox Business Convention Center: the Tulsa Ballroom completed in a Vision 2025 project, and the new Grand Hall.

Other features of the 2020 renovation include a new 27,000-square-foot kitchen, box office, greatly increased natural light, green room,



GTR Media Group photo

ENLIGHTENED ARTIST: Andrew Ramiro Tirado stands by one facet of his artwork at the Cox Business Center; The Light Bulb, "The ideal symbol for the future."

tasting room, and finishing kitchen on the event level. This renovation allows the Cox Business Convention Center to accommodate top quality conventions and business events on a larger scale than before.

About Vision Tulsa

Vision Tulsa, an \$884 million sales tax renewal package ap-

proved by voters in 2016, is making substantial investments in economic development, education, public safety, streets and transportation needs citywide. With citizen priorities providing the driving force behind the creation of Vision Tulsa, transformative projects and enhancements are setting the stage for a bright future for Tulsa.

KUDOS of the MONTH: Dress for Success

Dress for Success Tulsa has reached a major milestone in its mission to empower local women. In May the charity celebrated 20 years of providing professional attire and a network of support and career services to help women achieve economic independence. Dress for Success Tulsa will commemorate and forward its impact on the community through the remainder of the year. In addition to hosting a variety of fundraisers, it will also re-open and expand its development programs, including Beyond the Suit, which was suspended during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We are proud to have served

more than 16,000 beautiful women in our community with business attire and our "Beyond the Suit" program," said Katherine Skorvaga, executive director, of Dress for Success Tulsa. "We owe our existence to the generosity of the Tulsa community, and are so grateful, especially during the past year, for the support that has enabled us to continue to provide a hand up for those in need and paved the way for a bright future for both our clients and our organization."

Dress for Success is located at 3103 S. Harvard Ave. in Tulsa. For more information, visit tulsa.dressforsuccess.org.



GTR Media Group photo

WELCOMING VISITORS: Ready to help visitors to Dress for Success are, from left, Left Katherine Skorvaga, executive director; Pat Simmons, advisory board member; Patti Freeman, advisory board member; and Katrina Shaw, board vice president.

Tulsa Police and Fire Officers Honored for Above and Beyond Service to Community

The Rotary Club of Tulsa recently held its 14th annual Above and Beyond Awards honoring Tulsa's Firefighter and Police Officer of the Year at First United Methodist Church.

The awards acknowledge these public servants for outstanding acts of character, commitment and compassion to both their profession and the community.

Nominated by their peers, the award recipients have gone above and beyond by serving the community and exemplifying the values reflected in the Rotary Four-Way test (one of the world's most widely printed and quoted statements of business ethics). In addition, two new special awards were presented this year.

Mayor G.T. Bynum, members of the Above and Beyond committee, last year's Above and Beyond recipients Firefighter Xavier McNac and Police Lieutenant Jennifer Murphy, and representatives from the Tulsa Fire and Tulsa Police departments were in attendance. Lori Fullbright from the News on Six was the master of ceremonies.

Fire Chief Michael Baker and Rotary Club President Paul Bauman presented the E. Stanley Hawkins Firefighter of the Year award to Nickolas Swainston.

Police Chief Wendell Franklin and Rotary President Paul Bauman presented the Police Officer of the Year award to Sean Terrell. In addition to an Above and Beyond pin, ribbon and trophy, each recipient received \$3,000 donated to his favorite charity, plus dinner and an overnight stay at Osage Hotel and Casino.



GTR Media Group photo

AWARD RECIPIENTS AND LEADERSHIP: This year's Above and Beyond award winners with Tulsa and Rotarian leadership include, from left, George B. Hamilton Special Award recipient Lt. Chris Witt, Tulsa Police Department; 2021 Above and Beyond Awards Firefighter of the Year Nick Swainston; Fire Chief Michael Baker; Rotarian Above and Beyond Awards Committee Co-Chairs Rob Berry and Monica Martin; Tim Colwell Legacy Awards recipient Officer Aurash Zarkeshan; Tulsa Mayor G. T. Bynum; Police Chief Wendell Franklin; 2021 Above and Beyond Awards Police Officer of the Year Officer Sean Terrell and 2020 Above and Beyond Awards Police Officer of the Year Lt. Jennifer Murphy.

The George Hamilton Special Award was presented to Police Lieutenant Chris Witt. A new special award was introduced, the Tim Colwell Legacy Award. It was posthumously named in honor of Rotarian Tim Colwell, who

in 2018 introduced the idea that the club should create an annual program to recognize the public service heroes who protect our community with distinction and honor.

The first recipient of the Tim Col-

well Legacy Award was Sergeant Craig Johnson who was fatally shot in the line of duty last June. The second Tim Colwell Legacy Award was presented to Police Officer Aurash Zarkeshan. While conducting a traffic stop in June,

2020, he and Sgt. Johnson sustained multiple gunshot wounds to the head and torso.

Due to the pandemic, only participants in the program and a handful of special guests were at the event.

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Tulsa Press Club Celebrates Inaugural Class of Inductees Into Great Plains Hall of Fame

Journalists From Eight States Also Honored

The Tulsa Press Club recently celebrated its inaugural class of inductees to the Great Plains Journalism Hall of Fame. The 2021 inductees to the Great Plains Journalism Hall of Fame are Brenda Blagg of Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Susan Ellerbach of the Tulsa World, Kelly Dyer Fry of The Oklahoman, Michael Kelly of Omaha World-Herald and Jim Langdon of Langdon Publishing.

The event also honored the 2021 Great Plains Journalism Awards winners. The Great Plains Journalism Awards is a regional contest honoring print, web, TV and magazine journalists for outstanding stories, photography and design. The eight-state competition includes Oklahoma, Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa, North Dakota and South Dakota.

Tulsa native Roy S. Johnson, whose journalism career has spanned more than 40 years, received the Distinguished Lecturer Award and gave the keynote address during the live broadcast of this year's virtual event on May 7.

More than 600 entries were received this year, with winners and



GTR Media Group photo

HONORED JOURNALISTS: This year's Tulsa Press Club President Lacey Taylor, second from left, with Hall of Fame inductees Brenda Blagg of the Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Susan Ellerbach of the Tulsa World and Jim Langdon of Langdon Publishing. The photo was taken in the lobby of the Atlas Life Building in downtown Tulsa. The Atlas Life Building is also the location of the Tulsa Press Club.

finalists named in 73 professional and student categories. Five student journalists were awarded \$2,000 scholarships named after former Tulsa Press Club president and ONEOK executive Dan Harrison.

2021 sponsors included Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma, ONEOK, Cherokee Nation Businesses, Langdon Publishing, Citizen Potawatomi Nation and Tulsa Community College.

The Tulsa Press Club was founded in 1906 as a members-only professional organization offering networking, education events and social opportunities. The Tulsa Press Club promotes the highest standards in journalism with an emphasis in recognizing young journalism talent through its annual scholarship initiatives. Visit tulsapressclub.org for more information.

Mixing KitchenAid and Golf

KitchenAid Stand Mixers on Parade were featured at Tulsa's Mayfest.

The Stand Mixers are part of a local competition in which businesses decorate a stand mixer and, after Tulsa Mayfest, display in their storefronts to promote KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship.

The stand mixers were on display during Mayfest in front of the sixPR/36 Degrees North building parking lot at 300 Reconciliation Way near the Vast Bank building.

Southern Hills Country Club is the host of this year's KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship, the most historic and prestigious major golf championship in senior golf, and will also be the venue for the 2022 PGA Championship.



GTR Media Group photo

ON PAR WITH MIXERS: Taryn Parker displays KitchenAid mixers during Mayfest in Tulsa. KitchenAid sponsors the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship in May at Tulsa's Southern Hills Country Club.

GTR Resumes Six Versions

Due to reader and advertiser requests, the Greater Tulsa Reporter Media Group has gone back to the original publishing format of six versions after going to one version with the April issue.

The six GTR versions are the Union Boundary, Midtown Monitor, Broken Arrow Express, Owasso Rambler, Jenks District Gazette and Bixby Breeze.

GTR began publishing in 1993 with the Union Boundary and went online in 1996. All six versions share common news and each has specific news targeted to the readership areas.

GTR thanks its readers, advertisers and staff for nearly 30 years of news service to Greater Tulsa.



EDITOR & PUBLISHER
D. Forrest Cameron, Ph. D.

CO-PUBLISHER
Sharon Cameron

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS
Margaret Butler-Disney
Bob Lewis • Joanne Whitney

ART DIRECTOR
Bryan Cantrell

EDITORS AT LARGE
Terrell Lester • K.J. Webb

PHOTOGRAPHY
Harry Lentz • Dean Atchison
Rip Stell

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Blake Austyn • Nancy Hermann
Glenn Hibdon • Mike Moguin
Roger Coffey • D.J. Morrow-Ingram
Doug Eaton

DISTRIBUTION
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GREATER TULSA REPORTER
P.O. Box 470645 • Tulsa, OK 74147-0645
918-254-1515 • 918-254-1550 (fax)
info@gtnews.com
advertising@gtnews.com

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

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CIVICS

Moving Forward While Confronting Tulsa's Past

May 31 and June 1 mark 100 years since the Tulsa Race Massacre, which has left Tulsa with many wounds left untreated. Still, a century later, there remains a sense of disbelief that something so terrible could happen in Tulsa. To make matters worse, the events of 1921 were covered up and kept quiet for many years.

As Mayor, I am heavily focused on keeping Tulsans safe, developing our economy, and moving Tulsa forward. But to truly move forward, we have to confront our past. Opening old wounds isn't something many want to do, but doing so is necessary in Tulsa's case, especially when our wounds from

From Tulsa's Mayor



By G.T. BYNUM
Mayor of Tulsa

I want Tulsans to know the City is approaching the events of 1921 head-on and as we work to shed more light on this largely forgotten part of Tulsa's history. Tulsa is a city that is being one of the most transparent in the country when it comes to publicly realizing racial disparities, and then taking steps to address those disparities. In 2018, we announced our investigation into potential mass graves from the

1921 Tulsa Race Massacre. This summer, we will start the exhumation process at Oaklawn Cemetery to uncover a grave shaft with at

least 12 remains present, potentially from the Tulsa Race Massacre.

In communities everywhere, civil order breaks down when hate is allowed to run unchecked and uncontrolled. We see this even today when you look at the level of civic discourse and hatred that people with differing views express toward one another. I want the events of 1921 to serve as a reminder of the tragedy that occurs when we allow this to happen and how we can come together and bridge divides to create a community we can be proud of.

So that our past is not forgotten, community members and donors have come together to open Greenwood Rising, a museum that will tell the story of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre. Up to this point, the only museum where Tulsa children and adults can learn about the Massacre is located in Washington D.C. at the Smithsonian. I want to thank the community for their work in providing our children and future generations a local museum to learn about our history and spark dialogue for a better Tulsa.



Courtesy City of Tulsa

REVIEWING ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDINGS: Oklahoma State Archaeologist Kary Stackelbeck shows Mayor G.T. Bynum the latest in the 1921 Graves Physical Investigation Committee's findings during the test excavation at Oaklawn Cemetery on October 22, 2020

Democracy can only continue and flourish when we have a free and open exchange of ideas, and wounds can only heal when we have an honest discussion and

working realization of past events as we look to create a city where everyone has an equal shot at a great life.

Bench by the Road Dedicated in Tulsa's Greenwood District

As part of a significant gift from the Rotary Club of Tulsa's partnership with the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial Commission, two special benches have been dedicated in the Greenwood District.

The benches come from Toni Morrison Society's "Bench by the Road Project," which is a memorial history and community outreach initiative launched in 2006. "Bench by the Road" comes from Morrison's remarks in a 1989 interview about the lack of memorials for slaves. The Project places benches and plaques at sites commemorating significant moments, individuals, and locations within the history of the African Diaspora.

A commemoration ceremony was held April 3 inside Vernon AME Church. A second ceremony was held in front of Mabel B. Little Heritage House for the bench that was placed outside near the Greenwood Cultural Center.

The benches are part of the \$70,000 contribution to the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial Commission from the Rotary Club of Tulsa Foundation for the Greenwood Rising Museum to be located at the southeast corner of Greenwood and Archer.



GTR Media group photo

COMMEMORATION CEREMONY: From left at the ceremony are, from the Toni Morrison Society, Dr. Craig Stutman, Sharon Jessee, Dr. Carolyn Denard, and Dr. Lynne Simpson. To her left are Paul C. Bauman, President Rotary Club of Tulsa; Phil Armstrong, project director 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial Commission; Senator Kevin Matthews, chair of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial Commission; Brenda Alford, descendant 1921 Massacre survivors; and Rev. Dr. Robert Turner, pastor Vernon A.M.E. Church.

The gift to the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial Commission reflects a gift to the region's future, according to club officers. Rotary is dedicated to six areas of focus to build international relationships, improve lives, and create a better world to support peace efforts and end polio forever. The six areas are: promoting

peace, fighting disease, providing clean water, saving mothers and children, supporting education, and growing local economies.

The vision of Rotary International is: "Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change - across the globe in our communities, and in ourselves."

Black Wall Street Music Project Held

A private listening session for 1921: The Black Wall Street Music Project, was held at Lefty's on Greenwood in Tulsa's historic Greenwood District in April.

One Tulsa's Executive Director Fred Jones brought together some of Tulsa's brightest stars to be a part of this musical collective such as Taylor Hanson, Majeste Pearson, Lester Shaw II, Dane Arnold, and Omaley B.

The project also featured a song by Black Wall Street Musician trailblazer and international recording artist Washington Rucker who is 85 years young. A song by the late Wayman Tisdale, which includes students from Tulsa's Legacy Charter school and spoken word artist Kody Ransom's special tribute to Tulsa with Oklahoma Made, was part of the project.

Fred Jones stated, "We've done our best to cover several genres of music on the project as we salute the resilience of the Tulsa North Community, and the City of Tulsa at large as we look to the 100-year race mas-



GTR Media Group photo

TALENTED DUO: One Tulsa Executive Director Fred Jones, left, and musical star Taylor Hanson at Lefty's on Greenwood during the Black Wall Street Music Project.

sacre commemoration and as we move forward we will continue to do our part for a better Greenwood."

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American Rescue Plan to Help in Recovery

On March 11, 2021, as one of his first acts, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The ARPA follows the CARES Act of 2020 which included federal funding to states and local governments to help America recover from the effects of the pandemic.

In addition to Tulsa County, every city in the county receives ARPA funding. The estimates of funding relief are \$126,000,000 to Tulsa County, \$88,000,000 to the City of Tulsa, \$17,000,000 to Broken Arrow, and lesser amounts to the other cities in the county.

Because the recovery efforts will take time, the deadline for expending these funds is December of 2024. To make sure the funds will last that long, each local government will receive half of their amount in 2021 and the other half in 2022.

As the vaccine is proven effective to suppress the spread of the virus and prevent new cases, the purposes of these funds is to focus on some of the issues in our community which heretofore had not been addressed or allowed under the CARES Act. Some of these would be transformational

initiatives with long lasting benefits.

One of these issues is the need to expand access to broadband services to areas and agencies in the county. Some of these are county government facilities such as O'Brien, Chandler, and LaFortune parks which provide programs and educational opportunities. Other areas of the County could include nonprofit agencies and targeted areas in the County without access to broadband.

For the short term, possible support of the efforts by Tulsa International Airport to bring additional non-stop flights to destinations such as Se-

attle, San Francisco, New York City, Washington D.C. and Miami. Each of these flights were in the planning stages until the pandemic hit the airline industry particularly hard putting a halt to implementation.

There is also the area of workforce development which would address those portions of the labor force that need new training, education, and skills to reenter the workforce with new employment opportunities. Many of the previous jobs held by those currently



GTR Media Group photo

HONORING LINDA JOHNSTON: Tulsa County Commissioners and representatives, past and present, recently honored Linda Johnston for her 30-plus years of service in her position as Director with Tulsa County. Back row from left are Commissioners Karen Keith, Stan Sallee and Ron Peters and County Clerk Mike Willis. Front row are Sheriff Vic Regalado, former Commissioners John Smaligo and Bob Dick, and Mike Lapolla, Monia Whitmire, Linda Johnston, Julie Gustafson, Dr. Jerry Gutafson, and former Commissioners Randi Miller and Fred Perry.

From Tulsa County



By COMMISSIONER RON PETERS

Tulsa County Launches Cost-Saving Energy, Water Program

Courtesy Adriane Jaynes
INCOG

Tulsa County launched a program to lower the cost of energy and water efficient construction in April and the first project was recently finalized. Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Financing, commonly known as C-PACE, is a tool used in 25 states to enable lower cost access to energy and water saving technologies, along with resilience measures and alternative energy – which can lead to substantial savings in operational costs over the life of a building.

Tulsa County is the first county in Oklahoma to offer C-PACE, launching a limited pilot program in December, 2019 and launching its full program in April, 2021.

Tulsa County worked with INCOG and the Oklahoma Department of Commerce to devel-

op Oklahoma C-PACE, created for Tulsa County, but which can be used in any county interested in establishing a C-PACE program at no cost to participating counties through INCOG. Learn more at www.oklahomacpace.org.

Tulsa County Commissioner

unemployed will not be available or exist to return to.

During the pandemic, many small businesses struggled to stay alive because they lacked the essential fundamentals required to survive tough times. Many small business owners need training, education, technical assistance, and access to funding.

One of the fundamental differences between the CARES funding and the ARAP funding is the number of federal and state agen-

cies which will receive funding that can be used for local needs. There are at least a dozen federal agencies which will have funding to support local needs, such as the Small Business Administration, HUD, FEMA, the Economic Development Administration, Federal Aviation Administration, CDC, and the Health and Human Services agencies.

Because the ARPA funding that is available is spread out across many agencies, the county has

been assisting local businesses and nonprofits navigate the technical bureaucracy to help those in need connect with those that have available funding. This is particularly true for restaurants, hotels, bars, non-profits, and shuttered venues.

The ARPA funding is an opportunity for the county to invest where the need to recover, rebound, and rebuild is the greatest in all areas of the county from the effects of the pandemic.



quickly enable access as our economy rebounds from the effects of COVID-19."

C-PACE projects do not use grants or public funds. C-PACE enables private market loans, which are tied to the building's county property tax record as an assessment and paid annually. These assessments enable longer term loans, up to 30 years, or over the average useful life of the improvements. This mechanism lowers the upfront costs of such projects and allows property owners to utilize the realized energy savings to pay the loan. If the property is sold, any remaining assessment is passed to the new property owner.

On May 3, the Tulsa County Board of County Commissioners approved the first C-PACE assessment under Tulsa County's Oklahoma C-PACE program for the

new 40-bed Tulsa Rehabilitation Hospital in southeast Tulsa. Tulsa Rehab Hospital is an inpatient rehabilitation hospital from NKD Rehab, a partnership between Kennor Holdings, Cross Development, and Nobis Rehabilitation Partners.

NKD Rehab qualified for the assessment by planning to implement energy efficiency improvements in the new construction project, including LED lighting, wall and roof insulation, efficient windows, high-efficiency HVAC and water heating systems and low-flow fixtures. Petros PACE Finance was the direct lender selected by NKD Rehab to provide C-PACE financing.

INCOG is proud to administer Oklahoma C-PACE for Tulsa County and looks forward to expanding to any county in Oklahoma with interest in the program.

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VARIETY

Curtain's Up on Theatre Entertainment

Tulsa Town Hall to Open in October at Performing Arts Center

During mid-May, the CDC announced an easing of COVID restrictions. In addition, there are indications that herd immunity is possible. Theatregoers, event presenters and performers have been waiting in the wings, eager for relief.

Over the last 16 months, our local arts groups have suffered financial losses. They have scheduled, cancelled, rescheduled, and had to cancel events again, all the while riding the waves of information, misinformation, and everyone's best guesses. It's been a perilous ride, to say the least.

One group that has enjoyed and earned success year after year is Tulsa Town Hall. Since its founding in 1935, Tulsa Town Hall has hosted scientists, composers, and former heads of state, along with Oscar winners and recipients of Pulitzer and Nobel Prizes. Speakers are chosen based on their ability to hold the interest of an audience for a full hour with entertaining presentations that invite deliberation and reflection. Town Hall's 86th season promised to be another winner before the curtain came down on gatherings of any size last summer. Fortunately, the group's programmed speakers for 2020-21 all were available for the following year. The dates

have changed in some cases, so if you've made your reservations for last season, please note the new dates. Here's a recap of this year's stellar Tulsa Town Hall lineup.

Show Buzz



By NANCY HERMANN

Political cartoonist Kevin Kallaugher opens Tulsa Town Hall's 87th season on Oct. 8. He'll demonstrate that the pen is funnier than the sword as he draws caricatures of famous people while interacting with the audience and commenting on current events. His cartoons have appeared on 140 magazine covers and in more than 100 publications

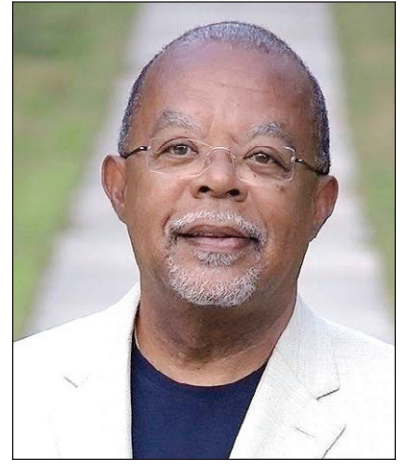
worldwide. Kallaugher was the first resident cartoonist at "The Economist" in its 145-year history.

You may have heard David Brooks on the "PBS News Hour," NPR's "All Things Considered" and NBC's "Meet the Press," or read his thoughtful commentary in "The New York Times." Brooks' #1 bestselling book, "The Second Mountain, The Quest for a Moral Life," will be the focus of his Tulsa Town Hall visit. His book might be an eye-opener or salve for anyone who is feeling a bit unmoored, or who might be asking "Is this all there is?" Brooks will be your mountain guide on Nov. 12.

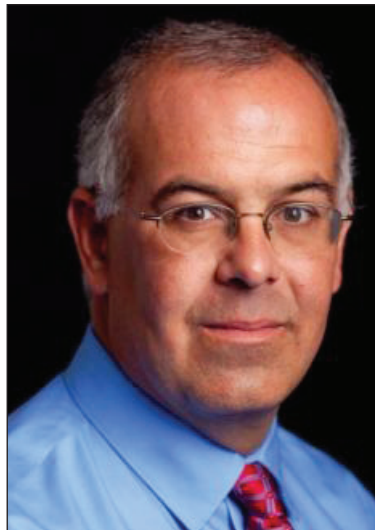
Republican political strategist Karl Rove has been a Washington insider for four decades, having



NICK BUETTNER



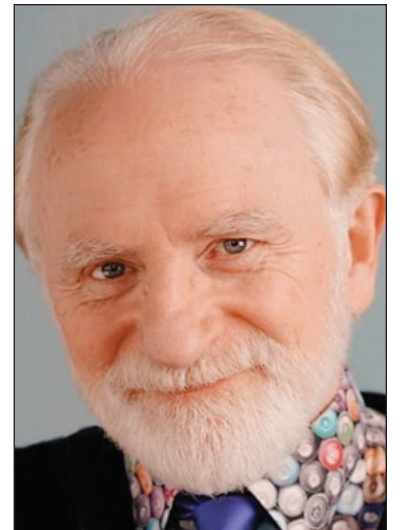
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DAVID BROOKS



KARL ROVE



KEVIN KALLAUGHER

enjoyed a close association with both President Herbert Walker Bush and his son, President George W. Bush. Rove served as deputy chief of staff and senior advisor for the latter, wielding sway over an era marred by the carnage of 9/11, the war in Afghanistan and the invasion of Iraq. Following retirement, Rove became a Fox News contributor, Wall Street Journal columnist and New York Times best-selling writer, having authored "The Triumph of William McKinley: Why the Election of 1860 Matters." It will be interesting to hear Rove's take on the recent tumultuous time in our country's history. The title of his Jan. 14, 2022 lecture is "America's Challenges."

Speaker Nick Buettner has traveled to 17 locales around the world where people live to be 100 years old or more. These "Blue Zones" share commonalities which can help us make better choices related to where we live, work and play. With the visual aid of "National Geographic" photography, Buettner will examine the diets,

belief systems and lifestyles of people who live in Karia, Greece; Nicoya, Costa Rica; Okinawa, Japan, and other Blue Zone places that might surprise you, like Loma Linda, California! "Blue Zones: The Making of a Healthy City" is his topic on Mar. 4, 2022.

Closing out the series on April 1 is Henry Louis Gates, Jr. He's the host of PBS' "Finding Your Roots." A MacArthur Genius who taught at Yale, Gates has earned more than 50 honorary degrees, and was recognized by the "Chicago Tribune" in 2019 with a Lifetime Achievement award. The Emmy Award-winning filmmaker is the author of 21 books and 15 documentaries. Gates teaches English and Literature and does research in African-American studies at Harvard University.

"Thanks to contributions from sponsors and a growing Endowment Fund, Tulsa Town Hall remains a terrific bargain at \$100 for all five speakers," says Tulsa Town Hall Executive Director Kathy Collins.

All lectures take place at the

Tulsa PAC on Friday mornings at 10:30 a.m. Subscriptions can be purchased at TulsaTownHall.com or by calling the Town Hall office, 918-749-5965. A pass to and from the PAC for all five speakers costs \$25. Shuttles run from the parking lot located at Boston Avenue Methodist Church. Tickets for lunch with the speaker following lectures are \$25 for each event and are in high demand.

Subscribers have been assured that Tulsa Town Hall will follow the guidelines, set by the Tulsa PAC and the City of Tulsa, that are in place at the time of each speaker event. Town Hall lectures subscribers are welcome to choose a seat in any one of the auditorium's three levels — wherever they feel comfortable.

"The PAC has a new filtration system that exceeds CDC standards," emphasizes Tulsa Town Hall Board President Pam Hillis. "Health and safety continue to be a top priority, and we will strive to help our subscribers, speakers and sponsors feel as safe and comfortable as possible."



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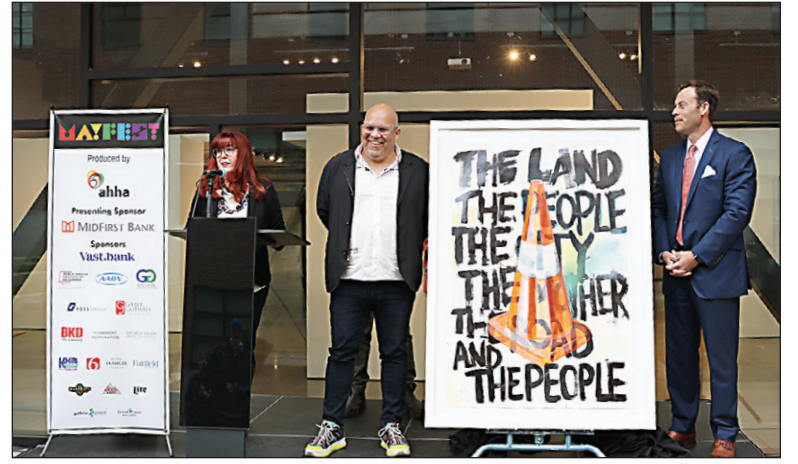
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MONTH OF MAY BRINGS FUN-FILLED ACTIVITIES



GTR Media Group photo

MAYFEST FUN: Tulsa's Mayfest is always a good time for all with excellent music, art and food.



GTR Media Group photo

MAYFEST POSTER UNVEILING: The original artwork for the 2021 Mayfest poster, created by Tulsa resident Winston Peraza, center, was unveiled April 22 at ahha Tulsa at 101 E. Archer. The 2021 Mayfest poster is titled Detour 2020. The work, inspired by handmade signs found at rallies and demonstrations, displays an orange safety cone as the main feature. At left is ahha Executive Director Holly Becker, and at right is Scott Stidham, Tulsa market president of Midfirst Bank.



GTR Media Group photo

BROKEN ARROW'S CINCO DE MAYO: The annual Rose District Cinco de Mayo Fiesta in Broken Arrow's Rose District brings family-friendly activities with live music, parades and more.

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BIXBY BBQ AND BLUES: The Bixby Rotary Club and Hillcrest Hospital South welcomed the 20th annual Bixby BBQ and Blues festival on May 7 to Washington Irving Park, just north of the Arkansas River. Great music accompanied the premiere competition with 75 teams from Oklahoma, Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri and Texas competing for the Grand Champion of BBQ and People's Choice Awards.

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HEALTH & WELLNESS

OSU Medicine Opens New OB/GYN Clinic

Three Physicians Now Accepting Patients in South Tulsa Location

OSU Medicine recently opened a new obstetrics and gynecology clinic in south Tulsa to expand services to an area of the community where there is a need.

Three OSU Medicine physicians are now seeing patients at the new clinic: Dr. Angela Christy who has 18 years of experience in obstetrics and gynecology; Dr. Ryan Gholson who has been an OB/GYN for 11 years; and Dr. Erin Brown who has been seeing patients since 2013.

"Having a south Tulsa presence has allowed us to expand and diversify our patient population," said Christy. "It also allows closer access to our established patients who live in the south Tulsa area."

The OB/GYN South Tulsa Clinic, 6126 E. 61st St., offers a full range of services including preventative women's care and annual exams; family planning and various contraception options; breast cancer and gynecologic cancer

screenings; colposcopy and LEEP procedures; pelvic pain assessments; fibroid treatment; hysterectomy consults; minimally invasive gynecologic surgery; prenatal care for low-risk and high-risk pregnancies; ultrasound; and noninvasive prenatal genetic testing.

"We offer compassionate and comprehensive reproductive health care from adolescence through menopause," said Brown, who will see patients at the South Tulsa and Houston Center clinics.

The new clinic will meet the needs of existing patients in south Tulsa as well as reach a growing population of new patients to OSU Medicine.

"Everything, including all our medical equipment, is new and up-to-date allowing us to give the best available care to our patients," Christy said. "We have an in-office ultrasound and lab as well as the ability to perform a range of in-

office procedures. This allows us to do some procedures in the clinic that other OB/GYNs have to do in operating rooms, making it more cost effective for our patients."

The OB/GYN South Tulsa Clinic is now accepting new patients. Those interested can call 918-281-2575 to schedule an appointment.

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,



Courtesy photo

DR. ANGELA CHRISTY: The OSU physician has 18 years of experience in obstetrics and gynecology and welcomes new patients to the new clinic located in south Tulsa.

the School of Forensic Sciences, and the newest site, OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine at the Cherokee Nation in Tahlequah. OSU Medicine operates a network of 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 medicine.okstate.edu.

City of Tulsa Launches Survey to Understand COVID-19 Impact on Immigrants and Minorities

The City of Tulsa, in coordination with four partner organizations, launched a COVID-19 Community Impact Survey designed to gather insights from Black, Indigenous, and communities of color about the impact of COVID-19 on their well-being and sense of belonging.

The survey is part of a larger national effort, funded by Walmart Foundation and conducted in partnership with New American Economy, to reach at least 1,000 residents across the cities of Atlanta, Austin, Denver, Louisville and Tulsa.

"In 2018, we adopted roadmaps like Resilient Tulsa and the New Tulsans Initiative Welcoming Plan as a commitment to address inequality and foster a sense of inclusion and belonging for all Tulsans," Mayor G.T. Bynum said. "Our commitment continues, and we want to ensure our COVID-19 response and recovery efforts are equitable and inclusive of all communities. The Community Impact Survey will be an essential tool to understand what current response and recovery strategies are working and where we need to adjust or do more."

The survey, which will be conducted in 16 languages, covers four key areas, including: Personal and Household Well-Being; Access to Economic Relief; Cultural and Linguistic Inclusion; and Perception of COVID-19 Response and Sense of Belonging. To administer the survey and participant incentives, the Mayor's Office of Resilience and Equity is working with YWCA Tulsa, Block Builderz, Community Service Council (CSC), and UMA Tulsa to reach communities of color and immigrant communities that have faced significant challenges as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and economic recession. The first 200 participants will be eligible to receive a \$15 gift card.

Results from the survey will inform the City of Tulsa's COVID-19 response and recovery efforts as local officials work to end disparities faced by immigrant communities and communities of color.

The survey results will also inform year four of New American Economy's annual Cities Index, a tool that measures immigrant inclusion through an assessment of local policies and socioeconomic

disparities between the US-born and foreign-born.

The NAE Cities Index measures local policy and practice across five categories: Government Leadership; Economic Empowerment; Inclusivity; Community; and Legal Support. In response to COVID-19, NAE will create a new section focused on inclusive disaster response and resilience to help cities assess key policies and practices in place to better prepare for and recover from future disasters.

Here's what Tulsa's partners had to say about the effort:

"Block Builderz is excited to partner with the City of Tulsa and the Mayor's Office of Resilience and Equity to uplift the voices of a marginalized community," said D'Marria Monday, Block Builderz' founding director. "Our partnership aims to build equity by including the voices that often go unheard."

"Uma Tulsa is excited to partner with the City of Tulsa to gain a better understanding of the social, economic, and health needs and inequities resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic in our community," said Uma Tulsa Founder

Martha Isabel Zapata, C-PRSS, MA, PhD.

"Through the Community Service Council's close connection with Tulsa's Hispanic/Latinx and Burmese communities, we are aware many of their families have been hit particularly hard by COVID-19," said Su Phipps, PhD, RN, CSC's director for the power of families and Sia Mah Nu programs. "We anticipate that in partnering with the City and utilization of the COVID-19 Community Impact Survey, Tulsa will gain a better understanding of the pandemic's impact on people of color, as well as their inclusion in Tulsa's efforts to contain it."

"We are proud to partner with the City of Tulsa to assist in surveying the impact of COVID 19 on our community. This opportunity allows us to further our mission in eliminating racism, by giving a voice to our underrepresented members to identify the needs and resources needed. We believe the results from the survey will provide information needed to increase health equity within the community," said DeAndre Opoku, Director of Health Equity and Wellness

To complete the survey, which is available in 16 languages, visit cityoftulsa.org/resilienttulsa.

About New American Economy

New American Economy (NAE) is a bipartisan research and advocacy organization founded to educate, empower and support policymakers, influencers, and citizens across the country that see the economic and social benefits of a smart approach to immigration reform. NAE has created a coalition of civic, business, and cultural leaders who span the political spectrum and represent all 50 states.

NAE makes the case for smart immigration reform in four ways: 1) we use powerful research to demonstrate how immigration impacts our economy, 2) we organize champions at the grassroots and influencer levels to build support for immigration, 3) we partner with state and local leaders to advocate for policies that recognize the value immigrants add locally, and 4) we show immigrant contributions to American culture through film, food, art, sports, comedy, and more. Visit www.NewAmericanEconomy.org to learn more.



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TCC Opens Community Vaccination Center

A new community vaccination center (CVC) has opened in Tulsa at the Tulsa Community College Northeast Campus, 3727 E. Apache St. The federally supported vaccination center is open Tuesday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

To make an appointment or learn more about the CVC, visit www.tulsa-health.org/CVC. Appointments are encouraged and walk-in vaccinations will be accepted as well.

The site has the capacity to administer up to 3,000 doses per day and is expected to receive a weekly allotment of 21,000 doses. English and Spanish-speaking staff are present on-site, with the ability to connect to translation services for other languages including sign language interpretation.

The goal of establishing this center is to continue to expand the rate of vaccinations in Oklahoma in an efficient, effective and equitable

manner with an explicit focus on making sure that communities with a high risk of COVID-19 exposure and infection are not left behind.

"Equity is a cornerstone of THD, and our agency works to address disparities and ensure equitable access to vital public health services for all Tulsa County residents," said THD Executive Director, Dr. Bruce Dart. "Through collaboration with local and state partners, we have prioritized access to information and access to the vaccine for historically underserved residents."

The vaccination site is managed by the Tulsa Health Department in partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Tulsa Area Emergency Management Agency, Oklahoma State Department of Health, Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security,

Tulsa Community College, the Oklahoma National Guard and the Department of Defense.

Vaccinations will continue to be available through existing locations, including THD clinics, local pharmacies and health centers to provide multiple avenues and opportunities for immunization.

"Now is the time to get the COVID-19 vaccine," said Dart. "The vaccine is safe and effective. It's more convenient than ever to receive one. It's normal to have questions, and I encourage everyone to turn to trusted resources like your medical provider. If you have been vaccinated, talk to your friends and family about why you chose to do so. Help them find their own reason to get vaccinated, and help make their vaccination happen."

Visit www.tulsa-health.org/COVIDvaccine for more information on the vaccine and vaccina-



GTR Media Group photo

DISCUSSING HEALTH: Tulsa Health Department Executive Director Dr. Bruce Dart explains the TCC Vaccination Center to the media and others at the TCC North Campus with a sign language expert at his side.

tion opportunities. Health officials continue to stress the importance of wearing masks, frequent hand-

washing and maintaining social distance to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Tulsa Health Department is a Finalist for Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Award

Last year, Tulsa County was chosen as a finalist for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Culture of Health Prize. The national Prize honors communities working at the forefront of advancing health, opportunity and equity for all.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the final evaluation phase was postponed until 2021, and Tulsa is now participating in a series of community reflection conversations with local leaders and Prize leadership. Winners will be announced this fall.

"We are pleased to advance as a RWJF Culture of Health Prize finalist communi-

ty. Tulsa would be the first community in Oklahoma to receive the award," said Tulsa Health Department Resource Development Manager and Pathways to Health Board Member Jenna Grant. "It not only recognizes the great work happening across Tulsa, but also puts a national spotlight on it."

To advance to this stage in the process, communities had to showcase the breadth of work and collaboration happening throughout sectors to improve health. To become a finalist, Tulsa County had to demonstrate how its efforts reflect the six Prize criteria, including Defining health in the broadest

possible terms; Committing to sustainable systems changes and policy-oriented long-term solutions; creating conditions that give everyone a fair and just opportunity to reach their best possible health; harnessing the collective power of leaders, partners, and community members; securing and making the most of available resources; and Measuring and sharing progress and results.

"RWJF Culture of Health Prize communities offer important examples of places where partners are coming together to cultivate a shared commitment to equity so all residents can thrive," said Richard Besser, MD, RWJF president and CEO. "We look forward to connecting and speaking with residents and community leaders in each fi-

nalist community to learn more about how they are achieving meaningful and lasting change."

If selected as a Prize winner, Tulsa will receive a \$25,000 prize and a national platform to share their story and lessons learned to inspire other communities. The community will join with other national and local change leaders, including past Prize winners, through a national Prize Alumni Network.

To learn about the work of the 44 previous Prize winners, visit www.rwjf.org/prize.

The RWJF Culture of Health Prize is a collaboration between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute.

THD Begins Covid-19 Vaccines to Ages 12-15

The Tulsa Health Department has begun administering the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine to children age 12-15. The announcement follows the recommendations by the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices authorizing the use of the vaccine for this age group.

"We welcome the opportunity to expand the protection offered by the COVID-19 vaccine to more community members," said THD Executive Director Dr. Bruce Dart. "The Tulsa Health Department and local health care providers have administered more than 417,595 doses in Tulsa County."

The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine will be available on an appointment basis at the following Tulsa Health Department locations. To make an appointment, visit vaccinate918.com. Masks are required to be worn and clients will be screened for COVID-19 symptoms upon arrival. Those 17 and under must have parent or guardian present for consent to receive the vaccine.

- James O. Goodwin Health Center | 5051 S. 129 E. Ave., Tulsa, OK
- Central Regional Health Center | 315 S. Utica, Tulsa, OK
- North Regional Health and Wellness Center | 5635 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Tulsa, OK
- Sand Springs Health Center | 306 E. Broadway, Sand Springs, OK

Parents can also walk-in with their adolescents at the Community Vaccination Center (CVC) at the Tulsa Community College Northeast Campus, 3727 E. Apache St. The Community Vaccination Center is available with no appointment with convenient hours from 10 a.m. – 7 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday. More information regarding vaccine clinic locations in Tulsa County can be found at vaccinate918.com. Appointments can be scheduled online. Call 918-582-9355 to speak to a public health professional. For more information, visit tulsa-health.org/COVID19.

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EDUCATION

OSU-Tulsa and Tulsa Community College Partner to Offer Bachelor's Degree in Tulsa

*College Park to be
A Public Four-Year
University Experience*

*Scholarship Fund
Also Established*

Students looking to earn a bachelor's degree and stay in Tulsa will benefit with the creation of College Park, a public four-year university experience in one location. In announcing the expanded partnership between Tulsa Community College and Oklahoma State University-Tulsa, leaders also announced OSU-Tulsa has commitments for \$500,000 to help fund scholarships for College Park students.

"College Park is a direct response to calls for an affordable, public, four-year higher education option combining TCC's nationally recognized experience in the first two years of higher education, and OSU-Tulsa's role as a public, metropolitan urban-serving research university," said Dr. Leigh Goodson, TCC president and CEO. "In addition, this new collaboration allows us to offer degree programs tailored to the needs of our region's economy."

College Park is located at OSU-Tulsa with courses taught by faculty from TCC and OSU and builds on the collaboration started in January 2020 with LinkedDegree.

"Our goal is to improve access to bachelor's degrees for all Tulsans and reduce equity gaps in bachelor's degree attainment," said Dr. Pamela Fry, OSU-Tulsa president. "Two of the state's leading institutions combining forces to create this experience for students will not only increase the number of bachelor's degrees in Tulsa, but also save taxpayers money and help attract companies to invest in northeast Oklahoma."

Capitalizing on existing infrastructure, College Park students will complete their four-year university experience in a single location, surrounded by OSU-Tulsa and TCC support and resources. Eligible students can utilize Tulsa Achieves with additional scholarship support toward the costs of the junior and senior years from OSU-Tulsa.

"The new level of collaboration for College Park is an example of how innovation will keep the City of Tulsa globally competitive by keeping our talent in Tulsa and building the workforce employers want," Mayor G.T. Bynum said. "This is an important step to increase the number of bachelor's degrees in key industries to attract and recruit companies. I want to thank Oklahoma State University and Tulsa Community College for providing this educational opportunity for Tulsans."

College Park students learn in a fully guided and supported cohort program, which is a group learning environment that builds collaboration. College Park also provides access to shared student services, including early advising, career counseling and wellness, as well as research facilities and specialized faculty.

"The state system of higher education remains focused on identifying opportunities to collaborate and achieve efficiencies that serve our students and advance our state. College Park and the efforts of the seven colleges and universities in northeast Oklahoma to fully align student transfer through the Tulsa Transfer Col-



GTR Media Group photo

EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIP: TCC President Dr. Leigh Goodson, left, and OSU-Tulsa President Dr. Pamela Fry join together for the announcement of the educational partnership at the OSU-Tulsa campus in April. College Park is located at OSU-Tulsa with courses taught by faculty from TCC and OSU.

laborative are excellent examples of leveraging partnerships to help our students complete their college degrees and enter the workforce more quickly," said Chancellor Glen D. Johnson.

State Regent Jody Parker said, "I commend OSU-Tulsa, TCC and the other members of the Tulsa Transfer Collaborative for listening to Tulsa leaders and partnering to find innovative solutions to address the need for more bachelor's degree holders in northeast Oklahoma and across our state."

Additional comments from State Regent Jay Helm noted the impact from COVID-19. "Moving Oklahoma forward, especially given the ongoing impacts of the pandemic, will take all of us

working together. We celebrate the partnership that produced College Park and the work of the Tulsa Transfer Collaborative to improve student outcomes and simplify transfer for all students in northeast Oklahoma," said Helm.

Applications opened May 3 for Fall 2021, when two cohorts of business students will begin taking TCC classes at OSU-Tulsa and move into OSU-Tulsa courses in their junior year.

"OSU-Tulsa and TCC have a longstanding partnership to support Tulsa students. Of all undergraduate students at OSU-Tulsa, 72 percent are TCC transfer students," said Goodson. "When you look at OSU as a whole, 24 per-

cent of OSU graduates in 2019 attended TCC at some point in their college journey."

OSU's Spears School of Business is the top transfer destination for TCC Associate of Science Business Administration graduates and remains among the top five percent of the world's schools offering business degrees with the 2019 re-accreditation by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International.

College Park will offer daytime classes for the full-time cohort and evening classes for the part-time cohort of business students. Additional academic programs will be added in the future.

To learn more about College Park, visit collegeparktulsa.com.

Community Library Unveiled on OSU-Tulsa Campus

Oklahoma State University-Tulsa unveiled a new literacy initiative recently that provides free access to books to neighborhood children.

The "Stache of Books Community Library" is a repurposed newspaper box located on the OSU-Tulsa campus near the neighboring Sunset Plaza apartments, making it easy for residents to find something new to read.

"Our new library will be located west of Parking Lot E just right by the fence line in the front, and anyone can get a book any time," said Alnetta Morris, OSU-Tulsa

community engagement specialist. "Just look for the orange newspaper vending machine, select a book or two, and it is yours to keep."

The box has been painted bright orange and decorated with "Stache of Books" decals, making it easy to spot – and appealing for young readers. While most of the books in the library are geared toward elementary and middle-school children, books for teenagers and even adults will also be available.

The goal is not only to provide free and convenient access to books to encourage reading, but

also encourage members of the surrounding community to feel at home on the OSU-Tulsa campus.

"We are located here in the Greenwood District, and we want our neighbors to feel comfortable coming to campus, so we are excited about having this library," said Pamela Fry, president of OSU-Tulsa. "We especially want children to feel comfortable coming to campus. They may choose to attend college—maybe even here—one day, so we want to start as early as possible."

OSU-Tulsa held a "Blankets and Books" drive for the "Stache of Books Community Library. Staff, faculty and students donated nearly 40 blankets along with books. The blankets were presented to management at Sunset Plaza Apartments to distribute to residents.

Books were also donated by Tulsa Talk, Read & Sing/Early Learning Works, First Baptist Church North Tulsa and Alpha Xi Sigma Tulsa Chapter/Sigma Gamma Rho. More than 400 books were donated overall.

More than 50 children from local



Courtesy photo

BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS: OSU-Tulsa president Pamela Fry displays books to children living in the area near the OSU-Tulsa campus.

preschools and church groups attended the unveiling event, which featured a poetry reading by Lanier Elementary fourth-grade student Ellis Jackson, story time with President Fry and music by DJ J.

Soule. Each child who attended received a new book to take home.

To donate to the "Stache of Books Community Library, contact Alnetta Morris at alnetta@okstate.edu or 918-594-8305.

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Opening Eyes to a World of Possibilities

“What do you want to be when you grow up?” As adults, we throw this loaded question at our children from the moment they are old enough to talk. If you asked a child what they want to be every year for five years, you will likely get five different answers.

The same holds true if high school graduates move on to college and have to pick a major. At Tulsa Tech, that is not the case for every student, many get to explore and find interests, talents, and more. One example is the Health Science Technology (HST) program, which stands as a gateway to a multitude of careers.

“For me, HST is my way to explore and get experience in the medical field,” Estefania Carbajal said with a smile. “Right now, my goal is to be a trauma surgeon.” While her classmate countered: “I can gain more medical knowledge, and that will help me reach my career goals,” Sara Tennant said. “I plan to go to college at the University of Central Oklahoma and become a mortician.”

The one-school year program allows students to explore health science career options. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics the number of jobs in the healthcare field is expected to grow by 15 percent by the end of the decade. That

is an addition of more than two million jobs nationwide.

“We start with the science of healthcare and anatomy,” Matt Ruskoski, Health Science Technology instructor, said. “We want to help students build a foundation of knowledge to help them going forward.”

Made up of high school juniors, the HST program allows students to dive in and find what they want to do their senior year. The second-year is where students can earn the industry certifications Tulsa Tech offers, credentials that can allow students to work while they pursue more advanced education.

“I enrolled in HST to gain the hands-on experience,” Abby Lara, a junior at Booker T. Washington High School, said. “When I started the program, I wanted to be a pediatrician, but now I am looking more toward sports medicine.”

Changing your career goals is not uncommon. A recent study by the National Center for Education Statistics found some college students will change majors three times. A costly switch that Tulsa Tech students can avoid with the HST Program.

“I am hoping to leave the pro-



RENDERING AID: Health Science Technology students learn how to render aid to choking adults and infants during CPR training. Students leave the program with CPR certification and better understand the medical field they want to pursue.

Courtesy Tulsa Tech

News From Tulsa Tech



By **DR. STEVE TIGER**
Superintendent

TULSA TECH STUDENTS HELP MEET WORKFORCE NEED



Vanessa Azere/ Tulsa Tech

SALUTING THE LAW: Tulsa Tech students salute during The Pledge of Allegiance before taking the oath to become Tulsa County Sheriff's Office detention officers.

More than a dozen Tulsa Tech students are now sworn detention officers for the Tulsa County Sheriff's Office (TCSO). The students took part in an industry-specific, collaborative training effort between Tulsa Tech and TCSO and have been rewarded for their hard work by kickstarting a new career.

“I first wanted to be a police officer because I like solving a mystery,” Lucian Bode, a senior at Booker T. Washington High School, said. “I want to be a crimes against children investigator because I have two little sisters, and I would want someone to look out for them. This opportunity with TCSO is a great way to start my career and work while I go to college.”

Detention officers serve a critical need in keeping the community safe. As part of the effort, students learn how to keep themselves and inmates safe. Statewide the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates more than 300 openings for detention officers each year.

“This is a critical time for law enforcement. Fewer and fewer people are answering the call to serve their communities. That's why this collaboration is so important,” said Tulsa County Sheriff Vic Regalado. “These young men and women are stepping in at a time when we desperately need Detention

Officers. They are filling a critical need that will help keep the jail running. I hope each of these graduates will have long careers here at the Sheriff's Office.”

“Since we started, sheriff's offices from across Oklahoma have called looking to set up this type of training,” Tulsa Tech Criminal Justice Instructor Michael Brown said. “As far as I know, this is the first program of its kind in the nation.”

Many of these students plan to pursue further education to become police officers, sheriff's deputies, or join the military.

“This training gives me great confidence in myself,” Abigail Barbee, a senior at Union High School, said with a smile. “Being able to get a job right out of high school is a great feeling.”

The students are all in the criminal justice programs at Tulsa Tech. High School students spend two years in Criminal Justice Practical Law and Criminal Justice Investigations. Students learn to apply the law, gather evidence, serve warrants and detention techniques.

If you are looking for an in-demand career, visit tulsatech.edu to see which of more than 80 career training options can help you make your own path to success.

gram with a clarification of what I want to do,” Ana Ibarra said with a grin. “With the skills we learn, I know I will be able to narrow down what I want to do. But no matter what, the skills gained here will help me for a lifetime.”

More than exploration, it is also a way for students to reach their career goals even faster.

“I like getting started early on my career,” Amiah Grant said. “It is also great to meet new people and be around others that have the

same interest.”

The common bond builds a connection in the classroom. Outside the classroom, a dedicated group of counselors help students answer career questions.

“Here I feel like the counselors focus on me, I am not just my student number,” Lara said. “They always give me more information than I ask for, and the instructors are amazing. They find ways to make sure everyone understands the material.”

The HST program, like all Tulsa Tech's programs, also teaches the professional skills students need to get hired. Skills like communication, problem-solving and how to work as part of a team.

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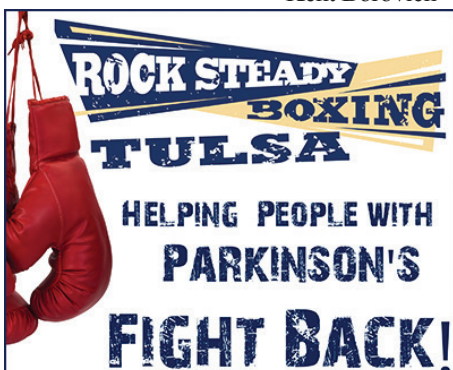
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SPORTS

KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship at Southern Hills Brings Tulsa Center Stage

The PGA of America's 2021 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship has brought the eyes of the golfing world to Tulsa for the May event at Southern Hills Country Club.

The 2021 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship — the most historic and prestigious event in senior golf — welcomes approximately 8,000 spectators per day, a decision that was made in coordination with the City of Tulsa and guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"After a year away, we're excited to re-establish the legacy of the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship," said PGA President Jim Richerson. "Southern Hills, with all of its pedigree, is certainly a special place. It'll be exciting to watch this great American golf course, which our friend Gil Hanse restored to Perry Maxwell's original vision, on a Major Championship stage, not once, but twice, in as many years."

Those who purchased tickets to the 2021 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship have first priority for 2022 PGA Championship tickets when they go on sale on June 1. The 2022 PGA Championship will be played at Southern Hills, May 16-22, 2022.

"Over the next 15 months, our friends in Tulsa and the state of Oklahoma will have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see so many of golf's greatest living Champions compete for two Ma-

ior Championships at Southern Hills," said Seth Waugh, CEO of the PGA of America. "To that end, we'll host and promote a responsible on-course environment that is both memorable and in line with local health protocols."

Ken Tanigawa, 53, is the defending champion at this year's event. He won the 2019 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship at Oak Hill Country Club in Rochester, N.Y. The 2020 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship was not played in adherence to local COVID-19 mitigation policies in Southwest Michigan.

"The health and well being of our volunteers, spectators and players has always been our top priority, and we are thrilled that we were able to work together to find a safe way to bring back this incredible event," said Deb O'Connor, director of Global Corporate Reputation and Community Relations at Whirlpool Corporation, parent company of KitchenAid. "With 1,500 people currently employed at our Tulsa Whirlpool plant, we could not be more excited to bring this iconic Championship to such a special community."

The field for the 2021 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship includes the top 35 Senior PGA Club Professionals, who qualified during the 2020 Senior PGA Professional Championship, which was won by Omar Uresti of Austin, Texas, October 15-18, at PGA Golf Club in Port St. Lucie, Florida.



Courtesy photo

DEFENDING CHAMPION: Ken Tanigawa takes practice swings as he prepares for this year's PGA Senior Championship at Southern Hills Country Club.



GTR Media Group photo

HORNSBY READY TO GOLF: Hornsby, the mascot of the Tulsa Drillers, welcomed PGA Senior defending champion Ken Tanigawa to a media event at Oneok Field in April. At right is Tulsa Drillers President and General Manager Mike Melaga.

Coach Annie Young, TU Golfers Earn AAC Honors, Championship

University of Tulsa Women's Golf Head Coach Annie Young was named the American Athletic Conference Coach of the Year and student-athletes Lorena Tseng and Lilly Thomas were named to the all-conference team.

The Golden Hurricane captured The American Golf Championship in May with a three-shot victory over two-time defending champion Houston. The Hurricane led from start to finish with rounds of 293-301-294 for a total score of 888.

On the year, Young has led her team to three tournament championships in five events, including the Texas State Invitational and the Rebel Beach Intercollegiate.



Courtesy photo

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ORU's Mike Carter Transitions from Role As the Athletic Director to A.D. Emeritus

After nearly 27 years leading the Oral Roberts athletic department, Mike Carter is transitioning from his role as Athletic Director to Athletic Director Emeritus. ORU President Dr. William M. Wilson announced during the recent ORU Board of Trustees meeting. Deputy Athletic Director Tim Johnson will assume the role of athletic director on Aug. 1.

"It's been an honor and privilege to have served as Athletic Director

at Oral Roberts University," said Carter. "I thank God for the opportunity to serve our wonderful student-athletes and invest in their lives competitively, intellectually, socially and spiritually. In my new role, I will consult with the new athletic leadership, while continuing to assist the Athletic Department in fundraising and community relations. This will give me the chance to spend more time with my family and grandchildren and hopefully

play a little golf."

Hired initially at ORU on November 4, 1994, Carter is the fourth-longest tenured athletic director currently running a NCAA Division I program. He's guided the Golden Eagles to nine Commissioner's Cups, winning 153 regular season and tournament titles, and sent 84 teams to NCAA Championships, including ORU's magical run to the Sweet 16 in March.

Under Carter's direction, the athletic department reached unprecedented success with three individual national championships in track and field (Andretti Bain-2, Jack Whitt) along with 102 All-Americans and more than 1,400 all-conference selections. The baseball program has had 74 draft picks in the last 25 years, and nine of them reached Major League Baseball.

He created the ELI Academic Learning Center that's helped Golden Eagle student-athletes exceed a 3.0 GPA for 23-consecutive years and spearheaded the completion of the state-of-the-art John and Cheryl Clerico Golf Complex in 2019. Carter also was named the 2012 Division I Central Region Athletic Director of the Year and was honored by the Tulsa Sports Commission as the 2006 Sportsman of the Year. He faithfully served on the NCAA Division I Men's Golf committee for the last 20 years and acted as the chair on two occasions.

The ORU Board of Trustees also established that the building of a new athletic center shall be named in honor of Mike Carter. The new facility will be constructed next to the Mabee Center, part of a comprehensive retro-fitting of the Mabee Center. It will contain two reg-



GTR Media Group photo

GOLDEN EAGLE LEADERSHIP: Mike Carter, right, is transitioning from his role as Athletic Director to Athletic Director Emeritus and will be succeeded by Deputy Athletic Director Tim Johnson, left, on August 1. The announcement was originally made by ORU President Dr. William M. Wilson during a recent ORU Board of Trustees meeting.

ulation basketball courts, a 10,000 square foot strength and conditioning space, accommodate the ELI Academic Learning Center, team meeting rooms, and office space for athletic department staff.

Johnson will officially take over as Athletic Director on August 1, 2021, and build on recent successes. He joined the department in 2015-16. Johnson was previously the assistant athletic director at Clemson. He currently oversees all external departments, directs capital fundraising, major gifts, and other sources of revenue generation along with strategic initiatives. He also provides sport oversight for baseball and assistance in the men's basketball program.

"I believe Tim is well prepared and will do a great job as the Athletic Director," added Carter. "I look forward to the bright days ahead for Golden Eagle athletics."

The Golden Eagle Club increased

its membership by 315 percent under Johnson's leadership, while achieving its highest fundraising totals and premium seating sales. He also guided campaigns to renovate facilities for baseball, men's and women's basketball, men's and women's soccer, volleyball and aided in constructing ORU's first on-campus track and tennis complex.

ORU will host a press conference Monday, April 19 at 3 p.m. inside the Global Learning Center (GLC) auditorium for the announcement. A live stream of the event can be watched on ORU's Facebook and YouTube channels.

For the latest information on ORU Athletics, follow the Golden Eagles on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, or go to www.ORUAthletics.com. Fans can also receive updates on the team by downloading the ORU Athletics app from the App Store or Google Play Store.



Courtesy OSU

PRESIDENTIAL PITCH: Oklahoma State celebrated the official dedication of O'Brate Stadium with a 9-6 win over New Orleans in May in front of a record OSU baseball crowd of 6,362. Prior to the game, the 43rd President of the United States, George W. Bush, threw out a ceremonial first pitch, along with Cecil O'Brate, the entrepreneur and major benefactor for the stadium.

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Angie Nelp Named Tulsa Women's Basketball Coach

Arizona State Associate Head Coach Angie Nelp has been named University of Tulsa head women's basketball coach as announced today by Director of Athletics Rick Dickson. Nelp is the 11th head coach in Tulsa women's basketball history.

Nelp (formerly Angie Gorton) returns to her native Oklahoma, where she finished her senior season as the 1998 Oklahoma Gatorade Player of the Year at Canadian High School.

Nelp has coached 13 seasons in Division I college basketball and has helped teams reach postseason competition eight times. She has coached 33 all-conference players, eight conference players of the year, three conference freshman of the year honorees, 43 academic all-conference selections and 18 professional players.

"I am extremely humbled and excited to be the next head coach of the women's basketball team at The University of Tulsa," said Nelp. "I want to thank Interim President Janet Levit, and Rick Dickson for entrusting me with the growth and development of this program and the student-athletes who make it so special."

"Our team will represent the values of this great university and its commitment to excellence. We will be a team that plays for each other, gives our best effort in all we do, and competes for championships. My family and I are looking forward to being part of the TU family."

Nelp comes to Tulsa following four seasons on the coaching staff at Arizona State. She spent her first three years as an assistant coach and was promoted to associate head coach in April 2020. During her tenure, the Sun Devils posted a .617 winning percentage with an overall 76-47 record and advanced

to the postseason three times. ASU played in the NCAA Tournament twice, moving to the "Sweet Sixteen" in the 2018-19 campaign. This past season, the Sun Devils participated in the WNIT.

During her time in Tempe, the program had the nation's No. 6-ranked recruiting class in 2020 with four players ranked among ESPN's top 30 by position. She also recruited and signed the 2018 U-18 European Championship MVP.

"I'm thrilled to welcome Angie, Jake and family to The University of Tulsa. It's an exciting day for our university, athletics department and women's basketball program," said Dickson. "Angie brings the enthusiasm and tenacity that we were looking for in our new coach. She has a passion to see that her student-athletes succeed not only on the court but in all phases of life."

"Everyone we talked to about her raved about Angie's energy, leadership, work ethic, basketball knowledge, her ability to connect with people and be a stellar role model for young women. We're excited that she's now a part of our TU family."

Nelp joined ASU from Rice University where she helped guide the Owls to the WBI Championship, the school's first postseason title, and 22 victories in 2016-17, the second-most wins in a single season. The Owls improved by 13 wins from her first to second season, one of the top increments in the nation.

Rice led all of Conference USA in total assists (558) and total rebounds (1,308) while setting a single-season program record in 3-pointers (242). In addition the Owls ranked second in the league in assists per game (15.9), field goal percentage (.444), made three-pointers (242) and free throw attempts (626).

The Owls set a school record with



READY FOR ACTION: TU Head Women's Basketball Coach Angie Nelp, center, with Athletic Director Rick Dickson and Senior Associate Athletic Director for Compliance/SWA Crista Troester.

13 home victories in the 2016-17 season and the team's 9-2 start was the best by a Rice squad since the 1988-89 season.

Nelp joined the Owls after spending four seasons as an assistant coach at Mercer University where she was responsible for coaching the guards, as well as scout and film preparation. She coordinated Mercer's recruiting efforts that saw the Bears sign two ESPN top 70 players along with two Georgia state players of the year.

Nelp helped lead Mercer to two 20-win seasons, setting school records for most conference and non-conference wins while orchestrating one of the nation's quickest program turnarounds in one year as the Bears went from six to 20 wins.

Before her stint at Mercer, Nelp served as assistant director of bas-

ketball operations at Marquette University. She also spent one season as a graduate assistant coach on the Arkansas women's basketball staff under then head coach Tom Collen.

Nelp played collegiately at Colorado State, accumulating 1,397 points, 629 rebounds, 356 assists and 261 steals in four seasons, and leading the Rams to three NCAA Tournament appearances. She earned Mountain West Defensive Player of the Year honors, was a first-team All-MWC selection, a Kodak All-America Honorable Mention honoree and was named an academic all-conference performer all four seasons.

Nelp was inducted into the Colorado State Athletics Hall of Fame in 2019.

From Eufaula, Okla., Nelp starred

at Canadian High School in Oklahoma, and led her team to the 1998 Oklahoma State Championship while earning state tournament MVP honors.

After graduating from Colorado State in 2002 with a bachelor's degree in health and exercise science, she went on to spend two seasons with the NWBL Colorado Chill and one season with 08 Stockholm in Sweden. As a professional, she helped lead the Chill to the 2005 NWBL title and 08 Stockholm to the 2003 Swedish national crown. Nelp returned to the United States to serve as the head girls' basketball coach at Yorktown High in Yorktown, Ind.

Nelp and her husband Jake have four children: JJ, Louis, Ellie Kaye and Harrison.

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Cascia Hall Wrestler Eli Griffin Makes History

Senior Wins State Title For Fourth Straight Year

By MIKE MOGUIN
GTR Sports Writer

Cascia Hall senior Eli Griffin made school history in February when he captured a first place medal for a fourth straight year, winning the 126-pound weight class at the Class 3A state tourney in Oklahoma City.

Griffin won the final by technical fall against Zach Dawson of Marlow at 4:22 in the match. He is the first wrestler at Cascia Hall to become a four-time state champion since Mike Bizzle did it from 2002-05. Another Cascia Hall wrestler, junior E.J. Tecson won the 145-pound weight class with an 11-3 major decision against Bryson Hughes of Marlow.

"It's exciting and relieving," Griffin said. "It's been a goal of mine ever since I was in elementary school. It's also just more motivation to realize that in the figure-scale of things for sports, high school state titles doesn't mean anything in college and I've got to keep working hard."

Griffin has signed with California Baptist to wrestle in college.

"I'm just excited because I know it's going to be tough," Griffin said. "I've been told by so many college wrestlers how tough col-

lege wrestling is compared to high school and I'm just excited for the competition day in and day out. I can't wait for the challenges because I live for the hard moments and the grueling practices. That's what makes living fun."

The key to winning another title, Griffin said, was just wrestling his style in his finals match.

"I just went out there, relaxed and had fun because I knew that if I wrestle as I should, I knew I wouldn't have any problem and I would do what I needed to do to make my dreams come true," Griffin said.

The team did have to deal with challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, from quarantines to distractions with tournaments being moved around. But they were excited in the long-term to get their season in. Griffin was also glad to get his title last year since the state tourney occurred two weeks before sports events, including the OSSAA state basketball tournament, were getting canceled due to COVID.

"It was definitely like a 'Praise God' moment after we heard that because it was so close to state and we're just thankful," Griffin said.

Griffin is the third wrestler to be a four-



Courtesy Mike Griffin

CELEBRATION: Cascia Hall wrestler Eli Griffin celebrates winning another state wrestling title in February with his father Mike, left and coach Ernie Jones.

time state champion under legendary coach Ernie Jones, besides he and Bizzle, former Oklahoma State standout and Olympian Kenny Monday also accomplished the feat under Jones at Booker T. Washington from 1977-80.

"It's awesome and just motivating because I know I can be there too and that's my goal. So I know with my coach behind me and my dad, every coach that has been in my life, I know I can make them proud by achieving my goal and being an Olympic champ," Griffin said.

Griffin sees a good future for Cascia Hall wrestling.

"I'm excited because we're going to be tough," he said. "We got tougher this year and there are good hard-working kids on the team. The thing I'm going to miss about it is the tournaments, hanging out, making memories and just being a role model for the younger guys."

Private School Quick Hits

Bishop Kelley boys win state for third

straight year. Girls finish runner-up: Bishop Kelley won the Class 5A boys state meet for the third straight year, winning it with 332 points. Midwest City Carl Albert took second with 255.5 points. Individually, senior Sam Duda won the 500-yard freestyle event with a time of 4:55.20. The Comets also got wins in the 200 and 400-yard freestyle relays, respectively with times of 1:30.60 and 3:17.62. Both teams consist of junior Ian Wilson, Duda, senior Tyler Hoang and sophomore Preston Hoang. On the girls' side, Kelley won the event with 225 points as Carl Albert took the title with 241. Freshman Alex Lane won first place in the girls' 500-yard freestyle with a time of 5:19.46. Kelley also won the 200-yard medley and freestyle relays respectively with times of 2:01.02 and 1:48.53. Both teams consisted of senior Abbey Mink, sophomore Regan Holt, junior Allison Andrews and Lane.

Cascia Hall also had an individual state champion swimmer in the 5A girls' meet. Freshman Ella Newhouse won the 200-yard intermediate event with a time of 2:16.02.



Courtesy photo

DAVE REITER NAMED CASCIA HALL A.D. Dave Reiter has been named the Director of Athletics at Cascia Hall Preparatory School. Reiter was in his sixth year as Director of Basketball Operations for the University of Tulsa, joining the basketball staff in June 2015.



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THE ECONOMY

Amazon Expands Investment in Tulsa With Planned Sortation Facility Near TIA

The City of Tulsa has announced the addition of a new Amazon operations facility, with plans now underway to build a 270,000 sq. ft. sortation center at North Mingo Ave. between 36th St. N. and Apache Blvd. near the Tulsa International Airport

“With another planned facility in Tulsa, Amazon continues to show they want to do business here and extend more employment opportunities to Tulsans,” Mayor G.T. Bynum said. “This investment accelerates development around one of our strongest job centers, and speaks volumes to the kind of city and workforce we have.”

The sortation center, which is expected to be completed sometime in late 2021, will create hundreds of new full-time and part-time jobs with industry-leading pay and benefits starting on the first day of employment.

“This is an exciting day and I look forward to seeing what opportunities they will bring to the neighborhood,” District 3 City Councilor Crista Patrick said. “Over the past several years, it’s been great to see employers like Amazon and Greenheck plant their roots in this part of Tulsa to create new jobs in our district.”

The sortation center will be

Amazon’s third large investment in Tulsa, which follows the opening of its nearly 2.5-million-square-foot fulfillment center in August 2020, and the April 2021 announcement that Tulsa was selected as one of 16 cities to test its electric delivery vehicles.

“We are proud to be able to continue our growth in Tulsa and provide hundreds of job opportunities for the local community,” said Jessica Breaux, Manager of Economic Development at Amazon. “We’re grateful for the strong partnerships we’ve made with state and local officials and we look forward to our future in this great city.”

The sortation center will serve as the middle ground between fulfillment centers and last mile delivery stations, which serve as the transit portion of Amazon’s operations.

“We are delighted that Amazon continues to build out their footprint in Tulsa and on Tulsa Airports Improvement Trust land,” said Joe Robson, Chair of the Tulsa Airports Improvement Trust. “This initiative capitalizes on the use of available land that is adjacent to the airport as well as Highway 169, making it extremely attractive to companies looking to expand near Tulsa’s largest industrial and transportation corridor.”

The sortation center will be located on approximately 40 acres on the southeast corner of North Mingo Rd. and 36th St. N. The Tulsa Airports Improvement Trust (TAIT) will enter into a long-term



Courtesy

IMPRESSIVE ADDITION: The new Amazon facility will be built near the Tulsa International Airport

land lease and Tulsa International Airport Development Trust (TIADT) will provide financing incentives through its Tax Incremental Finance (TIF).

“Amazon has been a tremendous partner since first coming here, and we’re thrilled the company is expanding its footprint in northeast Oklahoma,” said Mike Neal, president and CEO of the Tulsa Regional Chamber. “Recruiting first-class companies such as Amazon yields continued growth and has long-term positive effects on the region. Amazon’s decision to further invest in northeast Oklahoma’s workforce speaks to our strong regional talent pool, and we’re grateful for the substantial number of jobs this project will bring.”

Amazon says it expects to start

the hiring process by late summer 2021.

Amazon in Oklahoma

Since 2010, Amazon has created more than 11,000 jobs in Oklahoma and invested more than \$650 million across the state, including infrastructure and compensation to its employees.

Amazon’s investments have contributed more than \$530 million in GDP to the Oklahoma economy and have helped create over 4,100 indirect jobs on top of Amazon’s direct hires – from jobs in construction and logistics to professional services.

More than 14,000 independent authors and small and medium businesses in Oklahoma are selling to customers in Amazon’s store, creating thousands of additional jobs across the state.




Courtesy photo

JUST BETWEEN FRIENDS: The Jenks Chamber of Commerce Women in Business program welcomed Shannon Wilburn, CEO of Just Between Friends, second from left, as a featured speaker on May 6. The noon event included lunch and an opportunity to hear Wilburn’s story on how Just Between Friends (JBF) became North America’s leading pop-up children’s and maternity consignment sale company with 150+ franchises in 32 states. With Wilburn, from left, are Ashley Abel, CrossFirst Bank; Heather Turner, Anthem Road Academy; and Kimanda Ballard, Tiny Blessings 4D Ultrasound.

Edward Jones

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Kathy Taylor Named University of Tulsa Interim Dean of TU's College of Business

Courtesy of The University of Tulsa

The University of Tulsa has named Kathy Taylor, J.D., an accomplished leader, business executive and corporate attorney, as interim dean of TU's Collins College of Business, effective July 1. As TU continues its national search for the next permanent dean with the assistance of Korn Ferry consultants, Taylor will provide leadership to the college with a focus on student success and the key initiatives outlined in the university strategic plan.

"Kathy has a consistent record of transformational change, and she has proven leadership in both the public and private sectors," said TU President-elect Brad Carson. "Throughout her career in business, law and public service, she has been a tireless advocate for

education and entrepreneurship as well as diversity, equity and inclusion, all of which position her well to serve as our interim dean. I am certain our students will be the greatest beneficiaries of Kathy's wealth of knowledge and extensive connections in business and industry."

"TU is truly THE University of Tulsa. With my unwavering commitment to Tulsa, the people and the business community, I am truly honored to lead the Collins College of Business," Taylor said. "During this period of transition, I am committed to partnering with the faculty, staff and students as we continue to grow in new ways."

In addition to Taylor's service as Oklahoma's secretary of commerce and mayor of Tulsa, she has served on several corporate boards, including Sonic Corp., Bank of Oklahoma, National Car Rental



KATHY TAYLOR

and Dollar Car Rental, as well as on various boards for professional and nonprofit organizations. She is currently active on the boards of the Tulsa Public Facilities Authority; 36 Degrees North, a basecamp for entrepreneurs; StitchCrew, a business accelerator; the Lobeck Taylor Family Foundation; and VEST, a network for expanding the pipeline of women in positions of influence.

"With the rapidly changing nature of technology, the way we work and the way the global economy is going to organize post-pandemic, we want to ensure we are looking at the broadest candidate pool possible for TU's next permanent dean," said TU Interim President Janet Levit. "Kathy's experience in business, law and public service makes her an excellent choice to navigate this transition." Senior Associate Dean Ralph

Jackson has been serving as interim dean since the departure of former dean Linda Nichols who left Tulsa in 2020 to serve as dean of the College of Business Administration at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. "Ralph has done a terrific job stewarding the business school during the past year," Carson said, "and the entire TU community owes him tremendous thanks for his service."

Taylor earned a J.D. and a B.A. in journalism from the University of Oklahoma. She was the inaugural recipient of the Order of the Owl, the highest honor bestowed by the OU College of Law. Taylor was a resident fellow at Harvard's Kennedy School Institute of Politics and holds honorary doctoral degrees from The University of Tulsa and Old Dominion University.

ESG Factor Becoming Implemented in the Economy



ESG is the acronym for Environmental, Social, and (Corporate) Governance. The ESG factor is becoming more and more discussed and implemented in all areas of finance, including the energy sector.

Many companies are working to define how they impact ESG criteria. Environmental is broad and it includes carbon and methane emissions, and water and air pollution. Social or social sustainability involves relationships with employees and communities. Governance relates to the officers and board in implementing environmental policies and procedures.

Environmental issues also comprise climate change, deforestation, renewable energy, waste management, and other impacts on natural resources.

Social concerns include: relationships with investors, financial institutions, and company employee policies.

Governance measures the company's implementation of all of its policies relating to the full scope of ESG.

In the energy industry, companies are reviewing how they can improve their standards and report their findings to the public and other involved parties, such as financial institutions and

stockholders. Many law firms and accounting firms are working to define what is needed for a successful ESG program. Many

stockholders, lenders, company executives, and other involved parties are becoming more concerned in developing ESG compliances. Many energy companies in the near future will face economic challenges, if some forms of ESG are not incorporated.

In 1992, I founded the International Conference on Energy and the Environment, which became the International Policy Conference at the University of Oklahoma Sarkeys Energy Center. The conference was coordinated with Dr. Gus Gertsch, director of the Center. The theme of the conference was "striving for energy efficiency and environmental preservation."

The conference has been held in several cities across the United States, for more than 20 years, including Tulsa, Oklahoma City, Norman, Stillwater, Dallas,

Houston, Denver and Washington, D.C. The reason I founded the conference was to begin a dialogue about energy and the environment. It concerned me, after

a trip to Russia in the same year, 1992, that I saw first-hand the conditions in Russian oil fields, relating to the environment. I believed it was important to begin discussions of how the United States and other countries could work toward the conference's theme. Today, we are faced with the need for sustainable energy and for environmental preservation. In my book,

America Needs America's Energy: Creating Together the People's Energy Plan, I emphasized the importance of evaluating our own individual impact on our nation and playing our part in preserving our country.

As The Balance states, in a recent article, "ESG criteria create a framework for helping investors who want to incorporate personal values into their investment approach. The ESG screening process identifies companies

that have built sound environmental practices, strong social responsibility tenets, and ethical governance initiatives into their corporate policies and everyday operations."

Oil and natural gas, along with all forms of energy, will be needed for many years to come. Together, we can achieve sustainable energy and environmental preservation.

America needs America's energy! All forms. All American. 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.



By MARK A. STANSBERRY

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A Tier II application for an air quality Title V permit and acid rain permit for a major facility has been filed with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) by applicant, Green Country Energy, LLC at 12307 S. Florence Ave. in Jenks Oklahoma, 74037

The applicant requests approval to obtain a renewal of its Title V permit and acid rain permit from the DEQ Air Quality Division at the Green Country Energy, LLC facility located at 12307 S. Florence Ave. in Jenks Oklahoma, 74037 located in Tulsa County.

The application may be reviewed at the public library in the city of Jenks or at the Air Quality Division's main office (see address below).

The status of all permit applications is also available for review in the Air Quality Section of DEQ's Web Page: [//www.deq.state.ok.us/](http://www.deq.state.ok.us/)

After reviewing the application, the DEQ will prepare either a draft permit or a draft denial. At that time another notice will be published about where to review the draft, how to submit written comments on the draft and request a public meeting.

For additional information, contact Gregory Holler at 12307 S. Florence Ave. in Jenks, Oklahoma 74037 or call (918) 296-6479 or contact DEQ at: Chief Engineer, Permits & Engineering Group, Air Quality Division, P.O. Box 1677, Oklahoma City, OK, 73101-1677. Phone No. (405) 702-4100.

Senior Development Analyst – GIS needed in Tulsa, Oklahoma to participate in all aspects of the software development lifecycle for both package and custom developed applications. Applicants must have the minimum of a bachelor's degree in GIS, MIS, Computer Science, Mathematics, Geography, or a related field plus at least five years of progressive experience working with and developing SDE and Oracle Geo database, ArcGIS suite, PODS or UPDM, and AWS, Azure, or Google. Will accept an educational equivalency prepared by a qualified evaluation service. Must have legal authority to work in the U.S. Send resume/references to: Stephanie Vazquez, HR Analyst, ATTN: The Greater Tulsa Reporter ONEOK Services Company, LLC, 100 West Fifth Street, Tulsa, OK 74103. EOE.

OSU Spears Business To Induct Tulsan Melinda Stinnett Into Hall of Fame

Melinda Stinnett of Tulsa, a 1989 Oklahoma State University accounting graduate and successful entrepreneur, has been selected as the 2021 inductee into the OSU Spears School of Business Hall of Fame. Stinnett will be honored in a ceremony this fall along with 2021 Outstanding Young Alumni Haley Keith and Steven Propester.



MELINDA STINNETT

Each year, Spears Business recognizes exceptional graduates who are inducted into the school's Hall of Fame in recognition of distinguished professional careers, displays of leadership and for giving back to their communities and OSU. This year Stinnett will receive the highest honor awarded by Spears Business at the Hall of Fame ceremony and banquet Nov. 12.

"We are delighted to induct Melinda Stinnett into our hall of fame," said Dr. Ken Eastman, dean of Spears Business. "She has built a tremendous company, which continues to grow. Additionally, Melinda has been an active supporter of Spears Business, OSU and other philanthropic organizations. She is a wonderful person, and we are proud to have her in our hall of fame."

Stinnett is the managing director of Stinnett & Associates, a professional advisory firm she founded in Tulsa in 2001 and who has three decades of experience as a certified public accountant and certified internal auditor. In 2017, Stinnett was named Oklahoma Small Business Person of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration and was named to the Journal Record's 2020 list of "50 Making a Difference."

After graduating from OSU, Stinnett spent 12 years working in public accounting before launching her firm. For nine years she worked in the Tulsa office of Arthur Andersen, becoming audit senior manager, and also worked as a staff auditor for Price Waterhouse in Phoenix, Arizona.

Stinnett & Associates' 100 em-

ployees currently serve clients in six Oklahoma offices as well as locations in Colorado and Texas. The firm's moto is "Care Greatly!" which is reflected in the company being chosen in 2019 as an Oklahoma Best Place to Work. Stinnett has become a widely sought-after speaker on building positive, inclusive places to work. She is also a coveted speaker for professional organizations and conferences as an expert in internal auditing and Sarbanes-Oxley compliance.

Stinnett's involvement with her alma mater includes currently serving on the Board of Governors for the OSU Foundation, the Spears Business Dean's Council, the OSU School of Accounting Advisory Board and Executive Committee, the Eastin Center for Career Readiness Advisory Board and the Women for OSU Board.

About OSU Spears School of Business

The Spears School of Business exists to prepare people to make a difference in the world by teaching essential interpersonal skills alongside a high-quality business education backed by impactful research and outreach. For more information, call 405-744-5064 or visit business.okstate.edu. To learn more about the Spears School of Business, follow us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.

BUSINESS & PEOPLE NOTES

Tulsa Regional Chamber Hires Jonathon Long to Lead Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

The Tulsa Regional Chamber has hired Jonathan Long as vice president of diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). Long will lead the Chamber's work to promote DEI as a strategic priority for the northeast Oklahoma business community.

"The Tulsa Regional Chamber is one of the best in our industry, and I'm delighted to join such a wonderful organization," says Long. "The Tulsa region is on the rise, and continuing that success will require the business community to be even more intentional in its diversity, equity and inclusion work. I look forward to helping organizations and their leaders find ways to make progress in this area."

Long comes to Tulsa from Wichita, having most recently been director of diversity, equity and inclusion for the Wichita Chamber of Commerce. An emerging leader among chamber professionals, Long was named to the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives' "40 Under 40" class in 2019. In Wichita, he also served in leadership roles with Wichita Urban Professionals and the local chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., and was active with the Mayor's Young Professionals Advisory Committee, Boys and Girls Club of South Central Kansas, and other community-based organizations.

"Chambers of commerce are an important voice in community conversations about significant issues, and Jonathan's experience will be invaluable for these conversations in our region," says Rose Washington, CEO of TEDC Creative Capital and chair of the Tulsa Regional Chamber. "I am impressed by his conviction and passion, and he will be a great asset as the business community aspires to make 'diverse, equitable and inclusive' not just things we do, but who we are."

In his role with the Tulsa Regional Chamber, Long will provide staff support to Mosaic, the Chamber's coalition of Tulsa-area companies and nonprofits committed to DEI. Founded in 2011 and recognized as a national model for chamber-led DEI programs, Mosaic convenes business and community leaders to promote diverse workforces, equitable business practices and inclusive workplaces.

"Jonathan understands that making the business case for a diverse workplace and workforce is also about building community," says Kurt Gwartney, senior director of communications at Phillips Theological Seminary and chair of Mosaic. "I'm excited to work with him to help continue the Chamber's progress in celebrating diversity."

In addition to leading Mosaic, Long will help guide the Chamber's support of programs and systems that increase economic access and mobility in underserved communities. He will also engage area CEOs and members of the Chamber's Board of Directors to influence and raise awareness of DEI best practices.

"We at the Tulsa Regional Chamber are proud of northeast Oklahoma's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion," says Chamber President and CEO Mike Neal. "Jonathan is a great addition to our team and a fantastic resource for our members. I'm confident he will be a catalyst for transformational change in our community."



Courtesy photo

STRATEGIC ADDITION: Jonathon Long will lead the Tulsa Regional Chamber's work to promote diversity, equity and inclusion in the northeastern Oklahoma business community. Long comes to Tulsa from Wichita, where he held a similar position with the Wichita Chamber of Commerce.

Regina Moon Named President and CEO of Girl Scouts of E. Okla.

Regina Moon has been named the new president and chief executive officer of Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma.

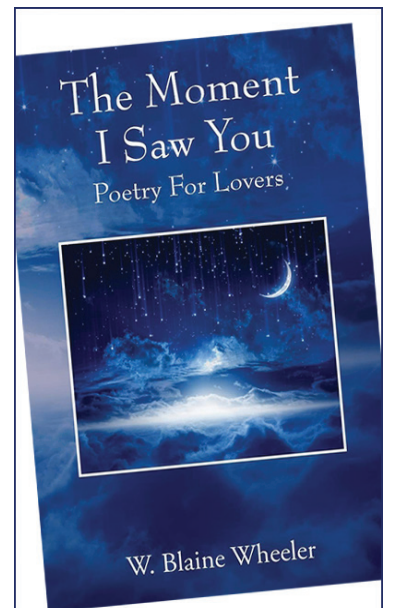
Moon was most recently the president and chief executive officer of The Parent Child Center of Tulsa. She previously served as the executive director of the American Red Cross - Northeast Oklahoma territory and as vice president/chief operating officer of KOTV/KQCW - Griffin Communications. She is an Oklahoma native, born and raised in Prague, and attended East Central University in Ada.

Moon will succeed Roberta Preston, who is retiring after 10 1/2 years of service to Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma.

"Our Board of Directors is excited to bring a leader with Regina's background to guide Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma into the next chapter," said Paula Kuykendall, board chair. "The board extends its deep appreciation and gratitude to Roberta Preston for her dedication, passion and visionary leadership in serving Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma."



REGINA MOON



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Tulsa International Airport, Designed by Robert Lawton Jones and Inspired by Mies Van Der Rohe, is an Architectural Gem

Tulsa's first airport, called McIntire Field, opened in 1919 on 50 acres of land at approximately Admiral Place and Sheridan Road. By 1928 it was considered the busiest airport in the world. The air traffic was generated by Tulsa's booming oil economy and its central-midwest location which was convenient for long flight refueling.

By 1930, Tulsa outgrew its first airport and needed more space. A fundraising drive was mounted by our chamber of commerce to acquire 390 acres at Tulsa International's present site immediately north of McIntire Field. A photostatic copy of the "Subscription Agreement," the famous stud horse note which hangs on a wall in my den, raised more than \$380,000 to make the purchase possible. The drive was headed by William Skelly and Waite Philips. Forty-six men pledged amounts from \$5,000 to \$25,000 to make it happen. Signers prominent in Tulsa's history included the names of: Herndon, Bradshaw, Vandiver, Harwell, Halliburton, Kistler, Abbott, Avery, Brown-Dunkin, Tallbott, Hurley, Clinton, Frates, Barnard, and my grandfather, C.C. Cole

In 1932 a new terminal building opened at the airport which had previously welcomed such notable pilots as Will Rogers, Charles Lindberg, and Amelia Earhart. The building was a streamlined art deco structure, masonry walled with curved corners. It was designed by Frederick V Kershner lead architect for Leon B Senter. Although only one story, it featured a tall central tower and was one of our first public buildings to have fully integrated passenger lobbies and restrooms.

Air traffic continued to increase as flying became an important part of transportation in America. By the mid 1950's, although Tulsa's airport was considered average for a midsized city, this second airport was far too small. Robert Lawton Jones, an architect and city planner who came to Tulsa to oversee design work on our

Civic Center was selected to design the new terminal. The resulting project put Jones' architectural firm, Murray Jones Murray on the map and today the terminal is considered one of Tulsa's architectural icons.

The new building is a mid-century modern Mies Van Der Rohe inspired design with a finely detailed exposed steel and glass structure. Long east and west concourses extend on either side of a central lobby element. Arriving and departing passenger and baggage traffic is efficiently separated and handled. The new building at a cost

of \$4.2 million opened to much fanfare in 1961. It's Miesian design became a repeated theme in later Murray Jones Murray work. The old terminal, conflicting with needed runway expansion space, was demolished in 1969. In 2000, Fritz-Bailey Architects added

On Architecture



By ROGER COFFEY, AIA



GTR Media group photos

MORNING MISSION: The statue at the main entrance to Tulsa International Airport is by Robert Weisman, USAAF, and is a 1961 gift from Georgia H. Lloyd Jones. The inscription reads, "During War II 16,000 young men of the United States and Allied Nations received flight training at Tulsa Municipal Airport and subsidiary fields. Of these, 14,000 were trained by the Spartan School of Aeronautics and 2,000 by the United States Army. In memory of these gallant gentlemen - and particularly of the scores who lost their lives in combat - this statue is gratefully dedicated."



AIRPORT ENTRANCE: The main entrance to the airport is within walking distance from convenient parking.



SPACIOUS BOARDING: The Tulsa International Airport provides convenient board to flights headed throughout the nation and beyond.

an 800-foot-long fabric canopy along the passenger pick up - drop off sidewalk which is very functional, but doesn't try to com-

pliment the Miesian design. Other additions have included a large below grade parking structure. Writing this article brought back

fond memories of my last design assignment in my 1967 senior year at OSU which was an airport of the future for planes called

SST's (supersonic transports in the vocabulary of the 1960's). Airport design has certainly evolved in the years since.



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Calendar grid with columns for SUNDAY, MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY. Each cell contains event details for dates 23 through 26, including activities like Yoga, Exhibits, Dance Fitness, Morning Boot Camp, Bands & Blooms, Tulsa Oilers, and various community events.

Advertisement for Central Bank of Oklahoma with the headline 'EVERYTHING YOU NEED. EVERYWHERE YOU GO.' and a background image of a young girl holding a green flower.

