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BROKEN ARROW EXPRESS

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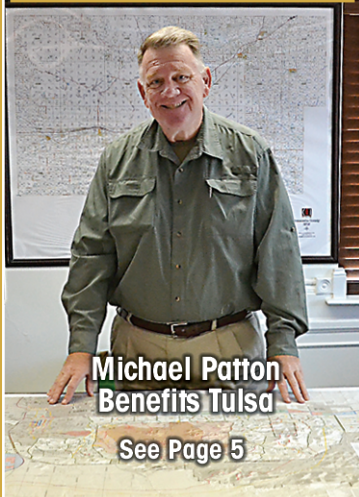
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Tulsa State Fair Increases Offerings

Fair Returns Sept. 29-Oct. 9

Partnership to Bring New Attractions

By **EMILY RAMSEY**
Managing Editor

Exciting changes are coming for the Tulsa State Fair and Expo Square. Future changes include the construction of a permanent main stage on the Expo Square grounds and the addition of seating plazas along the Fair's Midway.

Fair organizers recently selected North American Midway Entertainment to oversee the Tulsa State Fair's Midway rides and attractions, starting with the 2016 Tulsa State Fair.

"We always want to ensure that we are bringing in the best quality product to the community," says Amanda Blair, Tulsa State Fair manager and Expo Square COO. "We feel that North American Midway Entertainment will bring an elevated approach this year, including offering a number of attractions that fairgoers have not seen in the past."

Other reasons for the choice of the new company, she continues, is its high quality of professionalism in the industry: "They have a long-standing history for working with large events across the country."

Additionally, with North American Midway Entertainment, the Fair and Expo Square receive a higher percentage of Fair sales, which allows us to invest more back into the event and the facility, says Blair.

That increased revenue stream will allow fair organizers to make some long-desired additions, including the creation of a permanent main stage, which will be located where the Oklahoma Stage currently sits, and a movable seating plaza to be located along Midway.

Blair anticipates construction to begin on the stage by the end of the year. Both projects are expected to be completed by the beginning of the 2017 Tulsa State Fair.

Other future projects for Expo Square, thanks to the passage of Vision Tulsa's Proposition 3 in April, include construction of an additional barn, maintenance and repair of the asphalt and concrete in parking lots and sidewalks, and renovations to enclose several barns in order to allow for climate control and protection against inclement weather. Expo Square will receive \$30 million for these projects.

In addition, Vision Tulsa allotted \$15 million for the construction of the USA BMX National Headquarters and track stadium to be located at the former Drillers Stadium on the corner of 15th Street and Yale Avenue.

A new addition for the 2016 Tulsa State Fair, to be held Sept. 29-Oct. 9, is Midway Express Access Pass, which provide ticket or wristband buyers front-of-line access to all fair rides all day long. The pass will cost \$15 and can be purchased on a one-day basis only, with a limited amount available each day.

"North American Midway Entertainment has been introducing Midway Express Access at many of their events across the country," Blair says.

"This option will provide a premiere experience for those looking for another option," she continues.

Midway Express Access can be purchased along with all forms of ride tickets, including Mega Ride passes and wristband promotions.

Other ticket promotions will be similar to previous years. This



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

EXCITEMENT IN THE AIR: Mark Andrus, president and CEO of Expo Square, and Amanda Blair, Tulsa State Fair manager and Expo Square COO, recently announced North American Midway Entertainment as the Fair's new Midway operating company. The new company will bring new rides, attractions and ticket offers to the Fair.

includes \$1 gate admission and \$2 rides on opening night and Wristband Days, Oct. 3, 5, 8-9, \$25-\$35 for unlimited ride access.

As for any other significant changes to this year's state fair, North American Midway Entertainment is just getting to know us, notes Blair.

"We want to go through one year so that they can see how our Fair works and see what Tulsans

want before we make any changes or additions."

As for this year's Fair theme, organizers chose "Picture This," as a nod to the current age of selfies and social media.

Five giant picture frames will be placed throughout the fairgrounds, allowing individuals to pose for photos and snap selfies. Each frame will feature a different fair theme, such as animals, food and rides.

KUDOS OF THE MONTH: Tulsa Global Alliance

The Tulsa Global Alliance (TGA) is celebrating 40 years of working to connect Tulsa and Oklahoma with the rest of the world as part of a broader global community. TGA accomplishes its mission through Sister City partnerships, the International Visitors program, Kids' World and at its annual Global Vision Awards fundraiser, which will be held Aug. 18 at the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame.

The Global Vision Awards recognize and honor individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to global understanding through culture, music, art, business, education and other initiatives. The 2016 honorees are Jim Halsey, country music impresario, his wife Minisa Crumbo Halsey, Native American artist

and author, and Roy Clark, musician and Country Music Hall of Famer.

To celebrate the honorees and to honor 40 years of global efforts through music, country duo Alaska and Madi, from NBC's The Voice, and "classic meets cool" pianist Barron Ryan will perform at the awards. The fundraiser will also include a wine pull and an Asian-fusion dinner.

A pre-event will be held at Circle Cinema on Aug. 11, with an exclusive showing of a film highlighting Roy Clark's trip to Eastern Europe in 1988.

To learn more about TGA and the Global Vision Awards, visit tulsaglobalalliance.org or find TGA on Facebook.



Courtesy TGA

GLOBAL VISION AWARDS: Tulsa Global Alliance will hold its annual Global Vision Awards fundraiser, Aug. 18 at the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame. From left are Cathryn Render, Global Vision Awards event chair, and Ken Busby and Stephanie Cameron, Global Vision Awards committee members and board members.



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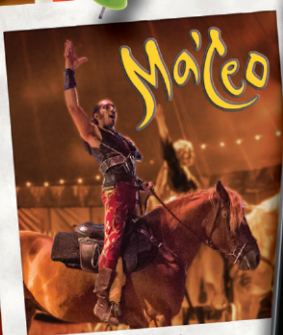
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CANDIDATES CELEBRATE VICTORIES



REP. JIM BRIDENSTINE: Two-term U.S. Congressman Jim Bridenstine speaks to supporters during his watch party June 28 in Tulsa. He won re-election with nearly 80 percent of the vote over challengers Tom Atkinson and Evelyn Rogers. The First District Congressman says he will stay with his 2012 campaign promise to serve no more than three terms.



KIMBERLY FOBBS: She won the Democratic primary on June 28 and will face Republican incumbent Nathan Dahm in the general election Nov. 8. She is married to former University of Tulsa basketball star Anthony Fobbs, owner of Big Anthony's BBQ.



DAVE RADER: Former University of Tulsa head football coach and businessman Dave Rader had over 40 percent of the vote in the State Senate District 39 race, but will face Amanda Teegarden in an Aug. 23 runoff. Teegarden took nearly 25 percent of the vote. State primaries in which no candidate receive a majority of the vote within their party result in a primary runoff. Rader is pictured with his wife Janet at an event earlier this year at Southwood Landscape and Garden Center in Tulsa. For a complete listing of Tulsa County election results, visit www.ok.gov/elections.



MAYOR-ELECT G.T. BYNUM: Currently the Tulsa City Councilor for District 9, Mayor-elect Bynum won the Tulsa mayoral race with 55.8 percent of the vote. Above, he acknowledges a gathering at the Stokely Event Center in Tulsa during the election evening of June 28. To his left is former Tulsa Mayor Robert LaFortune, Bynum's maternal grandfather. Bynum will be sworn into office on Dec. 6.



COUNTY CLERK MICHAEL WILLIS: Republican Michael Willis is all smiles as he learns he won the election for Tulsa County Clerk at his watch party at the VFW Post on 6th Street in Tulsa. Willis, the current chief deputy county commissioner, defeated current Deputy County Clerk Nancy Rothman, getting nearly 60 percent of the vote. He will replace Pat Key, who did not seek re-election.

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

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CIVICS

Citizens Asked to Participate in Resilience Survey

COMMENTARY

By DEWEY F. BARTLETT JR.
Mayor of Tulsa

This is a critical time for our world as we face the physical, social, and economic challenges that are a growing part of the 21st century.

Change isn't limited to the world around us. Through the course of our city's history, we've experienced our own traumatic changes. From weathering the 1921 Tulsa Race Riot, a painful chapter in our city's history, to the 1984 Memorial Day Flood, to the

sharp economic downturn when I took office as we experienced the worst recession in 50 years, to the disastrous tornado that recently hit North Tulsa and more: Tulsa has proven time and time again to be a resilient community.

Nearly two years ago, Tulsa was selected by the Rockefeller Foundation to be among the 100 Resilient Cities (100RC), to help prepare for, withstand, and bounce back from environmental shocks and socio-economic stresses in the event of a disaster. We are forging ahead with plans to make our city even stronger.

The City of Tulsa and our 100RC staff are currently con-

ducting a citywide survey to prioritize the key shocks and stresses of the Tulsa community and the challenges citizens face. I'm asking all citizens in the greater Tulsa area living within a 60-mile radius of Downtown Tulsa to provide your feedback in our online resilient survey at surveymonkey.com

The City of Tulsa's resilient survey will close at midnight, Aug. 23. As soon as the survey phase is complete, the 100RC team will develop a plan that will serve as the road map to creating a more resilient community. In addition to the survey, we're seeking additional input from Tulsa residents



For the past seven years, I have been extremely blessed and privileged to serve as your mayor. I have no doubt that whatever we, as a community, face in the future, we will overcome it with a spirit of determination, optimism and unity.

Tulsa, the city we all love, is one of the most diverse communities in our nation. We have a variety of ethnic and cultural backgrounds, yet in spite of our differences, we are all ONE Tulsa. Each one of us has the ability to make a remarkable difference in our community – one that is certain to be highly esteemed by our nation and our world.

U.S. Rep. Tom Cole Named Vision Honoree

U.S. Representative Tom Cole is the Tulsa Community College Foundation 2016 Vision in Education Leadership Award recipient. He will receive the award at the TCC Vision in Education Leadership Award Dinner to be held at 7 p.m., Sept. 1 at the Cox Business Center in Downtown Tulsa. The 2016 Vision Honorary Chair is Stacy Schusterman, and David Stratton serves as the Vision Dinner chair.

Representative Cole is being honored for his leadership and commitment to education and as one who has consistently championed the value of education. Cole sits on the House Budget and the House Appropriations Committees. As the Chair of the House Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and

Education, he's worked to make sure students have the financial and academic tools necessary to pursue a degree. He's helped increase access to federal student loans that give students access to college who otherwise would not be able to attend. Cole is a strong supporter of programs like GEAR UP and TRIO, federal programs to help disadvantaged students prepare for and succeed in college. His commitment to ensuring individuals have access to higher education is evident by his personal involvement with the House Community College Caucus.

"Representative Cole has been part of the national dialogue about higher education, college accessibility and the achievement gap since he was elected in 2002," says TCC President and CEO Leigh B. Goodson, Ph.D. "Every student

pursuing higher education in Oklahoma, as well as across the country, has benefited from his advocacy and leadership to remove barriers to higher education."

Before serving in the U.S. House, he was a faculty member at both University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma Baptist University. With his experience in the classroom, he understands the importance of higher education in advancing the state of Oklahoma through a better-educated workforce. He was a Thomas Watson Fellow and a Fulbright Fellow at the University of London and currently serves on the Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents, and as a member of the Congressional Advisory Board to the Aspen Institute.

The 2016 TCC Vision in

Education Leadership Award Dinner committee members are Sharon King Davis, Shane Fernandez, Susan Harris, Ted Haynes, Mina Lotti, Meredith Siegfried Madden, Joan Parkhurst, Henry Primeaux, Shawn Slaton, and Melinda Stinnett. Joan P. Parkhurst is the TCC Foundation 2016 Board Chair.

Funds raised by the Vision Dinner support student scholarships, competitive academic conferences for students, presentations by noted scholars and enhancements in the classroom to propel students to graduation and success. Thanks to generous donations, the TCC Foundation gives more than \$1 million annually to programs and scholarships to support students, faculty and staff.

For information regarding spon-



REP. TOM COLE

sorships and tickets to the 2016 Vision in Education Leadership Award Dinner, call 918-595-7836 or visit tulsacc.edu/visiondinner.

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Michael Patton: Doing Much to Benefit Tulsa

By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor

Editor's Note: Executive Director of Legacy Land Trust Michael Patton 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 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 Jenks Mayor Kelly Dunkerley.

Michael Patton has spent his professional years focused on benefiting nature through his recycling endeavors with the City of Tulsa and the Metropolitan Environmental Trust. His current role with Legacy Land Trust, a local nonprofit organization focused on land conservation, does not stray far from that path.

Patton, a born-and-raised Tulsan, became executive director of Legacy Land Trust in May 2015 after 25 years of working for the City of Tulsa and then the M.E.T., 21 of those years as the M.E.T.'s executive director.

His work with the city began in 1990 when he was hired as recycling coordinator, even though that meant that he would have to leave behind his computer business.

What would turn into his life-long career was foreshadowed before Patton was even a teenager, when he was asked to pick up trash with his friends at McClure Park for the first Earth Day in 1970.

"I remember being really angry

while we were picking up trash, because there was trash everywhere," he says. "That park was special to me; I would catch tadpoles there and play; it was one of my favorite parks."

Patton was quoted in the newspaper saying, regarding that experience, "If you litter, you're not my friend."

"In hindsight, it was not the litter but the park that mattered to me," clarifies Patton, which is why his new role with Legacy Land Trust could not be tailored much more perfectly to him.

A portion of Legacy's efforts revolve around the water treatment and maintenance of Tulsa's watershed. The organization also works with the federal government in efforts to preserve land around military bases to ensure that the land remains undeveloped.

Patton also works with landowners regarding conservation of their land for other reasons, such as for tax credits and wildlife preservation. For example, Legacy Land Trust recently reached an agreement with a man who owns land that is home to burying beetles. The man is receiving monetary compensation and tax credits in exchange for his guarantee that he will not develop his land in order to preserve the burying beetles, Patton says.

Patton also came to Legacy with his own personal mission to encourage developers of urban areas to create green buffer zones along with their developments. Why?

"Green space matters," Patton says.

It appears that Patton is far from alone in his opinion.

"Tulsa has a zealous group of people who recognize that green space matters," he continues, ref-



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVIST: Executive Director of Legacy Land Trust Michael Patton's love of nature runs deep. Patton spent 25 years working for the City of Tulsa and then the Metropolitan Environmental Trust, 21 of those years as the M.E.T.'s executive director. He joined Legacy Land Trust in May 2015.

erencing both the past outcry regarding possible commercial development of Turkey Mountain and the soon-to-be-completed Gathering Place for Tulsa.

"Tulsans care about parks," he says.

Patton's passion for parks and the outdoors runs so deep that he named his first child, Braden, after his favorite park, located near 7th Street and Yale Avenue.

"For some people, nature is just background scenery, but for me, it's a conversation," he says. "Every time I see trees out of my window at work, I see something new."

Another of Patton's passions? Tulsa.

Patton grew up with his parents very active in the local community, and they taught Patton to do the same. His mother was a reporter for the Tulsa World and his father a Tulsa police officer.

Patton is currently on the board of directors for the Tulsa Garden Center, in his second year as president of Up With Trees, vice president of Booker T. Washington's PTA, where his daughter attends school, president of Tulsa Now, on the board of Mayfest, and there's more.


His eager activism comes in handy, too, with regards to his wife, Anna America, who is in her second year as Tulsa's District 7 City Councilor.

Patton also helped to organize the 50th birthday celebration for the Tulsa Golden Driller, in April, the idea for the celebration originating with him.

"The Golden Driller is everything Tulsa. He stands tall and proud, is easily understood and not offensive, and he ain't going anywhere," he says.


Patton collects Golden Driller memorabilia, with framed pictures and drawings of the Driller hanging in his Downtown Tulsa office.


Patton's unreserved enthusiasm for everything Tulsa and for the importance of preserving natural spaces is difficult to ignore and is contagious. For that, Tulsans can be thankful.




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DINING OUT IN GREATER TULSA

Masa Offers South American Fare in South Tulsa

LOCAL DINING

By **BLAKE AUSTYN**
Contributing Writer

After opening their Masa food truck two years ago, owners Chad Wilcox and Robert Carnoske added a South Tulsa location last year. Due to Carnoske's Colombian heritage, Wilcox and Carnoske built Masa's menu around South American flavors but with North American twists.

"Growing up, I would go back to Colombia with my family to visit once a year," says Carnoske. "Then we would come back to Tulsa and I would want an empanada, but all that I could do was wait until next year when we went back to Colombia."

The absence of South American food in Tulsa played a part in Carnoske and Wilcox's decision to open their food truck. But it was the demand they experienced after opening that led to their decision to open a brick-and-mortar location.

"Within six months of opening the food truck, we started looking for an additional space to use. The truck was not big enough to sustain the amount of food we were making," says Wilcox.

When they found the South Tulsa space at 7996 S. Sheridan Rd., it included a dining room with seating for 30 people, which caused them to begin offering a dining-in option. The South Tulsa store opened in November.

"We spend the majority of our time in Downtown Tulsa and Oklahoma City with the food truck, so this space has allowed us opportunity to introduce ourselves to South Tulsa," says Wilcox.

The space is laid back with patrons being greeted with a mix of South American-infused, American pop and Mexican music playing in the dining area. Drinks are self-serve, and the menu is a



LATIN SPIN: Masa's South-American-infused menu includes the El Jefe Cubano (translation: Cuban sandwich), with herb crusted pork loin, prosciutto, swiss cheese and pickles on Cuban bread, and six empanada choices.

chalkboard display with rotating specials. Beer and wine are also available.

Weekly specials are tamales on Tuesday, soups on Wednesday and Thursday, and ceviche on Friday and Saturday. The restaurant is closed Sunday and Monday.

With brick interior walls and vibrant canvas portraits, Masa gives off a much more approachable and enjoyable dining-in experience than I initially expected when looking at its exterior, flanked by a former Blockbuster Video and a Chinese take-out restaurant.

For my lunch, Wilcox suggested popular menu items Bacon Bombs, El Jefe Cubano (translation: Cuban sandwich) and empanadas (fried masa).

Masa is the Spanish word meaning "dough." The masa dough used at Masa is precooked, ground corn flour.

Masa offers six empanada choices, with the option to choose three for \$7 or six for \$12.

I selected three: The Pabellon, The T.C.B. and The Colombiana.

The Pabellon Empanada features shredded beef, black beans, mo-

zarella and plantains. Its flavor was nice and mild, striking me as a good basic option for ones nervous to try unfamiliar dishes.

The ingredients of The Pabellon make up a Venezuelan dish, says Carnoske. "So we took all of the ingredients and put them inside the empanada."

The T.C.B., with Thai chilies, chicken and basil, had a great Thai flavor and a pleasant spice, and The Colombiana, with beef, pork, onions, garlic and potatoes, was also flavorful.

The empanadas all come with a nice complimentary green sauce.

The El Jefe Cubano, with herb crusted pork loin, prosciutto, swiss cheese and pickles on Cuban bread, was named the best meat item at the Eat Street Tulsa food truck festival last year and for good reason.

The combination of the pork and pickles covered in melted cheese make for a tasty flavor profile, and I appreciated the thinness of the bread, which allowed for the flavors of the sandwich to be fully tasted.

I couldn't resist the Bacon Bombs: shrimp stuffed with green chilies and cheese, wrapped in



FOOD TRUCK EXPANSION: The owners of the Masa food truck, Chad Wilcox and Robert Carnoske, opened a South Tulsa brick-and-mortar location at 7996 S. Sheridan Rd. in November in order to meet their needs for a larger kitchen. The South-American-infused menu was created largely due to Carnoske's Colombian roots.

bacon and served with chipotle barbecue sauce.

"This is definitely not a South American dish, but after tasting them, we knew we needed to sell them," says Wilcox.

The Bacon Bombs are oftentimes a popular item for their late-night food truck customers, says Carnoske.

Other menu items include Arroz Con Pollo (chicken with rice), which is a Carnoske family recipe, and arepas, which are grilled flatbread stuffed with the choice of cheese, chorizo and cheese, or spicy pork.

Hours for Masa in South Tulsa are Tuesday-Saturday 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Pei Wei Chooses Tulsa as Test Market

Asian-inspired fast casual restaurant Pei Wei has chosen Tulsa to serve as a test market for 17 original dishes and for the introduction of a new restaurant design.

Guests at all four Tulsa restaurants will be among the first to try Pei Wei's new dishes inspired by Asian philosophies, each made with ingredients that were hand-selected for maximum taste and nutrition. New dishes include Japanese Steak & Shrimp Chile Ramen, Thai Basil Chicken, Supergreen Thai Coconut Curry,

Edamame Hummus and Wok-Tossed Wings.

"We chose Tulsa to test our new look and menu because it provides a good cross-section of cities where we have restaurants, and we think we'll get meaningful feedback that we can apply to multiple locations across the nation," says Pei Wei Chief Marketing Officer Clay Dover. "The changes that guests will see locally are part of our efforts to share Pei Wei's core belief that eating well is at the center of a well-balanced life."

Pei Wei's menu introductions in

Tulsa are part of the company's rebranding project, which includes design updates that create a more modern atmosphere with traditional Asian details and pops of bright color.

Pei Wei's four greater Tulsa locations are at 3535 S. Peoria Ave., 5954 S. Yale Ave., 10005 S. Memorial Dr. and 4609 W. Kenosha St. in Broken Arrow.

Founded in 2000 in Scottsdale, Arizona, Pei Wei owns and operates more than 200 restaurants in 24 states. For more information, visit www.PeiWei.com.

CEREAL CAFE OPENS



ROSSY GILLE for GTR Newspapers

BOWL-N-SPOON: Scott and Jamie Horton, center, co-owners of Bowl-n-Spoon Cereal Bar, stand in the cereal cafe with employees Rachel Stacy and Leighton Hopkins. Bowl-n-Spoon opened in July at 4510 S. Peoria Ave. in Brookside and offers 30 cereal options and 20 topping choices. The cafe also features a Ronnoco Coffee bar, waffles and desserts. Hours for Bowl-n-Spoon are Monday-Thursday 7 a.m.-8 p.m. and Friday-Saturday 7 a.m.-10 p.m.

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Encouraging Animal Awareness in Tulsa

Cat Cafes Among Pet-Friendly Businesses

There are not many things that warm my heart more than seeing people spend time with their pets. The bobbing head in the backseat of a car; the prancing feet of a dog heading to the dog park; the quiet, contented animal lying beside his master's feet at an outside cafe.

They all speak to the beautiful relationship possible between man and animal. It's touching to see and far worth any sacrifices, in my opinion.

As the trend of awareness and acceptance of animals in public spaces continues to spread throughout the country, I can't help but turn to home and reflect on Tulsa's pet-friendly businesses and activities. Unfortunately, there aren't as many as I would like, but the options are increasing.

I have yet to visit ONEOK Field for its regular Bark in the Park events, but it's on my list, as is Tulsa Botanic Garden's monthly dog night.

Most outdoor patios at local restaurants welcome four-legged

visitors. Some of my favorite spots include the Blue Rose Cafe, Rusty Crane, The Pint, Mi Cocina and Wild Fork.

Though the heat has forced me and my furry friend inside more than we would like this summer, we are usually regular frequenters of Tulsa's two dog parks: Joe Station, located west of Downtown Tulsa on Charles Page Boulevard, and Biscuit Acres, in South Tulsa at Hunter Park.

Yet, for as much attention as dogs receive, we cannot forget the felines. That's why, a few months ago, I was excited to hear about the potential opening of a cat cafe in midtown Tulsa.

The idea of cat cafes began in Taiwan in the 1990s. The overall idea is to provide individuals opportunity to socialize with cats for an hourly fee; a coffee shop is, many times, included on the premises. Often, the cats featured at cat cafes are available for adoption.

Tulsa transplant Susan Cram had hopes to provide Tulsans a similar concept.

Cram has spent over 10 years



GTR Newspapers photo

BEST FRIENDS: Grayson the Weimaraner, and Happy the cat have become the best of friends since Happy was adopted by Grayson's family last year.

volunteering at animal shelters and has always owned cats. She planned to fill her cafe with cats from Tulsa Animal Welfare and the Tulsa SPCA. "There are thousands of adoptable, good cats that are put down every year," she says.

Cat cafes provide a valuable opportunity for "people to see how cats interact with other people and with other cats," she continues.

This is in stark contrast to adoption centers where cats are kept in cages with other cats and with ongoing noises that keep cats from displaying their true disposition due to the stress of the environment.

Since the entrance of cat cafes



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

DOG OASIS: Dogs and their owners play at Biscuit Acres, one of Tulsa's two dog parks. Biscuit Acres is located in South Tulsa at Hunter Park. Joe Station is located west of Downtown Tulsa on Charles Page Boulevard.

into the states about two years ago, their numbers have continued to increase. Many of the cafes are in such high demand that they have waiting lists of individuals waiting for their turn to visit.

Many visitors to cat cafes include individuals simply looking to de-stress from a hectic day, ones who cannot keep an animal at their home and animal lovers.

Cram created a Kickstarter crowd funding campaign in May in an effort to raise \$60,000. One donation that she received was from a local woman whose father could not keep animals in his home. "So, the daughter planned to bring her father to the cafe once a week," she says.

Unfortunately, Cram did not

receive enough donations to reach her goal.

"I don't think the culture in Tulsa was ready for it yet, but I was hoping it would catch on," she says.

Cram is, admittedly, disappointed, as are the many animal lovers aware both of her efforts and of the lost opportunity for Tulsa's adoptable cats.

"A lot more cats are being put down each year than dogs. Cats need more help," says Cram.

I can only hope that someday soon Tulsans will embrace Cram's hope of helping to decrease Tulsa's cat overpopulation.

As the owner of a rescue animal of my own, I know the special kind of love bestowed by a rescued, or adopted, animal. They love appreciatively and without end.

Out & About in Greater Tulsa



By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor



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VARIETY

Making Connections, Finding an Escape at the PAC

Coming in to work today, I was car dancing to an old Red Hot Chili Peppers song with the lyrics "Take me to the place I love, take me all the way." I ruminate a lot as I negotiate potholes and search my soul for tailgater forgiveness while making my way on the B.A. Expressway every morning. Today, I was thinking how special it was for the Red Hot Chili Peppers to produce a rocking sweet song about Los Angeles. When I looked up its origins, I found out that "Under the Bridge," written by the band's lead singer Anthony Kiedis, was conceived as he was driving the L.A. freeway and is about his hometown and about a lot of other things, including the deepest feelings of isolation.

Show Buzz



By NANCY HERMANN

People go to concerts and plays – every genre of entertainment – for different reasons. Sometimes we need an escape. We come to the theater wanting the experience to take us to another place, or wash over us as we passively just be for a moment, instead of having to do anything. I've felt that way, too, but mostly I attend arts events because I want to feel a connection. I'm hoping that something on stage is going to have meaning for me – that something is going to elucidate, soothe, or stimulate. Perhaps all.

I'm so much looking forward to the first Summer Heat International Dance Festival at the PAC because dance connects with me every time. To recap what I talked in-depth about last month, Choregus Productions booked five exceptional dance companies for the festival. Choregus' Ken Tracy was able to attract the French/Algerian Compagnie Hervé KOUBI (July 30) because they are performing during an entire week at the über prestigious

Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival.

Also joining the festival is Koresh Dance Company (July 31), which has continued to be one of my most favorite dance groups. L-E-V Dance Company (Aug. 3) from Israel will be performing a new work, "OCD Love," which itself is about the challenges of connecting with others when by its nature obsessive compulsive disorder can keep people apart.

The dance troupe 10 Hairy Legs (Aug. 5) showcases the athletic and emotional ranges of outstanding male dancers, and guest artists join the company for two performances of "The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe," Aug. 4-5. Finally, I know BODY-TRAFFIC from L.A. will take me to the place I love on

Aug. 6.

Other events in early August at the PAC include Brown Bag It with Rebecca Ungerman singing music from the American Songbook, Aug. 3.

Bridging August and September are three musicals. I thought it was clever of Theatre Tulsa to present "Oklahoma!" and "The Will Rogers Follies" at the same time. The company brings out big vocal guns for Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Oklahoma!," Aug. 12-Sept. 4. The extremely talented Ruby Shadley, who is currently studying theater in New York City, performs the role of Laurey. Sam Briggs – consistently a Theatre Tulsa standout – is the cowboy, Curly, who would love to ride off into the sunset in a fringe-topped surrey with the belle of Claremore at his side. "Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin'," "People Will Say We're in Love," and "I Can't Say No," are standards that have worked their way into the repertoires of so many notable musicians. Even Miles Davis had a take on "Surrey With a Fringe on



Photos courtesy Tulsa PAC

BODYTRAFFIC: Lauded for inspiring, accessible and joyful work, the L.A.-based BODYTRAFFIC makes its Oklahoma debut Aug. 6 as part of the Summer Heat International Dance Festival.



L-E-V DANCE COMPANY: Making romantic connections despite a challenge like obsessive compulsive disorder is explored in L-E-V's powerful piece, "OCD LOVE," Aug. 3.



HEATHERS: THE MUSICAL: A brainy outsider outsmarts cliquish mean girls at an Ohio high school to become one of the cool kids in a funny and poignant musical based on the hit film, Aug. 26 – Sept. 4.

Top." Enjoy "Oklahoma!," Aug. 12-Sept. 4.

"The Will Rogers Follies" recounts the career and adventures of Oklahoma's favorite son, the cowboy humorist from Oologah. Rogers was the highest paid movie star of his time and gained his fame in vaudeville. In this musical, presented by Theatre Tulsa Aug. 19-Sept. 3, his life story is told in a series of Ziegfeld Follies-style production numbers. There are saucy costumes, an abundance of song-and-dance, and Rogers' endearing folksy humor.

"Heathers: The Musical," presented by Theatre Pops Aug. 26-Sept. 4 is an off-beat piece about a brainy misfit who outsmarts the alpha dog mean girls, all named Heather, at an Ohio high school. The movie "Heathers" was a cult classic that relived the high school hell of not being one of the cool kids. Jana Ellis directs 20 local singers, dancers and actors and hopes people will key into the humor as well as the message.



THE WILL ROGERS FOLLIES: The life story of Oklahoma's favorite son is told in a series of Ziegfeld Follies-style production numbers, Aug. 19-Sept. 3. Pictured are Andrea Collins, Mitch Adams as Will Rogers and Laura Reeder.



OKLAHOMA!: Ruby Shadley and Sam Briggs star as sweethearts Laurey and Curly in Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Oklahoma!," presented by Theatre Tulsa Aug. 12-Sept. 4.

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

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Tulsa-Based Orchestras Complement OK Mozart

By GLENDA RICE COLLINS
Contributing Writer

Three well-established Oklahoma orchestras recently played a significant role in advancing Oklahoma's premiere music festival OK Mozart (OKM) during a pivotal year for the week-long event, held June 11-18 at the Bartlesville Community Center (BCC). Those three orchestras are Tulsa Symphony Orchestra (TSO), principal guest conductor Daniel Hege; Signature Symphony at TCC (SSTCC), artistic director and conductor Andrés Franco; and Bartlesville Symphony Orchestra (BSO), music director and conductor Lauren Green.

Guided by OKM executive director Dr. Randy Thompson, OKM experienced some necessary tightening of its purse strings this year, which "means more money for Oklahoma musicians," says Thompson, while still celebrating the time-honored OKM tradition of involving stellar guest artists, though not the entire guest orchestra from New York, as during the festival's history over three decades.

And, Thompson adds in gratitude, "the Tulsa-based H.A. and Mary K. Chapman Foundation has been a wonderful OKM supporter this year."

Thompson, who for many years assumed the character of Mozart in OKM festival costumed portrayals, estimates the total economic impact for OKM's history to be "at least \$100 million."

Thousands Entertained at BCC

Main stage concerts for OK Mozart, Opus 32 featured not only musical journeys to and from Europe but also memorable flamboyance in dance music from the Americas: Peru, Cuba and Mexico -- from the German Dances of the revered festival namesake Mozart to the Danzones of Mexico's Márquez.

The Tulsa SSTCC launched the main stage 2016 OKM excursion with A Musical Voyage From The Americas to Europe: A World of Brilliant Sound with the OK Mozart College All-State Orchestra, presented by ConocoPhillips on June 12.

Members of the SSTCC Dance Band entertained with big band sounds at the OKM Gala Dinner-Dance, honoring 2016 OKM Festival Champions The John Mihm Family, at Hillcrest Country Club, June 13, presented by Larsen & Toubro Infotech, LTD.

Colombia-born maestro Franco is dedicated to preserving and performing the music of the Americas, as is the compelling, handsome Peruvian composer, conductor Miguel Harth-Bedoya (b. 1968).

The June 12 concert featured Harth-Bedoya's trans. Colección de Música Virreinal, three South American inspired dances accented by engaging maracas, followed by Six German Dances, K. 571 by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart to compare; and the Johann Strauss, Jr. Overture to Zigeunerbaron (Gypsy Baron), which exhibits both commanding flash and exuberant elegance, much like maestro Franco.

The concert concluded with the exquisite, commanding yet cerebral, Johannes Brahms Symphony No. 4 in E minor, op.98.

The TSO was featured for both the Classical Gold: Visionary Masterpieces concert June 15, presented by Phillips 66, and for the grand



Photos courtesy Mark Blumer

SIGNATURE SYMPHONY: Andrés Franco, artistic director and conductor of Signature Symphony at TCC, conducts the orchestra on stage at the Bartlesville Community Center during OK Mozart 2016, held June 11-18.

finale concert, A Return Voyage from Europe to the Americas, June 18, presented by Tulsa Bone and Joint, the Oklahoma Arts Council, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Featured Classical Gold clarinet soloist Dr. David Carter excelled in Mozart's intricate Concerto for Clarinet and Orchestra in A Major, K. 622, with skillful virtuosity. Bravo!

The Mozart concerto was sandwiched in between two contrasted Beethoven masterworks: "Egmont" Overture and the revered "Pastorale" Symphony.

With maestro Daniel Hege also at the helm for the TSO June 18 concert, the program ranged from Overture and 'Reformation' works, by Mozart and Mendelssohn, respectively, to flamboyant rhythms of dance, notably, the sensual, Danzon No. 2, an impassioned, refined fusion of dance music essences from Cuba and the Veracruz region of Mexico, scored for full orchestra by gifted Mexican composer Arturo Márquez (b. 1950). The music engages like a fiery, hot tango.

Featured, returning OKM guest artist, famed pianist Anne-Marie McDermott dazzled with her pianistic pyrotechnics to conclude the evening with the brilliance of George Gershwin's mesmerizing Rhapsody in Blue for Piano and Orchestra. Bravo!

It's Too Darn Hot!

Moved into the Bartlesville Community Center due to excessive heat advisories on June 17, the ever-popular Woolaroc Outdoor Concert, presented by Accenture, featured the BSO.

Vocals by 'hometown' guest artists, the featured sisters Caitlyn Caughell and Kennedy Caughell, taking a break from their cross-country Broadway musical tours, included the Broadway selections: Too Darn Hot, from Cole Porter's Kiss Me Kate musical, Irving Berlin's Sisters duet, and the moving rendition of Stephen Sondheim's emotional Being Alive, from his Company musical.

Diverse BSO concert music ranged from themes of Richard Rodgers from The Sound of Music to The Beatles and excerpts from Igor Stravinsky's The Firebird. Leroy



FESTIVAL SUCCESS: From left, Tulsa Symphony Orchestra principal guest conductor Daniel Hege, OK Mozart Executive Director Randy Thompson, and featured guest artist and pianist Anne-Marie McDermott pose backstage during OK Mozart 2016, June 11-18.



TULSA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: The Tulsa Symphony Orchestra is shown onstage at the Bartlesville Community Center with principal guest conductor Daniel Hege, a resident of Syracuse, New York, during OK Mozart 2016.

Anderson's The Syncopated Clock featured a surprise solo by maestro Green. The concert concluded with America the Beautiful and staged, indoor fireworks.

For additional OKM news and updates, please see From Menuhin to OK Mozart: Music as Therapy Prevails and visit glendaricecollins.com.

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HEALTH & WELLNESS

OU Physicians-Tulsa Names New Chief Medical Officer

Dean of the OU-TU School of Community Medicine James M. Herman, M.D., MSPH has announced that John Krueger, MD, MPH has been named Chief Medical Officer for OU Physicians-Tulsa and Associate Dean of the Academic Affairs for the OU-TU School of Community Medicine. Krueger is a graduate of the OU College of Medicine.

Krueger will be responsible for clinical leadership, quality, and patient safety by overseeing clinical practices, protocols of care, quality assurance, and resource utilization for OU Physicians. He will also ensure that healthcare services are delivered in a culture that focuses on patient care and safety. As a faculty member, he will serve as lead educator for physicians, residents, medical students and staff.

In this role, he will work closely with local hospital leadership to continue to develop relationships

and programs for students and residents. His responsibilities also include chairing the Quality and Safety Improvement Committee and overseeing the processes for review and improvement of patient care decisions.

"The addition of Dr. Krueger to our leadership team allows us to sharpen our focus on clinical quality, the educational experience for students and residents, and improved patient care," says Dr. James Herman, dean of the OU-TU School of Community Medicine. "The skills Dr. Krueger brings include more than 11 years of progressive experience in healthcare leadership and broad clinical practice experience. This expertise gives him insight to work closely with our physicians and staff to establish policies and procedures that will make OU Physicians and the OU-TU School of Community Medicine even stronger."



JOHN KRUEGER, MD

Previously, Dr. Krueger was the Acting Chief of Staff and Associate Chief of Staff for

Primary Care at the VA/Veterans Health Service of the Ozarks. Prior to that, he worked for Unity Point Health/Unity Point Clinic, the Cherokee Nation Health System, the Creek Nation Health System, iMedExchange, Inc. and in private practice and consulting.

He earned his Medical Doctorate (MD) from the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine and his Masters of Public Health (MPH) from The T. H. Chan Harvard School of Public Health at Harvard University and is a George W. Merck Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) Healthcare Improvement Fellow. Krueger also holds certificates as a Patient Safety Officer and Improvement Advisor from the Institute for

Healthcare Improvement (IHI).

The OU-TU School of Community Medicine, the first medical program of its kind in the nation, and its multi-specialty group practice, OU Physicians, includes more than 300 physicians, 70 medical students and 81 physician assistant students. Faculty physicians and residents perform approximately 250,000 patient visits per year and provide clinical care at four OU Physicians outpatient practice sites, St. John Medical Center, Hillcrest Medical Center, Saint Francis Medical Center, Laureate Psychiatric Clinic and Hospital, and Jane Phillips Medical Center in Bartlesville. For more information about the OU-TU School of Community Medicine, visit www.ou.edu/communitymedicine.

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CHEERING THE PATIENTS: University of Tulsa Head Football Coach Philip Montgomery and members of the Golden Hurricane football team spread some cheer with the patients at The Children's Hospital at Saint Francis in Tulsa, June 28. From left are Nathan Walker, Trent Martin, Coach Montgomery, Dane Evans, Blake Belcher and Kevan Lucas.

ORU Ranks High Among Elite Nursing Programs

The Oral Roberts University Anna Vaughn College of Nursing program has been ranked 35th out of more than 350 nursing schools in the southwest region.

The list was released after an inaugural ranking of U.S. nursing schools was conducted, where data was collected from over 3,200 institutions nationally; only 10 percent made the list.

In addition to traditional BSN and RN-to-BSN programs, ORU offers outstanding study abroad opportunities in Mexico, Nigeria, Ghana and the Ivory Coast. Graduates are routinely hired at leading Tulsa-area hospitals, OSU Health Care Center and the Tulsa Health Department. Students also enjoy success on their licensure exams: since 2008, the prelicensure BSN program's 30-60 annual graduates have posted an average NCLEX exam pass.

"This ranking reflects the faculty and administration's commitment to excellence in nursing education as well as the quality of ORU students and successes of ORU graduates," says Dean of the College of Nursing Kenda Jezek. "We are proud of our students for their work ethic and commitment to the program."

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EDUCATION

Community Gives Over \$100,000 to Street School

Street School, a national award-winning alternative education high school in Tulsa, raised \$102,911 in three weeks in June after oil and gas company Canada Company announced its Double Impact challenge.

When Carol Robinson, president of Canada Company, learned Street School would be facing a budget shortfall of \$107,000 she offered to match, dollar for dollar, up to \$50,000 for all donations received for this fiscal year ending June 30.

"Many people like me see the need for Street School and understand the impact this program makes on the students who attend," says Robinson. "Providing an opportunity for Street School to finish this school year in the black, when we don't know what the next year will bring, was important to me."

Founded in 1973, Street School is a nonprofit alternative high school of choice that has become a national model for helping at-risk youth. By combining academics with therapeutic counseling, the school

has a unique approach in working with teens dealing with academic, social, emotional and substance-abuse problems. On average, Street School has a 90 percent graduation rate.

Dollars that go directly to Tulsa Public Schools finance the salaries and benefits of four of Street School's 10 teachers. The district also provides the building that Street School operates from as well as in-kind support for facility and technology services.

"The impact of this challenge comes directly to Street School's general operating budget," says Street School Executive Director Dr. Lori McGinnis-Madland. "We must annually raise more than 55 percent of a \$1.4 million budget to cover salaries and benefits for staff plus other expenses necessary to serve more than 130 students annually."

"Once again, this community stepped up to the plate and exceeded all expectations," says McGinnis-Madland. "Donors like it when their gifts can be doubled, and thanks to the Canada Company

this is exactly what happened."

Contributors to the Double Impact challenge included: Anonymous, Jacki Adair-Smith, Janice Anderson, Pam Avison, Thomas Baker, Ron Banks, Barbara Bannon, Allen Barrow, Lucy Bennfield, Julie Blake, Rosa Blakeburn, Rachel Blue, Norman Bryant, Thomas Byers, Thomas Connor, Mary Conry, Harry Dandelles, Bo Davis, Annette Ellis, Tim and Laura Fawcett, Ray Hale, Teresa Hall, Sarah Hansel, Samuel Harris, III, Janet Hayes, Max Heidenreich, Rebecca Holland, Bob Hurley, Jr., Deanna Jones, Dan Keating, Rita Keeton, Frank Klaus, Caron Lawhorn, Nancy Lewis, Patrick Malloy, John Marlow, Michael McBride, III, Lorraine McReynolds, Ken and Judy Miles, Mercedes Millberry-Fowler, Pat and Linda Moran, Jack Murray, Todd and Angela Neftzger, Cyndi Nixon-Kernan, David Oliver, Kelly Ortiz, Steve and Millie Owings, Kerry Painter, Brenda Pelletier, Whitney Pence, Ron Peters, Geoff Pool, Dawn Randall, Barry Redlinger, Cari



DOUBLE IMPACT CHALLENGE: Members of Street School staff and its Board of Directors and Carol Robinson of Canada Company pose with Canada Company's \$50,000 challenge check. From left, Street School Executive Director Lori McGinnis-Madland; Street School board members Nimish Dharmadhikari and Mark Wilson; Street School Associate Executive Director Jana Emerson; Street School Development Director Sandra Thornton; board members Adam Paluka and Cyndi Kernan; board President Judy Gadlage; and Canada Company President Carol Robinson.

Reif, Jane Romine, T.F. and L.R. Ruiz, John Schmieder, Susan Scott, Donna Shelton, Lenice Stanford, Jacquelyn Stewart, William and Susan Thomas,

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OSUIT Student Starts Business

Like a lot of recipes and innovations, Catz Salsa was born out of a need to change the status quo.

"I have an aversion to cilantro, a salsa staple. It makes me nauseous. So it was hard for me to find a salsa I liked," says Catherine Churchill.

So, she decided to make her own cilantro-free salsa, developing the recipe when she was just 16 years old.

After Churchill got married in 2000 and was working in Tulsa, she continued to make her salsa in her own kitchen.

"Someone at work asked me to make some. I ended up getting 160 orders," she remembers.

Not long after, Churchill found a local manufacturer who could re-create her recipes for her mild, medium, and hot salsa and package it to sell.

Her salsa can be found in Henryetta on the shelves of Homeland Grocery Store, Rocky's Grand Central Station and Midway Grocery. She also sells her salsa directly to customers when she receives requests.

Churchill also has developed recipes for super-hot and ultra-hot varieties of her salsa.

"I've always had a passion for cooking," she says. "When my youngest son started school, my husband encouraged me to return to cooking and try culinary school."

Churchill lives in Dewar, about 13 miles south of Okmulgee, so the Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology's School of Culinary Arts was a perfect fit for her. She could attend classes during the day while her children were at school.

"I like to promote my salsa, but I have other recipes I want to share, and ultimately I would like to have my own catering business. With catering, you get to choose what you do. I like the idea of being my own boss and moving around," she says, but she understands that she has to work for that dream. "I want to start in a restaurant and build up my experience first."

Churchill started at OSUIT's culinary school in January and is the newly-elected president of the Future Chefs Association.

For those interested in more information or in ordering a jar of Catz Salsa, they can email catherine.churchill@okstate.edu.



SALSA MAKER: Catherine Churchill began attending OSUIT's School of Culinary Arts in January after starting her own salsa business.

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TTCU Collects School Supplies

For the 15th year, TTCU The Credit Union is teaming up with organizations in northeast Oklahoma to raise money and supplies for children in need through Project School Supplies, July 11-Aug. 31.

During that time, individuals may donate school supplies or make a monetary donation at any TTCU branch. Supplies and donations collected will go to Restore Hope Ministries for distribution to those in need.

"The cost of outfitting a child with basic school supplies costs around \$60, and for some families, that's an expense that is out of reach," says Donita Quesnel, TTCU vice president of marketing. "Thanks to the generosity of those who donate, Project School Supplies can ease that burden for families and children in need."

In the past 15 years, TTCU's Project School Supplies and Restore Hope Ministries have provided more than 35,000 children with the basic tools needed to start the school year.

Visit tcu.com to find a school supply list and to learn more about Project School Supplies.

Tulsa Tech Students Win National Scholarships

Interior Design Team Places First in Competition

This summer, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) members from across the country gathered in San Diego to network with fellow students, attend program workshops and leadership sessions, and compete in events related to their careers.

Tulsa Tech is proud to announce that three interior design students, Beth Penrice, David Byrd and Sarah Elliott, all returned home with national honors and scholarships in hand. After capturing the top title in their division, this creative team was both happy, and surprised, as their names were announced as national winners.

Penrice, a senior at Broken Arrow High School, knew exactly what she had just heard but felt unable to move.

"I heard them announce our names and I just kind of stood there," Penrice laughs. "I knew how excited I was, how proud I was for our team, but I couldn't move."

The interior design team arrived in California prepared to compete in a FCCLA STAR (Students Taking Action with Recognition)

event. These are competitive events in which members are recognized for achievement in projects, leadership skills and career preparation. STAR events offer both individual skill development and application of learning through many activities.

"For our competition, we were asked to develop a concept for a second-story apartment suite, owned by a camp director," Penrice explains. "Our concept, 'Camp Off Grid,' encouraged people to spend less time with electronics and to appreciate the environment around them. We also utilized several recycled materials in our design, and that seemed to work very well with our overall concept."

As the first place team in the nation, each student was awarded a \$3,000 scholarship from the Art Institutes of America, plus a \$1,500 per semester scholarship from the San Diego Art Institute. Jennifer Alpe, Tulsa Tech interior design instructor, strongly supports her student's involvement in FCCLA and is extremely proud of this team's recent accomplishments.

"They did an outstanding job on

this contest," Alpe says. "They were able to present design information that many college students don't learn until their sophomore or junior year of design school. I was very proud they won. There were over 35 teams from around the country, and this was a very difficult project."

Byrd, a senior at Union High School who specializes in furnishings, feels the victory validates his creativity and career choice.

"I have always loved furnishings; it's my favorite part of the design," Byrd says. "And being able to compete at this level, contribute to this team, just proves that all of the hard work, all of the desire, have been worth it."

Union High School senior Elliott, campus FCCLA Chapter president, feels the national title was the perfect capstone to a perfect year.

"We are like a big family in Mrs. Alpe's class," Elliott says. "I'll always remember this national convention, how hard we worked together to win, and the crazy schedule, with each of us literally falling asleep fully dressed on the floor. It was so much fun and really an amazing experience."

To find out more about FCCLA, visit fcclainc.org.

If you're currently looking for quality business and industry training, exciting classes for high school students, or wish to design a life-changing career, Tulsa Tech invites you to visit today. For more information, please call 918-828-5000 or visit us online at www.tulsa-tech.edu.

News from Tulsa Tech



By DR. STEVE TIGER
Superintendent



Courtesy Tulsa Tech

FIRST PLACE TEAM: Tulsa Tech interior design students, from left, Beth Penrice, David Byrd and Sarah Elliott recently won college scholarships after placing first in a national design competition.



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BROKEN ARROW EDUCATION

B.A. Graduates Receive All-State Scholarships

The Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence recently recognized two Broken Arrow High School graduates as 2016 academic all-stars: Rebecca Atherton and Simona Yaneva. These students were among 100 Oklahoma public school seniors to receive this recognition.

Atherton is an active participant

ADMINISTRATOR RECOGNIZED



Courtesy BAPS

ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR: Janet Dunlop, associate superintendent for Broken Arrow Public Schools, was recently named the 2016 OASA District #5 Assistant Superintendent/Central Office Administrator of the Year by the Oklahoma Association of School Administrators (OASA). Dunlop is one of 19 assistant superintendents/central office administrators selected by her peers for this award from across the state.

in Boy Scouts and has served on staff as a head quarter master, crew guide and trainer for Boy Scouts National Youth Leadership Training and National Advanced Youth Leadership Experience. She has also served as administrative vice president and secretary of the Boy Scouts Venture Crew. She is a National Merit finalist, competitive tap dancer, soccer player and referee. Atherton began volunteering at Safari's Wildlife Sanctuary at age 12. She plans to study physiology and pre-medicine at Oklahoma State University.

She received an All-State scholarship sponsored by the Flint Family Foundation.

Yaneva serves on the board of directors of World Language Club and is active in Key Club, National Honor Society and

Future Medical Professionals. She is an Advanced Placement Scholar with Honor, who has been named Chemistry Student of the Year and Spanish Student of the Year. Yaneva is a teen leader for Broken Arrow Pathfinder Club and volunteers her spare time at animal shelters and with her church. Yaneva plans to major in chemical and computer engineering at the University of Tulsa.

She received an All-State scholarship sponsored by Peggy Helmerich of Tulsa.

The Academic Awards Banquet, which was held recently in Norman, is presented annually by the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence, a nonprofit organization that recognizes and encourages academic excellence in Oklahoma's public schools.



REBECCA ATHERTON



SIMONA YANEVA

Photos courtesy Mark Moore, Lifetouch

BAPS Teachers of the Year Spotlight

By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor

This is the Broken Arrow Express' final installment of Broken Arrow Public Schools' 2015-16 Teachers of the Year, recognizing Elizabeth Benavides, Katherine Benight, Susan Graham, Kari Bergeron and Jack Castle. As the new school year prepares to begin, let's not forget to thank all of Broken Arrow's outstanding educators!

Elizabeth Benavides, Centennial Middle School's Teacher of the Year, has been teaching for 14 years, six of those

years with Broken Arrow Public Schools.

Benavides graduated from California State University, Northridge, with a bachelor's degree in psychology and from National State University with a teaching credential in special education. She teaches special education to students with autism.

Childers Middle School's Teacher of the Year **Katherine Benight** teaches Language and Literature. She graduated from Northeastern University with a degree in English education with experience in grammar, reading, British Literature and ESL.

Susan Graham teaches sixth and seventh grade English at Oliver Middle School and is its Teacher of the Year.

Graham graduated from Broken Arrow High School and earned her elementary education degree from Oklahoma State University. She has spent all of her teaching years with Broken Arrow Public Schools, teaching at Haskell Middle School before moving to Oliver.

The Freshman Academy's Teacher of the Year **Kari Bergeron** graduated from Oral Roberts University. She currently teaches Algebra I and has

taught in various school districts and is certified to teach math subjects from Algebra to Calculus.

Teacher of the Year **Jack Castle** at the Broken Arrow Academy has taught at the Academy since 2000. After retiring from the U.S. Marines, Castle returned to school and graduated from Northwestern University.

He teaches astronomy, biology, physical science, AP environmental science and forensic science.

Castle calls his time with the Academy as one of the most fulfilling adventures of his life.

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MAKE YOUR OWN PATH

BROKEN ARROW SPORTS

'Papa' Cade Yeager Returns to Lead B.A. Tigers

Senior Quarterback Hopes to Take Young Team Back to the Big Game

By **MIKE MOGUIN**
Sports Writer

The leadership presence Cade Yeager has can be felt among his Broken Arrow teammates when they take the field. The Tigers' second-year starting quarterback is known to the guys as 'Papa.'

"I embrace the role," says Yeager, who is entering his senior year. "I'm like a big brother to all those guys. I'm like 'Papa Yeager' because I've been through it all. I've played in the game – the big game. So they look up to me. How I go is how the team goes."

That big game would be the Class 6A state championship game last year, when the Tigers battled Jenks.

In 2015, Yeager (6-2, 202) completed 133-of-204 passes for 1,838 yards with only five picks. He also produced two rushing touchdowns. Broken Arrow finished 11-2 with the second loss coming in that state title game to Jenks. The Tigers drew to within 16-14 at halftime after falling behind by two touchdowns but succumbed to a 35-14 defeat.

The sting of that loss has carried through the offseason and there is nothing more Yeager and the Tigers would like better than to return to that big stage.

"That was one of the hardest things I ever had to deal with," he

says. "That was heartbreaking to get there and be in the game, going into halftime with a good shot to win it, yet, not do it. We're really motivated to get back to the state championship. That's the goal every year to go win the state championship, be the first ones to bring it back to Broken Arrow. That's the goal – bring the Gold Ball back to B.A."

"It has definitely been a big motivational tool throughout the summer," Yeager says. "They'll put pictures up in the weight room with Jenks celebrating the state championship trophy. It will probably be the biggest motivational tool through the season until we get back there for the chance to play for another one again."

Yeager is considered one of the top signal-callers in the area. He gives credit to everyone around him, but he knows his assets.

"My ability to throw on the move," he says. "I'm kind of a smarter quarterback, I'm kind of like my offensive coordinator on the field. My coach will ask me 'what are you seeing?', 'what are your ideas?' You basically got to be a coach on the field."

Twenty starters from Broken Arrow's 6A runner-up team were lost to graduation last year. Gone are the likes of Kort Lewis, Devin Kruse and big lineman Rowdy



CADE YEAGER

Frederick, but Yeager is optimistic that the team will reload.

"We're real young. We've got a lot of new athletes," Yeager says. "They just don't know what it's like to play on Friday nights yet. We're going to be a whole lot better every week as the season progresses. Hopefully, we can make another run for the state title."

"At receiver, we got Corben Chambers (5-7, 155, junior, running back/corner back). He's a real speedy guy. He's not the tallest, but he'll go up and get the ball for you. He's a deep threat guy," Yeager says. "Brandon Williams (5-11, 190, junior, defensive back), he's extremely athletic, he can go up and get the ball just about against anybody, and we got Branden Hildebrand (6-3, 200, senior, tight end) too."

One question for B.A. on offense will be the line, where the size of Frederick will be missed.

"Rowdy is very hard to replace," Yeager says. "He is 6-4 and 333 pounds. As a quarterback, he is your best friend over there, blocking for your blind side. But we have an offensive line that is strong. Probably the biggest thing they are compared from last year is they are real football smart and know where to go."

On defense, the Tigers' return Carder Key (6-2, 215, senior, linebacker), Skyler Haynes (6-1, 200, senior, defensive lineman/safety), C. J. Myers (5-10, 156, senior, cornerback) Devin Clayton (6-2, 215, junior, wide receiver), Williams, Chambers and Tucker Dunlap (5-11, 180, junior, linebacker).

"Guys like that will step up making tackles on Friday nights."

"Look out for us," Yeager said.

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SPORTS

23RD ANNUAL IBA AWARDS ANOTHER SUCCESS



CHAIRMAN'S AWARDS: Amy Wollmerhauser, a multiple international gold-medal-winning Special Olympics athlete, was the Chairman's Awards recipient. She is pictured with Master of Ceremonies John Holcomb, the News on 6 sports director. Proceeds from the Iba Awards fund the Rotary Club of Tulsa Foundation, the Little Light House and Special Olympics Oklahoma.

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HIGH SCHOOL RECIPIENTS: The High School Male and Female Award Recipients were David Warriner, football, Union High School, and Sarah Bateman, volleyball, Booker T. Washington High School. The Iba Awards were created in 1994 by the Rotary Club of Tulsa to recognize a male and female premier athlete who excels in his or her sport, and who exemplifies a high degree of citizenship in the image of Henry P. Iba by demonstrating a desire to help others.



HONORED GUESTS: Among the honored guests at the Iba Awards are University of Tulsa Head Football Coach Philip Montgomery and his wife, Ashli.



AWARD WINNERS AND CHAIRS: Present at the 23rd Annual Rotary Club of Tulsa's Henry P. Iba Citizen Athlete Banquet and Awards event are from left, Co-Chair Dana Birkes, Female Recipient and former Olympic gold and silver medalist in track Madeline Manning Mims, Male Recipient and First Team All-Pro and NFL Seattle Seahawks wide receiver Tyler Lockett and Co-Chair Michael Birkes.



IBA FAMILY: Among the Henry P. Iba family members who attended the Iba Awards are, from left, son Moe Iba and nephews Gene Iba and Skip Iba.

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Tulsa Sports Commission a Monetary Winner

Agency Promotes Amateur Sports

By GLENN HIBDON
GTR Sports Writer

A million here and a million there, the Tulsa Sports Commission has provided a \$300 million impact for the local economy. With that kind of monetary muscle, Tulsa is transforming into one of America's premier amateur athletics hubs, and the TSC is pulling the strings behind the curtain.

"We create lasting partnerships," says TSC Executive Director Vince Trinidad. "We don't want to get gussied up for the dance and dance only once. We want to dance with you many times. Vince Lombardi says it best, 'Winning is not a one-time thing, it's an all-time thing.'"

Trinidad should know his sports clichés well after a successful career in promotion throughout the United States. He served eight years in Tucson, Arizona, and seven in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, ramrodding local sports commissions. He helped logistically coordinate a 13,000 athlete, multi-sport event in Portland, Oregon. With such a wealth of experience, Trinidad was hired to develop Tulsa's athletic footprint around the country.

"Sports is a business and so is tourism," says Trinidad, who helped TSC host and recruit more than 30 events in 2015. "It takes enthusiasm and being passionate about what you do and the people, and partnerships are key."

Formed in 1993, the Tulsa

Sports Commission serves under the umbrella of the Tulsa Regional Chamber, Regional Tourism and the Convention and Visitors Bureau. Trinidad says it came about when local businessmen wanted to attract a March basketball tournament to Tulsa and they secured the Conference USA event.

The crown jewel for the TSC is the USA BMX Grand National Championships that occupy the River Spirit Expo Center every November. Athletes and fans flock to Tulsa from 13 countries. More than 3,000 riders and 7,000 spectators helped TSC produce over \$70 million for the local economy in 2015, and Tulsa's marriage with BMX is only growing stronger.

The passage of Vision Tulsa provides funds for building the organization's national headquarters and track at Expo Square. Completion is set for 2018, and Trinidad says he hopes to land the 2020 Olympic Trials in Tulsa. TSC is already looking ahead at events eight years in the future.

"The majority of our dollars go toward marketing Tulsa as a sporting destination," Trinidad says. "Our success revolves around maintaining a positive image with organizations at multiple levels, and we have high goals for ourselves. USA BMX moving here gives Tulsa the opportunity to host the Olympic Trials."

The TSC began as and remains a nonprofit organization dedicated

solely to amateur sports. Much of the group's funding is raised through a lodging tax from hotels and motels. Trinidad says the commission has four primary functions: recruiting, retaining, enhancing and developing all aspects of amateur athletics for metro Tulsa.

"We have a team to go find sporting events that have a good fit with our facilities and work well with our local sports organizations," says Trinidad. "Curling doesn't fit. We can do curling, but there is no curling population in Tulsa. We pursue sports that fit well with the community."

With the TSC's input, the University of Tulsa will play host to first and second round NCAA men's basketball tournament games March 17 and 19 at the BOK Center. The commission also has helped attract NCAA golf and tennis tournaments, the Bassmaster Classic, Big 12 baseball, and national youth soccer and wrestling tournaments.

"One of the biggest events we did was the youth soccer national championships last summer," Trinidad says. "There were 96 of the best youth teams in the country here. We also had the USA Wrestling Junior Nationals at the Cox Center. We look to facility owners that can host championships and we put together a bid. We have to outbid other cities for events and in some cases we might go head-to-head with Dallas or Kansas City."

Trinidad says the youth soccer



GTR Newspapers photo

HOSTING THE BIG 12: The Big 12 baseball tournament was held in Tulsa last spring through the work of the Tulsa Sports Commission and the support of the Tulsa Drillers. At left is Tulsa Drillers General Manager Mike Melaga with Tulsa Sports Commission Executive Director Vince Trinidad. The tournament was an economic plus for Tulsa.

tournament had a \$2 million impact on Tulsa, and the NCAA tennis tournament brought in \$5 million.

"We take a look at the economic impact to decide if we will host an event or not," Trinidad says. "The great thing about tourism is that it's new money coming into the community. That's dollars for restaurants, hotels and attractions."

"It's my job to oversee the daily operation of the commission and provide resources for our team to be successful. I am an advocate for tourism and sports regionally, nationally and internationally. Next March we're hosting the Big 12 Wrestling Championships."

In addition to major events, the TSC also works with almost any amateur sport that needs assistance. Union's youth football league is part of that package along with girl's junior golf, ORU and Rogers State. A 16-member board of directors provides strategic leadership and ideas.

"All of our sports are foundational," says Trinidad. "They become your foundation and maybe allow opportunities for other sports. Our mission is to retain an event. There is nothing wrong with professional sports, but our mandate is amateur athletics. We go cradle to grave as long as it's amateur."

TU's Dane Evans Loaded with Accolades

The University of Tulsa senior Dane Evans has been honored by the 2016 Allstate Good Works Team as one of 165 nominees as announced by the Allstate Insurance Company and the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA), the preseason watch list as one of 88 candidates for the Wuerffel Trophy, and he is among 30 of the nation's top college quarterbacks named to the preseason watch list for the Davey O'Brien National Quarterback Award.

The Allstate AFCA Good Works Team is one of the most coveted off-the-field honors in college football. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the award, which was established in 1992 to recognize a select group of college football players who have made a commitment to service and enriching the lives of others.

Evans has been involved in volunteering for a number of community events in the Tulsa area as well as his hometown of Sanger, Texas.

The senior quarterback, who earned his bachelor's degree in exercise and sports science this past May, has played in 33 career games and has 30 starts. He has completed 56 percent of his passes for 8,332 career yards and 52 TDs to rank fourth on both the school's all-time lists for passing yards and TD passes.

In 2015, Evans completed 62.9 percent of his passes for 4,332 yards and 25 TDs for the school's second-best passing season, becoming only the second quarterback in school history to surpass 3,000 passing yards in two separate seasons. He ranked first in the American Athletic Conference for passing yards per game (333.2)

and total offense (332.5), and third for passing efficiency (151.6).

The Wuerffel Trophy, known as "College Football's Premier Award for Community Service," is presented annually by the All Sports Association in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. Named after 1996 Heisman Trophy winning quarterback Danny Wuerffel from the University of Florida, the Wuerffel Trophy is awarded to the FBS player that best combines exemplary community service with athletic and academic achievement.

Former Golden Hurricane quarterback Paul Smith won the award in 2007, becoming just the third recipient of the Wuerffel Trophy. Evans has been involved in volunteering for a number of community events in the Tulsa area as well as his hometown of Sanger, Texas.

The Davey O'Brien National

Quarterback Award is presented annually to the nation's best college quarterback and is the oldest and most prestigious national quarterback award. The Davey O'Brien Award honors candidates who exemplify Davey O'Brien's enduring character while exhibiting teamwork, sportsmanship, and leadership in both academics and athletics. The award is overseen by the Davey O'Brien Foundation, which is headquartered in Fort Worth, Texas, and has given away nearly \$1 million in scholarships and university grants to help high school and college athletes transform leadership on the field into leadership in life.

Tulsa opens the season on Sept. 3 with a 6 p.m. home game against San Jose State. Season tickets are available online at TulsaHurricane.com or by calling 918-631-GoTU (4688).



Courtesy University of Tulsa Athletics

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THE ECONOMY

Central Bank of Oklahoma Enhances Technology While Keeping Focus on Personal Relationships

By MELISSA CLARK
Business Writer

While technology has changed the way customers may transact business, Central Bank of Oklahoma CEO John Allan believes banking continues to be about people and relationships. Central Bank of Oklahoma has grown its business by offering relationship-building service and products to provide the highest level of financial services technology for the retail customer, small business and corporations.

Allan joined the bank in 2009 with the goal of bringing the successful Central Bancompany model to Tulsa.

Central Bank of Oklahoma is part of Central Bancompany, a privately held \$11.6 billion bank-holding company headquartered in Jefferson City, Missouri. Central Bancompany specializes in community banking, with a focus on delivering leading-edge technology to customers in Missouri, Illinois, Kansas and Oklahoma.

In June 2015, the bank, formerly known as ONB Bank and Trust Company, changed its name to Central Bank of Oklahoma and with that, connected its customers to a network of 13 full-service community banks and all their branches across Missouri, Illinois, Kansas and Oklahoma. Central Bank of Oklahoma customers may utilize banking services at any location within the family of banks.

Allan says that the name change brings better technology, products and services.

"Most of our customers are excited about the additional locations available to them to conduct their banking transactions in over 140 locations in four states," Allan says. "The singular brand name strengthens the company's digital platform and creates efficiencies needed to allow us to focus on improving the customer experience. Our retail banking strategies have been successful in providing our customers with the latest technology including Internet-based and mobile banking products."

Central Bank of Oklahoma offers technology that enhances customers' access to their accounts, which now includes Person-to-Person payments, Mobile Check deposit, "EMV cards," and Apple and Android Pay. EMV cards are smart cards (also called chip cards) that store data on integrated circuits in addition to magnetic strips.

Allan noted that personal and business payments, such as credit cards, debit cards, merchant credit card services and commercial payments, have experienced tremendous growth over the last few years, and he expects these trends to continue. At the same time, he notes that fraud costs have increased sharply, so Central Bank of Oklahoma employs specialized technology and security to protect its customers.

"More often today, customers are using Internet-based services and mobile devices to conduct transactions with their banks," Allan explains. "With a significant increase

in identity theft, customers should be warned to protect their privacy and not disclose personal identification numbers or personal information to anyone. Online transactions should only be done with reputable vendors, and social security, personal identification or other numbers should never be provided."

Looking to the future, Allan says that trends indicate customers prefer the convenience of online banking using a computer or mobile device. He says the same holds true for customers of Central Bank of Oklahoma.

"If you haven't tried our online banking or mobile app, you need to consider checking it out to see what it is like to conduct your banking business or use our financial tools on your own schedule. All banks will need to continue investing in the latest technology, or they will run the risk of losing customers," he says.

Borrowers and banks both remain fairly cautious since the economic downturn of 2009. Allan explains that there are currently many uncertainties regarding how the Federal Reserve will react toward domestic and worldwide economic conditions. Decisions from the Federal Reserve directly impact borrowing costs for businesses and consumers.

Economic concerns are close to home for the people of Tulsa as many area businesses are feeling the pinch of the energy downturn, which has resulted in lower city and state tax revenues, shortfalls in education



GTR Newspapers photo

LEADING BANKERS: The Central Bank of Oklahoma leadership team includes, from left, Steve Schooley, executive vice president and CFO; Pat Zimmerman, executive vice president; John Allan, president and CEO; and Doug Terry, executive vice president.

budgets and reductions-in-force for a number of workers in the energy sector.

There's better news, though, on the home mortgage front. Allan says that the local real estate market seems to be holding up fairly well in spite of the energy headwinds.

"Mortgage loan rates are very attractive, so if owning a home makes sense for you, now is a great time," he says.

Regardless of the banking products or services one might need or the technology one uses to access accounts, for Allan, the basics of banking boil down to building good relationships. And that means being a part of the Tulsa community.

"We are dedicated to developing

and enhancing our retail and commercial customer relationships," he says. "As a community-centered bank with nearly \$700 million in assets, we continue to be actively involved in civic leadership."

In addition to contributing to the local economy as an area business, Central Bank of Oklahoma has been supportive of the Tulsa Area United Way and Junior Achievement of Oklahoma and many other local charities.

In 2016, Forbes recognized Central Bank of Oklahoma's parent company, Central Bancompany, as one of America's Best Banks for the eighth consecutive year, based on asset quality, capital adequacy, growth and profitability.

BetaBlox Startup Incubator Teams Up With OII

BetaBlox, one of the largest startup incubators in the Midwest, is teaming up with the Oklahoma Innovation Institute (OII) to bring their successful entrepreneurship program to Tulsa. BetaBlox is a startup accelerator that helps early-stage entrepreneurs quickly build their business through coaching on lean startup models, modern customer acquisition channels and raising investment funds.

While other community organizations address many of the needs of Tulsa entrepreneurs, there is still a significant gap for early stage companies and entrepreneurs needing to receive specific, startup focused entrepreneur-to-entrepreneur training and mentorship.

By focusing on early stage companies, BetaBlox will improve the volume of start-ups in Tulsa's entrepreneurial ecosystem which will lead to better investment opportunities and more home-grown jobs. To date, BetaBlox has over 100 startups in their portfolio.

"This program will enhance the entrepreneurial landscape in Tulsa," says David Greer, executive director of OII. "Partnering with BetaBlox aligns with our mission to foster innovation and create high-impact jobs to ensure the ongoing economic growth of the Tulsa community."

BetaBlox has a proven methodol-



SHARON CAMERON for GTR Newspapers

LUNCHEON DISCUSSION: The Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce Lunch and Learn speakers in July discussed digital media. From left are Bill Handy with Schnake Turnbo Frank, Kinnee Tilly, Senior Vice President of Economic Development, Broken Arrow Economic Development Corporation and Dave Rowland with the Oklahoma Manufacturing Alliance. GTR Newspapers was a sponsor.

ogy that can increase an entrepreneur's likelihood of success by more than twice the national average. This is accomplished by providing a bundle of services, including a multi-year incubator program that provides classes, mentors, consultation from growth-stage entrepreneurs, and access to investors. Instead of charging for these services, BetaBlox secures a small piece of equity in the startup. This mutually aligns the BetaBlox team with that of the founding team to drive success.

"By building a network of entrepreneurs in Tulsa and Kansas City, we are laying a solid foundation

for individuals to build and grow their business," says Greer. "We are excited about this opportunity to bridge the gap between entrepreneurs and resources to help them succeed."

About OII:

The Oklahoma Innovation Institute (OII) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation committed to building an innovative economy in the Tulsa region. OII fosters collaborative research and development, entrepreneurship, STEM education, company creation and retention, life-long learning, and creative, future-oriented thinking.

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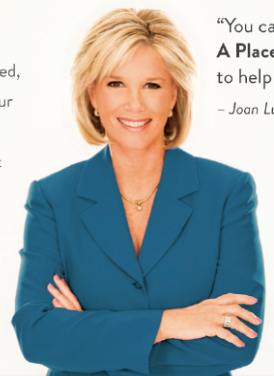
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Saltuarius RPA Promotes the Benefits of Drones

By EMILY RAMSEY
Managing Editor

While drones may be in their infancy, with a long way to go in industry regulation and general consumer understanding, many individuals and businesses have been eager to jump into the front lines of this new technology.

Josh O'Leary and Jeff Spatz, owners of Saltuarius RPA (Remotely Piloted Aircraft), are two such individuals.

O'Leary, a mechanical engineer and local business owner, began building drones in 2012. "Drones were still very new at that point. There was nothing legitimate yet on the market," O'Leary says.

As he began to learn more about the technology, O'Leary began to envision the future possibilities of drones' many uses, and he reached out to Spatz, who lives in O'Leary's neighborhood.

O'Leary was also aware of Spatz's background working in television and photography. Spatz is a University of Tulsa graduate who has worked as a news photographer and news manager for local stations, including FOX 23 and KJRH Channel 2.

Spatz holds the role of director of operations for Saltuarius and is in charge of image and video capturing; he also handles the legalities involved in operating drones commercially and remaining up to date with industry regulations that are continually evolving as the understanding of drones increases and technology improves.

While most individuals are familiar with drones for recreational use by hobbyists, drones are increasingly being used for

commercial and public service needs.

"Drones are basically flying robots," says O'Leary. "And what robots are good for is eliminating human danger and repetitive tasks, examples being search and rescue situations, crop dusting and oil tank inspection."

O'Leary and Spatz have used their fleet of drones to help the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigations in a search and recovery operation.

"Drones are also cheaper and faster," adds Spatz. "They cost one-tenth the amount of a manned aircraft."

For example, Germany is using drones to deliver medications to island countries. Drones are also being developed with defibrillators to be utilized by ambulance providers to help heart attack victims, says Spatz.

"There's a large opportunity for police and fire to use drones for a relatively low cost," he says.

Drones can be used to investigate fires to provide information on their status and overall damage.

O'Leary and Spatz have used their drones in other areas of work, including real estate, providing outdoor aerial views of land and property for sale. They have also used their drones to assist attorneys and private investigators in investigating crimes. "Our drones display the time and location when something is recorded," says Spatz, "which helps when privacy concerns come up and if the evidence is presented in court."

Yet, even with the many benefits of the industry, moving past people's initial fears and misunderstandings takes time, so O'Leary and Spatz make every effort to be proactive in their approach when using their drones.



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

AERIAL VIEW: At right, an aerial photograph of real estate property that was taken by a drone belonging to Saltuarius RPA. Although drones are still a new technology, they are increasingly moving from solely recreational use to the commercial and public service sectors.



Courtesy Saltuarius RPA

"We are risk averse," says Spatz. "We have turned down jobs because people didn't care that we would be endangering other people or doing something illegal. For example, many individuals do not know that it is illegal to fly drones over people."

When O'Leary and Spatz are photographing a home, they call on nearby homes to inform the neighbors of what they are doing. They coordinate with area businesses and any nearby airports to inform them of their plans and where they will be flying their drones.

"When we started two years ago, it was a slow process of educating people," says O'Leary. "People didn't know how drones fit into their needs; we had to show them what they could do."

For additional information about drones and Saltuarius, visit saltuariusrpa.com.



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

GROWING INDUSTRY: Jeff Spatz, left, and Josh O'Leary are co-owners of Saltuarius RPA, which uses to capture high-definition images and video for commercial use. Drones are also beginning to be used to eliminate human danger and repetitive tasks, such as for search and rescue situations, crop dusting and oil tank inspection.

Jackson Tech Breaks Ground

Sticking to its downtown roots, but expanding into its own headquarters, Jackson Technical has broken ground for an 18,878 square foot new office building and training center in Downtown Tulsa. This will be a major expansion for the IT services company including additional employees, a training center and venue for hosting outside industry groups with access to state-of-the-art AV equipment and ample parking.

"We are thrilled to experience continued growth in such a competitive industry. This new headquarters signifies our commitment to maintain a superior level of customer service to our existing and future clients. We are excited to see what the technology and computer industry future holds as we expand into this exciting new venture," says Tim Jackson, founder and president of Jackson Technical.



NEW HEADQUARTERS: The new Jackson Technical headquarters building will be located at 611 S. Elgin Ave. in Tulsa. The groundbreaking was held June 22.

As a local entrepreneur and local business supporter, Tim Jackson wanted to contract with all local firms for this new development project, which includes architectural design by The McIntosh Group, Thompson Construction Company and financing through RCB Bank.

The Jackson Technical headquarters will be a three-story plus basement building. The first and second floors will be primarily office space for Jackson Technical, and the third floor includes a company lounge, training room and testing center. The second and third floors will have additional space in exterior terraces.

Tim Jackson started Jackson Technical in 1999 from his kitchen table in Broken Arrow, followed by a small retail computer shop in the Atlas Life building in 2001. The company then moved to a previously un-renovated space on the 10th floor in the Philtower building in 2008 when the Atlas building became the Marriott Hotel.

Jackson Technical has been listed in INC 5000's fastest-growing private companies in America in 2013, 2014, 2015.

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PETROLEUM CLUB MAKEOVER



GTR Newspapers photo

CONSUMER AFFAIRS: *ConsumerAffairs*, a new and growing Tulsa company with a worldwide reach, hosted members of the Rotary Club of Tulsa in their new headquarters in the top floor of the former Petroleum Club Building in downtown Tulsa on July 13. Above, Rotarian Matthew Bristow listens while CEO Zac Carman, right, speaks. In the center is COO Eric Jenkins.



GTR Newspapers photo

NEW LOOK: Rotarians look on and listen as *ConsumerAffairs* CEO Zac Carman discusses his company in the room that at one time housed the top floor of the Petroleum Club of Tulsa. He discussed how *ConsumerAffairs* started in Tulsa, the opportunities and challenges of growing a SaaS (Software as a Service) company in Tulsa and their dynamic plans for the future. The company was founded in 1998 by James R. Hood, a veteran Washington, D.C. journalist and public affairs executive. The company's website includes consumer news, recall information and tens of thousands of pages of consumer reviews. Visit www.consumeraffairs.com for more information.

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BUSINESS & PEOPLE NOTES

BOK Financial has announced that **Marty Grunst** has been named chief risk officer (CRO) effective Aug. 1. Grunst has served as treasurer of the company for seven years. In his new role, he will report to president and CEO Steve Bradshaw and serve on the company's executive leadership team, which drives overall strategy for the organization.

Grunst joined BOK Financial in 2009 as senior vice president and treasurer. Since that time he has built a strong balance sheet management process and a successful Dodd-Frank Act stress test program.

With more than 30 years of banking experience, Grunst has served in a number of roles throughout his career including loan operations, mortgage secondary marketing and investor accounting, acquisition planning for credit card, merger integration for business banking, corporate finance, and asset liability management. He also managed finance for lines of business including commercial real estate, retail and consumer lending.

The Schemmer Associates Inc. (Schemmer), a national full-service architecture, engineering and planning firm, announces **Aaron Burns**, PLS, survey manager, and **Daryl David**, civil design technician, have joined the firm in the Tulsa office.

Burns has eight years of experience as a professional land surveyor with diverse expertise in all types of land surveying including residential, commercial, industrial, and municipal land planning projects from real estate closings and conveyances to preliminary design phase to construction staking and final as-builts. Burns will oversee the survey services for the Tulsa office. He has an associate's in applied science in civil engineering-surveying technology from Tulsa Community College.

David has 15 years of experience as a civil design technician for all types of civil projects such as transportation, municipal, education, sport facilities and commercial markets. David will be responsible for assisting civil engineers with the design of projects including grading, site layout, roadway profiles, cross sections, pipelines, utility systems and storm sewer systems.

The Oklahoma Business Roundtable, at its recent annual meeting in Tulsa, elected **Renee Porter**, CEO of Scissortail Community Development Corp., Norman, as the Chairman of the organization for the 2016-2017. The Oklahoma Business Roundtable was founded in 1991 and serves as the state's key economic development support organization. The nonprofit business group works to promote new jobs and investment in Oklahoma through business expansion, start-up and recruitment efforts. There are approximately 170 member companies.

Other officers elected for the upcoming year are Vice Chairman Robert Martinovich, ONEOK, Inc., Tulsa; Secretary/Treasurer, Governor Bill Anoatubby, The Chickasaw Nation, Ada; and Immediate Past Chairman, Tom Clark, Tulsair Beechcraft, Tulsa.



GRUNST

RSVP of Tulsa announces the hiring of **Joni Frank** as director of volunteer resources and **Jovada Miller** as community relations and special events manager. Frank's nonprofit experience includes being a volunteer, an employee, and a board member of various organizations. Her duties at RSVP include recruiting volunteers for their partner agencies and programs. Miller brings with her experience from both the nonprofit and public sector. Her experience as an event planner has helped her finish the details for RSVP's annual gala, "Somewhere in Time." This event was held June 25 at Cain's Ballroom in Tulsa.

RSVP matches the talents and interests of volunteers 55 and over with meaningful opportunities to enhance the quality of life in Creek, Wagoner and Tulsa Counties.

Allie Thomas, events manager at **Cox Business Center**, has been selected to the I A V M Foundation's 2016 30|UNDER|30 program. Thomas was recognized for her dedication to the success of events at Cox Business Center, including her work coordinating the 2015 Painted Pony Gala, which is one of the largest events in the facility and also the largest fundraiser of the year for the client, Saint Francis. Additionally, she took the initiative to help start a wellness committee for SMG Tulsa staff and organized a bike ride across Oklahoma on stationary bikes to help spread awareness for Mental Health suicide-prevention day. Allie was also named 2015 SMG Tulsa Employee of the Year.

Brian Smith and Meagan Doyle, both from BOK Center and the SMG Tulsa team, were also named in the 30|UNDER|30 program.

The Leadership Oklahoma Board of Directors recently elected **Laurie Tilley**, executive vice president of Littlefield Brand Development, Tulsa, to be chair of the organization's 2016-2017 Board of Directors. Leadership Oklahoma is entering its 30th year as a statewide leadership development program designed to identify, educate and challenge the leaders of our state.

The board also elected members of its executive committee for the upcoming year. From Tulsa is membership committee member **Cristy Morrison**. At-large members of the executive committee from Tulsa are **Shane Fernandez**, **Paula Huck** and **Scott Stidham**.

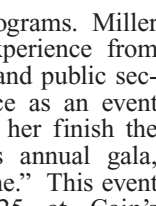
Tulsans on the board of directors are **Alison Anthony**, **G.T. Bynum**, **Risha Grant**, **Ben Kimbro** and **T.W. Shannon**.



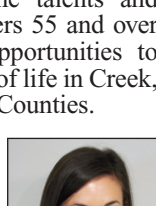
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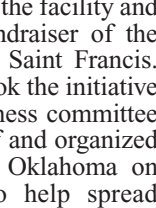
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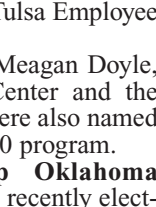
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TERRY

Julie Hakman, president and CEO of **AmericanChecked Inc.**, based in Tulsa, announces promotions within the leadership of the company.

Vicki Kruse has been promoted to senior vice president of operations. In this role, Kruse's responsibilities include strategic planning, organizational leadership and enterprise solutions. She joined the company in 2014 as vice president of operations.

Shelley Boyd is now the vice president of operations, promoted from the position of operations manager. Boyd has been with the company since 2006, helping build the operations structure and customer service strategies.

Lisa Koss has been promoted to manager of client services from her position of senior client specialist. Koss has been with the company since June 2007 and has been instrumental in developing training and on-boarding programs for customers.

Kristie Rodriguez has been promoted to manager of product research. Rodriguez joined the company in August 2011 as a senior research analyst and has been responsible for creating innovative quality control measures and product analyses.

AmericanChecked Inc. is a global background screening company based in Tulsa.

Trey Terry of Tulsa has been named **HUB International's** newest associate producer specializing in corporate property and casualty. Ranked as a Top 10 global broker, HUB International provides a broad array of property, risk management, and investment and wealth management products across North America.

Before joining HUB, Terry served as an executive sales representative for Paycom Software, Inc. Earlier in his career, he worked as a staff and facilities manager at Liberty University in Virginia, where he earlier earned a B.S. in business administration and international business. He is a graduate of Dalat International High School in Penang, Malaysia.

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320 South Boston Building: Classic and Stately

Bricks and mortar additions cause buildings to grow in size, and as they grow, they establish a special identity and character. So it is for the 320 South Boston Building.

This stately building with its classical Beaux Arts façade was designed by architect George Winkler in 1917. The north wing at 12 stories was originally the Exchange National Bank. This name and date are captured in intaglio letters at waist height in the limestone facing of the north (Third Street) elevation. In 1923, the 12-story south wing was added. This wing was almost a match to the north wing except for ground

floor window treatment and a narrower dimension in the east-west direction. (The north wing has dramatically-tall arched windows.) The south wing is also significantly horizontally shorter than the north.

In 1929, the central lobby portion of the building was raised upward 10 stories to become a tower. The pinnacle of this tower part of the building was a tall lantern element with a steep mansard roof designed to be a zeppelin mooring dock and to indicate anticipated weather conditions with alternating red or green lighting. The largest bank in Oklahoma occupied Tulsa's tallest building, surpassing the Philtower by 57 feet. It would

remain the tallest for almost 30 years.

As the bank changed to become the National Bank of Tulsa so did the building's name change, to become the National Bank of Tulsa Building. Eventually, the bank became BOK, and the building became the 320 South Boston Building.

Throughout these transitions, the building has continued to house a significant bank entity. The main banking lobby was moved to the south wing soon after it was finished, and due to the natural downward slope of the site, an additional floor, a mezzanine, was inserted within the ground floor of the north wing.

The exterior of the 320 South Boston Building is a stone carver's dream. Medallions and heraldic shields, false balcony balustrades, Greek key motifs, cornucopias and dentil molding abound. The building's skin has a low granite wainscot with buff brick above and a generous use of light gray limestone. Even the openings around the steel windows (frequently in pairs) are cased in limestone. The fascia, both at the 12th floor and the central tower, is an elaborate cornice overhanging dentil molding.

The main entrance from Boston Avenue (of course, centered on the tower) is through a large stone arch

elaborately faced with floral plant carvings and, from there, to an embossed metal frame for sidelights and transom with central brass doors.

The main foyer is floored with Italian marble, with a central compass design. The ceiling is segmentally-vaulted with stylized painted mural on canvas in colors of terra cotta, light blue, dark blue, celery green and light tan. Straight ahead is the elevator lobby with two rows of three elevators facing each other. The elevator doors are brass in a geometric rectilinear pattern with a plant motif background. The elevators access office corridors above with walls faced with gray Carthage marble.

To the north of the main foyer, escalators allow easy access to the inserted mezzanine floor. To the south of the main foyer is the long barrel vault ceiling of the BOK lobby. This is a two-story space lined with large marble faced columns on both sides. These open to a lower ceiling teller line (west) and adjunct staff spaces (east). The ceiling is a show stopper: a series of canvas murals separating the colors and designs established on the main foyer ceiling. The ceiling had been covered up probably in a 1950s poorly-conceived remodel but was restored by architectural firm Urban Design Group in 1977. Suspended from the arched ceiling are five massive cast iron chandeliers each with a single circular ring of lamps.

At a lower level below the ground floor is a tunnel under Boston Avenue that connects to the neighboring Kennedy Building and an adjacent parking garage. Watch for more about the Kennedy Building in a future article.

On Architecture



By ROGER COFFEY, AIA



HISTORIC BANK: The 320 South Boston Building in downtown Tulsa was designed by architect George Winkler in 1917. It was originally the Exchange National Bank and was 12 stories.



DETAILED CARVINGS: The exterior of the 320 South Boston Building is a stone carver's dream, featuring medallions, heraldic shields, false balcony balustrades, Greek key motifs, cornucopias and dentil molding abound.



INTRICATE LOBBY: The main foyer of the 320 South Boston Building is floored with Italian marble, with a central compass design. The ceiling is segmentally-vaulted with stylized painted mural on canvas in colors of terra cotta, light blue, dark blue, celery green and light tan.

Strapped Education Budgets Find Relief in Recycling

With a now-strangled budget facing our Oklahoma schools, educators have to find ways to save money and their eyes are looking at bills and maintenance. The Oklahoma Green Schools Program and Project Learning Tree are two terrific organizations providing the training and guidance for student-led, hands-on, STEM-based curriculum that can lead to great savings.

You'll remember the successes reported from Webster High School and Peters Elementary, just two of the many sites benefiting from implementing their discoveries.

Project Learning Tree offers grants up to \$1,000 to schools and youth

organizations for environmental projects that link classroom learning to the real world. The deadline to apply is Sept. 30.

Oklahoma Green Schools Program provides on-site, expert volunteers to help complete the six steps to certification of becoming an official "Oklahoma Green School."

These investigations lead to discovering thousands of dollars worth of savings in energy, waste and water. Learn more at okgreen-schools.org and plt.org.

Pat on the Back

Despite the fact that there are no laws banning the free, single-use bag given at checkout in Oklahoma

stores, in the grocery checkout recently, everyone around me had brought their own bags. That's really cool. So, I thought you might enjoy a few facts about why we do what we do.

According to nmeac.org, we consume on average per year an estimated 500 billion to one trillion plastic bags worldwide. That comes out to more than one million per minute.

Seattle Public Utilities reported a 50 percent decline in bags found in their waste stream after enacting a bag ban in 2012.

As reported by smdp.com, Santa Monica adopted the bag ban and saw a reduction of 78 million bags city-wide.

The option of charging 10 cents per bag as adopted by many cities provides a small fund for implementing programs such as Santa Monica City Hall purchasing reusable bags from Green Vets L.A., who make the bags and distribute them for free.

No matter what city, curbside services do not recycle plastic bags. They gum up the machines. So always deposit them in bins at your local grocer. Or, just bring your own cuter bag along with you, eliminating the need to recycle altogether.

Fresh Paint Days

A little paint can go a long way in inspiring us to continue reusing

what we already have. Fresh Paint Days gives us opportunities to reach out and give a fresh, free coat of paint to a structure you see in need. Request submissions will be accepted until July 31. Volunteers to help paint are always accepted. For more information, visit keepoklahomabeautiful.com.

An Upcycled Sheriff

As the tomato and tomatillo plants grow stronger, we needed some help keeping the squirrels at bay. What better time to find material to upcycle into our scarecrow we call, "The Sheriff?"

Fortunately, I work with Union Mailman Truman Honeycutt. Ever resourceful, Honeycutt saved pallet plastic wrap which can be shaped into legs and arms easily. Wearing clothes from our giveaway bin at home, trash becomes treasure as the Sheriff keeps watch over our backyard garden.

Reader's Write

Thank you to reader and Union's Lead Custodian Sandra Medina, for her recent recycling news. After reading this column and discovering that Mr. Murph can now accept pizza boxes for recycling, she saved 24 boxes from the landfill while cleaning up after a pizza party at the 6/7 Grade Center. That is exciting news!



UPCYCLED SHERIFF: First stuffed with old fabric, the plastic wrap around shipped pallets becomes a better filling for The Sheriff, keeping an eye over our backyard garden.

News reports can get us all down and make us feel overwhelmed and helpless sometimes. So, send in your own success story to bethturner@me.com. That way, we can more easily focus on the good news happening all around us, right here in our own backyards.

Trash Talk



By BETH TURNER
Tulsa Master Recyclers Association

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Miss USA Visits Senior Star

Miss USA 2015 Olivia Jordan visited Tulsa recently to visit the Senior Star locations at Woodland Terrace and Burgandy Place.

A graduate of Tulsa's Bishop Kelley High School and a health science major graduate of Boston University, Jordan now resides in New York. She is passionate about helping make people aware of Alzheimer's, and has traveled the country during her Miss USA 2015 reign as a spokesperson for the cure of the disease, and she continues on her quest.

While at Senior Star, Jordan spoke on subjects that have a broad appeal from her widespread perspective as a daughter, advocate, woman and Miss USA 2015.

She led a discussion on women's empowerment issues and the importance of advocating for women's health, including vital subjects such as ovarian cancer and Alzheimer's disease.



SHARON CAMERON for GTR Newspapers

THOMAS TALENT: Miss USA 2015 Olivia Jordan, a Tulsa Bishop Kelley High School graduate, recently visited Senior Star Living facilities. Above, at the Woodland Terrace location, she is with her aunt, Kate Thomas, and her uncle, Bill Thomas. Her father is Bob Thomas. The Thomas brothers founded Senior Star Living.

Jordan has spent the last year speaking across the United

States, inspiring young and older women with passion, determination and focus. As a role model as Miss USA 2015, Jordan's advocacy journey for women's empowerment has given her continued opportunities to share her experiences and be a proactive voice. Her warm demeanor and keen focus on women's issues are inspirational.

Jordan grew up in a home environment that demonstrated a powerful advocacy and philanthropic viewpoint, observing and learning how the power of a voice can positively impact critical issues such as the fight against Alzheimer's.

Her father, Bob Thomas, is owner and co-founder of Senior Star, an organization that provides innovative senior living services to older adults in 14 Senior Star communities across the United States.

Last year, Senior Star raised \$559,583 in the 2015 Walk to End Alzheimer's, placing them as the third largest national fundraiser in 2015.

Bob Thomas, placed 2nd nationally among individual fundraisers for the 2015 Walk to End Alzheimer's.

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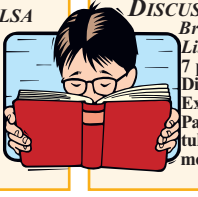






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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
24 July JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT Theatre Tulsa Family 2 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. 42ND STREET Celebrity Attractions 2 & 7 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. CHASE RICE Cains Ballroom 8 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.	25 TULSA DRILLERS vs. Springfield 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information. BOYS & GIRLS CLUB CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT Tulsa Country Club 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Visit salarmytulsa.org for more information. 	26 TULSA DRILLERS vs. Springfield 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information. PHILLIP PHILLIPS AND MATT NATHANSON Brady Theater 7 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for more information.	27 TULSA DRILLERS vs. Springfield 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information. SHINEDOWN BOK Center 6:30 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information. 	28 TULSA DRILLERS vs. Arkansas 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information. MOVIE IN THE PARK: HOME ALONE Guthrie Green 8:30 p.m. Visit guthriegreen.com for more information. 	29 July TULSA DRILLERS vs. Arkansas 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information. COMPUTERS FOR SENIORS Hardesty Regional Library 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.com for more information.	30 COMPAGNIE HERVÉ KOUBI Choregus Productions 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. TULSA DRILLERS vs. Arkansas 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information. JIM GAFFIGAN BOK Center 8 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.
31 KORESH DANCE COMPANY Choregus Productions 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. TULSA DRILLERS vs. Arkansas 1:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information. 	1 August MY BIG GAY ITALIAN FUNERAL ATC Studios 8 p.m. Visit americantheatrecompany.org for more information. KEYS TO WORK TULSA INSTITUTE NewView Oklahoma 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Visit newviewoklahoma.org for more information. 	2 TEDESCHI TRUCKS BAND Brady Theater 7 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for more information. OPEN BOOK DISCUSSION Broken Arrow Library 7 p.m. Discussing "The Expats" by Chris Pavone. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.	3 BROWN BAG IT: REBECCA UNGERMAN PAC Trust 12:10 p.m. FREE event. L-E-V DANCE COMPANY PAC Trust 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. FOOD TRUCK WEDNESDAY Guthrie Green 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. Visit guthriegreen.com for more information.	4 THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE Summer Heat International Dance Festival 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. MOVIE IN THE PARK: INSIDE OUT Guthrie Green 8:30 p.m. Visit guthriegreen.com for more information.	5 THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE Summer Heat International Dance Festival 2 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. 10 HAIRY LEGS Summer Heat International Dance Festival 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.	6 BODYTRAFFIC Choregus Productions 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. BACK TO SCHOOL BASH Tulsa Tech Broken Arrow Campus 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Visit tulsaitech.edu for more information. TULSA ROUGHNECKS vs. Swope Park 7 p.m. For more information, visit tulsaroughnecksfsc.com
7 OKLAHOMA REPTILE EXPO Cox Business Center 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Visit newviewoklahoma.org for more information. SENIOR STAR ROUND UP Cain's Ballroom 2 – 5 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information. 	8 10TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT, BENEFITING OPERATION AWARE Cedar Ridge Country Club 7:30 a.m. Visit operationaware.org for more information. 	9 COMPUTERS FOR SENIORS Hardesty Regional Library 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information. TULSA DRILLERS vs. Midland 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information. WORD EXPLOSION Victory Christian Center Aug. 9 – 14 Visit victory.com for more information.	10 TULSA DRILLERS vs. Midland 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information. MINECRAFT NIGHT Martin Regional Library 6 – 8 p.m. For ages 10-18. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information. 	11 TULSA DRILLERS vs. Midland 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information. HARWELDEN MURDER MYSTERY 2016 Harwelden Mansion 7 – 10 p.m. Visit ahhatulsa.org for info. BOZ SCAGGS & MICHAEL McDONALD Hard Rock Hotel 8 p.m. Visit hardrocktulsa.com for info.	12 OKLAHOMA! Theatre Tulsa 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. TULSA DRILLERS vs. Frisco 7:05 p.m. • Aug. 12-13 Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information. DOLLY PARTON BOK Center 7:30 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.	13 OKLAHOMA! Theatre Tulsa 2 & 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. GREAT TULSA CULTURE FESTIVAL Glennpool Conference Center 12 p.m. • Aug. 12-13 Visit tulsaaculturefestival.com for more information. GUIDED BY VOICES Cains Ballroom 8:25 p.m. Visit cainsballroom.com for more information.
14 OKLAHOMA! Theatre Tulsa 2 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. TULSA DRILLERS vs. Frisco 1:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information. IN THIS MOMENT Brady Theater 7 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for more information.	15 FITNESS ON THE GREEN: FUSION OF DANCE Guthrie Green 5:30 p.m. Visit guthriegreen.com for more information. VOLBEAT WITH SPECIAL GUESTS KILLSWITCH ENGAGE AND BLACK WIZARD Brady Theater 6 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for more information.	16 TEEN LAB TUESDAY Helmerich Library 4:30 – 6 p.m. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information. MS EXCEL 2 Hardesty Regional Library 6 – 8 p.m. For Adults. Class is limited to 18 on a first-come, first-served basis. Visit tulsalibrary.org for more information.	17 TULSAWORKS OPEN HOUSES FOR JOB TRAINING Goodwill Industries of Tulsa 3 – 5 p.m. Visit goodwilltulsa.org for more information. SOCIAL SECURITY 101 OU-Tulsa Schusterman Learning Center 3 – 4:30 p.m. Visit lifeseniorservices.org for more information.	18 TULSA GLOBAL ALLIANCE 40th ANNIVERSARY AND GLOBAL VISION AWARDS Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame 6 – 8 p.m. Visit tulsaaglobalalliance.org for more information. 5 SECONDS OF SUMMER BOK Center 6:30 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information. DEFTONES Brady Theater 7 p.m. Visit bradytheater.com for info.	19 TULSA SMALL BUSINESS CONNECTION Tulsa Regional Chamber 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Visit tulsachamber.com for info. THE WILL ROGERS FOLLIES Theatre Tulsa 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. 	20 THE WILL ROGERS FOLLIES Theatre Tulsa 2 & 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. TULSA ROUGHNECKS vs. Oklahoma City 7 p.m. For more information, visit tulsaroughnecksfsc.com 2 CHAINZ & LIL WAYNE BOK Center 6 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.
21 THE WILL ROGERS FOLLIES Theatre Tulsa 2 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. JUST BETWEEN FRIENDS FALL & WINTER SALES EVENT Expo Square Exchange Center Aug. 21 – 27 Visit www.tulsa.jbfsale.com for more information. 	22 MOVIE IN THE PARK: THAT THING YOU DO Guthrie Green 8:30 p.m. Visit guthriegreen.com for more information. MUSICAL MONDAYS: SOUNDS OF MUSIC ORCHESTRA Cascia Hall Performing Arts Center 7 p.m. Visit lifeseniorservices.org for more information.	23 TULSA DRILLERS vs. Arkansas 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information. FITNESS ON THE GREEN: BOOT CAMP Guthrie Green 5:30 p.m. Visit guthriegreen.com for info. 	24 TULSA DRILLERS vs. Arkansas 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information. DUSK IN THE DECO DISTRICT Centennial Green – Downtown Tulsa 4:30 – 8 p.m. Visit facebook.com/tulsaartdecodistrict for more information.	25 OKLAHOMA! Theatre Tulsa 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. TULSA DRILLERS vs. Arkansas 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information. COLDPLAY BOK Center 7 p.m. Visit bokcenter.com for more information.	26 THE WILL ROGERS FOLLIES Theatre Tulsa 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. HEATHERS: THE MUSICAL Theatre Pops 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. TULSA DRILLERS vs. Arkansas 7:05 p.m. Visit www.tulsadrillers.com for more information.	27 OKLAHOMA! Theatre Tulsa 2 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. THE WILL ROGERS FOLLIES Theatre Tulsa 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets. HEATHERS: THE MUSICAL Theatre Pops 2 & 8 p.m. myticketoffice.com for tickets.

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B.A. NEWS

AVB Bank Supports ArtsOK

Tuesdays in the Park 2016, hosted and supported by ArtsOK and AVB Bank and held during the month of June in downtown Broken Arrow, started and ended on a high note. The month-long weekly concert series kicked off with a \$5,000 donation from AVB Bank and a \$1,000 matching challenge to the attendees of the concert series.

The event raised \$1,200 in donations from attendees, which was matched by AVB.

The 25-year-running event was created to encourage the arts in Broken Arrow. It featured local and regional bands of all musical genres and local food vendors.

ArtsOK has hosted the free event since its inception, with the help of AVB Bank.

"ArtsOK recognizes the continual dedication of AVB Bank to supporting, encouraging and promoting Oklahoma artists," says Mark Frie, ArtsOK Board of Directors president. "AVB has been a big supporter of ArtsOK since its inception, and we are proud that they partner with us to raise awareness of the arts in Broken Arrow and beyond."

AVB Chairman of the Board Kelley Rash understands the integral role that the arts play in the economic development of a community.

"AVB Bank has been a strong community neighbor, residing in the heart of the Rose District for over 110 years," she says. "We take great pride in supporting and growing the arts in this community."

In total, Tuesdays in the Park raised more than \$7,500, which will benefit ArtsOK and its future events in the Broken Arrow community.

ArtsOK, or the Regional Arts Alliance, began in 1997 as a task force by the City of Broken Arrow to bring visual arts opportunities to the community. The task force grew into the Broken Arrow Arts and Humanities Council, which was founded in 1998.

ArtsOK's current focus is to serve as a catalyst for art in the community and a supporter of Oklahoma art and artists. It offers six programs with more than 16 free arts events for Broken



Courtesy AVB Bank

COMMUNITY DONATION: AVB Chairman of the Board Kelley Rash and ArtsOK Board of Directors President Mark Frie hold a check for \$5,000 donated by AVB Bank to ArtsOK in support of ArtsOK and Tuesdays in the Park 2016.

Arrow and surrounding areas.

The oldest program, Art After Hours, features two annual events that showcase various visual artists and their works. Other programs include the Speak It Up Poetry Slam series; the Art in Public Places program; and the Up Close Concert Series, which premiered in fall 2012 and offers seating on the BAPAC stage for an interactive evening between the performer and audience.

Additional donations may be made to ArtsOK by visiting any AVB Bank location or by mailing donations to AVB Bank, ATTN: ArtsOK, P. O. Box 130, Broken Arrow, OK, 74013.

ROSE DISTRICT EXPANSION



Courtesy City of Broken Arrow

FORMER CHURCH DEMOLITION: On June 23, demolition work began to remove the old Assembly of God Church at 305 N. Main St. The building has been vacant since 2006.

"The demolition of the vacant church building will clear the way for an entire city block to be developed into another great addition to the Rose District," says City Manager Michael Spurgeon.

Regarding future plans for the site, Spurgeon says that the Economic Development Corporation is currently reviewing various proposals for a public-private partnership or for public use of the land.

"We will have a better idea of how the site will be redeveloped around the end of the year. Right now, we are going to consider all options," he says.



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