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OWASSO RAMBLER

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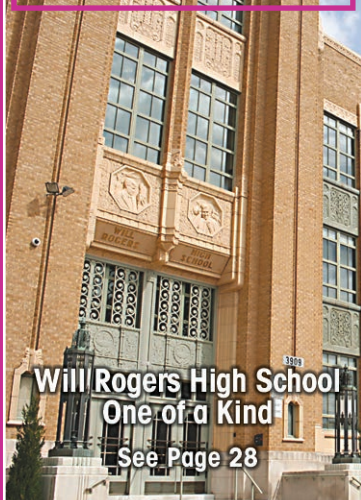
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Teacher Encourages Creativity, Literacy

By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor

A personal love for learning and working with children are at the heart of Owasso Public Schools District Teacher of the Year Trina Gardner.

An Owasso High School graduate, Gardner earned her music education degree from the University of Oklahoma because of her love of music and singing.

She taught music for 15 years before moving into special education and then general education.

"I love teaching no matter the subject. I have a heart for students with all different learning styles," she says.

In addition to Owasso, Gardner spent years teaching in Texas and also in Oologah, Oklahoma.

She has been teaching for 26 years, 12 years of those years with Owasso Public Schools. Gardner spent three years teaching with Owasso early in her career before her husband's job transferred them out of the area.

When Gardner decided to transition into general education, the only available position at the time was in fourth grade, "although my original thought was to teach kindergarten," Gardner says.

However, that thought did not last long once she entered the fourth grade classroom: "I ended up deciding that fourth grade might be the perfect grade for me as a teacher. I love that age because of what the kids can do; they're still eager to learn, but they are gaining a higher level of thinking."

Gardner and her family moved back to Owasso about nine years ago, and Gardner returned to Owasso Public Schools, something that she was grateful to do. "In some areas, the teaching profession does not get the respect it deserves," she says. "But that is definitely not true in Owasso. I'm grateful to be teaching in a city where there is a lot of appreciation for teachers."

It doesn't hurt, too, that Owasso is her alma mater.

"It's special to be back here," she says.



DISTRICT EDUCATOR: Trina Gardner, fourth grade teacher at Stone Canyon Elementary, sits in her classroom with her current favorite children's novel. Gardner is Owasso Public Schools' district teacher of the year.

Gardner has had the opportunity to teach the children of some of her past students, and there has been a few instances where she has found herself teaching with some of her past students who have now become teachers.

Teaching in Owasso has also allowed her to stay in touch with some of her teachers from when she was a student. She recently received a letter from one of her past teachers congratulating her on her district recognition.

In Gardner's classroom, building relationships with her students is priority number one, Gardner says, because "that's really where the learning starts is with your relationships with your students."

Once those relationships are formed, Gardner's focus is on instilling in her students a love of and excitement for learning and an understanding that everyone

has the ability to learn.

At the beginning of the year, I talk to students about the difference between the belief that we all can learn and grow in knowledge and the attitude of "I can't do this," says Gardner.

She also utilizes music and movement to encourage students to use their brains in new ways, to add fun to their learning and to engage students who may have different learning styles.

Just as music is a common element in Gardner's classroom, so is literacy.

"Literacy is important because students' future learning is going to largely be based on things they read," says Gardner.

She encourages students to write stories about things they are learning, such as a story about the meaning behind a painting or about mathematical conversions.

Students are currently learning about customary unit conversions with the help of a story about "King Gallon" and his Gallon Castle.

"All of these strategies build students' creativity, which makes learning more fun for them and helps them to truly learn the information," Gardner adds. "I want to give my students the strategies and tools that allow them, throughout their lives, to learn about whatever interests them."

Gardner has been named Teacher of the Year two previous times, both while she was teaching in Texas.

Gardner and her husband have three children: their youngest attends Owasso's Sixth Grade Center. Their older son attends the University of Oklahoma and their daughter is a University of Arkansas graduate.

KUDOS OF THE MONTH: Dress For Success

Dress for Success had its start in 1997 and is currently in nearly 150 cities in 20 countries. The nonprofit organization opened its Tulsa affiliate in 2001, with 2016 marking its 15-year anniversary.



Dress for Success Tulsa's motto for its 15-year anniversary is "I am you: Empowered," because "we are all women, we've all been through stages in our lives, and we all need each other," says Ronda Adkisson, executive director of Dress for Success Tulsa.

Dress for Success Tulsa provides career services to women who are in search of employment, including employment education, tools, resources, support and professional attire.

Women are referred to Dress for Success Tulsa by more than 140 nonprofit organizations, agencies, shelters, colleges, and technical institutes and are not charged for the services provided.

At the end of February, Dress for Success Tulsa moved into a 5,000-square-foot location, at 3103 S. Harvard Ave., from its previous location at 11th Street and Peoria Avenue.

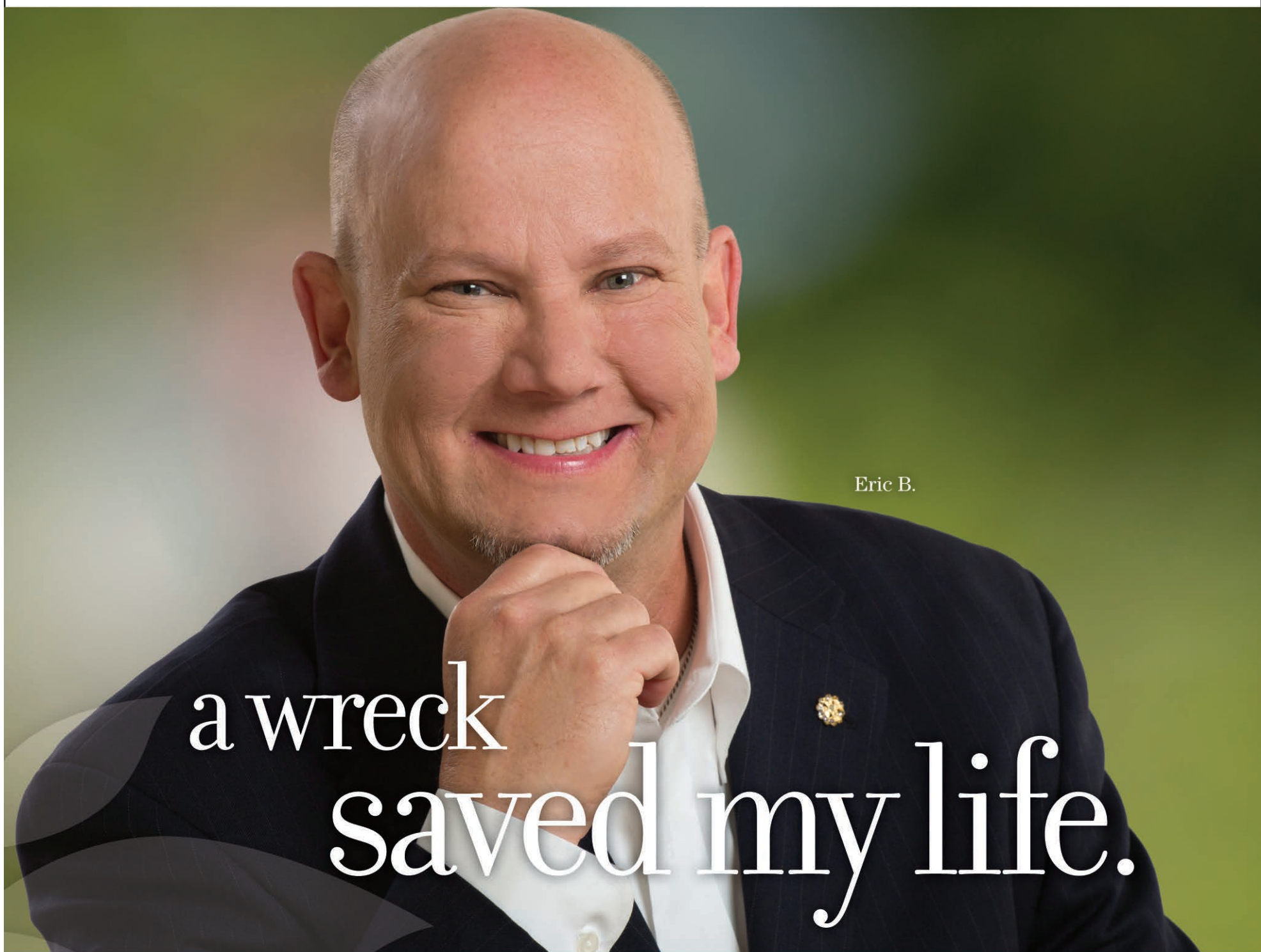
Construction of the facility was donated by Simmons Homes and its subcontractor crews.

On April 7, Dress for Success Tulsa will hold its grand-opening event with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 9:30 a.m. The store will be open 11 a.m.-6 p.m. for public tours.

Read full story on page 23.



JOB SEEKING SUPPORT: A woman shops for professional attire at Dress for Success Tulsa's new location at 3103 S. Harvard Ave.



Eric B.

a wreck saved my life.

While on his way to meet friends, Eric's vehicle was hit by a semi-truck. The impact threw him onto the floorboard. Although he did not have any visible wounds, he was transported by ambulance to The Emergency Center at Hillcrest. They discovered he had multiple internal injuries caused by the wreck and a pre-existing 100% blockage in his heart. Fortunately, cardiologists from Oklahoma Heart Institute were just steps away and quickly performed a heart procedure, saving his life.

To learn more about Eric's life-changing experience at The Emergency Center at Hillcrest and Oklahoma Heart Institute, visit Hillcrest.com.

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Civic Leaders Continue Campaign In Final Weeks Before Vision Vote

By MIKE NEAL
President and CEO
Tulsa Regional Chamber

On April 5, Tulsans have an opportunity to do great things for our community by voting to renew Vision 2025 funds. The Vision Tulsa package is a balanced plan that addresses our public safety and streets needs while also investing in job opportunities-without raising taxes.

Public Safety
This portion of the Vision plan will add 160 police officers and 65 firefighters.

It will improve response times for police, and new street crime units will focus on serial crimes like burglary and robbery. A portion of the Vision tax will be made permanent for an ongoing investment in our public safety needs.

Streets And Transportation
Streets, traffic and public transportation efforts will improve throughout the city. Because our need for well-maintained streets is ongoing, a portion of the tax will be made permanent, again without raising taxes.

Economic Development
We'll get funding for our city's school districts for teacher recruitment and student safety as well as new facilities and programs for higher education. Another project would bring an F-35 jet fighter simulator training center to the Air National Guard. Numerous other projects would add jobs and enhance quality of life in Tulsa.

River Development
This project will result in two river lakes – an improved Zink Lake at its existing location and a new lake in South Tulsa/Jenks. It's projected to add \$122 million to the local economy and 1,850 new jobs.

The plan is a strategic balance between preserving our parks and trails and creating zones for strategic economic development. The river development will further enhance the Gathering Place and allow our river to be something Tulsa can really be proud of.

Tulsa cannot sit back and let other cities pass us by with their own economic development efforts. Vote YES for Vision Tulsa on April 5th!



ROSSY GILLE for GTR Newspapers
HIGHLIGHTING PUBLIC SAFETY: Area civic leaders addressed the importance of the overall Vision Tulsa package highlighting its public safety components on March 22. The event was held near the Tulsa Police Department Riverside Division at 75th Street and Riverside Drive. From left are Dewey Bartlett, Tulsa Mayor; Clay Ballenger, Tulsa Fraternal Order of Police president; Karen Gilbert, Tulsa City Councilor District 5; Chad Miller, Tulsa International Association of Fire Fighters president; Anna America, Tulsa City Councilor District 7; and Karen Keith, Tulsa County Commissioner.



SHARON CAMERON for GTR Newspapers
JENKS SUPPORT: The Jenks Chamber of Commerce's March luncheon featured a discussion of the upcoming Vision for Jenks vote. The luncheon was held March 16 at the Hive, 115 S. First St. in Jenks. Jenks Mayor Kelly Dunkerley, right, presented information about the projects slated for the April 5 ballot, and attendees asked questions about the proposal. With the mayor are Jenks Chamber President Josh Driskell and Tulsa County Commissioner Karen Keith.

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

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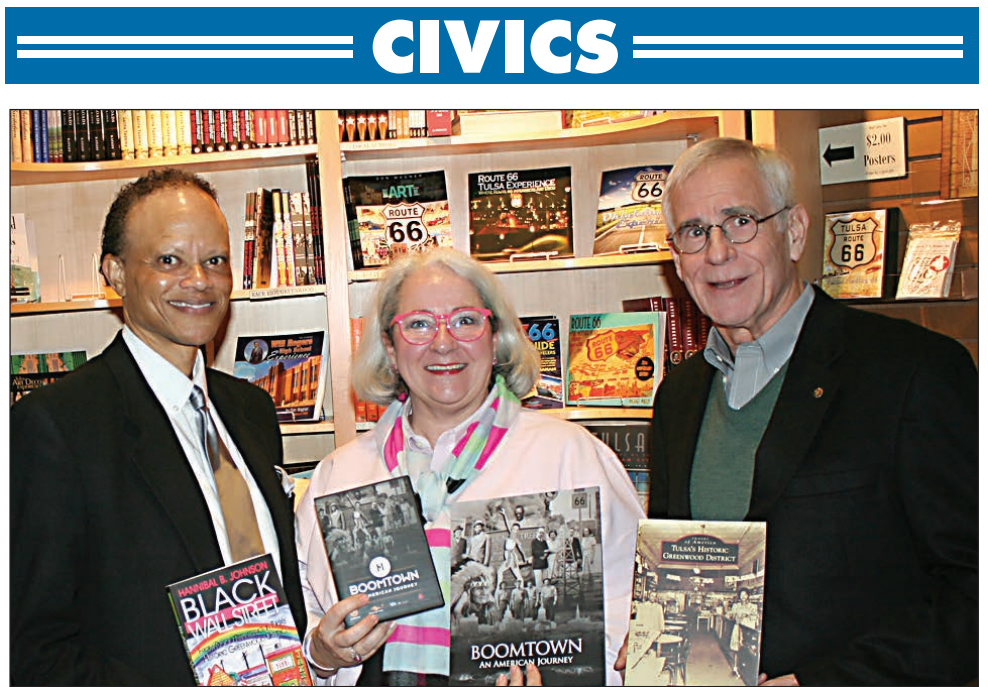
"He treated our family as if we were his own."
-JAN SWEENEY, WIFE OF NEAL SWEENEY

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-ANGIE SHORT, AUNT TO BROOKE WHITAKER AND GREAT AUNT TO KYA JADE WHITAKER

"I know firsthand that he truly cares about victims and their families."
-KAREN COFFELT, SISTER OF BECKA CASTALDI

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BOOMTOWN: The Rotary Club of Tulsa recently held a showing of filmmaker Russ Kirkpatrick's "Boomtown" at the Tulsa Historical Society. Author Hannibal Johnson, left, led a discussion after the movie. Center is Tulsa Historical Society Executive Director Michelle Place. At right is Vonnie Graham, M.D.



TULSA PRESS CLUB PRESIDENTS: The Tulsa Press Club current and several past presidents gathered at the club in the Atlas Life Building on Presidents' Day in February. From left are Richard Evans, 2003, AT&T; Dennis Smiley, 1993 and 1994, SW Bell; Mercedes Millberry-Fowler, 2013, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Oklahoma; Nicole Burgin, 2015, Tulsa Community College; Rachel Anderson, 2016, Schnake Turnbo Frank; Ashley Parrish, 2011, Tulsa World; Melani Hamilton, 2001, Gilcrease Museum; and Tom Gilbert, 2014, Tulsa World.



SUPPORTING VIC REGALADO: A reception was held recently at the Polo Grill in Utica Square in support of the Sheriff candidacy of Vic Regalado. From left are Oklahoma Representative Chris Kannaday, former Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives T.W. Shannon, Regalado, Secretary of State Chris Benge, and Oklahoma Secretary of Finance Preston Doerflinger.

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Daniel Regan Talks ‘Street Cred: 66,’ Activism

Tulsa’s Young Professionals’ 2016 Board Chair Focuses on Community

By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor

Editor’s Note: Daniel Regan is one of Greater Tulsa Reporter’s “10 People to Watch in 2016,” as announced in its January 2016 issue. GTR was the first news group in greater Tulsa to introduce “10 People to Watch,” which launched in January 2009.

Throughout the year, GTR will publish a series of articles featuring each of its “10 People to Watch,” with next month’s article to feature Tulsa City Councilor G.T. Bynum.

Daniel Regan’s interest in affecting change takes many forms, whether discussing his current role as Tulsa’s Young Professionals’ 2016 board chair, his political activism, his seat on local boards of directors or his role as vice president of downtown Tulsa’s largest commercial property management company.

As this year’s TYPros chair, Regan, who joined TYPros in its infancy in 2005, is especially focused on its upcoming Street Cred event, Street Cred: 66, to be held April 30.

Street Cred is TYPros’ annual community redevelopment initiative, with past events taking place in the Pearl District, downtown Tulsa, 61st Street and Peoria Avenue, and along Southwest Boulevard.

This year, the event will focus on Route 66, which follows mostly along 11th Street through Tulsa, and will shine a light on

Route 66 and the need for multi-modal options, says Regan.

Route 66 is the original transit corridor, and we want to promote its use by capitalizing on its current usage as well as using the road in new ways, Regan says.

These “new ways” refer to additional forms of transportation, namely, transit and bicycles.

Street Cred will highlight two of Tulsa’s transportation plans that are awaiting implementation: the east-west Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line, which will receive funding if the economic development portion of the Vision Tulsa sales tax renewal package is approved on April 5, and the GO Plan, Tulsa’s regional bicycle-pedestrian master plan. (See full article about the GO Plan on page 13.)

“We have these two plans already created,” he says. “This will show the potential of these plans, that we could adopt these plans now.”

TYPros will work with the City of Tulsa to close the two outermost lanes of 11th Street between Delaware and Peoria avenues for the week leading up to Street Cred in order “to show long term what it would look like with transit and bike lanes.”

TYPros is also encouraging people to use that road to bike to work during that week.

Street Cred will have a number of activities going on that day to engage the neighborhoods, businesses and organizations that are located in that area.

Regan’s other focus as TYPros

chair lies in an interest of his that first began when he worked on his uncle’s campaign for lieutenant governor in 2006. That started Regan’s interest in politics as he saw the ability that every individual has to make an impact.

“I learned from that experience that when you participate and show an interest, you can affect change in a positive way,” he says.

Regan went on to serve as finance director for Dan Boren’s campaign for U.S. Congress from 2009-2011 and as finance director and deputy political director for Kathy Taylor’s campaign for Tulsa mayor in 2013.

Therefore, Regan, who has previously served as head of TYPros’ government relations crew, wishes to use his time as chair to encourage greater engagement of young voters under age 40.

“Unfortunately, a large part of my generation thinks that they can’t have an impact, and they are disillusioned,” says Regan.

By working with universities, area chambers of commerce and nonprofit organizations, however, Regan hopes to have a greater strategic impact on those who have, in the past, sat on the sidelines. Plus, there’s an additional benefit to engaging younger voters, he adds.

“When we engage the younger age group, it has a ripple effect on older voters, like their family members.”

Regan currently serves on the boards of Foundation for Tulsa Schools, Downtown Coordinating



Courtesy TYPros

MAKING A DIFFERENCE: TYPros’ 2016 Chair Daniel Regan is a fourth generation Tulsan with a passion for downtown Tulsa and community activism. Regan’s efforts this year as chair revolve around Street Cred: 66, to be held April 30, and its endorsement of multi-modal transportation, and engaging young voters.

Council, VisitTulsa, Impact Tulsa and others. He is also a founding member and co-chair of the Great Raft Race, a past Tulsa event that was re-launched in summer 2015.

He became vice president of Kanbar Properties in 2014, his position allowing him to play a role in developing downtown Tulsa, another subject close to his heart, he notes.

Regan is a fourth generation

Tulsan with a passion for cities’ urban cores. “I’ve always had a fascination with downtowns, so to be able to have some impact on downtown Tulsa is wonderful.”

And the timing, he admits, couldn’t be much better.

“I get to help shape the look and landscape of downtown Tulsa and at a time when the energy and vibrance of downtown Tulsa is coming back to life.”



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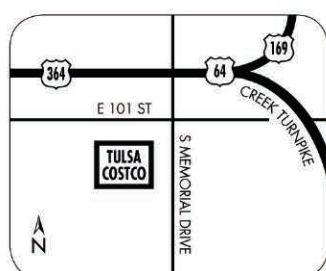
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Honoring Our Vietnam Veterans and Their Families

COMMENTARY

By **DEWEY F. BARTLETT, JR.**
Mayor of Tulsa

In Washington, D.C., there are numerous memorials, museums and monuments to American history. Most of these locations are grand examples of Classical and Neoclassical architecture, featuring high ceilings, tall columns and marble statues. However, there's a different kind of memorial in our nation's capital.

Just to the north of the Lincoln Memorial stands the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. It is a symbol of recognition to the men and

women who served and sacrificed their lives in the Vietnam War. It is simple in design but has a powerful impact: two black granite walls, engraved in chronological order with the names of the men and women who gave their lives in service to the United States.

The Vietnam War shaped an entire generation of Americans and continues to influence our national policies today. One of the lessons of the Vietnam War is the need to recognize and honor our veterans. At the time these veterans came home, they were not properly thanked or honored.

Those who serve should be recognized and appreciated for their

service, and as a grateful nation we have an obligation to do so.

Last month, I was honored to attend a special recognition ceremony for Vietnam veterans at our local VFW. As your Mayor, I am inspired by the heroes who fought for our freedom and humbled by those missing in action, held prisoner of war, and the wounded who still carry the scars of war, both seen and unseen.

This past February, I was also honored to attend the dedication ceremony for a POW/MIA Chair of Honor at the BOK Center. The POW/MIA Chair of Honor Program reminds us of those still missing or captured. The chair is to remain perpetually empty to

help people remember that even though our soldiers are not here, there is still a space for them. This is the second Chair of Honor in Tulsa. The first Chair of Honor is located at ONEOK Field. So the next time you attend a baseball game there, or an event at the BOK Center, please take a moment to remember those missing or held captive.

As a city, I hope you'll join me in honoring those who answered the call to service in Vietnam as well as their families who carried on here at home. To quote President Calvin Coolidge, "The nation which forgets its defenders will itself be forgotten."



Courtesy photo
CHAIR OF HONOR: Jeff Nickler, general manager of the BOK Center, left, and Mayor Bartlett unveil the POW/MIA Chair of Honor to serve as a reminder of those still missing or captured. The dedication ceremony was held at the BOK Center in February.

AWC Announces 2016 Newsmakers Honorees

The Association for Women in Communications has announced its 2016 Newsmakers honorees: Jill Donovan, Leigh Goodson and Katie L. Plohocky. Each year, AWC selects a group of outstanding Oklahoma women who have made positive headlines while advancing opportunities for women and improving their local communities and the state.

Becky Dixon is this year's recipient of the AWC Saidie Lifetime Achievement Award, presented in memory of Oklahoma television pioneer Saidie Adwon. The accolade celebrates an accomplished professional in the journalism and communications field.

AWC members will recognize the women at a luncheon on May 4 at 11:30 a.m. at Hyatt Regency Tulsa, 100 E. 2nd St. Tickets are \$55/members and \$65/non-members. To purchase tickets, please visit www.awctulsa.org. For sponsorship information, contact Ivy Griffey at ivy_griffey@hsc.net.

Newsmakers:

Jill Donovan, motivational speaker and founder of Rustic Cuff

Jill Donovan, a former law professor at The University of Tulsa, used her obsession with cuff bracelets to teach herself leather-making and metal design in her guest bedroom late at night.

Within three years, Donovan went from being an adjunct law professor to a nationally known jewelry designer, turning her part-time hobby into a full-time business. Today, Rustic Cuff jewelry is sold in more than 175 stores across the country as well as select Dillard's locations and Nordstrom.com. The brand has been featured on many national TV shows including Good Morning America, The Today Show, E! News and The View.



KATIE PLOHOCKY



BECKY DIXON



JILL DONOVAN



LEIGH GOODSON

In the past year, Donovan has opened her second Rustic Cuff retail store and launched another highly successful line, Kate Forty-eight, which features semi-precious and custom necklaces.

Leigh Goodson, president and CEO of Tulsa Community College

As a top official at Tulsa Community College since July 2014, Goodson has facilitated the school's participation in the national education initiative Pathways Project. The program focuses on raising college graduation rates by building better bridges for students from high school graduation to college completion.

Goodson has led the development of TCC's 2016-2020 Strategic Plan, which was written and approved after a collaborative process involving faculty and staff. She also created new leadership positions through internal reallocation at TCC to address critical, underdeveloped college

functions, implement a baseline budgeting model and establish "Open Lines" campus forums.

Katie L. Plohocky, principal of StreetLife, LLC

Katie Plohocky leads a Tulsa consultancy and real estate firm specializing in integrated urban strategies. She uses her 18 years of experience in commercial real estate leasing, appraisal, retail development, and project management to specialize in economic and community development.

Plohocky, a member of many community boards, serves as an executive member of several local health and food initiatives including the Tulsa Food Security Council, Food on the Move, Edible Tulsa magazine, Pathways to Health, Tulsa Community Wellness Partnership and the Oklahoma Food Policy Council. She is founder of the Healthy Community Store Initiative, which provides a mobile grocery store including healthy and inexpensive food options to residents

living in Tulsa's food deserts. She is cofounder and director of the Annual Taste of North Tulsa event, regional coordinator for National Food Day and board president of the Pearl Farmer's Market.

Saidie Lifetime Achievement Award Winner

Becky Dixon, new media entrepreneur, community leader and national pioneer in sports broadcasting, began her career as a news and sports anchor at Tulsa's KTUL-TV before moving to the national stage - ABC's Wide World of Sports - as the first woman to host a network sports show. Her sports acumen took her to the big events including the Super Bowl, the Winter Olympics and the Triple Crown of Horse Racing. She later transitioned from sports to statewide television. Her show, Oklahomans, featured profiles on notable state residents. Dixon also anchored Business Oklahoma, a statewide OETA broadcast.

In 1994, Dixon joined forces with Ed Taylor to form Taylor Communications, a groundbreaking communications company specializing in Internet-based new media. As president, Dixon grew the company into one of the country's leaders in webcast technology. She recently purchased Ayerplay Productions Inc., the parent company of Taylor Communications.

Dixon's community involvement includes cochairing the 2012 Oklahoma Hall of Fame event and being a member of the Oklahoma Heritage Association Board of Directors, the Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women, the Sutton Avian Research Center Board, RSVP and the Advisory Board of the Tulsa Sports Commission. She has served as president of the TU Alumni Association and was inducted into the TU Communication Hall of Fame. She was an inaugural honoree of the Tulsa Business Journal Women of Distinction Awards.



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VARIETY

Musical Theatre and More Up Next at the PAC

A recent audience survey that polled 82,000 Tulsa Performing Arts Center customers confirmed that the most popular form of entertainment at the Center is musical theatre. The usual suspects – “The Phantom of the Opera,” “The Lion King” and “Wicked” – drew the most praise. Audience members also let us know that they enjoyed “The Book of Mormon” and are longing to see the runaway hit “Hamilton.”

Show Buzz



By NANCY HERMANN

Our musical theatre fans will be delighted with April’s roster of shows, beginning with Rodgers and Hammerstein’s “Cinderella.” This lovely production, with a most memorable score, plays at the PAC through April 3, presented by Celebrity Attractions. Coincidentally, music and film buffs can settle in for a Rodgers and Hammerstein sampler Apr. 9 when Tulsa Symphony presents a Pops evening devoted to this eminent writing team’s music for the movies.

More musical theatre is planned Apr. 15-30 when Theatre Tulsa stages “Fiddler on the Roof.” Mark Frie, who was superb in the lead role for Theatre Tulsa’s “Les Misérables,” stars as Tevye. I don’t recall ever seeing a local theatre production of “Fiddler.” I know for sure that I have not seen “Billy Elliot, The Musical” in Tulsa. Presented by Tulsa Project Theatre, Apr. 29-May 7, this is the story of a young boy who abandons boxing for ballet. His true passion is dance, which doesn’t make sense to many in the English mining town where he lives.

Not all stage events in April are musicals. “Steel Magnolias,” a tender story with touches of humor, is familiar to most of us because of the hit film. Set in Truvy’s Beauty salon in the late 1980s, this is a Robert Haring play about love and friendship among six women. Playhouse Tulsa presents, Apr. 1-10.

Enchantment Theatre of Philadelphia’s “Peter Rabbit Tales,” hosted Apr. 8 by the PAC Trust, is perfect for younger family members, but not “Why Torture is Wrong, and the People Who Love Them,” presented by Theatre

Pops, Apr. 21-24. Any Christopher Durang play is challenging material and totally suited for adults. This black comedy centers on “homeland insecurity,” with a cast of dubious characters and issues we can laugh at and then think about in-depth later.

Earlier in the month, Apr. 6, Gen. Keith Alexander, a retired four-star Army general, who was Commander of the U.S. Cyber Command, will give a talk for OSU Tulsa Business Forum. And, historian and author Doris Kearns Goodwin speaks at the PAC, Apr. 22, for Tulsa Town Hall. Both events are sold by season subscription.

This mega month of entertainment includes the Jerusalem Quartet, Apr. 3, presented by Chamber Music Tulsa, playing Beethoven, Bartók and Schumann. Pianist Barron Ryan performs for Brown Bag It, Apr. 6, and Jessica Lang Dance is hosted by Choregus Productions, Apr. 12. Lang’s work is beautifully crafted to incorporate a range of inspirations that find artful expression through dance.

Trekkies and those who enjoy orchestral music will want to check out “Star Trek: The Ultimate Voyage,” Apr. 23. All the music from the many Star Trek films and TV shows, with film footage beamed in high definition to a 40-foot-wide screen, are part of this evening of entertainment presented by 35 Concerts. As Mr. Spock would say, “fascinating.”

Judy Collins, a folk and pop music singer whose work defined an era, performs in Chapman Music Hall, Apr. 24. I had a chance to interview the woman who inspired Stephen Stills to write “Suite: Judy Blue Eyes.” Now in her seventies, she stays active and in demand - selling out theatre gigs and working on a new Sondheim PBS Special. Reviews say her voice is as crystal clear as ever. The Woody Guthrie Center hosts her for a concert that will include “Both Sides Now,” “Send in the Clowns,” “Amazing Grace,” and many more of her hits.

The PAC has an astute “frequent-flyer” audience that is in touch with what is playing in theaters



JUDY COLLINS: Singer and songwriter Judy Collins, whose career spans five decades, performs an Apr. 24 concert as guest of the Woody Guthrie Center.



JERUSALEM QUARTET: On Chamber Music Tulsa’s wish list for many years, the Jerusalem Quartet performs the music of Beethoven, Bartók and Schumann Apr. 3.

across the country. We were very interested in what they had to say in a recent survey, and we also want to gather information from other sources. We’d like to hear from people who just occasionally come to events at the PAC, or maybe who have never been. If there are programs, performers, musicals or other types of entertainment that are on your bucket list, I hope you will contact me and share. We want our PAC to reflect the tastes and interests of our community, and we invite you to help.

Nancy Hermann is Director of Marketing at the Tulsa Performing Arts Center.



FIDDLER ON THE ROOF: Threatened by Russia’s political climate in 1905, a father, played by Mark Frie, tries to protect his family and stay true to tradition. Presented by Theatre Tulsa, Apr. 15-30.



STAR TREK, THE ULTIMATE VOYAGE: A multi-media concert celebrating the 50th anniversary of Star Trek includes a 40-foot-wide HD screen and a live orchestra, Apr. 23.



JESSICA LANG DANCE: This company’s performances have been named among the best dance events of the year in Chicago, Boston and Dallas. The troupe is hosted by Choregus Productions Apr. 12.



RODGERS AND HAMMERSTEIN AT THE MOVIES: Movie music of Rodgers and Hammerstein accompanied by film clips concludes Tulsa Symphony’s inaugural Pops Series, Apr. 9.

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BTW Class of 1966 to Honor Ten Outstanding Women

Chuck Cissel, president of the Booker T. Washington High School Class of 1966, has announced that the annual Black Women Rock Tea Fundraiser will be held at the Greenwood Cultural Center on Sunday, May 1 from 4 to 6 p.m. The tea will honor 10 accomplished women, graduates from the 1966 class and several women who have been community leaders for years.

Olympic Gold Medal winner and ordained minister, Madeline Manning-Mims, will receive the SHERo Award for her outstanding work as an Olympic Chaplain and as a gold medal winner. Many will know that she was awarded her 1968 gold medal in the 800 meters track race. In addition, Mims recently earned her doctorate from Oral Roberts University in religion and theology.

Cissel commented when speaking with Dr. Mims, "Since you now have your doctorate, should we now refer to you as Dr. Mims?" and she said politely, although it is new, "I suppose that will be the case."

Others to be honored are

Frances Jordan-Rakestraw, executive director of the Greenwood Cultural Center; and Jo Bright, former director of the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club of Metro Tulsa. Birdie Clifton, a retired licensed nurse, will receive the Pioneer Award for her many years of service as a nurse and director of the Carver Senior Center. Sandra McClelland and DeArnetta Ward, both from the BTW Class of 1964, will be honored for their work, respectively, in breast cancer and the lives of our youth in North Tulsa.

Four Ph.D.'s from the Class of 1966, Dr. Sandra Rouce, Dr. Mildred West, Dr. Patricia Bell and Dr. Gloria Strassner-Faine will also be honored. All female guests are encouraged to wear hats, pearls and gloves.

According to Carole Andrews, the chair for the event, "In addition to the special guests receiving their awards, there will be musical entertainment by the legendary music icon, Ms. Ernestine Dillard and other musical guests, sumptuous bakery goods, and delicious teas and coffees. The event is to inspire young women and men in the



GOLDEN MOMENT: Madeline Manning-Mims winning the Olympic Gold Medal in Mexico City in 1968.



CELEBRATING ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Ready to celebrate the accomplishments of Booker T. Washington graduates with Chuck Cissel are, from left, Sharon Jimmerson, Carole Andrews and Pamela Scott-Vickers (three of last year's honorees).

community to take action, work towards higher educational opportunities and pursue successful careers."

The BTW Class is celebrating its 50th class reunion in July and

this event is part of the programming for the year. Cissel says, "We have a Golden Oldies but Goodies Night on Friday, July 29 at the Tulsa Assembly Center and on Saturday, July 30 the Orange

and Black Ball in the Hyatt Regency Hotel Ballroom. More details to come."

Admission at the door is just \$10 for the tea and all of Tulsa is invited.

Tulsa Town Hall Presents Presidential Historian & Author Doris Kearns Goodwin

The Tulsa Town Hall 81st season concludes with renowned presidential historian and author Doris Kearns Goodwin on Friday, April 22. Author of six critically acclaimed New York Times bestselling books, she received a Pulitzer Prize in history for No Ordinary Time: Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt.

Other bestsellers are The Bully Pulpit: Theodore Roosevelt, Howard Taft, and The Golden Age of Journalism; Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln; The Fitzgeralds and the Kennedys: An American Saga; and Lyndon Johnson and the American Dream. Wait Till Next Year is

Doris Kearns Goodwin's touching memoir of growing up in love with her family and baseball.

Goodwin is also known for her historical insight as a news commentator on NBC, CBS, FOX and CNN. With elections in 2016, her topic is timely with "Leadership Lessons from the

White House: Doris Kearns Goodwin on the American Presidents."

Her appearance in Tulsa is made possible by a generous gift from The Helmerich Trust.

Tulsa Town Hall's 2015-16 Speaker Series is sold out. The 2016-17 Speaker Series will be announced in April.



DORIS KEARNS GOODWIN

TULSA BALLET STAYS BUSY



HARDESTY CENTER: The Tulsa Ballet's Hardesty Center for Dance Education is getting closer to completion in Broken Arrow. The development of the facility is part of a \$25 million Integrated Campaign for Tulsa Ballet, the largest fundraising initiative in the history of the company. Construction began in July 2015, and the building is expected to open in August. Upcoming Tulsa Ballet performances include the Emerging Choreographers Showcase, April 22, 24; and the Signature Series, May 6-8, 13-15.

Tulsa Ballet will present a series of performances throughout Italy in the spring,

which will be the fourth international tour for Tulsa Ballet. The Italian tour will begin on March 30, in the northern city of Trieste and then continue with performances in Udine, Mestre, Vicenza, Gorizia and Perugia, concluding April 8 in Brindisi.

Tulsa Ballet will perform three pieces, created by three of the top choreographers in the world today, to showcase the versatility of the company and appeal to diverse audiences. The program will include: "Classical Symphony" by Yuri Possokhov, "Petite Mort" by Jiri Kylian and "Rooster" by Christopher Bruce.

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The Rooftop Offers Casual, Outdoor Dining

LOCAL DINING

By **BLAKE AUSTYN**
Contributing Writer

The Rooftop, 214 S. Main St., opened in Broken Arrow's Rose District in 2014 as the second restaurant for Jason Scarpa on Main Street. He first opened Main Street Tavern, 200 S. Main St., in 2011 and took ownership of In the Raw Broken Arrow, 216 S. Main St., in 2015. Scarpa plans to open a Main Street Tavern location in Claremore in the early part of this year.

The Rooftop sits on the second floor, above In the Raw, and features semi-outdoor covered and open-air seating as well as an indoor area with a bar and seating. The restaurant has a contemporary, modern feel but with a value-priced menu with no dish costing more than \$12. The menu consists of appetizers, pizzas, sandwiches, salads, and a few pasta dishes and desserts.

I visited The Rooftop recently with my mother. Our waitress was Summer, a new waitress who was energetic, informative and very pleasant.

We started with appetizers. We were in the mood for bruschetta but couldn't decide one which of the two options to choose, so we ordered both.

The Traditional Bruschetta comes with the traditional crusted bread topped with tomato, pesto, mozzarella and parmesan—very fresh and light.

The Modern Bruschetta comes topped with whiskey and balsamic soaked raisins, gorgonzola, Italian sausage, and capers. Our waitress told us that it is "a very unique dish, and the gorgonzola flavor is strong."

She was right. Fortunately, we love gorgonzola. It's a very unique dish; I would return to the restaurant just for that.

For our entrees, we shared the Smoky 'Shroom Pizza and the Turkey and Mozzarella Sandwich.

The Rooftop's pizza offerings are

all unique. However, I would argue that the Smoky 'Shroom is one of the more traditional, basic-flavored pizzas on the menu. No one particular flavor stood out, but it was still enjoyable and had an easy flavor that paired well with beer.

The Turkey and Mozzarella Sandwich came with sun-dried tomato aioli, turkey, mozzarella, olives, bacon and lettuce on ciabatta bread. Unfortunately, the turkey was sliced deli meat. I would have preferred real turkey. I appreciated the sandwich's side of cold pasta salad, with tomatoes, basil pesto and capers. It was a very fresh addition to the sandwich.

Mom and I decided to share a dessert: the Cheesecake, which Summer told us was New York style. It was very creamy and very representative of a New York style cheesecake. The dessert can also come topped with chocolate sauce, and, upon request, Summer brought it to us on the side.

The Rooftop offers various events, such as Trivia Night, throughout the



BLAKE AUSTYN for GTR Newspapers

GOING UP: Patrons walk into The Rooftop, located in Broken Arrow's Rose District. The Rooftop is one of three restaurant ventures in Broken Arrow for Jason Scarpa and Scarpa Restaurant Concepts.

week. Restaurant hours are Monday-Sunday 11 a.m. – 2 a.m..

As we move into the warmer months, Scarpa plans to offer evenings where customers can watch movies and live concerts on

the 144-inch HD TV screen that sits on the outdoor patio.

Plans are currently in the process to install an elevator in order to provide access for those unable to walk stairs.

Outdoor Spring Cleaning and Earth Day Celebrations

TRASH TALK

By **BETH TURNER**
Tulsa Master Recyclers Association

Early spring, just as the weather starts to warm before the bugs and the leaves burst onto the scene, is a great time to clean up nature.

Pickin' Up Trash
More than 120 Turkey Mountain

enthusiasts came to a February cleanup hosted by Tulsa Urban Wilderness Coalition. According to TUCW Media Liaison Laurie Biby, volunteers picked up trash, shored up trails, seeded grass and more.

Biby says TUCW formed from people against development of the mountain after a strip mall was proposed for the land at 61st Street and Highway 75.

Following the public outcry last

year, The George Kaiser Family Foundation purchased 200 nearby acres of the area with the goal of keeping it pristine.

However, this March, The GKFF announced their purchase of 60 more acres, including the land of the proposed strip mall.

Thank you, GKFF

Please allow me this opportunity to thank The George Kaiser Family Foundation for their continuous vision for Tulsa County. Ever grateful and amazed at your generosity and thoughtful investments into enriching our community's future, thank you.

Keep an eye on TUCW online for more clean-up days and trail information.

Nearby Nature Pick-Up

Another annual outdoor cleanup saw record numbers of volunteers. Several Tulsans joined more than 200 people at Turner Bend River Outfitters along the Mulberry River in Ozark, Arkansas. Two trailers of trash, another of metal and a celebration party that ended with only one kitchen-sized bag of waste.

A few crazy items found along the river and highways include a dozen tires, a car, thousands of beer cans, two terrariums and a pregnancy test. (It was negative).

I can't tell you how satisfying it is to pick up trash amidst nature's beauty. Byrd's Adventure Center will host a fall cleanup of the area Sept. 10.

Happy Birthday, Earth!

Each April 22, we commemorate



BETH TURNER for GTR Newspapers

GROUP EFFORT: People from Norman to Skiatook, from troops to church groups such as this one from Trinity Episcopal Church, joined together Feb. 27 to clean up the trails on Turkey Mountain.

this great planet we all call home. Earth Day falls this year on a Friday, so if you want to toast to the Earth, head to a local brew pub like Prairie Artisan Ale or Marshall's for a beer with a smaller carbon footprint.

For a more family-friendly flare, Tulsa Zoo will host Party for the Planet on Monday, April 18. Bring an old cell phone to recycle for a discount at the door.

TCC Northeast will host EcoFest Conference and Festival March 28. If free food, live music and eco-learning doesn't entice, just go for the scenery. That campus is beautiful.

The M.E.T. hosts Enviro Expo Saturday, April 21 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will be downtown Tulsa on Main Street.

If getting out of the house is difficult, log on for an eco-lesson from our future leaders. Peters Elementary Green Team wrote and performed a

play following lessons learned from school partner Oklahoma Green Schools. You'll find the link on youtube.com/UnionPublicSchools.

Quick Eco-Tip

Here's an easy tip for Earth Day: Choose dark colored screen savers, and use Blackle.com as your search engine online. Blackle is Google's eco-friendly cousin. Same search engine, it just uses a black background with white lettering. The lighter the picture on your screen, the more energy it takes to display it. Plus, the darker colors are easier on your eyes.

Stay Engaged

Send in your eco celebration photo or your best eco-tip in honor of Earth Day, so that we can commemorate together. Tweet about it @TrashTalkTulsa or email bethturner@me.com.



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Honey Bees: Invaluable to the Ecosystem

Donning a heavy beekeeper suit, I could not help but wonder why beekeeping tends to incite so much passion in its supporters and hobbyists.

Yet, as I continued in my research, spoke to more beekeepers and learned about not only the value of bees to the ecosystem but also the many roles that bees play in their own society, my attitude went from dismay to awe.

Most individuals who start to learn about honey bees and beekeeping usually end up getting involved, says Neil Van Dalsem, a local beekeeper who took up the hobby nine years ago after his wife bought him beekeeping classes for his birthday.

"I don't think she thought that I would end up buying bees," he continues.

But that's just what happened after he began learning about everything going on in that bee hive.

There are Worker Bees, whose lives span only six weeks, who have various tasks inside the hive such as cleaning it, taking care of bee larva, guarding the entrance of the hive from intruders. Some Worker Bees have the task of leaving the hive in search of

pollen and nectar to bring back to the hive.

There are also Drones, which are male bees with the sole task of mating with the Queen Bee.

Only one Queen lives in each hive, and her sole purpose is to lay fertilized eggs.

Another example of bees' complex behaviors is referred to as their "dance language," a special dance that Worker Bees engage in when they have found a nectar source.

The dance provides information as to the exact location and distance of the source and the quality of the nectar.

In addition to the complexity of bees and their processes, bees also play a major role in humans' lives.

About one third of the food that humans consume would not be available without the help of bees and their pollination. This includes many fruits and vegetables: apples, blueberries, peaches, pears, watermelon, cucumbers and squash, according to the Nature Conservancy.

In addition, honey bees produce honey, pollen, wax, and propolis, which have nutritional, craft, manufacturing, and medical applications.

Something that has been in the news lately is Colony Collapse Disorder, in which bees were found to suddenly disappear from their hive. This began to occur in 2006.

Scientists have found that every few years, they will see a large die-off of bees, with various factors to blame, such as pesticide use, farming practices and infestation of the varroa mite.

Helen Hickey, a 45-year chemist who has been keeping beehives for upwards of 16 years, believes that humans are largely to blame for bees' disappearance with the widespread use of pesticides and deforestation by corporations who don't replace what they have destroyed with the proper plants that bees need.

"Bees are teaching us lessons: that we're destroying our environment," she says. "But I'm inspired by the new generation of young ones who are more focused on sustainability and the needs of pollinators."

Van Dalsem encourages individuals, when determining which plants and flowers to add to their gardens, to consider planting ones that provide pollination for honey bees. Also, while most people aren't keen on allowing weeds to grow in their lawn, weeds such as dandelions provide pollen for bees.

In addition to awareness of bees' needs, it's important that individuals grow in their understanding of bees so as not to kill them needlessly.

For example, people may see a



AN ORGANIZED COMMUNITY: Neil Van Dalsem, a local beekeeper who took up the hobby nine years ago, examines one of the beehives on his property in east Tulsa.

large group of bees, called a swarm. A swarm forms when a group of bees, including a Queen, split from the hive in order to create a new hive. In this way, the bee colonies grow.

When a hive decides that a group of its bees will soon swarm, the bees turn one of the larvae into a Queen by feeding it a special diet.

"It's amazing when you consider that bees have these tiny brains but such a complex life

cycle and biology," says Van Dalsem.

Because swarms tend to occur as the weather starts to warm, he encourages individuals to be on the lookout for swarms around trees, and if they find a swarm, instead of spraying it and killing the bees, they can call a beekeeper who will retrieve the swarm at no cost. A list of area beekeepers can be found on the Northeast Oklahoma Beekeepers Association's website: neoba.org.

Out & About in Greater Tulsa



By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor

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HEALTH & WELLNESS

OSU-CHS Psychologist Honored

Richard Walter, scholar-in-residence of forensic sciences at Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences and world-renowned pioneer in crime scene assessment, has been selected as a recipient of the Paul W. Kehres Meritorious Service Award from the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.

The prestigious award is intended to honor exceptional service and leadership within the academy. The multi-disciplinary professional organization works to advance the application of science in the legal system and encourage collaboration in the forensic sciences. The award was presented during the group's 68th annual scientific meeting in February in Las Vegas.

As an international expert on crime assessment, profiling and risk evaluation, Walter created a matrix as a tool for investigation using pre-crime, crime and post-crime behaviors to aid in identifying suspects. He is noted for providing the psychological profile of notorious murderer John List that led to the killer's capture after 18 years in hiding.

Walter co-founded The Vidocq Society, an exclusive club of more than 80 forensic specialists worldwide who assist local criminal justice agencies in solving cold cases. He and the society were profiled in the 2010 book "The Murder Room: The Heirs of



RICHARD WALTER

Sherlock Holmes Gather to Solve the World's Most Perplexing Cold Cases."

He spent 22 years as a prison psychologist for the Michigan Department of Corrections and is an international crime consultant, a fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, a fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine in clinical forensic medicine and an honorary member of the Association of Police Surgeons.

Roughnecks, Hillcrest Create Partnership for 2016 Season

The Tulsa Roughnecks and Hillcrest HealthCare System recently announced that they will continue their partnership for a second season. Hillcrest HealthCare System will remain as the official medical provider of the Roughnecks team as well as the presenting sponsor of the team's 2016 season.

With the agreement, Hillcrest will continue to provide day-to-day care and medical and training treatment to all of the Roughnecks players.

"We are excited to have the opportunity to provide high-quality care to the Tulsa Roughnecks for the second consecutive year," says Kevin Gross, Hillcrest HealthCare System president and chief executive officer. "Whether we are provid-

ing medical care on the field or encouraging fans to make their health a priority, this partnership allows Hillcrest to continue to fulfill our mission of creating a healthier community."

Dr. Jon Orjala, DO, an orthopedic surgeon with Hillcrest's Utica Park Clinic, will serve as the Roughnecks' official team doctor.

Hillcrest HealthCare System is a comprehensive health system with approximately 5,000 employees that serves the communities of eastern Oklahoma.

The Roughnecks opened USL regular season play on March 26 when they hosted Rio Grande Valley (Houston Dynamo 2) at ONEOK Field.

Senior Resource Website Launches

In an effort to empower older adults and their families with valuable information on aging well in a rapidly-growing seniors housing industry, the American Seniors Housing Association (ASHA) recently launched a new website. Devoted to the complex components of today's senior living options, www.wherelivematters.org is part of ASHA's five-year strategic plan designed to provide seniors, adult children and others with meaningful seniors housing information.

Alongside other senior living experts from across the country, Letitia Jackson, with Senior Star, served on the 11-person committee which developed and launched the website. As an industry leader, Senior Star endors-

es "Where You Live Matters" content and encourages all senior living consumers and/or providers to use this powerful educational tool.

"Where You Live Matters" provides a one-stop resource location for a consultative approach and valuable resource for those searching for expert advice. Among the helpful tools is a 16-page glossary of senior living terminology, as well as numerous videos, testimonials and editorials from seniors and industry experts. The site also includes informational categories such as comparing lifestyle options, learning about retirement community living, making family decisions, and preparing and managing finances.

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GO Plan Looks to Increase Transportation Options

By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor

It is no secret that Tulsa has a robust cycling community. The consistent growth of Tulsa Tough alone has proven that.

However, Tulsa's group of what is termed "confident cyclists," who are willing to cycle on main roads, makes up not even 10 percent of the local community, says James Wagner, principal transportation planner for INCOG (Indian Nations Council of Governments).

"Research shows that two thirds of community members are interested in but concerned about the idea (of traveling on bicycles on main roads), which tells us that our infrastructure keeps them from feeling that they can ride safely on streets."

So, Tulsa's potential to increase this number of cyclists is there.

"It's not that they don't have a bike or that they don't want to use their bike. We feel this is an untapped market," Wagner continues.

Thus, the GO Plan, a bicycle and pedestrian regional master plan, was created. Participating in the plan's creation were representatives from Tulsa and 10 surrounding cities, including Jenks, Bixby, Owasso, Broken Arrow, Coweta, Sand Springs, and Glenpool.

The plan took just under two years to complete; it was finalized in December 2015.

The focus of the GO Plan revolves largely around creating bike-safe lanes on main roads that help cyclists to connect to the area's existing regional trail network, which runs throughout Tulsa and beyond to surrounding cities, and on additional main roads that allow individuals to turn their cycling into a daily function, for example commuting to and from work or school, Wagner says.

Now that the plan is completed, the next step is adoption by each of the 11 cities.

In the meantime, a portion of the GO Plan is expected to soon show up around downtown Tulsa in the form of Bike Share.

Phase one of Bike Share is expected to come into effect in 2017, says Jennifer Haddaway, transportation resource center coordinator with INCOG. This will involve installing 12 bicycle stations, for a total of 108 bikes, throughout downtown, within the IDL.

"The idea for the Bike Share program is that it be used for short trips of about 30 minutes," she continues. Haddaway gives the examples of an out-of-town visitor using a bike to get around downtown or a business person needing to quickly travel from south downtown to the Brady Arts District.

Various usage options will be available including a yearly membership and a 24-hour access pass.

Funding for Bike Share is being provided partly by a three-year CMAQ (Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality) grant, the George Kaiser Family Foundation and the City of Tulsa.

Currently, the program is still in need of private funding assistance.

Phase two of the program would launch three years after the creation of phase one and would add 12 additional bicycle stations to areas outside of the IDL, such as Brookside, Cherry Street, the Gathering Place and Kendall-Whittier.

An additional portion of the GO Plan coming soon will be to address two different options for bike lanes, either on 3rd Street from the



ROSSY GILLE for GTR Newspapers

MULTI-MODAL CHOICES: From left, Tulsa City Councilor Blake Ewing, INCOG Principal Transportation Planner James Wagner and Tulsa Transit Vice-Chair Marquay Baul stand in front of a Bus Rapid Transit bus in order to show the type of bus that would operate along Peoria Avenue and 11th Street if the transportation portion of the Vision Tulsa sales tax renewal package passes on April 5.

Kendall-Whittier neighborhood leading into downtown or a bike track in downtown Tulsa, connecting Boulder Avenue, Elgin Avenue and 11th Street.

The GO Plan will receive \$3.125 million in funding if the economic development portion of the Vision

Tulsa sales tax renewal package passes on April 5.

Those funds would go toward creating bicycle corridors that would connect with the bus lines that would be created along Peoria Avenue and 11th Street if the transportation proposition of the Vision package passes.

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- Edward S.

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EDUCATION

Six Tulsa Students Attend Legacy Weekend at OSU



SPARTAN COLLEGE AWARD WINNER: *Bruce Blankenship, center, the student life coordinator for Spartan College in Tulsa, was recently honored with the Spartan College Skelly Award for Extraordinary Service to Students during a college awards ceremony. With Blankenship are, from left, Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology CEO and President Jeremy D. Gibson, Blankenship's mother and father Joan and David Blankenship, and his sister Karen Elkins. Bruce Blankenship attended Oklahoma State University, where he played football as a receiver in the 1970s.*

Eva Campbell, Bree Echevarria, Emily McCool, Griffin Miller, Aidan Randle and Zephan Randle, all of Tulsa, participated in Legacy Weekend 2016 at Oklahoma State University on Feb. 6 and 7. Legacy Weekend, hosted by the OSU Alumni Association and the Student Alumni Board, brought 24 legacies to Stillwater. While at OSU, legacies and their families got an up-close view of the campus, attended an OSU information panel and showed their orange pride at an OSU basketball game.



PISTOLS FIRING: *Six Tulsa students attended Legacy Weekend 2016 at Oklahoma State University in February. Pictured are Aidan Randle, Bree Echevarria, Eva Campbell, Emily McCool and Zephan Randle. Not pictured is Griffin Miller.*

“Legacy Weekend is a wonderful opportunity for legacies to experience OSU in a different setting,” says Melisa Parkerson, director of student programs for the OSU Alumni Association, “It’s also a great time for them to interact with current students and gain a perspective on why OSU is America’s brightest orange.”

Campbell is a freshman at Holland Hall, Echevarria is a junior at Cascia Hall, McCool is a junior at Bishop Kelley, Miller is a junior at Bixby High School and both Aidan and Zephan Randle attend Jenks High School.

Legacy Weekend is open to registered legacies of OSU Alumni Association members. The 2016 event hosted participants from four states. More than 40 SAB members interacted with the legacies during the fun-filled weekend on campus.

“Through this event, legacies get a better idea of what to expect at OSU,” says Melanie Jackson, SAB programming executive, “It’s important for legacies to stay famil-

iar with all that OSU and the community of Stillwater have to offer.”

SAB members are a select group of OSU students chosen for demonstrating excellence in scholarship and leadership on the campus. In addition to planning and presenting Legacy Weekend, SAB members serve as liaisons

between OSU alumni and students.

The Alumni Association defines a legacy as a child or grandchild of an active association member. For more information about the OSU Legacy Program or about the OSU Alumni Association, visit orange-connection.org.

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College Fair

The Great Plains Association for College Admission Counseling will host the “College Fair” at the University of Tulsa Reynolds Center Thursday, April 7, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

High School students from around greater Tulsa are invited to the free event. Students and parents can meet with representatives from approximately 50 colleges and universities to learn more about the schools and their admission requirements. The evening will also include three group presentations: OU (6 p.m.), TU (6:30 p.m.) and OSU (7 p.m.).

AWARD WINNER: *St. Gregory's University student Cindy McAtee was awarded the Catholic Business and Professional Women's Scholarship by the Catholic Business and Professionals Women's (CBPW) Club of Tulsa at its February meeting held on St. Gregory's Tulsa campus.*



Courtesy St. Gregory's

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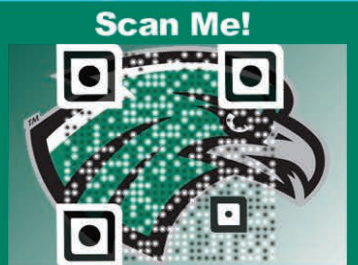


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Owasso Student Sews the Seeds of Success

Tulsa Tech's business management/entrepreneurship program teaches students how to create powerful marketing and management plans. Students develop sales presentations and product demonstrations for a competitive marketplace and also have an opportunity to network with many of our community's local business innovators at facilities such as 36 Degrees North, Tulsa's newest basecamp for entrepreneurs.

Brenna Palmer, a junior at Owasso High School, has owned and operated her unique small business for the past six years, and the management/entrepreneurship program immediately caught her eye.

"I found out about Tulsa Tech at my high school, and noticed the business management and entrepreneurship class right away," Palmer says. "Since I already had my own business, I thought this would be the perfect fit."

"I started my business, Brenna's Corn Bags, in 2010," she says. "Although I had always managed it by myself, I really felt like this class would help me improve some of the things I already knew and teach me some great new ideas about operating my own business."

For the past six years, Palmer's small business has produced hundreds of customized, hand-sewn therapeutic corn bags. The bags contain corn grain and, when heat-

ed or cooled, provide all-natural relief for tired, achy muscles and joints.

The bags are available in standard sizes and can be customized with various fabrics and prints. Palmer also works with customers if they have a special print design in mind.

The 16-year-old's main marketing presence has been online, at brennascornbags.com and brennascorncornbags.com, although word of mouth has also proven to be a helpful source of sales.

"In the beginning I mostly produced specialty items for individuals," Palmer says. "Then I began expanding into the wholesale market and providing orders to salons and pharmacies."

She credits the business management/entrepreneurship program and her instructor for helping to refine her existing business model. "It may sound corny," laughs Palmer. "But Mrs. Sexton is absolutely one of the best instructors I have ever had. She has helped me so much, and she is never too busy to be there for me as a person and a student."

Arlynda Sexton, Tulsa Tech's business management/entrepreneurship instructor, feels Palmer is the type of student who perfectly represents the spirit of a small business owner.

"There is no better student to have in class than one who has dreams," Sexton says. "They are striving for a goal, accomplishing that goal and sharing that spirit within the class. Brenna is certainly that young lady."

Palmer is very thankful for both of her parents, not only for the sewing machine she received for Christmas in sixth grade but also for the guidance and encouragement that they provide.

"My mom and dad have been the biggest influence in my life," Palmer says. "They encouraged me to start my own business and told me this could help accomplish my goals. So I guess this is where they get to say, 'we told you so.'"

Additionally, the Owasso community will always remember Brenna Palmer's older sister, Haley Palmer, and the impact she had on so many lives. Haley died in 2008 at 12 years old from cystic fibrosis but, during her life, raised thousands of dollars for cystic fibrosis research.

"My sister will always be an inspiration to me," Palmer says. "I'm proud that I've kind of developed my own identity, but my family and I will always be extremely grateful to our community, and to Owasso, for honoring my sister in the way they always have."

Without a doubt, Haley would be proud of her younger sister, and for all of the faculty and staff who work each day to help students make their own path, we are proud of Brenna and wish her the very best.

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News from Tulsa Tech



By DR. STEVE TIGER
Superintendent



ENTREPRENEURIAL ATTITUDE: Brenna Palmer, a 16-year-old Tulsa Tech business management/entrepreneurship student, holds her all-natural therapeutic corn bags. She began her company, Brenna's Corn Bags, in 2010.



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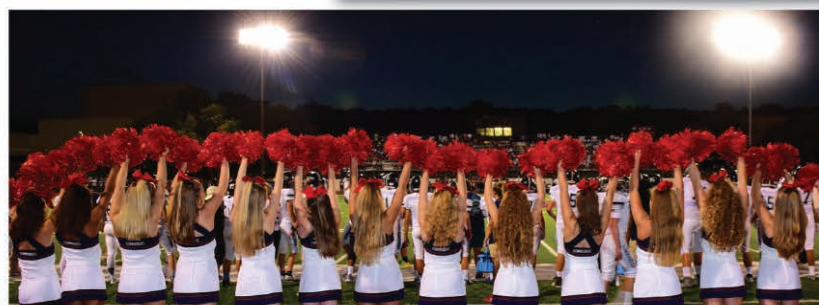
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OWASSO EDUCATION

Teachers of the Year Spotlight

By **EMILY RAMSEY**
Managing Editor

This is the Owasso Rambler's third installment of Owasso Public Schools' 2015-16 Teachers of the Year, with our spotlight this month on teachers Shelly Collins and Jennifer Woods.

Art teacher **Shelly Collins** is the Sixth Grade Center's Teacher of the Year.

Before joining education, Collins, a Charles Page High School graduate, worked as a graphic designer and as a paint and mixed media artist. Collins has shown her art in galleries and also worked at a nonprofit art gallery.

"I always did art when I was growing up," she says. "In school, I took any chance I could to take art."

She earned her bachelor's degree in advertising and design from Oklahoma Christian University in Edmond, but after five years working as a graphic designer, "I needed a career change," she says.

Instead of sitting at a desk everyday, Collins desired to be up and moving around and interacting with people.

In addition, it didn't hurt that Collins' husband is a teacher, and with two young children, "I wanted a schedule that was compatible to theirs," she continues.

Collins is currently in her seventh year as a teacher.

When she decided on teaching, she already knew what her subject would be. "I love getting to be around art everyday; I get excited about every art project in class."



SHELLY COLLINS



JENNIFER WOODS

Collins spent her first two years teaching ninth grade art in Sand Springs before moving to Owasso Public Schools and the Sixth Grade Center, where she's been for the past five years.

"The art room is where kids can fit in. In art, there's more than one right answer," Collins says.

"All of my students have something to offer. I want to help them feel confident and creative."

"How can one not feel humbled by the responsibility and trust that are placed upon our shoulders as teachers? It's that great responsibility that keeps me striving to be better," says Eighth Grade Center's Teacher of the Year **Jennifer Woods**.

Woods, an Owasso High School alumna, currently teaches math and is in her 17th year of teaching. During her teaching years, she has also taught kindergarten,

second grade, pre-school and language arts.

She holds her bachelor's degree in early childhood education from Northeastern State University.

Her original plan, though, when starting college did not involve education. "I tried both engineering and accounting when I went to college, but neither one seemed to be the right fit," says Woods. "It finally took my mother asking me, 'Why are you fighting what you're called to do? You are meant to be a teacher!'"

Woods' daily goals involve "finding new ways to reach students who may be struggling, encouraging those students that are gaining ground and challenging those who are ready for more."

Woods and her husband of 20 years, Mike, have three children who all attend Owasso Public Schools.

MOCK TRIAL WINNERS



Photos courtesy Oklahoma Bar Association

LEARNING TO DEBATE: In March, Owasso High School's mock trial teams Team Darrow and Team Williams competed and placed second and eighth, respectively, out of 37 teams in the Oklahoma High School Mock Trial Competition. Team Darrow, pictured at top, was defeated by Moore High School to finish in second place in the finals. Team

Williams finished in eighth place.

Judges evaluated the students based on their familiarity of the case and the formulation of their arguments. Students received points for each phase of the trial, opening, direct and cross examination, closing argument and how well their witnesses responded.

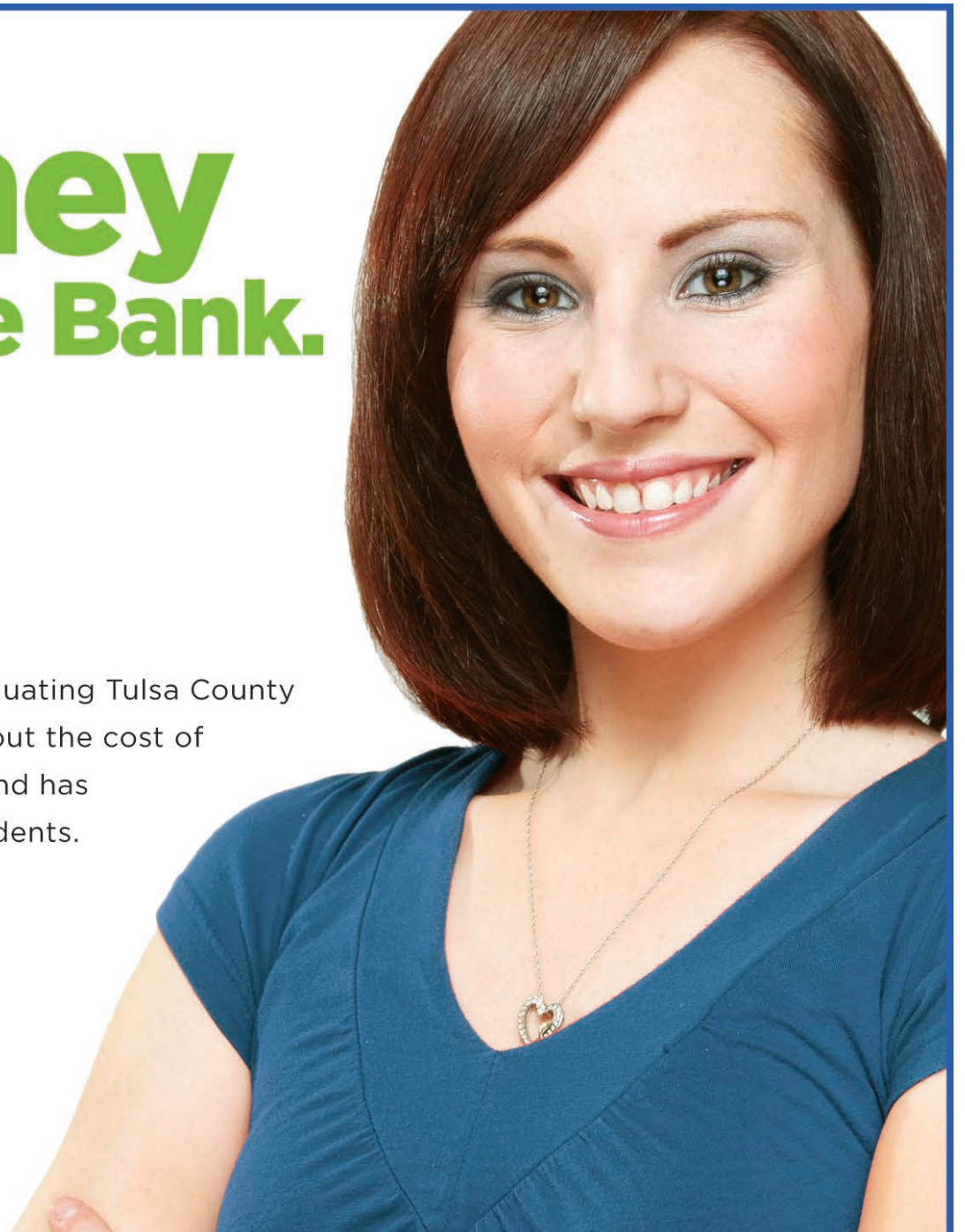


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OWASSO SPORTS

Owasso Baseball Predicted To Repeat as State Champs

By MIKE MOGUIN
GTR Sports Writer

With experience returning from a senior-loaded team, along with its legendary coach, Owasso is in good position to repeat as Class 6A champions in 2016.

There has only been two baseball coaches at Owasso since 1969.

Melvin Spencer took over the program that year and led it to state championships in 1973 and 1975.

Larry Turner, a member of that first state title team who graduated from Owasso High School the same year, joined the Rams as an assistant in 1978 after four years playing college baseball at Connors State College (two years), American Christian College and Phillips University (one year each). Five years later, he became the head coach.

"I learned a lot from (Spencer) and took a lot of the things that he taught his teams, and I tried to expand on those," Turner says. "It's awesome to be able to have been here this long and be blessed and be surrounded with great coaches, administrators and have good parents and good players."

Since taking the reins in 1983, Turner, now in his 34th season at the post, has coached the Rams to 11 state championships, including one last year. Another milestone in 2015 came early in the season when Turner picked up his 1,000th coaching victory. The program has received national recognition through the years, often ranked in national polls.



MIKE MOGUIN for GTR Newspapers
TEAM DISCUSSION: Owasso Coach Larry Turner listens to his team earlier this season.

Being a hometown guy has added some incentive too.

"I've always been an Owasso Ram for sure," Turner says. "Over the years through my career, I've tried to be smart enough to know that I got a good thing going, that I try to stay here and not jump at some other opportunity."

Turner's family has been heavily involved with both the school and the program. His wife, Kim, is also a teacher Owasso High school. Two of his three daughters are on the athletic staff. His oldest, Tiffanie Palmer, is the director of baseball operations. The other, Meg, is the volleyball coach. Another daughter, Jilli, is a junior attending college.

He has one son, Dodger, who is a senior on the team.

"It's really been a family affair," Turner says. "I've really been blessed more than I deserve it."

All three of his daughters were managers of the program while in high school.

"I was lucky all of them love baseball," Turner says. "We got to hang out and be close and see each other every day, even as they have grown up; it's really cool stuff."

Preseason All-American Parker Dunn, an outfielder, is among the Rams' seniors returning. Dunn had the game-winning hit last year in the state final, a seventh inning two-run single that lifted the Rams to a 9-8 win against Westmoore.

Dodger Turner is at first base, Kyle Petty is at second base and Tyler Brown and Nick Keim will split time at third base. Other senior outfielders back are Shane Lang, Aaron Horst and Mickey Hoppis. Cordell Mertz will be the designated hitter.

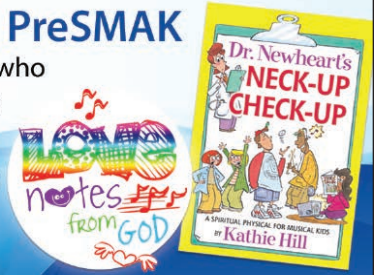
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A Vision for more SAFETY, STREETS AND TRANSIT

- 160 more police officers will provide more patrols and manpower to increase safety in neighborhoods and gather intelligence to proactively prevent crime.
- 65 new firefighters will staff the busiest fire stations, and add a new fire station in east Tulsa. New personnel also will enhance the 911 center to increase emergency response.
- Permanent funding will provide for street maintenance, and increased rapid bus transit along Peoria Avenue and Route 66.

A Vision for more ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TEACHER RETENTION

- Economists project 1,850 jobs will be added to the economy every year as a result of the Arkansas River development.
- This plan addresses the teacher shortage by partnering with local school districts to recruit and retain quality teachers for our schools.
- An Air National Guard Training Center would bring the state-of-the-art F-35 flight simulators here, and house the fighters in Tulsa at the 138th Fighter Wing.

A Vision for more SHORELINE, WILDERNESS AND PARKLANDS

- 12 miles of new shoreline will be added, along with two new lakes connected by the Arkansas River.
- The expansion of Tulsa's Turkey Mountain will add urban wilderness.
- A plan for development will preserve the trails and parkland Tulsans have come to love, with areas for economic development that is strategic – not strip malls or unsightly projects.

See More of the Plan at VisionTulsa.com

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SPORTS



DEAN ATCHISON for GTR Newspapers

BASSMASTER CHAMPION: Edwin Evers of Talala, Oklahoma, celebrates winning this year's Geico Bassmaster Classic in March. His final catch was a 29-pound, 3-ounce giant to help him secure the victory in the 46th year of the event. The greater Tulsa community again gave the Classic tremendous support.



GTR Newspapers photo

LETTERMEN'S DEDICATION: University of Tulsa lettermen were all smiles during the dedication of the newly remodeled Lettermen's Lounge in the Reynolds Center on the TU campus on March 5. Past presidents are, from left with their sport and graduation year; Jim Bishop (men's basketball/1977), Kate Jones (women's soccer/1988), Steve Hegdale (football/1988), Alicia Conner-Todd (women's basketball/1980), Jim Yeager (baseball/1953), Steve August (football/1977), and Mark Wojciehowski (football/1976). The photographic artwork was done by former TU track star Josh Butts, and former TU football player Brad Grow funded the facility.



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HARRY LENTZ for GTR Newspapers

NO LOVE LOST: Or Ram-Harel of the University of Tulsa tennis team works hard in vain as Oklahoma downed Tulsa earlier this season in the Michael D. Case Tennis Center on the TU campus. After the match, both teams had 6-3 records.



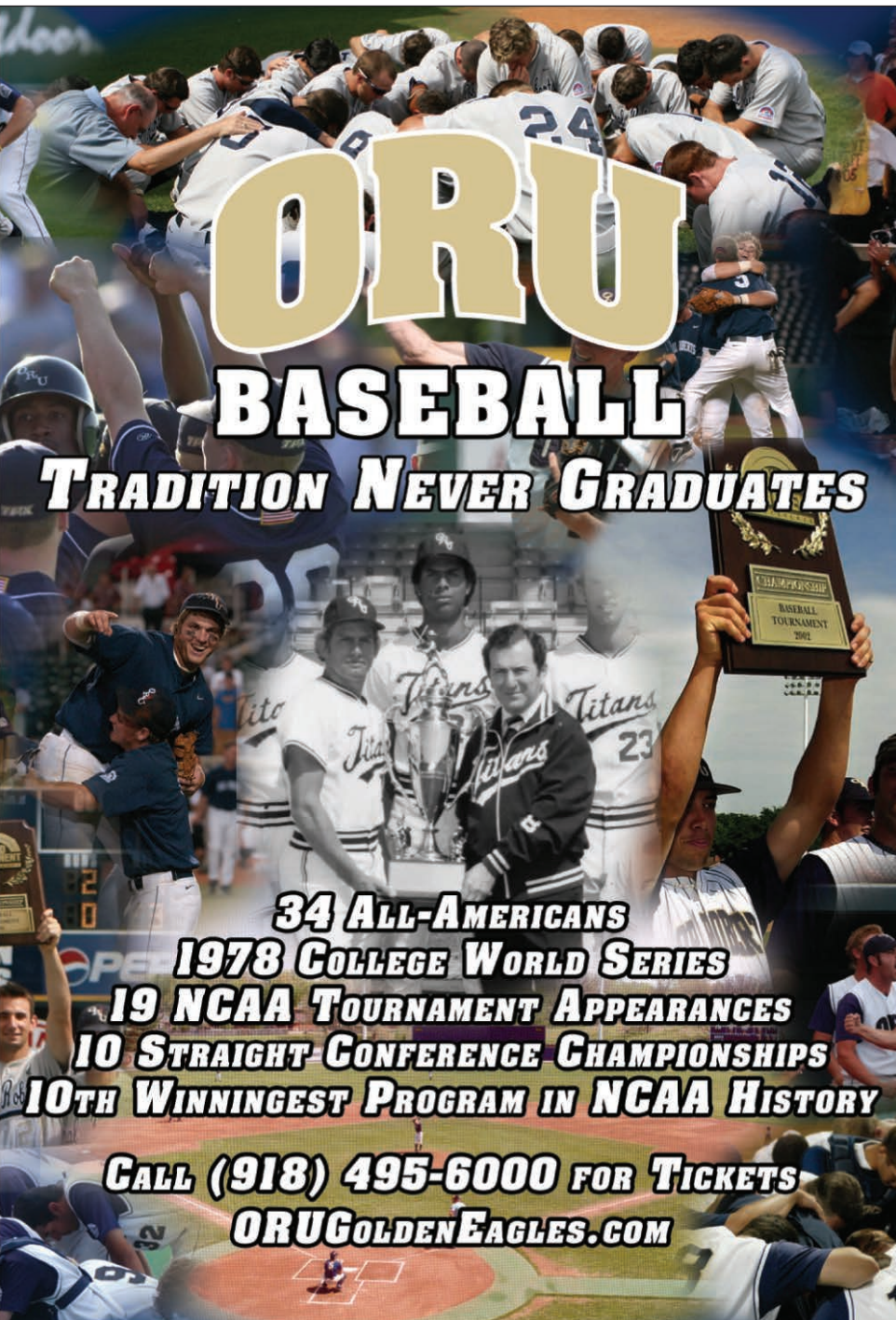
HARRY LENTZ for GTR Newspapers

SENIOR NIGHT: University of Tulsa basketball players say goodbye to the student body after their final home game March 5. TU graduates nine seniors from the team, the most of any team in the nation. Tulsa won the game over South Florida then received a play-in game against Michigan in the NCAA Tournament.

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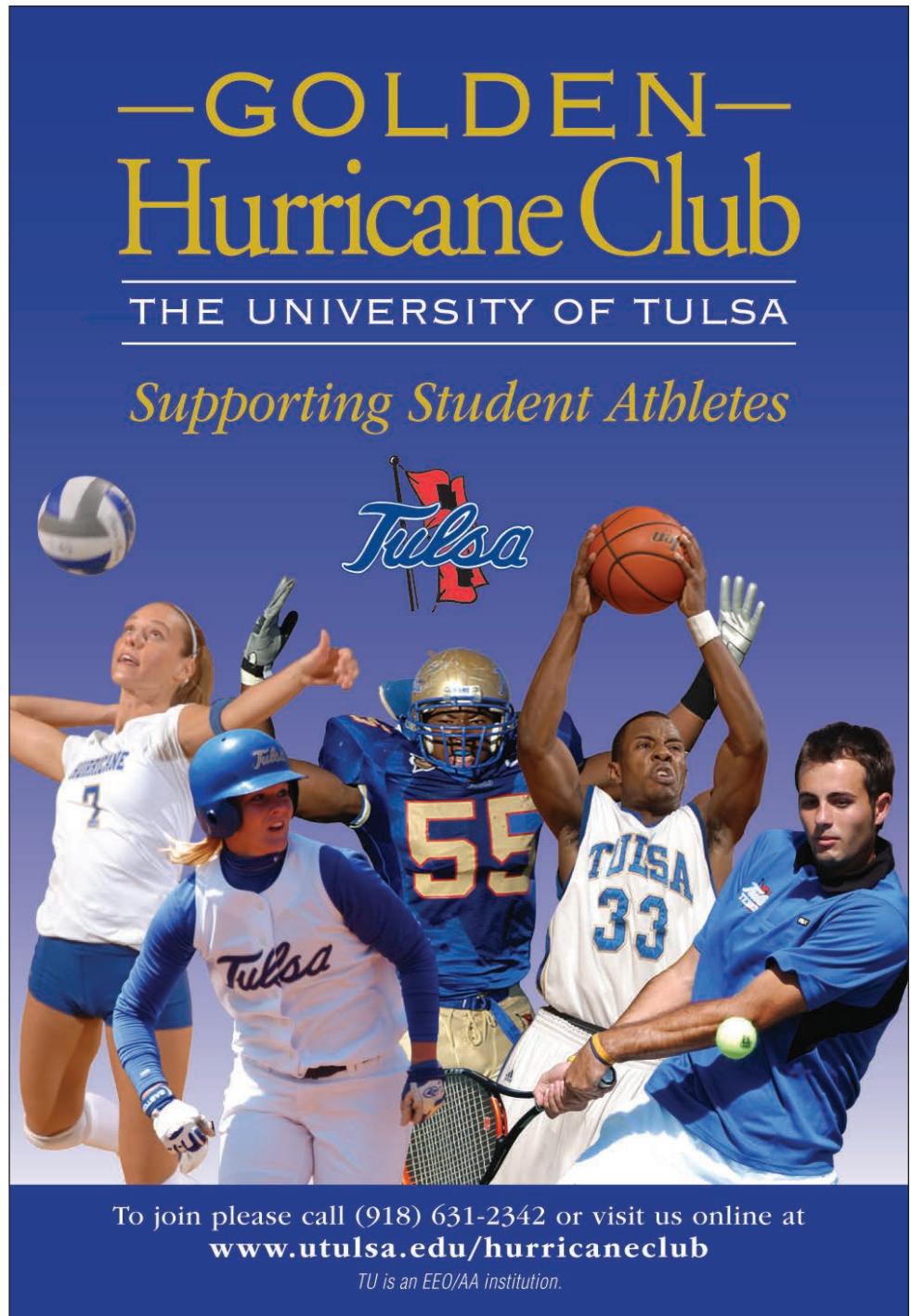


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Lacrosse Growing in Popularity

By GLENN HIBDON
GTR Sports Writer

Editor's note: This is the second article about the growth of lacrosse in Greater Tulsa. Last month's article featured the Bishop Kelley program.

Lacrosse is the new soccer in Tulsa. Fifty years ago, soccer began a rise in popularity in Oklahoma and across the United States. Jeff English and Tracy Isbell are hoping it's now lacrosse's turn.

"It's developing a large presence at the youth level," says English, lacrosse conference commissioner for Indian Nations Youth Sports (INYS). "We have 13 different programs and 840 male players. There are high school teams now, and for the first time this spring we have a girl's program."

English oversees boy's teams ranging in ages from kindergarten through eighth grade. There are also teams in Tulsa who play indoor summer league box lacrosse at Soccer City in Broken Arrow. Men's teams were started last fall in divisions of under 40 and over 40.

Isbell, director of girl's lacrosse for INYS, says that females will join the boys when youth play begins on March 26 at Neinhuis Park in Broken Arrow.

"Five years from now we will probably have a women's league," says Isbell. "There will be women who played in the youth leagues and in high school going to college and then coming back around. Eventually, I know we will have women's lacrosse."

Tulsa's discovery of the sport began more than 10 years ago when Dusty Booth arrived in town. Booth grew up in Wichita playing in high school and on a club team. After coming to Oklahoma, Booth coached a high school team and then was instrumental in forming the Tulsa Youth Lacrosse Association and the Bulldogs, a squad comprised of players without a team.

"Dusty Booth is the man who made it go," English says.

Today, there are high school club teams at Owasso, Jenks, Union, Cascia Hall and Bishop Kelley schools. They all play in the Heartland Conference, consisting of 16 teams in Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri and Kansas. English says Muskogee, Sapulpa, Bartlesville and other Green Country schools have expressed interest in organizing teams.

"We've had 17 percent growth over last year and 150 percent growth in Owasso," says English, who played lacrosse at Southwestern University in Texas



A NEW SPORT: Members of Indian Nations Youth Sports (INYS) lacrosse teams pose for a photo with their sports gear. Lacrosse has seen large growth across the U.S. in the past 10 years, and local teams are growing.

and now has an eighth grade son playing.

Lacrosse features the use of sticks with netting on the end so a ball can be passed back and forth between players. Just like in hockey, the aim is to fire the ball into a net for a point. The sport originated from stick ball, played by Native Americans. Unknown to most, lacrosse is the national sport of Canada.

"We have a large Indian population here, and stick ball is similar to lacrosse," says English, explaining why he thinks the sport has gained such a foothold in Tulsa.

"It's one of the fastest growing sports in the U.S. over the last 10 years. It's a small sport, but it's gaining momentum and has had double digit growth every year."

Unlike English, Isbell says she was "sucked in" to lacrosse when her son starting playing in the sixth grade. She never played or coached, but she sees many physical and health benefits from the sport.

"You don't have to have size or a big body build. Anybody can play," she says. "It's a fun sport, and it's enjoyable to watch for spectators and fans."

English says that lacrosse is less physical than football and players need stick skills in catching and throwing. While speed is an asset, it's not always essential.

"It's a great cross-fit sport. It complements agility, foot work, athleticism and hand-eye coordination," English says.

"It's a great off season sport for football," says Isbell. "You're using different muscles, and both sports are played in different seasons."

There are those who see lacrosse as an elite prep school sport played back east and others who believe the cost of equipment is prohibitive. English says that his group has a working arrangement with Dick's Sporting Goods for discounts.

"Lacrosse is big on the east and west coasts and in the Denver area, but we're starting to see some of our kids playing college lacrosse in (NCAA) Division III," says English. "It's an alternative spring sport. In football, you have stoppages after every down, and lacrosse is more nonstop like basketball."

"All youth sports are based on volunteers; the best reason to get involved is that not a lot of parents know much about lacrosse. There is a lot less coaching from the stands. The biggest part is teaching kids how to catch and throw, and the offense and defense is similar to basketball."

If interested spectators want a look at the sport, English and Isbell recommend the Oklahoma event on June 11-12 at Mohawk Park. Over 60 teams and 1,200 players will come from all across the United States to participate in the tournament.

English's group is currently in discussions with Tulsa's Parks and Recreation Department about having a lacrosse complex being built.

"I do this for my son's interest, and I think it's a great sport for kids who may not want to play traditional sports but still want to have fun being a part of a team," English says.

"I don't have a daughter, and there are only so many slots available for girls to play soccer or softball at schools like Jenks," Isbell says. "With lacrosse, they have an opportunity to play a sport for a big school. I want to see the joy on their faces when they see they are going to play a big sport for their school in a big stadium."

The INYS lacrosse season runs from March 26 until May 21. Inquiries can be directed to www.inyouthlacrosse.com or innationslacrosse@gmail.com.

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Roughnecks, Drillers Look Forward to Season

By GLENN HIBDON
GTR Sports Writer

Dallas beckoned the Tulsa Shock. The 66ers departed for Oklahoma City. Mike Melega is banking on Tulsa's Drillers and Roughnecks sticking around for a long, long time.

Thus far, the marriage of the Texas League baseball team and the United Soccer League franchise has been one made in sports heaven. And the honeymoon continues.

"I feel like we had a very good year (in 2015)," says Melega, president and general manager of both the Drillers and Roughnecks.

Both teams are housed at downtown Tulsa's ONEOK Field.

"We were fifth in attendance among 24 (USL) teams with 4,700 fans per game, and I think the league regards us as one of its most professional operations.

"Tulsa has struggled with some pro sports teams, but the Drillers are starting its 40th season, and we want to make sure the Roughnecks are here 20, 30, 40 years. The lifeblood of any team is season ticket sales, and the Roughnecks' growth is 40 percent this season."

Melega says the soccer team turned a profit in its maiden voyage last year, and the future appears bright.

Ownership of dual sports franchises seems to be the latest trend among both minor and major league teams. Tulsa Baseball Inc. owns the Drillers, and Tulsa Pro Soccer is the majority owner of the Roughnecks. The teams have the

same staffs running day-to-day operations.

"Just as SMG operates the BOK Center, we operate ONEOK Field. We're the tenant and operate the facility," says Melega. "Without our management, it would have been more difficult to start (the Roughnecks) from scratch."

Melega points out that Reno will enter the USL next year and ownership of the team already fields a minor league baseball franchise. He says the NBA San Antonio Spurs have purchased a USL team and the movement is taking root.

"You see NBA teams owning WNBA or D-League teams. A lot of the MLS teams operate USL teams," says Melega. "Eleven of them operate USL teams."

"The only negative for us last year was falling one week short of making the playoffs. I do think everybody grew to enjoy the energy of the Roughnecks, and we built a close relationship with our players. They are our players, while the Drillers are Dodgers players."

Maybe so, but when it comes to a playing surface, Melega says his organization must take care of both teams. Starting out, he had concerns about the transition from baseball field to soccer pitch.

"We have an obligation to have a great surface for the Dodgers players and a great pitch for the Roughnecks," he says.

Jonesplan of Tulsa oversees the transition from baseball to soccer, and Gary Shepherd, head groundskeeper, oversees the entire makeover. Sod is moved in from Leonard, Oklahoma, laid down, and then Shepherd mows it, lines it, and top dresses it with sand to give it weight for firm footing. Melega says MLS team NYC FC, owned by the Yankees and Manchester City,



HORNSBY: Tulsa Drillers mascot Hornsby eagerly anticipates the upcoming baseball season.



OIL-E COYOTE: Mary Ann Odell, who helped to name the Tulsa Roughnecks mascot, Oil-E Coyote, stands with her daughter and Oil-E Coyote at ONEOK Field's fan fest, held March 12.

has the exact same field configuration.

There will be 10 transitions this season for the Drillers/Roughnecks.

"Tulsa has a great tradition in soccer, and the guys who stayed around the area still come to the games," he continues.

Melega says that someday his organization would like to have a soccer-only stadium, but the Roughnecks must learn to run before they gallop. The team is off to a promising start entering the 2016 season, which started March 26.

"All our suites are sold out, and that's a good sign," Melega says. "Last year, we played 14 home games, and his year we have 15. Of our 14 games last season, eight were played on Fridays or Saturdays and six on workdays. This year we only have two games on week

nights and the rest on weekends and holidays.

"We will have soccer fireworks six times, and we will carry over a lot of marketing strategies with the Drillers," he says.

While the Roughnecks continue to rise in attendance, Melega wants the same for the Drillers. Due to rain-outs last season, overall attendance slipped under 400,000 after topping that mark in 2014.

Tulsa became the first team in Texas League history to soar over 400,000 in 2010 and the first to surpass it again after dropping under that total.

"There is much more opportunity to grow our Roughnecks tickets from the Drillers fans. For the Roughnecks, we see a lot of millennials, people in their 20s and 30s. In baseball, there are more families and kids," Melega says.

Yes, the romance between baseball and soccer in Tulsa is blooming, and Melega is hoping it never ends. He's already making plans for the future.

"We could have the opportunity to hire Roughneck specific employees," he says. "This season, we want to grow our attendance and make the playoffs (in soccer). Fans would love to see us get to the playoffs."

"In soccer there is a little more interest in winning and losing than in baseball. It would translate a little more like the Tulsa Shock or TU basketball. When those teams are doing well, you see more tickets sold. When the Drillers are not doing well, it doesn't hurt us terribly. Making the playoffs would be a wonderful thing and that's definitely our goal."

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SPRING HOME IMPROVEMENT

Exterior Lighting Improves Home Safety, Appearance

When drafting a to-do list for home improvements that can increase home value and appeal, several renovations may be atop homeowners' lists. While kitchen or bathroom remodels may be popular renovations, homeowners also should consider outdoor lighting schemes that can make homes safer and more alluring.

Outdoor lighting serves various purposes. Such lighting can draw attention to more impressive parts of a property. In addition, such lighting can improve security and deter criminals.

To get started, homeowners should first examine the exteriors of their homes and make note of existing lighting and where improvements can be made. If you're not sure where to begin, speak with an electrician or a landscape designer, each of whom can offer suggestions on lighting and which options are the best fit for your particular property.

Next, you'll want to consider efficiency and function. The United

States Department of Energy suggests incorporating energy-efficient lighting, including energy-saving LED bulbs or fluorescent lights, into your plans. Timers and other automatic controls can prevent waste by turning lights on only when they are needed. Solar lights can be used as accent lights, further saving energy.

Beauty

When addressing aesthetics, think about the appeal of an accented landscape. Include lights to frame the front door and call attention to certain elements, such as decorative trees or water features. Use lights to light up deck stairways or to accent planters.

Safety

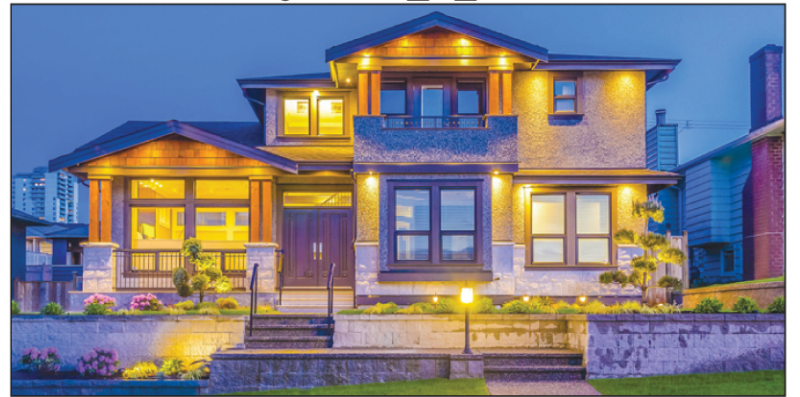
Safety is an important consideration when improving a home. Lighting can help illuminate potential hazards or draw attention to borders or property boundaries. Navigating in the dark can be treacherous, so put lights along pathways and near pools or spas. Be sure that

lights will clearly mark other walkways around your home, such as those leading from doors to the yard or from the garage to where trash and recycling pails are kept. If a design element, such as a bridge over a water feature or a particular ornamental tree or shrub, is difficult to navigate in the dark, use lights to improve visibility.

Security

Added security is another reason to install more exterior lighting. Dark homes are attractive to burglars. Eliminate dark corners by lighting up areas where thieves may be able to gain access to your home. This includes areas near doorways and ground-level windows. Install motion-sensor lights in such areas so you are not wasting energy.

Lighting may not only deter human intruders, but also it can scare away animals. A raccoon, skunk or opossum may think twice about hanging around your home when your property is bathed in a spotlight.



CURB APPEAL: Revamping exterior lighting elements can improve the safety and look of a home.

Why Hiring a Landscaper May Be for You

Most homeowners want their properties to appear as appealing as possible. While many homeowners want to be proud of their properties and come home to a welcoming home each night, the benefits to maintaining landscaping go beyond the notion that well-cared for lawns make for more comforting retreats.

Because numerous variables, including landscaping, influence property values, it's difficult to assess just how much the property values of homes with impressive landscapes are influenced by those very landscapes. Indeed, studies have produced varying results regarding the effect of well-landscaped homes on property values. But what many studies have shown and what many realtors indicate is that impressive landscaping adds a significant amount to property values, with estimates suggesting landscaping increases home values by anywhere from 5 to 20 percent.

Such estimates are good news for homeowners, and they also highlight the stakes involved when making landscaping decisions. Homeowners with green thumbs may embrace the challenge of revitalizing their lawns and gardens, but many, especially those pressed for time, can benefit greatly from working with professional landscapers.

Maintaining a property requires more than just mowing the lawn every couple of weeks. Even homeowners committed to making their properties as pristine as possible can run into problems when adverse weather conditions pose a threat to lawns and gardens. The following are just a handful of reasons why homeowners may find working with landscaping professionals is the best thing for their properties and their bank accounts.

• Professionals understand the local climate. Experienced professional landscapers will understand the local climate and the challenges it presents to your lawn. Experience

can prove invaluable as lawns battle adverse conditions that threaten its survival. While homeowners going it alone may struggle through a trial and error period as they try to address problems threatening their lawns, experienced professionals are more likely to identify the problem immediately, providing a ready solution that can prevent potentially costly repairs down the road.

• Professionals can provide inspiration. In addition to maintaining properties, many landscaping professionals have vast experience improving properties through landscape design. Professional landscapers may have a host of ideas for your property that you would never think of. Homeowners with little to no lawn and garden experience may not realize all the things they can do with their properties, and those who go it alone may end up with unappealing landscapes that do not attract buyers' attention when the home hits the market.

• Professionals can remove some of the stress of managing landscaping projects. Homeowners know that home improvement projects, whether they are addressing home interiors or exteriors, can be stressful. Professional landscapers typically have a network of professionals, including contractors, who they have worked with in the past. Such connections can ensure more complex projects that require both landscapers and construction contractors go



as smoothly as possible. In addition, homeowners who receive contractor recommendations from their experienced landscapers tend to rest easier knowing the people working on their properties have already developed a rapport and established a successful track record working together.

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THE ECONOMY

C&J School Uniforms Celebrates 20 Years

Customer Appreciation Week: June 6-11

C&J School Uniforms has kept things uniform for Tulsa area schools since the store opened in 1996. Having met when their children were young and in uniforms, co-owners Joyce Fuller and Chari Edwards shared the desire of providing affordable but quality school uniforms. Their desire became a reality and C&J opened its doors in the Fontana Shopping Center at 51st Street and Memorial Drive.

Business growth over the past 20 years has required the store to move four times, all within the Fontana complex. Presently, C&J sits facing Memorial Drive next to Lenny's Subs.

C&J School Uniforms focus is on outfitting private, public and parochial schools while providing outstanding customer service. The staff is focused on helping families with their back-to-school needs. The store is Tulsa's premiere one-stop shop for school uniforms from head to toe. The shelves at C&J are stocked with quality brand merchandise. Garments are made of durable, easy-to-care-for fabric.

To ensure a student is appropriately dressed, each school's individual updated dress code is



available. In-house alterations are provided for the customer's convenience. Customers will also find unique items such as teddy bears dressed in uniforms, backpacks, headbands and bows, all to match students' uniforms. Annually, C&J offers a month-long sale in June to begin the Back to School season. This year, June 6 - 11, C&J is having its customer appreciation week. The 20-year celebration will include additional discounts, drawings for prizes, balloons, goodies and more.

After years of experience in this industry, Fuller and Edwards recommend parents begin their shopping early in the summer in order to beat the back-to-school rush. C&J School Uniforms is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. During the month of August, the store has extended hours. Fuller and Edwards want to thank all of their customers for

their trust and confidence in their small local business for the past 20 years. They invite customers to see them for all uniform needs and accessories.

For more information, visit www.cjschooluniforms.com or call 918-610-7470.



WELL DRESSED TEAM: Celebrating 20 successful years of C&J School Uniforms at the Fontana Shopping Center in Tulsa are, front row from left, Garland Fuller, Joyce Fuller, Deanna Whitham, Chari Edwards and Alan Edwards, and back row from left, Princeton Donald, Kareen Ramsey, Chris Brownell, TJ Bannon, Eytan Kaiser, Sarah Bannon, Allison Griffith and Josiah Donald.

BMX VISIONARIES: John David, third from left, was the speaker at the March 21 Rotary Club of Tulsa luncheon meeting. David is the chief operating officer of USA BMX, the World's largest sanctioning Body for the Olympic sport of bicycle motocross racing (BMX). If the Vision Tulsa proposal is approved April 5, the BMX headquarters would move from Phoenix, Arizona, to 15th and Yale in Tulsa, bringing 50 to 75 jobs. With David are, from left, Tulsa City Councilor Phil Lakin, Tulsa Sports Commission Executive Director Vince Trinidad, and Rotary President and Tulsa attorney Jeff Hassell.



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Organization Helps Women Find Job Success

By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor

It has been said, in reference to a well-known fairy tale, that one shoe can change a person's life.

That is not far off from the motto of Dress for Success, an international nonprofit organization that provides clothing and career services for women in search of employment.

It is those services that helped to put Nancy Sposato on a new life and career path eight years ago.

In 2007, Sposato was holding three part-time jobs and looking for a fresh start and employment that would provide health benefits. She approached Dress for Success Tulsa after learning about it through the YWCA.

"Dress for Success helped me build self-esteem and self-confidence," says Sposato. "It helped me build a strong foundation and to set realistic goals going forward."

In May 2008, she was hired as a medical transcriptionist by St.

John Health System, where she remains presently employed.

Dress for Success began in 1997 with the Tulsa affiliate opening in 2001.

Women receive one outfit for their job search and then can return to the store for additional outfits once they have obtained a job position.

"Our goal is to provide them up to a week's worth of clothing," says Dress for Success Tulsa Executive Director Ronda Adkisson.

The organization also offers career services including the Going Places Network, a seven-week course for unemployed and underemployed women, where they gain job searching and professional skills. "Our goal is to have clients employed in seven weeks," Adkisson says.

The second offering is the Professional Women's Group (PWG), which is available for women who have found employment. The group provides ongoing support and guidance regarding various areas of life, includ-

ing work/life balance, health and wellness, and civic leadership. "When women realize that they can give back, that starts to increase their value because, many times, in the past they did not feel like they had anything to offer," she says.

Women are referred to Dress for Success Tulsa by more than 140 nonprofit organizations, agencies, shelters, colleges, and technical institutes and are not charged for the services provided. Additionally, on occasion women will walk into the shop on their own, looking for guidance.

In addition to improving women professionally in local communities, Dress for Success is serving a much larger purpose of championing women's rights, Adkisson says.

For example, she mentions a woman whom she knows who lives in Poland and spent two years waiting for her government to approve her application to open a Dress for Success affiliate location in her country.

"These women are changing



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

BUSINESS ATTIRE: From left, Dress for Success Tulsa Board President Katherine Skorvaga, Executive Director Ronda Adkisson and Board Vice President Kuma Roberts stand in Dress For Success Tulsa's new location at 3103 S. Harvard Ave. in Tulsa.

mentalties in their countries, changing the way people look at women's opportunities," says Adkisson, who has been with the organization for eight years as its executive director.

Dress for Success Tulsa will

hold a grand-opening event to celebrate the move to its new location at 3103 S. Harvard Ave. on April 7 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 9:30 a.m., followed by tours of the store that will be open to the public.

Will Rogers H.S. Hall of Fame Announces 5 Inductees

Induction Ceremony To Be Held April 1

The Will Rogers High School Community Foundation recently announced the Will Rogers High School Hall of Fame Inductees for 2016.

"The Will Rogers High School Hall of Fame is a stellar group of graduates who have achieved fame or extraordinary success in their chosen careers and are a positive influence on tomorrow's leaders," says David Rader, chairman of the Hall of Fame committee. "This

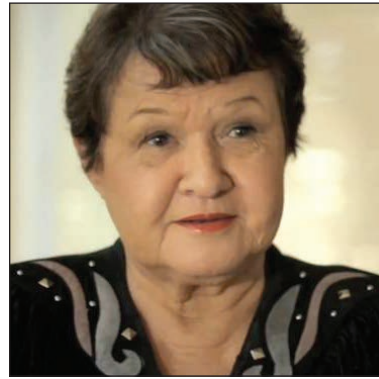
year the Hall of Fame Ceremonies will be held on Friday, April 1, with an induction presented in the Will Rogers High School Auditorium for the students and guests in the morning, followed by a dinner and celebration that evening at Southern Hills Country Club."

The 2016 Hall of Fame members are: Frank Pitezal, Class of 1942; J. David Nunneley, Class of 1954; Charlotte Wilson Heth, Ph.D., Class of 1955; Charles Kimball,

Ph.D., Class of 1968; Dick Risk, J.D., Class of 1959.

For more information concerning the Hall of Fame induction activities, visit www.willrogersfoundation.net.

To make reservations for the Hall of Fame Induction dinner at Southern Hills Country Club, please call Iris Warlick Studenny at 918-625-1533. Tickets are \$75 per person. Advance reservations are required.



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Greater Tulsa Author Christopher Metcalf Releases Fifth Novel: The Perfect Patriot

The April 19, 1995, bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah federal building in Oklahoma City changed everything.

For Oklahoma author Christopher Metcalf, the Oklahoma City Bombing holds a permanent place in his memory. He can recall clearly the moment he heard about the bombing on his car radio as he drove to an interview. He was a writer at the Tulsa Business Journal at the time.

"At first, they didn't know what had happened. The radio news people reported there had been an explosion and a rising tower of smoke was visible from miles

away," Metcalf recalls. "They turned the television on outside the office. I was interviewing someone for an article and we could see the damage the bomb had done. It was sickening."

That terrible event and the questions around how and why and most of all 'who could do this?' were the source for Metcalf's latest novel - The Perfect Patriot. This is the fifth book in the Lance Priest / Preacher series.

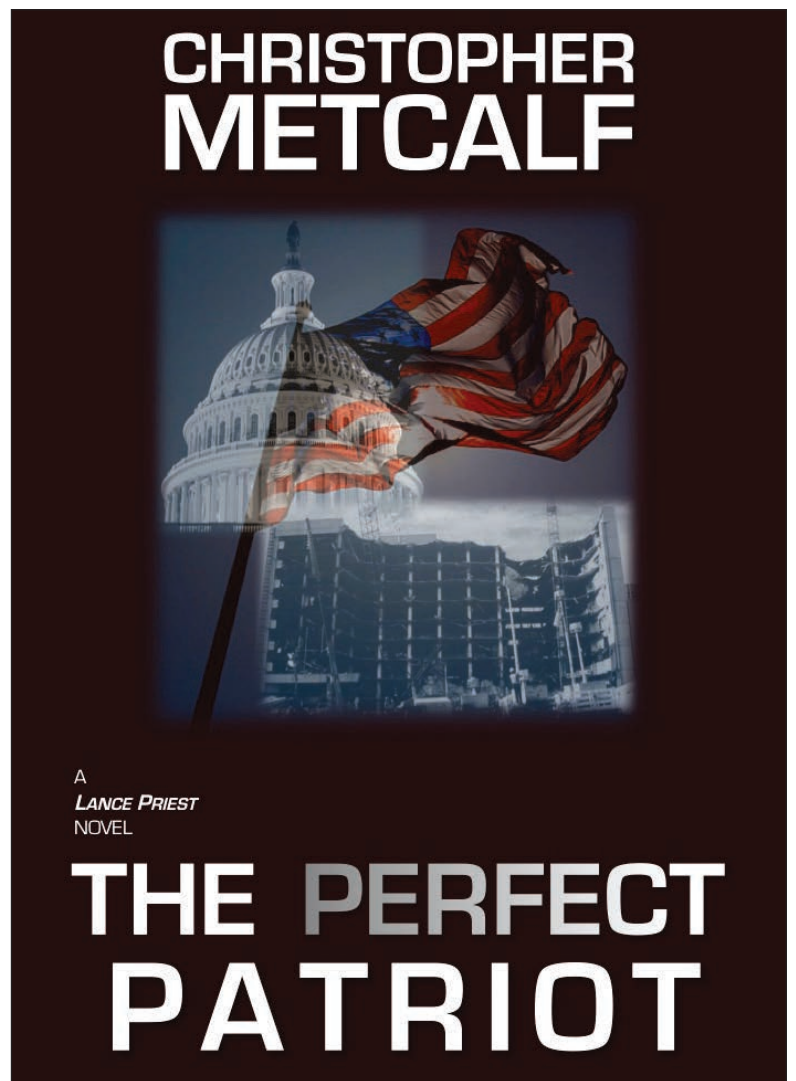
"Even back in 2011 when I wrote The Perfect Candidate, the first book in the series, I knew I would write one of these about the Oklahoma City Bombing,"

Metcalf adds. "Lance, the main character in my books, was living in Oklahoma and going to college in 1987 when he was recruited into the CIA. The OKC bombing was always going to find its way into a storyline."

For this book, Metcalf puts his main character, a deadly rogue CIA operative, in Oklahoma City days after the bombing. He works to determine who committed this mass murder and how he can prevent it from happening again. The book begins with the birth of Lance and his partner's, former KGB spy Marta Sidorova, first baby. But the bombing immediately changes everything for them, as it did for so many.

"Lance is ice-cold. He is a killer, a liar, a chameleon, a human tornado. But the bombing hits him at a personal level. He feels the need to get involved. And that takes him from Colorado to Oklahoma and into great danger as he digs into the underbelly of the anti-government militia movement," Metcalf says. "Lance, or Preacher his alter-ego, has a knack for finding his way into incredibly dangerous situations that end with incredibly violent results. It is definitely fun stuff."

Five novels in, Metcalf is enjoying the continuing process of self-publishing. The writing is the fun part. The rest - editing, marketing, more editing, advertising, and yet more editing, is the real work. "It definitely takes dedication and determination and some thick skin. But it is really cool to have people



out there that I may never meet email to ask 'when is the next Preacher book coming out?' That never gets old."

For more information, visit www.christophermetcalf.com. The Perfect Patriot is available at Amazon.

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Cunningham Jewelry Granted Accreditation

Having met all the necessary requirements and having been qualified, Vicki Cunningham, owner of Cunningham Jewelry and Appraisal Services, has been granted accreditation with the National Association of Jewelry Appraisers and has been conferred the professional designation of Certified Master Appraiser. Founded in 1981, the National Association of Jewelry Appraisers (NAJA) states as its purpose, "to recognize, and make available, the services of highly qualified, informed, experienced, independent and professional appraisers of gems and jewelry to those members of the public requiring such expertise." It is the only appraisal association in the United States devoted solely to the appraisal of gems and jewelry. With a membership of over 650 and Ms. Cunningham is only the seventh member to achieve the highest

designation of Certified Master Appraiser.

As a Graduate Gemologist (Gemological Institute of America) and Certified Master Appraiser with the National Association of Jewelry Appraisers (NAJA), Cunningham is dedicated to providing expert appraisal services while strictly adhering to the highest professional and ethical standards.

Cunningham has over 25 years of experience in the jewelry industry, ranging from retail to design to appraisal. Her work in the appraisal field spans countless assignments for retail and private clients, as well as estates and consulting.

Cunningham is a member of the following organizations: National Association of Jewelry, Appraisers (NAJA), Gemological Institute of America (GIA), Jewelers of America, Oklahoma Jewelers Association, Diamond Council of America and Jewelers for Children.



CANDELIGHT COUPLE: Cari and Gordon Marshall, strong supporters of the Child Abuse Network in Tulsa, are looking forward to this year's CANdelight Ball, to be held April 23 at the historic Mayo Hotel. This year marks the 5th anniversary of the event, which will open with cocktails in the Grand Hall, followed by an elegant dinner and live auction in the Crystal Ballroom, and conclude with a 16-piece band and dancing. Rachel Hunsucker is this year's event chair. For more information, visit www.childabusenetwork.org.

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HOME AND GARDEN SHOW REVISITED AT EXPO SQUARE



GTR Newspapers photo

BURNETT INC.: *The Greater Tulsa Home & Garden Show, held March 10-13 at the River Spirit Expo at Expo Square, was another success with more than 500 exhibitors. Among the exhibitors was Burnett Inc., a greater Tulsa leader in windows and siding. From left are Scott Burnett, Kat Davis, Nancy Rardin, Jim Rardin and Ray Duffy.*



GTR Newspapers photo

AIRCO SERVICE, INC.: *Jamie Dwyer, left, and Chase Boyce were among the representatives of Airco, Inc. at the Home and Garden Show. Airco is a leader in heating, plumbing, cooling and electrical.*

BUSINESS & PEOPLE NOTES

Schnake Turnbo Frank announces **Isaac Rocha**, past TYPros chair and chair-elect of Mosaic, has joined the firm as an associate for inclusion and diversity, bringing to the firm years of corporate and community leadership and business and board management.



ROCHA

Rocha will consult clients in inclusion and diversity efforts, including organizational assessments, research, scoring and change implementation. He also currently works for The Bama Companies, Inc., as the community relations and development officer where he helps strategically align the company's philanthropic giving, government affairs, inclusion initiatives and community impact.

Rocha serves on the boards of the national Multicultural Foodservice & Hospitality Alliance, Oklahoma State Chamber, Oklahoma Educated Workforce Initiative, Tulsa Regional Chamber, and Workforce Tulsa and serves on the advisory board of the YWCA-Tulsa. He also serves as an appointed commissioner to the Greater Tulsa Area Hispanic Affairs Commission.

He received a bachelor's degree in management and marketing from Oklahoma State University and a Family Office Executive Certification from Pepperdine University.

The Schemmer Associates Inc. (Schemmer), a national full-service architecture, engineering and planning firm, announces that **Kyle Williams**, P.E., transportation engineer, has received his professional engineering license in the state of Oklahoma.



WILLIAMS

Williams has been in the transportation group at Schemmer for two years in the Tulsa office. He specializes in municipal, local government and Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) design work. In addition, he has project experience with the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority.

Williams has a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Arkansas. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and the Civil Engineering Honor Society, Chi Epsilon, as well as an elected trustee for the Tulsa Engineering Foundation.

For more information, visit www.schemmer.com.

Tulsa Route 66 Main Street has selected **Jessica Brent** to serve as executive director.



BRENT

Brent is a former mobility management coordinator at INCOG and earned a master's degree in architectural urban studies from the University of Oklahoma-Tulsa. She is a skilled community organizer and communicator with a passion for event planning and visual media. Some of her previous projects, such as Sidewalk Stories, have helped bring awareness and action to urban design issues in Tulsa.

Brent says she is excited to harness the enthusiasm locals have for Tulsa's westside to continue growing the Route 66 corridor. The president of Tulsa Route 66 Main Street is Andrew Haar.

SMG Tulsa, the management company of BOK Center and Cox Business Center, named **Allie Thomas** 2015 Employee of the Year. Thomas serves as an event coordinator in the Event Services Department.



THOMAS

Thomas was recognized for her dedication to the success of events at Cox Business Center, including her work coordinating the 2015 Painted Pony Gala, which is one of the largest events in the facility and also the largest fundraiser of the year for the client, Saint Francis. Additionally, she took the initiative to help start a wellness committee for SMG Tulsa staff and organized a bike ride across Oklahoma on stationary bikes to help spread awareness for Mental Health suicide-prevention day.

"Allie embodies our SMG Tulsa mission of being 'Outrageously Excellent' as we relentlessly pursue superior experiences for our clients, guests and staff. In the past year she has played an integral role in the success of events at Cox Business Center," says SMG Tulsa General Manager Jeff Nickler.

The SMG Tulsa Employee of the Year is voted on by an internal committee of coworkers who recognize and award the efforts of staff members who go above and beyond the scope of their positions for clients, guests and vendors.

The Oklahoma Business Roundtable announces that **Ann Ackerman**, Ph.D. is its new president/CEO. Ackerman replaces **Carl Edwards** who had held the position since October 2012.



ACKERMAN

Ackerman was also a long-term educator and college administrator. She currently serves on the boards of the Oklahoma Health Center Foundation, Annie Oakley Society, Children's Hospital Board of Advocacy, and UCO's Advisory Board. Ackerman belongs to Rotary Club 29 and is past secretary and director. She has served on the Governor's Council of Science and Technology and chaired the Governor's Youth Council and chaired the board of the American Red Cross of Central Oklahoma. Her accomplishments include American Council on Education Fellow, Leadership Oklahoma City's Paragon Award, The Journal Record's WOY Circle of Excellence, and OCCC Employee Award for Excellence. She was named one of 50 Most Powerful Women in Oklahoma for 2012-2014 by Friday, and was one of The Journal Record's 2014 Most Admired CEOs.

The Oklahoma Business Roundtable was founded in 1991 and serves as the state's key economic development support organization.

Flintco, LLC, one of the nation's largest commercial construction companies, is consolidating the leadership for its Oklahoma offices, naming **Dave Kollmann** as the Central Region president. In his new role, Kollmann will oversee Flintco's Tulsa and Oklahoma City offices as well as Oakridge Builders and Oakridge Constructors.



KOLLMANN



GUDGEL

Kollmann has been with Flintco for 23 years, serving as the Tulsa division president since 2006. Under his leadership, the Tulsa office has grown to one of the company's largest and most profitable offices.

Flintco has also named **Richard Jagers** as the company's new chief administrative officer and **Trent Gudgel** as in-house general counsel.

Previously, Jagers spent 14 years with Balfour Beatty PLC, most recently serving as senior vice president and chief financial officer for Balfour Beatty Construction U.S. In his new role, Jagers will oversee the company's finance, accounting, legal and risk management teams. He brings over 25 years of experience in global, publicly traded construction and manufacturing companies.

Gudgel brings extensive construction, commercial, business and real estate experience to his role as general counsel. He was previously an attorney and shareholder with Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson, P.C. in Tulsa.

A graduate of the University of Oklahoma's College of Law, Gudgel is a member of the Oklahoma Bar Association, the State Bar of Texas, the American Inns of Court and the Defense Research Institute.

Tyler Spradlin, relationship manager at Yorktown Bank, **Matt Webb**, AVP/private banking at Valley National Bank, and **Cody Wilson**, credit risk officer at Valley National Bank, all in Tulsa, completed the **Oklahoma Bankers Association Commercial Lending School** in Oklahoma City.

Spradlin, Webb and Wilson were among 43 graduates of the school, which was held Feb. 28-Mar. 4 at the OBA Harris Event Center in Oklahoma City.

The OBA Commercial Lending School, conducted annually, is designed to prepare bankers to serve effectively as commercial loan officers. Students learn about steps they should take in evaluating business loan requests, how businesses are structured and how to evaluate the management of business borrowers.

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Will Rogers High a One-of-a-Kind Treasure

High School Was First Public Works Administration Project in Oklahoma

In a previous column, I discussed the architecture of Daniel Webster High School. But Webster was not Tulsa's first suburban high school. That acknowledgment belongs to Will Rogers High School, 3909 E. 5th Pl., which opened on Sept. 11, 1939. The school is now known as Will Rogers College Junior High and High School.

The site for Will Rogers was a rural setting of 32 acres of grassy cow pasture. (Cattle grazed in the immediate area during construction.) Designed by architects Joseph Koberling and Leon B. Senter, the school, at 200,000 square feet, had a capacity of 1,500 students. It was the first PWA (Public Works Administration) project in Oklahoma and the pride of WPA (Work Progress Administration). These two FDR agencies established in the depression years of the 1930s paid 45 percent of the substantial cost; 55 percent was paid by our local school district.

The building's exterior is buff brick with polished limestone and terra cotta accents. Towards the west end of the front (south) eleva-

tion, the building rises three stories above the main floor, forming a small tower. Below, bronze lanterns flank the main entrance doors while terra cotta spandrels interrupt bands of what were originally steel windows. Terra cotta plaques above these doors are sculptured in bas relief. Those on the west depict Will Rogers in early and later life. Those on the east feature a boy and a girl learning.

Upon entering the main vestibule, handsome bronze radiator grills occur on the left and right. The main hall of the school is treated as a fine office building with terra cotta sheathed walls, and terrazzo floors. Ornamental plaster work borders the ceiling, installed by Percy Prosser, a well-known sculptor of the day. Decorating the two main hallways were 50 giant sepia-toned prints depicting seven phases of Will Rogers' life from boyhood through his movie career to his role as ambassador of good will.

The psychology of color was incorporated into the interior color scheme. Originally classrooms were all painted in pastels, color-



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

STUNNING AUDITORIUM: Will Rogers College Junior High and High School teacher Karen Miller points out the old-time organ and architectural features found in the school's auditorium. The high school opened in 1939 and remains a premier example of art deco architecture at its finest.

keyed to learning. Colors were used to produce moods. Bright hues were incorporated in science and math classrooms, and quiet colors were used for the library. A five color palate made up the color scheme which was eventually adopted as a standard for the whole school system.

Will Rogers had all the special spaces deemed important for a high school in the 1930s. These included an indoor pool, metal and wood shops, various gymnasiums with spectator seating, a cafeteria and full kitchen, a spacious library, and, last but not least, a



ROSSY GILLE for GTR Newspapers

LONG-STANDING SCHOOL: The exterior of Will Rogers College Junior High and High School, 3909 E. 5th Pl. The 200,000-square-foot high school was designed by architects Joseph Koberling and Leon B. Senter, and while the school has undergone renovations and additions over the years, much of its original structure and features remain intact.

vast auditorium complete with balcony and a large lobby with ticket booth.

The auditorium resembles a luxury theatre. The elaborate stage is curved and fluted with brass insets of a fan and floral design in tan and gold leaf. The proscenium arch is a rich mixture of floral and classic figure design and fans and fountains in gold leaf, terra cotta red and brass. Elaborate brass light fixtures and false balconies add to a performance atmosphere. The plaster ceiling is ornate with painted and stenciled cast plaster beams. Dominating the west wall is a mural by Alex Rindskopf, a Chicago artist. The James Greenleaf Wittier verse about westward expansion is illustrated

with figures of pioneers and Indians.

Over the years, Rogers has received various remodels. A free-standing adult education building was added at the southeast corner of the site. Most recently, an athletic field house has been added to the northwest end of the original building, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, appears as originally built although not without some layers of wear and repair from 77 years of hard use. With money for education in short supply, Will Rogers High School in design and detail will remain a one-of-a-kind architectural treasure never to be duplicated.

On Architecture



By ROGER COFFEY, AIA

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Brookside Continues as a Tulsa Destination

Brookside can be called quintessentially Tulsa with its early Creek Nation history in the 1800s, then a landing place for early oil boom town growth in the early 1900s and finally becoming a shopping area for generations of enthusiastic people from the mid-1900s through today.

The Brookside area began as a part of the Creek Indian land just south of Tulsa. This land was granted to the Creek Nation in 1824. They were removed from Alabama to Indian Territory in about 1836. The mixed blood Creek Nation Perryman family was one of the first families to settle in this area and operated the first post office in 1882 at the home of George Perryman near what is now 41st and Trenton. (A marker stands at this site today.)

Early Brookside was considered to be along the river from 32nd to 38th streets and over to Peoria Avenue. Its boundaries have changed many times and have settled today on the main strip along Peoria from 31st to 51st and from the Arkansas River to Lewis Ave. The "village" area is concentrated along Peoria from 32nd to 41st streets.

Early Development

The "Brookside" name was first used by Guy Scroggs when he named his store Brookside Drug in 1940. The "brook" was presumed to be Crow Creek named for an early railroad president. Scroggs is also credited with beginning the "friendly neighborhood atmosphere" prevailing in this area with his policy of awarding free ice cream to good students from nearby Eliot Elementary School.

City Veterinary Hospital was built in the Streamline style of Art Deco architecture in 1942.

Following the end of the Second World War, another building boom began which brought a new generation to the area.

In this post war era, Brookside added new businesses:

Dunwell Cleaners, Ralph E. Johnson was founder, and four generations of this family operated the cleaners until the late 1990s when it was transformed into a restaurant.

Brookside State Bank, the fifth state bank chartered in Tulsa whose chairman was Howard G. Barnett. Today, this is the home of a branch of the Bank of Oklahoma.

Brookside Yesterday

Brook Theater, a 600-seat movie theater was famous for its "Saturday afternoon matinees." Since that time, it has served as the home of the American Theater Company and then became The Brook restaurant and bar.

Van's Hamburgers, opened in the 1950s in the same site as Claude's Hamburgers is today.

Lewis Meyer Book Store, a very favorite place for book lovers located north of the Brook Theater; this space is now incorporated into The Brook.

Rich's Furniture Store was at 34th and Peoria and was a favorite place to find home furnishings.

During the heyday of the 1950s, Brookside became a place for high school students to gather with friends. This led to the "Restless Ribbon" where cars packed with

students cruised up and down Peoria, especially through Pennington's Drive-In. Besides seeing friends, Pennington's was famous for its fried shrimp, French fries and black bottom pie.

Brookside Today

Today, Brookside provides excellent establishments such as Elmer's BBQ, Poseidon Adventures, Millinda's Merle Norman, Sharkey's Billiards and Bar, and Cunningham Jewelry and Appraisals. (See page 26 for an article about Cunningham Jewelry.)

Brookside hosts several festivals throughout the year. Herb Day will be held Saturday, April 9 and Brookside Rumble & Roll on Thursday, June 2.



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

BROOKSIDE BUSINESS: Son Jeff and father Jim Stunkard, business partners with Purple Glaze, sit inside their Brookside location, 3303 S. Peoria Ave. The business caters to a wide range of customers, ages and levels of artistic ability.

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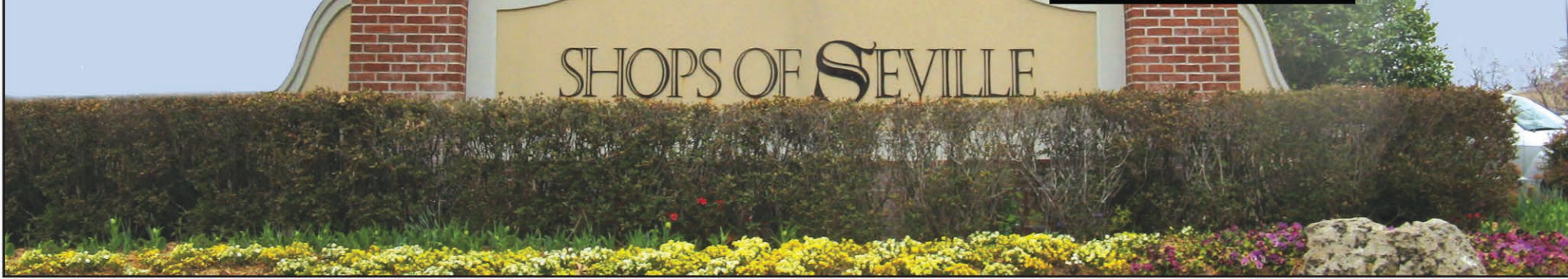
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






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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>27 March</p> <p>SUNDAY CONCERT SERIES Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame 5 p.m. Visit okjazz.org for more information.</p> <p>CIRQUE DU SOLEIL BOK Center 1:30 & 5 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</p> 	<p>28</p> <p>UNION GOLF BOOSTER CLUB TOURNAMENT The Club at Indian Springs 11:30 a.m. Contact brettrehorn@gmail.com for more information or to register.</p> <p>Q&A WITH A NUTUROPATHIC PROVIDER AND ACUPUNCTURIST Cancer Treatment Centers of America, Tulsa 6 - 7 p.m. Visit cancercenter.com for more information.</p>	<p>29</p> <p>RODGERS AND HAMMERSTEIN'S CINDERELLA Celebrity Attractions March 29 - April 3 myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>TULSA OILERS vs. Colorado 7 p.m. For more info., visit tulsaoilers.com</p> 	<p>30</p> <p>CRAFT CIRCLE Martin Regional Library 10 - 11 a.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</p> <p>TULSA OILERS vs. Colorado 7 p.m. For more info., visit tulsaoilers.com</p> <p>We offer Health Savings Accounts Central Bank of Oklahoma Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™</p>	<p>31</p> <p>ZACH: ZARROW ART CLASSES FOR HOMESCHOOL Zarrow Center for Art & Education 10 - 11:30 a.m. Visit gilcrease.org for more information.</p> <p>YONDER MOUNTAIN STRING BAND Cains Ballroom 8 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</p> 	<p>1 April</p> <p>STEEL MAGNOLIAS The Playhouse Tulsa 7:30 p.m. • April 1-2 myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>SESAME STREET LIVE: MAKE A NEW FRIEND BOK Center 10:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</p> <p>JOHN MELENCAMP Brady Theater 7 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for more information.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>TULSA ROUGHNECKS vs. Swope Park Rangers 7 p.m. For more information, visit tulsaroughnecksfc.com</p> <p>DREAMS WORLD Oklahoma Performing Arts 7:30 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>SESAME STREET LIVE: MAKE A NEW FRIEND BOK Center 10:30 a.m., 2 & 5:30 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</p>
<p>3</p> <p>SESAME STREET LIVE: MAKE A NEW FRIEND BOK Center 10:30 a.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</p> <p>STEEL MAGNOLIAS The Playhouse Tulsa 2 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>ZACH BROWN BAND BOK Center 7 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>TULSA GARDEN CLUB MEMBERSHIP MEETING Tulsa Garden Center 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Visit tulsagardenclub.org for info.</p> <p>I CAN'T DANCE WITH TULSA BALLET Thomas K. McKeon Center for Creativity, TCC 12 - 12:45 p.m. Visit tulsacc.edu for info.</p> <p>New Name. Same Bank Central Bank of Oklahoma Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™</p>	<p>5</p> <p>FILM SCREENING WITH DIRECTOR SONJA SCHENK Thomas K. McKeon Center for Creativity, TCC 12 - 12:45 p.m. Visit tulsacc.edu for more information.</p> <p>DR. DOG Cains Ballroom 8 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</p> 	<p>6</p> <p>GEN. KEITH ALEXANDER OSU Tulsa Business Forum 10 a.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>BROWN BAG IT: BARRON RYAN PAC Trust 12:10 p.m. This event is FREE.</p> <p>MUMFORD & SONS BOK Center 7 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>MUSEUM BABIES Gilcrease Museum 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Visit gilcrease.org for more information.</p> <p>COLLEGE FAIR University of Tulsa Reynolds Center 6 - 7:30 p.m. Call 918-481-1111 for more information.</p> <p>JUSTIN BIEBER BOK Center 7 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>OIL & GAS IN THE 21ST CENTURY CONFERENCE Gilcrease Museum 8:30 a.m. - 8 p.m. Visit gilcrease.org for more information.</p> <p>SANDI PATTY: THE FAREWELL TOUR Mabee Center 7 - 9 p.m. Visit mabeecenter.com for more information.</p> <p>PETER RABBIT TALES PAC Trust 7 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>RODGERS AND HAMMERSTEIN AT THE MOVIES Tulsa Symphony 7:30 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>TULSA OILERS vs. Wichita 7 p.m. For more info., visit tulsaoilers.com</p> <p>TORI KELLY Brady Theater 7 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for info.</p> 
<p>10</p> <p>BROWNIES 5K/ FUN ROOT BEER RUN Cascia Hall West Field 12:30 - 3:30 p.m. Call 918-906-4430 for info.</p> <p>STEEL MAGNOLIAS The Playhouse Tulsa 2 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>COMEDY'S BEST KEPT SECRET TOUR The Shrine 7 p.m. Visit comedysbestkeptsecret.com for more information.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>BRYAN ADAMS Hard Rock Hotel & Casino 8 p.m. Visit hardrockcasinotulsa.com for more information.</p> <p>BOOKS SANDWICHED IN Oklahoma Methodist Manor 10 - 11 a.m. Georgia Snoke reviews "The Traitor's Wife" by Allison Pataki. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>JESSICA LANG DANCE Choregus Productions 7:30 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>HALESTORM Brady Theater 7 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for more information.</p> <p>ART EXPLORATIONS Gilcrease Museum 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Visit gilcrease.org for more information.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>MELANIE MARTINEZ: CRY BABY TOUR Cains Ballroom 7:30 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</p> <p>KNITWITS KNOTTING GROUP Librarium 10 - 11 a.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for info.</p> <p>Free small business checking Central Bank of Oklahoma Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™</p>	<p>14</p> <p>OUTCRY BOK Center 6:30 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</p> <p>MUSEUM BABIES Gilcrease Museum 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Visit gilcrease.org for more information.</p> <p>TULSA DRILLERS vs. Corpus Christi 7:05 p.m. • April 14-16 Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information</p> 	<p>15</p> <p>FIDDLER ON THE ROOF Theatre Tulsa 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>BARRY MANILOW BOK Center 7:30 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</p> <p>TULSA'S BEST STORYTELLER FINALS IDL Ballroom 7 p.m. Call 918-551-7447 for more information.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>FIDDLER ON THE ROOF Theatre Tulsa 2 & 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>AMY SCHUMER BOK Center 8 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</p> <p>GEORGE GERSHWIN'S "PORGY AND BESS" TCC Van Trease PACE 7:30 p.m. Visit tulsacc.edu for more information.</p>
<p>17</p> <p>TULSA DRILLERS vs. San Antonio 1:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information</p> <p>FIDDLER ON THE ROOF Theatre Tulsa 2 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>DRIVE BY TRUCKERS Cains Ballroom 7 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>MAD SCIENCE MONDAY Schusterman-Benson Library 4 - 4:45 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</p> <p>Ask us about ID Fraud Protection Central Bank of Oklahoma Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™</p> 	<p>19</p> <p>DRAWING ON MEMORIES Gilcrease Museum 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Visit www.alz.org/oklahoma for more information.</p> <p>WOMEN OF TOMORROW Greenwood Cultural Center 4:45 - 6 p.m. Visit greenwoodculturalcenter.com for more information.</p> <p>TULSA DRILLERS vs. San Antonio 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information</p> 	<p>20</p> <p>GREAT DECISIONS: THE UNITED NATIONS Broken Arrow South Library 12:30 - 2:30 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</p> <p>TU PAUL BUCK MEMORIAL LECTURE: RESEARCH ON NATIVE MEDICINAL PLANTS Lorton Performance Center 7 - 8:30 p.m. Visit utulsa.edu for more information.</p>	<p>21</p> <p>FIDDLER ON THE ROOF Theatre Tulsa 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>WHY TORTURE IS WRONG, AND THE PEOPLE WHO LOVE THEM Theatre Pops 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>RATTLESNAKE ROUNDUP Okeene, Oklahoma April 21-24 Visit okeenesnakehunt.com for more information.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>FIDDLER ON THE ROOF Theatre Tulsa 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>WHY TORTURE IS WRONG, AND THE PEOPLE WHO LOVE THEM Theatre Pops 8 p.m. • April 22-23 myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>LILY TOMLIN Broken Arrow PAC 7:30 p.m. Visit brokenarrowpac.com for more information.</p> 	<p>23</p> <p>FIDDLER ON THE ROOF Theatre Tulsa 2 & 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>STAR TREK: THE ULTIMATE VOYAGE 35 Concerts 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>POWERSHARES SERIES TENNIS BOK Center 7 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</p>
<p>24</p> <p>FIDDLER ON THE ROOF Theatre Tulsa 2 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>WHY TORTURE IS WRONG, AND THE PEOPLE WHO LOVE THEM Theatre Pops 2 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>JUDY COLLINS IN CONCERT Woody Guthrie Center 7 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>DIE LAUGHING IMPROVISATION Thomas K. McKeon Center for Creativity, TCC 8 - 9:30 p.m. Visit tulsacc.edu for more information.</p> <p>TULSA DRILLERS vs. Arkansas 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information</p> 	<p>26</p> <p>TULSA DRILLERS vs. Arkansas • April 26-28 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information</p> <p>MS PUBLISHER 101 Hardesty Regional Library 6 - 8 p.m. This class is for adults. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</p>	<p>27</p> <p>CARRIE UNDERWOOD BOK Center 7 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.</p> <p>FIDDLER ON THE ROOF Theatre Tulsa 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>BLACKBERRY SMOKE Cains Ballroom 8:30 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</p>	<p>28</p> <p>FIDDLER ON THE ROOF Theatre Tulsa 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>THE DEL MCCOURY BAND Cains Ballroom 8:30 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</p> <p>More Bank for your Buck. Central Bank of Oklahoma Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™</p>	<p>29</p> <p>FIDDLER ON THE ROOF Theatre Tulsa 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>BILLY ELLIOT: THE MUSICAL Theatre Tulsa 7:30 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>GERMANFEST German-American Society of Tulsa April 29 - May 1 Visit gastulsa.org for more information.</p> 	<p>30</p> <p>FIDDLER ON THE ROOF Theatre Tulsa 2 & 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p> <p>SPRING ARTS & CRAFTS AND BUSINESS EXPO St. Augustine Catholic Church 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Visit staugustine-tulsa.org for more information.</p> <p>BILLY ELLIOT: THE MUSICAL Theatre Tulsa 7:30 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.</p>

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LOCAL NEWS

Spring Brings Outdoor Events

By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor

April marks the return of the Owasso Gathering on Main for its fourth season. Its first event of the season will be April 7 in downtown Owasso at 6 p.m. with food, music, children's activities and vendors.

On May 7, the Owasso Bouquet of Gardeners garden club will hold its 11th annual Spring Festival, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., at Tyann Plaza, 9455 N. Owasso Expressway.

The festival will offer gardening items, including plants, vegetables, herbs, cacti, orchids, garden art, baskets and Amish pastries. There will also be jewelry and gift items available with Mother's Day, coming just a day after on May 8.

Patrons can also visit the festival's welcome booth, where they can buy raffle tickets and visit with a Master Gardener or garden club member with gardening questions. The raffle will feature several prizes,

including a grill from Lowe's and gift cards from local businesses and restaurants. Prizes will be given every half-hour with a large prize given at the end of the festival.

The festival is a free family-friendly event with entertainment from several local schools.

Festival proceeds go toward an annual \$1,000 scholarship given to an Owasso high school student and beautification projects for the city of Owasso. This year, the club's primary beautification project involves the sponsorship of an Up with Trees site.

For more information about the Owasso Bouquet of Gardeners or to become a festival vendor, visit owassogardenclub.com or email owassogardeners@gmail.com.

The garden club's mission is to promote gardening interest, civic beautification and protection of the environment. The club holds monthly programs featuring horticulture topics.



PROMOTING OWASSO: Gary Akin, Owasso Chamber of Commerce president, and Amy Fichner, Owasso Public Schools assistant superintendent, stand at the Owasso Chamber of Commerce booth during the Greater Tulsa Home and Garden Show, held at River Spirit Expo at Expo Square in Tulsa in March.

COSTCO TO OPEN IN APRIL



REGIONAL DRAW: On April 21, the first Costco location in Oklahoma is planned to open at 10220 S. Memorial Dr., basically on the dividing line between South Tulsa and Bixby. The 150,000-square-foot membership warehouse will include a gas station, deli and produce departments, an optometrist, electronics, and a separate liquor store.



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