



ROUTE 66 MUSEUM ANNOUNCED See Page 3



MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN HONORS SEVEN See Page 4

UNION BOUNDARY

GREATER TULSA REPORTER

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Oklahoma's Largest Monthly News Group

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IN THIS ISSUE:

VARIETY

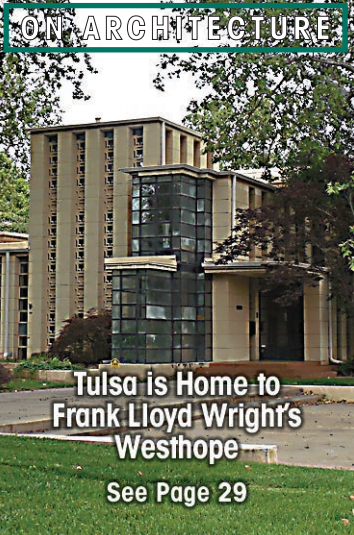


SummerStage Returns to PAC See Page 8

ECONOMY



New Jet Service Has Successful Landing See Page 22



Tulsa is Home to Frank Lloyd Wright's Westhope See Page 29

BEST



Vote for the Best of Greater Tulsa! See Page 2

AREA ECONOMY: DIVERSITY AND DONATIONS



OKPOP APPROVED: In a revote by the Oklahoma House of Representatives on May 22, the funding bill for the Oklahoma Popular Culture Museum was approved by a 51-40 vote. Through the bill, the museum would receive \$25 million in state-backed bonds to pay for the \$40 million building, which would be located in the Brady Arts District. The OKPOP Museum would prove to be another economic boon for Tulsa.

By GRANT ROWL
Contributing Writer

The economy in greater Tulsa continues to show signs of strength despite the downturn in crude oil prices. Oil price volatility is an historic mainstay in the Tulsa economy with deep drops in prices through the years, most notably in the Great Depression years of the 1930s, the mid-1980s and recently the past several months. The most recent downturn has resulted in significant layoffs in various local oil-related companies.

Despite the volatility in the oil sector, the economy has stayed somewhat strong in other economic sectors, including aerospace, health, finance, retail and housing.

Wes Smithwick, president and CEO of the Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce, says, "Our local economy continues to do well despite the dip in oil prices. We are helped because we have a number of manufacturers in the supply chain for aerospace, such as Flight Safety and L3. We have numerous machine shops that support that industry, which is counter cyclical to oil, and they employ a number of skilled workers at high wages."

He continues, "Housing starts for the first four months of the year are strong and ahead of 2014. Commercial development is also strong as we are seeing a number of restaurant and retail stores break ground on new B.A. locations."

Asked how the recent low oil prices have impacted the local economy, he says, "With the dip in oil prices, we have seen at least one closure announced as well as a number of layoffs. However, due to our diverse manufacturing base, most if not all skilled workers can find similar employment in the area."

Oklahomans' opinion regarding the economy increased more than any other state in the region that includes Arkansas and Missouri, according to the Spring 2015 Arvest Consumer Sentiment Survey released in May. The current consumer sentiment index for Oklahoma is 84.8, up from 72.6 in October's survey.

"Oklahoma consumer sentiment improved in March even as the state's primary industry - oil and natural gas production - adjusted to the reality of lower prices," says Russell Evans, director of the Steven C. Agee Economic Research & Policy Institute at Oklahoma City



Courtesy TTCU

PRIVATE SECTOR GIVING: TTCU The Credit Union has donated more than \$82,000 to local school districts through its most recent 50/50 program. From left are Union Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Kirt Hartzler and John Belty, TTCU Southeast Branch manager.

University. "The timing of the survey likely caught households enjoying lower energy costs while not yet experiencing the ramifications of less oil and gas activity on the broader state economy."

Arvest data has reflected Evans' assertion, showing less total dollars spent in the fuel category, while deposits in consumers' checking and savings accounts generally have risen.

"The large improvement in Oklahomans' opinion of their state's economy is the kind of information we can use to help our customers plan for both their short- and long-term financial needs," Arvest Bank Tulsa Executive Vice President Kim Adams says. "Knowing their feelings towards the local economy helps us to prepare the financial advice they will find the most beneficial for their personal economic plans."

The Arvest Consumer Sentiment Survey is conducted by the Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER) in the Sam M. Walton College of Business at the University of Arkansas. The University of Oklahoma's Public Opinion Learning Laboratory conducted the 1,200 random phone surveys. CBER, Missouri State

University and Oklahoma City University provided state data analysis.

Information about the survey can be found at: www.arvestconsumer-survey.com.

The private sector contributes significantly to the community through organizations such as the Tulsa Area United Way. Another example is TTCU The Credit Union, which has donated over \$82,000 to local school districts through its most recent 50/50 program. TTCU's 50/50 program ran from August-December 2014, with members qualifying through March 2015. Members who qualified for the promotion received \$50 when they opened a new TTCU checking account with a Visa Check Card. The members were then able to choose a school district that would also receive \$50. Over 120 school districts, including Union, were selected throughout the duration of the program. This is the fourth consecutive year that TTCU has run its 50/50 program, and since its inception, over \$240,000 has been donated to schools.

The funds donated will be used at the district's discretion.

KUDOS OF THE MONTH: Meals on Wheels

This year, Meals on Wheels of Metro Tulsa is celebrating 45 years of serving meals to home-bound individuals.

The nonprofit organization currently delivers to homes in Tulsa, Broken Arrow, Owasso, Jenks, Glenpool and Bixby. To be eligible for the service, individuals must be unable to leave their home or require assistance to do so and be unable to prepare their own meals.

In March, the organization held its 8th annual Irish-themed Quinn's Meals on Wheels fundraising event. The evening honored John Rucker and Tom Quinn, Sr., and featured authentic Irish food, music and dancing.

Meals on Wheels gained a new CEO in August 2014. Calvin A. Moore has 14 years of not-for-profit experience.

Most recently, Moore served as the director of the Tulsa Community College Foundation where he helped to plan and



execute a \$2.5 million capital campaign to build the Nate Waters Physical Therapy Clinic in downtown Tulsa. In 2013, he launched the Believe in TCC Campaign - a themed annual fund, which

supports classroom innovation and student scholarships at TCC. Prior to joining the Foundation, Moore served as associate director of development for ORU. Moore originally moved to Tulsa in 1999 to pursue his graduate degree at ORU. Moore, a retired U.S. Army officer, served with several units including the 1st Battalion, 279th Infantry Regiment here in Tulsa.



Courtesy photo

STAYING IN THE GREEN: Attendees of Meals on Wheels of Metro Tulsa's 8th annual Irish-themed Quinn's Meals on Wheels enjoy the festivities at the fundraising event.



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The 2015 Best of Greater Tulsa Reporter Readers Picks gives readers of GTR Newspapers a chance to vote for their favorite places to shop, dine, and receive services throughout Greater Tulsa. Please fill in the blank space in each category to vote for your favorite in Greater Tulsa. Readers can mail their picks to GTR Newspapers, P.O. Box 470645, Tulsa, OK 74147-0645, bring them to our office at 7116 S. Mingo Rd., Suite 103 or email to best@gtrnews.com. Readers may also vote online at gtrnews.com. Votes must be received by July 5, 2015. Results will be printed in the August 2015 issues. One vote per reader, per category. Voters must fill in at least 20 choices.

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Contents June 2015

CIVICS	
Mayor's Commission Honors Seven Women	4
Putting the Brakes on Distracted Driving	4
<i>By Mayor Dewey F. Bartlett Jr.</i>	
VARIETY	
Philbrook Features Picasso, Dali and Matisse	6
Gilcrease Presents Works of California Impressionism	6
SummerStage Highlights a Busy June at the PAC	8
<i>Show Buzz by Nancy Hermann</i>	
BAPAC Announces 2015-16 Star-Studded Season	9
FEATURES	
1924 Tulsa – The Quest for Clean Water Comes to an End	7
<i>Monumental Moments in Tulsa History by Charles Cantrell</i>	
Redrock Grill: Casual, Classy, Consistent	10
<i>Local Dining by Blake Austyn</i>	
Sights, Sounds, Adventures Await in Bartlesville	11
<i>Out & About by Emily Ramsey</i>	
Frank Lloyd Wright's Westhope at Home in Tulsa	29
<i>On Architecture by Roger Coffey</i>	
Tulsa County Recycling at an All-Time High	30
<i>Trash Talk by Beth Turner</i>	
EDUCATION	
OSU-Tulsa Faculty Honored for Teaching, Research	14
Part-Time Classes Cater to Variety of Interests	15
<i>News from Tulsa Tech by Dr. Steve Tiger</i>	
Local Education/News	16
SPORTS	
Local Sports	17
Shock Coach Hopes for Playoff Season	18
Iba Awards Banquet to Honor Athletes	21
Shock, YMCA Partner on Summer Programs	21
ECONOMY	
New Jet Service Has Successful Landing	22
NORDAM Lauded by AEP/PSO for Lighting Efficiency	23
TYPros Foundation Holds Grant Month Kick Off Event	23
Urban 8 Development Holds Launch Party	26
Business & People Notes	27
GTR CLASSIFIED ADS	24-25
COMMUNITY CALENDAR	31

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Route 66 Center Announced

*State-of-the-Art
Interactive Hospitality
Complex in the Works*

At a May 20 press conference in downtown Tulsa, representatives of the Route 66 Alliance announced the Route 66 Experience, an interactive interpretive center and hospitality complex.

Michael Wallis, historian and author of *Route 66: The Mother Road*, and Rick Freeland co-founded the nonprofit Route 66 Alliance in 2008.

The organization is dedicated to the preservation, promotion and enhancement of historic Route 66 and will fund and construct the interpretive center.

"Tulsa truly is the capital of Route 66," Wallis says, "so this is where an interpretive center that tells the history of this great restless ribbon should be located."

Also present at the announcement was Cyrus Stevens Avery II, grandson of U.S. 66 Highway Association founder Cyrus Stevens Avery. Avery serves on the board of the Route 66 Alliance.

"I feel very privileged to be part of the team that is making this center a reality," says Avery.

Ken Busby, former executive director of the Arts and Humanities Council of Tulsa, will serve as executive director and CEO of the Route 66 Alliance.

The concept for the interpretive center, which will be located at Southwest Boulevard and Riverside Drive, will create a new icon for Route 66, one that respects the history of the road while modernizing it and bringing freedom and discovery that has captivated travelers of the Mother Road for years. The colorful façade of the building will signal a true destination spot and promote the promise of something visitors have never seen or experienced before.

The Route 66 complex will center on the state-of-the-art, immersive, hands-on interpretive center that will celebrate the influence of America's most iconic roadway. The center will be the most comprehensive interactive and sensory experience about Route 66 in the world. The mixed-use development, which will also include space for restaurants and retail, notably local entrepreneurs, says Wallis, will stand near the Cyrus Avery Route 66 Memorial Bridge and the Cyrus Avery Centennial Plaza.

Also included in the design plans are an old-fashioned soda fountain (salvaged from Tulsa's Steve's Sundry) and a drive-in movie theater that will sit on the top level of the parking garage.

"This project has such great national and international potential in terms of tourism," Busby says. "Cultural tourism offers a tremendous return on investment. When people come through Tulsa, they're going to want to see more than just Route 66. We have so much arts, culture and history to showcase here in Tulsa. This is a big win for economic development for our community."

The project is currently in the fundraising phase, which is expected to last for one year.

Supporters of the Route 66 Interpretive Center include Mollie Williford and Ross Charitable Foundation.

Key design, development and construction team members include Route 66 Alliance, Selser Schaefer Architects, Downstream, KMO Development and Ross Group.



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

MOTHER ROAD PROPONENTS: Representatives of the nonprofit Route 66 Alliance announced on May 20 the design plans for the Route 66 Experience, an interactive interpretive center and hospitality complex, to sit at Riverside Drive and Southwest Boulevard. From left are Ken Busby, Route 66 Alliance executive director and CEO, Cyrus Stevens Avery II, board member, and Michael Wallis, co-founder of the nonprofit organization.



ROSSY GILLE for GTR Newspapers

NATIONAL PRIDE: In May, Tulsa City Councilor Jeannie Cue and members of the Route 66 Main Street Association announced events during Memorial Day weekend that would highlight Tulsa as America's most patriotic city.

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18 to 21
Heller Theatre | 26 – Pat Hobbs: Firsts!
Spinning Plates
Productions |
| 5 – Chuggington Live! The
Great Rescue Adventure
Celebrity Attractions | 18-21 – Heller Shorts:
A Little Big Longer Now
Heller Theatre | 26-27 – Fractured Eye
Bell House Arts, Inc. |
| 12-13 – Pagliacci Project
Portico Dans Theatre | 18-21 – The Way Bent
Revue
Spinning Plates Productions | 26-27 – C-C-C-Combo
Breaker!
JohnTom Enterprises |
| 12 – Gimme Abbey
Celebrity Attractions | 19-20 – The Rack Pack:
Vintage Vegas
Janet Rutland & Cindy Cain | 27 – Thomas Williams:
Holding Out For a Hero
Spinning Plates Productions |
| 14 – Alonzo King Lines Ballet
Choregus Productions | 25-28 – Into the Woods
Sand Springs
Community Theatre | 28 – Appassionata Duo
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| 14 – Top Hat Family
Magic Show
Steve Lancaster | 25 – Vintage Wildflowers
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The Greater Tulsa Reporter Newspapers consist of the *Union Boundary*, the *Jenks District Gazette*, the *Midtown Monitor*, the *Owasso Rambler*, the *Bixby Breeze*, and the *Broken Arrow Express*. The papers target news coverage to school district areas. The papers also have common pages of information of interest to all readers in the greater Tulsa area.

The *Union Boundary*, the *Jenks District Gazette*, the *Owasso Rambler*, the *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.

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



CIVICS

Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women Honors Seven Women with Pinnacle Awards

The Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women has chosen seven women for Pinnacle Awards in 2015. Mayor Dewey F. Bartlett Jr. presented the awards at a reception on May 20.

"It's important that we honor our community leaders who have distinguished themselves through achievement in their areas of expertise," Mayor Bartlett says. "Through the Pinnacle Awards, we can show our young women in Tulsa some excellent examples of what they can aspire to in the future."

Carmela Hill, co-chairman of the Pinnacle Awards and a previous Pinnacle winner, says, "I consider it a very high honor to help bestow this award on other deserving women in our community."

The Pinnacle Awards recognize outstanding Tulsa-area women

who are role models and demonstrate a commitment to issues that affect women and children. The 2015 Pinnacle Award recipients and their respective areas of achievement are listed below:

- Arts and Humanities: Jean Neal - Administrative Coordinator, John Hope Franklin Reconciliation Center
- Community Service: Joyce Bright - Retired Director, Salvation Army North Mabee Center
- Corporate: Meredith Siegfried - CEO, Nordam
- Education: Allyson Watson, PhD - Assistant Dean, Northeast State University College of Education
- Health: Jan Slater - Executive

Director, Oklahoma Center for Healthcare Improvement

- Rising Star: Kaylee Morrison, student
- Reducing Female Incarceration: Sheri Curry - volunteer instructor, David L. Moss Criminal Justice Center

The Pinnacle Award for "Reducing Female Incarceration" is a new award and was added to emphasize the work of the Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women in this area. For the past two years, the Commission has chosen female incarceration as its area of focus.

The Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women was established in 1985 to provide women with a voice in government on issues that affect women, children and families in Tulsa.



COMMUNITY LEADERS: Recipients of this year's Pinnacle Awards are, from left, Jean Neal, Sheri Curry, Kaylee Morrison, Milann Siegfried (accepting on behalf of Meredith Siegfried), Dr. Allyson Watson, Jan Slater and Joyce Bright.

Saving Lives: Putting the Brakes on Distracted Driving

COMMENTARY

By DEWEY F. BARTLETT, JR
Mayor of Tulsa

Everywhere you go, people are talking on their cell phones while driving and oftentimes are not giving their full attention to the task at hand, which can lead to disastrous results.

Motor vehicle crashes are among the top 2 causes of injury death throughout a person's lifetime and the No. 1 cause of work-related deaths. This is one of the reasons why the City of Tulsa has taken a

preventative measure designed to stem the rise of distracted driving due to mobile devices while increasing the safety of city employees and Tulsa citizens.

Last month, City of Tulsa representatives and state and national safety council officials met with department heads to speak about the importance of the city's leadership in addressing distracted driving. They also rolled out a new City of Tulsa Distracted Driving policy, which bans employees from using any mobile device, including hands-free cell phones, to reply to work emails, texts or calls while driving a work

car or personal car in connection with City of Tulsa business.

Our Distract Driving Policy 966 became effective, May 1, 2015. It is an essential part of our effort to create a transformational safety culture for city employees and is necessary because...

- Statistics show that distracted driving is on the rise for everyone, including City of Tulsa employees. City vehicle collisions resulting from inattentive driving have doubled in seven years. Nationally, 21 percent of fatal, injury and property damage-only crashes in 2012 were likely attributed to talking on a cell phone.

- Of 5.6 million collisions reports in 2012, 1.2 million likely involved cell phones.
- Those who use hands-free phones are still at a high risk - they are four times more likely to be in a collision when using Bluetooth technology while driving their cars.

Under the direction of my administration, the City of Tulsa has implemented a successful safety culture transformation, and our organization is having successes - OSHA recordable injuries were reduced by 45 percent from 2012 through 2014,

and they continue to trend downward.

The City of Tulsa is leading the way in safety and is now one of the few municipalities in the nation to have a comprehensive distracted driving policy. Please watch "The City of Tulsa Puts the Brakes On Distracted Driving" video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=H8GM-E2QKZw

I also encourage you and your family to follow the City of Tulsa's lead and take steps to make your own vehicle a distracted-free zone, not only to save your own life but the lives of others.



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

EMT TRAINED OFFICERS: Tulsa Police Officer Charles Ramsey talks about his training as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). In April, a partnership was announced that provides Tulsa police officers the opportunity to complete EMT training, which includes clinical rotations with EMSA and the Tulsa Fire Department. The EMT training program is offered through Tulsa Community College and is a one semester, eight credit hour program.



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

HONORABLE JUDGES: Judge Daman Cantrell, 2015 Law Day chair, left, and Judge Jerome Holmes, keynote speaker, pose during the Tulsa County Bar Foundation's 2015 Law Day Luncheon, held May 1 at Tulsa Country Club.

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EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

GETTING IN THE LOOP: Libby Billings, vice chairwoman of the Downtown Coordinating Committee and owner of Elote and The Vault restaurants, speaks on May 12 in downtown Tulsa regarding the DCC's new rebranding campaign for downtown Tulsa: The IDL Life: Get in the Loop. The campaign will endeavor to showcase the area within the IDL (Inner Dispersal Loop) as the ideal place to live work and play.



GTR Newspapers photo

U.S. CITIZENS: Twenty-seven individuals were recently sworn in as Tulsa's newest U.S. citizens at Thomas Hall in First United Methodist Church, which was turned into a U.S. District Courtroom at the Rotary Club of Tulsa's regular luncheon meeting. Rotarian Matthew Bristow, right, from the United Kingdom, was among those sworn in. U.S. Chief District Judge Greg Frizzell, second from right, presided over the naturalization ceremony. Also pictured are Rotary President Rhonda Daniel and Magistrate Lane Wilson.



Courtesy Tulsa Global Alliance

INTERNATIONAL VISITORS: The Tulsa Global Alliance recently welcomed visitors from Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica and Mexico as part of the U.S. State Department International Visitor Leadership Program. Visitors met with representatives of law firm Hall Estill, PetroSkills, the Cherokee Nation and Tulsa World and former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Energy Dobie Langenkamp and Oklahoma Secretary of Energy & Environment Michael Teague.



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

COUNCIL ANNIVERSARY: The city of Tulsa's current and former city councilors and mayors gathered on May 7 to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Tulsa City Council. On Feb. 14, 1989, Tulsa voters approved a new council-mayor form of government to replace the outdated city commission. The first City Council took the oath of office on May 8, 1990.

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June 6 - Opening Day: Family fun and live music by Corky Davis Country Swing Band at Prairie Song Historic Village. **Opening Night:** Joseph Rivers' symphony "Buffalo Run" and Tai Chi Dancers.

June 7 - A Musical Tour of Italy with Amici New York Orchestra, violin virtuoso Chad Hoopes, and OK Mozart's All-State Orchestra.

June 9 - Spencer Prentiss/Becky Wallace Chamber Concert with Aeolus Quartet, pianist Jon Kimura Parker and Amici New York Orchestra wind principals.

June 10 - Mozart's "Don Giovanni" with Amici New York Orchestra, Bartlesville Choral Society and an all-Oklahoma cast of soloists.

June 11 - World renowned Canadian Brass with Baroque, Dixieland, classical and brass standards served up with genre-bending versatility.

June 12 - Woolaroc Outdoor Concert featuring music under the stars by Amici New York Orchestra with the music of Italy, patriotic favorites and the thrill of fireworks.

June 13 - The Grand Finale with Amici New York Orchestra, pianist Jon Kimura Parker, Bartlesville Choral Society and Tulsa Oratorio Chorus presenting Rossini's "L'italiana in Algeri", Rachmaninoff's "Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini" and Mozart's "Requiem".

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Philbrook Features Picasso, Dali and Matisse

Philbrook Museum of Art's newest exhibition, which opened May 31, brings together work from some of the most prominent European artists of the late nineteenth through mid-twentieth centuries including Pablo Picasso (1881-1973), Salvador Dalí (1904-1989), Henri Matisse (1869-1954), and Auguste Rodin (1840-1917) among others.

"The Figure Examined: Masterworks from the Kasser Mochary Art Foundation" includes over 100 artists' depictions of the human form spanning 150 years of art history. The exhibition will remain on view at Philbrook through Sept. 13 under the leadership of Philbrook's coordinating curator Sarah Lees.

The exhibition focuses on the human figure, one of the most universal subjects in art. Some of the earliest people carved simple human shapes out of stone, which inaugurated a tradition in many cultures that placed representations of men and women at the center of artistic production for hundreds of years. In the early twentieth century, when avant-garde practices such as Cubism and Surrealism challenged or



FIGURE EXAMINED: Philbrook Museum of Art's newest exhibition, "The Figure Examined," runs May 31-Sept. 13 and features works by Pablo Picasso, pictured at right; Salvador Dalí, pictured center; Henri Matisse; and Auguste Rodin, at left. The exhibition includes over 100 artists' depictions of the human form spanning 150 years of art history.

overturned longstanding Western traditions of content and composition, the human body nonetheless persisted in art, if in a fragmented or distorted form. "The Figure Examined" traces social ideals, artistic movements and experimentation with media through the dynamic mid-twentieth century.

Artists have chosen the human

body as a subject because of the wide range of ideas it can communicate in an immediately recognizable way. These concepts include the expression of individual personality or a generalized type or symbol; the presentation of a figure in a narrative; a performer of work or leisure; or an embodiment of intimacy or solitude. The artists can also include

explorations of the way a body moves, takes up space or simply exists unadorned. With works organized not by artist name or chronology but by the ways in which artists have depicted human form, the exhibition explores each of these themes through six sections: Motion, Balance, Stillness; Advancing the Story; At Work, At Leisure;

Intimacy and Solitude; Unveiled; and Portraits and Types.

"By presenting such a universal subject," says Lees, "the exhibition allows viewers to make connections between works of art that are often separated by historical or geographical boundaries. Parallels as well as striking differences in form and meaning emerge clearly from these unexpected juxtapositions."

Gilcrease Presents Works of California Impressionism

Running May 3-Sept. 6 is Gilcrease Museum's exhibition "California Impressionism: Selections from The Irvine Museum."

Some of the most popular works of art in The Irvine Museum's collection will be displayed in this exhibition. Arcadian Hills by William Wendt (1865-1946) gets its title from the ancient Greek district of Arcadia, the idyllic paradise of legend and epic poetry. Titles echoing poetry and biblical passages are frequently seen on Wendt's paintings as a way of praising the beauty and nobility of the California landscape, which he characterized as "Nature's Temple."

Generally taken to be the most important of California's Impressionist painters, Guy Rose (1867-1925) is represented by Laguna Eucalyptus, painted in Laguna Beach about 1916. One of the very few artists of this period to have been born and raised in California, Rose studied art in San Francisco and Paris and adopted a French Impressionist approach to painting. For eight years, between 1904 and 1912, Rose and his wife, Ethel, lived in the small village of Giverny and were friends and neighbors of Claude Monet.

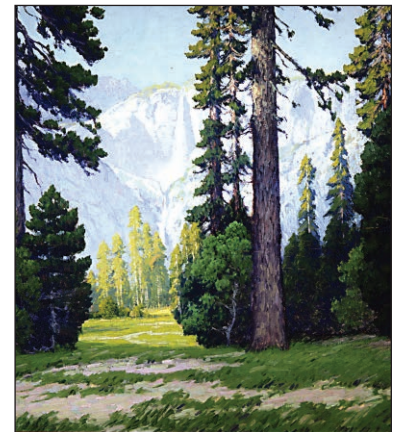
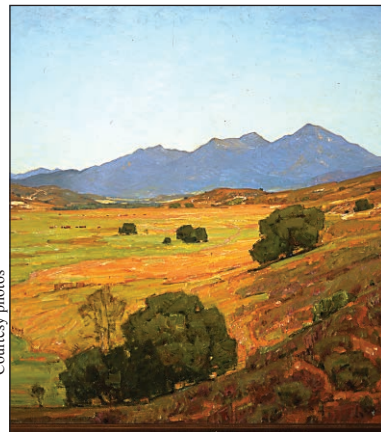
Southern California Coast by George Gardner Symons (1861-1930) shows the coast at Laguna Beach near today's community of Rockledge.

One of the most popular paintings in the exhibition is La Jolla Shores, painted in the early 1920s by Alfred R. Mitchell (1888-1972). The scene shows the community of La Jolla, just north of San Diego, as it looked long before the rampant development that characterize the area today. Mitchell was one of San Diego's most important painters and most popular art teachers.

In addition to numerous examples of California Impressionism, the exhibition also displays more progressive works, paintings that go somewhat beyond Impressionism and venture into Modernism.

California Impressionism began in the early part of the 20th century. The style combines several distinctive aspects of American and European art and concerns itself with light and color. As a variant of the American Impressionist style, it is focused directly on the abundant California light.

In California, landscape painting was by far the most popular subject among its myriad painters. Where the French Impressionists yearned



SCENIC LANDSCAPES: Gilcrease Museum's "California Impressionism: Selections from The Irvine Museum" exhibition runs May 3-Sept. 6. Works include Arcadian Hills by William Wendt, Laguna Eucalyptus by Guy Rose and Southern California Coast by George Gardner Symons.

to capture the immediate moment, or the temporal fragment of societal activity, California's Impressionists sought to catch the fleeting moment of specific natural light as it bathed the landscape. The clear and intense light of California, which appears so often in these paintings, defined the landscape.

Landscape painting is a time-honored tradition that is inseparable from the spirit of American art. Indeed, from colonial times, American art has been governed by

special circumstances unique to our country. Unlike Europe, American art was nurtured in the absence of empowered patronage, such as the monarchy or the church, both of which were powerful determinants in the progress of European art. Likewise, American artists retained a penchant for portraying genre, that is to say, the everyday character of American life. These "democratic" tendencies encouraged the espousal of landscape painting as the ideal vehicle for expressing the American

spirit, as it created a metaphor of the American landscape as the fountainhead from which sprang the bounty and opportunity of rustic American life. Moreover, landscape painting afforded an avenue to express God and nature as one, an understanding of spirituality that disavowed official religious patronage. When America emerged in the 19th century, it was with an art tradition that reflected what was paramount to American society - its people and its land.

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MONUMENTAL MOMENTS IN TULSA HISTORY

Spavinaw Waterline Part V:

1924 Tulsa – The Quest for Clean Water Comes to an End

By CHARLES CANTRELL
Associate Editor

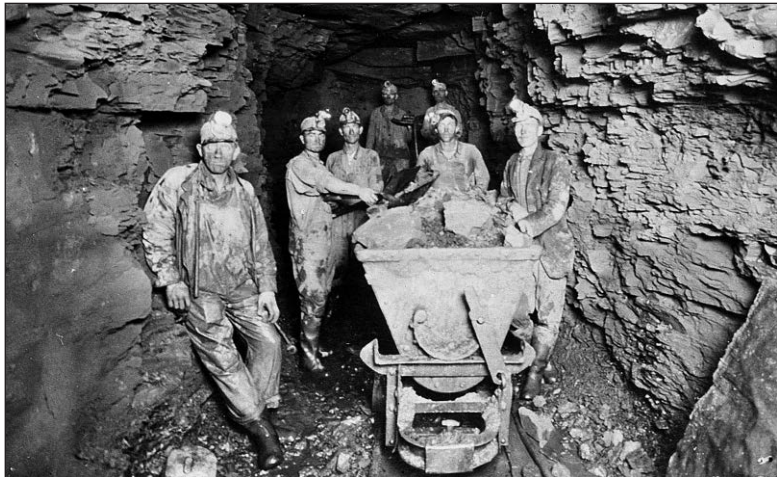
Editor's Note: This is the fifth article in a multi-part series focusing on monumental moments and events in the history of Tulsa and the many unique individuals making up the city's illustrious legacy. The editors of GTR Newspapers wish to thank Tulsa Historical Society & Museum for research assistance, help in factual verification and the use of many of the marvelous photos accompanying these articles.

With 1922 on the wane and a bright new year approaching, all the pieces were falling into place for Tulsa to finally have quality drinking water. The war between the two daily newspapers focusing on how the city should solve its water problem was over. The Tulsa World, owned by Eugene Lorton obsessively favoring the Spavinaw solution, was the declared victor over the Tulsa Democrat, owned by Sand Springs founder, Charles Page, who persisted in favoring the Shell Creek solution. City voters had made their preference for Spavinaw water known by passing one of the largest per capita bond issues for a water supply project in the nation. A consensus among decision makers had settled in and both papers turned back to battling over local and state politics, a war that was to last seven more decades.

Mayor T. D. Evans and Tulsa's Water Board had finally placed unequivocal trust in the civil engineer they had hired under contract to advise them on water matters, W. R. Holway.

All the hucksters, con artists and rogues bent on bribing or finagling their way into the cash flow of city coffers had come and gone on to other cities and towns where civic projects were in the planning stage. Tulsa had proven too smart for the lot. The Spavinaw waterline could never have been the marvelous success it was becoming if city leaders hadn't repeatedly opted for the common good over greed and self-interest. Or had they not seen in Holway a man of intelligence, integrity and impeccable morality.

After officially awarding the majority of the eleven contracts on Oct. 3, 1922, to two companies, Walbridge-Aleinger Company and Standard Paving Company of Tulsa, the first order of business



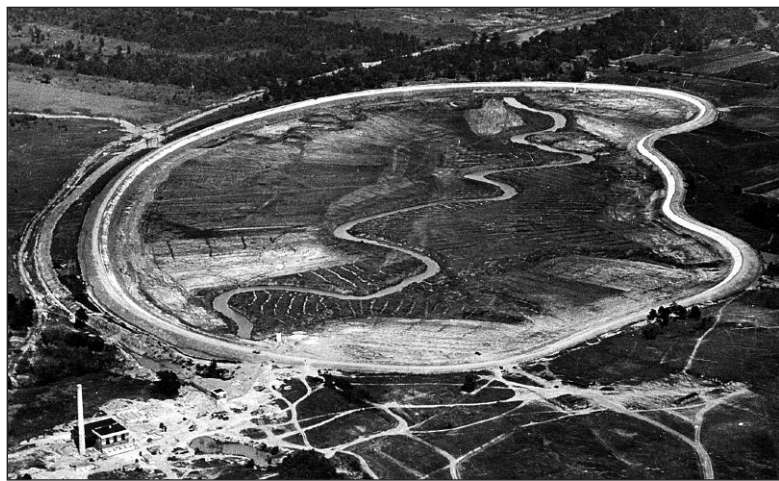
THE TIAWAH TUNNEL: Perhaps the most challenging segment of the 55-mile conduit line was the 84-inch, two-mile-long tunnel bored through the Tiawah hills. This had to be done because the gravity-driven flow of water through the conduit would not have enough "head" to make it over the height of the hills. Thus a large capacity reinforced concrete tunnel through sandstone, shale, coal and clay was constructed.



AND THE RAINS CAME: Spring rains stopped work on the Spavinaw waterline at least twice, setting back progress and raising costs.



THE VERDIGRIS TUNNEL: The Verdigris tunnel required a subterranean excavation seven hundred feet long primarily through solid limestone creating a cave seven feet in diameter, large enough for the 54-inch conduit pipe to be laid and encased in grout.



BRING IT ON: The site for the Mohawk reservoir shown here under construction in mid 1923 was chosen because of its above sea level elevation being a mere 75 feet below the top of the soon to be completed Spavinaw dam spillway. Holway persistently proclaimed there was enough drop to provide adequate head for the proposed gravity flow waterline. He did so in the face of stiff opposition from many doubters.

was to begin clearing land for the site of the Spavinaw Dam.

To do this, the town of Spavinaw, including gravesites, were moved downstream to an 80-acre tract of land procured by the City of Tulsa. The city paid for the town to be moved. Sand and cement came from Muskogee by way of K. O. & G. Railroad lines supplying two on-site concrete plants. The tons of aggregate needed for the concrete came from the Spavinaw Creek gravel deposits. When completed, the dam would be solid masonry, rising five stories from the creek bed, stretching a little over 3,500 feet across with an 800-foot spillway and holding back 20-billion gallons of clear spring water.

In the meantime, work began on the 55-mile trench or "cut" in

civil engineering parlance. The route chosen by Holway for the waterline required a two-mile tunnel excavation through the Tiawah Hills and tunneling under the Verdigris river. According to Holway's project journal, the route also meant crossing ten "good size streams." The excavation of the cut would require the removal and backfill of millions of tons of clay, shale, loose rock and limestone.

The Tiawah tunnel meant boring through sandstone, shale, coal and clay to create an 84-inch diameter, reinforced concrete tunnel larger than the conduit line by a factor of three. This was done to accommodate the anticipated need for additional flow capacity in the future. Such foresightedness again showed Holway to be

both a competent civil engineer, and a man with a vision of Tulsa's potential growth.

To save time, the excavation of the Tiawah tunnel began at four locations: Two tunnels began at the east and west edges of the range working toward the middle. In addition, two excavations began in opposite directions out from the midway point of the tunnel route starting at the appropriate depth provided by a vertical tunnel dug down from the top of the Tiawah hills. They all met exactly as planned.

The Verdigris tunnel required tunneling down starting from both banks until reaching a depth of 40 feet below the approximately 250-foot-wide riverbed, then turning horizontal until meeting in the middle. Much of the tunnel

excavation was through solid limestone. It was made large enough to accommodate the 54-inch pipe with enough clearance to encase the conduit in mortar. A narrow-gauge track was laid throughout the tunnel to bring in pipe, materials, men, and tools and remove tons of muck from the 700-foot long dig.

The excavation of both tunnels required many weeks of careful, nasty, hard labor by skilled, fearless men in the dark, damp and dangerous cave environment they were creating.

Soon after the contracts were awarded, the Lock Joint Pipe Company began assembling materials twenty miles east of Tulsa on a 40-acre tract of land just outside the tiny town of Verdigris. The

(Continued on page 26)

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VARIETY

SummerStage Highlights a Busy June at the PAC

Summer is here! It's time to play. Take a look at the entertainment lineup at the Tulsa PAC.

SummerStage returns for four weekends in June. Great variety at affordable prices makes this festival an attractive option for everyone. If you love a good musical, check out Tulsa Project Theatre's "West Side Story," June 5-14, Theatre Tulsa's "Next to Normal," June 19-21, and Sand Springs Community Theatre's "Into the Woods," June 25-28.

Show Buzz



By NANCY HERMANN

You are probably familiar with "West Side Story" and "Into the Woods," two of my favorites, but perhaps not the excellent "Next to Normal." It's about a family confronting mental illness. How can one sing about bipolar disorder? I wondered the same thing, but it won a trio of Tonys and the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 2010. I'm sorry I missed this on Broadway because it was praised by audiences and critics for having so much heart. A Tulsa premiere, the rock musical was created by Brian Yorkey and Tom Kitt. Vern Stefanic directs an outstanding cast.

Inventive performances are always a part of SummerStage. On June 12-13, Tulsa Portico Dans Theatre presents "Pagliacci Project," incorporating the drama of opera and making use of aerial silks and trapeze. Also in the dance realm is "Fractured Eye" (June 26-27), presented by the Oklahoma City-based Perpetual Motion Dance and Tulsa's Bell House dance and art cooperative. Film technology and aerial apparatuses come into play in this original, modern work.

I hope you are a fan of the cabaret format that the PAC Trust has developed into its own art form for SummerStage. Held in our snug Norman and Doenges Theaters, and also the LaFortune Studio, cabaret shows can have you thinking that you're in a cool nightclub somewhere, relaxing with a glass of wine at your own table with entertainment within reach.

You can enjoy seven cabaret performances this year at SummerStage. "The Way Bent Revue" (June 18-21) is Rebecca Ungerman's musical variety show

featuring actors and singers you know and love, like Lisa Cole, Machele Miller, John Littlefield, John Dill, Tabitha Orsulak, Seth Paden, Dionne White and Ungerman.

Speaking of local celebs and people we love, Janet Rutland and Cindy Cain turn on the charm and Vegas glam in "The Rack Pack: Vintage Vegas," June 19-20. Hear the music of Frank, Dean and Sammy, along with other singers who left their mark on Vegas, like Bobby Darin.

Also in cabaret is "Pat Hobbs - Firsts!" This is Pat's first cabaret, but he's been singing and acting around town, and a great supporter of performing arts, for decades. It's been a good life, and he shares it with us on June 26. Also in LaFortune Studio is "Thomas Williams: Holding Out for a Hero," June 27. Thomas reveals, through song, what it means to be a hero. Rebecca Ungerman directs.

Check out the full roster of SummerStage events on the SummerStage website or at TulsaPAC.com

Three different events are coming to Chapman Music Hall in June. The first is a children's musical, "Chuggington Live! The Great Rescue Adventure," June 5. This is engaging, fast-paced fun with trains and the "Chuggington" TV series characters on stage before a giant LED video wall. Celebrity Attractions, our Broadway presenter, presents the show, and also "Gimme Abbey" on June 12. Two celebrated tribute bands, The Return and Satisfaction, come together to revisit 1969 and all the groovy Beatles and Stones tunes.

One more Chapman Music Hall event to add to your must-see list is Choregus Productions' presentation of the Alonzo King LINES Ballet, June 14. Alonzo King is an incredibly versatile choreographer who has danced with and choreographed for many of the world's most celebrated companies. "Biophony," his latest work, will be performed at the PAC along with a piece danced to Bach's Concerto in D Minor and "Men's Quintet." For 40 years, bio acousti-



ALONZO KING LINES BALLET: Performing June 14, this troupe is known for its sleek, handsome dancers and incredible style.



THE RACK PACK: VINTAGE VEGAS: Janet Rutland and Cindy Cain sing the music of Frank, Dean, Sammy and more, June 19-20.

cian Bernie Krause journeyed to places like Borneo's rainforest and Rwanda to record the sounds of animals and their habitats. 15,000 species were recorded. Augmented with the music from composer Richard Blackford, "Biophony" incorporates the sounds of killer whales, tree frogs and more. King says the work "takes place not at the threshold of the civilized and primal but at the rejoining of two worlds never meant to be apart."

June is a lively time at Tulsa's home to the arts. We'll try to save you a seat. Nancy Hermann is Director of Marketing for the Tulsa Performing Arts Center.



GIMME ABBEY: The music of The Beatles and The Rolling Stones is performed by two tribute bands in "Gimme Abbey," June 12, presented by Celebrity Attractions.



CHUGGINGTON LIVE! THE GREAT RESCUE ADVENTURE: Impressive trains with working features and movements bring the Chuggington TV series characters to life on stage, June 5.



PAGLIACCI PROJECT: The drama of opera and the physicality of aerial dance come together in Pagliacci Project, presented by Portico Dans Theatre, June 12-13.



FRACTURED EYE: Perpetual Motion Dance and the Bell House dance and art cooperative collaborate in a shared dance concert for SummerStage, June 26-27.

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BAPAC Announces 2015-16 Star-Studded Season

It's lucky number seven for the Broken Arrow Performing Arts Center and Kristin Chenoweth Theatre, as the seventh season of the Spotlight Series is celebrated for 2015-2016 with "Legends Alive," highlighted by the triumphant stage performance of Liza Minnelli.

This season brings a wealth of unforgettable Broadway shows, immortal entertainers and multi-award winners from all walks of life as well as three bonus shows.

The season begins with the legendary musical "Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" Sept. 27; Tony-winning musical "Ragtime" swings into town Dec. 8; The Ten Tenors return with a Christmas show Dec. 15; 2016 kicks off with Broadway legend Patti LuPone and her show "Coulda, Shoulda, Woulda...played that part" Jan. 29; "Million Dollar Quartet" hits the stage with four musical legends Feb. 5; another Broadway legend, Bernadette Peters, takes the stage March 5; and the season closes out with none other than comedian and actress Lily Tomlin on April 22.

In addition, three bonus shows pepper the landscape this year, starting with hometown girl Kristin Chenoweth returning to inspire young performers for her second master class Aug. 7. Contemporary Christian artist Steven Curtis Chapman brings his 30-plus year career to the BAPAC Oct. 24. And finally on Nov. 12, Emmy, Tony, Grammy and Oscar-winning legend Liza Minnelli comes to town for what



LIZA MINNELLI: The Broken Arrow Performing Arts Center recently announced its 2015-16 season. The performance line-up includes Emmy, Tony, Grammy and Oscar-winning legend Liza Minnelli on Nov. 12. Other shows include a second master class by Kristin Chenoweth, "Ragtime," Patti LuPone's "Coulda, Shoulda, Woulda...played that part," and comedian and actress Lily Tomlin.



ARTS DONATION: During the announcement of the 2015-16 season, AVB Bank donated \$75,000 to the Broken Arrow Performing Arts Center (BAPAC) Foundation. AVB Bank President and CEO Ted Cundiff, left, presented the check to BAPAC Executive Director and BAPAC Foundation President Mark Frie. In summer 2009, AVB Bank became the BAPAC's first multi-year season sponsor.

is sure to be an unforgettable evening.

"We have really packed this season with nothing but legendary artists and shows," says Mark Frie, BAPAC Foundation president and CEO. "To see all these names side by side, it makes me proud to know the BAPAC is becoming an entertainment destination."

Since 2009, the Broken Arrow PAC has been the cornerstone of the Rose District in downtown Broken Arrow and continually encourages the community to

embrace a variety of performing arts. It also serves as the official location for the Broken Arrow Public Schools fine arts programs.

"Not only are we bringing the world to Broken Arrow with talented touring companies and award-winning artists for patrons, but we are also providing educational outreach programs for Broken Arrow students and beyond. With cast talkbacks after Broadway shows and master classes with stars like Kristin Chenoweth, students are able to

connect with the real world of performing," Frie says. "This summer we are holding our inaugural Kristin Chenoweth Broadway Boot Camp, where 50 students will learn the in's and out's of the performance world from higher education professionals and stage veterans. It's just the beginning of what we will do to help today's students realize their future aspirations as tomorrow's fine arts performers."

Season tickets for this year's Spotlight Series go on sale May 18 to previous season sub-

scribers, who also get the first opportunity to purchase tickets to all three bonus shows. The AVB Box Office is located at 701 South Main in downtown Broken Arrow or by phone at 918-259-5778, Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. New season ticket buyers can begin buying June 8, with single show tickets going on sale July 1. Patrons can also visit brokenarrowpac.com or the BAPAC Facebook page at facebook.com/brokenarrowpac for show updates and more.

Woodcarving Event

AWARD-WINNING WORK: Pictured is a woodcarving created by artist Bob Block that received past awards at annual Eastern Oklahoma Woodcarvers Association's Woodcarvers World Show and Sale. The 38th annual event will be held June 12-13 at the Union Multipurpose Activity Center, 6836 S. Mingo Rd. Featured artists for this year's two-day event are award-winning woodcarvers Stan and Jo McKenzie of Rogers, Arkansas, each with more than 40 years of experience.



Courtesy photo woodcarving classes and other teaching sessions.

Tickets cost \$5 for adults. Children 12 and under are free.

The show regularly draws participants, including champion carvers to compete for top honors in more than 50 categories. More than 50 exhibitors are expected to be on hand to display their latest woodcarving creations, some of them museum quality art rendered in a variety of exotic woods. In addition, the show traditionally draws wood and tool suppliers from out of state. Also at the event will be beginning

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Redrock Grill: Casual, Classy, Consistent

LOCAL DINING

By **BLAKE AUSTYN**
Contributing Writer

Redrock Canyon Grill opened in Tulsa at 9916 Riverside Pkwy in 2007. I have to admit that my affinity for local, non-corporate entities kept me for a long time from venturing into the restaurant, which offers Southwestern and American cuisine in a relaxed yet upscale atmosphere.

Redrock Canyon Grill, owned by Hal Smith Restaurant Group, also owns Charleston's Restaurant, Upper Crust woodfired pizza, Mahogany Prime Steakhouse, and Louie's Grill and Bar, among other restaurants.

Also, as a midtown dweller, the very South Tulsa location did little to draw me.

However, all the feedback I had ever received from ones who had visited there was positive. And not just positive but borderline raving about how good the experience is. So, I visited a few weeks ago for dinner. My meal, the atmosphere and the quality of the service was impressive, so I was beyond thrilled when I was asked to follow up my dinner with a second one for this column.

And I was curious to see if the restaurant would prove itself to be consistent – a feat not easily achieved.

For my second visit, I took my parents who had visited the restaurant a handful of times before and continue to be impressed.

Seeing as how they feel about the restaurant, we knew others surely agreed, so we knew that if we waited too late to arrive at the restaurant on a weekend night, we would have a long wait. Yet, even arriving at 5:30 p.m., we were told that we had a 45-minute wait.

I then realized that the restaurant's bar, which can accommodate about 20 people, was still nearly empty. I quickly snagged seats for my small group. By 6:00, the bar was as packed as the rest of the dining room.

The restaurant is filled with large and larger booths and tables, including tables on the restaurant's enclosed patio which faces west. We were there in the midst of all of Tulsa's recent rainstorms, so the Arkansas River was

full. Yet, the rain, having, for a few hours, stopped, left a beautiful mist hanging over the Oklahoma Aquarium and the city of Jenks.

Our seats at the bar provided a perfect spot to enjoy the view and also take in the high energy atmosphere created by the filled dining room and the restaurant's servers.

The restaurant also engages in sunset celebrations each evening. Our server warned us of the festivities that would take place later; yet, we did not stay late enough to experience it.

To start our meal, we ordered the Trout Dip, which was the evening's featured appetizer. The dip consisted of trout, cream cheese, sour cream and dill.

For my entree, I chose the Persimmon Hill Meatloaf, with my parents both opting for the Cluck 'n Oink-a combination plate of rotisserie chicken (the restaurant's specialty) and St. Louis ribs.

The meatloaf was made of beef tenderloin, pork sausage and mixed cheeses. It was flavorful and a diversion from the traditional meatloaf but just enough of a diversion to make the dish interesting and slightly unexpected. The meatloaf came with redskin mashed potatoes, which had a nice texture, and I opted for sautéed spinach in place of the sweet glazed carrots that normally come with the dish.

My parents were equally pleased with their dinner choices. The rotisserie chicken was moist and well-seasoned, with the ribs falling off the bone and having very little fat. Their dishes also came with mashed potatoes and carrots.

While meal prices lean toward the higher end (the most inexpensive entrée costs \$14), dishes are large. On both of my dining occasions, I have not left the restaurant without a to-go box.

However, on this evening, my leftovers were extra large because I was saving room for dessert.

Something Chocolate is one of only a couple desserts the restaurant offers.

It's a not-too-sweet take on an ice cream sandwich, with two brownies taking the place of the cookies, ice cream in the middle, and whipped cream and hot fudge for the topping.

It sounds simple and rich, but it's neither of the two. Though, it is large so it's wise to make sure you have saved room for it or plan to share.



SOUTH TULSA EXPERIENCE: Redrock Canyon Grill opened in South Tulsa at 9916 Riverside Pkwy in 2007. The upscale restaurant serves Southwestern and American dishes and has continued to maintain a steady business due to its consistent food quality and high caliber of customer service.

While Redrock's food preparation and quality causes the establishment to stand out among the local restaurant landscape, what causes the restaurant to take a leap into the "exceptional" category is the level of customer service delivered.

While each server is assigned to a certain section, all servers are responsible to care for all customers, regardless of where customers are

sitting. This only serves to add to the seamlessness of the dining experience and ensures that the customer is well taken care of by all. In addition, the servers are friendly and appear genuinely happy to be there – not an overly common occurrence.

I will definitely be back. Redrock Canyon Grill is open for dinner seven days a week and Sunday brunch.



FOUNTAIN FUN: Children play in the Bartlett Square Fountain at 5th and Main streets during Tulsa International Mayfest, which ran May 14-17.



OKIE COUNTRY: The Corky Davis Country Swing Band will provide the live entertainment on Opening Day of the OK Mozart Festival on Saturday, June 6. The festival runs through June 13.

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Sights, Sounds, Adventures Await in Bartlesville

I am making it a goal to focus less on booking trips to faraway destinations and more on exploring what immediately surrounds me. One place on my list is Bartlesville, less than an hour's drive from Tulsa.

With the lazy summer months upon us and the OK Mozart Festival looming, I think June will be the perfect time to make that short trip.

Here are some of my planned excursions:

OK Mozart runs June 6-13. I hope to drop in on opening day, which will feature free activities all day long. A fun run will start off the morning, followed by live music by the Corky Davis Country Swing Band and family activities, and an evening performance by the Tulsa Youth Orchestra at the Bartlesville Community Center.

Out & About in Greater Tulsa



By **EMILY RAMSEY**
Managing Editor

I have always been drawn to Frank Lloyd Wright's designs, particularly his prairie homes that endeavor to be one with nature. Though, Wright's designs did not stop with homes. One example of that is the **Price Tower**, 510 Dewey Avenue. While Wright designed a number of skyscrapers, the 19-story Price Tower is the only one that was ever built. Price Tower received the American Institute of Architects 25-year Award and is on the National Register of Historic Places. The Price Tower Arts Center offers a variety of traveling art exhibitions and permanent exhibitions on Wright, Bruce Goff, and the Price Company and Tower. The building also features a 21-room boutique inn called the Inn at Price Tower and the Copper Restaurant and Bar. Future plans for the Price Tower Arts Center include an expansion of its educational program. The Price Tower Arts Center has currently commissioned world-renowned architect Zaha Hadid to create the new complex that will adjoin the Price Tower, complementing the symmetrical design of Frank Lloyd Wright. The building would include a new museum, library and exhibition hall.

Another architectural landmark is found on the campus of Oklahoma Wesleyan University: **La Quinta Foster Mansion**, 2201 Silverlake Road. The Foster Mansion was built for oilman H.V. Foster, once known as the wealthiest man west of the Mississippi. The mansion was designed by Kansas City architect Edward Buehler Delk, who also designed Tulsa's Philtower and the Philbrook Museum of Art. The mansion was completed in 1932 on 152 acres. It is a 32-room, Spanish-style home, with 14 bathrooms and seven fireplaces. Upon Foster's death in 1939, the mansion operated as various schools before being purchased by the Wesleyan Church. La Quinta now serves as the focal point of the campus and holds the school's library and administrative offices. La

Quinta Foster Mansion is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The mansion includes hand-painted ceilings, a four-story tower offering sweeping countryside views, a fireplace surrounded by mosaic tiles that tell the story of Don Quixote, and an outdoor fountain and rose garden.

The **Sooner Park Play Tower**, 200-400 Madison Blvd., features a spiral staircase to an observation deck that offers a sprawling view of the city. For families, this will surely be a highlight for the kids. The tower was originally a gift from Mrs. Harold C. Price (wife of founder of the H.C. Price Company) to the children of Bartlesville. The structure was designed by architect Bruce Goff and constructed in 1963. By the 1990s, however, the tower was closed due to deterioration.

In 2014, to commemorate the tower's 50-year anniversary, the city of Bartlesville determined to restore the tower, which took place in fall 2014, and children have been enjoying it ever since. The play tower reminds one of the space-age era and is one of Goff's few public works of sculpture and embodies his legacy of architectural expressionism.

Take a stroll around **downtown Bartlesville**, which offers that quaint, nostalgic appeal that so many downtown areas create mixed with the feeling that you're in a sizeable city center, as opposed to a one-horse town. Downtown Bartlesville is larger than many city's single-road Main Streets and boasts a number of long-time family-owned restaurants and shops.

Even if I don't choose to make an extended visit to **Woolaroc museum and wildlife preserve**, I always enjoy taking a driving around the grounds. Woolaroc was the country estate of oil baron Frank Phillips, founder of Phillips Petroleum Company and brother to Tulsa's Waite Phillips. The area affords visitors the opportunity for a peaceful scenic drive to re-commune with nature. From early spring to late fall, the North Road Tour features a five-mile drive through some of the most beautiful portions of the Woolaroc preserve. The tour includes a stop at an authentic restoration of an 1840s Trader's Camp where true-to-life mountain men offer a glimpse of early settler living. For those looking for more history, they can visit Woolaroc's museum, which displays more than 55,000 pieces of Southwest art and other exhibits that depict the story of the American West. Other nature opportunities include **Osage Hills State Park**, an area that was once an Osage Indian settlement; the 18,000-acre **Prairie National Wild Horse Refuge**, established in 1989; and the **Tallgrass Prairie Preserve**, a 38,000-acre home to bison, deer, coyotes and other wildlife.



Photo courtesy OK Mozart

ORCHESTRAL SOUNDS: The Amici New York Orchestra, OK Mozart's resident orchestra, performs at the Bartlesville Community Center during last year's festival.



www.okwu.edu

LA QUINTA: Among Bartlesville's many offerings are a number of architectural finds, including La Quinta Foster Mansion, 2201 Silverlake Road, a 32-room, Spanish-style home that sits on the campus of Oklahoma Wesleyan University. The mansion includes hand-painted ceilings, a four-story tower offering sweeping countryside views, a fireplace surrounded by mosaic tiles that tell the story of Don Quixote, and an outdoor fountain and rose garden.

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CHEFS FOR THE CURE: Kenny Wagoner, second from right, Cancer Treatment Centers of America's executive chef and founder of the annual Chefs for the Cure, stands at the event with his mother and cancer survivor, Margaret Mary Bridget O'Hagan Wagoner; Richard Haldeman, CTCA CEO, and Christy Southard, Susan G. Komen Tulsa executive director; right. The event saw more than 30 restaurants participate and \$28,000 was raised for Susan G. Komen Tulsa.



PORTA CAELI GROUNDBREAKING: The groundbreaking for Porta Caeli House was held May 7. From left are Barney Tonquest, Dick Boerger, Msgr. Gregory Gier, Bishop Edward Slattery, Msgr. Dennis Dorney, Bob Sullivan (all are PCH Board members except Dick Boerger, who is a PCH Project Team member). Porta Caeli House is a nonprofit that will be a home for those approaching the ends of their lives. It will be located adjacent to Catholic Charities on North Harvard Avenue in Tulsa.


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Griffin Autism Clinic Offers Unique Program

By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor

Lori Frederick knew something was different about the Autism Treatment Center of America's The Son-Rise Program as soon as she watched a video explaining the approach.

"The video showed several children who had recovered from autism," says Frederick. "One of the kids was so much like Griffin."

Griffin is Frederick's now-10-year-old son who, at 18 months, regressed from speaking to silence and stopped making eye contact.

For the next two years, Frederick pursued every sort of treatment option: dietary changes, occupational and speech therapy, detoxification and vitamin regimens but all to no avail.

After viewing the Son-Rise video and speaking with program consultants, Frederick and Griffin's father traveled in 2007 to Massachusetts for the program's introductory training course.

Only three weeks after implementing the program in their home, Griffin was making eye contact. Within three months, he was speaking again. By six months, he had a vocabulary of more than 1,000 words.

According to its website, The Son-Rise Program is based on joining autistic children in their activities in order to relate to them, rather than focusing on the elimination of their unwanted behaviors and forcing them to conform to a world they do not yet understand.

"By us joining their world, they then begin to care about ours," says Torrie Moreton, a speech pathologist in her clinical fellowship year.

After Frederick received her training, Stephanie Barton, a 15-year speech pathologist, who had been treating Griffin, attended the training. Barton is now the lead

speech pathologist at The Griffin Promise Autism Clinic, 2552 E. Kenosha St., in Broken Arrow, which Frederick opened one year ago.

Frederick, who previously held various training and development positions in the corporate world, has been led down a path she, surely, did not foresee years ago.

As The Son-Rise Program continued to cause dramatic social improvements in her son, she began receiving requests to talk about the program to other parents who were seeking help for their children.

Frederick began fundraising in 2009 to further her cause to spread the program and, in 2012, earned state recognition as a charitable organization. Her nonprofit clinic, which got its name "because it's our promise to Griffin," Frederick says, opened in June 2014.

In addition to seeing upwards of a dozen children per day, the clinic offers training programs for parents, educators, professionals and volunteers because "it takes a whole team of people helping; we want to be a part of the team helping the child," says Frederick.

The clinic's programs for educators and caregivers help them to better understand the needs of autistic children and the best way to approach them.

It's all about building a relationship with the child, says Barton. "Once the relationship and acceptance are there, then you can move forward. Oftentimes, building that acceptance causes the behaviors to go away."

However, bottom line, says Barton, is "it's all about the family. This (Son-Rise) program will not allow parents not to be involved.

"Some parents feel uncomfortable with or embarrassed of their child because they aren't acting like the typical child," she continues. "Part of our training program is teaching them to be accepting."

The clinic also provides coaching and feedback sessions in which pathologists evaluate how parents play with their children. Also, each session with a child at the clinic is videotaped, and every month parents can view the videos to gain greater insight into their child and how parents can incorporate certain methods at home.

In addition, The Son-Rise Program encourages parents to seek out a group of individuals, called volunteers, who come to the child's home to interact with him/her.

Volunteers often include friends, family members and students pursuing a career in a related field.

When looking for volunteers for Griffin, Frederick conducted various interviews to determine who would work best with him. "But ultimately, Griffin made the decision; it would depend on if he felt comfortable with them," Frederick says.

The volunteer concept serves many purposes.

"It gave me time as a parent to do other things like chores and reading," she says. "A lot of parents of children with special needs feel they have to do it all, and then they exhaust themselves and then they're not at their best for their child."

Exposing children to a variety of individuals also acclimates them to new social situations.

The volunteer concept is how Moreton originally met Griffin. Moreton was a high school student in a class taught by Griffin's father, and he suggested that Moreton meet Griffin.

That suggestion led her to become one of Griffin's volunteers and, subsequently, introduced her to a career she might not have otherwise discovered.

"My experience with Griffin showed me that I wanted to work with kids who are autistic," she says.

Moreton also serves as the clinic's volunteer coordinator, helping



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers
SON-RISE ADVOCATES: From left, Stephanie Barton, lead speech pathologist; Torrie Moreton, speech pathologist in her clinical fellowship year; and Lori Frederick, executive director; pose in a play room at The Griffin Promise Autism Clinic, 2552 E. Kenosha St., in Broken Arrow.

to pair volunteers with families.

As Frederick and her team continue to work with children with autism and social developmental delays, the rewards are immeasurable, Frederick says.

"We get calls from nurses at doctor's offices who talk about the positive changes they've seen in the child due to this program," Frederick says. "Parents will text us at night and say, 'I couldn't go to bed without telling you what he/she did today.'"

The Griffin Promise clinic is the only facility in the Midwest that uses The Son-Rise Program in their training and offers the treatment to children. Frederick regularly receives requests from

groups to organize a class about the program – requests that are increasingly coming from outside of the state as well as within.

"People have begged us to open a clinic in the Oklahoma City area," Frederick says.

While she can't say for sure what the future holds, "Our goal is to help as many families as we can," she says – the reason for that, of course, being due to her own experience.

"I just needed hope as a mother early on with Griffin," she says. "The Autism Treatment Center gave me that hope, and it worked."

"The program took away the pressure of having to change him, and we could just play with him and enjoy him."

OSU Professor Studies Reasons for Salt Sensitivity

High Salt Consumption May Affect Men and Women Differently

An Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences researcher wants to find out if women are more likely to have health problems due to high salt consumption than men.

"The prevailing philosophy is that a diet high in salt results in high blood pressure. For some people, reducing salt intake will reduce blood pressure; however, it does not work for everyone," says Alexander Rouch, Ph.D., chair of the OSU-CHS Department of Pharmacology and Physiology and associate professor of physiology.

People who are 'salt sensitive' can reduce their blood pressure with a low salt diet, he continues.

"Interestingly, some people can consume high salt diets without any increased blood pressure. The kidneys play the key role in determining if one is salt sensitive."

More specifically, Rouch is looking at the role that testosterone and estrogen play in developing salt sensitivity, a change in blood pressure resulting from a variation in salt intake.

Many researchers believe that estrogen protects against hypertension and heart and kidney disease and that women lose that protection after menopause.

However, Rouch has found that estrogen raises the amount of salt that is reabsorbed from the kidney, which could increase salt sensitivity.

"Studying the impact of estrogen on salt reabsorption and blood pressure during high salt consumption will help us understand the role of this hormone in salt sensitivity," he says.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about one in every three U.S. adults - or 70 million people - has high blood pressure.

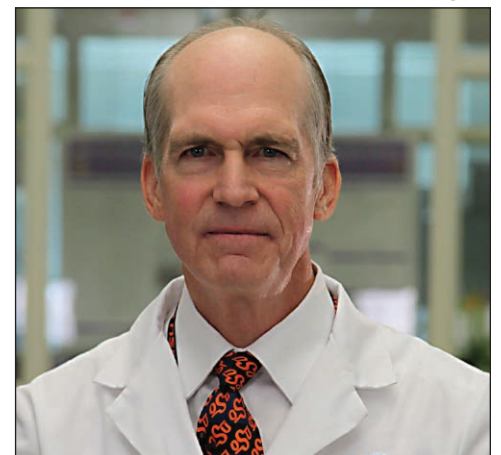
"Oklahoma has one of the highest rates of hypertension, one of the leading causes of heart disease and stroke," says Kayse Shrum, D.O., president of OSU Center for Health Sciences. "Dr. Rouch's research will provide insights into a potential cause for high blood pressure that could lead to the development of new treatments for one of our state's top health problems."

Rouch is head of an international review of salt sensitivity research submitted by scientists around the world. The effort is sponsored by Frontiers in Physiology, an international organization based in Switzerland.

"Our goal is to produce a compilation of the latest cutting-edge research on salt sensitivity and enhance collaborative efforts on this topic," Rouch says.

To learn more about Rouch's research on salt sensitivity and other research at OSU Center for Health Sciences, visit the Research Spotlight website at healthsciences.okstate.edu/researchspotlight.

ADDRESSING HEALTH CONCERNS: Alexander Rouch, Ph.D., chair of the Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences Department of Pharmacology and Physiology and associate professor of physiology, is studying the health problems in men versus women that are caused by high salt consumption.



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EDUCATION

OSU-Tulsa Faculty Honored for Teaching, Research

Two Oklahoma State University-Tulsa faculty were recognized for exceptional teaching and research during the university's graduation ceremony on May 11 at The Pavilion at Expo Square.

Dr. Margaret White, professor of management, was honored with the President's Outstanding Faculty Award for Teaching, and Dr. Bin Liang, associate professor of sociology, received the President's Outstanding Faculty

Award for Research.

"These faculty exemplify the quality of the education that students receive as they earn an OSU degree in Tulsa," says OSU-Tulsa President Howard Barnett. "Dr. White and Dr. Liang have provided extraordinary service to thousands of students and have garnered the respect of students and colleagues that makes them tremendous assets to our university."

White earned her Ph.D. at Texas

A&M University. She joined the OSU faculty in 1986 as an assistant professor of management.

She holds the Fleming Professorship in Technology Management and is the recipient of several teaching excellence awards, including the CBA Greiner Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching in 1995, Outstanding MBA Professor in 2004, Spears School of Business Outstanding Instruction Award of 2005, Outstanding OSU-Tulsa Faculty Award in 2007, and the Chandler-Frates & Reitz Teaching Excellence Award in 2012.

Her research is focused on strategic alliance among multinational firms. White has published numerous research papers and has been the recipient of numerous research awards.

After earning his Ph.D. and J.D. at Arizona State University, Liang joined OSU as an assistant professor of sociology in 2003.

He has published a number of articles related to crime and the legal system in China. His work has been widely published in prestigious academic journals, including the American Journal of Criminal Justice, the Asian Journal of Criminology, the British Journal of Criminology and the Journal of Criminal Justice.

Liang also is author of two books on the Chinese legal system and China's drug policies. He is a contributor to several academic books on criminology. He was a visiting Research Fellow at East Asian Institute at the National University of Singapore in 2012.



Courtesy photo

STANDING OUT: OSU-Tulsa President Howard Barnett, left, presents the President's Outstanding Faculty Award for Teaching to Dr. Margaret White. Also pictured is Spears School of Business Dean Ken Eastman.



GTR Newspapers photo

FLIGHT INSTRUCTION: Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology President Ryan Goertzen visits with Union Public Schools third graders on May 14, when students visited the flight campus to participate in aeronautic-related activities such as building and flying foam airplanes and using radios to communicate and practice control of an aircraft.

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Part-Time Classes Cater to Variety of Interests

Tulsa Tech Offers Hundreds of Opportunities to Pursue Career Goals

In addition to providing exciting courses for students and award-winning business and industry training opportunities, Tulsa Tech also offers hundreds of part-time classes that allow students to pursue their individual career goals or simply explore a variety of interests. A wide assortment of subjects includes everything from sewing and quilting to machining.

News from Tulsa Tech



By DR. STEVE TIGER
Superintendent

until 9 p.m.," Parker says. "But we also have classes where students receive a certification in a single session of eight hours or less." Part-time classes have been a staple of Tulsa Tech since 1965 and since that time, have not only increased, but also evolved to keep pace with today's workplace training needs and to reflect individual student interests related to current technologies.

"If we get a number of requests for a certain subject then we develop a class to meet that need," Parker explains. "It all depends on the demand, and meeting workforce needs in the Tulsa Metro Area. We have started Nondestructive Testing classes that are designed to help develop the knowledge and skills necessary to perform specialized testing methods that are required by industries for quality control. The classroom and on-the-job training will provide students with the required hours for certification. We are also adding Advanced Unlicensed Assistant to our health care offerings to address the needs within our community."

Other courses are not just industry-driven but also provide students with more flexibility in completing their individual career objectives. Tulsa Tech offers training classes that build on one another to gain multiple CLEET Certifications while working towards a career in law enforcement and public safety. Training is offered to gain certification as a security guard, private investigator, armed security guard and bail enforcer.

All of Tulsa Tech's part-time classes are taught by certified instructors who have worked in the industry and have years of valuable experience. "It doesn't matter if the class is related to maintaining your credentials, like Real Estate CE, or simply an interest in a new hobby like building your own amplifier. Our instructors have a professional background with experience related to each subject," says Parker.

Individuals interested in how Tulsa Tech can further their interests or future goals are encouraged to explore the opportunities that part-time classes can provide. From education and creative arts to healthcare certification and manufacturing, subjects are available to interest anyone. All of the classes are designed with students in mind.

Make this the year that you earn an industry-recognized credential, upgrade your skills or learn something new just for the fun of it. If you're currently looking for exciting classes for high school and adult students, quality busi-



Courtesy Tulsa Tech

DIVERSE OPPORTUNITIES: A Tulsa Tech plumbing student gets hands-on training in one of Tulsa Tech's part-time classes. Plumbing is just one of hundreds of Tulsa Tech's part-time classes that allow students to pursue their individual career goals or explore a variety of interests from education and creative arts to healthcare certification and manufacturing.

ness and industry training, or an opportunity to discover new goals, Tulsa Tech invites you to visit today. For more information, please call 918-828-5000 or visit us online at tulsatech.edu.

Whether it's earning hours towards a Plumbing Journeyman apprenticeship, ACE Personal Trainer Certification, becoming a phlebotomist or learning to do animation from a Disney professional, Tulsa Tech invites all individuals to explore its Part-Time Class Catalog to find the classes that fit their interests.

Although most part-time classes average 30 hours in length, according to Russell Parker, director of Adult Career Development, there are classes available to meet a variety of student schedules.

"The majority of our classes are offered Monday through Thursday, and usually last from 6

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The **Tulsa Achieves Program** gives eligible graduating Tulsa County seniors the opportunity to attend College without the cost of tuition and fees. This program began in 2007 and has broken the college barrier for thousands of students.

Important deadlines are approaching for seniors who are graduating in spring 2015, with the first priority date on **April 30, 2015.**

Stay on track with college planning by checking tulsacc.edu/TulsaAchieves
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LOCAL EDUCATION

Duke Recognizes Students

Union seventh graders Ryan Dollins, Keegan Knouse and Anna McMullen received Grand Recognition for their exceptional text scores in Duke University's Talent Identification Program (TIP) – the largest program of its kind in the nation. Since the program's inception in 1980, more than two million students have participated in the Duke TIP Talent Search.

The 7th Grade Talent Search identifies academically-talented seventh graders based on standardized test scores achieved while attending middle school. Candidates are invited to complete college entrance examinations (SAT or ACT) alongside high school students. Duke TIP works with students, parents and educators to identify, recognize, challenge, engage and help students reach their highest potential. Students are formally recognized for their test scores, provided with detailed information about their abilities, and introduced to an available network of academic opportunities and resources.

In addition to the three who received Grand Recognition, 17 others received state recognition for



Courtesy Union Public Schools

HIGH SCORING: Union seventh graders Keegan Knouse, left, Anna McMullen and Ryan Dollins won Duke TIP Grand Recognition for exceptional scores in Duke University's Talent Identification Program.

their high scores. Seventh grade students who score in the 99th percentile on the fifth grade and/or sixth grade Oklahoma Core Curriculum Test have the opportunity to take the ACT or SAT in the 7th grade as part of the DUKE TIP program.

Students who received state recognition were Sandra Alrifai, Derek Bateman, Corinne Bell,

Nathaniel Bremer, Jayla Burgess, Steven Cornwall, Olivia Hampton, Annslee Hiatt, Shayla Keeton, Jacob Lieberman, Emily Long, Alexander Moyer, Rebecca Ritter, Harper Todd, Ashley Welch, Tulsano Wibisono, and Zachary Xu.

More information about the organization can be found at tip.duke.edu.

Union Grows Workforce Development

On May 8, Mayor Dewey Bartlett spoke at a reception at the Union Collegiate Academy to recognize students who are successfully completing workforce development programs while still in high school.

To help address increasing workforce needs in the city, Mayor Bartlett has been working with Union since last summer to provide internships for students at Tulsa's vehicle maintenance facility for an automotive technician program.

"This is a celebration of our partnership with the City of Tulsa and company partners through the Union Career Connect automotive technician program and the manufacturing certified production program," says Amanda Howell, Union Career Connect counselor.

"Students are searching for relevant content that connects to the real world, while business and industry are concerned about building the talent pipeline in high-demand technical fields. Union Career Connect addresses both concerns by allowing students the opportunity to explore multiple career pathways prior to graduation," says Associate Superintendent Dr. Kathy Dodd.

The "learn to earn" model places students in industry-based experi-



Photo by MICHAEL VORE

REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE: Mayor Dewey Bartlett, first row, right, poses with Union High School manufacturing students, Union administrators and local business representatives. Through the Union Career Connect automotive technician program and the manufacturing certified production program, local companies partner with the school district and the city of Tulsa to provide student workforce development opportunities.

ences that evolve into paid internships and, hopefully, full-time employment.

Nine students have served as paid interns in manufacturing areas and 11 in automotive mechanics. Bama Companies, Inc. and APSCO have offered full-time jobs to more than half of Union's manufacturing interns following graduation.

The manufacturing certified production program involves Union

partnerships with APSCO, Bama Companies, Inc; Ebsco Spring Company, Inc; Oklahoma Dream It Do It, OK 2 Grow, and Tulsa Community College. Upon successful completion of the national tests, Union students will earn four national certifications in safety; quality practices and measurement; manufacturing processes and production; and maintenance awareness.

A FOND FAREWELL



GTR Newspapers photo

EDUCATION COMMUNITY: Union Superintendent Dr. Kirt Hartzler and Broken Arrow Superintendent Dr. Jarod Mendenhall stand in front of a photo of Tulsa Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Keith Ballard at a farewell reception for Ballard, who will retire on June 30. Ballard has served as TPS superintendent for the past seven years.

USEF Hires Director

Union Schools Education Foundation Trustees recently hired Brandy Flewellen as executive director.

Flewellen is responsible for the planning, direction, administration and implementation of comprehensive development programs that result in financial assistance from USEF to Union Public Schools. She will also lead the foundation's fundraising and public relations efforts while overseeing its financial records.

Prior to joining USEF, Flewellen served as executive director with the American Heart Association. She has more than eight years of experience in nonprofit work, community involvement and fundraising.

Flewellen's seventh-grade step-daughter has attended Union her entire school life. Flewellen has



BRANDY FLEWELLEN

been an active parent in the school district and says that she is excited about the opportunity to help make a difference for students, teachers and the district.



ROSSY GILLE for GTR Newspapers

SPRING CONCERT: The annual Union Cavalcade of Bands was held on April 21 at the Union Multipurpose Activity Center, where students' grades 6-12 performed. Pictured here are students from the 6th grade brass section.

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SPORTS

UNION STUDENT OVERCOMES ADVERSITY TO SUCCEED



DETERMINATION: Members of the Tulsa Youth Rowing Association practice their craft. From left are Jack Sadler, from Booker T. Washington High School; Garrett Allan, from Union High School; Dalton Hammond, from Bishop Kelley High School; Aaron Pohl, from Holland Hall Preparatory School; and Chase Antonacci, from Cascia Hall Preparatory School.

On May 2 and 3, the Tulsa Youth Rowing Association (TYRA) competed at the U.S. Rowing Central District Youth Rowing Championships in Oklahoma City. Rose Stewart-Maddox (Booker T. Washington) rowed to a silver medal place in the girls under 17 single. In addition, the club won the bronze medal in the boys lightweight fours and earned an invite to Youth Nationals next month in Sarasota, Fla.

Boys Varsity Coach Micah Hartwell is extremely pleased: "It's exciting that we have a crew competing in Nationals for the fourth consecutive year - as long as I've been there. Micah added, "The club will miss its seniors. Our senior rowers have made a lasting impact on the culture of the program that I hope continues for years to come."

Garrett Allan, a Union student and bow seat of the lightweight four, experienced a motocross accident five years ago. He suffered a con-

cussion and also had multiple bones that were broken. Doctors told him that he could never play another sport that could result in a concussion. After recovering from the accident, Garrett found out about the Tulsa Youth Rowing Association and started to compete with the club as an eighth grader. Allan started in the coxswain position but as he grew he became to heavy for the position and started to row in the boat full time. After four years of training, he has reached the top levels of competition in the sport and has the chance to represent Tulsa at U.S. Rowing Youth Nationals.

"After my motocross wreck I found it very hard to let my favorite sport go, let alone look for a new one. When my mom first told me about rowing, I was very hesitant but soon found out that this sport would change my life in more ways than one. I went from practicing two or three times a week, to practicing 6 days out of the week, which



UNION GIRLS: 2015 OKLAHOMA 6A CHAMPS

Photo by DEAN ATCHISON

has more than helped me understand the importance of commitment. Throughout my four years of rowing, with the guidance of the amazing TYRA coaches, I have learned discipline and the ability to push myself farther than I ever thought I could to attain the goals I have set for myself," said Allan of his achievements at the club.

The lineup for the boys LWT 4+ competing in Youth Nationals is: Chase Antonacci (Cascia Hall), Dalton Hammond (Bishop Kelley), Aaron Pohl (Holland Hall), Garrett Allan (Union), and Jack Sadler (Booker T. Washington).

U.S. Rowing Youth Nationals takes place in Sarasota, Fla. June 12-14, 2015.



Courtesy photo

UP AND COMER: Annabella Feemster, a member of the Union Sharks, clears the ball in recent tournament action. The sharks went undefeated this season in the U-12 girls recreation league.

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SPORTS

Shock Coach Hopes for Playoff Season

By **GLENN HIBDON**
GTR Sports Writer

Ever since the Tulsa Shock came to town in 2010, the WNBA franchise has treated fans to narrow losses and disappointing seasons. Entering its sixth year at the BOK Center, the team has frequently seemed on the verge of a breakthrough campaign. Finally, the time may have come.

Fred Williams, the second year Shock coach, has visions of Tulsa's first winning season and playoff berth when the season opens June 5 at Minnesota. With more size, a depth-filled roster and the anticipation of greater defensive ability, it's easy to see why the coach is so excited.

"Last year I was encouraged about how our young ladies fought through a lot of things from past seasons here," says Williams, whose first team had a Tulsa franchise best 12-22 record. "We were able to be a team that competed for 40 minutes. We had a few players playing out of position by the time I got here, but I was pleased with how we competed until the end to be a possible playoff team."

The Shock lost just two players of

note after free agents Jennifer Lacy went to the Los Angeles Sparks and Roneeka Hodges to the Atlanta Dream. The rest of the team's nucleus returns, coupled with some promising newcomers. Amanda Zahui B. (6-5) was the second pick of the WNBA draft with guard Brianna Kiesel (5-7) taken in the second round and Mimi Mungedi (6-8) in the third.

Williams is counting on his draftees and entire roster helping the Shock improve in one key phase of the game. Defense.

"I was pleased with our offense last year, but I didn't like our defense," Williams says. "We weren't really connected defensively, and it usually takes two years to get your defensive concept established. Over the years I've been an offensive guru with teams that are in the top two or three in the league in scoring. We've got to get better defensively, and I had that mindset going into training camp."

Williams welcomes back a potent stable of scorers, including guard Skylar Diggins (5-9) who led the team with 20.1 points a game and was named the WNBA's Most Improved Player. Guard Odyssey Sims (5-8) managed 16.7 points per game followed by 6-3 forward Glory Johnson at 14.7 and 6-4 center Courtney Paris at 9.2 points and a league leading 10.2 rebounds.

Again, Williams is confident his team can put points on the board. But can the Shock prevent other teams from doing it?

"My focus is on defense and (Plenette) Pierson (6-2 forward-center) and (Karima) Christmas (6-0 guard-forward) will help us," said Williams. "They have played on defensive-minded teams and know our concept on defense."

Size is another area where the Shock needed improvement and Williams said his team has found it with help from its draftees.

"Every team we came up against last season we were outsized," he says. "This year, I feel comfortable with the size we have coming in. In the draft we were going for size and we got Amanda from Minnesota at 6'5". She will help in running the floor and scoring. In the second round we looked at the perimeter, and we got Kiesel from

Pittsburgh. She's a good stop and pop guard. We also wanted to take a look at Mimi. I saw her a few times in college and she shows signs of being a really skilled player. If she applies herself, she can be a threat on the floor and a contender for this team."

Forward-center Vicki Baugh (6-4) also returns to the roster and Williams said she has shown improvement since her first full season in the league in 2014. He said Diggins has surprised the league with her offensive touch.

"She's worked hard in the offseason and she looks good in individual skill work," Williams notes of Baugh. "Skylar has upped her level on defense, and they said she couldn't hit shots outside last year. She proved that she could. They are key players for us defensively and offensively."

The inside anchor for the Shock will again be Paris, a 250-pound enforcer who should have more help in roaming the paint and bullying enemy shooters.

"Courtney played overseas and she's ready to come back and reclaim her rebounding crown," said Williams. "I've told her how she won't get as many rebounds because we're going to shoot pretty well, but I expect her to be one of the top five players in the league. She's still working on her shot by putting the ball on the floor and working on spin moves."

"This year I want us to be more balanced. We were 80 percent offensive last year and 20 percent defense. This year we need to be more 50-50. Our team on paper can make a playoff push for the first time in franchise history. We want to get out of our conference, get to the playoffs, play well and see what happens."

Williams believes all the tools are in place for a postseason push. He said the Shock are three deep at every position, with competition between Riquana Williams, Angel Goodrich, Sims, Diggins and Kiesel at the one and two spots and Jessica Kuster, Jordan Hooper and Christmas at the three position. At four he's counting on Tiffany Jackson-Jones, Johnson, Pierson and Baugh with Paris, Zahui B. and Mungedi at center.

"I'm excited, knock on wood. If we stay healthy, from what I've seen on paper, it looks pretty promising," says Williams. "We're working hard at it and the ultimate goal for a coach is to make his team improve every year. Last year we moved forward and we want to continue to improve even more this year."



HARRY LENTZ for GTR Newspapers

WATCHING THE ACTION: Tulsa Shock Head Coach Fred Williams watches Skylar Diggins take a shot last season at the BOK Center. Williams is confident the Shock will deliver a playoff team this season.



GTR Newspapers photo

SKYLAR DIGGINS BASKETBALL CAMP: Tulsa Shock basketball star Skylar Diggins is proud to present the Reach 4 the Sky Basketball Camp Tour, which is held in various cities throughout the U.S. This photo was taken at the camp at Oral Roberts University April 26. The WNBA All-Star and 2014 Most Improved Player Award recipient has become one of the most recognizable players in the WNBA and has quickly become one of the most notable sports figures in the world. This camp is designed to teach the game of basketball with influence from Diggins' training regimen, experiences and lessons learned from her prolific career thus far. Participants experience actual drills and training techniques that Diggins presently uses to help improve her skills on the court and that help her lead a positive and healthy lifestyle off the court. For more information, see www.skylardigginsbasketball.com.

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ROSSY GILLE for GTR Newspapers

PLAYING FROM THE HEART: On April 28, members of the Tulsa Golden Hurricane football team visited patients at The Children's Hospital at St. Francis. Pictured here is 17-year-old patient Bethany Johnson with some of the players. Front right is quarterback Dane Evans and directly behind him is Head Football Coach Philip Montgomery. At the left side of the bed left side of bed from left are Jordan Mitchell, Derrick Luetjen, Keevan Lucas and Matt Linscott. Kneeling is Michael Mudoh. Standing right are Derrick Alexander, Jerry Uwaezuoke and Matt Hickman.



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

RENEWED CONTRACT: In May, Expo Square and Visit Tulsa announced a renewed partnership with the Breeder's Invitational. The agreement extension will bring the event, which is in its seventh year with Expo Square, back to Tulsa for an additional three years, through 2018. Pictured are, from left, Mark Andrus, president and CEO of Expo Square, County Commissioner Karen Keith, and Bob O'Bannon, executive director of the Breeder's Invitational, Inc.



Courtesy Bishop Kelley High School

NEW AT BKHS: Bishop Kelley High School recently broke ground on Phase II of the school's stadium expansion and renovation project. Phase II, at a cost of \$3.4M, will provide 6,500 additional square footage of space to the stadium's original field house built in 1996. This new addition will allow for larger locker rooms, a state of the art weight training facility, a training room, larger concessions area, coaches' offices, and a conference room.

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Photos by RICH CRINI

ROUGHNECK DEFENSE: The Roughnecks and goalkeeper Zac Lubin defend a corner kick during a match at ONEOK Field.



DRILLERS ACTION: Tulsa Drillers second baseman Brandon Dixon throws to first during a recent game at ONEOK Field.

Tulsa BBall AAC Opponents Named; Hurricane will Play in Oregon Tourney

The American Athletic Conference has announced the basketball conference opponents for the 2015-16 season, and Tulsa will play eight opponents twice, including defending champion SMU, UConn, Cincinnati and Temple.

American Athletic Conference teams play an 18-game league schedule with each team playing eight of its 10 opponents twice and the other two opponents once each, one at home and one away.

The Golden Hurricane, which finished second in the American last season in its first year as a member of the league, will play home-and-home against SMU, UConn, Cincinnati, Temple, Tulane, East Carolina, UCF and Houston. TU will host USF and play at Memphis, facing those two schools just once.

The Hurricane swept the season series last year over Temple, Tulane, East Carolina and Houston and won the only meeting against UCF. Tulsa split the regular season meetings with UConn, while SMU and Cincinnati won regular season matchups against TU.

SMU and Cincinnati played in the NCAA Tournament last season, while Temple and UConn joined Tulsa in the NIT.

The American Athletic Conference Championship will take place March 10-13, 2016, at the Amway Center in Orlando. The complete American Conference schedule with dates and times will be announced at a later date.

In additional TU basketball news, the team will play Oregon State in the Far West Classic Invitational on Dec. 19 at the Moda Center in Portland, Ore., the Portland Trail Blazers, Oregon State University and the University of Portland have announced.

The Golden Hurricane will play one game in the event and meet the Beavers as part of a two-day doubleheader that will take place Dec. 18-19 at the home arena of the NBA's Portland Trail Blazers. Preliminary tip-off time for TU and OSU is 8 p.m. PT/10 p.m. CT. The 2015 tournament will be hosted by the Trail Blazers, Oregon State and the University of Portland.

Tulsa and Oregon State have played once before - a 59-57 Hurricane win on Dec. 23, 1998, in the Pearl Harbor Classic in Kahuku, Hawaii.

The Far West Classic returns after a 19-year hiatus. The holiday tournament was originally held from 1956-1996, starting in Corvallis, Ore., and moving to Portland in 1960.

Portland, Cal State Fullerton and Weber State will join Tulsa and Oregon State as participants in the event. For exclusive Far West Classic Invite presale ticket opportunities and other information, go to www.rosequarter.com/FWC2015.

It was previously announced that the Golden Hurricane will also play in the 2015 Paradise Jam Nov. 20-23 in the U.S. Virgin Islands and face Ohio in the first round. Tulsa's full non-conference schedule will be released at a later date.

Follow Tulsa Men's Basketball on Twitter at www.Twitter.com/TUMBasketball and Instagram at TulsaMBasketball. Follow Tulsa Athletics on Twitter at www.Twitter.com/TulsaHurricane and Facebook at www.facebook.com/TulsaHurricane. For all news and information about Tulsa Basketball, go to www.TulsaHurricane.com.

OSU President Hargis Joins Football Board

Oklahoma State University President V. Burns Hargis has been named to the Board of Managers of the College Football Playoff.

The 11-person group manages the administrative operations of the playoff and governs its business, property and affairs, including budgets, policies and operating guidelines.

"It is an honor to represent the Big 12 Conference in this important role," says Hargis. "The College Football Playoff is an exciting and welcomed addition to intercollegiate athletics. The Big 12 appreciates the work of Bill Hancock and his entire College Football Playoff team."

Hancock, executive director of the College Football Playoff, says, "We are delighted to welcome President Hargis to the group. He has the personality, experience and savvy to be a terrific member."

The members of the College

Football Playoff Board of Managers are the 10 Football Bowl Subdivision conferences (American Athletic, Atlantic Coast, Big Ten, Big 12, Conference USA, Mid-American, Mountain West, Pac-12, Southeastern and Sun Belt) and the University of Notre Dame.

Hargis became the 18th president of Oklahoma State on March 10, 2008, after a successful legal and banking career. He is the second OSU graduate to serve as president, overseeing one of the nation's most comprehensive land-grant university systems with more than 36,000 students, nearly 8,000 employees and campuses located in Stillwater, Tulsa, Oklahoma City and Okmulgee.

For more information about the College Football Playoff, go to www.collegefootballplayoff.com. For more on Oklahoma State University, go to www.okstate.edu.



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Iba Awards Banquet to Honor Athletes

Melissa Arnot, Chris Harris To be Honored

On Monday, June 22, the Henry P. Iba Citizens Athlete Awards banquet is scheduled at the Renaissance Tulsa Hotel & Convention Center. The Iba awards annually recognize a male and female athlete who have excelled in their sport and are personally involved and dedicated to helping others.

Honored at this year's event will be two outstanding professional athletes: famed mountain climber Melissa Arnot, the only woman to summit Mount Everest five times who was attempting her sixth in April when the earthquake hit Nepal, and Bixby native Chris Harris, Denver Broncos cornerback, Pro Bowler and chosen by Pro Football Focus as the NFL's best cornerback, who was awarded a five-year, \$42 million contract last December.

Having just witnessed the devastating 7.9 magnitude earthquake in Nepal, Arnot will tell about this tragedy and how her foundation, The Juniper Fund, is providing support for expedition workers and their families affected by the earthquake. Just three years ago, Harris



CHRIS HARRIS



MELISSA ARNOT



BARRY HINSON



SETH DAVIS

attended the Iba Awards as an NFL rookie having been undrafted, locked out by a labor stoppage and then the Broncos made him their last training camp invitee. His story of being the "underdog" will be inspiring and he will talk about how his foundation helps children in Denver and Tulsa overcome obstacles.

The enthusiastic keynote speaker will be Coach Barry Hinson, who finished his third season as basketball coach at Southern Illinois and

whose career includes 245 NCAA Division I coaching victories - including 36 wins and two conference championships in two seasons at ORU. Back by popular demand as the entertaining master of ceremonies will be Seth Davis, senior writer for Sports Illustrated, author and college basketball host and analyst for CBS Sports.

This black-tie event starts at 6:00 p.m. with a celebrity reception sponsored by CommunityCare, followed by dinner and the awards presenta-

tion. Live music will be performed by Tulsa Symphony Orchestra's String Quartet. Some of the sports celebrities expected to attend include ORU AD Mike Carter, TU AD Derrick Gragg, TU Coach Phil Montgomery, TU Coach Matilda Mossman, former University of Kansas men's basketball coach Ted Owens, Tulsa Shock President Steve Swetoha and Tulsa Shock Coach Fred Williams. Tickets are \$175 each and table sponsorships are still available.

According to Chairman Tom Klenda, this year's event will be exceptionally memorable. Proceeds from the 22nd annual Henry P. Iba Citizen Athlete Awards event primarily fund the Rotary Club of Tulsa Foundation, which uses only its earnings to support local nonprofits with an emphasis on projects benefiting young people. In addition, recipients will receive \$20,000 to support their foundations. More info is available at ibaawards.com or call the Rotary office at 918-584-7642.

Shock, YMCA Partner on Summer Programs

The Tulsa Shock and the YMCA of Greater Tulsa have reached a marketing partnership agreement for the summer of 2015 that will promote the values of health, fitness, education and character development.

The Shock is the presenting sponsor of the YMCA's summer youth basketball league, which is open to girls and boys ages three through 14. All youth players that sign up to play in the league will receive Shock game tickets, the chance to win Shock merchandise, and exclusive opportunities to meet and interact with Shock players and coaches.

"The YMCA partners with high-level athletic organizations in our community," says John Skinner, VP of Sports and Aquatics for the YMCA of Greater Tulsa. "Tulsa Shock players provide our Y athletes with a vision of where hard work and commitment can lead them. The partnership allows our program participants to attend games and gain exposure to professional sports as a spectator too, creating new fans. It's a great opportunity for all of us."

Additionally, players will be encouraged to participate in a creative writing assignment by submitting an essay titled "What Character in Sports Means to Me," focused on their favorite athlete and why the concepts of leadership, character, teamwork, work ethic and positive attitude are important in sports and in life. The player whose essay is judged to be the best will receive an award and be recognized at a Shock game.

Other awards will be given to players that

demonstrate their qualities for each of these concepts, and they will also be recognized at the same Shock game. Registration for the YMCA Summer Youth Basketball League, presented by the Tulsa Shock is open now through May 18. The league begins June 13 and runs through August 1. Players may register for the summer youth basketball league at ymcatulsa.org/register.

"The YMCA is such a pivotal organization in our community, and we are very excited to partner with them this summer because of our shared values in health, wellness, education and building good character," Shock team president Steve Swetoha says. "The YMCA offers so many solid programs for all ages, and we look forward to working with Y kids this summer."

Shock coaches and trainers will also assist in the pre-season YMCA coaches clinic on May 30 to help the volunteer youth coaches learn from professional coaches' methods for running team practices and teaching players skills and drills.

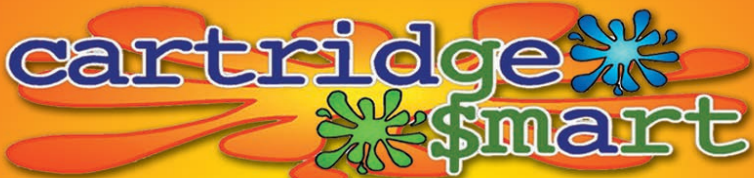
The Shock will also assist in running the YMCA's Hot Shots Basketball Camp for girls and boys ages 10-12, taking place at the Westside YMCA campgrounds as part of their summer specialty camp series the week of June 15-19. Shock coaches and trainers will help design and run the camp's drills and skills training. Campers that register for the basketball camp will receive a ticket to a Shock game and a chance to meet Shock players dur-

ing the camp. Players may register for the camp at ymcatulsa.org/register.

The YMCA Summer Camp will also host a Tulsa Shock Time Out For Fitness (TOFF) assembly for all campers during one of the camp's Fun Fridays. The TOFF assembly

teaches kids about the value of healthy eating habits and fitness, features the Shock's mascot Volt, and is sponsored by Williams, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma, and American Fidelity Assurance Company. For more information, visit ymcatulsa.org/camps.

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New Jet Service Has Successful Landing

Jet Linx To Serve Tulsa

By TRACEY NORVELL
Guest Writer

Private jet charters faced a bit of headwind during the recession but use by both individuals and corporations is on the rise, fueled by convenience, safety and time savings.

Over 300 guests welcomed Jet Linx to Tulsa at an official grand opening celebration held at Tulsa International Airport Legacy Jet Center May 13.

"The timing is perfect," says Russ Newman, Jet Linx local base partner and president. "Following nearly three decades in this marketplace, I am delighted to be joining forces with Jet Linx to offer Tulsa travelers the highest levels of safety and service."

What sets Jet Linx apart from other private jet charter companies, Newman believes, is guaranteed availability and guaranteed pricing.

Jet Linx, a locally focused private



HOME IN TULSA: Tulsa becomes the tenth home base for Jet Linx, a locally-focused private jet company founded in 1999 and headquartered in Omaha, Neb. The company has a fleet of 55 jets and expects to add more in the near future.



MANAGEMENT TEAM: From left, Jet Linx Aviation President and CEO Jamie Walker, Jet Linx Tulsa General Manager Darrah Callen, and Jet Linx Tulsa Base Partner and President Russ Newman at the grand opening celebration May 13.

jet company founded in 1999, is headquartered in Omaha, Neb. Tulsa becomes its 10th home base. What this means to Jet Linx clients, explains Newman, is private jet travel with an emphasis on local operations, backed by the resources of a national fleet of 55 jets - a number Jet Linx CEO Jamie Walker expects to keep growing.

"Jet Linx is growing, and a Tulsa home base is a natural extension of our business," says Walker. "Tulsa has a robust economy and strong aviation history, coupled with its location relative to our existing operations in Atlanta, Dallas, Denver, Houston, Indianapolis, Omaha, San Antonio, Scottsdale and St. Louis, makes it a natural extension of our business. The

response to our grand opening in Tulsa has rivaled, if not exceeded, that in our other nine markets."

Jet Linx is an International Business Aviation Council Stage 2 registered operator and ARGUS Platinum safety rated, an accomplishment earned by less than three percent of the aircraft management companies in the United States. Core services include a Jet Card program

and turnkey Aircraft Management. The company recently launched an exclusive member benefits program, Elevated Lifestyle. This new program includes a variety of special offers in travel, transportation and wine and spirits and provides an incredible value-added benefit to Jet Linx membership. For more information visit www.jetlinx.com or call 918.794.4719.

Bridgestone President Stu Crum Addresses TU Grads

Stu Crum delivered the commencement address to University of Tulsa graduates on May 9 in the Donald W. Reynolds Center on the University of Tulsa's campus. He earned a bachelor's degree in marketing in 1982 from TU, where he attended on a full football scholarship before spending three years as a professional place kicker in the NFL and USFL.

As chairman and president of Bridgestone Retail Operations, LLC (BSRO) - a \$4 billion business unit of Bridgestone Americas - Crum has leadership oversight of operations for 2,218 company-owned tire and automotive service

centers across the United States operating under the Firestone Complete Auto Care, Tires Plus, Hibdon Tires Plus and Wheel Works brands; in the field organization; and at the corporate Store Support Center location, all of which employ more than 23,000 people. He also works to ensure collaboration, integration and strategic alignment between BSRO and the Bridgestone Americas group.

With 30 years of experience in the automotive retail business, Crum previously served as president of Jiffy Lube International, overseeing more than 2,100 fran-



STU CRUM

chised service centers serving approximately 22 million customers annually throughout North America. He held numerous other leadership roles with Shell during his 13-year tenure there, including vice president of National Accounts, North American Automotive Consumer Products; general manager Strategy & Portfolio, North America; general manager Sales & Operations, Caribbean, Central America, Northern South America; and director of marketing. Prior to joining Shell, Crum worked for Texaco Inc., serving in various marketing and retail capacities.

Crum is a board member of the Automotive Aftermarket Charitable Foundation and the Coalition for Automotive Equality Repair and serves on the advisory boards for the Collins College of Business and Master of Energy Business Advisory Council, both at The University of Tulsa. He also holds a seat on the Board of Managers for DRB Holdings, LLC. He is former chairman of Northwest Houston Young Life and former national vice president of the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Crum and his wife, Mia, reside in Barrington, Ill. They have two adult children.

Arvest Bank Continues Highest Rankings

Arvest Bank once again received the highest ranking among its peers in both the South Central and Southwest Regions in the J.D. Power 2015 Retail Banking Satisfaction Study.

This marks the seventh time, overall and consecutively, Arvest has been recognized with a J.D. Power regional award. The bank has received a total of 12 J.D. Power awards during that span.

Arvest previously ranked highest in satisfaction with retail banking in the Southeast (2009), South

Central (2010, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015), and Southwest (2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015) regions. The 2015 study was conducted with more than 80,000 banking consumers throughout 11 regions across the United States.

"We are thrilled to be recognized again for the customer satisfaction award from J.D. Power for the 6th year in a row," says Arvest Tulsa Executive Vice President Kim Adams. "Our associates strive to provide exceptional customer service. We realize

customers have many choices when it comes to financial solutions and want to thank our customers for being loyal and allowing Arvest to be their bank of choice."

In the Southwest Region, Arvest received the highest score in four factors - product offerings, facility, account information and fees - analyzed by the study. The Southwest Region consists of six states: Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, Oklahoma and Utah.

In the South Central Region, Arvest received the highest score in five factors: fees, product offerings, facility, account information and channel activities. The South Central Region consists of five states: Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee.

To view the full release from J.D. Power, visit www.jdpower.com.

About Arvest Bank

Arvest Bank operates more than 270 bank branches in Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri and Kansas

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NORDAM Lauded by AEP/PSO for Lighting Efficiency

NORDAM received the American Electric Power / Public Service Company of Oklahoma (AEP/PSO) award for "Best Lighting Energy Efficiency Project of 2014" during the utility's Spring Commercial & Industrial Workshop at Southern Hills Marriott, 1902 E. 71st Street.

The honor comes as a result of replacing 650 thousand-watt, metal-halide lighting fixtures with energy-saving LEDs at NORDAM's Repair Division, a move that cut the facility's wattage use in half.

Vice President of Global Marketing Bailey J. Siegfried, who is responsible for NORDAM's Office of Corporate Responsibility, accepted the award on behalf of the aerospace company. "Pursuing energy-efficient solutions to reduce environmental impact is important to NORDAM," he said. "This project

alone prevents more than 2,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide from being created per year and saves enough electricity to power nearly 300 homes."

"NORDAM's project will result in significant energy savings for the company on an ongoing basis. For investing in highly-efficient LED technology, it also received a rebate from PSO to help offset the cost of that investment. PSO is pleased to have partnered with NORDAM on its energy-efficiency improvement project," Kerry Rowland, PSO Energy Efficiency & Consumer Programs coordinator, said.

NORDAM also won the top lighting project in 2013 for a similar replacement of LEDs at its Interiors & Structures and Nacelles & Thrust Reverser Systems divisions, both in Cherokee Industrial Park.

Headquartered in Tulsa and employing 2,500 people across nine facilities on three continents, NORDAM is one of the world's largest independently-owned aerospace companies.

The firm designs, certifies and manufactures integrated propulsion systems, nacelles and thrust reversers for business jets; builds composite aircraft structures, interior shells, custom cabinetry and radomes; and manufactures aircraft transparencies, such as cabin windows, wing-tip lens assemblies and flight deck windows.

NORDAM also is a major third-party provider of maintenance, repair and overhaul services to the military, commercial airline and air freight markets. Learn more about NORDAM at www.NORDAM.com.



BRIGHT IDEA: From left, PSO Customer Services Engineer Micah Burdge, NORDAM Vice President of Global Marketing Bailey J. Siegfried and Manager of Facilities and Maintenance Kevin Martin pose after NORDAM accepted the Best Lighting Energy Efficiency Project of 2014 at the utility's Spring Commercial & Industrial Workshop at Southern Hills Marriott in Tulsa.

TYPros Foundation Holds Grant Month Kick Off Event

The TYPros Foundation hosted an event to kick off the grant application month and share goals for the funds. The event was held May 13 at AHHA in the Brady District.

The TYPros Foundation will work to develop the next generation of community and philanthropic leaders and provide strategic financial support for projects, events and programs that advance the foundation's mission.

In an effort to expand the organization's reach, respond to community needs, and offer diverse and consistent opportunities for its members to volunteer, Tulsa's Young Professionals announced the creation of the TYPros Foundation at the organization's annual Boomtown Awards last fall.

The mission of the TYPros Foundation is to cultivate new opportunities that bridge economic development and sense of place by engaging young talent across the nation. The foundation, TYPF, will work to develop the next generation of community and philanthropic leaders and provide strategic financial support for projects, events or programs that advance the foundation's mission.



TRUSTEES: TYPros Trustees welcomed guests to the TYPros Foundation Grants Kick off event at AHHA in the Brady District May 13.

"As TYPros celebrates its 10th anniversary, we are ready to bolster our support of efforts and initiatives close to our mission," says Shagah Zakerion, executive director of TYPros. "To accomplish these initiatives, it is necessary for us to be bold in our approach toward community activism."

See more at www.typros.org.

Gatesway Launches Shredding

The Gatesway Foundation, based in Broken Arrow, is launching a commercial shredding operation.

This is the agency's way of helping the community fight the growing problem of identity theft, according to Sonya Barraza, Gatesway Vocational Program manager.

Barraza says the agency began a small shredding operation which it named Paper Chase, as a community service in April 2009 at 114 W. Commercial. The undertaking has grown to employ eight individuals with intellectual and physical disabilities and a job coach who is an agency employee and now has commercial capabilities. Its workforce has doubled with the opening of a second site on the Gatesway campus at 1217 E. College.

At both locations, employees scan all materials to make sure staples and paperclips are removed before it is sent to the shredding machines. Once shredded, the paper is packaged into one-ton bundles and sold to a commercial recycling operation.

Barraza says Gatesway is averaging one bundle of shredded paper per week. As the commercial operation gets established, she is hopeful that total will quickly double or triple.

The public is invited to drop off material at either location between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. As a convenience for businesses, pickup services are available, according to Barraza. Commercial customers are served on a negotiated fee basis. For individuals who drop off material, regular charges

are 14 cents per pound with the first 20 pounds shredded at no cost.

Because of the size of the commercial operation, those taking material to the East College site can actually watch their documents being shredded, she says.

Judi Myers, Gatesway CEO, says the expanded operation is part of an array of employment programs designed to provide the individuals who the agency serves with opportunities to have full-time jobs and earn paychecks.

In addition to shredding, Gatesway has programs tailored to meeting the needs of customers in food services, hospitality, janitorial, manufacturing and the medical field. It also has a lawn care crew to serve residential and commercial customers.



TULSA'S FUTURE: Tulsa Regional Chamber Senior Vice President of Education and Workforce Brian Paschal, center, and Senior Vice President of Economic Development Brien Thorstenberg, right, presented the Tulsa Regional Chamber's Tulsa's Future III at a recent Rotary Club of Tulsa luncheon. At left is Jim Dunn of Mill Creek. The Tulsa's Future plan includes a four pillar approach toward the educated and skilled talent to meet the economic needs of the future, as well as the quality of community and entrepreneurial culture need for the region to thrive.

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Urban 8 Development Holds Launch Party

Town Homes in East Village Now Available for Purchase

The Urban 8 Launch Party was held May 12 at Girouard Vines in Tulsa East Village and hosted by JoAnna Dorman Blackstock. Urban 8, one of the newest downtown residential developments, is located in the East Village at 222 S. Kenosha.

The development features eight three-level townhomes that are available for purchase. City of Tulsa officials, business leaders and project developers broke ground on the project Feb. 14, 2014.



GOING UP: The Urban 8 development features eight three-level townhomes. EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers



HAPPY GUESTS: Visitors to the Urban 8 launch party were happy to see the progress on the project. Host JoAnna Dorman Blackstock is second from right. GTR Newspapers photo

Leaders Celebrate Area Economic Successes

Governor Fallin joined regional business leaders, community leaders, Mayor Dewey Bartlett and Tulsa Regional Chamber staff for the Tulsa's Future Annual Meeting, held in April.

The meeting highlighted the economic development initiative's 2014 successes, as well as introduced its next phase, Tulsa's Future III, which will fund the region's economic development efforts through the year 2020.

Tulsa's Future is building a unique, high-performance regional economy by mobilizing private-sector leader-

ship and public partnership. Today, 140 public and private sector regional partners support the Tulsa Regional Chamber's economic development efforts through the Tulsa's Future initiative.

"I think it's a wonderful model for the rest of our state to be able to emulate how you come together and you look at opportunities to strengthen this area of the state, to work together in partnership and to come together for the common good," Gov. Fallin said. "It's very impressive, and it's something I've always admired."

Since 2011, Tulsa's Future has

directly attributed or assisted with the creation of 23,898 new jobs in the Tulsa region, with 12,268 of those jobs meeting the Tulsa's Future program's target annual salary of \$50,000 or greater.

This year, Tulsa's Future will continue building upon this momentum as it plans to enter its third phase. Funding for the next phase of Tulsa's Future will focus not only on job growth, but also on developing the Tulsa region's prosperous future, innovative future, skilled future and livable future.

In order to facilitate the develop-

ment of Tulsa's Future III, the Tulsa Regional Chamber retained Market Street Services. Market Street principles and project managers spent much of 2014 gaining inclusive guidance from the Tulsa's Future Steering Committee, regional partners, tribes and extensive public input to assist Tulsa's Future in shaping its new direction through 2020.

"Our team sees the Tulsa region at a turning point, with an excitement and enthusiasm we have never seen before," said Mac Holladay, president, CEO and founder of Market Street Services.

Tulsa's Future III has a campaign goal of \$21 million and a stretch goal of \$23 million in order to fully fund the robust and necessary program of work.

"There are many success we can count through our regional economic development efforts," said Mike Neal, president and CEO of the Tulsa Regional Chamber. "The most important component of those efforts is continuing cooperation and support. Together, we are building a better northeast Oklahoma for all of its current residents and all of those who will one day call it home."

Broken Arrow Antique Radio Club to Hold 'Sizzler'

John Anderson, vice president of the Broken Arrow Antique Radio Club, announces the club's annual event, The Summer Sizzler, will be held at the Asbury United Methodist Church Saturday, June 13 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.

The one-day event is open to the

public. Participants can bring a radio to display or just come to look at others. Those that have an old radio can bring it and can find someone who may be able to get it working.

The room to be used at the church will be filled with restored radios from the 1920s through the 1960s. These radios can be shown for fun or be judged for ribbons. There will be donuts and coffee and at lunchtime hot dogs will be for sale for a donation.

The event is basically all for free, unless participants want to partici-

pate in a Sell Table in the church to sell radios, etc.

At the end of day, items that are not sold will be auctioned. Proceeds will be given to the club.

The study of antique radios gives us a fine view of the history and economics of technological innovation. There is also an appreciation of artistic design: some old radios are ornate or elegantly simple, and some are excessively garnished. The latter are sometimes in the greatest demand.

The Asbury United Methodist Church is located at 6767 S. Mingo Rd. in Tulsa.



HISTORIC EVENT: Antique radios will be on display at the Asbury United Methodist Church June 13 courtesy of the Broken Arrow Antique Radio Club. Courtesy photo

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Spavina Project Completed

(Continued from page 7)

site was soon to become the pipe manufacturing plant. In thirteen and a half months, well over 24,000 reinforced concrete pipes sections were produced and delivered on-site making up 53 miles of the 55-mile conduit line, two miles being the Tiawah tunnel.

A temporary railroad line running parallel to the route of the trench cut was required to haul the 10-ton pipe sections for laying in. The building of the railroad began immediately after contracts were awarded in October of 1922. The first load of concrete pipe was delivered to the trench cut on Feb. 23, 1923. Three days later the first section of pipe for the conduit line was laid in. This marked the end of the beginning of a project that was fast becoming a marvelous feat of human ingenuity, resourcefulness and plain old back breaking labor.

At the project's south end, land was cleared in preparation for the Mohawk Reservoir construction. When completed, it would hold 500-million gallons of Spavina water fed by the gravity driven conduit line. From there the water would be pumped through a 30-inch steel pipe four miles away to a 10-million gallon, distributing reservoir.

Work camps sprung up along the

route complete with bunkhouses, bathing facilities and fully-staffed kitchens. According to Holway's journal, workers were fed hearty and healthy meals. The camps were governed by strict rules enforced by camp operators regarding cleanliness, manners and punctuality at mealtime. Breaking any rule could cost a man his job.

All along the 55-mile route, from the pristine forested Ozark hills at the north end down to the lower flatlands to the south, men and machine dug, bored, blasted, poured and fitted together the Spavina waterline. Twice, spring rains came as they always do in Oklahoma and washed out the makeshift rail lines, flooded excavation, halted work and set back timelines. Sweltering summer heat and freezing winter came and went, but the project, the largest of its kind for that time in America, continued, always with the goal in mind of bringing abundant, clean water to one of the fastest-growing cities in America.

On Nov. 7, 1924, just twenty-five months after construction contracts had been awarded, arrangements were made for President Calvin Coolidge to push a button in Washington D.C., supposedly to open the gates at Spavina Dam releasing water down the 55-mile conduit line to a city anxiously

waiting and poised to celebrate its arrival. It was a concocted stunt designed to garnish publicity for Tulsa even though nationwide newspaper articles were already taking note of the accomplishment.

Also as a promotional stunt, Holway had his final paycheck of \$15,000 placed in a container and sent through the conduit line to the Mohawk reservoir where he waited to retrieve it. Tulsa's long quest for clean, abundant water was at an end.

More than gravity brought water down that long concrete straw to Tulsa. Other forces were at play as exemplified by the persistence, patience, dedication, intelligence and wisdom of Tulsa citizenry and city leaders and by the skill, fortitude and labor of many hard working Oklahomans. But one man stands out displaying all the above attributes: W. R. Holway. It was a classic case of the right man at the right time in the right place altering the course of Tulsa's history.

Special thanks to the Holway family for providing documents authored by W. R. Holway and for permission to publish the many marvelous photos accompanying this series of articles.

Next Month: The series will focus on a new chapter of Tulsa's unique and storied past.

BUSINESS & PEOPLE NOTES



GTR Newspapers Photo

ST. JOHN DUO: Justin McLaughlin, left, St. John Foundation president and vice president of government affairs, and Richard Boone, longtime president of St. John Foundation, stand together at the groundbreaking ceremony for the Porta Caeli House, an end-of-life facility. The facility will be located next to Catholic Charities, 2450 N. Harvard Ave.

Union Schools Education Foundation Trustees recently hired **Brandy Flewellen** as USEF's executive director. Flewellen is responsible for the planning, direction, administration, and implementation of comprehensive development programs resulting in financial assistance from USEF to Union Public Schools. She will also lead the foundation's fundraising and public relations efforts while overseeing its financial records.



FLEWELLEN

Prior to joining USEF, Flewellen worked for the American Heart Association, where she served as the executive director. She has more than eight years of experience in nonprofit, community involvement and fundraising work.

Jackie Cooper Nissan announces the promotion of **Cliff Jones** to Jackie Cooper Nissan service manager. Jones has 12 years experience in the automotive industry and joined the dealership in 2008. An OSU graduate, Jones' previous position was Infiniti service advisor. Jackie Cooper Nissan is located at 9898 S. Memorial Dr.



JONES

Jackie Cooper Imports announces **Kristen Doyle** and **Cindy Puertas** have joined the locally owned automotive dealership.



DOYLE

Doyle was previously creative services producer for television station KTUL and brings 22 years of expertise to the dealership's marketing and development efforts. Doyle was a recipient of the National Association of Broadcasters Education Foundation's Service to America Award for her community service management and leadership at KTUL.



PUERTAS

Puertas is a new car Mercedes-Benz sales representative. A native of Columbia, South America, Puertas is fluent in four languages: English, Portuguese, Italian and Spanish. She previously held sales positions at Hoehn Honda in Carlsbad, Calif., and Don Carlton Honda in Tulsa. Jackie Cooper Imports is located at 9393 S. Memorial Drive. The dealership sells and services Maserati, Mercedes-Benz, Porsche, Infiniti, smart, and pre-owned vehicles.

Stinnett & Associates, a professional advisory firm, has hired **Jennifer Gill** as a senior associate; she has over 18 years of experience in the energy industry. Her experience includes OPEX and CAPEX budgeting, forecasting and reporting as well as joint interest accounting, sales tax, and general ledger analysis and reconciliation. Gill holds a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from Langston University.



GILL

Kimberly Johnson has been promoted to chief operating officer for the **Tulsa City-County Library**.



JOHNSON

In this role, she will develop and implement long-range plans for services and operations, execute the 2030 Facilities Master Plan, and lead the public service side of the Central Library renovation project.

Johnson earned her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Tulsa and earned her Master of library and information science from the University of Oklahoma.

She joined the Tulsa City-County Library in 1998 as the first coordinator of the African-American Resource Center. In that role she was responsible for collecting, preserving and providing access to resources honoring and documenting the experiences of people of African descent. She established the library's first countywide public tour to Oklahoma's Historic All-Black Towns as well as Tulsa's first countywide reading initiative, "Tulsa Metro Reads."

In 2005, she was promoted as the manager of the South Broken Arrow Library, followed by a promotion in 2010 as the manager of Hardesty Regional Library. In 2012, she was promoted to regional director with responsibility for 11 of the Tulsa City-County Library's 24 public locations. A year later Johnson became deputy director, chief innovation officer where she was instrumental in customizing library buildings and services to meet the demands of the 21st century library customer.

Rose State College, located in Midwest City, Okla., announces **Tamara Pratt** as associate vice president for strategic communication and marketing.



PRATT

Pratt brings a wide skill set to the team with over 20 years experience in communications, community affairs, strategic planning and marketing. She has been a reporter for KWTU-NEWS 9 and is specifically known for her coverage of the Timothy McVeigh federal trial. She also served for four years as the communications director at the Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism and an additional three years as the organization's deputy director. Before moving to Rose State, Pratt worked with the American Red Cross first as communications lead and then as the major gifts officer for financial development.

As associate vice president for strategic communications and marketing, Pratt will work diligently to roll out the college's new branding and to promote the innovative programs coming out of Rose State College which is being led by President Jeanie Webb.

Goodwill Industries of Tulsa announces newly elected officers for its 2015 -2016 board of directors. Chairman of the board: **Page Bachman**, St. John Health System; vice chairman: **Terry Blain**, CrossFirst Bank; secretary/treasurer: **Steve Berlin**. Newly elected directors to the board: **Pam Friggel**, QuikTrip, and **Craig Sutton**, Roto Hammer Industries, Inc. **David E. Oliver** was re-elected president of Goodwill Industries of Tulsa.

Karen Dills has recently been promoted to executive director of **RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) of Tulsa**, where she will oversee RSVP's programs and services for seniors, 55 and over, which cover five counties in northeastern Oklahoma.



DILLS

Dills joined RSVP in April 2012 as volunteer coordinator. She came to RSVP after ten years at the Oklahoma Aquarium where she served in various capacities, most notably as community education manager and volunteer coordinator. She attended Florida State University and Northeastern State University's Organizational Leadership Program. She has more than 30 years of experience in the Tulsa nonprofit community, including serving in many volunteer leadership roles.

RSVP of Tulsa also announces that **Scott Gaffen, CVA**, has accepted the position of coordinator of volunteer resources for the agency.



GAFFEN

Gaffen brings a wealth of human resource management skills to RSVP along with 11 years of experience in the Tulsa nonprofit community, including serving on the Board of the Mizel Jewish Community Day School and most recently serving as board vice president for Volunteer Tulsa. He was the first male and first under-40 in Oklahoma to become certified in volunteer administration. Gaffen earned his bachelor's degree in musical theatre from The University of Tulsa.

1Architecture announces the promotion of **Kevin Hale, AIA**, and **Nick Denison, Associate AIA**, as associate principals.



HALE

Hale is a graduate of the School of Architecture at Oklahoma State University and the Kendall College of Arts & Sciences at The University of Tulsa. He is a registered architect in Oklahoma and has been with the firm since 2008. Hale has worked on a wide variety of projects since joining 1Architecture, including the Mary K. Chapman Rhino Reserve, Pearl Place Certified Historic Rehabilitation, the LEED Gold Certified Reservoir Hill Home, and many local restaurants, including Edward Delk's, Charlie Mitchell's Modern Pub, and the original Andolini's Pizzeria on Cherry Street.

Denison graduated from the University of Oklahoma's School of Architecture. He has extensive experience in secondary education and cultural facilities. In his role with 1Architecture, Denison has been a project lead on a large multi-building campus project for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration Program as well as the new Andolini's Pizzeria in Broken Arrow and Lick Your Lips Mini Donuts coming soon to Historic Route 66.



DENISON



GTR Newspapers Photo

CULINARY EVENT: Employees of Embassy Suites gather at the Metro Tulsa Hotel and Lodging Association's Food Fest: A Taste of Hospitality. The event was held recently at the Oklahoma Aquarium in Jenks. From left are Austin Case, chief engineer; Ken Morgan, general manager; Tim Reed, sous chef; Barbara Armstrong, cook; Heather Hall, senior sales manager; Jennifer Henson, sales manager; and Sara Milligan, assistant general manager.

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Frank Lloyd Wright's Westhope at Home in Tulsa

In 1928, the publisher of the Tulsa Tribune (for many years our evening newspaper), Richard Lloyd Jones, decided to build a new residence in the 3700 block of South Birmingham Avenue on the outer fringe of 1920s Tulsa. His natural choice for the architect was his cousin and close friend from his Wisconsin childhood Frank Lloyd Wright.

At age 51, Wright had had a tumultuous but highly successful career that continued well into the 1950s. Without question, he was an icon of 20th century American architecture. Wright was almost single-handedly responsible for the "Prairie School" style. Today, we call the descendants of this style "ranch houses." Wright emphasized the organic environment. He was fond of utilizing geometric forms and was not afraid to try new concepts. He particularly enjoyed experimenting with cutting-edge building products and technology.

Some say Wright was very arrogant. Perhaps he was, but his charisma and passion about his work were so strong that his clients bought into his designs anyway.

His ego was unquenchable, as strong as his originality.

The house was finished in 1929 and was and still is a "tour de force," the only residence by Wright in Oklahoma. Of course, it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Wright fans from across the U.S. and from around the world travel to Tulsa to see this home.

There is a story about a client of Wright's complaining about a roof leak above a desk in a home office. Wright's response was said to have been, "Well, move the desk." This anecdote could well have come from Mrs. Richard Lloyd Jones. Understandably, it was said she was not fond of the house. The house's original flat roof was surfaced with flagstone over asphalt, a Wright experiment which leaked like a sieve and had to be replaced.

As a small boy accompanying my grandmother one day, I saw the inside of the home. The interior was furnished with antiques in a traditional manner, in stark contrast to the very contemporary enclosure Wright had created.

On Architecture



By ROGER COFFEY, AIA



ARCHITECTURAL LANDMARK: In the 3700 block of South Birmingham Avenue sits the only Frank Lloyd Wright home ever built in Oklahoma. The prairie style home was built in 1929 for Richard Lloyd Jones, then-publisher of the Tulsa Tribune.

Perhaps Mrs. Jones enjoyed having the final say on the home's interior design.

Approaching Westhope, the name given this residence by the Jones family, there is a strong rhythm of vertical masonry piers separated by narrow vertical panels of glass. A series of flat roofs integrate with a masonry wall to create a courtyard enclosure around a pool and terrace. Upon closer scrutiny, the masonry can be identified as a custom concrete block, created on site with forms that Wright designed. Integral on the concrete blocks is a geometric relief, almost Mayan in character. The utilitarian concrete block we

use today did not become commercially available until after World War II.

The interior of Westhope predictably features a very open floor plan with interesting transitions from low ceilings to high spaces. In its sprawling character parallel to the ground, it could be identified with what many call Wright's "Usonian Period." Richard Lloyd Jones, with his quirky sense of humor, dubbed it "A Pickle Factory" during construction when asked about it by curious onlookers.

Westhope has had only three owners since the Jones family lived there. All have been very

sensitive to Wright's design. Only the kitchen and bathrooms have received modest upgrades. One owner/architect M. Murray McCune installed central air-conditioning and had grills made from the original recessed lighting molds. (The original lighting was incased in hollow concrete blocks.) McCune also enclosed part of the poolside terrace.

Today, Westhope stands as a testament to Wright's genius. In driving by, it looks much as it did when originally built except for the mature trees and landscaping that surround it. Tulsans with an appreciation for fine architecture feel lucky it is part of our city.



GTR Newspapers photo

CANDLELIGHT BALL: The 4th Annual CANDLElight Ball was held on April 25 at the historic Mayo Hotel. The event raised funds for the Child Abuse Network, Inc. Enjoying the evening are, from left, Peggy Nevins, Jeff Nevins, Event Chair Amanda McConnell (in yellow), Lisa Marshall, Adam Marshall, Board Member Cari Marshall, Gordon Marshall, CAN Executive Director Barbara Findeiss, CAN Board President Adrienne Barnett and Honorary Chair Tim Harris.



Courtesy University of Tulsa

HALL OF FAME: Michelle Beale, second from right, stands with friends Deloris Wood, Steve Turnbo and Pat Cremin on May 12, when Beale was inducted into the University of Tulsa Communication Hall of Fame. Beale graduated from TU in 1966 with a degree in journalism and from the TU College of Law in 1977. Beale has worked for Skelly Oil Company, Getty Oil Company and The Coca-Cola Company. After retiring from Coca-Cola, she became president of her own management consulting firm in Houston, Texas.

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Castle of Muskogee Expands Fireworks Selection

42 New Fireworks Offered for 2015

The Castle of Muskogee, Oklahoma's 37,000-square-foot fireworks retail showroom, has added 42 new fireworks to its selection.

Offerings include novelty fireworks for younger children, more than 400 items for teens and adults, the largest selection of heavy-weight and multi-action displays. Specially-priced family packs are also available.

The annual fireworks sale lasts from June 15 through July 5, with special discount pricing throughout the showroom.

The Castle inspects fireworks through the American Fireworks Standards Laboratory before they are shipped to the U.S. and after they arrive in the country by the Consumer Product Safety Commission in order to assure customer safety. All fireworks are also guaranteed to light.

Hours:
June 15-June 26: 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
June 27-July 4: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
July 5-6: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Guidelines for Fireworks Safety
Fireworks are beautiful when they explode in the sky in multiple colors, patterns and sequences.

Follow safety rules and use basic precautions when handling fireworks so that celebrations remain beautiful and safe.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission and the National Council on Fireworks Safety offer the following safety checklist:

- Always read and follow label directions.
- Have an adult present.
- Buy from reliable sellers.
- Use outdoors only.
- Always have water handy (a garden hose and a bucket).

- Only shoot from a hard, flat and level surface.
- Never experiment or make your own fireworks.
- Light only one firework at a time.
- Never re-light a "dud" firework (wait 15 minutes then soak it in water).
- Never give fireworks to small children.
- If necessary, store fireworks in a cool, dry place.
- Dispose of fireworks by soaking them in water before putting in the trash.
- Never throw or point fireworks at other people.
- Never carry fireworks in your pocket.
- Never shoot fireworks in metal or glass containers.



Courtesy Castle of Muskogee

CELEBRATION TIME: The Castle of Muskogee, Oklahoma's 37,000-square-foot fireworks retail showroom, has added 42 new fireworks for its selection.

- The shooter should always wear eye protection and never have any part of the body over the firework.
- Stay away from illegal explosives.

Tulsa County Recycling at an All-Time High

An eco-activist does not have to look long to find a cause to champion these days. But sometimes, we need to stop and realize how far we've come and how much we do for the good of ourselves, our city and our future.

Tulsa County residents are so on board with recycling that the city had to release a campaign to remind us just exactly what can and cannot be tossed in to curbside bins. Hats off, Tulsans! By the way, those four to focus on include paper, plastics #1 & 2, glass, and aluminum/steel.

Pollutants Contained

Tulsa County residents made use of this year's Pollutant Collection Event held by The Metropolitan Environmental Trust.

Volunteers at this annual event held at the Tulsa Fairgrounds saw more than 2,100 vehicles. They unloaded items at an average of 22 seconds each. I have never thought about how long it should take to unload something from a vehicle, and that sounds really fast.

I think my love of recycling and seeing a load of stuff taken to a safe harbor fires me up so much that I could enjoy volunteers taking longer to unload so I have time to crank my playlist, "Blast While Waiting," and create a dance party with random Tulsans. So, thank you, to the more than 100 volunteers who served our community through-out this two-day event.

Collection Totals:

Mercury	166 lbs
Flourescent bulbs	1,063 lbs
Pesticides	8,619 lbs
Pills and medications	656 lbs
Used motor oil	2,800 gallons

Thank you, Recycle Michael

Trash Talk would also like to take this space to thank and congratulate M.E.T.'s retiring executive director, Michael Patton, for an incredibly successful career. Patton worked tirelessly to create a greener Tulsa through this amazing organization's services. Don't think he's done, though. History shows that Patton will continue to benefit Tulsa's eco legacy throughout all of his new endeavors.

Inspirational School

Another great eco inspiration hails from the Oklahoma Green Schools conference held this year in Sand Springs. Students from Union's Peters Elementary Green Team gave a presentation you can find on

Union Public Schools' youtube channel. They're a great example of what this program offers.

Trash Talk



By BETH TURNER
Tulsa Master Recyclers Association

You may remember their flag ceremony published in May 2013 Trash Talk, when through their investigations revealed how to cut the site's energy bill by nearly half, and planted fourteen trees so that future generations will have shade for outside classroom space.

Since then, student president Mia Hodson reports that the team expanded to investigate recycling and STEM learning in the Solarium. "We were able to create an environment that allowed two baby ducks to hatch. Unfortunately, we also learned the tough lesson of nature, when a hawk found the ducks and carried them away." Member Grayson Tempest thanked Bethany Church for partnering with the Solarium project. "Without their support, their time, their money and their knowledge, we wouldn't have such a great outdoor place."

Hodson reported that this past year, overall recycling more than doubled. She says their Abitibi recycling bin, better known as Paper Retriever recycling fundraiser bins found at local churches and schools, only took paper when they began their focus on waste. Students began researching ways to improve lessening the school's trash output. Tempest credited a willing faculty and staff in finding new ways to recycle. "One teacher found that we can mail Crayola our old markers, and we sent them a full, 30 pound box, and our cafeteria manager on her own started taking our cardboard to a drop-off site."

Numbers really jumped when their recycling service changed hands. Hodson says, "We found that American Waste Company bought the Abitibi bins and started taking more recycling. We weigh it and create our findings in an Excell spreadsheet so you can see that at the beginning of the school year we recycled 100 pounds in the first two weeks but then it jumped to 250 pounds, and that's in addition to the cardboard, and the aluminum recycled in the front of the building."

Aren't they inspiring?! If you are interested, learn more at okgreenschools.org.

New Bin Policy

Speaking of those recycling bins, according to American Waste, they purchased the Abitibi, or Paper Retriever bins, as the business in our area folded. "Their business model did not quite work. So we're trying to make it work."

Abitibi's model: No charge for the bin and



UPCYCLED BINS: Local company, American Waste, recently purchased Paper Retriever bins, left, from bankrupt Canadian company Abitibi-Bowater. You will begin seeing their new look, right, with Mr. Murph as well as new charges for maintenance and services.

the materials haul-off, profit sharing payments to non-profit organizations

American Waste's model: Charge a fee for the bin and materials haul-off. The 96 former Abitibi qualifying customers receive part of the recyclables sale once over a certain amount.

According to American Waste Vice President, Paul Ross, "One of the reasons you have to have this business model in the recycling industry is the fluctuating costs versus income from your product. Take now, for instance. Oil prices are low and recycling numbers are high. That drives down buy-back profit. But recycling is always the right thing to do. It's a no-brainer. So we work to keep costs low and profits high for every-

one, and we share that when we can." Ross credits Tulsa County residents and The M.E.T. with ever-increasing growth in the local recycling industry, and says he hopes the trend continues.

Join in the Conversation

So, no word on whether Peters will get to keep their bins now under the care of Mr. Murph, since a charge for the service will come around in the near future. But with a team like those at Peters, the future looks green to me.

Any questions or anything to add to the conversation? Send them in to bturner@gtrnews.com or follow along @TrashTalkTulsa.

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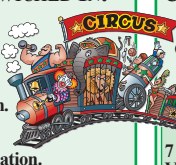


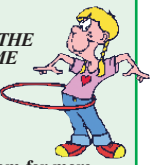


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SummerStage Tulsa 2015 Opens June 12 at the Tulsa PAC

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>24 May</p> <p>GEE'S BEND Theatre North 3 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>SUNDAY CONCERT: HORTON RECORDS AT THE GUTHRIE GREEN Guthrie Green 2:30 - 6:30 Visit guthriegreen.com for more information.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>TULSA DRILLERS vs. NW Arkansas 6:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information</p> <p>BEHIND-THE-SCENES SHARK FEED TOUR Oklahoma Aquarium 1:15 - 2:15 p.m. Visit okaquarium.org for more information.</p> 	<p>26</p> <p>MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET Celebrity Attractions 7:30 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>BRUCE HORNSBY & THE NOISEMAKERS Cain's Ballroom 7 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</p>	<p>27</p> <p>MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET Celebrity Attractions 7:30 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>JASON BONHAM'S LED ZEPPELIN EXPERIENCE Brady Theater 7 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for more information.</p> <p>More Bank for your Buck.  Member Central Banccompany Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™</p>	<p>28</p> <p>MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET Celebrity Attractions 7:30 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>2015 JOHN HOPE FRANKLIN CENTER SYMPOSIUM ON RECONCILIATION Hyatt Regency Hotel 6:30 - 11:59 p.m. Visit jfhcenter.org for more information.</p>	<p>29</p> <p>GEE'S BEND Theatre North 8 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET Celebrity Attractions 8 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>PANCHAM: THE IMMORTAL NOTE South Asian Performing Arts Foundation 7:30 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p>	<p>30</p> <p>GEE'S BEND Theatre North 8 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET Celebrity Attractions 2 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>TULSA ROUGHNECKS vs. Portland 7 p.m. For more information, visit tulsaroughnecksf.com</p> 
<p>31</p> <p>MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET Celebrity Attractions 2 & 7 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>RAGTIME PIANO CONCERT: MORTEN GUNNAR LARSEN & DONALD RYAN Ragtime for Tulsa 2 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> 	<p>1 June</p> <p>LESS THAN JAKE AND REEL BIG FISH Cain's Ballroom 7:30 - 10 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</p> <p>TUESDAYS IN THE PARK - MIDLIFE CRISIS BAND Central Park, Broken Arrow 7 - 9 p.m. Visit www.baarts.org for more information.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>TULSA DRILLERS vs. Midland 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information</p> <p>ROBIN TROWER Cain's Ballroom 8 - 10:30 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</p> <p>Free Mobile Banking at onbbank.com  Member Central Banccompany Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™</p>	<p>3</p> <p>TULSA DRILLERS vs. Midland 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information</p> <p>BRANDI CARLILE Cain's Ballroom 7:30 - 10 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</p> 	<p>4</p> <p>TULSA DRILLERS vs. Midland 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information</p> <p>THERAPEUTICS SERVICE DOGS OF OKLAHOMA BENEFIT Fox & Hound, Broken Arrow 6 - 9 p.m. Visit therapeutics.org for info.</p> <p>LEAKE CAR AUCTION River Spirit Expo June 5 - 7 Visit leakecar.com for more information.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>CHUGGINGTON LIVE! Celebrity Attractions 7 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>TULSA DRILLERS vs. Frisco 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information</p> <p>WEST SIDE STORY Tulsa Project Theatre 7:30 p.m. • June 5-6 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>LINNAEUS TEACHING GARDEN 9TH ANNIVERSARY Woodward Park 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Visit tulsagardencenter.com.</p> <p>TULSA DRILLERS vs. Frisco 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information</p> <p>TULSA SHOCK vs. Chicago 7 p.m. Visit wnba.com/shock for more information.</p> 
<p>7</p> <p>WEST SIDE STORY Tulsa Project Theatre 2 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>TULSA DRILLERS vs. Frisco 2:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information</p> <p>BRIT FLOYD Brady Theater 7 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for more information.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>MUSIC SANDWICHED IN: CAIRDE NA GAEL Oklahoma Methodist Manor 12:10 - 12:50 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</p>  <p>FTNESS ON THE GREEN: YOGA Guthrie Green 5:30 p.m. Visit guthriegreen.com for more information.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>CIRCUS CAMP! Tulsa PAC June 9 - 12 Contact porticodanstheatre@live.com for more information.</p> <p>TULSA SHOCK vs. Seattle 7 p.m. Visit wnba.com/shock for more information.</p> <p>Free small business checking  Member Central Banccompany Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™</p>	<p>10</p> <p>IMPROV-U Thomas K. McKeon Center for Creativity, TCC 12 - 1 p.m. Visit tulsace.edu for more information.</p> <p>FOOD TRUCK WEDNESDAY Guthrie Green 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Visit guthriegreen.com for more information.</p> <p>KNITWITS KNITTING CLUB Librarium 3 - 5 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>TULSA DRILLERS vs. NW Arkansas 7:05 p.m. • June 11-12 Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information</p> <p>WEST SIDE STORY Tulsa Project Theatre 7:30 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>MOVIE IN THE PARK: TOY STORY Guthrie Green 6:30 p.m. Visit guthriegreen.com for more information.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>WEST SIDE STORY Tulsa Project Theatre 7:30 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>GIMME ABBEY Celebrity Attractions 8 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>PAGLIACCI PROJECT Portico Dans Theatre 8 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>WEST SIDE STORY Tulsa Project Theatre 2 & 7:30 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>TULSA DRILLERS vs. Springfield 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information</p> <p>PAGLIACCI PROJECT Portico Dans Theatre 8 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p>
<p>14</p> <p>WEST SIDE STORY Tulsa Project Theatre 2 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>TOP HAT FAMILY MAGIC SHOW Steve Lancaster 2 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>ALONZO KING LINES BALLET Choregus Productions 3 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>TULSA DRILLERS vs. Springfield 11:05 a.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information</p> <p>PAWS FOR READING Jenks Library 4 - 5 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</p> <p>Ask us about ID Fraud Protection  Member Central Banccompany Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™</p>	<p>16</p> <p>TULSA DRILLERS vs. Springfield 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information</p> <p>TULSA SHOCK vs. San Antonio 11:30 a.m. Visit wnba.com/shock for more information.</p> <p>TEARS FOR FEARS Brady Theater 7 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for more information.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>SAMBAS AND SANGRIA Harwelden Mansion 6:30 - 9 p.m. Visit cocktailconcertseries.com for more information.</p> <p>TULSA DRILLERS vs. Arkansas 7:05 p.m. • June 17-19 Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information</p> <p>THE MOWGLI'S Cain's Ballroom 7 - 10 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>HELLER SHORTS: A LITTLE BIT LONGER NOW Heller Theatre Company 7:30 p.m. • May 18-20 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>THE WAY BENT REVUE Spinning Plates Productions 8 p.m. • June 18-19 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>TRIO SPIRITOSO: 18 TO 21 Trio Spiritoso 7:30 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>SMASHING PUMPKINS Brady Theater 7 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for more information.</p> <p>NEXT TO NORMAL Theatre Tulsa 8 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>THE RACK PACK: VINTAGE VEGAS Janet Rutland & Cindy Cain 7:30 p.m. • June 19-20 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>NEXT TO NORMAL Theatre Tulsa 2 & 8 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>TULSA DRILLERS vs. Arkansas 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information</p> <p>THE WAY BENT REVUE Spinning Plates Productions 8 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p>
<p>21</p> <p>THE WAY BENT REVUE Spinning Plates Productions 2 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>HELLER SHORTS: A LITTLE BIT LONGER NOW Heller Theatre Company 2 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>NEXT TO NORMAL Theatre Tulsa 2 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>FTNESS ON THE GREEN: COME PLAY'S HOOP JAM Guthrie Green 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Visit guthriegreen.com for more information.</p>  <p>MUSIC SANDWICHED IN: SOMETHING STEEL Oklahoma Methodist Manor 12:10 - 12:50 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</p>	<p>23</p> <p>TUESDAY STORYTIME AT BARNES & NOBLE SOUTHWARDS Barnes & Noble 11 a.m. Call 918-665-4580 for more information.</p> <p>STARLIGHT BAND CONCERT ON THE GREEN Guthrie Green 8 - 10 p.m. Visit guthriegreen.com for more information.</p>	<p>24</p> <p>A-BOOK-A-MONTH DISCUSSION GROUP: "THE LAST ORIGINAL WIFE" BY DOROTHEA BENTON FRANK Bixby Library 2 - 3 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.</p> <p>We offer Health Savings Accounts  Member Central Banccompany Strong roots. Endless possibilities.™</p>	<p>25</p> <p>VINTAGE WILDFLOWERS IN CONCERT Vintage Wildflowers 7 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>INTO THE WOODS Sand Springs Community Theatre 7 p.m. • June 25-27 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>TULSA SHOCK vs. San Antonio 7 p.m. • June 26 Visit wnba.com/shock for more information.</p> 	<p>26</p> <p>FRACTURED EYE Perpetual Motion and The Bell House 8 p.m. • June 26-27 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>C-C-C-COMBO BREAKER! JohnTom Enterprises 8 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>PAT HOBBS: FIRSTS! Spinning Plates Productions 8 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p>	<p>27</p> <p>THOMAS WILLIAMS: HOLDING OUT FOR A HERO Spinning Plates Productions 8 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>C-C-C-COMBO BREAKER! JohnTom Enterprises 8 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.</p> <p>JENKS SATURDAY MARKET 2nd & Main in Jenks 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Call 918-629-9495 for more information.</p>

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LOCAL NEWS

Local Officer Uses Experiences to Inspire Novels

By **KIM SHOEMAKE**
Contributing Writer

Gary Neece, sergeant and 22-year veteran of the Tulsa Police Department, surprised even himself when he added author to his list of accomplishments. Neece's introduction into the world of writing crime fiction began in 2008, when he was searching for a new hobby. "I just sat down and started writing," says Neece, "and the first book just poured out." A rough draft of his first book was finished within six months. While he originally had no intention of sharing his manuscript with anyone except close friends and colleagues, as he received positive feedback, he wondered if he might have the potential for a writing career.

Neece drew much of the inspiration for his first two books, *Cold Blue* and *Sins of Our Fathers*, pub-

lished in 2013, from his 20 years of policing, in particular his time spent in the Special Investigations Division, where he supervised the department's undercover Vice/Narcotics Unit. Writing fiction allowed him the opportunity to capture some of those real-life moments and use them for inspiration. Both books are based on the fictional character, Tulsa Police Department Sergeant Jonathan Thorpe. The first chapter of *Cold Blue* sets the tone of the novel by detailing the murders of Thorpe's wife and young daughter. The protagonist, Thorpe, becomes frustrated with the lack of progress in the investigations into their deaths and sets out on his own covert operation to find their murderers.

Though he often draws inspiration from actual events, Neece combines imagination with reality in creating his storylines. "If I wrote about what real police officers do every day, no

one would want to read it," he says, adding that he often embellishes certain details to make a plot more exciting.

Shifting genres for his third book from crime fiction to dystopia, Neece is ready to show readers a different side of his imagination. "I get bored. My degree is in psychology, but I couldn't see myself sitting behind a desk for 20 years," he says. "That's why I chose police work." Because of the popularity of crime fiction, Neece believes it's a challenge to come up with an original idea within that genre. His third book, a horror dystopian fiction novel set on Norway's Lofoten Islands, centers on Hemi, a 16-year-old orphan, inexplicably thrust into an elite unit tasked with keeping alive the remnants of human society. Though he's enjoying the challenge of writing in a different genre, he assures his crime fiction fans there will be a third book in the

Jonathan Thorpe series at some point in the future.

Balancing his schedule with the police department and his family life, Neece uses his days off to write. "I usually write for three or four hours at a time," says Neece, adding that he prefers not to use an outline as some authors do, instead allowing the story to develop on its own. "I like to watch it unfold like a movie." With plans to retire in the next several years, his aspiration is to continue his career path in writing.

Neece resides in the Tulsa area with his wife, a teacher with Union Public Schools, and his daughters, both of whom attended Union Public Schools. *Cold Blue* and *Sins of Our Fathers* can be found locally at Gardner's Used Books and The Book Place, and online through Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and other major book retailers.



Courtesy photo
SERGEANT AND WRITER: Gary Neece is a full-time sergeant and 22-year veteran of the Tulsa Police Department and recently became a part-time writer. In 2013, Neece published two crime novels, with plans for future books in the works.

Union Departments Receive Awards by the Dozen

The Union Public Schools Communications Department has received nine Awards of Excellence and two Awards of Merit from the Oklahoma School Public Relations Association (OKSPRA) for work created in 2014.

The department received an Award of Excellence in the "One-Time Project" category for its "Keys to Engagement" bond campaign, a multi-faceted information campaign motivating voters to pass a \$21-million bond issue on Feb. 11, 2014, with a more than 80-percent majority.

Superintendent Dr. Kirt Hartzler won an Award of Excellence for an opinion piece he authored called

"Oklahomans Can Take Pride in Public Schools." Awards of Excellence were given to two video projects, including the ongoing "CommUnications" news series, which features short news clips about the district, and one for Briarglen teacher Kelly Hadden in the "Shoestring Budget" category for a video which welcomes pre-kindergarteners to school.

Incorporation of social media such as Twitter and YouTube with the district website earned an Award of Excellence in the "Website, Intranet Site, or Social Media Site" category.

Finally, Union's communications department received Awards of Merit in the "Annual Report" cate-

gory for the 2013-2014 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and in the "Brochure" category for its strategic plan "Together We Make a Difference."

In addition, Union Public Schools Finance Department received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada for its comprehensive annual financial report.

The GFOA certificate of achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting. Union has won the GFOA award for at least 21 consecutive years.



Courtesy Union Public Schools
SHOESTRING BUDGET: Briarglen teacher Kelly Hadden, left, Union Video Producer Beth Turner, and Briarglen Principal Tracy Weese stand with Hadden's class after accepting an Award of Excellence in the "Shoestring Budget" category from the Oklahoma School Public Relations Association (OKSPRA) for a video designed to welcome pre-kindergarten students to school.

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