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# OWASSO RAMBLER

## GREATER TULSA REPORTER

One of Six Greater Tulsa Reporter Newspapers

Oklahoma's Largest Monthly News Group

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# Tulsa State Fair Skyride Gets Facelift

By **EMILY RAMSEY**  
Managing Editor

As the Tulsa State Fair, Oct. 1-11, nears, anticipation for the rides and new unexpected food items is never far behind.

One ride that has been in existence on the fairgrounds as long as most people can remember and is one of the longest running in the country is the Von Roll Skyride.

The Fair recently entered into a 10-year partnership agreement with Don McClure, who owns and operates the Skyride belonging to the Minnesota State Fair and is part owner of Buck Hill ski lodge in Burnsville, Minnesota. McClure will help to fund the ongoing maintenance of Tulsa's historic Skyride, which is one of only 11 still operating in the U.S.

"From 1965 until now, this Skyride hadn't changed much," says Mark Andrus, president and CEO of Expo Square. "The Fair has always had the expertise to run it safely through the years but never the finances or expertise to bring it up to the 21st century."

Enter McClure, who heard about the Fair's Skyride "through the grapevine" and called Andrus in December 2013 to inquire about the ride, says McClure.

McClure has been in the ski industry for 40 years and has owned the Skyride at the Minnesota State Fair since 2003. Since then, he has invested about \$1 million in the ride.

After reaching an agreement with the Tulsa State Fair, McClure got right to work.

Neon lights have been installed on the outside of each Skyride car, or cabin. The east and west terminals, where riders load and unload, have been painted blue and white. The west terminal has received a new roof. The mechanical work has been improved, and the number of functioning cars has been increased from 27 to 34.

"Don has the qualifications to give the ride the proper care and



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

**LONG-TERM INVESTOR:** Mark Andrus, left, president and CEO of Expo Square, stands in front of the Tulsa State Fair's Von Roll Skyride with Fair Manager Amanda Blair and Don McClure, who recently signed a 10-year agreement with the Fair to maintain the Skyride.

updates it needs and to improve it and make it better for tomorrow," says Fair Manager Amanda Blair.

The partnership will allow the Fair to continue to receive the same amount of proceeds it has received from the ride in years past but will allow McClure to maintain the ride and make significant yearly investments in it.

"This partnership decreases the Fair's financial risk but will help the Skyride grow and gain more riders through the years," Blair says.

Another addition to the Fair this year, in efforts to add further transportation convenience, is a fourth shuttle and parking location for the Fair Transit System.

Patrons can now shuttle from OSU-Tulsa, in addition to the transit system's already-established locations: Promenade Mall, Tulsa Public Schools Service Center and Nathan Hale High School.

The OSU-Tulsa campus was added due to its northern location

and the size and general safety of its parking area, says Blair. "We want people to feel safe leaving their cars for a few hours."

The shuttles run approximately every 15 minutes and will be operating M-Th: 5 p.m.-11 p.m., F: 5 p.m.-midnight, S: 10 a.m.-midnight, Su: 10 a.m.-11 p.m.

Parking and transit information as well as maps can be found at [tulsastatefair.com](http://tulsastatefair.com).

Blair encourages visitors to use the transit system for a number of reasons that provide all-around benefits to both the Tulsa State Fair and patrons.

The transit system is essential to growing the number of visitors to the Fair, says Blair. "In order for the Fair to grow, visitors have to use our transit system because there's only so much parking on site."

In addition, Fair staff endeavor to make the Fair-going experience as headache-free as possible. "The transit system is a free way to

arrive right at the door and save time and money," she says. "It alleviates traffic and makes it easy for visitors to arrive and relax and not to be stressed about finding a parking spot."

Also for the first time this year, six designated outdoor smoking areas will be located on the fairgrounds around main venues such as music tents, livestock arenas and the River Spirit Expo.

"This new feature is to encourage patrons to use these areas to smoke instead of smoking anywhere outside, which will help to create a more family-friendly environment," says Blair.

Continuing to incorporate Dizzy, the Tulsa State Fair goat mascot, the theme for the 2015 State Fair is Goat-Tastic, basically meaning "it's goat-tastic approved," says Blair.

Coming in the September issue will be information on new features and returning favorites for this year's Tulsa State Fair.

## KUDOS OF THE MONTH: Tulsa Tech

The 2015-16 school year marks the start of Tulsa Tech's 50th anniversary celebration

year. Tulsa Tech is the state's oldest and largest career and technology education institution in Oklahoma's highly-acclaimed CareerTech system. For the past half century, Tulsa Tech has provided quality, technical education to thousands of high school and adult students and delivered customized business and industry training to economic partners in the Tulsa metro area.

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which help support local economic development, are delivered to many Tulsa-area businesses through the Business & Industry Services (BIS) Department, as well as small business management, self-employment preparedness and entrepreneurship classes.

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# Tulsa Ballet Breaks Ground on Satellite Dance School in B.A.; Announces \$25 Million Campaign

To kick off its 60th anniversary season in 2016, Tulsa Ballet will open the doors to the Hardesty Center for Dance Education, to be located in Broken Arrow, just east of the intersection of Aspen Avenue (145th East Avenue) and New Orleans Street (101st Street). A groundbreaking event was held July 6.

The Hardesty Center for Dance Education will be possible as the result of a generous gift of 13.72 acres from the Hardesty Family Foundation and its founders, Roger and Donna Hardesty. The gift, valued at \$4.185 million, is one of the largest gifts ever awarded by the foundation. The facility has been designed by Selser Schaefer Architects, and the structural and civil engineering has been provided by Kinslow, Keith and Todd.

The 21,000-square-foot facility will house the Ann and Jack Graves Studios. Each studio will feature a professional basket-woven sprung floor with Marley covering, 10-foot mirrors and a state of the art sound system. Administrative office space, separate dressing areas for boys and girls, and a spacious lobby to accommodate waiting parents are all included in the floor plan. The site will also include The Anne and Henry Zarrow Foundation Performance Studio, which will serve as a performance venue for ballet students and educational outreach programs, as well as a functioning dance studio. Tulsa Ballet II, the organization's pre-professional ensemble and performing arm of the Center for Dance Education, will also offer performances in the Zarrow Studio.

The development of the Hardesty Center for Dance Education is part of a \$25 million Integrated Campaign for Tulsa Ballet, the largest fundraising initiative in the history of the company. Funds raised from the Defining the Future Campaign will be used to broaden the reach of the Tulsa Ballet Center for Dance Education, build and create new productions, and increase the Tulsa Ballet endowment in order to provide for the long-term sustainability of the organization.

Since 1956, Tulsa Ballet has evolved from a small regional ballet company to a nationally and internationally recognized arts organization. This year marks the 20th anniversary of Marcello Angelini's tenure as Artistic Director for Tulsa Ballet, and the company has reached unprecedented levels of success under Angelini's leadership. Today, Tulsa Ballet consistently attracts the finest choreographers in the world, employs about 30 professional dancers from around the world, 25 full-time artistic and administrative staff members and a pre-professional ensemble composed of 10 American and international young dancers, all fresh graduates from the top ballet academies of the world. In recent years, Tulsa Ballet saw sold-out crowds during its week-long engagement at the Joyce Theater in New York City, and the company was invited to represent the state of Oklahoma at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. These are among the reasons that prompted Governor Brad Henry to designate Tulsa Ballet as the first arts organization to be named an Oklahoma Cultural Ambassador.

The Tulsa Ballet also recently announced a ballet tour of Italy.



READY TO DIG: Tulsa Ballet staff, friends and board members were happy to break ground for the Hardesty Center for Dance Education in Broken Arrow July 6.



HAPPY DANCER: This Tulsa Ballet student is all smiles as she displays the image of the Hardesty Center for Dance Education before the groundbreaking in Broken Arrow July 6.

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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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Michelle B.

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

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# Tulsa Delegation Attends International Paris Air Show

## COMMENTARY

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

In June, I traveled overseas to attend the International Paris Air Show, a well-regarded and world-renowned international trade show that has received global attention for its 100-plus years of operation. Notably, in 1969, both the Concorde aircraft and Boeing 747 jumbo jet were one of their first public displays at the Paris Air Show. A year later, the world's most popular commercial aircraft (Boeing 747) would begin its career in the skies with almost every airline in the world.

As you can imagine, the Paris Air Show is a tremendous hub for cutting-edge developments in the global aerospace market, of which Tulsa is very proudly – and signif-

icantly a part of – within our own highly valued aerospace industry.

There is always something important and beneficial for the City of Tulsa to gain from various air shows, where past overseas trips have naturally segued to the establishment of crucial business relationships, both foreign and domestic.

Establishing mutual connections with companies having offices or headquarters in Tulsa, such as Spirit AeroSystems, The NOR-DAM Group, Inc., and Lufthansa Technik Component Services, is critical to maintaining Tulsa's sustainable competitive advantage in the aviation/aerospace market.

During this past trip to Paris, I had the tremendous opportunity of meeting with representatives from an international aviation firm who expressed interest in Tulsa's aviation expertise. Subsequent discussions on potential long-term busi-

ness deals led to some very exciting prospects for job creation and synergistic success in Tulsa. I also met with a few individuals from an aerospace company with an office in Tulsa that is estimated to have added approximately 30 - 40 new jobs to our labor force. This was accomplished by the overwhelming availability of high-quality Tulsa talent.

There are many other exciting discussions on the table that the City of Tulsa is party to, and I can assure our citizens that my office is working to the best interest of our constituents. I strive to effectively communicate the value that Tulsa has to offer through our business environment, talented workforce and friendly community in every situation. I have put my beloved city at the forefront of many minds, and I plan to continue doing so as long as time permits.



Courtesy City of Tulsa

**AERO ADVOCATES:** Attending the International Paris Air Show are, from left, Kai Meirfarth, chairman of Lufthansa Technik Component Services; Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin; Tulsa Mayor Dewey Bartlett; Stephen Fondell, president & CEO, Lufthansa Technik Component Services - Tulsa; and Michael Scheferhoff, A350 Component Business, Lufthansa Technik Component Services.



Courtesy Fleet Feet

**RUNNING FOR CHARITY:** The Fleet Feet Tulsa Firecracker 5K was a success with more than 2,000 participants taking part in the Blue Dome District event on July 4. The event started with a 5K race and then a one-mile fun run for the whole family. Part of the proceeds went to benefit Family and Children's Services' Women in Recovery program that helps families in crisis.



Courtesy Salvation Army

**WILLIAM BOOTH SOCIETY:** Nearly 850 people attended the recent William Booth Society's 22nd Annual Benefit Dinner at the Cox Business Center. Former professional football player and coach Tony Dungy was the featured speaker. From left are John Hewitt, Dede Hewitt, Tony Dungy Major April Taylor and Major Jim Taylor. The event was chaired by Dede and John Hewitt and raised just over \$1.1 million for Salvation Army metro area services.

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VARIETY

# Tulsa PAC 2015-16 Season Launches with 'Spamalot'

Planning and publicity for the new season is well underway in August at the Tulsa PAC. I count 89 booked shows, with many having multiple performances. That does not include SummerStage, which is sorted out at a later time, and other shows that will be added as the season progresses. The PAC consistently hosts over 500 events each season, and this year will be no exception.

## Show Buzz



By NANCY HERMANN

are the work of Grammy Award winners Eric Idle and John DuPrez, who penned such hilarious tunes as "Always Look On The Bright Side of Life." Jana Ellis directs this first locally produced version of the Broadway hit, with musical direction by Catherine Ratliff.

Theatre Pops will add to the fun through cameo appearances by local celebrities, and also is partnering with local restaurants and bars that will feature "Spamalot"-themed special plates and grog. Theatre Pops continues its season in October with Lanford Wilson's "Burn This," and a play by Christopher Durang in April.

There are so many great choices to highlight from the season's remaining 88 events. Tulsa Symphony celebrates its 10th anniversary this year, so watch for outstanding concerts from TSO and new Principal Guest Conductor Daniel Hege. Included in their lineup is a new Pops series.

Among Tulsa Ballet's offerings are two Shakespeare works; "The Taming of the Shrew" and "Romeo and Juliet." Also, we'll have a chance to see the program, "Masters of Dance," that the Ballet will take to Italy immediately after its March performances at the PAC.

The PAC Trust brings back popular Australian guitarist Tommy Emmanuel in November and also presents "The Book of Mormon" that month. The Trust continues its children's series and is expanding the free noontime Brown Bag It Series to eight concerts.

Tulsa Opera has dubbed its season "Women on the Verge," which includes Puccini's "La bohème," an opera composed by Andre Previn, "A Streetcar Named Desire," and Camille Saint-Saens' "Samson and Delilah."

In its 81st season, Tulsa Town Hall welcomes writer Sue Monk Kidd, political strategist and commentator James Carville, Oklahoma's David L. Boren, Maestro Benjamin Zander and historian Doris Kearns Goodwin. The entire series is bargain-priced at \$75.

I don't know which Celebrity Attractions show is the most anticipated, but I suspect it is "Kinky Boots." I'm also looking forward to the Rodgers and Hammerstein version of "Cinderella" that I loved so much when I was a young girl. Also on Celebrity's roster is "A Christmas Story: The Musical" and return engagements of "Jersey Boys" and "42nd Street." Expect add-on shows from Celebrity. "The Illusionists," a magic show in September, is going to be awesome.

Chamber Music Tulsa hosts six outstanding groups: the Grammy-winning Pacifica Quartet; the return of the charming Italians, Quartetto di Cremona; Weiss Kaplan Stumpf Trio; the celebrated Fauré Piano Quartet; the Jerusalem Quartet; and the Dali Quartet with principal clarinetist of the Philadelphia Orchestra, Ricardo Morales. Season tickets for six Sunday afternoon concerts are \$110.

Choregus Productions has an invigorating season with Parsons Dance opening the series in September and Alonzo King LINES Ballet closing out that month. The superb Time for Three string trio is back, and Yaron Kohlbert and Bishara Haroni, pianists from Israel and Palestine (respectively), also perform. Dance lovers will want to get tickets for Chicago's Deeply Rooted Dance Theatre, Chang Mu

Dance, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago and Kyle Abraham/Abraham.In.Motion. When I am perusing season brochures from venues like the Kennedy Center, I often see groups that Choregus presents in our PAC featured at those theaters. We are fortunate in Tulsa to have the opportunity to see not only excellent local dance, but also dance companies from around the world. Thank you, Choregus! I learn something about dance and become intellectually engaged every time I attend.

There are so many theatre offerings, I couldn't begin to list them all, but look for "The Great Gatsby," "A Chorus Line," "Fiddler on the Roof" and "Hedwig and the Angry Inch," and more from Theatre Tulsa. Included in Theatre Pops' season are "Rent," "Billy Elliot" and "Shrek." In American Theatre Company's lineup are "Waiting for Godot" and "Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story." Playhouse Tulsa will present "To Kill a Mockingbird" and "Steel Magnolias;" and Theatre North will stage "Woman from the Town."

Other shows that are not series offerings include Jazz at Lincoln Center with Wynton Marsalis, Oct. 2, and an interactive evening with foodie Alton Brown, May 10.

Pick up a season brochure in the PAC racks, or contact me at the PAC, and I'll pop one in the mail for you. We hope to see you often at Tulsa's home to the arts.

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



Courtesy Tulsa PAC

TONY AWARD WINNER: Theatre Pops presents Monty Python's "Spamalot," a riotous comedy about the quest for the Holy Grail Aug. 7-23.



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

OK MUSIC HALL OF FAME: On July 14, Jim Blair, right, executive director of the Oklahoma Music Hall of Fame (OMHOF), announced the next OMHOF class of inductees. They are Restless Heart, Becky Hobbs, Tim DuBois, Scott Hendricks and Smiley Weaver. Among those present for the announcement, pictured above, was Jim Halsey and Tulsa music duo Alaska (Holloway) & Madi (Metcalfe), second from left.

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# Photographs of Jazz Greats Featured at Gilcrease

*On 52nd Street: The Jazz Photography of William P. Gottlieb runs July 25-Oct. 11*

Both Tulsa and Oklahoma have a rich history and tradition of jazz music, so it is only fitting that Gilcrease Museum should celebrate this uniquely-American form of music with a special exhibition that opens this summer.

On 52nd Street: The Jazz Photography of William P. Gottlieb opens July 25 and runs through Oct. 11. More than 40 photographs of jazz greats such as Louis Armstrong, Nat King Cole, Sidney Bechet, Wilbur "Buck" Clayton and Billie Holiday are featured in these vintage photographs.

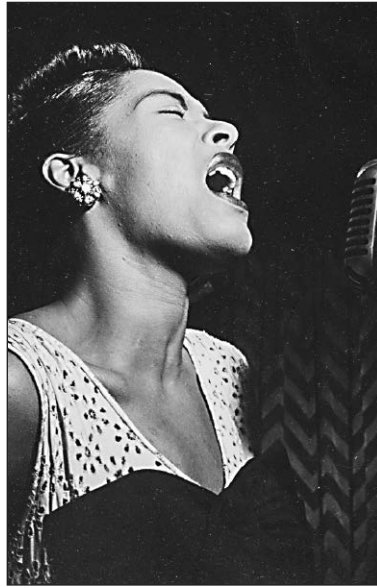
In New York City, 52nd Street was the epicenter of a musical and social revolution during the 1940s. Known as "Swing Alley," or simply "The Street," it was "heaven on earth for jazz fans and jazz musicians," photographer William P. Gottlieb (1917-2006) recalled. In the dozen or so nightclubs that located there – mostly in the converted basements of former speakeasies – jazz emerged as distinct concert music with featured soloists.

No longer simply dance music, jazz, as exemplified by the burgeoning bebop tradition, became to Gottlieb a "rebellion against the rigidities of the old order." "The Street" was also one of the few racially integrated places in the city. As trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie remembered, there was "very little racist feeling," though, "once you left 52nd Street, look out."

Born in Brooklyn, Gottlieb began photographing jazz musicians in 1938 for a weekly feature, "Swing Sessions," that he wrote for The Washington Post. Over the next decade, he created almost 2,000 portraits of more than 250 musicians.

At this time, he also had a regular jazz program at WRC Radio and served as an assistant editor for Down Beat magazine. Gottlieb's photographs are notable for their artistic originality and the intimate relationship he formed with many of his subjects.

Though he traveled widely to photograph, he spent the majority



**MUSICAL LEGACY:** Gilcrease Museum's new exhibition *On 52nd Street: The Jazz Photography of William P. Gottlieb* opens July 25 and runs through Oct. 11. More than 40 photographs of jazz greats such as Louis Armstrong, Nat King Cole, Sidney Bechet, Wilbur "Buck" Clayton and Billie Holiday are featured in these vintage photographs.

of his time on 52nd Street following World War II's end. These remarkable photographs recall the leading jazz musicians of this era and document changing social mores in American life.

Frank H. Goodyear III, curator of On 52nd Street and codirector of Bowdoin College Museum of Art, will present an exhibition lecture at 2 p.m. on July 25 in the Tom Gilcrease Jr. Auditorium that is free to members and free with admission for not-yet members.

Other related programming is planned throughout the exhibition including performances by local high school jazz groups, a pho-

tography workshop for teens and more. Visit [gilcrease.utulsa.edu](http://gilcrease.utulsa.edu) for more information.

The Thomas Gilcrease Institute of American History and Art, commonly known as Gilcrease Museum, located in Tulsa, Okla., is one of the country's best facilities for the preservation and study of American art and history. The museum houses the world's largest and most comprehensive collection of art and artifacts of the American West, including an unparalleled collection of Native American art and material. The new Helmerich Center for American Research at Gilcrease Museum houses the

vast archival collection that Thomas Gilcrease amassed. The archives constitute one of the country's most extensive collections of rare books, documents, maps, and unpublished material related to the history of American Indians and the American West. In addition, the museum offers art education programs for all ages at the Gilcrease Studios in the Henry Zarrow Center for Art and Education located downtown in the Brady Arts District. The museum is owned by the City of Tulsa, which has partnered with The University of Tulsa to steward the museum.

## 5 O'CLOCK SOMEWHERE OPENS AT RIVER SPIRIT



GTR Newspapers photo

**MARGARITAVILLE DEVELOPMENT:** Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief George Tiger, third from left, holds a margarita with Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Margaritaville representatives at the grand opening celebration of the 5 o'Clock Somewhere Bar, located in River Spirit Casino. This is the casino's first branded venue of its Margaritaville expansion.

On July 3, the 5 o'Clock Somewhere Bar at River Spirit Casino opened to the public. The bar is 5,000 square feet, making it the largest 5 o'Clock Somewhere Bar in the nation.

The bar is located in the center of River Spirit Casino. Part roof and part open air, the bar is designed to feel like an island. A continuous mural depicting the ocean and beach encloses the bar, which will contain palm trees.

Currently under construction are a 27-story hotel and a Margaritaville Casino at River Spirit on the banks of the Arkansas River. The casino and restaurants are planned to be completed in late fall of 2016, with its theater and the hotel tower opening in the winter of 2016.

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# Kenzie Ralston Learns to Make Music Her Career

Being a full-time musician, supporting yourself solely on your craft, your art, can't be easy, I've often thought. I wonder how musicians do it.

I got the opportunity to pose those questions to a Tulsa musician and a friend of mine from years past whom I recently ran into unexpectedly.

I saw Kenzie Ralston in June at the Kendall Whittier Arts Festival where she was preparing to sing with her band Moonshine Miracle.

I love the slow recognition and then the instant familiarity that takes place when

past friends re-enter my life. And the shared memories and laughter that usually follow.

When I knew Kenzie, about six years ago, she was a fellow Starbucks barista and a quiet college kid who would, on occasion, quietly hum or murmur a tune as she worked.

Now, she provides the gentle, haunting vocals for her newly-formed band; is one part of the Kenzie & Kendal duo; has put out her own indie song on iTunes; and has auditioned for The Voice.

After the hugs and the general catching up, I couldn't help but ask my questions, the answers

with which I was a bit surprised. "Musicians are actually starting to move to Tulsa," Kenzie told me.

## Out & About in Greater Tulsa



By EMILY RAMSEY  
Managing Editor

Wouldn't they want a larger music city like Austin or Nashville? I asked.

To which she replied, no. "Tulsa is less competitive," she said, "it's growing in its number of venues, and venues here are more open to singer/songwriters and allowing them to do their own original music."

Which is huge for musicians trying to create their own music.

In larger cities, venues are often looking for bands to perform well-known cover songs, "so if a venue there allows a singer to perform their original material, don't expect to get paid," she continued.

Kenzie, though, like most musicians, wants and needs to get paid. "I want to be able to do music full time and support myself," she said. Something Kenzie, and her husband and fellow bandmate Miles Ralston, are doing. But it hasn't been exactly easy for her, Kenzie admitted.

Kenzie's love of music began at home. She remembers often hearing her father, a music minister, sing and play guitar around the

house. "Early on, I learned to harmonize, and I really got the sense of what music is," she said.

In college, Kenzie majored in music, and it was during those college years that she teamed up with Kendal Osborne to form Kenzie & Kendal.

Then, she got a none-musical job at a shoe store. "I felt good that I was working with Kendal, because I was feeding my music that way, but with my other work, it was not a creative environment, so I started to feel lost," she said.

After that realization, she began to focus more on songwriting and on re-visiting instruments that she had previously set aside.

Then, she met Miles, a local musician who had already been supporting himself with his music full time for many years.

His work ethic and diligence in contacting venue owners and creating opportunities to play around town really inspired me, she said.

A few months later, Kenzie approached Abbey Road Academy, a music school in Jenks, and, in April 2014, she began teaching there. "I felt like I just needed to jump off the cliff and do it," she said. "I thought that if I don't take this step now to pursue music as a career, I could be in the same place I am now for years."

Kenzie currently teaches voice, piano, saxophone and guitar at the music school and sings every Sunday at Kirk of the Hills.

"Since I started doing things to focus on music, everything has really fallen into place," she continued.



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

**SWEET SOUNDS:** Kenzie Ralston, sings with her band Moonshine Miracle, which includes her husband, Miles Ralston, left, at the Kendall Whittier Arts Festival in June. Kenzie has been involved with music her entire life but only a few years ago began pursuing it full time.

Earlier this year, she was asked to audition for The Voice, making it to the second round of auditions. However, her bouts with occasional stage fright reared their head that day.

"But the woman loved my sound. And she said she wants me to come back next year," Kenzie said, vowing that by next year her nerves will be completely under control. Kenzie was also contacted by American Idol to audition, but she decided against it.

Kenzie continues to put out albums with Kenzie & Kendal, which are available on iTunes; her own solo song that she put out on iTunes, "Please Stop," features the indie sound she would pursue if

she ever took on a solo career.

In May, Kenzie and Miles helped to form Moonshine Miracle, a six-person band, its sound Kenzie describes as a mix of Fleetwood Mac and Fleet Foxes.

Moonshine Miracle performs around Tulsa and has future plans to record.

"Music is influential in so many different ways to so many different people. Music takes me to another place in my mind and challenges me to grow and think differently," Kenzie said. "Pursuing music is a long hard journey, but I'm motivated and willing."

"And I feel like we're heading in the right direction."



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers

**IDOL DREAMS:** An aspiring singer sings at the American Idol auditions held at downtown Tulsa's Guthrie Green on June 29. More than 3,000 hopefuls turned out to audition for the last season of the TV competition.



GTR Newspapers photo

**TOP OF THE TOWN:** Enjoying this year's Top of the Town are, from left, Melani Hamilton, Chris Hernandez, Event Chair Heather Hope-Hernandez and Paula Cortner. The photo was taken from the 320 South Boston Building with the BOK Tower in the background. The annual event benefits the Child Care Resource Center.

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# Bodean Delivers With Array of Seafood Dishes

## LOCAL DINING

By **BLAKE AUSTYN**  
Contributing Writer

Bodean Restaurant and Market is a Tulsa landmark that has called 51st Street and Harvard Avenue home for nearly 50 years. After being located on the north side of 51st Street for 40 years, the restaurant was forced to relocate with the expansion of Interstate 44 in 2007. It moved across 51st Street to 3376 E. 51st St., where it continues its long-held excellence.

When my party dined on a Friday evening, the dining area wasn't overly crowded; although we came a bit early (6:30 p.m.) in anticipation of a crowd.

The restaurant's plain exterior gives little hint to its upscale interior. The restaurant features a lounge and bar area as well as a main dining room. We were seated in a booth in the main dining room area.

Our waiter Jason was knowledgeable and had many menu recommendations. But ultimately, he said, "You can't go wrong with anything on the menu." And he was right.

For an appetizer, we chose the New Zealand Lamb Lollipops. The lamb came still on the bone,

and it was a little fatty in places. For me, it was the complimentary items that made the dish stand out. It came with blackberries, goat cheese, toasted pistachio and a sweet barbecue sauce, an interesting combination of items that created unexpected but delicious flavors when eaten together.

For an entree, I chose the Hawaiian Ona Wahoo, a special menu item. Jason described it as a firm fish and one of his current favorite menu items. It came with a side of mashed potatoes, asparagus and a creamy champagne sauce.

My tablemate ordered the Lobster & Herbed Gnocchi, basically a pasta dish of lobster, house made gnocchi, pepperoni, spring vegetables and thermidor sauce.

Both dishes were outstanding. The Ona Wahoo did not have any fishy flavor. Its taste was mild, very easy to eat. However, I preferred the diverse flavors of the Lobster & Herbed Gnocchi. The dish was nicely balanced so that the pasta did not take over the dish, and the addition of pepperoni was an appealing choice.

Other items that we wanted to try were the Seared Yellowfin Tuna, which our server said would appeal to sushi-lovers, the Pistachio Crusted Pan Seared Alaskan Halibut, a popular dish,



BLAKE AUSTYN for GTR Newspapers

**FINE CUISINE:** Longtime Tulsa favorite Bodean Restaurant and Market, 3376 E. 51st St., serves lunch Mon.-Fri. and dinner seven days a week in its dining room, pictured at right, and features live music in its lounge Fri.-Sun. Pictured at left is two dinner entrees, Hawaiian Ona Wahoo, foreground, and Lobster & Herbed Gnocchi.



Courtesy photo

and the Pan Seared Jumbo Sea Scallops, with Japanese eggplant croquette and heirloom cherry tomato.

Non-seafood entree items include an eight-ounce filet, duck and the occasional venison dish. Executive Chef Jared Chamberlain regularly changes menu offerings depending on availability.

For dessert, we shared the delightfully chocolatey Chocolate Mousse Dome, which would be the go-to choice for any chocolate

lover. It came topped with two strawberry slices and a chocolate sauce. I would have enjoyed a few more strawberries to offset the richness of the mousse.

After dessert, my friend and I remained at our table for another hour or so, enjoying the surprising calmness of the dining room. Although there were a number of other diners, the room never felt hectic or noisy.

As we were preparing to leave, a staff member even brought out

complimentary coffee cakes for a few tables, including ours.

I enjoyed the coffee cake with my coffee for the following couple of mornings. A nice way to keep my dining memories alive for a few more days.

Bodean serves lunch Mon. - Fri. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. and dinner Mon. - Thurs. 5-10 p.m., Fri. - Sat. 5 - 10:30 p.m., and Sun. 5 - 9 p.m.

Its lounge is open Friday through Sunday and regularly features live music.

# TULSA TOWN HALL ANNOUNCES 81ST SEASON



DAVID L. BOREN



SUE MONK KIDD



JAMES CARVILLE



BENJAMIN ZANDER



DORIS KEARNS GOODWIN

This year, Tulsa Town Hall celebrates its 81st season of opening minds, stirring curiosities and inspiring imaginations:

Bestselling author **Sue Monk Kidd** opens the season on Oct. 2. Her debut novel, "The Secret Life of Bees," spent over two years on the New York Times bestseller list. Her latest work, "The Invention of Wings," was immediately chosen upon publication for Oprah's Book Club and was Amazon's number one bestselling book in 2014.

Kidd will be presented in collaboration with the Oklahoma Center for Poets and Writers at OSU-Tulsa, where she will be speaking on Oct. 1. She is the designated Tulsa Reads Author and will be studied in a community-wide reading initiative.

**James Carville**, one of America's best-known political consultants, will speak to Tulsa Town Hall subscribers on Nov. 6. Known as "The Ragin' Cajun," Carville has a knack for steering overlooked campaigns to unexpected landslide victories. With

his wife, Mary Matalin, he has authored several memoirs telling about their life together on opposite ends of the political spectrum. Carville is a Fox News contributor, a columnist for The Hill newspaper, and serves as a Professor of Practice at Tulane University in New Orleans.

University of Oklahoma President **David L. Boren**, former state Governor and U.S. Senator, will address subscribers on Jan. 15, 2016. While in the Senate, Boren chaired the Senate Select committee on

Intelligence. He currently co-chairs the nonpartisan President's Intelligence Advisory Board and will speak about "Fighting for America's Future." Thanks to a generous gift from the Bob West Family, Boren is the Sandra West Memorial Speaker.

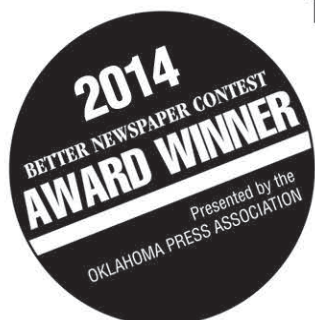
Conductor **Benjamin Zander** will take the stage on March 11, 2016. He is the conductor of The Boston Philharmonic Orchestra, and he is passionate about teaching music. Zander goes beyond those roles in his talk as he invites his audiences to

experience new possibilities and a fresh approach to life in general.

The season will conclude with renowned presidential historian and author **Doris Kearns Goodwin** on April 22, 2016. Author of six critically acclaimed New York Times bestselling books, she received a Pulitzer Prize in history for "No Ordinary Time: Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt." Goodwin is also known for her historical insight as a news commentator on NBC, CBS, FOX and CNN.

## Congratulations to this award-winning newspaper!

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## HEALTH &amp; WELLNESS

# Tulsa's Oklahoma Surgical Hospital Receives Five-Star Rating from Medicare and Medicaid

Recently the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) unveiled a five-star rating system for hospitals based on patient satisfaction to its Medicare Hospital Compare website. Oklahoma Surgical Hospital (OSH) was named one of only 251 hospitals nationwide to earn a five-star rating. Only seven percent of the 3,553 hospitals reviewed earned a five-star rating. The star system is based on patient responses to questions about doctor and nurse communication, room and bathroom cleanliness, noise, staff responsiveness, pain management, and clarity on post-discharge recovery instructions. Medicare Hospital Compare is an online resource that allows the public to compare hospitals according to a wide range of information.

OSH recently celebrated its 14th year of operation and has compiled quite a list of accomplishments since it treated its first patient in July 2001. This Tulsa physician-owned hospital, located at 81st Street and South Lewis Avenue in the CityPlex Towers, has treated thousands of patients and received accolades from several national healthcare ratings organizations for doing so.

The prestigious national medical quality rating organization CareChex ranks OSH number one in the market for medical excellence in overall hospital care, overall surgical care, joint replacement,

and major orthopedic surgery. OSH also received recognition for being in the top three percent in the nation for both overall hospital care and overall surgical care. CareChex also ranks specific disease categories, and OSH is well represented by being ranked in the top one percent in the nation at 15th for major orthopedic surgery. OSH is also in the top 1 percent in the nation at 19th for Joint Replacement and ranked in the top two percent in the nation at 45th for spinal fusion.

As OSH continues to perform a wide range of specialized surgical procedures, it was recently named America's 100 Best Hospitals for Joint Replacement for the second year in a row by HealthGrades. This leading online medical quality organization also awarded OSH the HealthGrades Joint Replacement Excellence Award. OSH was also a five-star recipient for total knee replacement, a five-star recipient for total hip replacement, and ranked in the top five percent in the nation for joint replacement. OSH also has a very successful spine surgery program and has been five-star rated for spine surgery by HealthGrades for seven years in a row.

The healthcare industry continues to focus on transparency to allow patients a greater amount of information to make their healthcare decisions. Recently, Modern

Healthcare, a magazine that reports on healthcare business news, research and data, provided readers with information regarding hospital re-admission rates. The magazine rated hospitals across the nation based on the numbers of admissions and listed hospitals with the best and worst 30-day re-admission rates. OSH was rated second in the nation for its low-re-admission rate when compared to hospitals with similar admissions.

Rick Ferguson, chief executive officer at OSH, says, "Our physicians feel strongly that patients deserve the highest level of care possible in terms of outcomes and services. It is their vision that this be achieved through a team approach that focuses the hospital's energy and resources on taking care of their patients in an individualized and personal manner. We have observed consistently positive patient outcomes and increasing patient demand."

"In addition to our outstanding team of physicians, an important factor to maintaining our commitment to the superior quality of patient care is our outstanding nursing care. Our nurses play such an important part in the patient's recovery process and in achieving the high clinical outcomes that we strive to accomplish. It is vitally important that they have the time to be at the bedside doing what they do best,



**FIVE-STAR HOSPITAL:** The physician-owned Oklahoma Surgical Hospital is located at 81st Street and South Lewis Avenue in the CityPlex Towers in Tulsa and has treated thousands of patients and received accolades from several national healthcare ratings organizations.

and that is taking care of our patients."

Patients at OSH have a chance to comment on their experience through patient satisfaction surveys performed by Press Ganey, a national survey and reporting organization. OSH recently received the Press Ganey Guardian Award for Patient Satisfaction. This award honors healthcare

organizations that have achieved and sustained a score of 95 percent or above in patient satisfaction.

Oklahoma Surgical Hospital specializes in the treatment of patients through a variety of surgical procedures including orthopedic, neurosurgery, general surgery, urology, gynecology, and ENT. To learn more about OSH, go to [www.oklahomasurgicalhospital.com](http://www.oklahomasurgicalhospital.com).

## OSU-CHS Professor Studies Snake Antivenom

Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences researcher Charles G. Sanny, Ph.D., is working to determine the effectiveness of antivenom to improve treatment options for people who have been bitten by a poisonous snake.

Sanny, professor of biochemistry and chair of the OSU-CHS Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology, studies the interaction between snake venom and antivenom, a mixture of isolated antibodies derived from the serum of sheep or horses that have been immunized with venom. Antivenom, also known as antivenin, is used to prevent death or illness from a poisonous snakebite.

"Believe me, if you get bit by a poisonous snake such as a diamondback rattlesnake, you will be glad that an antivenom is available," he says.

Seven types of venomous snakes can be found in Oklahoma, including cotton-

mouths and copperheads. The diamondback rattlesnake has the most potent venom, according to the Oklahoma Center for Poison and Drug Information.

Every year, about 7,000-8,000 people receive venomous snake bites in the U.S. Because people regularly seek medical care for snake bites, they only result in about five deaths each year, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Using a method called size exclusion chromatography, Sanny is analyzing how venom and antivenom bind together. The chemical interaction could hold clues on how to improve antivenom. The venom must bind with antivenom to provide any protection against death, he says.

Large molecular complexes are formed when antivenom and venom combine. Sanny uses size exclusion chromatography to separate the large venom-antivenom complexes from unreacted venom molecules to deter-

mine how effective the antivenom is in binding venom molecules.

"Serum sickness can take place when the antivenom antibodies are too large," Sanny says. "Our immune systems can recognize the sheep or horse antibodies as foreign molecules and attack the antibodies." Most commercially available antivenoms today contain smaller sized antibody fragments that still bind to venom but are not as likely to produce serum sickness.

Only one commercial antivenom for poisonous snakes, like rattlesnakes, is currently available in the United States.

"Understanding the biochemistry of venom and antivenin reactions will have a direct impact on the ability of physicians, especially family and emergency room physicians, to provide treatment," says OSU-CHS President Kayse Shrum, D.O. "Research like Dr. Sanny's at OSU Center for Health



**DR. CHARLES SANNY:** The OSU-CHS biochemistry professor is looking to improve snake antivenom for the health and well-being of people in Oklahoma and across the globe.

Sciences has the potential to impact the health and well-being of Oklahomans and people across the globe."

To learn more about Sanny's

work and other research at OSU Center for Health Sciences, visit the Research Spotlight website at [www.healthsciences.okstate.edu/researchspotlight](http://www.healthsciences.okstate.edu/researchspotlight).

## Staying at Home with My Choice Senior Services

Seniors wanting to stay in their own homes are now offered a new companion care service. My Choice In-Home Senior Services is a premier personal care assistance and companion caregiver agency that is owned and operated by lifelong Tulsans who seek to bring a concierge experience to each senior and their families.

Armella Glenn and her family know Tulsa and the many resources available to seniors in the Tulsa area. Using this hometown knowledge, genuine love of aging people and business experience the family has created the gold standard in care. The services offered are

almost endless and can be tailored to meet big and small needs. By specializing in the non-medical side of seniors staying at home, My Choice allows seniors who are not medically compromised everyday living assistance and transportation to appointments, social events and other errands such as grocery shopping. My Choice offers bill-paying assistance and medication reminders when needed.

One of the many unique My Choice services is the Wake Up and Tuck In. A caregiver arrives at an appointed time in the morning and makes sure the senior is up and about, dressed for the day and has

a healthy breakfast. The caregiver straightens up the house, starts laundry and makes the bed. In the late afternoon the caregiver returns to assist or prepare dinner, finishes the laundry, gives stand-by assistance with bathing and grooming, cleans up the kitchen and secures the home. Both in the morning and at night medication reminders are given.

Perhaps a senior you know is missing their bridge game, coffee social or gardening. My Choice can make a difference by helping seniors stay active and in touch. No one needs to be lonely at home with My Choice. Even the cher-

ished dog can have a nice walk.

One in three older adults falls each year, with falling being the lead cause of both fatal and non-fatal injuries, according to a 2014 report from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. In 2013, 25,500 older adults died from unintentional fall injuries. All seniors are given a free Fall Prevention Assessment by calling and scheduling one with Tricia at the My Choice center 918-728-6085. This assessment carefully examines the home for tripping and falling hazards. Additionally, suggestions are made to make the home easier to navigate for seniors using walkers.

My Choice In-Home Senior Services is a licensed, bonded and insured agency. Caregivers hired by My Choice are employees, and all payroll and taxes are handled by the company. All caregivers are rigorously background checked on both a local and nationwide basis. The elite caregivers are thoroughly trained to excel at their duties and to be observant and compassionate. Respecting the dignity of all persons and providing services that exceed expectations makes My Choice the only choice for in-home companion care.

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\*as ranked by CareChex, †as ranked by HealthGrades, ‡as ranked by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services



# CTCA Awarded Five-Star Quality Rating by Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Cancer Treatment Centers of America Global (CTCA) announced that four of its five hospitals, including the Tulsa hospital (CTCA at Southwestern Regional Medical Center), were awarded Five-Star quality scores - the highest possible rating - by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS). The ratings, published by CMS and designed to help consumers compare hospitals, evaluated patient experiences at 3,553 hospitals nationwide from July 2013 to June 2014. The Five-Star rating was awarded to just 251, or seven percent, of the eligible hospitals. CTCA's fifth hospital, in Phoenix, was not rated because it does not participate in the Medicare program.

CTCA leadership said the high scores are a reflection of the Patient Empowered Care model around which its hospitals operate. This integrated care model places CTCA patients at the center of a comprehensive care team that includes both clinical and supportive therapies.

"We are proud that our emphasis on providing exceptional patient-centered care has been recognized by CMS, particularly because these ratings rely exclusively on feedback from patients," says Richard Haldeman, president and chief executive officer at CTCA in Tulsa. "Patient experience is an important facet of the national healthcare conversation, and these ratings help patients navigate complex choices about where to receive care."

The new hospital rating system from CMS assigns hospitals a rating of One to Five Stars based on the results of the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) survey. The rating is based on a cumulative score from 11 survey measures - including such factors as doctor-patient communication and whether patients would recommend the hospital to others - that measure patient experiences and satisfaction.

The other CTCA hospitals receiving the Five-Star rating include Eastern Regional Medical Center in Philadelphia, Midwestern Regional Medical Center in suburban Chicago (Zion, Ill.), and Southeastern Regional Medical Center in suburban Atlanta (Newnan, Ga.).

"We believe that exceptional clinical care and a highly personalized patient experience should go hand in hand," says Dr. Daniel Nader, chief of staff at the Tulsa hospital and national clinical director of pulmonary/critical care. "These results reveal that our patients truly value this combination and, importantly, the manner in which we deliver it."

"This award validates our commitment to our patients' clinical needs with respect to the delivery of clear communications, attention to the recovery process, and pain and medication management as dimensions of the patient experience," adds Dr. Nader. "In addition these ratings are a testament to our employees who work so diligently and passionately



**EMPOWERING PATIENTS:** Dr. Daniel Nader and his staff work hard for their patients. Dr. Nader is chief of staff at CTCA in Tulsa and national clinical director of pulmonary/critical care.


every day to exceed the expectations of our patients."

### About Cancer Treatment Centers of America

Cancer Treatment Centers of America Global (CTCA), with headquarters in Boca Raton, Fla., is a national network of five hospitals that specialize in the treatment of patients fighting complex or advanced-stage cancer. CTCA

offers an integrative approach to cancer treatment that combines surgery, radiation, and chemotherapy with nutritional counseling, naturopathic medicine, mind-body therapy, and spiritual support to enhance quality of life and minimize side effects during treatment. The company serves patients from around the world at hospitals located in Atlanta, Chicago, Philadelphia, Phoenix

and Tulsa. Known for delivering the Mother Standard of care and Patient Empowerment Medicine, CTCA provides patients with comprehensive information about their treatment options so they can participate in their treatment decisions. For more information about CTCA, go to [www.cancercenter.com](http://www.cancercenter.com), [facebook.com/CancerCenter](https://www.facebook.com/CancerCenter) and [twitter.com/CancerCenter](https://twitter.com/CancerCenter).



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EDUCATION

# NSUBA Programs Benefit Police, Healthcare

By **EMILY RAMSEY**  
Managing Editor

Northeastern State University in Broken Arrow has partnered with local law enforcement agencies to better equip officers for crime scene investigations.

In July, NSUBA saw the first graduating class from its newly-formed Crime Scene Investigator program. The certificate program is designed for current law enforcement officers to expand their understanding and skill in handling crime scenes.

"This is a program that impacts the entire community," says Rylee

Ketcher, NSU's director of continuing education.

"No one is really offering this type of program," says Aungela Spurlock, assistant special agent in charge at the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation.

Spurlock along with Brad Green, with OSBI, and Jackie Smithson, with the Broken Arrow Police Department, approached NSUBA with the idea of creating this program.

"We want them (officers) to know what they're doing when they get to the crime scene and to be properly trained with equipment so that information isn't lost or not identified," says Spurlock. "Because, ultimately, the proper handling of crime scenes can result in more courtroom victories."

The program is unique to the region in that it's targeted specifically to those working at crime scenes, instead of to individuals working in a forensic lab, Spurlock continues.

The program also offers blended online and classroom instruction, which cuts down on expense due to less required traveling, which equals less time off work.

"The program fills a need for smaller (law enforcement) agencies, and it's less expensive," says Spurlock. "It's good for cities with small budgets."

The program is offered in three three-day sessions over the course of three months. Sessions can be taken on an individual basis, or students can enroll for all three sessions to earn the certificate.

A new CSI class will begin in September and run through November.

While some new programs don't experience immediate community

response until word spreads about the new offering, "We already have a waiting list for CSI," says Mike Pugliese, coordinator of continuing education at NSUBA. "I think the reason for this immediate popularity is because the Broken Arrow Police Department and OSBI have put their names on it, and NSU is backing it."

The next new program coming to NSUBA is Gerontology. The certificate program was created to address an ever expanding area of the healthcare industry: care for retiring baby boomers.

"The program teaches how to provide long-term care services to aging adults and the various illnesses that can come with old age, including Alzheimer's," says Pugliese.

Dr. Eloy Chavez, dean of the College of Extended Learning at NSUBA, expects the program to especially draw healthcare workers looking to enhance their expertise and those who are just beginning to look into the field.

"We want to enhance their specific knowledge of how to care for these individuals and how to promote their well-being," says Chavez.

Program creators are spreading information about the program to independent care facilities and local senior health associations in order to contact children who, in the future, may become caretakers to their aging parents.

"We are also notifying area workforce development groups in order to let the unemployed and underemployed know about this rapidly-growing field and that it's in desperate need of a lot of workers," Pugliese says.

The 24-week program is planned to begin in the fall.



Courtesy photo

**GRADUATING CLASS:** In July, NSUBA saw the first graduating class from its newly-formed Crime Scene Investigator program. Pictured at the graduation ceremony is the first class of eight graduates and the program's three instructors: Brad Green, far left, special agent with Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation; Aungela Spurlock, front left, assistant special agent in charge with the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation; Jackie Smithson, far right, with Broken Arrow Police Department.

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**CITY PARTNERSHIP:** Tulsa City Councilor Jack Henderson speaks during the grand opening of the Tulsa Fire and Safety Training Center, 2819 N. New Haven Ave., held on July 10. The center is a partnership between the City of Tulsa, Tulsa Community College and the Tulsa Fire Department.

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# Famed Illustrator Offers Experience, Guidance

Each day, students at Tulsa Tech have an opportunity to make their own path, to challenge themselves and to learn new skills in hundreds of programs, taught by many of industry's top professionals. One group of students, enrolled in the Adult Career Development's Visual and Creative Arts class, Colored Pencil Illustration, have accepted the challenge offered by nationally recognized cartoonist Mr. Dayne Dudley.

## News from Tulsa Tech



By DR. STEVE TIGER  
Superintendent

A national sports cartoonist and illustrator for over 30 years, Dudley's partial client list includes heavy-hitters such as Sports Illustrated, ESPN, NCAA, ABC TV, Universal Studios, Atlanta Braves, Kansas City Royals, National Softball Hall of Fame, NASCAR and more than 500 colleges throughout the USA.

On Wednesday evenings, however, Dudley teaches students to draw portraits, cartoons or whatever interests them, using Prismacolors colored pencils, in his 30-hour part-time course.

"I really enjoy teaching," Dudley says. "So many folks think they could never do this, but they can, and each step gives them more confidence, which continues to make them even better. I really enjoy watching my students grow and challenge themselves."

Like drafted rookies, many of the students were unsure at first and credit Dudley's coaching for being able to move up from the minors. Suzy Sittel, a supervisor of compensation for Magellan Midstream Partners, who now creates magical works inspired by Georgia O'Keeffe, is a perfect example. Sittel says that she had no idea she could even draw, until a friend persuaded her to try the course.

"I was looking for a hobby, and a friend at work mentioned how much she enjoyed the class," Sittel says. "Then I discovered who the instructor was, and I couldn't believe it. I had met Dayne years ago when my sister worked with him at the Tulsa Tribune; he's an amazing artist, and I was very familiar with his work. I feel very fortunate to have him as a friend and instructor."

For those who may appreciate this fantastic art form but question their ability to create something artistic, Sittel is quick to offer some simple, yet encouraging, advice.

"Just give it a try, and if you don't like it, well, then you know," she says. "But unless you try, how will you ever know?"

Other accomplished artists, like Will Cummings, an Oklahoma Native American who returned to the state after retiring, arrived in

Dudley's class ready for the big leagues, with a good fastball, but still seeking inspiration and guidance from one of the icons of the industry.

"I'm Cherokee, and I like to illustrate our proud heritage in my work," Cummings says. "Dayne understands our past, our struggles and our connection to this earth. He not only instructs me, he also helps me take that inspiration and put it into my work."

Dudley grew up near Stilwell, where he dreamed of playing major league baseball; he had a great chance as a varsity catcher at Wichita State University, where he received a Bachelor of Fine Arts, until a neck injury ended the dream.

"I guess if I hadn't been an illustrator for the past 30 years, I'd just be an old ball player," Dudley says. "But I wouldn't want to sit around and just think about those old glory days; I like exploring new challenges too much — just like I challenge my students."

A colored pencil class might be interesting, especially when the instructor spent 13 years as the illustrator and cartoonist for the Tulsa Tribune and has been honored with 12 "Best in the Nation" awards from the College Sports Information Directors of America. So go ahead, step up to the plate and swing for the fences.

If you're currently looking for exciting classes for high school and adult students, quality business and industry training, or faculty with years of professional industry experience, Tulsa Tech invites you to visit today. For more information, please call 918-828-5000, or visit us online at [tulsatech.edu](http://tulsatech.edu).



COURTESY TULSA TECH  
**CARTOON CREATOR:** Nationally recognized and former Tulsa Tribune illustrator and cartoonist Dayne Dudley proudly displays some student projects from his Colored Pencil Illustration class at Tulsa Tech.

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Indian Education Receives Check

**TRIBAL SUPPORT:** Cherokee Nation Councilwoman Cara Cowan Watts recently presented a check for \$500 to Owasso Indian Education for the support of its annual cultural programming and community outreach efforts. From left are District 13 Councilman-Elect Buel Anglen; Wendy Stokes, with Owasso Indian Education; District 13 Councilwoman Cowan Watts; Owen Hawzipta, with Owasso Indian Education; Johnson O'Malley Indian Education Parent Committee Chair Sherry Patterson; and District 14 Councilman Lee Keener.



Councilwoman Cara Cowan Watts appropriated the money from Fiscal Year 2015 Tribal Council General Assistance funds. Councilwoman Cowan Watts and Councilman Lee Keener are term-limited out of office in August. Councilman-Elect Buel Anglen will take office on Aug. 14.

Courtesy photo

## Dairy Queen Chooses Owasso, Tulsa

By EMILY RAMSEY  
Managing Editor

Dairy Queen opened at 9495 N. Owasso Expressway on July 13, the first of seven franchised locations planned to open in the greater Tulsa area in the next three years, says Ken Ward, vice president of operations for franchise owner Vasari LLC.

"People have been screaming for us to come to Oklahoma," he says.

That eagerness was evident as soon as the store opened Monday morning, with drive-thru lines, at some times, wrapping around the building twice.

"But people were so nice," he says. "We would tell them that it's

going to be a while, and they said, 'We're just excited you're here; we're happy to wait.'"

The Owasso store is the first Tulsa-area location for Vasari. There are two other Dairy Queens in the area, one in Woodland Hills Mall and the other in Broken Arrow, 3120 W. Kenosha St. — neither owned by Vasari.

In July, the company began construction on its second location, 7819 E. Admiral Pl., in Tulsa, with its third planned for spring 2016 to be located near the Tulsa fairgrounds.

Vasari LLC is the second-largest Dairy Queen franchise in the U.S. with 76 locations in Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico, with plans to expand into western Arkansas.



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers  
**LONG-AWAITED ARRIVAL:** On July 13, the first of seven new Dairy Queens for the greater Tulsa area opened at 9495 N. Owasso Expressway.



Photos by EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers  
**GOLF FOR EDUCATION:** On June 29, the Owasso Education Foundation's annual Patriot Classic Golf Tournament was held after being rescheduled in May due to weather. Proceeds from the event benefit the nonprofit organization, which provides provides funding for educational opportunities that would not likely receive monies through the Owasso school district's general fund. Pictured at top are, a team for Presenting Sponsor JD Young Company, from left, Victor Casey, branch president of RCB Bank in Bartlesville; Doug Stuart, president of JD Young Company; David Boggs, CFO of Owasso Public Schools; Rick Thomas, superintendent of Skiatook Public Schools; and Jack Roberts, with JD Young Company. Pictured above are, from left, Susan and Phil Smauder and Drink Sponsors Jack and Nancy Adkisson. Other sponsors included Southern Material, RCB Bank, Hewlett Packard, Steve Savage, Tulsa Teachers Credit Union and Classic Chevrolet, among others.

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**SPORTS**

# Former Oiler Tom Karalis Proud to be U.S. Citizen

By **GLENN HIBDON**  
GTR Sports Writer

There is a memory of fiery Tulsa Oilers defenseman Tom Karalis that stands out after all these years. Following the Oilers' victory over Oklahoma City in game two of the 1993 Central Hockey League championship series, Karalis and his teammates were making their way through the open tunnel toward The Myriad locker room.

Rabid Blazers fans were pelting the team with trash and hostile verbiage. Police officers were trying to usher the Oilers through the melee, while Karalis, never the shrinking violet, paused to share a few pleasantries with the Blazers followers. All of a sudden a cop screamed, "You're under arrest," and grabbed Karalis, shoving his arm behind his back before leading him away.

The incident is a perfect display of the Montreal native's passion for the game, his love of the Oilers and his pride in competing for Tulsa. After 22 years, the 51-year-old tough guy still displays biceps of stone and remains unchanged in his allegiances. Only now, you can add "United States citizen" to his list of accomplishments.

On May 13, Karalis took the citizenship oath at Tulsa's First United Methodist Church during a Rotary Club of Tulsa meeting, and became the first Oiler in recent memory to do so. For the two-time All-CHL performer, the moment ranks, with winning the 1993 title over the Blazers, as the greatest of his life.

"I love Canada. My mother and sisters still live there," says Karalis, who enjoyed a 13-year pro career with 17 teams in seven leagues. "But I feel American. I've lived here 30 years, and this is something I've always wanted to do. I'm very proud that I did."

In gaining full-fledged American status, Karalis had to renounce his Canadian citizenship since the United States does not recognize dual ties. The entire citizenship process required two years to complete and a number of steps before it was finished.

"The first step was my green card, which I already had, and I went to a website to fill out paperwork," Karalis says. "Then they took a picture of me for a background check. It all cost about \$695.

"I was then sent to four meetings. The first one was for instructions and to see if I was really who I said I am. The second one, they took my fingerprints and then I took a citizenship test. There were 10 questions, and I had to get six right to pass."

The first question required Karalis to print the word "constitution" to see if he could write in English. The questions followed: Name two states that border Mexico, what do the stripes signify on the American flag, what political party does the president belong to, and name a senator from Oklahoma. Karalis knew he wouldn't fail, and the examiner ended the test early.

The next step was being sworn in on May 13; Karalis was the only Canadian among 90 seeking citizenship.

"I was hoping I wouldn't cry when they called my name," says Karalis, whose chil-



Courtesy photo



GTR Newspapers photo

**AMERICAN ASPIRATIONS:** Former Tulsa Oiler Tom Karalis, a Montreal native, smiles with his children Jack and Sophia after being sworn in as a U.S. citizen on May 13. During Karalis' career, he played in Europe and the American Hockey League before retiring from hockey in 1999. Pictured at left is Karalis during the Oilers' 1993-94 season. The ceremony was held at Tulsa's First United Methodist Church during a Rotary Club of Tulsa meeting.

dren were present to see him swear allegiance to the United States. "I was really emotional, and it was very hard not to cry when I went up there and took the oath. I was very proud of that moment. The Mayor was there, and my kids were ecstatic. Becoming a citizen was a no-brainer, and my mother asked me what took so long."

Karalis followed in the footsteps of his friend Yves Heroux whom he had played with in Europe and the American Hockey League. Karalis' journey to citizenship began after playing parts of three seasons with the Oilers, a tenure that saw the 6-1, 210-pounder suit up 145 games en route to 93 points and 578 penalty minutes. His best pro season came in 1992-93 when Tulsa won the CHL title.

After retiring from hockey in 1999, Karalis married and had three children, Jack (12), Ellie (10) and Sophia (9). He lives in Bixby and works for FWA, Inc., in Broken Arrow, a firm that consults with rural telephone companies in managing their businesses.

"I always liked the state, the city and the culture. The people here were wonderful to me," says Karalis, who has coached high school hockey at Broken Arrow and then Union schools the last eight years. "I fell in love with the country, and after I left hockey, I always planned to come back here and stay."

Already having earned a degree in communications, Karalis quickly found a job. His ex-father-in-law bought a Corvette from Marc Stone, a huge Oilers fan. Stone told Karalis that he was his wife's favorite player, and the conversation led to Karalis revealing he had a communications degree. Stone told him to come to his office the next day, and the rest is history. Karalis is now one of four owners and has been with the company 16 years.

The pugnacious defenseman is one of a handful of ex-Oilers who still call Tulsa home, including Doug Lawrence, Sly Naud, Chris Simms, Troy Caley, Doug Pirnak, Klage Kaebel and Curtis Voht.

Karalis still keeps in close contact with Taylor Hall, the Oilers general manager, who played with him on that 1993 title team, but he has little time to follow the franchise in person at the BOK Center. Between work and coaching his high school team, he's also tutoring the baseball and football aspirations of his son Jack.

Until that day, Dad will continue on his American Dream, culminating when he votes in his first election. A conservative all the way, Karalis is looking forward to the 2016 presidential election.

"The Fourth of July had a special meaning for me. It was the first time in 50 years I could celebrate being an American," Karalis says. "It feels great being an American. It really does."

Karalis may have been irascible on the ice, but he is a solid citizen on dry land. He was never arrested by the Oklahoma City police following that emotional playoff victory in 1993. The cop realized he overreacted and let him go.

Today, Karalis is still rooting for the team, and fans, who so dramatically changed his life.

"Tulsa is still waiting for another championship," he sighs. "I hope it works out for them."

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Judge Phil Ginn – Retired Superior Court Judge from North Carolina  
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# Here Comes Football, Oklahoma's Pastime

By **TERRELL LESTER**  
Editor at Large

Once it was an autumn exercise. Three months of Friday night and Saturday afternoon football confrontations.

High schools and colleges dominated the sporting calendar from September to October to November.

December was reserved for a handful of special games. Army-Navy. A couple of holiday bowl games.

And the only football going on in January were the New Year's Day bowls.

Pro football changed that. Television, too. Football now is a sport that knows no season. Football is a season unto itself.

The first college game this season is scheduled Aug. 29. Games are scheduled this season on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays. And, of course, finally, on Saturdays.

Tulsa's high-school Grady Skillern All-City Preview is scheduled Aug. 27-28. For the most part, high schools limit their regular-season schedules to Thursdays and Fridays.

The Oklahoma high-school state playoffs will stretch into the first two weeks of December.

College conference championship games are penciled in for about the same time. Some three-dozen bowl games will be played over three or four weeks, extending into January. The national championship won't be decided until Jan. 11. In other words, the college football season will be spread out over 19 week-ends.

At one time, the National Football League confined its regular-season schedule to Sundays. Now, the league plays games on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays. The Super Bowl is slated for Feb. 7,



Courtesy photo

**BOOMER SOONER:** Oklahoma Head Coach Bob Stoops hopes to bounce back from a disappointing 8-5 2014 season.



DEAN ATCHISON for GTR Newspapers

**STATE CHAMPS:** The Jenks Trojans, pictured here following their 21-14 win over Union in last season's 6A championship game, will seek their fourth consecutive state title in 2015.

the latest date ever. That will be five months after the season-opener.

The proliferation of games available to a demanding fan base lends support to the suggestion that football has become the national pastime.

Mary McGrory, the late Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist who covered the Washington D.C. political scene, acknowledged as much when she succinctly observed: "Baseball is what we were. Football is what we have become."

In Oklahoma, the landscape of sports has long been defined by 100-yard stretches of sweat-stained turf.

A total of 341 member schools of the Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association field varsity football teams. They will compete for championships in nine classifications.

In no classification is the competition as top heavy as it is in the largest division. For the last 19 years, the state championship in the state's top classification has been won by two schools.

Jenks owns 12 of those titles in 19 years, including the last three in a row. Union has won the remaining seven.

Last season, the OSSAA, governing body of high-school athletics, divided Class 6A into two divisions, 6A-I and 6A-II, with the state's 16 largest schools by enrollment in the former and the next 16 schools in the latter.

Jenks continued to dominate all large schools with its 21-14 championship decision over Union. Bixby won the 6A-II title, the school's first, with a 35-21 win over Lawton.

There are a number of indicators that would point to Jenks and Bixby having the ability to repeat in 2015, extending that eastern Oklahoma domination.

Allan Trimble is entering his 20th season as head coach at Jenks. With 12 state championships in that span, he is the most successful high-school football coach in Oklahoma history.

His returning headline-making operative is senior quarterback Cooper Nunley. He ran for two touchdowns and threw the decisive scoring pass in the title game against Union. He is 25-2 as a two-year starter.

Bixby, under sixth-year head coach Loren Montgomery, returns a pair of game-changers at crucial positions. Running back Nic Roller gained 233 yards and scored twice against Lawton. Quarterback Tanner Griffin passed for a touchdown and 220 yards in the same game, capping a season in which he accumulated 3,027 aerial yards.

Over the years, the Union-Jenks regular-season matchup has commanded as much attention as a state-title game. Routinely, it is among the nation's top schoolboy rivalries. The intensity is sure to remain at a high level this year when they meet on Sept. 11 at Chapman Stadium on the University of Tulsa campus.



GREGG SHIPMAN for GTR Newspapers

**HIGH ROLLER:** The 6A-II state champion Bixby Spartans and running back Nick Roller look to build on 2014's success.

However, a week before that game, Jenks will be at Bixby for the Sept. 4 season-opener that could be the most highly anticipated contest of the year. Surely no other game in the history of this long and storied rivalry can match the showdown of reigning state champions.

The high-school season could not open with a stronger brace of games. While Jenks and Bixby are doing battle, Broken Arrow travels to Owasso on Sept. 4.

Two more teams with state playoff experience to go along with raging expectations, Broken Arrow and Owasso are meeting in the opener for the sixth straight year. Their rivalry dates back to 1921.

Broken Arrow, in its second season under  
*(Continued on page 19)*

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# Colleges, High Schools Await the New Season

(Continued from page 18)

head coach and 1982 graduate David Alexander, was 7-4 in 2014, falling in the first round of the 6A-I playoffs.

The Tigers, representing the state's largest high school based on enrollment, boasts a game-breaker in senior running back Jamall Shaw. He rushed for 1,426 yards last season, scoring 16 touchdowns.

Owasso won last year's opener at Broken Arrow, 14-7, ending an eight-game losing streak to the Tigers. The win was a harbinger of good things to come.

The Rams of coach Bill Patterson put together their finest season since 1986, reaching the 6A-I semifinals before falling to Jenks. They wound up at 10-2, fueling hopes and expectations for a new season.

When fans and recruiters talk Owasso football, much of the conversation centers on senior offensive lineman Brandon Scott. At 6-foot-7, 300 pounds, Scott is easy to spot, hard to stop.

Anticipation is evident in all corners of the University of Tulsa fan base. It could be the singular, definitive description of the Golden Hurricane's football season.

Following a disappointing 2-10 performance under coach Bill Blankenship last season, TU replaced him in favor of Philip Montgomery.

The 43-year-old first-year head coach will send the Golden Hurricane out against Florida Atlantic on Sept. 5 at Chapman Stadium.

Expectations have been running high since Montgomery's arrival, due to his reputation and accomplishments at Baylor, where he was heralded as a master of the pass.

He stirred the emotional pot among the TU faithful during his introductory press conference back in December, promising to deliver "some fun, fast and physical football."

With a holdover quarterback Dane Evans adapting to Montgomery's new pace and playbook, the TU offense in the spring game appeared to support the coach's commitment.

As offensive coordinator at Baylor, Montgomery guided units led by award-winning quarterbacks that produced record-setting offensive attacks.

Incorporating that offensive philosophy into the mix at Tulsa, where passing artistry and weaponry are part of the school's football legacy, would positively address many of the TU followers' expectations.

The Golden Hurricane, preparing for its second season in the far-flung American Athletic Conference, will play just one home game in September, the opener, but there are three games in Chapman Stadium in October.

There always is a mountain of expectations surrounding the University of Oklahoma and



GTR Newspapers photo

**VETERAN COACH:** Mike Gundy enters his 11th season at OSU as the all-time leader in football wins.

the Oklahoma State University football programs.

Hopes are heightened at OU where a new offensive coordinator, Lincoln Riley, is charged with the task of putting points on the scoreboard.

He has at his disposal running back Samaje Perine, the Big 12 Conference Freshman of the Year in 2014 and author of the record-setting 427-yard rushing performance against Kansas.

Following what was considered a dismal and disappointing season, at 8-5, OU made a handful of changes to reignite the flame of fanaticism among its followers.

Tangible proof of the "out-with-the-old, in-with-the-new" outlook at OU is the summer-long process of replacing the turf at Gaylord Family-Oklahoma Memorial Stadium. No doubt, the old turf would have been a constant reminder of a storied program turned upside down.

There are no issues with turf at Oklahoma State. The playing surface is as solid as the quarterback play of returnee Mason Rudolph.

All they need to do at Stillwater is erase the memories of a 7-6 record in 2014. A good beginning to that end was the Cowboys' 30-22 victory over the University of Washington in the Cactus Bowl.

A freshman quarterback, Rudolph was the offensive bellwether for the Cowboys against Washington, piling up 299 yards through the air and two touchdowns. His return for a second season has caused a spike in expectations for the OSU faithful.

Some national publications, taking note of Rudolph's emergence late in his rookie season, are predicting the Cowboys will finish ahead of the Sooners this season in the Big 12 race.

The schedule could be playing in OSU's favor. The Cowboys play host to the Sooners in the Bedlam game, Nov. 28.

Coach Mike Gundy, now the all-time leader in football wins at OSU, is entering his 11th season as head coach.

Fans know that when the temperatures of an Oklahoma August begin to heat up, the fall sport of football can't be far away.

Actually, in Oklahoma, football never really goes away.



GTR Newspapers photo

**LOOKING AHEAD:** New TU Head Football Coach Philip Montgomery addresses the media and fans at the introductory press conference Dec. 15 in the Reynolds Center President's Suite. Looking on are his wife, Ashli, and children, Maci and Cannon.



HARRY LENTZ for GTR Newspapers

**BACKYARD BRAWL:** Union running back Shamari Brooks, a sophomore, gains valuable yardage in the 2014 Backyard Bowl on Sept. 12. Union won the game 23-14 but lost in the Dec. 9 rematch for the 6A state championship 21-14.



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**SAVE OUR SHOCK:** From left, youth basketball players Stailee and Tyla with their mother, Lila Osceola-Heard, a former University of Tulsa basketball player, Madison Curley, a previous stand-out basketball player for Bixby High School, former Mayor Kathy Taylor, and Sheila Curley of Six PR and leader of the Save Our Shock campaign, are hoping to save the team from an exit to Dallas. The event was held July 15 at Albert G's Bar-B-Q in downtown Tulsa after Bill Cameron of Oklahoma City said he is moving Tulsa's team.



Courtesy Tulsa Drillers

**ACROBATIC OUTFIELDER:** Drillers outfielder Adam Law takes an extra-base hit away with a leaping catch in front of the left field wall at ONEOK Field.



Courtesy Tulsa Roughnecks

**PLAYER OF THE WEEK:** Goalkeeper Jake Feener recently became the first Roughnecks player to be named USL Player of the Week. Feener made 13 saves in his professional debut as Tulsa defeated Orange County 4-1 at ONEOK Field. Two nights later, he was also in goal for the Roughnecks 3-1 victory over Colorado Springs.



GTR Newspapers photo

**ACE GOLFERS:** These gentlemen enjoyed playing in the Tulsa Regional Chamber Annual Golf Scramble, held June 29 at Tulsa Country Club. From left are Rob Marshall, John Wiscaver, State Sen. Jason Smalley and Rob Coffey.



**THE ECONOMY**

# TTCU Collects School Supplies for Those in Need

Imagine starting the school year without the basic supplies that everyone else in class seems to have. Many children face obstacles to learning – the lack of school supplies shouldn't be one of them.

For the 14th year, TTCU The Credit Union is teaming up with organizations in northeast Oklahoma to collect money and supplies for children in need through Project School Supplies. Through Aug. 31, people may make a monetary donation or donate school supplies 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 is around \$60 – and for some families, that's an expense that is out of reach," says Donita Quesnel, TTCU vice president of marketing. "Luckily, these obstacles to learning can be overcome through Project School Supplies."

In the past 13 years, TTCU's Project School Supplies and Restore Hope Ministries have equipped more than 32,000 chil-

dren with the basic tools needed to start the school year.

"I love to see the look of excitement and hope on a child's face when he or she receives their school supply kit," says Rev. Jeff Jaynes, Restore Hope Ministries executive director. "Education is key to breaking the cycle of poverty, and these supplies give kids the tools they need to do just that. We want every child to start off the school year stress-free and with the same opportunities as their peers."

Visit [tccu.com](http://tccu.com) for more information.

**About TTCU The Credit Union**

TTCU is the largest state-chartered credit union in Oklahoma with 16 branches: five in Tulsa, two in Broken Arrow and Tahlequah, one in Bixby, Jenks, Claremore, Miami, Muskogee, Owasso and Sapulpa. Established in 1934, TTCU The Credit Union is a \$1.5 billion credit union serving over 115,000 members who are educationally affiliated, including students and their families as well as hundreds of Select

Employee Groups in northeast Oklahoma with a full complement of depository, lending and financial advisory services. TTCU is federally insured by the NCUA.

**School Supplies Shopping List**

- 1-1/2" 3-Ring Binders
- 12" Ruler with Centimeters
- Notebook Paper
- 5" Blunt & Pointed Tip Scissors
- 4oz Bottle of White Glue
- Ink Pens (Blue, Black & Red)
- Broad Washable Markers
- Compass (Safety Point)
- Crayons (24 count)
- Dry Erase Markers (black)
- Glue Sticks
- Graph Paper
- Large Zipper Pencil Bags
- No. 2 Pencils
- 3'x5' Ruled Index Cards
- Pink Erasers
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- Protractors
- Red Lead Pencils
- Colored Pencils (Set of 12)
- Spiral Notebooks
- Ziploc Bags (1 qt.)
- Ziploc Bags (1 gal.)



# OSU in Tulsa Wins Print Advertising, Media Awards

Oklahoma State University Marketing and Communications Services in Tulsa took top honors in two categories and received 11 awards overall at the annual Oklahoma College Public Relations Association conference in Sulphur. The annual OCPRA competition featured entries from public and private higher education institutions across Oklahoma.

OSU Marketing and Communications Services in Tulsa placed first in print advertising for its Get There From Here campaign ads that appeared in numerous local and statewide publications and serve as the cornerstone for its integrated marketing campaign series. The team also placed first in multimedia for the Get There From Here Graduation multimedia presenta-

tion, which involved digital, social media and video elements.

In addition to the first place "Grand" awards, the Marketing and Communications team earned five second place "Excellence" awards, two third place awards and two honorable mention honors.

The team received second place awards in video featurette and radio spot as part of the Get There From Here Campaign. Social

media use for the OSU-Tulsa Graduation Ceremony, digital ads for the OSU School of Health Care Administration online top 5 ranking, and campus newsletters, The Current and The Center, also placed second in the competition.

The team took third place for direct mail for the Get There From Here mailer and for the Cowboy Guardian logo. In addition, the team received honorable mention

for the OSU Center for Health Sciences Research Spotlight logo, a new initiative highlighting faculty research, and for the cover design for the OSU-Tulsa Graduation program.

Judges for the competition are selected from out-of-state public relations and communications professionals not associated with the organization. There were more than 550 entries for the competition.

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# Hicks Brunson Eyewear Remains in the Family

By EMILY RAMSEY  
Managing Editor

While Hicks Brunson Eyewear officially became known as "Hicks Brunson" in 1949, the story of its namesake founder goes back much further.

Hicks Brunson came to Tulsa in 1929 as an optician for American Optical, which opened a store that same year in downtown Tulsa, at 6th Street and Boulder Avenue in the Medical Arts Building.

As a teenager, Brunson, hailing from Oklahoma City, had started delivering glasses on bicycle for Merry Optical, the same company where he would meet his future wife.

In the early 1920s, he worked as an optician in Okmulgee for American Optical.

By 1949, after 20 years in Tulsa, Brunson was ready to step out on his own, and he bought American Optical's downtown location and renamed it.

He then opened a second location in Utica Square in 1952 in response to requests from local doctors who were moving into a medical building located in the center. They wanted him to open in Utica Square "because they wanted a reliable optician to be close by," relates Richard Brunson Sr., son of Hicks Brunson.

Throughout the course of Hicks Brunson Eyewear's history, it has had a total of six locations, including inside Hillcrest and St. John hospitals and in Muskogee.

The business remains in the Brunson family up to present day, and it is one of the longest-remaining stores in Utica Square.

However, the family business was never anything a Brunson was forced into, says Daniel Brunson, store manager and the great-grandson of Hicks Brunson. "In each



**UTICA SQUARE OPTICIAN:** Daniel Brunson, Hicks Brunson Eyewear store manager and the great-grandson of Hicks Brunson, stands in the family's store in Utica Square. The store opened in Utica Square in 1952 and is one of the longest-remaining stores in the shopping center.

generation, the father would tell the kids, 'I want you to do other things; explore your options,' and then some of us came back and decided we liked the family business."

That included Daniel, who worked in the store during the summer of 2000, where "I found that I loved working with people and the combination of art and science that is involved," in other words: "the art of the frames and the science of the lens-making."

"There's a lot of technicality in the business," he continues.

Daniel, who graduated from Union High School and Northeastern State University with a business degree, then went on to earn his optician certification.

"Frames are the first impression; I enjoy helping people tailor their personal image. And I enjoy the relationships I get to build with the

eyewear community and with customers," he says.

With the eyewear industry so heavily saturated, Hicks Brunson Eyewear, especially in the past decade, has steadily endeavored to set itself apart by carrying a large selection of frames from independent eyewear companies, such as Tom Davies, Zero G, Sama Eyewear and French company Face a Face.

"These artisans are passionate about eyewear; the frames are well made and nice-looking," says Daniel.

Hicks Brunson Eyewear also collaborates with Tom Davies to provide custom-made frames for customers, and Hicks Brunson offers its own line of Tom Davies frames: Tom Davies by Hicks Brunson.

"It's rewarding to work with these independent companies as opposed to larger companies, because I can

get to know them, just like in a family business like ours, where our customers know us and we know them."

Daniel also enjoys working with companies, such as Sama Eyewear, that focuses its efforts on a cause. For example, Sama Owner Sheila Vance's son died of a heroin overdose; therefore, her company aims to benefit drug-addicted youth.

The Brunson family's interest in supporting local causes started with Founder Hicks Brunson, who was a Shriner. His son Richard Sr. was a Rotarian, Richard's son Rick decided with Daniel in 2010 to begin partnering with Youth Services of Tulsa and to provide so many eyeglasses per month for at-risk teenagers.

"I remember one girl who couldn't see past a foot in front of her, and she hadn't had glasses in years," says Daniel. "Giving glasses to someone in that situation, it

changes their world and enables them to get around better and to hold a job."

Hicks Brunson has also partnered with the Tulsa Lions Club, serving as an eyeglass donation location, and Daniel is the current membership chair officer with Rotaract, a young professionals service organization with the Rotary Club of Tulsa.

"Our family has developed so many roots in Tulsa over the years; I think that has a lot to do with why the family has always remained in Tulsa," he says.

As the eyewear industry continues to evolve, Daniel hopes to see his family continue the legacy of his great-grandfather, continuing to impact the eyewear industry and the community.

"To be able to help ones who were once customers of Hicks and still return to our store, that's an honor and a joy," Daniel says.

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# Relationships are Top Priority for Charles Campbell

By EMILY RAMSEY  
Managing Editor

Farmers Insurance Agent Charles Campbell has stories. Lots of them.

Whether it's about his time as director of both the Tulsa number 1 Founders Chorus and Tulsa number 1 Sweet Adelines; his years training and working with John Doak, who is currently State Insurance Commissioner; his love of cars and his ties to the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Co., located in Broken Arrow; or the accomplishments of his four children and 13 grandchildren, he is eager to share.

Campbell, who grew up in Miami, Oklahoma, came to Tulsa with his wife of 51 years, Sharon, in 1985. He and Sharon grew up together, attended the same high school and married in college.

Before beginning to sell insurance in 1974, Campbell taught band and vocal music for six years, plus four years as a music minister.

Campbell sings bass and holds a bachelor's degree in music education from Oklahoma Baptist University.

It was during those early years

that Sharon, who managed various insurance offices, would tell me, "If you learn to sell insurance, I can manage the office," Campbell reminisces.

He took the leap 41 years ago. "We've been working together in insurance ever since," he says. Their office is located at 8169 E. 41st St.

What continues to keep him in the business? "I enjoy the relationships with clients. I want to be of service to our policyholders," he says.

He remembers one instance when John Doak was working for him, and a client's home burned down in the middle of the night. "We went out in the middle of the night to help them get into a hotel until the insurance company could come out the next day."

Campbell isn't shy about giving out his home and cell phone numbers to clients: "I tell them, I will answer my phone, and I will be there for you."

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mation can be found at farmer-sagent.com/ccampbell or by calling 918-254-4633.

Campbell also takes time out for community service. He is a past president of the Rotary Club of Broken Arrow and has been a member since 1985. He has also been a member of the Tulsa Regional Chamber for more than 20 years and has served on the Small Business Council for close to 10 years.

Of course, the greatest thing that his career has allowed him to do is to raise his family.

His oldest son, Charles, lives in Illinois, where he helps to open Southern Baptist churches; oldest daughter, Shawn, has taught for Jenks and Bixby schools; Stephania is a surgeon and served as a trauma surgeon with the U.S. Army in Iraq and Kyrgyzstan; and youngest child and son, Chris, founded 111 Tulsa, which works with local churches to find homes for foster children. A few years ago, Chris' wife, Ashley, launched online photography classes, called Snap Shot, found at ashleyannphotography.com in order to fund their adoption of a girl from China.



EMILY RAMSEY for GTR Newspapers  
**IN THE FAMILY:** Farmers Insurance Agent Charles Campbell stands with Sharon, his wife of 51 years, in his office at 8169 E. 41st St. The Campbells have worked in insurance together for 41 years.

# Business World on KWGS Ends After 21 Years

By D. FORREST CAMERON  
Editor and Publisher

This article emanates from a recent interview with Business World hosts Art Rasher, Bill Nole and Louis Coleman and information taken from an article from the Business World website.

Business World, an economic and business news and information talk show that has aired on KWGS 89.5 FM weekly mostly on Saturdays since October 1994, is now part of Tulsa radio history. The last show aired in July of this year.

The show originated with a request in the early 1990s from KWGS for various University of Tulsa colleges to air talk shows on the TU-owned station. Over time Business World managed to remain the lone college-represented show, representing the College of Business Administration.

The original commentators on the show were TU business professors Art Rasher and Dale Lunsford and Bill Nole, a TU MBA graduate who at that time worked at the radio station as station program director.

Rasher and Nole remained with the show the entire 21 years. Lunsford left in 1999 to become vice president of the University of Texas at Tyler. (Today, Lunsford is president of LeTourneau University in Longview, Texas, a position he had held since 2007.)

Lunsford was replaced by Louis Coleman, a pragmatic and successful business marketing expert. Coleman remained with the program until the final show.

In a conversation after the final show in the KWGS studios, Nole says he and Lunsford came up with the idea and the name for the show at a Ron's Hamburger's restaurant. "I was in his class, and he knew about my background in radio," explains Nole, who worked at KWGS until 1995.

Nole says, "Out of that lunch came the idea for the show." He says "The idea was to interview authors and to rotate them among various business professors."

The show evolved over the years into discussions of various business and economic topics of the time. Nole says, "21 years ago it was strange to have people talk about news rather than to just report it."

Most of the shows were recorded, though sometimes they were live. Rasher says, "The first show created the show's persona. We interviewed a lady (in a recorded show) about her book and the microphone was not on. We learned a lot through the years."

The threesome mention economic-related changes over the past 20-plus years, such as the those in technology, and the business ups and downs, such as the dot-com bust and the 2008 crash.

Though Nole left his position as station program director in 1995 to join James Shirley Management Consultants when he completed his graduate studies, he couldn't get the radio bug out of his system. Jim Shirley, a former TU business faculty member, agreed to donate the cost of Nole's time producing the show each week.

"We started as a half-hour business book review show on Sundays. Within a year, we had expanded to one hour to include current business news. Art Rasher was a part of the initial pilots, and somehow he just stuck around," jokes Nole.

Rasher, who specializes in international and strategic information systems, was the show's entertainer. A certified auto mechanic, globe-trotter, and purveyor of paternal philosophy, Rasher explains his vision for the show. "We wanted the listeners to feel as though they are sitting next to us in a booth at a diner at lunchtime, eavesdropping, as we talk about what's happening in business news today."

Coleman says, "Talking business stories with Bill and Art is like sitting at the coffee shop and discussing the world's business problems. Once in awhile we even agree on something. But either way, we always laugh."

Above all, the three stress they were not trying to be an advice show. "Our goal was to create a business show that is informative," says Nole. "To that end, we designed it to be interesting, humorous and human. We took concepts, brought them together, and tried to make sense of them.



GTR Newspapers photo  
**LAST RADIO SHOW:** The Business World radio show on KWGS-FM ended with a final airing in July. From left are hosts Louis Coleman, Bill Nole and Dr. Art Rasher.

This is the fundamental mission of educational broadcasting."

Looking to the future, the threesome will continue their careers, where Coleman is director of sales and marketing for Autquip, Nole is director of quality at Saint Francis Hospital, and Rasher, who recently

retired from his professorship at the University of Tulsa, will pursue consulting opportunities.

Many listeners of Business World over the past years will certainly miss hearing the thoughts, ideas and entertainment of the Business World threesome.



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## ESTATE OF MARY CATHERINE TOWNER - NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

Notice is hereby given that Mary Catherine Towner is deceased and that Thomas Towner, Richard Towner, Donald Towner and Linda Dorsch have been nominated and appointed as the successor co-trustees of The Survivor's Trust, created under the Towner Living Trust, Date March 24, 1994. Pursuant to ARS 14-6103 and ARS 14-3801, all persons having claims against the Estate of Mary C. Towner are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice, if notice is given as provided in ARS 14-6103 and 14-3801, or within sixty (60) days after mailing or delivery of this notice, whichever is later, or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented by delivering or by mailing a written statement of the claims to the Trustees at: Linda Dorsch, as a Co-Trustee c/o Kenneth C. Barney, Esq. Rowley Chapman & Barney, Ltd. 63 E. Main Street, Suite 501, Mesa, AZ 85201.



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## OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TIER II NOTICE OF FILING

A Tier II application for a renewal of an OPDES permit to discharge industrial wastewater has been filed with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) by Expo Water Park, 4707 East 21st St, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

The applicant requests a permit to discharge wastewater from their water park facility, located at, SE \_\_, SE \_\_, SE \_\_, Section 9 Township 19N, Range 13EIM Tulsa County, Oklahoma, or at 21st & Yale Ave.

The discharge, which will consist of backwash, will be to an unnamed tributary (municipal storm sewer) of Mill Creek in stream segment NO. 121300 of the Middle Arkansas River Basin, in the SE \_\_, SE \_\_, SE \_\_, Section 9 Township 19N, Range 13EIM Tulsa County, Oklahoma. The permit if issued would establish effluent limitations on the discharge.

The application may be reviewed at 4707 East 21st Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 74114.

After reviewing the application the DEQ will prepare either a draft permit or draft denial. At that time, notice of the prepared draft will be made by the Department and the public will be given the opportunity to review it, submit written comments, or request a public meeting within thirty days.

For additional information, contact the applicant's representative, Amber Woessner at (918)749-7385 or 4707 East 21st Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma, or the Industrial Permitting Unit of the Water Quality Division of the Department's central office, located at 707 N. Robinson, P.O. Box 1677, Oklahoma City, OK 73101-1677, (405)702-8100.

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# St. Francis Xavier Church Features Mission Style

Just before noon several years ago, as I approached the building site for one of my residential projects, my ears rang with upbeat Hispanic music. When I got to the site, the framing crew had a boom box connected to a construction generator along with a grill rapidly cooking an assortment of tasty tamales. The superintendent for this project was bilingual by necessity. Without a doubt, hardworking Hispanics have found a growing niche in Tulsa's construction industry.

## On Architecture



By ROGER COFFEY, AIA

The church was built in 1948 in the post WWII years; its exterior is buff brick with limestone trim and detail and a red clay tile roof.

The building is oriented east/west with the main entrances on the west and the chancel area on the east. Five exterior brick buttresses articulate the north and south sides and are capped with limestone. Between them are six high-arched stained glass windows with pairs of rectangular windows below. Copper gutters, downspouts and collection boxes with impressed crosses complete these side walls.

The entrance is reached by a flight of 12 steps. A parapet wall with limestone scrolls and a cross at its apex houses multiple doors of wood and glass with half-round glass transoms above. A raised cross highlights the lower door panel, its gold color contrasting with the black painted surface.

Rising above the north wall, the tower must be at least 65 feet tall and claims the most elaborate stone work. It is capped by a golden yellow roofing tile dome with a small cupola. It is supported by four semi-circular arches with projecting, lunette balconies. Chamfered corners provide space for stone urns. A smaller brick campanile is attached to the south wall.



**KENDALL-WHITTIER COMMUNITY:** St. Francis Xavier Church is a mission revival style Catholic Church that sits in the Kendall-Whittier neighborhood at 2434 E. Admiral Blvd. The church was built in 1948 in the post WWII years. It is a classic example of maximizing the space in a simple rectangular plan and finishing it with low maintenance attractive materials.

One enters St. Francis through a small narthex with a religious sundries/storage room on the south and a small cry room with a half bath on the north. A narrow stair accesses an organ/choir gallery above. The nave has a wide center aisle flanked by 20 rows of simple oak pews, each side terminating in a narrow side aisle. A maximum seating capacity is potentially more than 400 worshippers. The flooring is 12 x 12 ceramic tile on the aisles and chancel, with gray linoleum underneath the pews. Walls are finished with a light gray marble wainscot with a black marble base and wainscot cap trim. At intervals in the wainscot are recessed,

flush faced heating/air conditioning units. Above the wainscot are pairs of rectangular windows with geometric colored glass. Above these are the arched stained glass windows depicting various biblical scenes. Between these arched windows are Stations of the Cross recesses, six on each side. The wall finish above the wainscot is off-white smooth pilaster.

At the north wall is a confessional door. At the east end of this wall is a small side chapel honoring St. Mary. At the rear wall is another small chapel honoring the Holy Family.

The chancel consists of several open platforms per Vatican II. A pair of doors in its east wall lead to the sacristy and to the attached rectory. Between them, a classic entablature

supported by marble Corinthian columns with adjacent scrolls frame an elaborate painting.

But the tour de force of the interior is the ceiling treatment. There are five gently arched oak trusses with solid webs, terminating in a modified hammer beam treatment. Suspended from the beam projection are rectangular lanterns, obviously original to the room. Strong uprights, in an approximate 18-inch box finished in wood, are attached to the beam ends and provide the main lighting indirectly by bouncing it off the 12 x 12 acoustic tile ceiling. Decorative oak purlins articulate the vaulted space.

This little church is well worth seeing. Take a few minutes, and give it a look.

# In the World of Recycling, Times Are Always A-Changin'

As summer peaks, the school year peeks ahead. So, as we prepare ourselves for the busy, back-to-school schedule, here are a few statistics, events and reminders as we all work towards a cleaner, healthier Oklahoma.

KOB also tracked 162,684 pounds of electronics collected for recycling. Volunteers planted 4,832 trees, shrubs, and flowers, and 60 homes and community buildings were given a fresh coat of paint. Way to go, Oklahomans!

## Trash Talk



By BETH TURNER  
Tulsa Master Recyclers Association

### Tireless Tulsa

Continue the momentum by recycling your old tires for free on Saturday, Aug. 1, thanks to The MET, TCC, RTR Environmental and the Department of Environmental Quality. This event runs from 8 a.m. to noon on the Northeast Campus of Tulsa Community College, 3727 E. Apache St. This event cannot accept tires with rims; commercial, industrial, tractor, or dealer tires, and limited to ten tires per person for anyone in the Greater Tulsa area.

### New Compost Site

In hopes of a greener tomorrow, the city recently moved its free green waste drop-off/pick-up location to 2100 N. 145th East Avenue. With an eye to the future, the goal is

to create a city compost site. This will be a long way back from its failure to take mulch in clear bags to the city's former site for reuse. Instead, the bag removing machine broke in 2012 and that program died.

Hopefully, with this new site and its addition of room to expand properly, city leaders will not only pick up where they left off, they will move further into creating a composting revenue stream with our food waste stream.

Tulsa curbside customers can leave up to 10 clear bags of mulch and bundles of sticks for pick-up but it is combined with our regular waste, not hauled to the city's mulch site. Mulch and firewood can still be collected free of charge at the new location.

### Easy Recycling

While our community continues to expand its green waste/composting capabilities, it's also good to keep in mind our current recycling system. Tulsa curbside recycling all goes in the big blue bin mixed together and, "Focuses on the Four:"

1. Plastic #1 and 2
2. Aluminum and steel cans
3. Glass jars and bottles
4. Paper and cardboard

### Specialty Pickups

If you have bulk items or just stuff that needs to go yet shouldn't wind up in a landfill, make it easy on yourself and call for a pick-up. The Salvation Army offers three, free options: 1. Schedule a curbside



Courtesy Keep Oklahoma Beautiful

**CLEANED UP FOR A CAUSE:** More than 20,000 Oklahomans volunteered for this year's Great American Clean-Up event, including a team pictured here from Green Up Tulsa County. This annual event hosted by Keep Oklahoma Beautiful tracks registered volunteers and their efforts to beautify our communities throughout a three month period. For more information log on to [KeepOklahomaBeautiful.com](http://KeepOklahomaBeautiful.com).

pick-up online at [satruck.org](http://satruck.org) 2. Schedule by phone at 1-800-SATRUCK 3. Drop off at a donation location.

### Talk Trash

Whether you network better in the mornings or afternoons, Sustainable Tulsa's got you covered to do some of your own trash talking.

First Thursdays happen, well, the

first Thursday of each month at Foolish Things Coffee in downtown Tulsa. Created by Sustainable Tulsa and sponsored by Public Services of Oklahoma (PSO), First Thursdays give you a chance to meet others working to green up our city. Each month, the event begins with 11:30 a.m. networking followed by a 12 p.m. presentation on varying local, sustainable topics.

B2B Sustainability caters to morning people. The next event is Thursday, Aug. 20 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m., at OSU-Tulsa's BS Roberts Room NH 151.

For more information on either event, contact [corey@sustainable-tulsa.org](mailto:corey@sustainable-tulsa.org).

### Stay in Touch

If you have an upcoming event or recycling tip, please send it in to [bturner@gtrnews.com](mailto:bturner@gtrnews.com) and follow me on Twitter @TrashTalkTulsa.

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# BUSINESS & PEOPLE NOTES



**CELEBRATING PROGRESS:** Members of Home Builders Association Building Revitalization Committee were among those celebrating the construction completion of the HBA facility at 11545 E. 43rd St. in Tulsa. From left are Peter Grant, Darrell Jenkins, Jeffrey Smith, Brandon L. Jackson, Allen Jenkins, Paul Kane, Howard Kelsey, Weldon Bowman and Brandon T. Jackson. First built in 1977, the Tulsa HBA closed in August of 2014 for a \$2 million renovation and celebrated the grand reopening July 14. The evening consisted of a facility viewing, dinner, as well as a ribbon cutting and awards presentation in the Mike Fretz Event Center at the new facility.

**OK Mozart** announces that **Lizabeth Rolfson** will fill the position of marketing and public relations director upon the retirement of Linda Keller. Rolfson is a graduate of Brigham Young University with a bachelor's degree in English. After graduating, she began her career in corporate marketing and communications. She has since consulted in publishing, marketing and graphic design for over 20 years, with clients from all over the world. She works with many local organizations including Bartlesville Magazine, the Institute for Conversational Fundraising and Bartlesville Print Shop, among others. Previously, she served on the board of directors for Theater Bartlesville as marketing director for the 2013-2014 season.



**ROLFSON**

**Trust Company of Oklahoma (TCO)** welcomes **Marcia Brookey** as its new marketing officer. Brookey joined the firm in March. In this role, she'll be responsible for creating and overseeing advertising, media outreach, brand identity, as well as event planning. She brings to Trust Company of Oklahoma a diverse and strong background, combining expertise and passion. Prior to joining TCO, Marcia served in various areas, including market research, media relations, editing and event management for the construction and architecture industries as well as the publishing industry.



**BROOKEY**

**Jennifer Rush** has been named executive director of the Crime Prevention Network, which includes the Alert Neighbor program. She replaces **Carol Bush**, who has served in the position for 10 years, effective July 24. Rush is a native Tulsan and holds an associate degree in arts from Seminole State College and a Bachelor of Science in human and family sciences from Northeastern State University. She also has a graduate certificate in Nonprofit Management from Oklahoma State University-Tulsa where she is in the process of completing her MBA.



**RUSH**



**BUSH**

**Ashley Anderson** has been named alumni director at **St. Gregory's University**. A 2014 graduate, she began her position in October. As a student, she worked in the library, the Student Life Office and served as President of Student Government Association. She was also a member of Spirit and Sole Dance Company.



**ANDERSON**

This year St. Gregory's celebrates the 100th anniversary of Benedictine Hall and recognizes the 50th anniversary of the closing of St. Gregory's High School. The Centennial Homecoming Celebration will take place Friday, Nov. 6 through Sunday Nov. 8 with some extraordinary events planned. A full schedule and special hotel rates are available on our website.

Anderson says that she looks forward to continuing to work with all of St. Gregory's alumni and helping to host the All School Reunion during the Centennial Homecoming Celebrations.

Tulsa-based **BOK Financial**, a \$30 billion regional financial services company, has named **Glenn Brunker** to lead BOK Financial Mortgage. Brunker most recently served in an executive leadership role in mortgage banking at Fifth Third Bancorp, a \$140 billion financial services company headquartered in Cincinnati.



**BRUNKER**

Prior to Fifth Third, Brunker served as an executive leader in mortgage banking at National City Bank in Dayton, Ohio, president of Oak Street Mortgage in Carmel, Ind., and CEO of ABBCO Mortgage in Tampa, Fla. In his new role, Brunker is charged with managing all mortgage origination channels.

HomeDirect Mortgage, the company's newest mortgage delivery channel launched in 2013, provides online mortgage lending to clients in 47 states and the District of Columbia. BOK Financial Mortgage represents 128,000 customers and has operations in 15 cities across an eight-state footprint: Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri and Arkansas.

Brunker replaces Ben Cowen, who resigned from BOK Financial earlier this year to pursue another career opportunity.

She has over 10 years experience in corporate communications and international public relations. In addition, Marcia is a published author, has assisted in film production and conducted English-Portuguese book translations.

A native of Brazil, Marcia earned both her bachelor's degree in journalism and master's in communication from University Pontificia Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Before making Tulsa her home, Marcia also lived in Italy and Israel. She is actively involved in the Tulsa community and is a member of the Tulsa Press Club, among other organizations.

**Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences** President Kayse Shrum has announced the promotion of **Bruce Benjamin, Ph.D.**, to vice provost for graduate programs.



**BENJAMIN**

Benjamin has served as interim vice provost since 2011 and is associate dean for biomedical sciences and associate professor of physiology. He will oversee graduate programs in biomedical sciences, forensic sciences and health care administration.

Benjamin headed the development of the new OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine curriculum, implemented in 2013. He has spearheaded the Research Spotlight series in conjunction with OSU Marketing and Communications Services in Tulsa.

In addition to his duties at OSU-CHS, Benjamin heads the OSU Center for Wearable Electronic Sensing Systems and Technologies.

Benjamin joined the faculty at OSU-COM in 1997 as an assistant professor. He has served as chair of the Department of Pharmacology and Physiology and head of the OSU School of Biomedical Sciences.

He earned his Ph.D. in medical physiology at the University of Oklahoma and a Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry from Westminster College in Fulton, Mo.

Before joining the faculty at OSU-CHS, Benjamin spent eight years as assistant professor of cell biology at Duke University Medical Center. He has also worked as a research scientist at Texas A&M University and as an assistant professor of research at the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center.

Rush has held positions in both for-profit and nonprofit early childhood organizations. Her most notable accomplishment was her involvement in the opening and leadership of the third Educare school in Tulsa. Tulsa Educare is a nonprofit early childhood school that works to change the trajectory of poverty for at-risk and low income students.

**Casey Clark Mahan** is the new University Representative with the **College of Extended Learning (CEL) at Northeastern State University in Broken Arrow**. She entered her new role full time on July 1.



**MAHAN**

Clark Mahan received her bachelor's and master's degrees in political science both from the University of Texas at Tyler.

Clark Mahan spent her college years involved with Model United Nations and attended conferences in New York, Korea and Rome. She has held leadership positions with Alpha Chi Omega, Greek leadership honor society Order of Omega, and the College Panhellenic Council. She has also volunteered with Children's Advocacy Center of Smith County East Texas Food Bank, Tyler Azalea Trail 10k, Race for the Cure Smith County, Habitat for Humanity and Salvation Army.

During her time in graduate school, she worked for criminal justice and economic professors. Her duties included data entry and collection, student engagement, and student assistance with technology and classroom needs.

Other secondary duties included creating reports, working with faculty candidates and giving classroom presentations.

As University Representative with NSUBA, Clark Mahan will be responsible for recruitment of non-traditional students for the College of Extended Learning, attending conferences, seminars and job fairs to reach potential students. She will also serve as the advisor for CEL students, work with Deans and department heads to coordinate degree plan course substitutions, and perform other related duties.

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**BUILDING BUSINESS:** The Tulsa Regional Chamber held its Small Business Connection Minute Marketing breakfast July 7 at the Wyndham Tulsa Hotel, 10918 E. 41st Street. From left are Eric Kehmeier, Integrated Business Technologies; Eliazar Lopez, Drywall Services; Christi Baggett, Hard Rock Casino; Debbie Mason, Redbud Physical Therapy; Keelyn Bigham, Allstate Insurance; Ken Staley, KCFO AM 970; Ashley Neighbors, Executive Coffee; and Bob White, HUB International. Approximately 200 attended the event. The next Minute Marketing is scheduled to be held at the Wyndham Nov. 3. For information, call 918-560-0212 or see events@tulsachamber.com.

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# Tulsa Fashion Week Debuts September 15-19

By TRACEY NORVELL  
Contributing Writer

Get your passport to fashion! The inaugural, annual Tulsa Fashion Week debuts Sept. 15 - 19 set on a course to accelerate Tulsa's fashion industry.

Using successful global fashion events as models, Tulsa Fashion Week organizers have been working with community partners and local businesses throughout the city to design events to attract fashion-conscious audiences, encourage economic activity and tourism and spur future, continued growth of the fashion industry in Tulsa.

Among the designers and labels featured in weekend runway shows are Joanna Hoang, Jessica Lynn, Kacey Black, Nicole Moan, Alexis Monsanto, Nine Muses (designers Jerry Matthews and Francesca Viamonte), Stephen Goudeau, Orlando Dugi, and Danny Nguyen. Events during the week will also feature work by emerg-

ing designers and fashion photographers.

"Interest from designers has been very strong, enough to warrant adding a Friday runway show at the Mayo Hotel. Tulsa Fashion Week events will culminate with a grand finale, red carpet runway event Saturday, Sept. 19 at Tulsa International Airport Omni Air Transport Hangar 38," says Tina Terry with SRO Productions.

Tulsa Fashion Week Presenting Sponsor is Jackie Cooper Imports. Other sponsors to date include Tulsa World, Utica Square, Omni Air Transport, The Mayo Hotel, Commerce Bank, Chanel, Yves Saint Laurent, Dior, Productive Instincts, Willa Williams Photography and Bakar Studios. Tulsa Fashion Week is coordinated by SRO Productions and Oklahoma Fashion Week with assistance from Arts Society, Amanda Viles and Stacy Rippey.

"We are very pleased to have a new, unique opportunity to take a



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TFW MODEL CALL

Courtesy photos

leadership role in advancing Tulsa's economy, culture, talent and venues throughout the city," says Jackie Cooper Managing Partner Greg Kach.

Activities include both free and

ticketed admission. Advance tickets go on sale Aug. 2 at MyTickets.com. A limited number of VIP ticket packages with exclusive opportunities to mingle with designers, plus, reserved

seating and other benefits, will also be offered.

For further information: Call 918-852-7034, email info@tulsafashionweek.com or visit www.tulsafashionweek.com.

## Neroli a Key Ingredient in Rejuvenate Night Cream

By K.J. WEBB  
Contributing Writer

Neroli oil is one of the most captivating essential oils a person could ever come across. It is believed that Neroli is named for Anne Marie de la Trémoille, the 17th century Italian Princess of Nerola and wife of Prince Flavio of Orsini. She is said to have worn Neroli as a perfume and used it in baths and on everything from linens to scarves and gloves for its wonderful fragrance.

This amazing essential oil is steam distilled from the carefully winnowed blossoms of the bitter orange tree, but its heavenly fragrance is anything but bitter. Rather, it has an exquisite, subtle floral and slightly sweet citrus scent with hints of honey blossom.

Neroli is used in aromatherapy to invoke feelings of joy, alleviate anxiety and distress, promote calm and rejuvenate the spirit. Because of its tranquilizing effect on the sympathetic nervous system Neroli is used

as a natural treatment for insomnia. The natural chemical constituents of Neroli include alpha pinene, geraniol, linalool and nerolidol which play a role in the excellent skin benefits Neroli provides.

Neroli is a superb emollient which makes the skin smooth, retain moisture and glow with health. According to Salvatore Battaglia in The Complete Guide to Aromatherapy, Neroli is useful for soothing irritated skin and has the ability to stimulate the growth of new and healthy cells. This superb essential oil is beneficial for all skin types and provides exceptional benefits. It has superior skin regenerating properties, reduces the appearance of fine lines and wrinkles, regulates sebum to balance the skin, clears blemishes and minimizes enlarged pores. Used regularly, Neroli can also help reduce the appearance of fragile or broken capillaries and varicose veins.

Neroli is an amazing essential oil. Because of its exceptional skin benefits Neroli is a key ingredient

in Rajeunir (Rejuvenate) Night Cream, one of the products sold by Tulsa-based natural skincare company La Chemie (lachimie.com). La Chemie Botanical Skincare & Aromatherapy offers a luxury line of all-natural aromatherapy skincare products. The line is ideal for all skin types, made with origin-sourced ingredients and therapeutic grade essential oils and available online at lachimie.com, at local boutiques and at the Beverly Wilshire in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Neroli essential oil is highly valued for its superb benefits.

For more information about Neroli and La Chemie visit www.lachimie.com



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**CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION:** Present at the Rotary Club of Tulsa 100 Year Celebration earlier this year at the Hyatt Regency Hotel are, from left, Bob Funk, Matthew Bristow, Sharon Cameron, two members of the Janna Jae band, Jeanne Funk (standing), Hall of Fame bluegrass fiddler Janna Jae, Mike Longmire and Joy Longmire.

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# FALL ACTIVITIES

## Back to School Tips to Help Stretch the Food Budget

By **BLAKE AUSTYN**  
Contributing Writer

As the kids gear up to head back to school, parents' thoughts turn to after-school meals and new schedules.

More and more children are coming home to empty houses and needing to make meals for themselves.

One way to make it easier for children is to keep the refrigerator and freezer organized,

otherwise, that can lead to a whole lot of waste, according to the United Nations Environment Program, which reports that as much as 30 to 40 percent of all food in North America is wasted. That equals about 20 pounds per person every month. In terms of money, that's \$165 billion in wasted food annually, according to the Natural Resources Defense Council.

A smarter freezer storage plan, coupled with buying in bulk, saves time, money,

decreases waste and makes for a more organized home. People can maximize the value of their freezer and ensure their hard-earned dollars don't go to waste with these five easy tips.

- Make room to save more. Consumers annually save \$750 on their food bill when buying in bulk. A freezer provides additional storage space, giving the flexibility to store larger quantities of food out of the way while keeping items for immediate use close by.
- Designate a meal prep day. Free up busy weeknights and save money with a little planning. Ensure that there is always healthy, home-cooked meals on hand by taking a few hours once a week to prep and cook meals. Meals that are eaten



Courtesy photo

**MEAL PREPARATION:** An organized refrigerator can reduce food waste according to the United Nations Environment Program.

early in the week can be kept in the fridge until mealtime. Dishes to eat later in the week can be placed in storage containers and frozen until use.

- Find a bulk buddy. While a family may not need a 10-pound bag of cheese, they probably have a friend or neighbor who would split the cost with them. Make it a date; buy in bulk together then split the goods with the proper food storage containers.
- End Freezer Burn. Reduce excess air in storage bags or containers, which toughens textures and worsens flavors. Note, however, that it's important to leave space in containers that hold soup or sauce as liquid expands when frozen and could potentially crack the storage containers.

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<b>26 July</b> <b>TULSA DRILLERS</b> vs. Arkansas 7:05 p.m. Visit <a href="http://www.tulsadrillers.com">www.tulsadrillers.com</a> for more information  <b>FITNESS ON THE GREEN: ZUMBA</b> Guthrie Green 10 a.m. Visit <a href="http://guthriegreen.com">guthriegreen.com</a> for more information.	<b>27</b> <b>TULSA DRILLERS</b> vs. Springfield 7:05 p.m. Visit <a href="http://www.tulsadrillers.com">www.tulsadrillers.com</a> for more information  <b>THE ROOTS OF MUSCOGEE (CREEK) HYMNS: A CULTURAL BLENDING</b> Tulsa Historical Society and Museum 7 - 8:30 p.m. Visit <a href="http://tulsalibrary.org">tulsalibrary.org</a> for more information.	<b>28</b> <b>TULSA DRILLERS</b> vs. Springfield 7:05 p.m. Visit <a href="http://www.tulsadrillers.com">www.tulsadrillers.com</a> for more information  <b>WWE SMACKDOWN TV</b> BOK Center 7:30 p.m. Visit <a href="http://bokcenter.com">bokcenter.com</a> for more information.  <b>INTRODUCTION TO 3-D PRINTING AND CARVING</b> Librarium 4 - 5 p.m. Visit <a href="http://tulsalibrary.org">tulsalibrary.org</a> for more information.	<b>29</b> <b>TULSA DRILLERS</b> vs. Springfield 7:05 p.m. Visit <a href="http://www.tulsadrillers.com">www.tulsadrillers.com</a> for more information  <b>BOOK DISCUSSION: "THE WARMTH OF OTHER SUNS"</b> Librarium 2 - 3 p.m. Visit <a href="http://tulsalibrary.org">tulsalibrary.org</a> for info  	<b>30</b> <b>TULSA SHOCK</b> vs. Phoenix 6 p.m. Visit <a href="http://wnba.com/shock">wnba.com/shock</a> for more information.  <b>BRET MICHAELS</b> Hard Rock Hotel & Casino 8 p.m. Visit <a href="http://hardrockcasinotulsa.com">hardrockcasinotulsa.com</a> for more information.  <b>MOVIE IN THE PARK: JAWS</b> Guthrie Green 8:30 - 10 p.m. Visit <a href="http://guthriegreen.com">guthriegreen.com</a> for more information.	<b>31</b> <b>ALICE IN CHAINS</b> Brady Theater 7 p.m. Visit <a href="http://bradytheater.com">bradytheater.com</a> for info.  <b>REMEMBERING MUKESH: NITIN MUKESH LIVE IN CONCERT</b> Theatre Tulsa Family 7:30 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.  <b>TULSA ROUGHNECKS</b> vs. Vancouver 7:30p.m. Visit <a href="http://tulsaroughnecksfsc.com">tulsaroughnecksfsc.com</a> for more information.	<b>1 August</b> <b>JENKS SATURDAY MARKET</b> 2nd & Main in Jenks 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Visit <a href="http://jenks.com">jenks.com</a> for more information.  <b>TULSA SHOCK</b> vs. Minnesota 6 p.m. Visit <a href="http://wnba.com/shock">wnba.com/shock</a> for more information.  <b>ALVIN CROW &amp; THE PLEASANT VALLEY BOYS</b> Cain's Ballroom 6:30 p.m. Visit <a href="http://cainsballroom.com">cainsballroom.com</a> for more information.
<b>2</b> <b>HORTON RECORDS SUNDAY CONCERT</b> Guthrie Green 2:30 p.m. Visit <a href="http://guthriegreen.com">guthriegreen.com</a> for more information.  <b>TULSA ROUGHNECKS</b> vs. Arizona United 7:30p.m. Visit <a href="http://tulsaroughnecksfsc.com">tulsaroughnecksfsc.com</a> for more information.	<b>3</b> <b>OPERATION AWARE GOLF TOURNAMENT</b> Cedar Ridge Country Club 7:30 a.m. Visit <a href="http://guthriegreen.com">guthriegreen.com</a> for more information.  <b>OPEN MIC NIGHT</b> Guthrie Green 7:30 p.m. Visit <a href="http://guthriegreen.com">guthriegreen.com</a> for more information.	<b>4</b> <b>WARREN THEATRES SUMMER KIDS SERIES</b> Broken Arrow Warren Theatre 10 a.m. Visit <a href="http://warrentheatres.com">warrentheatres.com</a> for more information.  <b>MS EXCEL 1</b> Hardesty Regional Library 6 - 8 p.m. Visit <a href="http://tulsalibrary.org">tulsalibrary.org</a> for more information.  	<b>5</b> <b>OUTCRY TOUR</b> BOK Center 7 p.m. Visit <a href="http://bokcenter.com">bokcenter.com</a> for more information.  <b>REALLY BASIC COMPUTER CLASS</b> Zarrow Regional Library 1 - 3:30 p.m. Visit <a href="http://tulsalibrary.org">tulsalibrary.org</a> for more information.	<b>6</b> <b>TULSA DRILLERS</b> vs. NW Arkansas 7:05 p.m. Visit <a href="http://www.tulsadrillers.com">www.tulsadrillers.com</a> for more information  <b>MOVIE IN THE PARK: THE MUPPET MOVIE</b> Guthrie Green 8:30 - 10 p.m. Visit <a href="http://guthriegreen.com">guthriegreen.com</a> for more information.  <b>AARON LEWIS</b> Cain's Ballroom 8 p.m. Visit <a href="http://cainsballroom.com">cainsballroom.com</a> for more information.	<b>7</b> <b>SPAMALOT</b> Theatre Pops 8 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.  <b>TULSA DRILLERS</b> vs. NW Arkansas 7:05 p.m. Visit <a href="http://www.tulsadrillers.com">www.tulsadrillers.com</a> for more information  <b>FIRST FRIDAY ART CRAWL</b> Philbrook Downtown 6 - 9 p.m. Visit <a href="http://philbrook.org">philbrook.org</a> for more information.	<b>8</b> <b>SPAMALOT</b> Theatre Pops 2 & 8 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.  <b>TULSA DRILLERS</b> vs. NW Arkansas 7:05 p.m. Visit <a href="http://www.tulsadrillers.com">www.tulsadrillers.com</a> for more information  <b>WINGALOOZA 2015</b> BOK Center 2 p.m. Visit <a href="http://bokcenter.com">bokcenter.com</a> for more information.
<b>9</b> <b>SPAMALOT</b> Theatre Pops 2 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.  <b>TULSA DRILLERS</b> vs. NW Arkansas 7:05 p.m. Visit <a href="http://www.tulsadrillers.com">www.tulsadrillers.com</a> for more information  <b>TULSA SHOCK</b> vs. Atlanta 3:30 p.m. Visit <a href="http://wnba.com/shock">wnba.com/shock</a> for more information.	<b>10</b> <b>FITNESS ON THE GREEN: YOGA</b> Guthrie Green 5:30 p.m. Visit <a href="http://guthriegreen.com">guthriegreen.com</a> for more information.  <b>BOOK DISCUSSION</b> Brookside Library 6 - 8 p.m. Visit <a href="http://tulsalibrary.org">tulsalibrary.org</a> for more information.  	<b>11</b> <b>ART EXPLORATIONS</b> Gilcrease Museum 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Individuals with early-stage Alzheimer's disease and their care partners are invited for a gallery discussion of specific art pieces followed by a related hands-on art activity that includes both individual and group participation. Presented in collaboration with the Alzheimer's Association, Oklahoma Chapter. Visit <a href="http://gilcrease.utulsa.edu">gilcrease.utulsa.edu</a> for more information.	<b>12</b> <b>STORY TIME ON THE GREEN!</b> Guthrie Green 10:30 a.m. Visit <a href="http://guthriegreen.com">guthriegreen.com</a> for more information.  <b>HERE COME THE MUMMIES</b> Cain's Ballroom 8 p.m. Visit <a href="http://cainsballroom.com">cainsballroom.com</a> for more information.  <b>DRUM CIRCLE</b> Center for Spiritual Living 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Visit <a href="http://tulsacs.org">tulsacs.org</a> for more info.	<b>13</b> <b>TULSA ROUGHNECKS</b> vs. Real Monarchs SLC 7:30p.m. Visit <a href="http://tulsaroughnecksfsc.com">tulsaroughnecksfsc.com</a> for more information.  <b>THE MARKET @ GUTHRIE GREEN</b> Guthrie Green 7:30 p.m. Visit <a href="http://guthriegreen.com">guthriegreen.com</a> for more information.  <b>SPAMALOT</b> Theatre Pops 8 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.	<b>14</b> <b>SPAMALOT</b> Theatre Pops 8 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.  <b>80'S REUNION CONCERT WITH HAIR FORCE</b> Cain's Ballroom 8 p.m. Visit <a href="http://cainsballroom.com">cainsballroom.com</a> for more information.  <b>PROFESSIONAL BULL RIDERS INVITATIONAL</b> BOK Center Aug. 14-15 Visit <a href="http://bokcenter.com">bokcenter.com</a> for more information.	<b>15</b> <b>SPAMALOT</b> Theatre Pops 2 & 8 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.  <b>MILITARY TRIVIA NIGHT</b> Military History Center 5 p.m. Visit <a href="http://okmhc.org">okmhc.org</a> for more information.  <b>TULSA ROUGHNECKS</b> vs. Louisville City 7:30p.m. Visit <a href="http://tulsaroughnecksfsc.com">tulsaroughnecksfsc.com</a> for more information.
<b>16</b> <b>SPAMALOT</b> Theatre Pops 2 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.  <b>WILL ROGERS-WILEY POST FLY-IN</b> Will Rogers Birthplace 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Visit <a href="http://willrogers.com">willrogers.com</a> for more information.  <b>SQUARE DANCE LESSONS</b> Memorial Squares Square Dance Club 2:30 p.m. Call 918-622-1930 for more information.	<b>17</b> <b>"GREENBELT MERIDIAN," JAMES AND YIREN GALLAGHER</b> Hardesty Arts Center July 18 - Sept. 6 Visit <a href="http://ahhatulsa.org/exhibitions/gbm">ahhatulsa.org/exhibitions/gbm</a> for more information.  	<b>18</b> <b>TULSA DRILLERS</b> vs. Frisco 7:05 p.m. Visit <a href="http://www.tulsadrillers.com">www.tulsadrillers.com</a> for more information  <b>TULSA SHOCK</b> vs. Phoenix 7 p.m. Visit <a href="http://wnba.com/shock">wnba.com/shock</a> for more information.  <b>ART FOCUS</b> Philbrook Museum of Art 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Visit <a href="http://philbrook.org">philbrook.org</a> for more information.	<b>19</b> <b>TULSA DRILLERS</b> vs. Frisco 7:05 p.m. Visit <a href="http://www.tulsadrillers.com">www.tulsadrillers.com</a> for more information  <b>FOOD TRUCK WEDNESDAY</b> Guthrie Green 11:30 a.m. Visit <a href="http://guthriegreen.com">guthriegreen.com</a> for more information.  <b>BOOKS PEOPLE ARE TALKING ABOUT</b> Helmerich Library 12:15 - 1:15 p.m. Visit <a href="http://tulsalibrary.org">tulsalibrary.org</a> for more information.	<b>20</b> <b>SPAMALOT</b> Theatre Pops 8 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.  <b>TULSA DRILLERS</b> vs. Frisco 7:05 p.m. Visit <a href="http://www.tulsadrillers.com">www.tulsadrillers.com</a> for more information  <b>GARY ALLEN</b> Hard Rock Hotel & Casino 8 p.m. Visit <a href="http://hardrockcasinotulsa.com">hardrockcasinotulsa.com</a> for more information.	<b>21</b> <b>SPAMALOT</b> Theatre Pops 8 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.  <b>TULSA DRILLERS</b> vs. Midland 7:05 p.m. Visit <a href="http://www.tulsadrillers.com">www.tulsadrillers.com</a> for more information  <b>TULSA SHOCK</b> vs. Connecticut 7 p.m. Visit <a href="http://wnba.com/shock">wnba.com/shock</a> for more information.	<b>22</b> <b>TULSA WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S</b> Guthrie Green 8 a.m. Visit <a href="http://act.alz.org">act.alz.org</a> for more information.  <b>SPAMALOT</b> Theatre Pops 2 & 8 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.  <b>TULSA DRILLERS</b> vs. Midland 7:05 p.m. Visit <a href="http://www.tulsadrillers.com">www.tulsadrillers.com</a> for more information.
<b>23</b> <b>SPAMALOT</b> Theatre Pops 2 p.m. 918-596-7111 for tickets.  <b>TULSA DRILLERS</b> vs. Midland 7:05 p.m. Visit <a href="http://www.tulsadrillers.com">www.tulsadrillers.com</a> for more information  <b>JUST BETWEEN FRIENDS</b> Expo Square 1 - 7 p.m. Visit <a href="http://exposquare.com">exposquare.com</a> for more information.	<b>24</b> <b>MAYOR'S STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS 2015</b> Cox Business Center 12 - 1:30 p.m. Visit <a href="http://tulsachamber.com">tulsachamber.com</a> for more information.  <b>ZOORASSIC PARK</b> Tulsa Zoo 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Last week of temporary exhibit showcasing 11 dinosaur species. Visit <a href="http://tulsazoo.org/roar">tulsazoo.org/roar</a> for more information	<b>25</b> <b>DIRTY HEADS</b> Cain's Ballroom 8 p.m. Visit <a href="http://cainsballroom.com">cainsballroom.com</a> for more information.  <b>H-TAG# TUESDAY TEEN ADVISORY COUNCIL</b> Helmerich Library 4:45 - 6:45 p.m. Visit <a href="http://tulsalibrary.org">tulsalibrary.org</a> for more information.  <b>MS POWERPOINT 101</b> Hardesty Regional Library 6 - 8 p.m. Visit <a href="http://tulsalibrary.org">tulsalibrary.org</a> for more information.	<b>26</b> <b>ART RECESS</b> Philbrook Downtown 12 - 1 p.m. Visit <a href="http://philbrook.org">philbrook.org</a> for more information.  <b>FITNESS ON THE GREEN: PARTNER POWER</b> Guthrie Green 6 a.m. Visit <a href="http://guthriegreen.com">guthriegreen.com</a> for more information.  	<b>27</b> <b>MOVIE IN THE PARK: SPINAL TAP</b> Guthrie Green 8 - 9:20 p.m. Visit <a href="http://guthriegreen.com">guthriegreen.com</a> for more information.  <b>LIFE DRAWING</b> Philbrook Museum of Art 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. • Aug. 27 Visit <a href="http://philbrook.org">philbrook.org</a> for more information.  <b>TONY ORLANDO</b> Creek Nation River Spirit Casino 7 - 10:30 p.m. • Aug. 28 Visit <a href="http://riverspiritulsa.com">riverspiritulsa.com</a> for more information.	<b>28</b> <b>TULSA SHOCK</b> vs. Los Angeles 7 p.m. Visit <a href="http://wnba.com/shock">wnba.com/shock</a> for more information.  <b>MEET AUTHOR SHARON DRAPER, WINNER OF THE 2015 ANNE V. ZARROW AWARD FOR YOUNG READERS' LITERATURE</b> Hardesty Regional Library 7 - 8:30 p.m. Visit <a href="http://tulsalibrary.org">tulsalibrary.org</a> for more information.	<b>29</b> <b>FAMILY &amp; FRIENDS FUNFEST</b> O'Brien Park 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Call 918-591-6008 for more information.  <b>JUDGE MORRIS SCHOLARSHIP RUN</b> Bentley Park, Bixby 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. Visit <a href="http://oc.edu/ocwarun">oc.edu/ocwarun</a> for more information.  <b>TULSA DRILLERS</b> vs. Springfield 7:05 p.m. Visit <a href="http://www.tulsadrillers.com">www.tulsadrillers.com</a> for more information.

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# REGIONAL HAPPENINGS

## Ken Busby Advocates Tulsa, Rt. 66 'Experience'

By EMILY RAMSEY  
Managing Editor

Ken Busby is a flurry of energy. But within that constant movement, his love for Tulsa and the arts is clearly seen. So, it was quite fitting when he was announced in May as the executive director of the Route 66 Alliance. A large part of Busby's focus for the foreseeable future will be the 44,000-square-foot Route 66 Alliance Interpretive Center – an "experience," not a museum, Busby says – that will highlight the Mother Road, her stories and how Tulsa has played such a large role in her history.

**Greater Tulsa Reporter:** Why did you want to take on this new role?

**Ken Busby:** I had reached a point with my position as executive director at the Arts & Humanities Council of Tulsa where I had accomplished everything I wanted to, and I thought, "I'm happy; I could be here forever."

When I sat down with Route 66 Alliance Co-Founder Michael Wallis, I wasn't expecting to be offered the job (with Route 66 Alliance). But this center will be great for the state, great for Tulsa, tourism and economic development. We can use this center to get people off the Interstate and then showcase the rest of Tulsa. How could I not be a part of that?

I was also very impressed with the team assembled for the project, including the Ross Group and Selser Schaefer Architects, who created the AHHA (Hardesty Arts Center). And then I saw the preliminary designs for

the building, and I thought, "Yes, I need to be involved."

**GTR:** Your passion for Tulsa is easy to see. As a native Tulsan and Holland Hall graduate, did you always plan to remain here?

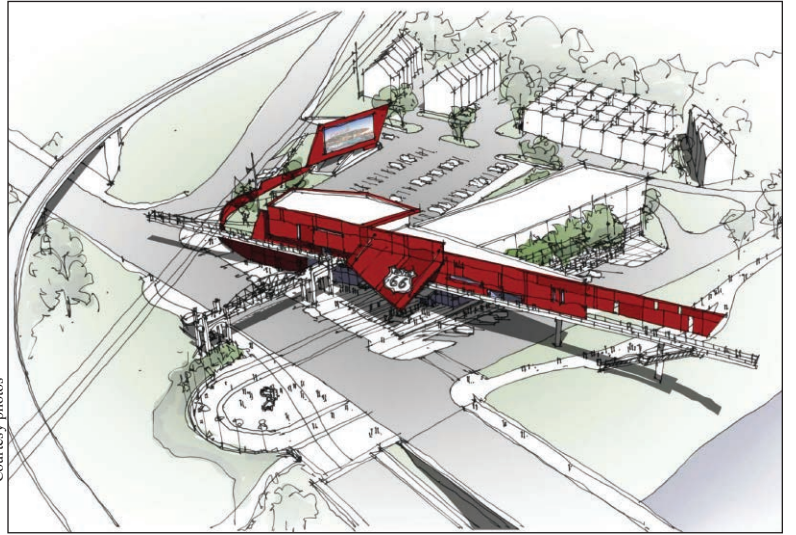
**KB:** I planned to finish my master's and become a college professor, but after I earned my master's I moved in with my grandparents to help care for my ill grandfather. Later, I wasn't yet ready to go to graduate school so I came home to Tulsa and never left. I worked for American Airlines, Gilcrease Museum and the Tulsa Zoo before joining the Arts and Humanities Council.

I have become a champion of Oklahoma and Tulsa, specifically. Tulsa has so much that I want people to know about. Every time I bring people here who have not been to Tulsa before, they are always blown away by all that we have: whether you're talking about arts, culture, business.

**GTR:** What accomplishments, thus far, would you say you are most proud of?

**KB:** Most recently, I am most proud of the AHHA building and the growth that it's helped to spur in the Brady Arts District.

Before that, during my time at Gilcrease Museum, in 1998, we brought an exhibition of the works of Thomas Moran. Moran's paintings played a major role in inspiring the creation of the national park system. Besides Tulsa, the exhibition only went to two other places: Seattle and Washington, D.C. Tulsa was the only museum of the three to accomplish what Moran was unable to accomplish



**MOTHER ROAD:** In May, the Route 66 Alliance unveiled its plans to build the 44,000-square-foot Route 66 Interpretive Center at Riverside Drive and Southwest Boulevard. Above is a rendering of the building, looking northeast. The organization also announced Ken Busby as its executive director.

before his death: the installation of three of his paintings together on one wall: The Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, The Chasm of the Colorado and Mountain of the Holy Cross.

Getting to be a part of that experience and seeing those paintings the way Moran wanted to see them was incredible. During the show's 13 weeks, the museum saw nearly 150,000 people, which is the amount of visitors Gilcrease normally would see in a year. That show brought new attention to Tulsa.

**GTR:** What is the timeline for the Route 66 Interactive Center?

**KB:** We began our fundraising campaign in June, which will go for one year. We need \$19.5 million and have already received

two pledges. We are hoping for a July 2016 groundbreaking, followed by two years of construction. We plan to open in fall 2018.

**GTR:** Is there a feature in the center that you are particularly anticipating?

**KB:** Of the center's 44,000 total square feet, 22,000 square feet will be devoted to the interpretive center which will offer interactive and sensory displays. For example, visitors will be able to take a virtual road trip from Chicago to Los Angeles and see the various stops that are along the way.

We want exhibits to be engaging for young and old alike. A lot of young ones don't know the history of the Mother Road. This gives us the opportunity to talk about cul-

ture, history, geography, how the road ended up coming through Tulsa thanks to Cyrus Avery, and what the road has meant to Tulsa and this country.

For example, we have been told that Paul Marshall, who started Bama Companies, credits Route 66 with much of Bama's early success. Marshall located the company on 11th Street and routinely traveled along the road, making deliveries to corporations.

The mixed-use center will also feature space for restaurants and retail, a drive-in movie theater on the top level of the parking garage, and a section that will extend southwest from the building, across Riverside Drive to the Arkansas River to allow visitors to better view the area's landscape.

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