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AWC RECOGNIZES BECKY DIXON, NEWSMAKERS See Page B3

# BROKEN ARROW EXPRESS

One of Six Greater Tulsa Reporter Newspapers

Oklahoma's Largest Monthly News Group

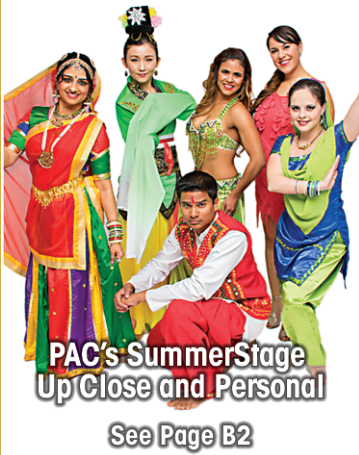
Volume 24

June 2016

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# The Flying Tee is Ready to Open

## Golfing and Entertainment Center to Offer Unique Experience

By **KEN MACLEOD**  
Guest Writer

June 7 is opening day for Flying Tee, a golf and entertainment venue in Jenks.

FlyingTee, a three-story, 60-bay center, will offer three restaurants, a beer garden, outdoor patios, corporate meeting rooms and suites, and the ability to host everything from a detailed practice session to a 400-person charity golf tournament.

The center has been going through extensive technology testing, and hundreds of new employees in food and beverage have been training diligently for opening day. Co-owner, CEO and founder John Vollbrecht says the last month of testing has been invaluable.

"The stress tests have been absolutely amazing," Vollbrecht says. "We had more than 300 people out the other night and wanted to see if they could break the system. Everything is working, and we've been able to test which games people like, what they don't like. We've had no major issues."

For those who haven't been to a similar facility in other markets, the large sports bar and outdoor dining area on the ground level will be called the FlyingTee Sports Bar and should be a great place to watch a game with friends whether or not golf is on the menu. The second level will be called the Iron Wood Rotisserie, featuring rotisserie chicken and prime rib in a casual, comfortable atmosphere. The third level bar and restaurant is called Flite and will service the parties and rented spaces as well as offer shared appetizer items and drinks.

A group coming out for an evening can rent a bay by the hour and take turns playing various golf



**EYE-CATCHING VIEW:** FlyingTee co-owner, CEO and founder John Vollbrecht looks down the driving range of the three-story golf and entertainment venue, located along the Arkansas River in Riverwalk Crossing in Jenks. The complex offers views of downtown Tulsa and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Margaritaville resort and casino complex.

games, all of which use real golf balls monitored by a sophisticated tracking system. Games include darts, blackjack, long drive, horse and the ability to play other famous courses.

Golfers can trace their ball flight and results on monitors using the sophisticated Pro Tracer technology seen on network golf telecasts. Each bay will have fans and misters for hot weather or heaters for colder times. Servers will take orders in the bays as well as in the bars and restaurants.

The facility will be open 9 a.m.–midnight on weekdays and 9 a.m.–1 a.m. on weekends. Golfers who want to use the system's shot tracking and swing analysis capabilities can bring their own clubs out during the morning, then return at night with a group of friends and use the new Cobra equipment provided free of charge at the bays.

The opening culminates several years of research and development for Vollbrecht and his core group, including his brother James who is

the director of technology, and Ryan Tawwater, who has an extensive food and beverage background including working for Levy Restaurants, a pioneer in serving private club suites at NFL, NBA, NHL and other sports venues such as the U.S. Open in tennis or NASCAR events. He later became the director of food and beverage at The Yellowstone Club in Montana, a private ski and golf resort.

"We want to emphasize that FlyingTee is for everyone," Vollbrecht says. "Anyone can play the games. The food is going to be very fresh and the quality will surprise folks used to typical bar fare. We'll have craft beers and local beers. You'll have people coming to eat and drink and watch a game that never touch a golf club."

FlyingTee was constructed on land where the previous movie complex was in Riverwalk. The complex faces north up the Arkansas River towards the new Margaritaville Resort at the

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Casino just across the river with downtown Tulsa visible beyond. The Creek Nation owns Riverwalk Crossing and has a big stake in FlyingTee. Therefore, much intermingling is expected between the two facilities.

FlyingTee has hired well-respected teaching professional Tracy Phillips, who also operates the Buddy Phillips Learning Center at Cedar Ridge Country Club. Phillips will guide a team of professionals who will be on hand to help golfers learn the games and offer swing tips. He'll also be trying to help many of the date-night crowd who try the game for the first time to take up the game.

For further information, visit flyingteegolf.com. Although the 55,000-square-foot facility can hold up to 1,300 at a time, don't be surprised if there are waiting times involved when it opens.

Ken MacLeod is the publisher of *Golf Oklahoma Magazine* ([www.golfoklahoma.org](http://www.golfoklahoma.org))

## KUDOS OF THE MONTH: Sherwin Miller Museum

The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art is celebrating 50 years in 2016.

The museum offers exhibitions and educational programs that focus on Jewish culture, history, religion and art in order to accomplish its mission to preserve and share the legacy of Jewish art, history and culture.

The museum had its beginnings in 1965 when a local synagogue brought a traveling exhibit from the Jewish Museum in New York to Tulsa. Due to the great interest that the exhibit generated, the following year, the Gershon and Rebecca Fenster Gallery of Jewish Art opened to the public.

In 2000, the museum was renamed the

Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art to recognize the achievements and contributions of Sherwin Miller, the museum's first curator. In 2003, the museum moved to its current location on the Zarrow Campus, at 2021 E. 71st St.

The museum's permanent collection of art and artifacts displays the 5,000-year history of the Jewish people from the pre-Canaanite era through the settling of the Jewish community in Tulsa and the American Southwest. The museum also includes the Herman and Kate Kaiser Holocaust Exhibition, the Julius and Gertrude Livingston Oklahoma Jewish Archives, the Tulsa Jewish Genealogical Society, the Markovitz Jewish Genealogy Study and Research Center, and its



**STRONG TRADITION:** The Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art, 2021 E. 71st St., includes exhibits of art and artifacts displaying the 5,000-year history of the Jewish people.

two newest galleries: the Mildred and Julius Sanditen Gallery and the Sharna Newman Frank Education Gallery.



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The 2016 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](mailto:best@gtrnews.com). Readers may also vote online at [gtrnews.com](http://gtrnews.com). Votes must be received by July 5, 2016. Results will be printed in the August 2016 issues. One vote per reader, per category. Voters must fill in at least 20 choices.

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# Greater Tulsa Leaders Lament Steep Cuts to Public Education

The Tulsa Regional Chamber hosted its 15th annual State of Education May 9 at the Doubletree Downtown Hotel. This year's luncheon featured presentations from Dr. Deborah Gist, superintendent of Tulsa Public Schools; Dr. Steve Tiger, superintendent and CEO of Tulsa Tech; and Dr. Steve Turner, president of Northeastern State University. Each speaker commented on the impact of state funding cuts to their programs, particularly as it affects the ability of their institutions to develop, educate and train the next generation of northeast Oklahoma's workforce. Chamber Vice Chair of Education Wes Mitchell also discussed the imperative of engaging in the local political process, calling upon attendees to press their elected officials and candidates for state office to make education a top legislative priority.

In another scenario, Tulsa-area leaders and education officials banded together to put pressure on elected state officials to ease cuts on public schools.

Mike Neal, president and CEO of the Tulsa Regional Chamber, called education cuts a "lose-lose" scenario for Oklahoma at a recent press conference held by ImpactTulsa.

"This is simply crippling Oklahoma's ability to educate the next generation of talented workers," Neal said.

Neal added that education funding is core to the quality-of-life issue in Tulsa.

The cuts are the latest in a series of measures the TPS board has approved to help the district reduce costs in the face of a state revenue failure. The 2017 fiscal year budget for TPS will have to be cut by about \$13.5 million, district officials estimate, though it could go as high as \$20 million. Other school districts in the greater Tulsa region are being hampered by steep cuts.



**CHAMBER PRESENTATION:** Three Tulsa educators were center stage during the recent 15th Annual State of Education held at the Doubletree Downtown Hotel. From left are Dr. Steve Tiger, superintendent and CEO of Tulsa Tech; Dr. Deborah Gist, superintendent of Tulsa Public Schools; Dr. Steve Turner, president of Northeastern State University; and Jeff Dunn, chairman of the Tulsa Regional Chamber.

## TULSA PAC JUNE SHOWS

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>1 TULSA ROCK QUARTET</b><br><i>Brown Bag It, PAC Trust</i>                                     | <b>17-18 THE ULTIMATE ELVIS EXPERIENCE</b><br><i>PF Productions</i>  |
| <b>2 (SORTA) LOVE SONGS</b><br><i>Robert Young</i>  | <b>17-18 DAN MCGEEHAN &amp; SUSAN APKER: ON OUR OWN</b><br><i>Dan McGeehan</i>                               |
| <b>2-5 THE SECRET GARDEN</b><br><i>Sand Springs Community Theatre</i>                             | <b>17-19 THE WAY MOTOWN REVUE</b><br><i>Spinning Plates Productions</i>                                      |
| <b>3 RICKEY SMILEY</b>  | <b>18-19 THE HOBBIT</b><br><i>Tulsa Youth Opera</i>  |
| <b>3-5 MY YIDDISHE MAMAS — THE EARLY YEARS</b><br><i>Spinning Plates Productions</i>              | <b>23 RED DIRT ACOUSTICAL TAKE ON GREAT ROOTS TUNES</b><br><i>Monica Taylor, Shelby Eicher, Jared Taylor</i> |
| <b>3-12 SHREK: THE MUSICAL</b><br><i>Tulsa Project Theatre</i>                                    | <b>24-25 THOMAS WILLIAMS — VILLAINS</b><br><i>Spinning Plates Productions</i>                                |
| <b>9 JEFF SHADLEY &amp; THE MAD MEN OF SWING</b><br><i>Shadley Arts</i>                           | <b>24-25 SHAKTI</b><br><i>Kripalaya Dance Academy</i>  |
| <b>10-11 ENTR'ACTE</b><br><i>Effervescent Productions</i>   | <b>24-25 THE LOWDOWN DUSTY BLUES</b><br><i>Echo Theatre Company</i>  |
| <b>10-11 JANET RUTLAND: I FALL TO PIECES</b>  |  |
| <b>11-12 MAMMA MIA!</b><br><i>Celebrity Attractions</i>   |  |
| <b>12 AMAZING FAMILY MAGIC SHOW</b><br><i>by Steve Lancaster<br/>Top Hat Magic &amp; Fun Shop</i> |  |
| <b>15-19 FOREVER PLAID</b><br><i>Tulsa Repertory Musicals</i>                                     |  |

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## SKIPPING LUNCH, GIVING A MEAL



GTR Newspapers photo

**ONE MILLION MEALS:** Arvest Bank and The Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma held a "Skip Your Lunch, Give a Meal" food and fundraising drive in May to benefit Arvest's 1 Million Meals initiative. From left at Arvest Bank, 6560 E 71st St in Tulsa, are Branch Manager Holly Fowler and Consumer Lender Deborah Heisler. Last year, the Arvest Bank locations raised more than 1.6 million meals. This year's effort benefits 69 different organizations.

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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.

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# The University of Tulsa Names New President

The University of Tulsa Board of Trustees has announced the appointment of Dr. Gerard Clancy as president designate. Clancy, 54, is currently TU's vice president of health affairs and dean of the new Oxley College of Health Sciences. He will assume his duties as TU's 20th president on Jan. 1, 2017, succeeding President Steadman Upham, who will retire at the end of this calendar year.

"The TU trustees are confident that we have made the right choice to position the university for the next generation," says L. Duane Wilson (BS '62), chairman of the TU Board of Trustees. "Gerry Clancy is a proven leader in higher education and a visionary for the Tulsa community who is committed to helping our students and alumni make a positive impact locally and globally."

Before arriving at TU on Jan. 1, 2015, Clancy served as president

of the University of Oklahoma-Tulsa for eight years.

Clancy joined OU in 2001 as dean of the College of Medicine in Tulsa, professor of psychiatry and Morningside Health Care Foundation Endowed Chair in Leadership. During his tenure as president, the OU-Tulsa Schusterman Center added more than \$327 million in new facilities, academic degree programs, endowed faculty chairs and student scholarships. The campus also established educational and research partnerships with more than 100 community agencies.

Clancy helped develop a community health network that included after-hours free clinics for the underserved, pediatric school-based clinics in disadvantaged areas, mobile psychiatric teams and the OU Wayman Tisdale Specialty Health Clinic.

Through a \$50 million donation



DR. GERARD CLANCY

from the George Kaiser Family Foundation, Clancy led the transformation of medical education at OU-Tulsa in 2008. In 2015 the College of Medicine's Tulsa branch was renamed the OU - TU School

of Community Medicine, a joint venture between the University of Oklahoma and The University of Tulsa to provide a four-year program of medical education in the city of Tulsa. Its mission is to improve the health of all Oklahomans, particularly those in underserved areas.

At TU, Clancy launched the College of Health Sciences in 2015 and announced the new name of the Oxley College last fall. The college is home to the TU School of Nursing; the faculties of Community Medicine; and the Departments of Athletic Training, Kinesiology & Rehabilitative Sciences, and Communication Sciences & Disorders. The new college also is working closely with TU's other colleges on interdisciplinary projects and with the Laureate Institute for Brain Research.

"I am tremendously excited about

this next chapter and deeply appreciative of the support and confidence of the trustees, President Upham and my colleagues at TU," Clancy says. "The University of Tulsa's mission is closely aligned with my life's work. Improving lives through scholarship and service is a noble cause, and TU has established itself as a national leader in academic community engagement."

Clancy earned his bachelor's and medical degrees from the University of Iowa, where he later served as a faculty member and vice chairman of the Department of Psychiatry. He is a graduate of the Harvard University Programs in Health Care Policy and Management and Non-Profit Financial Stewardship and served on active duty in the U.S. Air Force as a flight surgeon and pilot.

He and his wife, Paula, have three children Sam, 25, Mary, 22, and Joseph, 17.

## Safety Matters in Tulsa's Workplaces, Roadways

### COMMENTARY

By DEWEY F. BARTLETT, JR  
Mayor of Tulsa

In 2012, the City of Tulsa's safety and injury issues were first identified in an independent report, showing that the City of Tulsa's worker's compensation costs totaled \$27 million, and incident rates were twice as high as similar-sized cities.

This was a wake-up call for the City of Tulsa. It was crucial for us

to make a transformation in our existing workplace safety program. Rather than pay approximately \$1 million for a contractor to create a new program, I challenged city leaders to create the program and form a Safety Oversight steering committee to review best practices and model our program on successes. I also asked city employees, supervisors and managers to take more accountability and responsibility for a safe work environment.

Since that time, we've celebrated many successes along the way, including a 25 percent reduction in

OSHA recordable injuries from 2013-2014, which was a great accomplishment. Our progress these past several years has been steady, but we need to go further.

Our goal this year is to reduce recordable accidents and injuries by 20 percent. This is an achievable goal, but it will take all of our employees working together to attain it.

I'm pleased to say employees have taken on the challenge of transforming its safety culture to help improve their lives and make our organization a safer place to

work. Employees have embraced the slogan featured on City of Tulsa posters, "Being Safe is No Accident."

The City of Tulsa's Distracted Driving Policy became effective May 1, 2015, and is a dedicated effort to improve employee safety and health in the workplace, as well as the safety of Tulsa citizens. This policy can lead to a positive and transformational change in distracted driving behaviors we all may have acquired. The City of Tulsa is one of the first municipalities in the state to implement a

policy on distracted driving. We're leading the nation through our mobile device and distracted driving efforts and awareness program.

I invite you to watch the City of Tulsa's new safety video, Safety Matters: Our Future is Now, for a brief look at our history and how safety has evolved in our workplace. It also highlights the generations of employees - mothers, fathers, sons and daughters, who work here at the City of Tulsa, as well as their families: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=MVOqigSsYC8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MVOqigSsYC8).

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**ST. JOHN STREET PARTY:** St. John is celebrating its 90th anniversary Street Party event this year on June 4. Ready for the event are, from left, Lucky Lamons, incoming president of the St. John Health System Foundation; St. John Street Party event chairs Meredith Siegfried Madden and Pete Madden, M.D.; honorary chairs Jono and Jenny Helmerich; and Richard Boone, outgoing president of the St. John Health System Foundation. Richard Boone, longtime foundation president, will be retiring this summer. For more information, call 918-744-2186, or visit [www.stjohnstreetparty.com](http://www.stjohnstreetparty.com).

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# Sherry Gamble-Smith Oversees Greenwood Chamber

By **EMILY RAMSEY**  
Managing Editor

*Editor's Note: Greenwood Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Sherry Gamble-Smith is one of Greater Tulsa Reporter's "10 People to Watch in 2016," as announced in its January 2016 issue. GTR was the first news group in greater Tulsa to introduce "10 People to Watch," which launched in January 2009.*

*Throughout the year, GTR is publishing a series of articles featuring each of its "10 People to Watch," with next month's issue to feature Gilcrease Museum Executive Director James Pepper Henry.*

In 2014, when Sherry Gamble-Smith began working for the Greenwood Chamber of Commerce, it was more than just a job but a homecoming, she says.

Gamble-Smith grew up in north Tulsa and graduated from Central High School. Her father had a church on Greenwood Avenue.

"(Being with the chamber) is not just about business connections, but it's also personal," Gamble-Smith says. "I grew up here; to come back and work on this street is amazing."

Since starting at the chamber as an intern, Gamble-Smith has moved from full-time employee in charge of membership to interim director to executive director within the organization.

When Gamble-Smith became interim director, the chamber was already making changes in leadership and structure, she says.

Over the past three years, the chamber has seen its membership grow from close to zero to over 100. Also during those years, chamber leaders were reestablishing its connection with city leaders, local foundations and the private sector.

Gamble-Smith has many goals and ideas of what she would like to see the chamber accomplish in the future.

"My vision is to create more unity with community groups and to mend some bridges."

One noteworthy step toward that goal is the upcoming Juneteenth celebration, June 16-

19, which will look different than in past recent years.

While in previous years, individual Juneteenth celebrations have taken place around downtown, including at Guthrie Green last year, this year the event is bringing all individual groups together.

These groups include the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame, Guthrie Green, MLK Jr. Commemoration Society, Living Arts, Greenwood Cultural Center, Downtown Coordinating Council, Greenwood area businesses, and, of course, Greenwood Chamber of Commerce, which is the host of this year's Juneteenth celebration.

"Juneteenth events used to be huge events in Tulsa, but that was nearly 30 years ago," Gamble-Smith remembers. "It's gotten smaller over the decades."

To kick off the weekend celebrations will be an educational film about the origins of Juneteenth as a celebration of the end to slavery in the U.S. on June 19, 1865. The film will be shown Thursday, June 16 at Guthrie Green.

There will be jazz music on Friday and Saturday night, including Julian Vaughn, Eldredge Jackson, the Wise Men & Koolie High, Arthur Thompson and other local performers.

Saturday, June 18 will begin with an afternoon of family-oriented activities, complete with a Kid's Zone, at the corner of Greenwood Avenue and Archer Street. The shops along Greenwood Avenue will also be open. From 3-6 p.m., Living Arts will host art events, including a fashion show, spoken word performances and art on display. Tours will also be taking place at John Hope Franklin Center for Reconciliation.

Gamble-Smith hopes that the various events will encourage patrons to visit all areas of the district, which roughly spans from U.S. Highway 75 to the east, Detroit Avenue to the west and Archer Street and Oklahoma State University to the south and north, respectively.

Organizers are keeping with tradition for its Sunday activities, terming it a "gospel brunch" at Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame. This is the only event that patrons must pay to attend. All other Juneteenth events are free.



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

**LEADERSHIP IN ACTION:** Sherry Gamble-Smith became executive director of the Greenwood Chamber of Commerce in 2015 during a time of change and realignment for the organization. Gamble-Smith hopes to see the chamber aid in creating more citywide unity, starting with the upcoming Juneteenth celebrations, June 16-19.

Beyond Juneteenth activities, the chamber will continue to expand its offerings to its members and the public. Plans on the horizon include the revival of the chamber's business planning classes and its business incubator, the start of legislative luncheons and membership mixers, increased partnerships with city groups and organizations, and the formation of a young professional group. "We have a lot of young ones who want to connect with the city and each other, but they don't feel like they have a place to do that," says Gamble-Smith.

These plans and more to come in the future create the framework for what Gamble-Smith and many in the community see as necessary for the success of the entire city of Tulsa, which she believes needs to grow in its unity.

Gamble-Smith sums up her desires and focus in a few sentences:

"We want to break barriers down. I want our community members to feel welcome in every one of Tulsa's districts, and I want to see foot traffic from all (types of) people in the community."

"We want to make Tulsa one voice, one city."



SHARON CAMERON for GTR Newspapers

**IMPRESSIVE CANDIDATES:** Candidates for Oklahoma State offices were among those present at a recent Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce legislative breakfast. From left are Rep. Michael Rogers, who is running for re-election in Oklahoma House District 98, Kimberly Fobbs, a candidate for Oklahoma Senate District 33, and Bob Jack, a candidate for Oklahoma District 25. Jack is a former executive with Manhattan Construction Company.



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EDUCATION

# TCC Opens Aviation Center

On Apr. 22, Tulsa Community College administrators and community leaders celebrated the opening of TCC's Riverside Community Campus and Aviation Center, at the Richard L. Jones, Jr. Airport in Jenks.

TCC purchased the building in 2012 and began renovations in 2015. The 55,000-square-foot facility is home to TCC's \$1.4 million air traffic control classroom; a simulation lab that

includes a full-motion flight training simulator and two other aviation simulators; and a fleet of six technically-advanced aircraft for students in the professional pilot program.

Students will also be able to take a number of general education classes on site, and this fall, more than 100 Jenks High School students will be concurrently enrolled in college classes at TCC.

"We are proud to broaden our commitment to aviation sciences education to keep pace with industry standards," TCC President and CEO Leigh B. Goodson says. "TCC has been supportive and responsive of Tulsa's aerospace and aviation industry community for the past 45 years."

In recent years, TCC has averaged nearly 40 graduates a year in the aviation sciences academic programs.



EXPANDING EDUCATION OPTIONS: From left, Jenks Public Schools Superintendent Stacey Butterfield stands with NORDAM CEO Meredith Siegfried Madden and TCC President and CEO Leigh B. Goodson in April at the opening of TCC's Riverside Community Campus and Aviation Center, at the Richard L. Jones, Jr. Airport in Jenks.

# Congratulations Seniors: Private School Salute

*Editor's Note: In addition to Greater Tulsa Reporter's annual May Senior Salute of area public and private school seniors, we wish to congratulate the seniors from Augustine Christian Academy, Lincoln Christian School, Summit Christian Academy and Wright Christian Academy. Congratulations seniors!*

**Augustine Christian Academy**

- Lynna Blanco
- Amanda Brace
- Hannah Brennecke
- D. Wyman Brewer
- Dustin Cagle
- Elyse DePrisco
- Tim Duncan
- K. Jordan Green
- Joshua Hecox
- Lindy Herzberg
- James Keel
- Lark Krautter
- Joshua Nnaji
- Nathan Pearson
- Daniel Rios

**Lincoln Christian School**

- Brandon Autaubo
- Joshua Autaubo
- Dalton Baker
- Jon Barbee
- Madi Bickle
- Caleb Blume
- Garett Bryan
- Hannah Butler
- Ray Carroll
- Lynsey Cruz
- Alec Davidson
- Andrew Delaney
- Levi Duininck
- Hannah Ennis
- Dani Etter
- Adrianna Fuls
- Jeremiah Gardner
- Kara Beth Garlington
- Becca Gleason
- Bryce Goben

- Caroline Rowland
- Logan Turner
- Claire Walters
- Kodie Washington
- Abigail Wilbins
- Jamie Williams
- Rachel Wolf

- Joel Hale
- Jillian Harpe
- Derrick Heineman
- Seth Hendrix
- Haley Hubbard
- Sammye Hudson
- Naomi Hurd
- Landon Innis
- Kiley Johnson
- Kinslee Jones
- Seth Keith
- Nic Keller
- Karianne King
- Noel Klotz
- Jessa Lane
- Abbey Lechluder
- Ashley Lepper
- Gabe Lewis
- Cole Lindsey
- Chase Malloy
- Jacob Marrs
- Blake Masterson
- Brooke Masterson
- Maria Mathews
- Ashlyn McMurray
- Melanie Montgomery
- Kyle Paddock
- Matthew Parris
- Chloe Patterson

- Gabrielle Pepin
- Byrun Ratliff
- Audria Rigney
- Jordan Rittgers
- Haylee Rowe
- Court Rowsey
- Kimber Shentwu
- Brayden Shields
- Austin Smith
- Cambry Standridge
- Caleb Starr
- Kenzie Stokes
- Jessica Sutka
- Connor Swift
- Makenzi Taylor
- Hudson Thompson
- Bri Tuggle
- Taya Tumpkin
- Nathan Varnell
- Alec Vennerholm
- Lindsay Wagon
- Cheyenne Wall
- Shaelyn Ward
- Abby Welch
- Chelsea West
- Jake White
- Caitlin Williams
- Krysten Williams
- Micah Wilson

**Summit Christian Academy**

- Ashlynn Ballard-Rodriguez
- Emma Buxton
- Destiny Campbell
- Ty Cody
- Ashlyn Fieker
- Aaron Field
- Zach Fisher
- David Giudice
- Chey Hadrava
- Blake Hagin
- Vanessa Horst
- Cassie Johnson
- Denise Kendall
- Jo or Jordan Langebartels
- Hannah Lee
- Michaela Loehmann
- Leanna McCray
- Callie Mead
- Aubrey Niemiec
- Jackson Price
- Matteo Price
- Emily Reynolds
- Noah Rhinehart
- Allyssa Robbins
- Daniel Sanders
- Michael Saxton

- Levi Smith
- Jimmy Spittle
- Dakota Sperry
- Sophie Suarez
- Conner Wagnon
- Miley Xiang

**Wright Christian Academy**

- Helen Arango
- Raven Brumley
- Giselle Cepeda
- Marissa Collins-Moore
- Makenzy Coulson
- Zachary Dyer
- Savannah Graves
- Dustin Hagan
- Christian Hunt
- Aleah McClendon
- Christian Palmer
- Grant Parrott
- Brittney Perez
- Hannah Philpott
- Ashley Poole
- Brittney Rose
- Parker Ross
- Austin Thomas
- Grace Young
- Zachery Young



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# Owasso Graduate Pursues Design Ambition

Tulsa Tech's Interior Design program teaches students how to use design and drafting skills to create unique residential and commercial spaces. Students integrate various design elements, furnishings and building materials to complete custom projects, as they build their individual portfolios and prepare to continue their education.

Vanessa Mattingly, a former Tulsa Tech apparel design student, has spent this year studying interior design and working toward her goal of eventually owning her own clothing design business.

"I studied apparel design last year, and I wanted to get more of the designing aspects," Mattingly says. "I felt this would allow me to improve my design process, work with additional fabric swatches, and broaden my overall portfolio."

Mattingly already has assembled an impressive portfolio, which includes everything from everyday wear to wedding dresses.

"Last summer I even made two different quilts," she says. "This summer, I have a project that involves making new clothes from older clothing, which people have kindly donated to me."

The 2016 graduate of Owasso High School is talented and passionate, but equally important, she has a plan for her path to success.

Mattingly has already been accepted to attend a summer program at the prestigious Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising (FIDM) in Los Angeles, California, where she will have the opportunity to meet and work with some of the Institute's top designers.

"I plan to attend Tulsa Community College and study business for the next couple of years, then I will apply to FIDM," says Mattingly. "It's very competitive and requires a detailed application, a review of my portfolio, and the completion of a summer project assigned by the Institute."

The busy seamstress does not spend all of her time designing and sewing, though. As an active member of Girl Scouts of America, Mattingly enjoys serving as a mentor to young girls, encouraging them to follow their dreams and work toward their individual goals. Earlier this spring, she was recognized by the organization and chosen as one of the 2016 Juliette Low Scholarship recipients. Each year, the Juliette Low Leadership Society, named after the founder of Girl Scouts of America, funds a variety of leadership programs and awards higher education scholarships for girls across eastern Oklahoma.

"I've been in Girl Scouts for 12 years," Mattingly says. "Earlier

this year, I applied for the scholarship, which included writing two essays and undergoing an interview, and in April I was chosen as one of the 12 scholarship recipients."

The young fashion designer is quick to answer when asked about the most influential people and the most important mentors in her life. "The most influential person in my life has been my dad," Mattingly says. "He's always there with me, helping me with my designs; he even taught me how to sew."

As for her mentor, the individual responsible for her love of sewing and the person who encouraged her to develop her talent? "My biggest influence for sewing has been my great-grandmother," she says. "When I was little, she had a business in her attic, where she worked as a seamstress. Her attic had a large fabric room, with several sewing machines, and I enjoyed spending every day there."

Mattingly is another great example of the thousands of high school and adult students who are making their own path each day at Tulsa Tech.

"Every day I look forward to coming to class at Tulsa Tech," says Mattingly. "It's like a college-level class that allows students to explore different careers and find out what they enjoy. It definitely helped me decide to continue my education and pursue my career as a designer."

If you're currently looking for exciting classes for high school and adult students, quality customized corporate training, or wish to design a new career, Tulsa Tech invites you to visit today. For more information, please call 918-828-5000, or visit us online at [tulsa-tech.edu](http://tulsa-tech.edu).

## News from Tulsa Tech



By DR. STEVE TIGER  
Superintendent



SETTING GOALS: Vanessa Mattingly, a former Tulsa Tech apparel design student, has spent this year studying interior design and working toward her goal of eventually owning her own clothing design business.

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## BROKEN ARROW EDUCATION

# B.A. Teachers of the Year

By **EMILY RAMSEY**  
Managing Editor

*This is the Broken Arrow Express' third installment of Broken Arrow Public Schools' 2015-16 Teachers of the Year, with our spotlight this month on teachers Betsy Kaiser, Kelley Soerries, Lisa Sikes, Talitha Jacobs, Mary Fowler and LaQuisha Jackson.*

Once **Betsy Kaiser**, Creekwood Early Childhood Center's Teacher of the Year, began teaching Pre-K, she realized that she had found the best place in education for her.

If you find that you love this age, then this is the age that you want to teach, she says.

"This is the lightbulb time that I love to see, when kids are learning letters and sounds; you're seeing them learn the very basics."

Kaiser grew up in Fayetteville, Arkansas, and graduated from Fayetteville High School before coming to the University of Tulsa for her undergraduate degree, which was not in education but in liberal arts and literature.

Her first job after college was a finance position with the Federal Reserve Bank in Kansas City, where "I only lasted six months," she says.

Her roommate, on the other hand, was working towards becoming a teacher; that circumstance coupled with Kaiser's work commute, which involved her daily passing an elementary school, is how teaching entered Kaiser's consciousness. She

returned to TU to earn her graduate degree in early childhood education.

Kaiser is in her 14th year as a public school teacher. She has also taught privately and took some years off to stay at home with her four sons. She has taught first grade, second grade and Pre-K.

She was hired at Broken Arrow Public Schools seven years ago and has been with Creekwood Early Childhood Center since it opened in 2013.

"Since I have taught grades other than Pre-K, I know where this Pre-K learning is going to take students. I like being at the beginning with them," says Kaiser.

Kaiser also enjoys her interactions with her students' families. "Many families walk their kids into school each morning. Everyone is excited; this is the beginning of students' school career."

Kaiser aims to maintain that excitement throughout the year, providing classroom experiences that cause her students to have a positive view of education.

"I want students to continue exploring and learning and to take away that education is so much fun."

Twenty-three-year teacher **Kelley Soerries** is Creekwood Elementary's Teacher of the Year.

Soerries is a Sapulpa native who earned her education degree from Northeastern State University.

"I always knew I wanted to have a career in helping people," says Soerries.

She has spent her past seven teaching years with Broken Arrow Public Schools, first at Westwood Elementary as an English Language Learner teacher before moving to Creekwood when it opened in 2013 to serve in the role of Reading Recovery teacher and Interventionist.

"My philosophy of teaching is that all children can learn. I believe I must create opportunities for students to become skilled, more able and more powerful, which will encourage them to take risks and accept challenges that allow them to gain confidence and take responsibility for their own learning," she says.

Soerries also enjoys her teaching role because of the ability it allows for her to witness students' daily growth and to impact her students on a deeper level – "I also am here to advocate for those students that need help with more than just academics."

"Wanting to see how much my students have grown and (to see them) become successful is what gets me out of bed every day."

"I consider it my mission to try to make the students' time with me their best hour of their day and to spark a love for science," says sixth grade science teacher **Lisa Sikes** and Oneta Ridge Middle School's Teacher of the Year.

Sikes grew up on a cattle ranch outside of Wynona, Oklahoma. She holds her bachelor's degree in elementary education from Oral Roberts University and, in May, earned her master's degree

## REACHING THEIR GOAL



Courtesy American Heart Association

**STUDENTS CELEBRATE:** In April, students, teachers and administrators at Leisure Park Elementary celebrated reaching their goal of raising \$10,000 for Jump Rope For Heart by watching the competitive dogs from the Blackdog Ranch Agility Team perform. Leisure Park P.E. Teacher Donna Murray offered to bring her competitive dog team to the school as incentive for students to hit the \$10,000 goal.

in science education from Northeastern State University.

She spent six years teaching with Glenpool Public Schools and has taught with Broken Arrow Public Schools since 2005.

"This is my 17th year in teaching, and I love it more and more!" she says.

"I expose my students to many fields of science and engineering in the hope that their interest may lead to careers in these fields. I love getting to teach a high interest subject all day to a variety of students and finding ways to teach them to ask 'why' and 'how' about the world around them."

Sikes has three children and lives in Broken Arrow with her husband, Kevin.

Sequoyah Middle School's Teacher of the Year **Talitha Jacobs** grew up loving art and minored in art, earning a psychology degree from Oklahoma State University. It was during an internship at the Philbrook Museum of Art where she taught elementary-aged students in an after-school art program and realized that she could combine her love of art with her love of children to become an art teacher.

Jacobs enjoys watching her students' ideas come to life through their artwork and loves everything about the creative process. Her goal as an art teacher is to create a positive classroom environment where students can express themselves, problem solve and be creative.

(Continued on page A16)



Amy Meisner was diagnosed with MS in 1997. For someone who has always danced, MS would seem like the end. But for Amy, it means the start of a new chapter. She'll never leave the floor, still dances from her wheelchair, and is a great choreographer. Embracing Amy's undying passion, the National MS Society teamed up with LaTonya Swann to create an entirely new and inspired dance experience through virtual reality. See their experience and find out how you can share yours at [WeAreStrongerThanMS.org](http://WeAreStrongerThanMS.org).

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**SPORTS**

# B.A. Graduate Taylor Dobson a Golfing Star

*University of Tulsa Signee Shot 65 At the Owasso Invitational*

By **MIKE MOGUIN**  
Sports Writer

Taylor Dobson has a bright future on the greens, having already signed to play at the University of Tulsa. For now, the 2016 Broken Arrow graduate is making the best of her prep career.

She shot a career-low 65 on April 3 to win the Owasso Invitational at the Owasso Golf and Athletic Club.

It was a big thrill for her.

"It meant a lot because I haven't had everything going for me this season," said Dobson, the daughter of Shannon Dobson, the school's baseball coach. "To finally get it all together, it meant a lot and it gave me a lot more confidence for the rest of the season for sure."

"I think the key was probably just my short game," she said. "Probably like 80 yards and in. That was the main thing, because I didn't play super long. But you still had to get in the hole and that was my main shot that got me close."

The most memorable shot for Dobson came on the par-5 15th hole, which covered 510 yards, the shortest par-5 on the course.

"I hit my drive in the fairway and then I was about 180 yards from the hole," she said. "I hit it and looked out as a double-eagle. I almost made it, but I got an eagle."

She followed her Owasso performance by placing fourth 13 days later in the 6A State Preview at The Club at Indian Springs Lakes Course. Dobson carded 75 and tied for third in that tournament, but lost a scorecard playoff to Bailey Blake of Edmond Deer Creek.

The Golf Club of Oklahoma in her hometown of Broken Arrow is her favorite course to play on. Another she likes is Fairfax Golf Club in Edmond. "That course, you have to hit in specific spots," she said. "There is not too many that are my favorite, but I like them all."

One course Dobson and the other Lady Tigers played this year that was challenging was Dornick Hills Country Club in Ardmore at the end of March. Many junior golf events have been played at Dornick Hills, and dozens of eventual PGA professionals once played in a major men's college tournament that had been played there for 17 years.

"That one is a really good course. I really like that one. It's definitely a shots course where you have to be in the right place at the right time," Dobson said.

Dobson actually had a successful performance on the 16th hole, which requires driving over a cliff from the fairways to the green.

"That one is crazy. I actually got



TAYLOR DOBSON

a birdie on that one. I hit my drive, and the wind was with us, so it pushed it pretty far and I went for it in two (shots) and I was about 150 out. So I went for it and I hit about 10 feet."

The favorite thing about golf for Dobson is how calm the sport can be.

"I feel like it's more of an individual sport," she said. "I like just being to myself and be able to think about all kinds of stuff to do on a shot. My dad has really helped me a lot with that. I like how it's more of a mental game.

You got to be tougher than other people."

Paula Creamer is Dobson's favorite professional golfer. She also likes Tiger Woods despite his recent struggles.

"He is not playing very good right now," Dobson said. "I like how he has always come back. I've wanted to play his style of golf."

Dobson would finish the regular season as a state runner-up when she shot 147 (75-72) at the state tournament in early May at the Club of Indian Springs. She fin-

ished three shots behind freshman Yujeong Song of Norman who won with 144 swings, carding a 72 in each round. She did three shots better than Kaitlin Milligan of Norman North, a senior who is committed to the University of Oklahoma. Milligan finished in third with 150 (77-73).

Broken Arrow placed fourth at state in the team standings (347-338-685). Placing ahead of the Lady Tigers were state champion Owasso (342-316-658), Norman (334-341-675) and Edmond Deer Creek (343-339-682).

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# Don King a Sports Broadcasting Mainstay

By **TERRELL LESTER**  
*Editor At Large*

Don King's voice has been synonymous with high school athletics for so long that it is difficult to remember a time without it.

A decade ago? Two decades? Three? Don King has been broadcasting Tulsa-area prep sporting events for 41 years.

He first addressed a microphone in a high school football stadium in 1975.

Gerald Ford was president.

Tiger Woods was born on the next-to-last day of the year.

There was not a single gold football in the Jenks High School trophy case.

Since King made his on-air debut in Ponca City as a 21-year-old neophyte, six more presidents have been elected, Tiger Woods has soared to the top of the golf world and begun a similarly rapid descent, and Jenks has had to build a new facility to showcase its 16 football state championship trophies.

As much as the cultural landscape has changed over the last four decades, Don King has become a familiar and dependable constant.

King has been on the air, via radio or television, for 13 of Jenks' 16 football championships.

If Alan Trimble is the heartbeat of Jenks football, Don King is, indeed, its voice.

For the Jenks radio fan base, Don King has provided the nonpareil play-by-play coverage, enhanced and enriched with his precise statistics, human-interest anecdotes and top-drawer professionalism, of the Trojans' climb to the top of Oklahoma's high-school football mountain.

The 62-year-old King, with a penchant for

research and a focus on detail, is the fountainhead, the wellspring of Jenks' fertile football history.

Tony Dillingham is director of athletics for Jenks Public Schools and knows King and King's work better than most observers.

"I have not cut Don to see if he bleeds maroon, but I think that is the overwhelming perception from a Jenks football perspective," Dillingham said.

Yet King commands so much respect for his professionalism and preparation, he can step away from the Jenks scene and into other broadcast roles with the ease and fluidity of the Renaissance man that he is.

From football to softball, from basketball to baseball, from high schools to the pros, King knows his sports and is a master of his craft.

He has been the play-by-play voice of the Tulsa Shock of the WNBA and the Tulsa 66ers of the NBA Development League. He has been television studio host, radio talk-show host, and go-to guy for state-wide high-school playoff coverage.

During the March prep basketball state tournament, King provided the Cox Cable television play-by-play call for 14 games, including eight in one day, over a 60-hour marathon from the Mabee Center.

His sincerity, his smooth delivery, his unflappable comportment set him apart. His on-air persona is comfortable and conversational.

And then there is his work ethic. King's commitment to preparation approaches fanatical.

"I can think of no one who is more prepared for doing a game than Don King," said J.V. Haney, King's longtime sidekick.

"He comes prepared with folders of stats, clippings, notes.

"I thought I was prepared. But Don King is far and away more prepared. There's always something coming up that I didn't have that he had right there at hand," Haney said.

King recognized early and quickly the need for being prepared.

In that first season of high-school football play-by-play, King was covering a Ponca City team struggling to finish 1-9.

"That was a valuable lesson," he said with a



**WELL-KNOWN VOICE:** Area sports broadcaster Don King, stands in front of a Jenks High School trophy case. King has been on the air, via radio or television, for 13 of Jenks' 16 football championships, providing the play-by-play coverage of the Trojans' climb to the top of Oklahoma's high-school football mountain.

smile. "You better come prepared with a lot of stuff because you're going to have a lot of time to fill when you go 1-9."

That awareness, that ability to size up the situation during a 10-game season despite his youthfulness surely was the result of King's educational process.

Reared in the Creek Country oilfield community of Drumright, King left prior to his sophomore year in high school to attend Kemper Military School in Boonville, Missouri.

After graduating high school in 1972, King remained at Kemper as a scholarship basketball player on the junior-college squad.

By that time, he was growing homesick and with the Kemper enrollment declining annually, King returned home and enrolled at Oklahoma State University.

At Kemper, which closed in 2002 after more than a century of being heralded as the West Point of the West, King said he matured quickly.

"The discipline, the structure of the military," fueled his maturation, King said.

"You learn to think on your feet. The leadership classes proved invaluable later as I became a producer and program director."

Armed with his portfolio of experiences at Ponca City, Kemper and Oklahoma State, King made his move in 1980 to Tulsa, landing at Tulsa Cable television.

One of his first alliances was with Bill Land. Already a familiar figure in local broadcasting, Land became a mentor to King.

"I owe a lot to Bill," King said. "He hired me three times (as a producer).

"Bill was a guy that demanded perfection, and expected it."

King and Land worked together on cable television on the SportScene program and on two AM radio stations, 1430 and 1300.

Along the way, King began to emerge as a play-by-play voice while still selling advertising for his radio employers.

In 1988, as Tulsa Cable was entering in its

twilight years just before the emergence of Cox Cable, King teamed up with Haney for the launch of landmark high-school television coverage.

Preps had long relied on newspapers for the dissemination of game results and information.

King and Haney, through Tulsa Cable and Cox Cable, took that coverage to a higher-profile level.

It helped, too, that King and Haney were a natural tandem.

King had the broadcast experience. Haney was a veteran high-school coach with a state-wide reputation for fairness and honesty.

For the next 16 years, they were as recognizable as a team as Palmer and golf, Ali and boxing, peanut butter and jelly.

King and Haney were synonymous with the high-school coverage. Football and basketball. Baseball, too. And softball. They combined on weekly game coverage and mid-week talk shows.

"We were joined at the hip," King said. "And there could not be a better person to be joined at the hip with than J.V., especially with regard to high-school athletics.

"I learned so much from him, and met so many people through him. He was a huge reason Tulsa Cable was as successful as it was, doing all those high-school games all those years."

Putting aside his own experience, King pointed with pride to Haney's ability to enlighten and educate a broadcast professional.

"I learned at a very early time that if somebody makes a bad play on the field or on the court, you should not criticize the guy that made the bad play," King said.

"That's one of the great things that I learned from J.V.

"There always will be somebody that probably made the good play on the other end that you can compliment.

*(Continued on page A11)*

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# DUTCH HALL OF FAME



GTR Newspapers photo

**FRED UTTER AND FRIENDS:** Fred Utter, far right, was inducted into the Holland Hall Athletic Hall of Fame May 6 as an outstanding coach and administrative leader for the Dutch. Utter also coached basketball at Will Rogers High School and played basketball at Oklahoma State University for the legendary Henry Iba. With Utter in the photo are important people in his life, including, from left, Sparky Grober, former Holland Hall head basketball coach and member of the Holland Hall Athletic Hall of Fame; Jeff Utter, his son and former Holland Hall and University of Tulsa

athlete and member of the Holland Hall Athletic Hall of Fame; Ed Lindblad, Will Rogers High School All-State basketball player and University of Tulsa player that Utter coached at Will Rogers High School; and Rodger Lefler, former head coach at East Central High School who competed against Utter and is a good friend.

Additional Holland Hall Athletic Hall of Fame inductees on May 6 are Jim Edwards, 1972; Amy Brechin, 1974; Elizabeth Lawson Linehan, 1983; Greg Wolfe, 1983; Justin Butler, 2014; and the 1993, 1994 and 1995 field hockey teams.



Courtesy Cascia Hall

**TENNIS CHAMPS:** The Cascia Hall girls tennis team celebrates after winning their third consecutive OSSAA (Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association) Class 5A State Championship in May. Coming in second place was Bishop Kelley.

## Don King Continues Career

(Continued from page A10)

“And I’ve always gone by that,” King said. King’s complimentary, non-threatening style, his easy-going repartee and his keen insights have helped elevate his professional standing.

A telling reminder of that respect and presence unfolded in March when the rights for Jenks football broadcasts went up for bid.

For almost two decades, Jenks football had been the sole property of AM 1430, The Buzz.

When King left the parent company of The Buzz, iHeartMedia Inc., in December after 25 years, he joined Tyler Media company and its sports radio station The Franchise, FM 107.9

and AM 1270, for some on-air work but an emphasis on marketing.

With his long-standing connection to Jenks as its play-by-voice on The Buzz, King sought the football rights for his new employer.

Jenks agreed.

“Don’s commitment to this football program was a major influence with our football booster club as they looked at their options of radio stations,” Dillingham said.

“Don definitely swayed the scale in their thought process, in my opinion.”

It is understandable.

Over the years, the decades Don King, indeed, has swayed the scale of influence in high-school sports.



Courtesy The University of Tulsa

**HURRICANE CHAMPIONS:** Tulsa claimed the 2016 American Athletic Conference Championship with a 4-0 win over No. 24 USF May 14 at the Collins Family Softball Complex on the TU campus. The Golden Hurricane improved its record to 35-19 in winning its fifth conference tournament championship and its first in two years as a member of The American. As winners of the league’s automatic bid, Tulsa will enter the NCAA Tournament.

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# Drillers' Hornsby Has Interesting Inner Workings

By GLENN HIBDON  
GTR Sports Writer

Sometimes players in the Texas League take offense to a blue bull shaking his private parts in their faces during pregame warmups. Members of the Northwest Arkansas Naturals did not appreciate Hornsby, official mascot of the Tulsa Drillers, taking liberties with their serious preparations at ONEOK Field.

"One of my favorite parts of the job is entertaining during pregame," says Hornsby, aka Vincent Pace. "One time I was messing with the (opposing) players and some don't like it. I got aggressive in a game with Northwest Arkansas when one of the players was on the ground stretching. I squatted down and shook my butt, and they all started attacking me. They jumped on me as a team."

Pace has the soul of a sports mascot. He's been one since childhood and plans on wearing funny, furry costumes until his "knees give out."

The 25-year-old native of Kansas City, Missouri, has portrayed cougars, parrots, griffins (the mythical bird), mustangs, dogs,

bearcats and even Chuck E. Cheese. Now he's a triple threat in Tulsa. Pace suits up as Hornsby for the Drillers, Oil-E Coyote for the Roughnecks and Sledge for the Oilers.

Pace is prepared to don a costume at a moment's notice and portray crazy characters anywhere there is an emergency need for a mascot. He's a pro who won't disappoint anyone, from 2 to 82. Just don't assault him.

"One of the biggest things for me is being able to entertain people," says Pace. "A lot of times people are having a bad day and they say laughter is the best medicine. I like seeing the kids' faces light up, and I like making people feel good."

"You would be surprised at how many big kids get scared of Hornsby. Some babies are not scared at all, and then a five-year-old is terrified. It all depends on the approach I make. Some of the kids think the costume is a piñata. Some people think the costume is padded, and if they hit me it doesn't hurt. It does, absolutely."

To make sure situations don't get out of hand, Pace has a handler. He advises fellow furies that if they don't have one, get out of the way as quickly as possible. The handler follows Hornsby around the stadium to make sure fans are not pulling on his tail or if he needs a pen to sign autographs. There is a signal if the blue bull needs assistance. A brush of his horns will bring immediate help.

"After that, I will go downstairs and let off steam," Pace says. "The No. 1 rule is to never, ever break character."

Pace has been a "character" since his childhood when his father took him to a high school football game



HORNSBY

in Kansas City. One team had an Eagle mascot who performed Michael Jackson's moonwalk.

"I fell in love with it, and I told my dad that was something I wanted to do. I never thought in a million years I would actually be doing it. In middle school I was the class clown and I would get in trouble for it."

Pace's math teacher was also the cheerleading coach and when he misbehaved, she made him wear his Cougar mascot costume in detention. If he continued to cause trouble, his mascot privileges were used as a disciplinary measure. He was not allowed to perform at games.

In high school, Pace tried playing football and basketball, but found he enjoyed being the team mascot more. A partial scholarship for mascot led Pace to Missouri Western where he became a Griffin. He moved to Tulsa in 2011 and is now in his sixth season as Hornsby.

Serving as Hornsby has been an adventure for the athletic and energetic Pace. He has dreams of reaching the big-time someday. Tryouts have come with the Los Angeles Clippers and the San Antonio Spurs. Pace said being a professional mascot can pay well if you hook up with the right team. It's a full-time job for him in Tulsa.

"I've had two auditions with the Spurs, but I didn't get the job with the Clippers because I couldn't back flip," says Pace. "I don't have a lot of gymnastic ability, but I'm learning. I'm learning how to tumble and dunk. I also go to the gym to workout. I run stairs and do a lot of cardio. I want to make it to the NBA."

But first, there are many hazards and pitfalls for Hornsby to avoid. Staying healthy and injury free is crucial.

"Yesterday I was messing with the (Arkansas) Travelers' first baseman and I patted him on the butt. When I turned around, he threw a baseball at my back," Pace said. "I've fallen over seats and hurt myself, but I try to play it off comically."

"One time I got punched in the face by a teenaged fan. I kissed his girlfriend's hand and he hit me square in the nose."

That's the risk of becoming a mascot. There are also the pleasures of choreographing skits and routines. Two of Hornsby favorites are Michael Jackson and the umpire scenario.

"I do my rendition of Michael Jackson by putting on my hair, hat and glove," Pace said. "When I seduce the umpire, I dress like Hornsby's mom, as a woman. The PA plays Alicia Keys' Falling and at the end of the song, I kiss the umpire."

With his many comedic talents on a playing field, Hornsby is more than a one-trick bull. Inside his lavish dressing room in the bowels of ONEOK Field, he designs and sews his own costumes. Pace took home economics in high school and learned how to handle a needle and thread. Oil-E Coyote is completely his own creation, trademarked and everything.

However, there is more to working 40 to 80 hours a week for Pace than being a mascot. During the offseason and down time, he toils in the Drillers' front office. He coordinates events, works with promotions and marketing, develops skits, and does costume maintenance. Hornsby also does special appearances, such as the St. Francis Children's Hospital, one of his favorite gigs.

A renaissance mascot and creative artiste, Pace still puts on his costume one leg at a time. At home he says he's just an ordinary blue bull. There is nothing special about him. He must avoid conflict like everybody else.

"I have a girlfriend who would kill me if she saw me flirt with the level of women I flirt with in costume," confides Pace, who also sings and plans to go into the ministry after hanging up his uniform for good. "I'm really laid back, and I save it all for when I'm in costume. I'm doing crazy dances and getting down, but I don't bring the mascot home."

Pace/Hornsby has learned to perform in anonymity and going places where no one knows his name. That's the price sports mascots must pay because for some, portraying a frisky, fun-loving blue bull is reward enough.

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The logo for Hillcrest Medical Center features the word "hillcrest" in a lowercase, sans-serif font with a small green leaf icon above the letter 'i'. Below it, the words "Medical Center" are written in a smaller, uppercase, sans-serif font.

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## Medical Center

A portrait of Michelle B., a woman with shoulder-length brown hair, smiling warmly. She is wearing a bright pink top and has her hand resting under her chin. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green and yellow.

Michelle B.

every moment is a gift.

Michelle was surprised to learn the small lump in her breast was cancerous and required a full mastectomy. Because of her diagnosis, she required another 20 weeks of chemotherapy treatment after her cancer spread to her lymph nodes. With the help of her Hillcrest team, she was able to keep a positive attitude. "Sometimes you just have to smile and make the best of it. There's a good reason it's called 'the present' - because life itself is a *present*." Cancer-free today, Michelle now volunteers at Hillcrest, sharing her remarkable story and encouraging others.

*To learn more about Michelle's life-changing experience with Hillcrest Medical Center, visit [Hillcrest.com](http://Hillcrest.com).*



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# HEALTH & WELLNESS

## HILLCREST DON'T BUG ME WINNERS



**EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers**  
**DELANEY CARLSON:** *Owasso Public Schools' Hodson Elementary third grader Delaney Carlson displays her winning Don't Bug Me poster on May 11 with, from left, Kaitlin Snider, public information officer for the Tulsa Health Department; Ginny Hensley, media and public relations manager for Hillcrest HealthCare System; and Leanne Stephens, with the Tulsa Health Department. Carlson's poster was the winning creation for the 1-3 grade category of the Don't Bug Me poster contest. Carlson also won an Amazon Fire tablet.*



**ROSSY GILLE for GTR Newspapers**  
**LONDON BROWN:** *On May 13, Union Public Schools' Thomas Jefferson Elementary fifth grader Landon Brown learned that he won the 4-5 grade category of the Don't Bug Me poster contest. Brown received his framed artwork and an Amazon Fire tablet. The poster contest and the Don't Bug Me campaign is a partnership between Hillcrest HealthCare System and the Tulsa Health Department with the goal to educate the community on ways to protect themselves from the flu and other communicable diseases.*

## Wagoner Community Hospital Economic Impact

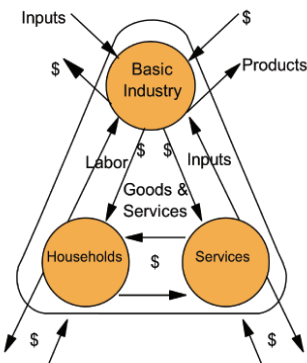


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- These employees and income create an additional **42 jobs** and over **\$1.2 million** in income as they interact with other sectors of the local economy
- **Total impacts= 257 jobs and over \$12.3 million**
- Other segments of the healthcare sector (Doctors, Home Health, Pharmacies, etc.) provide another **190 jobs** and an additional **\$10.3 million** in wages
- Their interactions and transactions within the local economy create an additional **24 jobs** and nearly **\$1.0 million** in income as these segments interact with the local economy
- **Total health sector impacts= 471 jobs and \$23.6 million (Including the hospital)**
- Over **\$4.3 million** in retail sales generated from income received from the presence of the healthcare sector



Source: Doekens, G.A., T. Johnson, and C. Willoughby. 1997. Measuring the Economic Importance of the Health Sector on a Local Economy: A Brief Literature Review and Procedures to Measure Local Impacts

### Healthcare and Your Local Economy:

- Attracts retirees and families
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- Positive impact on retail sales of local economy

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Lara Brooks, Rural Health Analyst, lara.brooks@okstate.edu  
Corie Kaiser, Director, corie.kaiser@okstate.edu  
Oklahoma Office of Rural Health  
Phone: 405.840.6500



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## EVENT PROMOTES HEALTH



**TOUR DE TULSA:** *Cyclists prepare to begin their Tour de Tulsa ride. On May 7, the 29th annual Tour de Tulsa event was held, hosted annually by the Tulsa Health Department and the Tulsa Bicycle Club as a way to promote health in the community. All proceeds benefit the Pathways to Health Community Partnership Inc.*

On May 7, more than 800 cyclists from across the state and region descended upon Tulsa to participate in the 29th annual Tour de Tulsa, presented by St. John Health System.

The cyclists began their ride at River West Festival Park, 2105 S. Jackson Ave., and had the option of completing 22, 50, 62, or 100-mile routes and the Family Fun

Ride, a six or 10-mile course. Tour de Tulsa is hosted annually by the Tulsa Health Department and the Tulsa Bicycle Club as a way to promote health in the community.

All proceeds from the event benefit the Pathways to Health Community Partnership Inc., a local charity seeking to improve the health of Tulsa County residents.



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# CTCA Excellence Recognized

Cancer Treatment Centers of America (CTCA) in Tulsa recently garnered two clinical milestones: named one of the "Best Overall Patient-Rated Hospitals" in the country by Becker's Infection Control & Clinical Quality and receiving re-accreditation by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC), a program administered by the American College of Surgeons.

In April, CTCA's recognition by Becker's Infection Control & Clinical Quality as one of the "best overall patient-rated hospitals" is based on hospital data from April 2014-March 2015 for which 90 percent or more of patients gave an overall care rating of nine or 10 on the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) survey. CTCA in Tulsa received a score of 92 percent. Only three Oklahoma hospitals received 90 percent or higher, and CTCA was the only Tulsa hospital listed.

"This recognition is a testament to the compassionate, responsive and innovative care our talented staff deliver to our patients every day," says Denise Geuder, RN, MS, CNOR, VP of Patient Care Services and chief nursing officer of CTCA in Tulsa.

The Tulsa hospital also received re-accreditation for meeting rigorous standards set forth by the NAPBC after undergoing an external evaluation of its performance and compliance standards. The Tulsa hospital serves cancer patients across all corners of Oklahoma, as well as more

than 37 states and the Virgin Islands. The three-year accreditation is currently held by CTCA in Tulsa and one other hospital in Oklahoma and serves as a reflection of CTCA's commitment to patient-centered care, clinical excellence and outstanding follow-up services. NAPBC evaluators studied 17 different disciplines within the Tulsa breast program, including surgical protocols, nursing, quality improvement, plastic surgery and medical oncology.

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# Brain Lectures

Laureate Institute for Brain Research (LIBR), a scientific research institute that focuses on discovering brain-based technologies to improve mental health, has scheduled dates through August for its lecture series "Healthy Brains for a Healthy Oklahoma."

Presented in conjunction with the LIBR Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development group, "Healthy Brains for a Healthy Oklahoma" provides parents, teachers and community members with important information on brain development in children.

Neuroscientists have made tremendous progress in understanding how the brain processes emotions and makes decisions. Conventional wisdom has long held that once the brain developed, it did not change significantly. However, new research is providing a different picture.

"The intent of this lecture series is to provide opportunities for everyone in the Tulsa community to learn about the latest insights from brain research that is directly relevant to our health and well-being," says Martin P. Paulus, M.D., LIBR scientific director and president.

The topic of the next lecture is "The Resilient Brain," to be delivered on May 26 by Robin Aupperle, Ph.D.

On June 23, Justin Feinstein, Ph.D., will present "Fear in the Brain and Body."

Sahib Khalsa, M.D., Ph.D., will offer "When Food Rules the Brain" on July 28.

On Aug. 25, Jerzy Bodurka, Ph.D., will present "Journey Inside the Brain."

More dates will be made known as they are scheduled.

All lectures are free to the public and are held in the Laureate Conference Center, 6655 S. Yale Ave. in Tulsa, 6-8 p.m. Attendees receive complimentary light snacks, tea and water.

For more information, contact Colleen McCallum at 918-502-5180 or visit the Facebook page: facebook.com/LIBResearch.

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- Edward S.

**A:** The human back is such a complex collection of delicate bones, muscles and nerves. It's amazing to consider but also just about the number one source of chronic back and neck pain for the majority of Americans. Having back pain, muscle spasms and shooting leg pain can bring your life to a standstill.

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*The Orthopedic Technology Review* found that "86% of the 219 patients who completed Decompression Therapy reported immediate resolution of symptoms."



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**BROKEN ARROW NEWS**

# Teacher Spotlight

*(Continued from page A8)*  
 “I believe that electives courses (like art) play a key role in encouraging students to stay in school. If a student can find something that they enjoy and can excel at they are more likely to show up to school each day.”

Broken Arrow High School’s Teacher of the Year **Mary Fowler** is a Tulsa native and Memorial High School and Oral Roberts University graduate.

She has taught at the High School for 25 years, coached the Varsity Cheerleaders for 20 years, and overseen Student Council and Key Club International.

Fowler currently teaches aerobics, couch to 5K and developmental leadership.

“I absolutely love teenagers,” she says. “As a whole, teenagers are intelligent, giving, funny and thoughtful. I see it every day at Broke Arrow High School.”

She is also a certified Group Fitness Instructor for Zumba, Bootcamp, Pilates and conditioning classes.

“I love my job because I get to workout for a living and I get to spend my day with amazing kids,” says Fowler. “I want to give my students the tools to have a strong body image and strong self-esteem.”

“I also want them to take responsibility for their choices and realize they can make a difference in the world by creating a chain reaction of kindness and integrity.”

The Margaret Hudson Program Broken Arrow Campus named **LaQuisha Jackson**, family and consumer sciences teacher, as its Teacher of the Year. Jackson’s subject matter involves teaching students the necessary family life and self-sufficiency skills needed to be successful young adults.

She serves as the advisor for the school’s FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) group.

“I truly enjoy making a profound difference in my students lives,” she says. “I teach life skills, so there’s no better enjoyment than actually seeing your students apply what they’ve learned in class to their daily lives.”

Jackson, a California native, holds two associate degrees as well as a bachelor’s degree in family and consumer sciences from Northeastern State University, and she is currently pursuing her master’s in educational administration from Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

She taught for three years with the Muskogee Public School district. This is her third year teaching at Broken Arrow Public Schools and with the Margaret Hudson Program.

Prior to teaching, Jackson spent 11 years working with children and teens in at-risk youth programs, home daycare facilities and through tutoring. “I always found myself teaching or tutoring someone’s child. It just comes naturally for me,” says Jackson.

# PUBLIC ART



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers  
**TRIBUTE TO ROOSTER DAYS:** A new piece of public art was unveiled in downtown Broken Arrow on May 12. Titled “Strutting Thru the Rose District,” the metal sculpture, created by Broken Arrow artist David Nunneley, serves as a tribute to the Rooster Days history in Broken Arrow and sits at the corner of Main and Dallas streets. (See also page B1.)

# ROOSTER EGG WINNERS



ROSSY GILLE for GTR Newspapers  
**HUNTING A PRIZE:** Derek and Katie Simpson stand with Lori Lewis, right, executive director of The Museum Broken Arrow, in celebration of the Simpsons locating the rooster egg. This is the 21st year for the annual Rooster Egg Hunt, which was created as a way to build anticipation for Broken Arrow’s annual Rooster Days Festival, held May 12-14. On May 14, the Simpsons were awarded the grand prize of \$1,000.

# Flag Day

In honor of Flag Day, on June 14, the Broken Arrow Military History Museum, 112 N. Main St., will hold its annual Flag Day ceremony on June 11 at 3 p.m. Congressman Jim Bridenstine, who is also a member of the Oklahoma Air National Guard, will serve as guest speaker.

During the ceremony, the American flag, Service Branch flags, Medal of Honor flag, Air and Army National Guard flags, and 45th Infantry Division flag will all be individually raised by veterans, and a patriotic musical arrangement will be provided by SP4 Willard Parish, Silver Star recipient from the Vietnam Ia Drang Valley Battle.



**RECOGNITION AWARD:** Ashley N. McMahon, left, of Broken Arrow, was recently honored with Southwestern Oklahoma State University’s College of Pharmacy Recognition Award during its graduate recognition ceremony. Also pictured is Alexandria L. Foster, of Claremore, who receive the ASP Outstanding Senior Recognition Award.

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**CLUES ACROSS**

1. Impudence
5. Female garment
11. Not twice
12. Mention one by one
16. Cowbarn (British)
17. Promotional material
18. Argentinian artist Zeta
19. South Park guys’ musical
24. Letter of the Greek alphabet
25. Comes into
26. VVV
27. Weaken
28. Costly
29. Weight
30. Financial obligation
31. A way to expel
33. Anoint
34. Stems
38. Belittled
39. Refrain from harming
40. Relating to odors

43. Helps animals metabolize nitrogen-containing compounds
44. Make neat
45. Ancient Greek sophist
49. A quantity of no importance
50. Used to have (Scottish)
51. Straighten
53. Early multimedia
54. Recommending
56. Greek sorceress
58. Michigan
59. Off-Broadway theater award
60. Watered
63. Small Eurasian deer that lack visible tails
64. Basic amino acid
65. A way to pick

**CLUES DOWN**

1. Wept
2. All persons
3. Pouches of skin
4. Locates missile targets
5. Furrow
6. Michael Chiklis grew up here
7. Ruthenium
8. Sacred Hindu syllable
9. Roman biographer
10. A way to smile
13. Atomic number 13
14. Can be domesticated
15. Exploded
20. An alternative
21. Foreign Service
22. Robbed by force
23. Made the acquaintance of
27. Bishops’ seats of authority
29. “Tiny Bubbles” singer
30. Deoxyribonucleic acid
31. Plural present of be
32. College degree
33. Basics
34. High sea wave
35. Go against flow
36. Tree native to India
37. A major division of geological time
38. Yakut God of Light \_\_\_ Toyon
40. Utah city
41. Supporting musicians
42. Magnesium
44. Scottish cap (slang)
45. Performing artists
46. Slang for mistake
47. More well ventilated
48. Most guileful
50. Grinder
51. University of Dayton
52. Sodium
54. Fashion designer Chapman
55. Brood of pheasant
57. Doolittle was one
61. Equally
62. “Bring Em Out” rapper

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# GTR SECTION B

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SECTION B

June 2016

www.gtrnews.com

## Alisa Inglett's Your Design in the Heart of Rose

By EMILY RAMSEY  
Managing Editor

Six years ago, when Alisa Inglett opened Your Design, her art and framing store on Broken Arrow's Main Street, just like downtown Broken Arrow which was not yet the Rose District, Inglett's mission for her store had yet to be realized.

Inglett, who grew up in Tulsa, moved to Broken Arrow 12 years ago to allow her daughter to be in a school district with more art opportunities.

Inglett's decision to open her own store came about partly as a way to provide a place of employment for her mother; her decision to locate Your Design on Main Street years before the Rose District took shape came about because "there's something about a city's main street; it's got a hometown feel," she says.

For the past 20 years, Inglett has worked in art framing, which is one of the services offered at Your Design. Eight years ago, Inglett began offering to create faux finishes and murals for clients. She is also a master gilder, who has studied and trained under master gilders.

Inglett cannot pinpoint when she began doing art because she has always created, she says, experimenting and working in all types of mediums, including printmaking, mixed media, watercolor, murals, oil painting, and faux finishes, with her current focus being on installations.

Art has always offered Inglett, who describes herself as socially uncomfortable, an avenue for communication and self-expression.

"Art is the way that I get my thoughts and emotions out," she says.

As Inglett recognized that she was far from alone in her feelings, "I determined that I wanted to help the invisible person be heard (in others) and to be an advocate for artists and creative people," she says.

One way that she brought fruition to that goal was when she formed Alternative Outside Artists



GTR Newspapers Photo

**RECYCLED ART:** Recycled art was on display in April at "Green Art, Red Wine," hosted by Your Design, 211 S. Main St. in Broken Arrow. Standing around a sculpture created by local metal sculptor Stephen Schwark are, from left, Your Design owner Alisa Inglett; Kelley Rash, with the Arts Council of Broken Arrow and AVB Bank chairperson of the board; Katy Newton, art model; and Jennifer Deal, with the Arts Council of Broken Arrow and Broken Arrow High School art teacher.

(AOA), a group made up of Tulsa artists of various art forms, such as visual, theater, dance. The focus of the organization was to locate space for artists to show their work.

"We found all kinds of places to show our art: a lawyer's office, a hair salon, abandoned buildings, warehouses."

Fast forward about 15 years, and Inglett is still supporting and fostering local artists.

"After I opened this store, I realized that I could use it to provide an area to allow artists to show and perform their work," says Inglett.

On average, she hosts an art event once per month at Your Design. These events range in variety from art shows to fundraisers to live performance art.

For example, in April, Your Design hosted "Green Art, Red Wine," which featured sculpture, ceramics, pottery, assemblages, wall art, and other types of artwork constructed from found objects.

On May 7, Your Design presented the "Vaudeville Museum," where four separate full-costume Vaudeville performances took place simultaneously that evening on four separate street corners along Main Street.

Coming next at Your Design is "Artists of the Future," an art show for artists between 10 and 20 years old. The event will be held June 2 and include art work of various mediums, which will remain on display in the store through July.

However, this event offers more than a one-night art show; it includes education for participating artists.

"I will help participants before the event to title and price their art work and just generally help them behind the scenes as to how to get their pieces art-show-ready," Inglett says.

Explaining why she holds mentorship as such a passion, she continues, "I wouldn't be where I am if I had not had strong mentors in my life."



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

**DOWNTOWN PUBLIC SCULPTURE:** From left are Stanley Synar and Lynn Palmer, owners of BA Bloom, LLC, with Mark Frie, president of the Arts Council of Broken Arrow and executive director of the Broken Arrow Performing Arts Center, and Wes Smithwick, president of the Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce. They are standing next to the newest piece of public art in the Rose District, "Strutting Thru the Rose District." The sculpture, created by local sculptor David Nunneley, was commissioned by Palmer and Synar and sits on the corner of Main and Dallas streets.



GTR Newspapers Photo

**VAUDEVILLE PERFORMANCES:** Pat Hobbs, left, and John Orsulak perform as Vaudeville characters Bert Savoy and Jay Brennan, respectively, on May 7 during Your Design's "Vaudeville Museum," where four separate full-costume Vaudeville performances took place simultaneously on four separate street corners along Main Street in Broken Arrow's Rose District.



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VARIETY

# PAC's Annual SummerStage Up Close and Personal

SummerStage, the PAC's annual theatre festival, lights up June in our Williams, Doenges, LaFortune and Norman Theatres, where an intimate experience, close to the action, is guaranteed. Enjoy 17 different events and a choice of 40 performances during SummerStage 2016, but that's not all. Chapman Music Hall is slated for three big shows.

First, let the good times roll June 1 when the Tulsa Rock Quartet performs a free noontime gig for Brown Bag It. Concerts are held in the acoustically awesome Westby Pavilion beginning at 12:10 p.m. and lasting for 40 minutes.

SummerStage kicks off on June 2 with a cabaret performance that has both playful and poignant moments. "(Sorta) Love Songs" features the music of Scott Burkell and Paul Loesel performed by Lauren Casey, Tasha McCabe, David Moreland, Sebastian Paden, Lindsay Powell and Robert Young.

Other SummerStage cabaret performances include "My Yiddish Mamas - The Early Years," with Rebecca Ungerman, Machele Miller Dill and Jennifer Paxton, June 3-5. Multi-talented trumpeter and singer Jeff Shadley performs a show dedicated to "The Man Men of Swing," June 9, and charming songstress and showman Janet Rutland sings the music of Country Hall of Fame songwriters Harlan Howard and Hank Cochran in "I Fall to Pieces," June 10-11.

Tickets for the musical revue "Forever Plaid," June 15-19, are selling fast. The program features the spot-on harmonies of songs made popular by guy groups from the '50s, like The Four Freshmen. There will be two different casts for the show: "The Classic Plaids," comprising singers you may have heard in "Forever Plaid" in previous years, and the "New Plaids." Check our website, tulsapac.com, to find out which group is performing on the night you can attend.

More music in a casual and relaxed cabaret setting can be enjoyed with "The Way Motown Revue," June 17-19. Ten Tulsans, including singer Rebecca Ungerman, revisit the soul/pop

sounds of Motown through more than 70 of the era's biggest hits.

Two other cabaret-style music events slated for SummerStage are

## Show Buzz



By NANCY HERMANN

"Red Dirt Acoustical Take on Great Roots Tunes," with popular musicians Shelby Eicher and Jared Tyler performing with Red Dirt singer/songwriter Monica Taylor, June 23, and "Thomas Williams - Villains," June 24-25. Returning to SummerStage after a sold-out debut last year, Williams travels to the dark side in his cabaret spotlight, drawing on villainous roles or themes from Broadway, film and pop culture.

Another returning SummerStage act is Steve Lancaster's "Amazing Family Magic Show," June 12. Steve and the Top Hat Magic and Fun Shop are well known to Tulsans. Two musicals are included in the SummerStage lineup. Sand Springs Community Theatre presents the children's classic "The Secret Garden," June 2-5, and Tulsa Project Theatre stages the fairy tale adventure "Shrek: The Musical" over two weekends, June 3-5 and 9-12. A live orchestra accompanies both productions.

SummerStage, which is underwritten by the Tulsa PAC Trust, is family-friendly and always includes a selection of programs geared for young people. A superb addition to this year's festival is the Tulsa Opera Youth production "The Hobbit," June 18-19. Based on the novel by J.R.R. Tolkien and further popularized by Peter Jackson in his big-screen trilogy, composer Dean Burry's opera showcases the talent of Tulsa Opera's premier music training program for singers who are in third through twelfth grades.

Straight drama is part of SummerStage through Emile Adams' "Entr'acte," in which seven characters in a support group talk with humor and insight through the challenges in their lives, June 10-11. Additionally, Tulsa's Dan McGeehan and Susan Apker, both playwrights and each with a body of work, present "On Our Own," June 17-18, performed by a troupe of actors. Their original plays have been produced across the country. One other SummerStage play to note is "The Lowdown Dusty



**JEFF SHADLEY AND THE MAD MEN OF SWING:** Jazz trumpeter/singer Jeff Shadley and a band of musicians take a masculine and musical look at some of the "maddest" men of the swing era, like risk-taker Frank Sinatra, June 9.



**ON OUR OWN:** Local playwrights Dan McGeehan and Susan Apker, each with a body of work, stage their short, original plays, June 17-18, performed by a troupe of actors.

Blues," June 24-25. This drama, which includes blues music, is the story of a young boy who lived through Oklahoma's Dust Bowl.

Dance performances always find a place in the SummerStage roster. This year's Portico Dance Theatre piece is "Legend of Darkness," June 24-26, referencing Joseph Conrad's novel "Heart of Darkness" in a multimedia dance production incorporating video display and live music written by Canadian composer Christian LeDroit. "Shakti," staged by Kripalaya Dance Academy, June 24-25, will energize the audience with Indian Classical and Bollywood dancing, salsa, hip-hop, belly dancing, and Chinese and Irish dance.

Festival passes for SummerStage are available through the PAC ticket office by phone or in person.

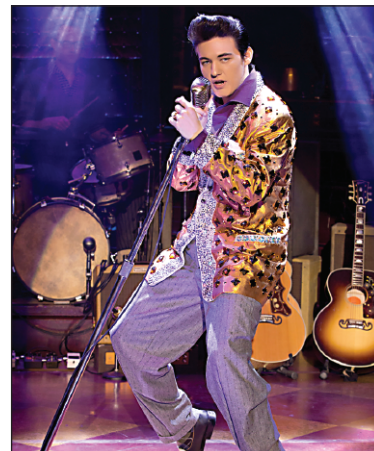
In our largest theatre, Chapman Music Hall, comic Rickey Smiley takes the stage June 3. This performance is recommended for mature audiences. People of all ages can enjoy "The Ultimate Elvis



**MAMMA MIA!:** The phenomenal touring Broadway musical "Mamma Mia!," showcasing the pop music of ABBA, stops at the PAC for four performances, June 11-12, presented by Celebrity Attractions.



**FOREVER PLAID:** Audiences can choose between two casts of "Plaid" performers — "The Classic Plaids" or "New Plaids," June 15-19, or see them both!



**ULTIMATE ELVIS:** Jake Rowley, the entertainer who played the role of Elvis in "Million Dollar Quartet," stars in "The Ultimate Elvis Experience," June 17-18.



**SHAKTI:** The Kripalaya Dance Academy presents a SummerStage program of Indian Classical and Bollywood dancing, salsa, hip-hop, belly dancing, and Chinese and Irish dance, June 24-25.

Experience," June 17-18. Jake Rowley, the entertainer who played Elvis in "Million Dollar Quartet," stars in this tribute show.

The music of ABBA is celebrated in "Mamma Mia!," presented by Celebrity Attractions during four shows, June 11-12. Get your dancing queen on and enjoy band members Benny Andersson and Bjorn Ulvaeus' international hit musical,

featuring two dozen ABBA hits. The show has been produced in 17 different languages and grossed over \$2 billion since its debut in 1999.

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Nancy Hermann is Director of Marketing at the Tulsa PAC.

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# AWC Recognizes Becky Dixon, Newsmakers

On May 4, the Tulsa chapter of the Association for Women in Communications (AWC) recognized its 2016 Newsmakers Jill Donovan, Leigh Goodson, and Katie L. Plohocky and awarded Becky Dixon with the AWC Saidie Lifetime Achievement Award.

Each year, AWC selects a group of outstanding Oklahoma women who have made positive headlines while advancing opportunities for women and improving their local communities and the state.

The AWC Saidie Lifetime Achievement Award is presented in memory of Oklahoma television pioneer Saidie Adwon and celebrates an accomplished professional in the journalism and communications field.

## Saidie Lifetime Achievement Award Winner:

**Becky Dixon**, *new media entrepreneur, community leader and national pioneer in sports broadcasting:*

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

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

ny of Taylor Communications.

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

## Newsmakers:

**Jill Donovan**, *motivational speaker and founder of Rustic Cuff:*

A former law professor at The University of Tulsa, Donovan used her love of cuff bracelets to teach herself leather-making and metal design in her home late at night.

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

In the past year, Donovan has opened her second Rustic Cuff retail store and launched another highly successful line, Kate Forty-eight, which features semi-precious and custom necklaces. She has also become a sought-after motivational speaker who encourages women to pursue their passions. Donovan attributes the brand's success to her loyal Rustic Cuff fan base, locally and across the country.



Courtesy AWC Tulsa

**WOMEN IN THE NEWS:** *The Tulsa chapter of the Association for Women in Communications, in May, recognized its three Newsmakers and Saidie Lifetime Achievement Award winner. From left are Newsmaker Katie L. Plohocky, principal of StreetLife, LLC; Saidie Lifetime Achievement Award winner Becky Dixon, national pioneer in sports broadcasting; and Newsmakers Leigh Goodson, president and CEO of Tulsa Community College, and Jill Donovan, founder of Rustic Cuff.*

**Leigh Goodson**, *president and CEO of Tulsa Community College:*

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

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

and establish "Open Lines" campus forums.

**Katie L. Plohocky**, *principal of StreetLife, LLC:*

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

She also serves as an executive member of several local health and food initiatives including the Tulsa Food Security Council, Food on the Move, Edible Tulsa magazine, Pathways to Health, Tulsa Community Wellness Partnership and the Oklahoma Food Policy

Council. She is founder of the Healthy Community Store Initiative, which provides a mobile grocery store including healthy and inexpensive food options to residents living in Tulsa's food deserts. She is co-founder and director of the Annual Taste of North Tulsa event, regional coordinator for National Food Day and board president of the Pearl Farmer's Market.

Plohocky is a BOK Financial Corporation advisory board member, a Tulsa Industrial Authority trustee, board secretary of the Business Industrial Development Corporation (BIDC), treasurer of the McLain High School Foundation, a 15-year volunteer at Junior Achievement of Eastern Oklahoma and chairperson of Route 66 Task Force Business Development.



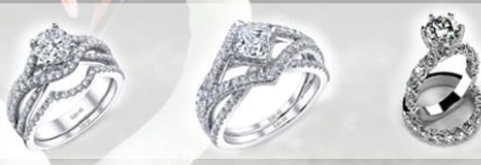
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# Exciting Growth on the Horizon in Tulsa

Sometimes, when I find myself trying to rush, in vain, through the crowds during the First Friday Art Crawl or waiting for a table at a downtown restaurant or searching for a parking spot less than a few blocks away from Cain's Ballroom, my momentary feelings of frustration could easily give way to wishes that Tulsa wasn't growing at its current rate.

But I catch myself, and I try to smile instead. Because, I argue, there is no more exciting of a time to be in Tulsa than now.

While living in a city that has already established its identity is fun no doubt, as the many hordes of people flocking to Chicago, Austin and Denver attest, being on the ground floor of a city that is in the process of shaping its personality and its future offers a different level of exhilaration, and more and more people are discovering that this kind of energy is taking place in our understatedly hip city.

Tulsa is becoming a place where a person can pretty much find something to do or someplace interesting to go any day of the week.

Although, you don't have to be very old to easily flash back to the days when that was far from the case: when Mayfest was the only

## Out & About in Greater Tulsa



By EMILY RAMSEY  
Managing Editor

reason one time a year that people were willing to venture downtown on a Saturday.

As Tulsa continues to grow in its offerings, whether we're talking cultural, sports, commercial, residential, Tulsans' pride in our city is undoubtedly increasing as well.

For example, a few weekends ago, I was able to enjoy both the stunning voices and grand theatrics of Tulsa Opera's Samson and Delilah and our beautiful ballet company, which, since its recent tour in Italy, has been noted as one of the top five ballet companies in

the nation.

I fear that many Tulsans don't fully recognize how incredibly privileged we are to have these artistic gems in a city of our modest size.

Fiddler on the Roof, by Theatre Tulsa, ended its run at the end of April. Later this year, the local company will perform Cabaret and, next year, Sweeney Todd.

Tulsa Botanic Garden, on May 15, opened its Children's Discovery Garden to eager droves of adults and children, debunking any questions of whether Tulsans are in want of more public green spaces. I can only imagine what the opening of A Gathering Place for Tulsa will look like next year.



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

**PROJECT CUFFWAY:** Jessica Pesch models a 20-pound dress made out of Rustic Cuff cloth and paper bags during Project Cuffway, a runway show of unconventional materials, held by Rustic Cuff founder and Tulsan Jill Donovan. The dress was designed by Whitney Lahann.



**CHILDREN'S GARDEN:** Adults and children spent time enjoying Tulsa Botanic Garden's new Children's Discovery Garden during its grand-opening celebration on May 15. This is the second garden to open as part of the Botanic Garden's 20-year master plan.

and Utica Avenue. Project Cuffway, a runway show of outfits made from unconventional materials, was held in April, by Rustic Cuff owner and Tulsan Jill Donovan.

Not to be forgotten is Broken Arrow's developing Rose District, which continues to make headlines with new shops opening often and monthly events, making it arguably the coolest place outside of downtown and midtown Tulsa in the greater Tulsa area. (See page B1.)

Craft beer and its brewers continue their upward trajectory, with a number of breweries and brewpubs slated to open soon in Tulsa, including Prairie Brewpub, 223 N. Main St., which opened in mid-May in the Brady Arts District.

Kitchen 66, 907 S. Detroit Ave., another entrepreneurial endeavor by Lobeck Taylor Family Foundation, officially opened at the beginning of May, with plans to relocate the food hub to 11th Street, as efforts to revitalize Route 66 take shape. (See page B6.) LTF is also currently involved in bringing a food truck court to Route 66 that will include a permanent structure to allow for year-round use and to include a bar.

And what about Virgola, a New York City-based oyster bar, coming to Brookside in June?

The buzz of further development in Tulsa is palatable, and I, for one, wouldn't want to be anywhere else but here.

# Tulsa Ballet's Hardesty Center to Open July 30 in B.A.

Tulsa Ballet's Hardesty Center for Dance Education, 1901 W. New Orleans St. in Broken Arrow, will open to the public on July 30.

The 21,000-square-foot facility will be an extension of Tulsa Ballet's dance school, currently operating solely out of its

Brookside location. The building will house four studios, each with a professional basket-woven sprung floor with Marley covering, ten-foot mirrors and a state-of-the-art sound system. The site will also include The Anne and Henry Zarrow Foundation Performance Studio, which will

serve as a performance venue for ballet students and educational outreach programs, as well as a functioning dance studio. Also in the facility will be administrative office space, boys and girls dressing areas, and a lobby. Tulsa Ballet II, the organization's pre-professional ensemble and performing arm of the Center for Dance Education, will also offer performances in the Zarrow Studio.

The Hardesty Center for Dance Education is possible as the result of a gift of 13.72 acres from the Hardesty Family Foundation and its founders, Roger and Donna Hardesty. The gift, valued at \$4.185 million, is one of the



GTR Newspapers Photo

**TULSA BALLETT:** Tulsa Ballet General Manager Stacey Jenkins, left, provides a tour of Tulsa Ballet's Hardesty Center for Dance Education, 1901 W. New Orleans St. in Broken Arrow, for Natalie Cagle, of Resolute PR, and Ashley Schmidt, right, of Greater Tulsa Reporter.

largest gifts ever awarded by the foundation. The facility has been

designed by Selser Schaefer Architects, and the structural and civil engineering has been provided by Kinslow, Keith and Todd.

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# DINING OUT IN GREATER TULSA

## Eclectic, Fresh Dishes on Display at Rusty Crane

### LOCAL DINING

By **BLAKE AUSTYN**  
Contributing Writer

When Lee Brennan opened his restaurant Rusty Crane, 109 N. Detroit Ave., in the Brady Arts District in October 2012, it could be said that, at that moment, two of his dreams were being accomplished.

Not only did he open his own restaurant, something his family had been encouraging him to do for years, but, in addition to that, his restaurant opened in a refurbished factory.

"When I was in high school," says Brennan, who grew up in Tulsa, "I would drive and walk around downtown. I loved downtown, but it was pretty quiet after the work day."

"I had always wanted to open a restaurant in one of these old buildings."

The name of the restaurant came about as an homage to the physical crane that remains on the north end of the building and hangs above the restaurant's patio and displays the restaurant's signage.

Over the years since opening Rusty Crane, Brennan has transformed the outdoor patio area, which sits on the north and east sides of the building and sits high enough off the ground that the parking lot to the east is hardly noticeable. Instead, patrons tend to focus on the view of ONEOK Field a block away.

The menu can be described as eclectic and fresh, with items rang-

ing from quesadillas and tacos, vegetarian dishes, fish, chicken, pork to asian dishes, wraps, and wings. You name it, and there's a good chance you'll find something close to it on the menu.

My party visited on a warm Friday afternoon, and we chose to sit where many Tulsans choose in the springtime: the patio.

We began with two appetizers: the Pork Nacho Libre (pork nachos) and East Meets West Lettuce Wraps.

The nachos were topped abundantly with very tender, slow-roasted pork, black beans, cheese, bacon and tomatoes. I have been yearning to return for a second round of those ever since.

The lettuce wraps aren't the traditional Asian style that many people might be expecting; instead, they come with a mixture of chicken, water chestnuts and carrots. The flavor was good, just different from our expectations.

For entrees, we chose the Mother Clucker, a traditional chicken sandwich, and the Trojan Horse Tacos.

The Mother Clucker is a nice, basic option for a chicken sandwich, although it could use a sauce to liven up the flavor.

The Trojan Horse Tacos, like the Pork Nacho Libre, will make me a loyal customer. The vegetarian soft tacos came filled with vegetables and a generous amount of fresh spinach, topped with black bean hummus, a flavorful cucumber sauce, and feta cheese, with a side of rice and black beans and a handful of chips and salsa.

We couldn't resist splitting the



**PORK NACHOS:** *The Pork Nacho Libre, a popular Rusty Crane dish, topped abundantly with very tender, slow-roasted pork, black beans, cheese, bacon and tomatoes.*

Three Layer Chocolate Cake for dessert, which was sinfully moist and richly chocolate, with a dark chocolate icing and chocolate ganache.

While the restaurant's full menu is diverse and large, oftentimes, the restaurant will offer a special event menu due to events taking place nearby, notably Tulsa Drillers and Roughnecks games at ONEOK Field and the First Friday Art Crawl. In order to quicken ticket times in the kitchen during these busy times, the menu is condensed into about 25 items of appetizers and entrees.

After speaking with Brennan about the menu, I have a few items in mind to try when I return, including the wings, which he says



**A SEAT WITH A VIEW:** *A western view of Rusty Crane's outdoor patio. The restaurant opened in October 2012 as a long-time dream of Tulsan Lee Brennan. The menu is focused on eclectic and fresh dishes, with items ranging from quesadillas and tacos, vegetarian dishes, fish, chicken, pork to asian dishes, wraps, and wings.*

are one of the restaurant's "biggest brags and a definite best seller" and the Signature Yumlada, a dish that Brennan had been making for years before he opened the restaurant.

The Yumlada served as the benchmark to which Brennan measured all other dishes created for Rusty Crane.

"We incorporate the same kind of quality ingredients, creativity and flavor into everything we serve," he says.

Also a popularly requested dish is the Mango Fish Tacos, Brennan says, which consist of tilapia,

mango salsa, lettuce, lemon garlic aioli and cilantro on a flour tortilla.

In addition to the food, Brennan has given close attention to creating a unique signature drink list with drinks ranging from \$7-10. My favorite is the Tin Man, a twist on a gin and tonic with cucumber.

A Monday-Friday Happy Hour, 3-6 p.m., offers all appetizers at half price and \$2 domestic beers. Rusty Crane also serves a Saturday and Sunday brunch, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Restaurant hours are Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m.-10 p.m. and Friday-Saturday 11 a.m.-2 a.m.

## Lobeck Taylor Foundation Launches Kitchen 66

### Space Offers Entrepreneurial Programs, 9,000-Square-Foot Kitchen

By **EMILY RAMSEY**  
Managing Editor

On May 3, the Lobeck Taylor Family Foundation (LTFF) opened the doors of one of its newest programs Kitchen 66, a food entrepreneurial space. The open house event introduced the community to the space, located at 907 S. Detroit Ave. in downtown Tulsa, and showcased some of the participating businesses.

The idea for Kitchen 66 really began about two years ago, says Elizabeth Frame Ellison, Kitchen 66 founder and CEO of LTFF, due to her and her husband's recognition of all of the resources that food entrepreneurs need to create and launch their business.

"We wanted to provide that support for entrepreneurs," she says.

Kitchen 66 opened its cafe on Jan. 27, the same day as another LTFF program, 36 Degrees North, opened.

"Thirty-six Degrees North is more focused on technology. We wanted to provide (with Kitchen 66) something for the alternative entrepreneurs who also have great ideas so that they can contribute to our community."

The reason for the name is Ellison's eventual plan to relocate the space onto 11th Street and Route 66 to create a food hub, or market, as found in cities like San Francisco, with the Ferry Building Marketplace, and The Source in Denver.

The Kitchen 66 Cafe offers breakfast and lunch Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., with food offered from Kitchen 66 entrepreneurs and



**FOOD ENTREPRENEURS:** *Crowds of interested individuals attended an open house for the Lobeck Taylor Family Foundation's food entrepreneurial venture Kitchen 66, 907 S. Detroit Ave., on May 3, where they got to speak with local food entrepreneurs and sample their items.*



**BUSINESS GUIDANCE:** *From left, Kitchen 66 founder and Lobeck Taylor Family Foundation (LTFF) CEO Elizabeth Frame Ellison stands with LTFF board member Kathy Taylor and Kitchen 66 Director Adele Beasley on May 3 at an open house for Kitchen 66, 907 S. Detroit Ave. in downtown Tulsa. Kitchen 66 is a food entrepreneurial program of LTFF that includes a cafe, a 9,000-square-foot kitchen, and programs to help food entrepreneurs develop and launch their businesses.*

with the support of Topeca Coffee and Hodges Bend.

In addition to its cafe, Kitchen 66 offers two programs to help budding and established food entrepreneurs: a six-month launch program and a development course.

The Launch program consists of weekly meetings, use of Kitchen 66's 9,000-square-foot commercial kitchen and guidance from advisors.

The Develop 66 program is a 4-month course, with a more self-guided approach, that helps par-

ticipants create a business plan and provides food business seminars and a self-guided manual.

Interested individuals can also apply for a kitchen membership, which allows them access to the commercial kitchen, storage space, and Kitchen 66 co-branding and the option to attend Kitchen 66 workshops.

The first group of individuals, almost 30 businesses in total, working through the launch and develop programs, will graduate in July, with a new group of students starting in August.

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# AROUND GREATER TULSA



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**CANDLELIGHT BALL:** Individuals gathered on April 23 at The Mayo Hotel in downtown Tulsa in support of the Child Abuse Network and its fifth annual CANDlelight Ball. From left are Mary Shaw, Gordon Marshall, GTR Newspapers Co-Publisher Sharon Cameron, Bailey and Janet Word, Rick and Susan Neal, CANDlelight Ball committee member Cari Marshall, June Patton, Tulsa County Commissioner John Smaligo and Lesa Smaligo, Adam Marshall, and David Hogan.



GTR Newspapers Photo

**ST. BERNARD EXTRAVAGANZA:** St. Bernard of Clairvaux held its Annual Dinner Extravaganza fundraising event on April 30 at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino in Catoosa to benefit four area nonprofit organizations: the Center of Family Love, Habitat for Humanity, Acts and Ultrasound Initiative. From left are Jim Nicolotti, event chairman; Lori Fullbright, emcee; and Monsignor Patrick Gaalas.



GTR Newspapers Photo

**IBA AWARDS PREPARATION:** The Rotary Club of Tulsa will hold its 23rd annual Henry P. Iba Awards on June 27. Preparing for the event and sampling the cuisine prepared by the Hard Rock Hotel's executive banquet chef Tony Aidoo, right, are, from left, Adrian DeWendt, executive director of Special Olympics Oklahoma; Jean Winfrey, executive director of the Little Light House; and IBA Awards Co-Chairs Michael and Dana Birkes.



GTR Newspapers Photo

**TATAS & TINIS:** The fifth annual Tatas & Tinis cocktail party was held May 12 at Girouard Vines Urban Winery, 817 E. 3rd St., to benefit Oklahoma Project Woman and to provide free mammograms, diagnostic testing and surgical services. The fundraising event was presented by the Peggy V. Helmerich Women's Health Center at Hillcrest, Central National Bank and Mabrey Bank. From left are Sydney Freeman, Kate Cottrill, Tawni Herburger, Scarlet Henley, Heather Van Hooser, Angela Peterson and Marla Roberts.



GTR Newspapers Photo

**OPERATION A.R.T.** Individuals gathered on May 5 at the Campbell Hotel to support Operation Aware of Tulsa's annual fundraising project and event Operation A.R.T. The event auctioned art created by area students who were paired with professional artists. From left, in front, are Ava Nirk, student artist, and Operation Aware Director of Development Rhonda McDaniel. From left, second row, are Jeni Dolan, Operation Aware executive director; Charley Money, artist and committee member; Kaitlin Sharpe, Operation Aware board member; Laura Thompson, artist and committee member; Natalie Nirk, committee member; Jamie Wilde-Barrientos, committee chair and board member; Kay Myers, committee member; Madison LoChiato, student artist; and Carolyn LoChiato, committee member.

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THE ECONOMY

Tulsa Port of Catoosa Completes \$11 Million Renovation

Tulsa to Expand Shipping Capacity As Panama Canal Nears Completion

After more than two years of phased construction, officials at the Tulsa Port of Catoosa formally dedicated their nearly \$12 million dock renovation project May 10.

"This investment in our waterway gives us the ability to move massive amounts of cargo across various modes of transportation unlike we've ever done before.

The newly reconstructed 720-foot



JERRY CORNELIUS

1971 DEDICATION: The 37th President of the United States, Richard M. Nixon, was photographed by Tulsan Jerry L. Cornelius when Nixon visited Tulsa for the dedication of the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigational System held at the Tulsa Port at Catoosa in June 1971.

dock boasts a 200-ton bridge crane and over 6,000 track feet of new rail. Shippers are now able to load barges directly onto rail or truck or efficiently transload between truck and rail, creating a seamless and cost-effective logistics operation for companies ranging from break bulk to manufactured project cargo.

Expansion of the Panama Canal is expected to complete this year, which industry officials say will provide new opportunities for container cargo to be diverted to the Port of New Orleans and into the

country's interior via the inland waterway system. As a centrally located multimodal shipping complex, the Tulsa Port of Catoosa's dock renovation solidifies its position as a cost-effective destination and launching point for various cargo, including agriculture, steel and manufactured consumer goods.

"Truly, the Tulsa Port of Catoosa is a model for the maritime industry, as our nation anticipates and prepares for an explosion in land-side freight transport," says Jaenichen. "It encourages us as we



ROSSY GILLES for GTR Newspapers

PORT DIRECTOR: Bob Portiss, port director for the City of Tulsa Rogers County Port Authority, addresses the large assembly of visitors at the dedication of the nearly \$12 million dock renovation.

begin to look in earnest at the urgent need to return to our maritime roots."

The project was partially funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation's TIGER grant program, which has been used to fund improvements to rail, waterways and critical road projects across the nation.

For more information about the Port of Catoosa, visit www.tulsa-port.com.

The Tulsa Port of Catoosa is a singular combination of a multimodal shipping complex and 2,000-acre industrial park, resulting in an economic impact of \$300 million to Oklahoma. The complex

hosts 72 companies and employs nearly 3,200 Oklahomans. Located at the head of navigation for the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System in Northeast Oklahoma, it is one of the largest, most inland river-ports in the United States.

10-Year-Old Entrepreneur Wins Start-Up

The Tulsa StartUp Series named Lego Vacuum as the winner of the K-12 Student Live Pitch Series held recently at 36°North.

Gabe Dougherty impressed the judges with his invention that allows for a quick and easy clean up of small toy pieces scattered on the floor. Gabe Dougherty of Lego Vacuum received a \$2,500 cash prize to advance his business idea, a three-month membership to 36°North, a spot in the Venture Assessment Program at i2E and a mentor who will be available to meet with him weekly for at least three months.

"These young entrepreneurs have fantastic business ideas," Autumn Worten, Tulsa StartUp Series chair said. "Regardless of the age of the entrepreneur, the Tulsa StartUp Series provides resources to innovate and accelerate startups and the opportunity to test the startup idea, get feedback and network."

The Tulsa StartUp Series, powered by Tulsa Community College and the Lobeck Taylor Family Foundation, focuses on delivering resources and mentoring opportunities to entrepreneurs.

The Tulsa StartUp Series features pitch competitions categorized by business segment and culminates with Demo Day during Global Entrepreneurship Week in November. The five Pitch Series winners get an automatic bid to



LEGO VACUUM IDEA: Gabe Dougherty of Lego Vacuum received a \$2,500 cash prize to advance his business idea.

compete at Demo Day, where the winner receives \$15,000, a year-long membership to 36°North and a dedicated mentor.

Each Pitch Series focuses on a different business segment:

- Pitch Series 1: Tech/Apps (Submissions Dec. 3-Jan. 6)
• Pitch Series 2: K-12 Students (Submissions Feb. 3-March 2)
• Pitch Series 3 Physical Products (Submissions April 6-May 4)
• Pitch Series 4: Food/Retail (Submissions June 1-July 6)
• Pitch Series 5: Wild Card (Aug. 3-Sept. 7)

TCC and LTFF have supported entrepreneurial innovation, growth and creativity since 2007 when the competition began as the Tulsa Entrepreneurial Spirit Award by former Mayor Kathy Taylor. The competition later adapted to the TCC StartUp Cup Powered by the Lobeck Taylor Family Foundation. This year, the competition reinvented itself to the Tulsa StartUp Series to meet the needs of local entrepreneurs.

Learn more about the Tulsa StartUp Series at www.tulsastartupseries.com, including instructions for submitting video pitches and competition rules.

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# Cunningham Jewelry Continues Integrity

By EMILY RAMSEY  
Managing Editor

Cunningham Fine Jewelry and Appraisal Services holds a long history in Tulsa, a history that continues to be written today.

The Cunningham family has been in business in Tulsa since 1910, says Howard Cunningham, owner of Cunningham Fine Jewelry. Both of Howard's grandfathers came to Tulsa in 1910 and started businesses, one as a barber, the other as a grocer and butcher.

Howard graduated from Tulsa Public Schools, attended the University of Tulsa and, in 1968, started his journey into entrepreneurship, when he began traveling the country as a salesman of watch materials. He spent the following decades working for national jewelry and diamond companies before opening his first storefront for Cunningham Fine Jewelry in 1986 in Tulsa.

His wife, Vicki, who holds a fashion merchandising degree from Oklahoma State University and spent years in the clothing retail field, joined the business as Howard began to increase his business from wholesale to consumers.

As the Cunninghams grew their business, they moved into various storefronts throughout midtown. For the past 15 years, they were located near 41st Street and Yale Avenue, but, since April of last year, Cunningham Jewelry has been located at 1338 E. 41st St., across from Whole Foods Market.

During their years in retail, the Cunninghams have provided appraisal services for their customers, but, recently, as that portion of the business has grown, Vicki has increased her focus on it, earning her graduate gemology degree from Gemological Institute of America in 2014

and becoming a Certified Master Appraiser in 2015.

Vicki often works with families, providing estate appraisals and helping to liquidate estates.

In addition to appraisals, she plays a major role in diamond sales, helping individuals design their desired ring or jewelry piece with the help of a computer design program.

Cunningham Jewelry also offers jewelry repair services and upgrades; Howard and Vicki often see past customers return to the store to upgrade their ring to a more in-style look.

"Between Vicki and I, we have over 75 years of experience in the diamond business," says Howard.

Both Howard and Vicki have been inducted into the Oklahoma Jewelers Hall of Fame, and in 2009, Cunningham Fine Jewelry was named to the National Jeweler Hall of Fame, "a recognition awarded to business owners who stand for integrity, knowledge, relevancy and providing the ultimate in customer service," says Howard.

"When the industry finds you worthy of being inducted and recognized, that says something. With Cunningham Jewelry, you're buying a diamond from a name you can trust," he continues.

No matter customers' purposes for coming to the store, they all experience "a personalized, one-on-one, private atmosphere," says Vicki.

In addition to a comfortable shopping experience, Cunningham Jewelry also stays in touch with diamond trends. One example of that is the offering of man-made diamonds, in addition to the variety of earth-grown diamonds that the Cunninghams have sold for years.

A reason for the popularity of man-made



**A TRUSTWORTHY NAME:** Howard and Vicki Cunningham own Cunningham Fine Jewelry and Appraisal Services, a Tulsa fixture since 1986. The business offers diamond and jewelry sales, repairs, and appraisals. In addition to selling earth-grown diamonds, the Cunninghams recently began offering man-made diamonds, which are less expensive but maintain the same properties as earth-grown diamonds.

diamonds is their lower cost in comparison with traditional earth-grown diamonds, while maintaining the same properties as earth-grown diamonds.

Over the decades, efforts have been made to mimic the earth-made diamond, says Vicki, such as cubic zirconia and moissanite. However, those have few of the chemical properties of the true diamond, such as its brilliance, refraction and durability.

On the other hand, the man-made diamond has reached the level of being "phys-

ically, chemically and optically identical to earth grown," says Howard.

In addition, man-made diamonds offer a greater accessibility and a lower price point, at about one-third less of the price a person would pay for an earth-grown diamond.

Cunningham Fine Jewelry is open Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., with additional store hours available by appointment. Call 918-627-7777, or visit [cunninghamfinejewelry.com](http://cunninghamfinejewelry.com) for more information.

# Rupe Building Company Becomes Rupe Helmer

Rupe Building Company, a leading commercial construction company located in Tulsa, has announced that it is changing its corporate name to Rupe Helmer Group. The name change reflects the partnership between CEO and founder John Rupe, Jr. and company President Mark Helmer. The new name is also part of a re-branding initiative to better align the company's name with its broad offerings, including construction, development, real

estate brokerage, and property management.

In 2010, company owner John Rupe, Jr. welcomed business partner Mark Helmer. "This joint venture led to tremendous growth for our organization. Together, we work as a team toward the common goal of making our organization even better. It was a logical move in the right direction to merge our talents, as the two principals of the company. As we grow the business, we are

both jointly focused on building a legacy organization that will continue to thrive for many years to come," says Rupe.

The new name, Rupe Helmer Group, allows the organization to emphasize a wide-range of service offerings. The name change also encompasses their affiliated company, NAI Rupe Helmer (formerly known as NAI Petrous). This affiliate focuses on commercial real estate brokerage and property management services in Tulsa, Oklahoma City, and Wichita, Kansas.

Helmer says, "The new name and continued positive direction is a benefit not only to our organization but to the clients we serve. Our plan for the future is strong, and growth is on our radar. We will continue to foster positive client relationships by always striving to achieve 100 percent client satisfaction."

The new name is effective immediately and will be reflected in new company-wide branding beginning in May.



**IMPRESSIVE PARTNERS:** The Rupe Helmer partnership includes, from left, Bob Parker, president and managing broker of NAI Rupe Helmer, John Rupe, Jr., CEO of Rupe Helmer Group and principal of NAI Rupe Helmer, and Mark Helmer, president of Rupe Helmer Group and its affiliated company, NAI Rupe Helmer.

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# NORDAM Upgrades and Relocates Repair Operations

After 47 years in the downtown location where it was founded in 1969 by the late Ray H. Siegfried II, Tulsa-based aerospace company NORDAM has finalized the sale of its former headquarters at 510 S. Lansing to Brickhugger, LLC.

Financial details of the transaction were not disclosed.

Thirty NORDAM stakeholders and all exhaust-component repair operations previously based at the downtown site - mainly repair of aviation exhaust components, such as engine tail cones for commercial and military jets - are moving to upgraded facilities at the half-million-square-foot NORDAM Repair Division, at Pine Street and Highway 169.

"Repositioning our exhaust-component repair business to the Repair Division is better for our customers, better for our product lines, better for our stakeholders and better for Tulsa," NORDAM CEO Meredith Siegfried Madden says. "The timing is right for this move, as technology has changed, and we're now able to add additional clean line capacity and increase efficiency with process upgrades within our main repair facility."

Madden noted the integration brings synergistic advantages, including immediate proximity to core engineering staff, key tooling and machine shop resources and elimination of part transfers between the two sites. Construction of a new "clean line" also is in the works to accommodate the unique chemical processes needed to repair exhaust components.

The downtown NORDAM facility served as the company's main



Courtesy photo

**ORIGINAL BUILDING:** The original NORDAM building, located at 510 S. Lansing Ave. in downtown Tulsa, has been sold to Brickhugger, LLC. NORDAM, the Tulsa-based aerospace company, was founded by the late Ray H. Siegfried II in 1969. Components from the original building, such as engine tail cones for commercial and military jets, are moving to upgraded facilities at the half-million-square-foot NORDAM Repair Division, Pine Street and Highway 169.

headquarters for more than 30 years after its founding on April 1, 1969.

Fifteen years ago, as the company grew rapidly into a global aerospace leader, the headquarters and most operations transferred to a modern, purpose-built facility at Cherokee Industrial Park north of the city to support Gulfstream, Pratt & Whitney Canada, GE, Cessna, Boeing, Airbus and many other customers that NORDAM still serves today. Exhaust component repair was the only remaining NORDAM function being housed in the downtown location.

Building on its expertise in property development and past successes in urban residential, commercial and hospitality projects, Brickhugger, LLC, plans to utilize the 11.5 acres of downtown Tulsa as a multi-use development.

"This is such a unique area of downtown Tulsa, and we are excited to unveil the plans for this site as they are finalized later this year," Brickhugger, LLC, President Shelby Snyder says. "Our team looks forward to creating a unique, multi-use property for Tulsans while continuing to highlight the historic aspects of this area that are so significant to downtown Tulsa and its history."

Madden concurs. "We are thrilled that the birthplace of NORDAM will be repurposed as a vibrant part of downtown," she says. "That site has a great history, and we're looking forward to it being an integral part of Tulsa's future."

In addition to the repair facility, NORDAM operates a 518,000 sq. ft. interiors and structures facility at 6910 N. Whirlpool Dr.; a 375,000 sq. ft. nacelle and thrust reverser systems facility at 6911 N. Whirlpool Dr.; and a 138,000 sq. ft. transparency division at 7018 N. Lakewood Dr. The firm also boasts a local acrylic production plant still in downtown Tulsa, as well as international aerospace repair and manufacturing locations in Mexico and the United Kingdom, and customer-service bases in France and Singapore.

**Additional NORDAM News:**  
CEO Meredith Siegfried Madden announces Bailey J. Siegfried will serve as the global aerospace



BAILEY J. SIEGFRIED



TERRELL SIEGFRIED

leader's vice president of culture, communication and corporate responsibility.

Siegfried Madden explained the parameters of the new role, defining culture as "a careful balance of guarding our past while embracing new elements for a sustainable future." She noted that managing internal and external communication is a key feature of successful companies, and that corporate responsibility entails NORDAM's commitment to the community, the economy, the environment and education.

"As we continue to grow and take on new business opportunities, we must not lose sight of our culture," Siegfried Madden said. "We are looking to Bailey, whose temperament and experience are best suited to ensure all three of these initiatives - culture, communication and corporate responsibility - are working together in support of our vision to be the premier family-owned aerospace company."

In his new role, the human Resources organization will be aligned under Siegfried, while he retains leadership of NORDAM's Office of Corporate Responsibility, which includes sustainability and charitable giving. He also maintains his oversight of media and public relations, community relations, government relations, brand management, and communication.

He will continue to serve as a member of the NORDAM Board of Directors and on the company's investment committee.

NORDAM General Counsel Al Givray has announced Terrell Siegfried has been named as assistant general counsel. In this role, Siegfried provides both continuity and guidance of diverse legal needs for NORDAM. He also continues to serve as corporate secretary for NORDAM and remains on the firm's board of directors.

"Terrell is a strategic lawyer, businessman and thinker," Givray said. "Now he is on the front line, providing valuable leadership to the NORDAM legal team." Siegfried began his career as the chief of staff and executive assistant to NORDAM's former chairman and founder, the late Ray Siegfried.

After law school, he spent five years at Tulsa law firm Hall Estill, developing legal expertise spanning public and private corporations, finance, real estate, estate planning, commercial transactions and litigation. He returned to NORDAM in 2012 as senior legal counsel and has continued to deepen and broaden his capabilities specific to the aerospace industry.

Siegfried holds a juris doctorate from Notre Dame Law School, Notre Dame, Ind., and a bachelor's degree from the University of Tulsa.

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**Additional NORDAM News:**  
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**BUSINESS & PEOPLE NOTES**



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**BAMA EXPANSION:** The Bama Companies, Inc. (Bama), headquartered in Tulsa, will expand its North Tulsa Foods Facility to accommodate a new contract with one of its largest commercial customers. The facility, located in the Cherokee Expressway Industrial District, will provide additional jobs and direct and indirect economic impact to the region. Area civic and economic leaders were present at the groundbreaking, above, held in May. In the center is Bama CEO Paula Marshall. Bama is an innovator of bakery products that cater to the needs of the largest and most well-known restaurant chains on the planet. The company's core product lines are hand-held pies, biscuits, buns, pie shells, pizza and crusts.



Courtesy photo

**NATIONAL AWARD:** Bob Hurley of Bob Hurley Ford of Tulsa holds the prestigious 2015 President's Award banner. Bob Hurley Ford of Tulsa is among an elite group of Ford and Lincoln dealerships to be recognized with the 2015 President's Award by Ford Motor Company. The prestigious award honors dealerships that have excelled in automotive retailing by providing exceptional customer service and satisfaction. The President's Award was established in 1998. Dealers become eligible through survey responses from customers related to their sales and service satisfaction. Bob Hurley Ford is located at 745 W. 51st St. in Tulsa.

**Kayse Shrum, D.O.**, has been elected to the board of directors for SNB and parent company **Southwest Bancorp, Inc.**



SHRUM

Shrum is a native Oklahoman who earned her Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine. She joined the medical school faculty at OSU Center for Health Sciences (OSU-CHS) in 2002 and was named provost of the OSU-CHS and Dean of OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2011. In 2013, she was promoted to her current position as president of OSU-CHS, becoming the youngest and first female president and dean of a medical school in the state of Oklahoma, as well as the first medical school alumna to become dean of the college.

Shrum also holds the George Kaiser Family Foundation Chair in Medical Excellence and Service and the Saint Francis Health System Endowed Chair of Pediatrics and Professor of Pediatrics.

Shrum has been recognized at the local and state level for her many contributions to improving health outcomes in Tulsa and Oklahoma. She was named a finalist for the Journal Record's 2015 Woman of Year award and was inducted into Connors State College Athletic Hall of Fame in 2013. She received the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association's Outstanding & Distinguished Service Award in 2014 and the Tulsa Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women's Pinnacle Award for Health in 2012.

**Bernardo Estrada Jr.** has been named **HUB International's** risk consultant, specializing in risk services. Ranked as a Top 10 global brokerage, HUB International provides a broad array of property, risk management, investment, and wealth management products across North America.



ESTRADA JR.

Before joining HUB, Estrada Jr. served as a health, safety and environmental coach for ConocoPhillips in the Permian Basin.

Estrada Jr. earned a bachelor of science degree while majoring in occupational safety & health and minoring in Spanish from Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

**Kerry Painter**, assistant general manager for **Cox Business Center**, was recently named



PAINTER

**International Association of Venue Managers' Region 6** assistant director. As Region 6 assistant director, she will serve on the Region 6 board. She will assist with business meetings, address issues brought forth by members, assist in planning the Region 6 2018 Conference, and begin serving as Region 6 director in July 2018.

Region 6 is comprised of approximately 700 professional and allied members of IAVM and is the largest geographical region of IAVM. It covers Colorado, New Mexico, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas and Mexico.

**Cascia Hall**



GOLDSMITH

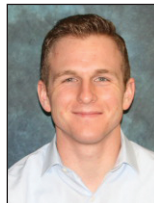
**Headmaster Roger Carter** announces that **Todd Goldsmith** has been named middle school principal, beginning with the 2016-17 school year. Goldsmith replaces Janna Roberson who will be moving to Houston with her family.

Goldsmith is currently president of Aquinas Catholic Schools in Lacrosse, Wisconsin. He served as superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Tulsa from 2002-2012. Prior to his role as superintendent, he was the School of St. Mary principal from 1997 to 2002; he also taught several years at St. Pius in Tulsa.

While in Oklahoma, he served for eight years as the state's representative to the Council for American Private Education (CAPE) in Washington, D.C. He also served as president of the Oklahoma Private School Accreditation Commission as well as president of the Oklahoma Conference of Catholic Schools Accrediting Association.

A native of Wisconsin, Goldsmith earned his bachelor's degree from Viterbo University, a Catholic, liberal arts university. In 2010, he received Viterbo's Outstanding Alumni Award for Professional Development. He also earned a Master of Science in school administration from Oklahoma State University.

**Sid Shupack of First State Investment Advisors** has introduced



REDMOND

**Matthew Redmond** as an investment analyst and assistant portfolio manager. He will be responsible for developing the company's investment models and research. Since joining First State, Redmond has reduced the time required to complete First State's proprietary stock analysis from 30 days to one to three days, allowing more time to be spent researching companies to make better informed investment decisions.

Redmond graduated summa cum laude from Oral Roberts University with a BS in finance and as an Honors Fellow, the highest distinction of the university's honors program. He had the top score of his university's graduating class on the ETS Major Field Test in Business, scoring in the 99th percentile of the national index.

Following graduation, Redmond worked as a financial analyst for the finance manager of Helmerich & Payne, Inc. Prior to this role, Redmond worked as an intern for the director of investor relations of Helmerich & Payne, assisting in creating weekly market intelligence reports and building a database used to track and analyze trends in key market metrics.

**Arvest Bank**

recently promoted **Julie King** to vice president and **Beverly Gourley** and **Dawn Mobly** to assistant vice president.



KING

King currently serves as the branch sales manager for the in-store location at 12101 E. 96th St. N. in Owasso. She began her banking career in 2004 as a teller in Oklahoma City and became the branch sales manager in 2008. She lives in Owasso with her husband, Joe, and two children, Abbie and Jason.

Mobly currently manages the 11501 E. 76th St. N. location in Owasso.

She began her career with Arvest as a teller in 2005 and became the branch sales manager in 2013. Mobly lives in Owasso with her husband, Ronny, and children, Everett, Elisha, Riley, and Ember. Both King and Mobly are active with the Owasso Chamber of Commerce, participating in numerous local events, such as Owasso Annual Harvest and Owasso Business Breakfast.

Gourley currently serves as the branch sales manager for the 410 S. Elm location in Jenks. She began her banking career in 1999 as a part-time teller and became branch manager for Arvest in 2012. Gourley is active with the Jenks community as much as possible, participating in local events throughout the year, such as Jenks Public Schools Hometown Huddle. She lives in Broken Arrow with her husband, Mark, and daughter, Lea, and is expecting a son in August.

Arvest Bank operates more than 270 bank branches in Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri and Kansas through a group of 16 locally-managed banks, each with its own board of directors and management team.

**John L. Brophy**, a financial advisor with the **J Brophy Financial Group of Wells Fargo Advisors**, has been named managing director – investments.



BROPHY

Brophy has served with Wells Fargo Advisors for over 20 years and has more than 20 years of experience in the financial services industry. He is a member of the Rotary Club of Southeast Tulsa and Rotary District #6110. Brophy lives in Tulsa with his wife and two children.

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# Expo Square Pavilion Features Intricate Designs

Among the many buildings at Tulsa's Expo Square, the Pavilion, 4145 E. 21st St., is certainly one of the more noteworthy. Perhaps it is its buff brick and beige terra cotta tile skin that makes it seem more substantial than its metal building neighbors. Most importantly, its colorful Art Deco frieze, depicting livestock, is eye-catching.

## On Architecture



By ROGER COFFEY, AIA

In 1932, in the early years of the Great Depression, 7,500 people attended the opening of this arena facility which was built for the Tulsa Charity Horse Show. Designed by architect Leland L.

The floor plan of the Pavilion is an elongated octagon with four entrances centered on each long wall and four entrances at each short angled wall. The central arena is 100 x 200 feet with raised stadium seating around the perimeter. Below the seating are concession areas and storage, accessed by a wide perimeter corridor. Beyond the corridor are additional support facilities and restrooms. A small ticket booth was later added to the south entrance.

In addition to horse shows, the arena has hosted church services, circus events, scouting activities, product exhibits, basketball games, graduation ceremonies, business functions and various athletic events.

Shumway (also credited with the design of the now demolished-downtown Tulsa Bliss Hotel) for a construction cost of \$275,000, the Pavilion has a floor space that covers 10 and one-half acres, with an original seating capacity of 10,000 people. A floating roof system supported by long span trusses, creating a dome, allows the interior to be column free. At the time that it was built, the Pavilion was the largest auditorium in Tulsa.

The exterior is certainly one of Tulsa's best examples of Art Deco architecture. The Pavilion perimeter is articulated with brick pilasters capped with terra cotta. Between the pilasters is a double row of windows. Presently, the glass in the upper windows is coated and dark-



**LIVESTOCK FRIEZE:** A close-up view of the livestock frieze on the exterior of the Tulsa Expo Square Pavilion. The vivid pastel colors of pink, blue, green and beige are as bright as they were when installed over 80 years ago. Stylized heads of horses, steers and rams appear surrounded by panels of multi-colored flowers.

ened with tan paint; the lower windows are glazed with dark blue opaque glass. A series of surface-mounted flag poles, installed at the parapet level around the perimeter, add to its festive appearance. These were probably added at a later date, as in some locations on the building they, unfortunately, cover the terra cotta livestock panels.



**NOTEWORTHY ART DECO:** Expo Square Pavilion is one of Tulsa's noteworthy Art Deco buildings. It was built in 1932 and designed by architect Leland L. Shumway. The Pavilion had an original seating capacity of 10,000 people, which, at the time that it was built, made it the largest auditorium in Tulsa. A floating roof system supported by long span trusses, creating a dome, allows the interior to be column free.

The livestock frieze is the crown jewel of this building. The vivid pastel colors of pink, blue, green and beige are as bright as they were when installed over 80 years ago. Stylized heads of horses, steers and rams appear surrounded by panels of multi-colored flowers. There are large terra cotta panels over the main entrances, which depict livestock and men against a background of palm trees (a strange tree selection for our climate). The entrances have received a border surround of beige

terra cotta with colorful livestock panel inserts. At the four diagonal walls, the entrances are arched for added emphasis, with terra cotta panels of horse heads above. The off-white domed roof structure is visible from a distance.

Fortunately, Tulsa County officials have taken great care of this building, and recent improvements and additions to Expo Square have respected it. We are lucky to have the Pavilion; it remains one of Tulsa's Art Deco treasures.

# Using Less Stuff Saves Trash, Time and Money

## Trash Talk

By BETH TURNER  
Tulsa Master Recyclers Association

It's a scary time for me and my fellow education workmates here in Oklahoma, and nothing like a budget crisis to get me thinking about not just who to elect next but also, how to tighten my own budget's belt. Things you can stop spending money on:

1. Single-servings of bottled water: I personally like the water out of our faucets much better than what can be

purchased off the shelves, and it can be much safer to drink than bottled brands. City of Tulsa Water Quality Assurance Supervisor Melissa Gray says, "Bottled water is devoid of anything, which is a great breeding ground for everything." Gray says, "The city's water comes to you treated with disinfectant, so you can trust that it's free of contaminants to keep our public safe."

2. Dryer sheets and fabric softeners: Use a ball of wool for static reduction, mine comes from an old winter glove. A spoonful of vinegar in your wash works as a softener. Add drops of your favorite natural oil in the ball

of wool for a scented preference. Disposable Straw Update: You may remember my New Year's Resolution to track my disposable straw usage since I high-and-mightily swore to never using one. So far I'm up to eight. Nonprofit recycler Eco-Cycle estimates that Americans use 500 million plastic straws every day.

## Summer Opportunities

**Green The Fest**  
As stewards of the 2016 Homegrown Music Festival, Mulberry River Society invites you to join them in creating a waste-free festival this summer. Volunteers can choose two six-hour shifts for a weekend pass of live music and camping July 21-23 at Byrd's Adventure Center. The line-up includes Leftover Salmon, The Wood Brothers and Earphunk. If interested, email David Gottschalk at davidisugar@gmail.com.

**Talk About Energy**  
OSU hosts Energy Communications Camp June 20-22. This camp is for students who will be sophomores, juniors and seniors this fall who want to explore a career that combines the science of energy with the art of storytelling. It's free of charge with a \$75 refundable deposit. Log on to okstate.edu for more information.



**BEING THE CHANGE:** Rosa Parks Elementary students in Ms. Haralson's class noticed trash piling up across the street from their school, so they crafted 10 reasons why the principal should let them clean it up. This led to a partnership with Global Gardens to create signs requesting that people not litter along the roadside. Representing Ms. Haralson's class are Jordan Galloway, Aaron Chavez, Camila Mendoza and Monse Jalpa Ramirez. Thank you students!

**Triple Savings**  
Sustainable Tulsa's next class for Triple Bottom Line Scorecard will open soon. If you would like to learn how to coach or be a business interested in helping a business or organization with sustainable, money-saving changes, email corey@sustainabletulsa.org.

**Eco Savings**  
Speaking of, OSU Systems recently announced a savings of \$35 million through its energy management, a system implemented in 2007.

Oklahoma State reports a 2015 ranking of seventh out of the Top 30 Colleges and Universities for renewable energy.

**OGSP = STEM Success**  
If you are an educator, I apologize for bringing up next year so soon. If you are interested in incorporating student-led STEM learning complete with curriculum and expert volunteer assistance, check out Oklahoma Green Schools Program at okgreenschools.org. Their summit just ended so that means a lot of people paved the way for you to ease into success. OGSP's energy strand brings near instant gratification with a PSO energy savings check, and the student-driven recycling is amazing to see implemented in your school. This is the program that inspired students at Peters Elementary to provide the school assembly with the play, "How to Green Your School," which can be found on youtube.com/unionpublicschools. Adorable.

**Talk About It**  
There are so many amazing stories out there of people creating positive change in their own neighborhoods and community circles. So, keep us inspired! Send in photos and comments of what you see and do around you at bethturner@me.com or tweet about it @TrashTalkTulsa.

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